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Architectural firm shares progress of financial study

By Paula Ouimette

Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Representatives from Tecton Architects gave a progress update to the Board of Selectmen on the financial feasibility study for a new public safety/ municipal complex.

At the Jan. 11 meeting, Jeff McElravy, a principal at Tecton

Architects, outlined the study's specialist in the design of fire stagoals, its scope, progress to date, programming results and site test fits before opening the presentation up for discussion.

McElravy said he has been involved in public safety architecture for 37 years, and Tecton Architects has a team of people working in this field. McElravy said Tecton Architects' team is supplemented by H2M Architects, a

tions.

"There's a lot of emergent trends that we look at, and make sure that we're thinking about in the design of our facilities," he

McElravy said a number of specialized engineers work with Tecton Architects as consultants on projects like this.

Study goals

The goals of the financial feasibility study are to provide the town with information to analyze the financial costs of a public safety/ municipal complex and to identify potential savings or cost offsets.

The study will also educate the residents on the financial impact the project would have on its tax-

"All of those things are some

of the big goals that we'll be looking at in order to meet the requirements of the funding for the study," McElravy said.

McElravy said the town received a state grant from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance to conduct the feasibility study.

Please see **STUDY**, page 5

CDAC discuss future projects

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARREN - The Community Development Advisory Committee met in the new year of 2024 to discuss future projects in the town of Warren.

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission representative, Chris Dunphy, began by sharing that the water main improvements on School Street are substantially complete. The next phase of working on School Street is sidewalk and drainage improvements.

The plan is to have this phase complete sometime in the fall of

The CDAC is also working on forming a committee consisting of five-to-seven members to come up with design ideas for other town improvements such as ones for the Town Common and Cutter Park. The CDAC plans to have their committee ready in February.

FY 24 CDBG

Dunphy said the application for the fiscal year 2024 Community Development Block Grant is due on March 25. This grant will help support funds for future developments on streets that are in West Warren.

The streets the CDAC is looking at to improve are River Street and Central Street. The CDAC is still waiting to collect data from surveys from residents who live on those streets and have received a good portion of surveys so far.

"The response rate has been good," said Dunphy.

The CDAC is still waiting for more surveys from residents who are on Main Street, River Street and Central Street. Improvements being looked into include sidewalk updates and waterline improvements.

Cutter Park

Cutter Park in Warren needs improvements, including the play features on park grounds. Many residents still visit Cutter Park, but the play equipment is out of date and needs an upgrade.

Sharing some insight Please see **CDAC**, page 11

VOICES OF RESILIENCE



These photos were taken from the community of Ware during the photovoice project.

Photo exhibit shines light on opioid crisis

By Nick Boonstra Staff Writer nboonstra@turley.com

BOSTON - State officials and community members gathered in the State House on Tuesday to debut a photography exhibit focused on amplifying the lived experiences of those who have been affected by the ongoing statewide and nationwide opioid crisis.

The exhibit, entitled "Voices of Resilience," remained on display on the fourth floor of the capitol building through Jan. 12, where it was visible to legislators and visitors alike, and included Ware as one of the Massachusetts communities on which the project focused.

The exhibit marked the culmination of work done through the National Institutes of Health HEALing Communities Study, part of the larger NIH HEAL Initiative, commissioned in 2019. According to the HEALing Communities website, Massachusetts ranked among the top 10 states with the highest rates of opioid overdose deaths in a 2017 National Institute on Drug Abuse report.

Researchers with the study went into communities in four states to



Ware resident Randy Gratton spoke at the State House during the "Voices of Resilience" exhiTurley Photos by Nick Boonstra

connect individuals with helpful resources and with each other, and to learn from participants what additional resources were still needed locally to aid those seeking

recovery. Alyssa Curran, a clinician with the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office and the study's Community Coordinator for Ware and Belchertown, explained that the images used for the exhibit were chosen and presented through a method known as photovoice, in which study participants share reflections about meaningful photographs. Some of these reflections

Please see **VOICES**, page 15

Board discusses stalled project

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Director of Planning & Community Development Paralee Smith said there have been no new developments with the Minuteman Farm project, and she said they are in a "holding pattern."

Minuteman Farm, LLC, is a proposed cannabis cultivation business to be located in the Millyard.

At the Jan. 4 Planning Board meeting, Vice-Chair Richard Starodoj said the terms and conditions of the special permit had required the applicant to get the project moving in a year.

Smith said the permit was issued about a year and a half ago, and there hasn't been evidence of progress since July of

Board members agreed that following the conditions of the special permit was important, and Kenneth Crosby said there may be other applicants with financial backing to come in and complete the project.

Smith read from a letter received from the applicant's attorney on Nov. 28 of last year that stated, "the project is currently on hold due to substantial changes in the financial markets.'

Smith said she would speak with Town Manager Stuart Beckley about whether or not the board would need to have town counsel help them determine the next course of action. Smith said she will also check to see if the applicant pulled a building permit with the town.

"I don't want to discourage any type of businesses coming in or anything, but if we put that in the conditions and everybody agreed to it, I think that's what we really need to enforce," Starodoj said.

Ware Senior Housing Plan

Smith said the board will hear a presentation from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Senior Planner Becky Basch about the Ware Senior Housing Plan at the board's Thursday, Jan. 18 meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.,

Please see **PROJECT**, page 11

Parks and Rec. discusses needs of dog park, playground

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARE - The Parks & Recreation Commission addressed citizen concerns regarding a recent dog attack at the Ware Dog Park.

At the Jan. 8 meeting, commissioners talked about steps that needed to be taken after a dog attacked another dog with both owners present. The owner of the dog that was attacked provided

photographic evidence of the injuanimal hearing. ries the dog received.

The main discussion was about figuring out how the commission could move forward with enforcement and how this situation could be deescalated in case it happens

A couple of options came up in the discussion during the meeting. First, the police department could issue a no trespass order for the dog or the dog's owner. The other option is to request a dangerous

For a temporary no trespass order, the order applies to all park and town properties.

A representative of Milltown Regional Animal Control shared an idea of possibly having a utilizing tool or shield at the dog park. This utilizing tool is used to help prevent or shield two dogs away from each other in case one dog attacks another.

After discussing the options, a motion was passed to file a no tres-

pass order.

Dog Park lights

The commissioners were looking into the cost of the new lights at the Ware Dog Park. Options for controlling the lights including remotely by a smart phone, or with a timer on one of the light poles at the dog park.

Commissioners will get input from the neighbors who live near the Ware Dog Park as well.

Veterans Park The commissioners are looking

into finetuning the light poles at Veterans Park. The poles are also in need of a new paint job and the commissioners are going over costs for these improvements on the light

Beauregard Playground

The Beauregard Memorial

Please see **PARKS**, page 11

Inside this edition:

Viewpoints 4	Classifieds 1
Warren 6	Public Notices 14,1
Sports 9	
Police/Fire 12 Obituaries 13	
Obituaries 13	8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 8 1



HEALTH Ware nurse celebrates 30+ years

Page 2



BUSINESS Mass Appeal nears one year

anniversary

Page 6



SPORTS Indians

secure win over Mustangs

Page 9

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Ware River News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief

Death Notice listing
the name of deceased,
date of death and
funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing

\$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



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Local nurse dedicates career to caring for patients in their home

PALMER – It is the time of year for celebration, and Roxanna Harper MSN, RN, is celebrating 31 years since she began her nursing journey as a visiting nurse.

Getting into her car each morning, Harper, who is interim executive director of Baystate Home Health, Hospice, and Palliative Care, knows she has a busy day ahead. Each day is different, and a single phone call can change the order of the day.

What doesn't change is her commitment to taking care of patients in their own homes.

"Never would I have imagined that three decades later I would find myself leading and working with an outstanding team dedicated to providing care, education, and support to patients in their homes. The care we provide allows patients to come home from the hospital sooner, avoid stays in healthcare facilities, and learn to manage a newly diagnosed illness or disease," said Harper in a press release.

Who doesn't want to sleep in their own beds when they are sick?

"As a new nurse, I worked one year at Baystate Medical Center providing inpatient care and then decided to take a position in home care and after one visit I was hooked. I immediately experienced the unique richness of a nurse-patient relationship as I helped patients heal in their own homes. In the case of hospice care patients who have end-of-life care in their homes, these nursing experiences were like no other. In a patient's home, we are exposed to what is important to them, the supports that are present or absent, and the tranquility or chaos that defines their lives. All of that information plays a role in the design of our patient's care plans and the outcomes we hope to have for them," said Harper.

Access to home health services is important for people with chronic conditions or disabilities, and those who need short-term medical help after being discharged from the hospital. Many rural people depend on home health services to retain a degree of independence, and to avoid or delay hospitalization or a move to a nursing home or assisted living facility.



Submitted Photo Ware nurse Roxanna Harper has worked locally for 31 years, providing care to patients in their homes in Ware and area communities.

This type of care is less costly than hospitalization, improves recovery and well-being, and eliminates the need to travel for additional services.

"Our goal is to support the integrity and independence of individuals and their families in the community, and we've been doing that for over 100 years," said Harper.

The care team consists of a dedicated group of professionals including nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, and home health aides, who work together as a team to provide the best care possible for every patient.

Harper noted people are often surprised at the level of care the Baystate team can provide at home.

"We care for a wide range of patients, from ages 18 to 100, with several comorbidities including heart failure, diabetes, and renal failure. We also care for patients recovering from surgery, actively fighting cancer, and managing chronic diseases that need specialized care. We assist patients transitioning to palliative care, enhancing their quality of life, advocating for them, and helping to provide the resources needed to make the decisions that are important to them to

ensure that each patient's wishes are respected during end-of-life care," she said.

As nurses, being able to care for another human being is a privilege, noted Harper.

"We're invited into the lives of perfect strangers and asked to make a difference. To be able to make a difference, we first need to establish a trusting relationship with the patients. At the core of everything I do I want to deliver safe, reliable, high-quality care and, in doing so, are honoring that trust patients, and their families, place in us," she said.

Her experience as a home care nurse has allowed Harper to provide care for a diverse patient population throughout Baystate Health's Eastern Region and in the town of Ware where she grew up, raised her family, and where she still lives.

"I find it very rewarding when I run into patients and their family members that I have cared for when I'm out in the community, who come up to me and still remember and are grateful for the care I provided to them or their family members. Being able to restore a sense of dignity to each patient is an incredible and unforgettable experience. It is a wonderful feeling seeing your patients recover and progress, whether it's helping them take their first steps or helping them take their first shower in days, every moment is special and important,"

As a visiting nurse, Harper has cared for many patients over her 31 years that she said she will "always remember."

"Some are good memories, and some are sad, but I always know that I did my very best for each and every one of my patients. Many changes have happened in healthcare over the last 31 years from technology, like cell phones and computers, to breakthroughs in science, and a pandemic that shut down the world for three years. One thing that remains is our team's commitment and passion to care for patients in the comfort of their own homes," she said.

For more information, visit www.baystatehealth.org/services/home-health/home-care.



Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – How can a sash tie an extended family together?

Author Paula Grandpre Wood will share her journey tracking down ancestors, piecing together their stories, and finding herself wrapped in an historic sash that creates an unbreakable bond, linking generations at the Hardwick Town House, 40 Common St., on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 1:30 p.m., presented by the Paige Memorial Library.

Her book "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash" is a genealogical adventure with suspense, joy, and grief, a testament to faith, family, and traditions.

Space is limited so please register by emailing director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6704.

Share your family's story As we look forward to 2024, let's also look back at family history and memories. Register to join a group to write and share stories of your family and perhaps search you family tree with "We are History: Preserving Memories and Family Stories" at the Paige Memorial Library.

Monthly meetings will be held at 2 p.m. or 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, depending on what time works best for participants.

Reminiscing is really just good old-fashioned communication. Be it a funny story, an important life-changing story, or a tradition, let's write it to leave a record. Memories can provide comfort and help put our lives in perspective.

Contact the Paige Library for more information by emailing director. paigelibrary@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6704.



This holiday season, protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID & the FLU!

Holiday gatherings are starting up, which means it's time to prevent the spread of germs by getting vaccinated!

The Flu and Covid vaccines are safe and effective for ages six months and older, and can help protect you from serious illness.

Healthy Quaboag is here to remind you to take care of yourself and those around you by getting vaccinated ahead of the holiday season, because YOU MATTER!

Find vaccines near you at www.healthyquaboag.org/rural-vaccine-equality-initiative-rvei/

Go to $www.healthy quaboag.org \ {\tt to} \ {\tt find} \ {\tt vaccines} \ {\tt near} \ {\tt you}. \\$

TOWNS SERVED BY HEALTHY QUABOAG:







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. 22

9 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. Scat 11:30 a.m. Lunch 6 p.m. Whist Party

Tuesday, Jan. 23 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View

Housing

10 a.m. Scat 11:30 a.m. Lunch

5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking (\$3 per class)

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5

Wednesday Jan. 24

9 a.m. Tai-Chi 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club 10 a.m. Scat

10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse office hours

11:30 a.m. Lunch Thursday, Jan. 25

9 a.m. Walking Club 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners

10 a.m. Line Dancing 10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch 1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh 2:45 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Jan. 26

9 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. Scat 11:30 a.m. Lunch 1 p.m. Chair Yoga

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5

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 you name on the lunch list.

Monday, Jan. 22

Chicken Parmigiana with Spaghetti, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Cheeseburger with Toppings, Onion Rings, Caesar Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Jan. 24 Baked Ziti, Chef Salad,

Dessert of the Day Thursday, Jan. 25

Lazy Pierogi with Kielbasa, Fruit Salad, Dessert of the Day Friday, Jan. 26

Fish Sandwich, Potato Wedges, Veggie Salad, Dessert of the Day

Hardwick Community Church meeting set for Jan. 21

HARDWICK - The Hardwick where member churches submit Community Church will hold a meeting on Sunday, Jan. 21 at the Town House, 40 Common St.

A sign will be posted at the Town House with the meeting

This meeting is being held in preparation for the Tri-Parish Community Church's annual meeting to be held in early February. The annual meeting is

their reports and recommendations including budgets, bylaws and other governance duties.

Please note, a vaccination clinic will also be hosted at the Town House by Healthy Quaboag and The Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative on the same day from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., offering flu and COVID-19 vaccines at no

Valentine Gala on Feb. 3 to benefit Stone Church

HARDWICK - Friends of the Stone Church welcomes all to a Valentine-themed benefit from 4-7 pm on Saturday, Feb. 3, at Hardwick Crossing Country Club, 262 Lower Road, Gilbertville.

All proceeds will benefit the preservation of the Stone Church Cultural Center, the iconic regional landmark located at 283 Main St., Gilbertville, and the programs of the Stone Church Cultural Center.

Tickets are \$65 per person; mail payment to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031 or order online through www. FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org (\$35 dollars of the ticket price is a tax-deductible contribution to FOSC). Advance purchase is required by Jan. 26.

For information, call Kathy McCrohon at 404-813-8809.

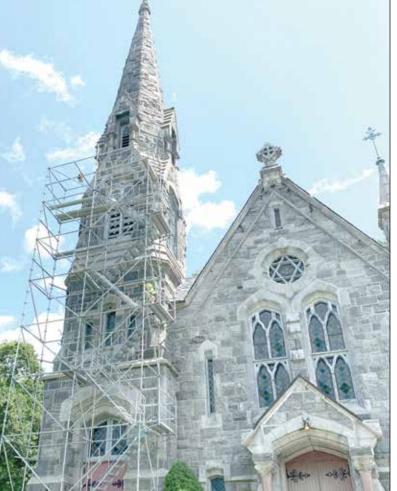
Paul Provost, keyboard and vocalist, will entertain with lush songs, fun dance tunes and traditional melodies.

FOSC's Gala Committee has engaged professional auctioneer Paul Varney. The live auction will include sponsor donations of a year's membership at the Baglio Center at Eagle Hill School and a certificate for 75 gallons of heating oil from R. J. McDonald, Inc; certificates for experiences, services and products, as well as many attractive and collectible items.

"The FOSC Gala and auction has always been a joyful time to visit with old friends and to meet new ones - all while supporting a good cause - and we look forward to this year's event," said FOSC president, Judy Edington in a press

Hardwick Crossing Country Club will serve an entrée-choice dinner with vegetables and salad, served buffet style, plus appetizer, desserts and beverages, and a full cash bar.

The historic Stone Church Cultural Center serves as a community meeting space, a concert and arts program venue. The 1874 Victorian structure is a reminder of 19th-century Massachusetts, when mill villages sprang up as textile and other industry brought people from around the world, cre-



This photo shows the scaffolding at the Stone Church for Phase 4 Lantern Level interior stabi-

ating prosperity and enriching our region's cultural heritage.

The Friends formed as a non-profit corporation in 2015. Aided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, a state agency which provided several matching grants, the Friends re-opened the shuttered building in

Since then, the group has simultaneously invested in preservation construction while offering the building to serve the public,

providing family arts programs, rehearsal space for community music groups, fine classical music concerts, and an elegant rental venue for community events.

In January 2023, the Friends received legal ownership of the building from the Gilbertville Trinitarian Congregational Church and inaugurated the Stone Church Cultural Center. Raising over \$188,000 in 2023 for capital preservation projects, FOSC contracted to reinforce the interior of the stone tower, replace over 500 tiles on the main roof, cap two unused chimneys, and install hand railings on the south entrance ramp.

Project Architect and FOSC Board member Phillip Warbasse reports that "FOSC's goal of securing the building for the future is coming closer, with elaborate steel reinforcing and new bonding grout going into the lantern level, above the belfry. This complex interior phase, the 4th of our staged tower stabilization projects, has paused during the winter. It will resume in freeze-free spring months, when conditions allow full curing of the water-based grout and mortar. We are proud of the professional services that contractor Joseph

> Please see **STONE** CHURCH, page 11



Open auditions for the Workshop13 Players

announce upcoming open auditions for three productions. the new addition of a theatre program.

hold cold auditions on Jan. 29 and 30 from 7-9 p.m. for the production of three newly written short plays entitled "Robin Robin", "It's Not Delivery" and "Waiting for a Change". Auditions are rescheduled from Jan. 16, having been snowed out.

Show dates will be April 12, 13 and 14. The Workshop13 Players will be looking for four-six actors aged 20 to

WARE - Workshop13 is proud to mid-40s, who will be double cast in the

For further information please call the The "Workshop13 Players" will Director Dave Blessinger at 401-465-9686 or email at dbless9766@aol.com.

About Workshop13

Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator devoted to increasing the appreciation and accessibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of the community through instruction, collaborations and arts-based initiatives.



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



BAKED POTATO FUNDRAISER

To Benefit

Philmont Crew 2024 BSA Troop 281

SAT., JAN. 27th 5:00-6:30PM

ALL SAINTS Church Hall Ware, MA Take Out Only!!!

\$10/person Advanced Sale \$12/person At The Door

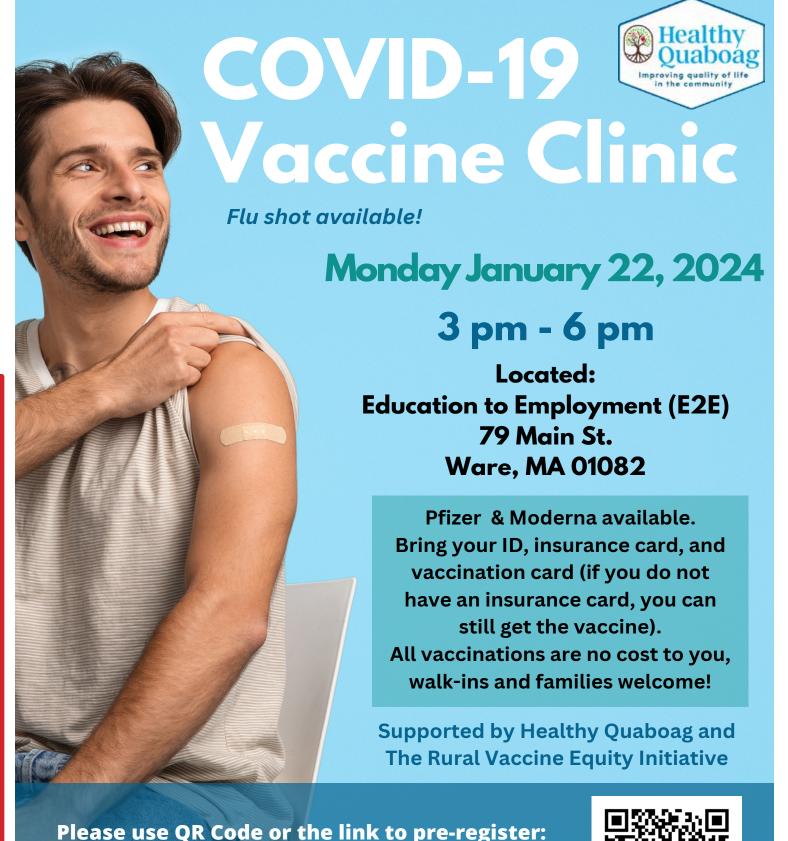
Includes **HUGE Potato, Drink & Dessert** and All the Fixings: Butter, Sour Cream, Green Onion,

Raffle Table & 50/50

Bacon, Cheese, Broccoli, Chili

Text or Call Dan 413-297-5886 or Marcia 413-297-1799 or Email scoutdad281@charter.net

All proceeds will go towards the crew's trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in New Mexico



https://tinyurl.com/yckyb5da

Please direct any questions to Arianna Palano at

apalano@townofware.com,413-478-2526.



Can someone work while collecting Social **Security Disability?**

Dear Rusty:

If a person is collecting Social Security disability benefits, can they, at any point, work at all? If they can, what is the maximum they can earn and still keep the disability benefit?

I am asking because my husband is still young, but his injuries will not allow him to go back to the job he had prior to his injuries and surgeries. He does not just want to sit at home doing nothing.

Signed: Concerned Wife

Dear Concerned:

Actually, the Social Security Administration encourages those collecting Social Security Disability Insurance benefits to attempt to go back to work and they provide considerable leeway for them to do so. The monthly earnings limit for those collecting SSDI benefits in 2024 is \$1,550 and as long as your husband earns less than the limit while working, his SSDI benefits will not be in jeopardy.

Your husband should contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly to protect his disability status and discuss returning to work while collecting SSDI

The Ticket to Work program assists those now receiving SSDI benefits who wish to test their ability to return to work without putting their SSDI benefits at risk. The program provides considerable assistance, including new career training opportunities and connection to potential employers and it is voluntary and costs

Here is a link to Social Security's information on the Ticket to Work program: https://choosework.ssa.gov/

It's not mandatory for your husband to enroll in the Ticket to Work program but, in addition to other available assistance, he can request a Trial Work Period, which would allow for nine months, over a rolling five year period, during which he can earn any amount even over the normal monthly limit mentioned above without risking his SSDI benefits.

Within the Trial Work Period, only those months he earns over the normal monthly SSDI limit would count as a Trial Work Month. So, for example, your husband could work part time regularly earning under the normal monthly limit and if, in some months (up to nine), he earned more it wouldn't affect his SSDI benefits.

So, your younger disabled husband can, indeed, work while on Social Security disability, for as long as he wishes while earning under the monthly SSDI limit, the SSDI earnings limit changes yearly. He may also wish to enroll in Social Security's Ticket to Work program for assistance with developing a new career.

Plus, he can take advantage of using trial work months in the event his work earnings will, at times, exceed the monthly SSDI limit.

If your husband earns over the SSDI limit for more than the nine trial work months and his benefits are consequently stopped, he can within the five-year Trial Work Period have his benefits reinstated (without again going through the full application process) if his disability, once more, renders him unable to work full time.

For starters, I suggest your husband contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly at 1.833-889-0108 to discuss returning to work part time. Social Security will guide him through the entire

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/ social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

NEWS & FEATURES

news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many resting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage



Dreaming of roses, blueberries bushes and more? Get those orders in!



or me at least, a much needed break from the garden has given way to the return of other hobbies this winter.

Quilting for one. I've enjoyed working on a Christmas tree quilt and have plans to start a pumpkin quilt.

I guess when I can't garden, I take horticulture any way I can get it – even in cloth! Quilting is fun in that you can exercise your love of color by playing with different combi-

I like to see what looks good together and stand back and admire. It seems very similar to the admiration of a thoughtfully planned out flower garden. Well, you didn't start reading to learn about my sewing fancy, so let's get to some garden talk.

Do you dream of expanding your mini orchard or berry patch? Maybe you have a particular rose you are interested in.

If you desire to shop by mail, place your orders early (yes, now) for home delivery in April and early May.

I will start my dreaming with the Nourse Farms catalog (www.noursefarms.com or 413-665-2658). Located not far away in South

Deerfield, this company specializes in producing high quality berry plants (and asparagus roots plus).

It would be great to extend my blueberry picking season over a month or more, just like my parents did with their patch. I will plan to order early, mid at late season varieties to accomplish this.

Last year, Nourse switched from selling bareroot blueberry plants to selling them in one liter pots. According to the listing, plants are cut back to just over a foot. They will increase in top growth the first year.

They have found that selling potted plants eases transplant shock and reduces the chance of the roots drying out in shipment. Sounds great to me!

Take care to amend the soil to the proper pH and site the plants accordingly and you could enjoy blueberries for decades. My parents' bushes are still bearing some 70 years

Maybe you are in the market for apple trees this year. For well-rooted, hardy Maine grown plants, shop the Fedco Trees Catalog (www. fedcoseeds.com). Fedco Trees offers a great selection of heirloom apple trees, scionwood and rootstocks for home grafting, pears, plums and grapes among other types of nursery stock and ornamentals.

For heirloom apple enthusiasts or those interested in planting a cider orchard, this is an amazing resource. The final order deadline for trees is March 1.

The catalog changes a bit every year, so be sure to check back or reach out to them if you are looking for a specific variety and you don't see it listed in print.

It's been a few years since I've found a reputable mail-order nursery for heirloom roses. Recently, I stumbled upon High Country Roses (www.highcountryroses.com), and I'm impressed with the variety of roses they carry, many of which I am familiar with from working at Old Sturbridge Village: Rosa gallica officialis and versicolor, Harison's Yellow, Rosa eglanteria and more.

If heirlooms aren't your thing, check out the number of ARS (American Rose Selections) winners for proven success. All of the roses they sell are grown on their own roots by vegetative propagation and are not grafted.

Some arguments in favor of own root roses include better hardiness, increased blooms, vigor and longevity. With over 600 varieties to choose from there is something for new and seasoned rose enthusiasts alike, and a lot of useful information for growers on their website.

Yes, it is the middle of winter and all should be quiet on the gardening front, but it is also a great time to get your orders in to your favorite mail order catalogs. Shop early for the best selection!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

WARE RIVER NEWS



EDITOR Paula Ouimette





Greg Scibelli sports@turley.com



STAFF WRITER Ryan Drago rdrago@turley.com

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@ Ware River News

www.warerivernews.turley.com PATRICK H. TURLEY

> **KEITH TURLEY** President

DEANNA SLOAT



www.turley.com

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OPINION

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: pouimette@turley.com

The deadline for submissions is Monday

Suet feeder

the background.

While she was alive, we would share our card

Often the bird fell into the unspecified

species category. I even received a Christmas

card one year with a loon with an evergreen

wreath around its neck. This was the first year

I did not receive any Christmas cards with

birds even one perched off in a distant tree in

I now have my suet feeder out all the time as I have not seen any sign of wandering black bears in awhile. I also feed a combination of mixed bird seed, black oil sunflowers and shelled peanuts, which I mix together to put out daily.

I have the usual juncos, chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, blue jays, mourning doves and of course, squirrels. I have not seen the cardinal pair yet, but then I don't have a lot to time to spend watching my feeders.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette,

NEW HAMPSHIRE @VAVEGRANLUND.COM

By Ellenor Downer

Female Bufflehead

received an email from a Brimfield resident, who along with his wife, participated Lin the Allen Bird Club's Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, Dec. 16.

One unexpected species they saw were three female buffleheads at the Springfield

The bufflehead is a small duck about 14 inches long. It has a distinct, large rounded

The male has a white wedge behind its black head. The male also has white flanks and breast. The female is gray brown with a small patch of white behind the eye.

They are diving ducks and feed on mollusks, fish, snails and crustaceans. They summer on wooded lakes, rivers and winter on lakes and coastal waters.

The female lays eight to ten ivory to buff eggs in a tree cavity or nest box. There courtship begins in January and these ducks show a high level of aggression during that time.

Buffleheads are generally silent. However, the female makes guttural sounds during court-

Bird count

In his email, the Brimfield resident said he did his first Allen Bird Club count in the late 1970s. He said, "We have been covering the town of Ludlow, excluding the Westover Conservation Area covered by others, since 1989. The club's count circle center is in Springfield and includes adjacent towns.

He also said, "We had an excellent day

weather wise, but the songbirds were hard to come by. With all the water ice free, we had high number of Canada geese (93), common mergansers (170, mostly males) and mallard (115). The common mergansers and many of the mallards were at the Springfield Reservoir."

He reported 20 ring-necked ducks at a pond near the Ludlow Country Club was another unexpected species in the count. In all, they had 32 species on their list, slightly more than the average of 29 species. Following the time in the field, the participants held a zoom meeting to discuss the results. No one mentioned seeing any winter finches i.e. redpoll, siskin or evening gros-

Large flock of Canada geese

Recently, I saw a large flock of Canada geese in a cornfield in Spencer. There must have been at least 100. I did not stop to take an accurate count, but it was the largest flock

Christmas card count

Years ago, Thelma Crawford told me she kept a Christmas card bird count every year. P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Nugget gets 'second chance' through Second Chance

EAST BROOKFIELD -Nugget, formerly known as Natty, faced unimaginable pain and adversity when he arrived at Second Chance Animal Services with a severe leg injury.

The dedicated team at Second Chance worked tirelessly to save his leg, but ultimately, the decision to amputate was made to ensure Nugget's comfort and quality of

In a heartwarming twist of fate, Nugget caught the attention of Matt and Nellie Zarif, the generous owners of Timberyard Brewing Company and longtime supporters of Second Chance. The brewery, known for its commitment to the community, had not only donated to Second Chance but also hosted events and provided storage for a large donation.

Nugget's story resonated with the Timberyard team, who had just started hosting popular puppy yoga classes to benefit Second Chance, led by the talented yoga instructor Audrey Martinez. The classes, held monthly, include a visit from friendly adoptable dogs available at Second Chance, who romp around the taproom while attendees work on their yoga

Nugget, now thriving after his surgery, found his forever home with the Zarifs, joining a loving pack that includes three young boys and another three-legged dog, Lucy. Nuggets dog-sister wears a prosthetic leg and goes to work with her dog mom, Nellie Zarif, a prosthetist at Hanger Clinic in Worcester, where she helps to inspire people with limb loss.



Submitted Photo Nugget, once known as Natty, came to Second Chance with a severe leg injury and is now the Timberyard Brewery dog.

Nellie considered making a prosthesis for Nugget but quickly realized that he did not need one due to the nature of his amputation and his young age. "He is so fast on three legs that four legged dogs have a hard time keeping up with him." said Lindsay Doray, chief development officer at Second Chance, who expressed admiration for Nugget's resilience. "We were in awe of his determination."

As a proud member of the Timberyard family, Nugget comes to work with Matt Zarif every day and has become a local sensation. The staff from Second Chance, including the veterinarian that performed his surgery, stop by the brewery from time to time to visit

Please see **NUGGET**, page 8

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.

business

Bellies Barnyard brings new dining experience to

Main Street

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARE – There are no empty stomachs when guests visit the new Bellies Barnyard restaurant on Main Street.

Since November of 2023, Bellies Barnyard has brought a fun and refreshing experience to the town as the new business is thriving in popularity. The visionaries behind the concept of Bellies Barnyard are the proud owners Gary and Lori Hazen.

In the very beginning, Gary had an idea of wanting to open up a restaurant and started with wanting to run a café for guests to have breakfast.

Within a couple months, his idea came to life as the Bellies Barnyard name was born at the couple's first restaurant in Charlton. The Charlton location first opened in October of 2021 and was a small café compared to the current Bellies Barnyard location at 91 Main St.

The idea of Bellies Barnyard came from wanting to fill the bellies of the customers. A concept where no customer leaves hungry because the portions Bellies Barnyard gives you will leave you

full and happy.

"Leave your diet at the door,"

Leave your diet at the door

The barnyard concept was added to feature something different and fun to the dining experience. Throughout the Ware restaurant, Bellies Barnyard has artwork featuring barnyard themes such as cows and chickens being used as the main logos of Bellies Barnyard.

The Hazen family even custom-upholstered the chairs in the restaurant.

Bellies Barnyard has certainly become a destination dining experience. While operating in Charlton, the Hazen family wanted to look for a bigger space to offer more than just breakfast and lunch for dining.

Also, Bellies Barnyard wanted to be a location where they can provide other amenities such as live entertainment or music.

Seeking a location that can offer all three courses in a larger space, the Hazens found the space formerly occupied by Hanna Devine's Restaurant. Bellies Barnyard officially opened to the public in Ware on Nov. 20.

Since their grand opening, Bellies Barnyard has received a positive reception in their new home of Ware. Their new restaurant provides a bar and two rooms for seating and is a great venue with additional space to fit more customers and host live entertain-

What also proves that Bellies Barnyard has been accepted by the community is the flood of



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Gary and Lori Hazen of Bellies Barnyard prepare to cut the ribbon during a grand opening ceremony hosted by the Ware Business and Civic Association.

people who visit Bellies Barnyard throughout the week. Lori and Gary have had days where there are lines of people waiting outside the front door to go eat at Bellies

Bellies Barnyard is not just a restaurant, but a family of dedicated staff. Bellies Barnyard has more than 20 employees as a staff and have been a loyal staff to the restaurant and the Hazen family.

"They're the best staff you could ask for," Lori and Gary said.

When the Hazen family moved their restaurant from Charlton to Ware, their staff went with them to work at the new restaurant in Ware. With a loyal staff, Lori and Gary are very thankful as the first couple of months of business has gone well for Bellies Barnyard in Ware.

To go along with the barnyard features, Bellies Barnyard also plays classic cartoons in one of their dining rooms. Airing these animated classics adds to the popularity of Bellies Barnyard as many diners get to relive their childhood while enjoying the fine dining experience Bellies Barnyard has to offer.

With a new restaurant with extra space, Bellies Barnyard plans on providing live entertainment in the near future. Live music such as acoustics, folk rock, solos and duets are all instore for the live entertainment at Bellies Barnyard.

For the kids, Bellies Barnyard has barnyard animals for them to play with while waiting for their meals. When it comes to the meals at Bellies, they are meals you will never forget.

Bellies Barnyard has weekly dinner specials, including an allday breakfast special. Wings are also popular at Bellies Barnyard as are chicken and waffles and chicken sandwiches.

One popular special Bellies Barnyard used to do at their Charlton restaurant was Burger Bomb Thursdays.

In 2022, Bellies Barnyard got exposure on a national level by appearing on an episode of the Phantom Gourmet. At that time, Bellies Barnyard offered a popular dish called Southern Belly Biscuits; deep fried buttermilk biscuits topped with sausage gravy.

Since their appearance on the Phantom Gourmet, Bellies Barnyard had customers from 23 different states and 11 countries travel to their Charlton location just to try out their food. The Southern Belly Biscuits dish is currently offered at Bellies Barnyard in

Other popular specials at Bellies include the Western Mountain Hash, Corned Beef Hash, and the Philly Street Hash. To get an early glimpse of the Bellies Barnyard menu, visit www.toasttab.com/belliesbarnyard.

Coming soon to Bellies Barnvard is merchandise such as Bellies Barnyard t-shirts. In person purchases can be made at Bellies Barnyard.

Bellies Barnyard can be followed on Facebook and Instagram.

The current hours of Bellies Barnyard are Mondays and Thursdays from 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sundays from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Breakfast hours are Fridays from 7-11 a.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

the Police Station is assessed at

\$1,267,700; and the Shepard

Municipal Building is assessed at

Feedback

Derick Veliz said he would like to

see the cost to the town if voters

Board of Selectmen Clerk

\$2,367,200.

STUDY from page 1

Study scope

The scope of the study is to prepare space needs for police, fire and town offices; weigh the benefits of multiple or single building designs; site evaluations and test fits; environmental desktop review, geotechnical investigation and conceptual design for the selected site; project cost estimate; tax impact evaluation and liquidated asset val-

McElravy said Tecton Architects always uses third-party, professional cost estimators.

"It doesn't matter what the building costs, it matters what the project's going to cost the community," he said.

McElravy said the study is still a "living document," and feedback and discussion from this presentation will help to move it forward and develop.

Space needs for departments

McElravy said it was determined that the building for the Police Department would require 9,875 square feet for its space needs. The Fire Department would need 16,670 square feet and the town offices would need 15,430 square feet.

He said his team looked at ways to lower costs by reducing square footage and creating shared office spaces in the Fire Department, rather than private offices.

In combining the Police and Fire departments, the space needs would be 26,545 square feet. Shared dispatch centers, training room and more, lowers the square footage needs of both departments.

McElravy said Tecton Architects

looked at combining public safety and town offices into one building and square footage needs would total 40,185.

this option, he would suggest a public safety building with a connector to town offices, due to the building code.

they have to be the most resilient buildings according to the building code. The risk level is much higher, which means the structural systems are much stiffer than a town office structure would need to be," he said. "If we made them all a single building, then you would have to make the whole building meet that standard"

Possible locations

McElravy said there are four possible town-owned sites that Tecton Architects looked at, with sites A and B being located between the cemetery and the Highway Department on Brimfield Road; site C at the Highway Department site on Brimfield Road; and site D, on Route 67.

Sites A has a

Site A would also have a "very unfortunate" response route,

He said if the town considered

"Public safety buildings...

'lot of topography," and would pose a challenge for emergency vehicles entering and exiting garage bays. Due to this, the design would not include drivethrough bays as requested by the Fire Department.

turning on and off Brimfield Road. McElravy said earth removal

would reach 20 feet at some points on site A.

The town offices building would be located at the back of site A. McElravy said site A would

only have one way on and off the site, and would require significant retaining walls. Site B would be located on

the same parcel of land, but with the garage bays located closer to Brimfield Road. This allowed the amount of retaining walls needed to be reduced, he said.

He said there are still concerns about how the firetrucks would return to the station, requiring them to be backed in

"This wasn't really deemed a great solution," McElravy said, due to traffic on Brimfield Road.

McElravy said for additional costs, the study could work with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and explore a signal light to alert motorists to Fire Department activity.

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie said

there are safety concerns with firetrucks backing in from the road, due to the number of large construction trucks accessing the road throughout the day.

Site C has the possibility for drive-through garage bays, and has smoother topography.

McElravy said he needs to work with the Conservation Commission regarding wetlands around the site and the Highway Department's stockpiles would need to be relo-

Site C also has a better sightline of Brimfield Road.

Site D (located near Washington Street on Route 67) would allow for drive-through garage bays, but the site has significant grade off. McElravy said there is a lot of water on the site as well.

The grade would have a "dramatic effect" on emergency response time, caused by trucks having to climb the hill, which exceeds the maximum grade allowed. McElravy said site D has a 14% grade and the maximum suggested was 8%.

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educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

McElravy said without a lot of fill material, this site would be "very expensive," and he didn't think it would be a viable option.

After looking at the four sites, McElravy said site C seems to be the most viable. Privately owned sites are also being considered in

Value of existing assets

McElravy shared the assessed values of the town's current Police, Fire and town offices buildings, which total \$4,150,000. He said these values do not reflect actual market value.

"If you were to do a public safety building and sell those properties, this is the first glimpse into what you would get out of that," he said.

The Fire Station on Main Street

is assessed at \$190,200 and the Fire Station on Albany Street is assessed at \$320,500;

decide against the construction of a public safety/municipal complex. He also wants to see the "A+" option for site location.

Residents also asked for a timeline on the project. Board of Selectmen Chair David

Dufresne said this study is the first step in the project, which could take years of planning and research and would require a town meeting vote in order to become reality.

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Friday Nights

TOWN OF WARE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

The Town of Ware is seeking proposals from qualified social service organizations and agencies to include in their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. Activities eligible for funding include a range of social services that meet the needs of low and moderate-income Ware residents. Agencies providing the following services are encouraged to submit proposals; adult education/GED preparation, literacy programs, job training, domestic violence prevention, services for seniors, emergency food, family/youth activities and other social service programs.

The Town of Ware may choose to fund all, any or none of the proposals submitted. Agencies or organizations identified for inclusion in the Town's grant proposal will be required to submit additional information as part of the full CDBG application to be submitted to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC). Programs funded by EOHLC are expected to begin in the fall of 2024. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) is assisting the Town in the coordination and administration of its community development programs. Please contact Erica Johnson to receive a request form or with any questions regarding this program at (413) 781-6045 or ejohnson@pvpc.org.

All proposals must be submitted by mail or e-mail to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street – 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104, or ejohnson@pvpc.org by 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 1, 2024.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co.

West Warren restaurant approaches one year anniversary

> By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – Every small town has a place where residents can seek out a delicious pizza.

In the last year, residents of Warren and West Warren have enjoyed the presence of Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co., located off Route 67 in West Warren.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. provides delicious authentic thin crust pizza for dining, take out and catering.

Bringing Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. to West Warren is proud owner Jeffrey Fleming, who also goes by his nickname "Jasper". The nickname was picked up during his long career in the food industry.

Fleming was hand trained by an Italian family who runs a restaurant that is still open in Brooklyn, New York. Ignazio's is a pizzeria peddling thin-crust pies and appetizers in a simple space under the Brooklyn Bridge.

After his training, Fleming began operating a pizza event function company in Connecticut. These functions would operate during big events such as college events, fairs, and the Big E every year in West Springfield. Fleming also has a seasonal operation over at Misquamicut State Beach in Westerly, Rhode Island.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Fleming had to readjust to a new business strategy to keep the pizza business going smoothly.

In 2021, Fleming and his family were seeking a new location to rebuild a new pizza business, and Fleming had his eyes set on central Massachusetts. After looking through the communities of Warren, Belchertown and Ware, Fleming saw an opportunity at the location of 2162 Main St. in West Warren.

"This was our best investment and we're looking to grow in the Quaboag Valley," said Fleming.

In February of 2023, Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. was officially opened to the public in West Warren. According to Fleming, the reception has been good from the small town of Warren and the experience of offering their pizzeria in town has been incredible.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co is "a place that has a positive social impact," Fleming said.

Outside of the food service, Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. also offers other activities that are beneficial to the community.

Fleming hosts bread baking classes for all ages. These classes provide engagement and education for those who might want to pursue a career in the food service indus-

During these bread classes, adults and kids can work in groups or individually and learn about being savvy in the kitchen and understanding food safety.

One of the classes Fleming provides at Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. is called "Knead Wine." This class is a hands on bread class that teaches the fundamentals of bread baking and participants in the class get to take their bread

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. also enjoys supporting the community by offering a pay if you can policy. This sort of policy applies to supporting low-income families.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. also partakes in community bread shares that are also beneficial for



Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. Owner Jeffrey "Jasper" Fleming gets ready to serve a fresh pizza.

"We won't refuse providing meals for those in financial strife," said Fleming.

Offering meals when necessary, Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. continues offering community bread shares to improve the standard of living. Fleming truly believes that the public is confident in him and his restaurant.

Alongside Fleming during his operation of Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. are his four sons, Barrett, Cooper, Hunter and Logan.

Also, part of the team is Jon Ela, a graduate of Quaboag Regional Middle High School. Ela

is a passionate pizza maker who Fleming refers to as "Jon the Pizza

Advancing with their community outreach, Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. supports a lot of organizations through their "Piece of the Pie" fundraiser. This fundraiser supports youth programs as the business brings food for their activ-

Organizations supported by Piece of the Pie include the Quaboag Performing Arts, Warren/ West Brookfield Football and Cub

Displayed across the dining room at Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. are cake pans. Fleming lends these unique cake pans out to customers who want to make special cakes.

Jeffrey "Jasper" Fleming tosses pizza dough in the air.

The shapes offered and displayed include Winnie the Pooh, Thomas the Tank Engine, bears, stars and much more.

Now in the new year, Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. has a lot of plans instore for a special occasion.

On Valentines Day, Feb. 14 the restaurant will be celebrating their one year anniversary. The pizza shop will be offering specials to highlight their anniversary and will have fun promotions such as heart

shaped pizzas.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. also has a branded school bus. The bus is used for various events such as birthday parties, yard parties and concerts

Turley Staff Photos

Fleming had the bus displayed during the Brimfield Flea Market. Future events with the bus will take place in the spring.

Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. is open Tuesday through Sunday from 4-9 p.m. and can be reached by calling 413-436-8556. Mass Appeal Pizza & Bread Co. uses delivery services such as Grubhub and DoorDash.

Spaghetti dinner at Eagles Club is Feb. 7

WARREN - The West Warren Fraternal Order of Eagles, 2167 Main St., West Warren, is offering a spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 4-7 p.m.

The West Warren Eagles Aerie 4133 offers a spaghetti dinner once a month on the first Wednesday. In the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the term Aerie is the name of the building in which the members meet and hold events.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international non-profit organization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope.



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Nominations papers available for annual town election

WARREN/WEST BROOKFIELD - Town Clerks Laura Stockley of Warren and Heather Gough of West Brookfield announced that nomination papers are available on Monday, Feb. 5 for the annual town election, which will be held on Tuesday,

Nomination papers are available from each respective town clerk during office hours:

Town of Warren - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and Thursday

from 1-6 p.m.

Town of West Brookfield -Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Quaboag Regional School Committee nomination papers will be available for pick up on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at the Quaboag Regional Middle High School front office between the hours of 8 a.m.-3 p.m. School Committee positions open include two members from Warren for three-year terms and two members from West Brookfield for three-year terms.

Knights host spaghetti supper on Feb. 10

WARE - The Ware Knights of Columbus will host a Valentine's Day spaghetti supper on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 6-8 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, South Street, dine in or take out.

Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 children. For tickets, call/ text 413-537-3422.

A free holiday rose will be given to the ladies. Beer and wine will be available for pur-



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St. Aloysius Catholic School to hold open house

HARDWICK - St. Aloysius Catholic School is hosting an open house at the school located at 52 Church St., in Gilbertville, on Monday, Jan. 29 from 3-5:30 p.m.

Prospective parents are cordially invited to visit the classrooms and meet the faculty of this growing school. The administration is also happy to tour families during the school day and provide shadow days for students presently in kindergarten through grade seven.

Please feel free to call the school 413-477-1268 or reach out to Roberta McQuaid, Enrollment Coordinator, to set up an appointment to visit. Enrollment information and all the necessary paperwork is available on the website, www.staloysiuscs. com, under the "Join our Family" tab.

The Center hosts Appalachian photography exhibit

HARDWICK – The Center at Eagle Hill is hosting photographer Vern McClish's Appalachian Exhibition, featuring 50 powerful

The exhibition specifically focuses on the Southeast Ohio Appalachian coal region, with images and text highlighting the people of this region of Appalachia.

McClish's lens captures the essence of Appalachia, presenting a visual narrative of the individuals and families who worked tirelessly in the coal mines, contributing significantly to America's insatiable need for energy.

Beyond the physical toll, the region has grappled with the ravages of poverty, family strife, and the devastating impact of the opioid Hill by calling 413-477-6746. crisis. Many of McClish's images are accompanied in this exhibition by written descriptions of the moment the image was captured.

The exhibition serves as a testament to the unwavering determination and commitment of those who have called Appalachia home.

The exhibit "Ode to a Forgotten People and Place: Faces and Families of Ohio's Appalachia 1971-1974" will run from January to March 2024, at The Center at Eagle Hill. There will be an opening reception, free and open to the public, on Saturday, Feb. 10 from

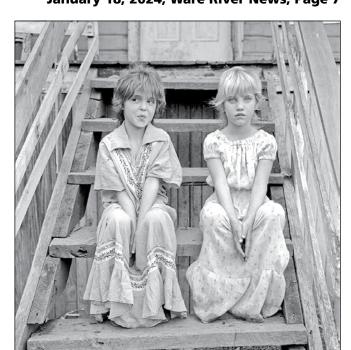
For additional viewing hours, please contact The Center at Eagle

About The Center

The Center at Eagle Hill is a performance venue in central Massachusetts presenting world class music, dance, theatre, and comedy. For more information about this, and other events please visit www.thecenterateaglehill.org.

The Center at Eagle Hill is located at 242 Old Petersham Road.

Submitted Photo Photographer Vern McClish's Appalachian Exhibition "Ode to a Forgotten People and Place: Faces and Families of Ohio's Appalachia 1971-1974" will be on display at The Center at Eagle





Flu shot available!

Sunday January 21, 2024 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

> **Hardwick Town House** 40 Common St. Hardwick, MA 01037

Pfizer & Moderna available. Bring your ID, insurance card, and vaccination card (if you do not have an insurance card, you can still get the vaccine).

All vaccinations are no cost to you, walk-ins and families welcome!

Supported by Healthy Quaboag and **The Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative**

Please use QR Code or the link to pre-register: http://tinyurl.com/ms2zhh7p

Please direct any questions to Arianna Palano at apalano@townofware.com,413-478-2526.







Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette and Ryan Drago Ware Business and Civic Association members played a variety of pinball

Members of the Ware Business and Civic Association had a gathering at the Western Mass Pinball Club in Three Rivers.



Ryan Drago uses his bowling skills to play this vintage game.



esternMassPinball.com

WBCA members enjoy winter event in Three Rivers

THREE RIVERS - Ware Business and Civic Association explored its membership "beyond" Ware, holding its winter activity at the Western Mass Pinball Club.

Members competed for the highest score on over 60 pinball machines; and a special "Golden Flipper" contest with a \$100 cash prize provided by ColorBlindGuy. Country Bank sponsored the event and I.AM.BID provided the reception area.

For more information about the WBCA, visit warebca.com or follow them on Facebook.



ColorBlindGuy Chris Murphy explains the rules of the Golden Flipper pinball challenge.



Ware Business and Civic Association member and

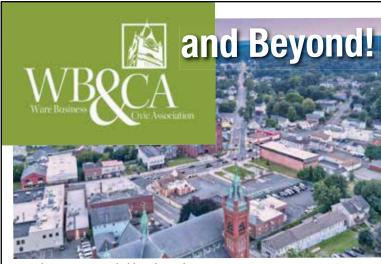


Country Bank sponsored the event at the Western Mass Pinball Club and I.AM.BID hosted the reception area.

WARE, MASSACHUSETTS

Golden Flipper

Do you see numbers?



The Ware Business and Civic Association members enjoyed pizza, salads, desserts and

Aerial pictures provided by Above the Law Imagery

Ware Business & Civic Association now includes the communities of Palmer, Belchertown, West Brookfield, Warren and Hardwick. **Businesses and organizations** from those towns are welcome to join!



over 60 varieties of pinball.



Visit warebca.com email warebca@gmail.com





Join Our Small-Town Business Development Adventure!

Are you a small business owner looking to boost your community presence and connect with fellow entrepreneurs? Look no further! Welcome to the heart of our towns' growth and success - the Ware Business & Civic Association...and Beyond!

Our Mission

We're not just any organization – we're a community catalyst! Our mission is clear: foster camaraderie among local businesses, creating a vibrant hub that transforms our town into a must-visit destination for all. We're here to ignite connections, inspire growth, and spark innovation.

➤ Why Join Us?

Referrals are just the beginning! As a member, you'll enjoy the spotlight on your business within our close-knit community. Think of us as your business's ultimate cheerleaders, making sure your unique offerings shine bright.

➤ A Legacy of Achievement

Since 2011, our organization has been making waves. We're not just about meetings – we're about momentum. From securing endorsements for local businesses to orchestrating events that turn visitors into regulars, we've been shaping our towns' destiny, one success story at a time.

Events that Sparkle

Who says business can't be fun? Picture this: quarterly membership nights that blend networking with laughter. We're all about community, after all – and a little friendly competition in the bowling alley or at the axe throwing yard never hurt anyone.

Network that Expands

With a sprawling member base, joining us means getting in on the action. Your business won't just get noticed; it'll become a star in our constellation of local talent.

➤ An Investment in Success

For just \$120 per year, you're securing your spot in our thriving business ecosystem. That's less than your monthly coffee run – and the rewards are far more energizing.

> Seamless Entry

No hoops to jump through here! Say goodbye to complicated application processes. Joining us is as simple as a few clicks - just hop online and start transforming your business journey.

Embrace Uniqueness

We're not your typical chamber. We're a creative canvas, welcoming fresh ideas and perspectives. No rigid rules, just endless opportunities to make a mark.

Ready to take your business to new heights while having a blast? Join us on this exciting ride! Let's be partners in growth and partners in fun.



For fun competition, ColorBlindGuy introduced the Golden Flipper Challenge where the player who

scores the most points on one of the vintage pinball machines wins.



Ware Business and Civic Association President Dan Flynn speaks at the association's winter activity held at the Western Mass Pinball Club.

NUGGET from page 4

"Nugget is the smartest dog that I have ever met," said Zarif. "Like-Lassie level smart; when you talk to this dog, he understands you. He's the perfect brewery dog, so well behaved, sweet, and friendly. He loves being a part of the action."

Nugget has embraced his role as a dogfluencer, delighting visitors at Timberyard and stealing the spotlight in social media posts.

His favorite gig? Greeting attendees on puppy yoga mornings.

He's even been spotted auditioning with Santa for a chance to be a reindeer, sitting patiently next to Santa for hours during his visits to the brewery, posing for photos with happy families, and helping to fundraise for a local charity. Nugget's journey from pain to fame is a testament to the power of love, resilience, and a community that cares.

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Ware evens up season series with Monson



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com Jack Gaudreau is all focus with his jumper.

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

WARE—Sweet revenge.

When the Ware boys' varsity basketball team traveled to Michael J. Kane Gymnasium last month, they suffered a 54-45 loss to Monson.

When the two Bi-County West League rivals battled each other again at Paul Orszulak Gymnasium last Friday night, the Indians celebrated a 69-62 victory over the Mustangs in front of a large home crowd.

"It's always nice to win a home game, especially against one of our biggest rivals," said Ware sophomore forward Brady Guimond, who scored 12 of his 17 points during the second half. "Monson is a very good basketball team, and this is a very big win for us."

Ware had a 1-4 overall record following an eleven point home loss against Palmer on December

The Indians, who won their next four games, had a 5-4 record following the second meeting of the regular season against the Mustangs. It was the first time that the Indians have been over the .500 mark since they defeated Mount Everett, 57-41, in the season open-

"We started the season with a 1-4 record, but we're a much different team right now," said Ware head coach Gene Rich. "We averaged 51 points per game in our first five games. Since then, we've been averaging 66 points per game.

We've also been playing well defensively. We found our identity and we figured out what works best for us as a group. A couple of our younger players are also playing key roles.

Guimond, who's a first-year starter for the varsity basketball team, was one of the Indians three double figure scorers in the home victory versus the Mustangs (6-4).

Senior guard Jack McKeever scored 12 of his team-leading 20 points in the first half. He made four shots from beyond the threepoint line. Sophomore center Jack Gaudreau chipped in with 11

The Mustangs, who won two of the three meetings against the Indians a year ago, were led by eighth grade guard Trey Dillahunt with a game-high 22 points.

"Trey plays basketball all year round," said Monson head coach Zac Dreher. "He has a lot more experience than most of the older players. He keeps us in every

Senior guard Colin Beaupre and sophomore Austin Meacham scored 12 points for the visiting team. Beaupre was the leading scorer in the first meeting of the season against Ware with 17 points.

The score was tied 4-4 a little more than three minutes into the first quarter before the Indians built a double digit lead with the help of a 17-7 run.

"We've fallen behind in every game that we've lost so far this sea-

Please see **WARE**, page 11



Jack McKeever fights off the



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com Evelyn Doe and Parker Tunley put out a defensive double team.

Cougars suffer tough loss at home

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

WARREN-Paul Dubuc, longtime girls' varsity basketball coach at South Hadley High School, is familiar with all the high school gyms throughout Western Massachusetts.

Dubuc and his players traveled to Central Massachusetts last Wednesday night where they played a regular season game at the Quaboag Regional gymnasium for the first time.

The Lady Tigers, who held a 21-2 lead at the end of the first quarter, cruised to a 62-32 nonleague road victory over the Lady Cougars.

"We've never been to this gym before, but we came out and played very well in the first quarter," Dubuc said. "This gym is bigger than our own gym. We enjoy playing in bigger gyms because it gives us more space to operate. My players played very hard and I'm very proud of them."

The Lady Tigers had a 5-3 overall record following their only visit to Central Massachusetts during the 2023-24 regular season. When the first MIAA Division 4 state power rankings of the season were released, the Lady Tigers were ranked 13th.

"We've been improving in every game that we've played this season," Dubuc added. "We put the ball in the basket and played good defense in tonight's game."

Junior Maddie Soderbaum led the way offensively for the Lady Tigers with 14 points.



Maddie Potion takes control of this ball.

Junior Caitlin Dean and freshman Cara Dean both contributed with 10 points each.

Rounding out the scoring column for the visiting team were iunior Ava Asselin (8 points). freshman Taylor Bullough (7 points), senior Drew Alley (6 points), junior CC Gurek (5 points), and junior Sophia Butler (2 points).

Alley, who was the starting goalie for the Lady Tigers soccer team, which lost to Sutton in the Division 4 state finals last fall, is the only senior listed on the South Hadley varsity basketball

Please see **QUABOAG**, page 10



Brady Guimond displays his defensive prowess.

Desmin Neak wrestles in the 106-pound class.

BARRE - Quabbin Regional

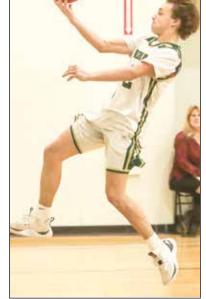
High School wrestling contin-

ues to work towards the Central

Mass. and potentially the state

tournament, both of which take

place next month. The Panthers faced Algonquin last Wednesday



talents on display with this move.

WRESTLERS WORKING TOWARD TOURNAMENT

Panthers were scheduled to face

Nashoba earlier this week and

this weekend, are set to engage

in a set of dual meets at Granby

High School against opponents

from Western Mass. Coming up,

the Panthers host Leominster



John Mumper puts his acrobatic Justin Grout heads for the net.

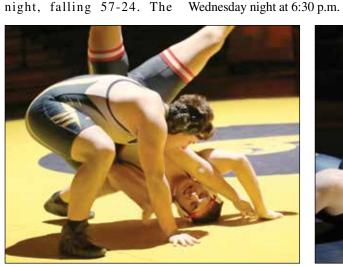
defense as he drives to the paint. **Pioneers win** again, defeat Cybercats

SPRINGFIELD - The Pathfinder girls basketball team improved to 5-3 on the season as they defeated Sci-Tech on the road last Thursday night. The Pioneers got 14 points each from Victoria Stevens and Desiree Croteau. Pathfinder led throughout the matchup and went up 33-17 at halftime. Sci-Tech did make a run in the fourth quarter, but Pathfinder's big lead was too much to overcome.

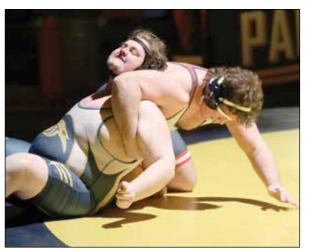


Megan Clark dribbles toward the hoop.





Turley photos by Ray Duffy Noah Miett flips his opponent head over heels.



Senior Matt Tolman gets a leg up on his

opponent.

Christian Stolgitis as a heavyweight in his varsity





Taylor Allen goes for the open Hannah Mellor passes to her left.



Riley Bassett puts up a shot.



BARRE - It was just their second loss of the regular season this year as Quabbin girls basketball fell to visiting Tyngsborough 43-36 last Tuesday evening. The Quabbin offense, which has been excellent for most of the season, suffered a bit a of power outage in this matchup. Riley Bassett and Mia Ducos managed double digits with 12 points each. The Panthers are 7-2 on the season with a 3-2 mark in the Mid-Wach C league.



Mia Ducos drives to the hoop.



Turley photos by Ray Duffy





Abby Rogowski wrestles for the Hannah Baxter gets an offensive

Worcester Railers falls at home to Norfolk Admirals

WORCESTER – It wasn't that the Railers ran out gas Sunday afternoon so much as they never had any in their 3-0 loss to the Norfolk Admirals.

Both teams were on the last leg of one of those dreaded 3 in 3 weekends, but the Admirals played it smarter than Worcester. Norfolk followed the script by jumping out to an early lead and keeping things under control the rest of the way.

It helped that the Admirals got admirable goaltending from Kristian Stead. He made 25 saves to record his first career ECHL shutout in his 11th ECHL game. It was Norfolk's second shutout of the season over Worcester. Thomas Milic beat the Railers, 4-0, on October 29. The game marked the third time this season Worcester has been whitewashed.

Brandon Osmundson, Denis Smirnov and Andrew McLean scored the game's goals. McLean's went into an empty net at 19:15 of the third period.

It was a very good goaltending game overall as Josh Boyko was excellent in the Railers net. He stopped 32 of 34 shots and kept it

"I thought he played really well," coach Jordan Smotherman said. "He made some great saves...I was really happy with his

"Playing from behind three nights in a row; you just can't do that to yourself," Smotherman

Although Norfolk had 34-25 edge in shots, the teams had about

the same number of great chances. Worcester had two breakaways in the first period. Railers players hit iron twice later on. John Copeland hit a post, Anthony Callin a cross-

The breakaways were by Worcester's two top scorers, Ashton Calder and Anthony Repaci. Both players made good moves. Stead made two good

In contrast, when Norfolk scored at 4:57 of the first period to go ahead, 1-0, Osmundson's shot went post to post and in, hitting the right one first.

"Over the course of a threegame weekend," Smotherman said, "you're not always gonna get the bounces and you can't rely on

The Admirals finished that period with a 14-4 edge in shots on goal. For the weekend, Worcester was outshot by 38-17 in the three first periods.

Smirnov doubled his team's lead early in the second period, scoring at 2:29. Danny Katic set up his teammate with a great pass from the right boards. Smirnov was just outside left post and had an easy re-direct from there.

The Railers lineup included familiar face Blake Jenkins, back from his brief time on the Hartford roster, and unfamiliar face Ryan Dickinson. The rookie defenseman made his professional debut as Zsombar Garat got a break. He had played in 32 of the season's first 34 games.

Justin Bonsignore to do pre-season 'test' at Daytona

WADING RIVER, N.Y.. -Three-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Justin Bonsignore will compete in the ARCA Menards Series pre-season test at Daytona International Speedway this weekend.

Bonsignore will drive a car prepared by Andy Hilenburg, the 1995 ARCA champion, who also has two Daytona ARCA wins to his credit. The cars are prepared by Fast Track High Performance

The pre-race test is in prepa-

Menards Series opener at Daytona during Speedweeks on Saturday, February 17. The weekend will also include the opener for the NASCAR Xfinity Series and the NASCAR Cup Series Daytona

Seven different drivers have earned the right to take laps around Daytona via the "Road to Daytona" program. Invites include the two regional series that are part of the ARCA Menards Series platform - the

Please see **RACE**, page 12

Second place is Acres at 13-7 with a team high single of 436 and team high triple of 1206. Third place is Team BK at 13-7 with a team high single of 425 and team high triple of 1182. Compression is in fourth place at 11.5-8.5 with a team high single of 419

Candlepin

Tuesday Night

League

Elks League.

Commércial Elks

League News

By Ryan Drago

Staff Writer

rdrago@turley.com

PALMER - A new team

As of Jan. 2, The Champs

leads in round two of the

Tuesday Night Commercial

R Here take over the #1 seed

with a record of 14-6. The

Champs also lead the league

with a team high single of 439

and team high triple of 1253.

and team high triple 1174. In fifth place is Life is Good at 11-9 with a team high single of 410 and team high triple of 1176. Last in Line is in sixth place at 8.5-11.5 with a team high single of 407 and team high triple of 1133. Blue B's sit in last place with a record of 8-12, a team high single of 411 and a team high

triple of 1152. The Champs R Here bowled against Last in Line on the league night of Jan. 9. In game one, The Champs and Last in Line tied at 392 and each received half a point.

Taylor Colkos and Steve Manolakis of The Champs bowled well over their averages in game one. Colkos started off with a 102 and Manolakis bowled a 106. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line started off with a 105.

In game two, The Champs R Here came out victorious by a score of 402 to Last in Line's 394. Manolakis bettered his first game score by bowling a 117. John Colkos bowled his league average, 103. Navarro bowled 104 in game two.

In game three, The Champs won the last game of the evening, 421-386. Three of the four bowlers on Champs R Here went over 100 with Dino Tessicini at 111, Taylor Colkos at 110 and John Colkos at 107.

Thursday Night Mixed League

The winners of round one, Team Six bowled against Team Five.

In game one, Team Six won by a score of 397-396. In game two, Team Six won again by a score of 419-410. Dan Mahoney of Team Six bowled a 106. In game three, Team Five won the last game 406-393. Team Five won total pinfall by a final score of 1212-1209.

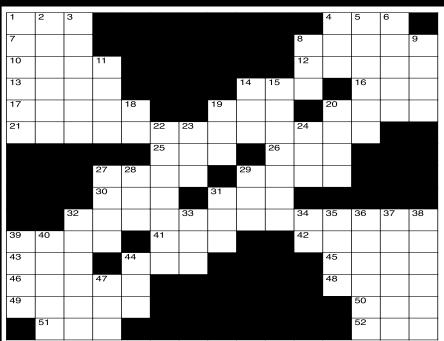
Team Two bowled against Team One. In game one, Team Two was the winner by a score of 415-382. Donna Danek, the president of the Thursday Night Mixed League had a good game bowling a 103. Following Danek, Dan Fennyery had a 111 game to start off the evening.

In game two, Team One was victorious over Team Two 396-383. In game three, Team One won the last game of the evening 400-365. Kris Rickson finished the night with a 109. Team One took total pinfall by a final score of 1178-1163.

Team Four bowled against Team Three. In game one, Team Three was the winner scoring 402 to Team Four's 392. Jesse Danek of Team Three started off strong with a 117. In game two, Team Four fought back and won 387-367. In game three, Team Four won the last game 397-390. Jesse Danek, who had an off game in the 2nd rebounded by finishing the night with a 115.

Team Four won total pinfall by a final score of 1176-1159.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Microgram
- 4. Where golfers begin
- 7. Each 8. Warm weather
- metropolis 10. Coat with sticky substance
- 12. Girl's given name 13. Myth (Spanish)
- 14. Ultrahigh frequency
- 16. Former NBAer Jeremy 17. Where rockers work
- 19. Your consciousness of your own identity 20. Soft-finned
- fishes 21. Localities
- 25. Paddle 26. Union 27. Member
- of religious

- community 29. Small shrill flute 52. Midway 30. Small constellation in
- the Milky Way 31. They 32. College kid on vacation
- 39. de Armas and Gasteyer are two 41. Part of the human body
- 42. A progressive aradina 43. Sound unit
- 44. Noise some birds make 45. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 46. Portuguese city 48. Be extremely, uncritically fond
- 49. Resembling old Norse poems 50. Ask for out of extreme need 51. Sino-Soviet

block (abbr.) between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. An insane person Boothe Luce, American author
- 3. Buttock muscles 4. Men's fashion accessory 5. "Hotel California"
- rockers 6. Electronic communication 8. Magnetomotive
- force (abbr.) 9. Hostelries 11. A way to
- resound 14. Exclamation: yuck!
- 15. A resident of Indiana 18. Exclamation of surprise

- 19. Make a mistake 20. Boundary
- 22. Antilles island 23. It's used to make furniture 24. Clod
- 27. They indicate where places are 28. Bobby ___, NHL champ
- 29. Prints money 31. Honorable title (Turkish) 32. Appetizers
- 33. Midway between north and northwest 34. Spanish be 35. Breezed through
- 36. Grilled dishes 37. In a way, excites 38. Change mind 39. A French abbot 40. Popular candy 44. Partner to
- cheese 47. Wood or metal

QUABOAG from page 9

"Drew can dominate a game without even scoring a point," Dubuc said. "She defends, rebounds, and passes the ball very well. I really don't remember the last time that we only had one senior on the varsity team. Our future looks very bright."

The only double figure scorer for the Lady Cougars (3-5) was senior Evelyn Doe, who scored 12 of her 14 points after half-

"Evelyn is an outstanding basketball player," said Quaboag head coach Bill Beauregard. "She only took a couple of shots in the first half. For us to be successful, she needs to shoot the ball more than 20 times in a game."

Junior Juliette Boos chipped in with eight points and junior Parker Tunley added seven points.

The trio of Doe, Boos, and Tunley, who scored her team's only points of the first quarter, combined to score 29 points.

Quaboag, who played in the Division 5 state tournament a year ago, were moved up to Division 4 before the start of this season. The Lady Cougars were ranked 41st in the Division 4

power rankings. The top 32 teams in each Division automatically qualify for the state tournament. The other teams who finish the regular season with a .500 or better record also qualify for the state tournament.

Beauregard wasn't very happy with his team's first half performance.

offensively or defensively in the first half. We also allowed them



Isabelle Burgess brings the ball down court.

to make too many three-pointers, which was probably the biggest difference in the game," he said. "We seem to get off to slow starts against very good teams. I thought we played much better in the second half."

The Lady Tigers made four of their nine 3-pointers during the first eight minutes of the contest.

A little more than a minute into the game, Soderbaum hit a 3-pointer from the right side which was followed by a Gurek lay-up which gave South Hadley a 5-0 lead.

With three minutes remaining in the first quarter, Cara Dean stole the ball at midcourt before scoring an inside hoop pushing the Lady Tigers lead into double digits (12-2) for the first time.

The opening quarter ended "We weren't aggressive either with back-to-back 3-pointers from Bullough and Cara Dean, who scored all her points during



Parker Tunley brings the ball down the court.

the first half.

South Hadley, who outscored Quaboag, 14-7, in the second quarter, headed into the locker room holding a 35-9 advantage.

Just like they did at the end of the first quarter, the Lady Tigers ended the first half with a pair of 3-pointers from Asselin and Cara Dean. Caitlin Dean also made another 3-pointer in the second

Doe scored 11 points during the third quarter, but the Lady Cougars were trailing by 26 points (49-23) entering the final quarter of the game.

Quaboag reeled off six unanswered points early in the fourth quarter on an inside hoop by Doe, which were followed by two baskets from Tunley, which closed the gap to 51-29. The home team didn't get any closer than that the rest of the way.

www.turley.com

Divisional win streak ends in Utica

Thunderbirds (18-13-3-2) saw their five-game win streak against North Division opponents come to an end on Saturday in a 6-3 loss to the Utica Comets (12-13-3-3) at

Adirondack Bank Center. The T-Birds quieted the notoriously noisy "Aud" just 49 seconds into the first period. In his first shift back with the T-Birds since being returned from St. Louis, Jakub

Vrana gathered in a puck near the top of the right circle and whipped a pass toward the crease. Nikita Alexandrov deflected the first attempt off the pads of Utica goalie Isaac Poulter, but Alexandrov jammed his own rebound into the twine, giving Springfield a 1-0 lead for a second straight night.

After shutting out the Comets on Nov. 24, Vadim Zherenko had tougher sledding in the first period on this night, as the Comets evened the score, 1-1, at 9:50 on a wellplaced wrister from Filip Engaras under the crossbar.

With time winding down, Comet defenseman Michael

UTICA, N.Y. -- The Springfield Vukojevic crept up into the high slot and was given room to slap one along the ice past Zherenko at 17:51 to give Utica a 2-1 advan-

> With less than a minute to play in the period, the Comets added insurance after a lengthy stretch of zone pressure. It

culminated in a funky goal at the 19:29 mark. Ryan Schmelzer arrived for a one-timer from

t h e high slot. The Comets captain muffed the shot, as it badly missed wide of the goal, but glanced off a defender and careened behind Zherenko to give Utica a 3-1 lead into the intermis-

Things took another turn in Utica's favor when Chase Stillman drew a penalty shot when he was hooked on a breakaway chance just 1:21 into the second period. The rookie winger made no mistake from there, as he bested Zherenko with a backhand-to-forehand deke, giving the Comets a 4-1 advantage.

Springfield stopped the fourgoal run at 9:25 shortly after the first of three power-play chances that eluded the visitors. After winning puck control in the left corner, Alexandrov saucered a pass into the middle of the ice for Will Bitten. Bitten's backhander caromed off Poulter's chest and, in turn, found Zach Bolduc, who one-timed the rebound through the Comets goalie to cut the Utica lead down to 4-2, a score that stood to the end of the period.

Dylan Coghlan made things even more interesting when he onetimed his league-leading 11th goal from the blue line at 7:13 of the final period to cut the deficit down to 4-3. However, this time around, the T-Birds ran out of comeback magic. Graeme Clarke scored a momentum-killing goal at 10:02, using a screen to beat Zherenko over the glove from the left-wing circle.

Springfield's power play scuffled on the evening against the AHL's top PK unit, going 0-for-4 and leaving another chance on the table in the final period while trailing 5-3. In the end, the T-Birds ran out of time in this comeback try, and Justin Dowling rounded out the scoring with a tally into an empty net in the final minute.

CDAC from page 1

with the CDAC was Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sue Ramsey.

Many ideas were shared on what to have for new features at Cutter Park. Ramsey and the CDAC had many ideas such as a water system, pickleball, basketball and a restroom.

There is also a baseball field at Cutter Park that hasn't been used in years, and CDAC members discussed what use the baseball field area could have. Ramsey hopes that any new features at Cutter Park are for all abilities and all ages.

"There's potential for a lot of different ideas," said CDAC Chairman, Jeremy Olson.

The baseball field at Cutter Park has been used for T-ball practice in years past. Now the field is being

near future.

THUNDERBIRDS

The CDAC wants to do a comprehensive property survey to figure out the property lines between Cutter Park and the neighbors surrounding the park.

In addition to property, another idea mentioned by the CDAC was to add a parking lot to Cutter Park. As of now, there is a private property near the park that allows residents to park, near the entrance of Trudeau Drive and Cutter Park.

Looking over maps, there are about 1.6 acres of space in Cutter Park that gives a lot of potential for many new additions, such as restrooms, storage, picket fencing and new play features. The CDAC is also looking into whether there is a possible access point from the residences of Trudeau Drive to Cutter Park.

The park is a convenient localooked at as a usable space in the tion for residents who are just a

walking distance away.

Dunphy said it is important to maintain the park's "current character," with any improvements.

town of Warren is now designated as a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness community.

Dunphy announced that Lucy Stone Park is "shaping up to be something special for the town." New layouts of plants, wildlife preserves, and trail development is in progress. More information is listed on the Lucy Stone Park Facebook page.

Dunphy also updated the CDAC on One Stop for Growth being completed for three streets in Warren. Otis Street will have sidewalks, drainage and waterlines

The next CDAC meeting will be

gluten-free Toffie-tastic.

Updates Olson announced that the

worked on sometime in the spring.

held on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

PARKS from page 1 Playground needs improvement, and according to Park Manager, John Piechota, the playground is still a fun place for residents to go

to but needs more work. The playground is "well beyond its life's expectancy," he said.

There is a block grant application coming in March that may be beneficial to supporting the work that needs to be done at Beauregard Memorial Playground.

The commissioners are thinking of ideas to fund the playground's needs. One of the new additions proposed at the playground is to

and Basch will present following a

public hearing for Tractor Supply

exploring multifamily housing,

which could provide a more afford-

able living situation for people on a

of the current demographics, the

goals and recommendations, and

"It basically gives a review

Some of the findings include

PROJECT from page 1

Co. at 7:05 p.m.

fixed income.

install a splashpad.

With a public hearing coming up on Jan. 29, the commission wants to provide a plan on now to help fund improvements. Sprinkler system at Memorial

The new sprinkler system at

Memorial Field will be looked into after the winter season is finished. Future improvements are also in store for the basketball courts and paving companies are being looked at to repave areas of Memorial

Restrooms at Grenville Park

Repairs are being made to a

then potential zoning and senior

resources," Smith said of the pre-

look at past trends and current pro-

trending upward, older, and stay-

ing there," Smith said. "We're just

trying to look at having a plan for

having senior housing and smart

jections for senior housing.

She said the presentation will

"Our current demographic is

bathroom at Grenville Park, after a tree fell on its roof last year.

The building may need to be demolished and have a contrac tor on sight for the demolishing portion of the project. Insurance money from the damage to the restroom is being used to help with the repair, which includes a new septic system.

Other updates

Piechota reported that during the snowstorm last week, a driver hit the main gate at Grenville Park. He said the driver and gate were both okay.

Right of first refusal

The Planning Board voted to recommend that the town decline the right of first refusal for property on Coffey Hill Road.

Boston Puppy

Smith said the Animal Control Officer has been brought in to complete a site visit of The Boston Puppy facility, and will submit a report to the board. The Board of Health is also reviewing the septic system.

WARE from page 9

son," Dreher said. "We just need to find a way to play better at the start."

Jack McKeever began the run by knocking down back-to-back 3-pointers from the left side.

The Indians made a total of nine 3-pointers in the contest.

After a pair of Gaudreau inside hoops, a lay-up by senior forward Gavin Kanozek (3 points) extended the Indians lead to 17-9 with 1:22 left in the first quarter.

Then a Guimond runner in the lane and a baseline jumper by Jack McKeever gave the home team a ten point lead entering the second quarter.

The duo of Colin Beaupre and Dillahunt combined to score all the Mustangs points in the first quarter.

The Indians were leading by 16 points (27-11) less than a minute into the second stanza following back-to-back 3-pointers from junior guard Owen McKeever (5

points) and Jack McKeever.

sustainability."

The Mustangs came storming back with the help of a 12-3 run late in the first half.

"Every good basketball team is capable of making a run and we knew that Monson was probably going to make a comeback against us." Rich said. "They did punch us in the gut a few times and I'm proud of the way my guys respond-

A Dillahunt 3-pointer closed the gap to 34-24 with 3:30 remaining in the second quarter.

Monson headed into the locker room only trailing by two points (37-35), as Meacham ended the opening half by burying a 3-pointer from the right corner.

After Guimond scored the first four points of the second half, Monson took the lead for the first

Dillahunt scored the go-ahead basket on a jumper which gave the Mustangs a 42-41 lead with 4:30 left in the third quarter.

Twenty seconds later, Guimond hit a 3-pointer from the right corner and a lay-up by senior guard John Mumper (8 points), which gave Ware a 46-42 lead.

With the help of two baskets by Colin Beaupre, the Mustangs entered the final eight minutes of the contest trailing, 51-48.

Two minutes into the fourth quarter, the home team built a 58-51 lead on a lay-up by Jack McKeever.

The Mustangs managed to stay within striking distance.

With 1:45 remaining in regulation, Dillahunt knocked down a 3-pointer cutting the Mustangs deficit to one point (61-60). They also trailed 63-62 after a Meacham put-back hoop with 1:07 left.

The Indians scored the final six points of the game. Guimond scored five of those points, including a 3-pointer from the left corner, which finally sealed the deal for the home team.

GSCWM kick off 2024 Girl Scout Cookie season

HOLYOKE/WORCESTER - Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts kicks off the 2024 Girl Scout Cookie season this weekend, the annual event in which Girl Scouts unbox their futures as young female entrepreneurs through the world's largest entrepreneurial program for girls.

During this highly anticipated time of the year, girls flex their entrepreneurial muscles and acquire important life skills like money management, team building, public speaking and decision making.

All proceeds from cookie sales stay with the local council and troops to power Girl Scouts' amazing experiences year-round.

This year's theme, Unbox the Future, aims to remove social barriers that often keep girls boxed

When bold, goal-getting Girl Scouts sell a package of cookies, they're doing much more than what's seen at face value. Girl Scouts do more than sell delicious treats-they're entrepreneurial powerhouses creating a more equitable future for themselves and the world.

Every box of cookies sold provides invaluable experiences for Girl Scouts such as service projects, troop travel and summer

This season, cookie lovers can enjoy the full assortment of Girl Scout Cookies, including fan favorites such as Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs and Do-si-dos as well as Trefoils, Lemon Ups, Adventurefuls, S'mores, and the

and western Massachusetts participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, which provides vital girl-led entrepreneurial skills that build courage, confidence and character. As a result, girls obtain limitless barrier-breaking futures outside the box with transferable life skills.

Girl Scouts can earn a variety of badges and awards to develop valuable business skills including Cookie Business badges, Financial Literacy badges, Cookie Entrepreneur Family pins and Entrepreneur badges.

How to purchase

If you know a registered Girl Scout, reach out to her to find out how she's selling cookies. If you don't know a Girl Scout, check out your local council's Girl Scout Cookie Finderto find a booth and purchase cookies.

Beginning Feb. 16, customers who do not already know a Girl Scout will also be able to purchase cookies to be shipped directly to their homes by entering their zip code into the Girl Scout Cookie Finder. This link can also be used to find a local booth, purchase cookies and/or to donate cookies for local community causes.

You can also text COOKIES to 59618 to stay informed about how to purchase Girl Scout Cookies and other exciting Girl Scout news. Learn more about the Terms and Conditions and the SMS Privacy Policy.

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts and their enthusiastic supporters have helped ensure the

Nearly 4,000 girls in central success of the iconic annual cookie program-and they've had fun, developed valuable life skills and made their communities a better place every step of the way. Girl Scout Cookie season in central and western Mass runs mid-January to mid-March.

Girl Scouts in grades K-12 can start their journey to fun, friendship and new experiences by joining the world's largest entrepreneurial organization for girls at any point in the year. Girls can join and adults can become volunteers at www.girlscouts.org/join.

About GSCWM

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves over 5,000 girls in grades kindergarten through 12 with the strong support of over 3,000 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts.

The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience, and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.

To join, volunteer, reconnect, or donate, visit www.gscwm.org.

About the Girl Scout Cookie Program

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led

Please see **COOKIES**, page 12

STONE CHURCH from page 3

Gnazzo Company is providing on this project."

FOSC's future plans include completing masonry repairs to the stone tower, installing a handicapped bathroom, landscaping to reduce threats from tree damage, driveway repairs, and interior improvements.

In addition to generous community support, major funding for FOSC's 2023 capital projects was provided by the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund, a program of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts administered through a collaborative agreement between MassDevelopment and the Mass Cultural Council. Preservation Massachusetts, with Foundation, provided support for significant repairs to the slate roof by Skyline Engineers. The Barre Charitable Savings Foundation provided support to complete the south entrance access ramp.

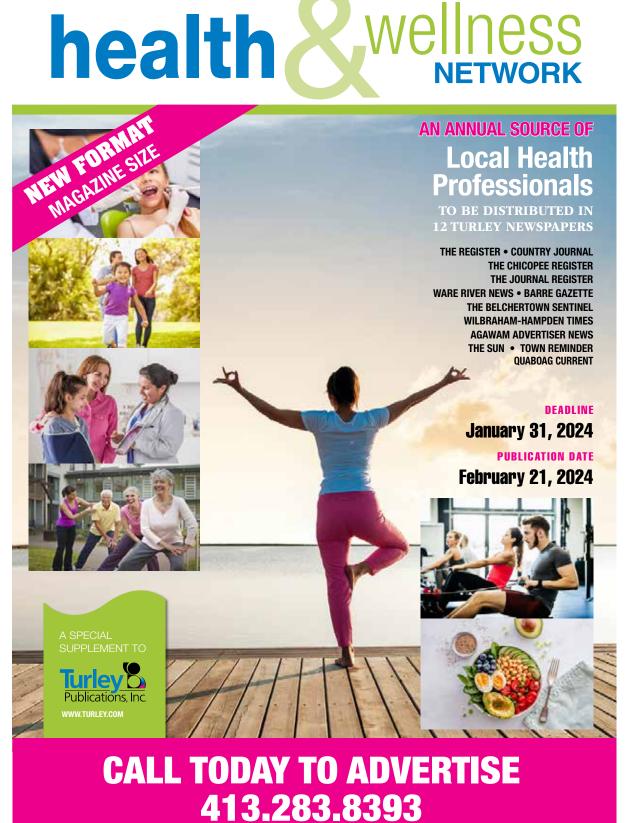
FOSC received funding for the first time in 2023 from The Greater Worcester Community Foundation to strengthen its technology and organizational infra-

Partial support for classical and community music concerts in 2023 was provided by Country Bank, Boston Financial Services, the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, and Cultural Councils of Hardwick-New Braintree, Oakham, North Brookfield and Petersham, local agencies which receive support from the Mass support from the national 1772 Cultural Council. FOSC makes

all of its ticketed programs free to youth under 18 and accessible based on income through the Mass Cultural Council's "Card to Culture" program.

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community-focused organization. To preserve the historical Stone Church Cultural Center as a venue that is open to all, FOSC requires ongoing financial and volunteer support in the areas of preservation, programs, maintenance and organizational development.

To volunteer, contact the organization through its website www. FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org. Donations are welcome online through the website or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.



public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Jan. 8-15, the Ware Police Department responded to 28 miscellaneous calls, 41 administrative calls, 17 traffic violations, 22 emergency 911 calls, one fraud, five harassments, two thefts/larcenies, one trespass, two safety hazards, 13 motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 18 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Monday, Jan. 8

10:35 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Report Made 1:29 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Church Street, Report

3:08 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dale Street, Services Rendered

4:21 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Howard Road, Report

7:09 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Dispatch Handled 8:35 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Dale Street, Advised

9:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, Jan. 9

7:49 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Bacon Road, Report Made 11:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Report Made Summons: Miranda T. Lemos,

Unlicensed Operation of Motor

4:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Route 32, Could Not

Wednesday, Jan. 10

12:15 a.m. Safety Hazard, Anderson Road, Services Rendered

12:40 a.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Services Rendered

Summons: Tashia S. Lozado-Davis, 31, Ware

Reckless Endangerment of

12 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, Monroe Street, Advised 12:15 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, Investigated

During the week of Jan. 8-15,

Police Department responded to

controls, 10 emergency 911 calls,

eight radar assignments, four

safety hazards, six citizen assists,

one assist other agency, four com-

plaints, two motor vehicle acci-

dents, one motor vehicle investi-

gation, one missing person, one

scam, one threat, one animal call

and 14 motor vehicle stops in the

Monday, Jan. 8

Barre Road, Citation Issued

Lower Road, Vehicle Towed

Street, Officer Handled

of Town, Call Canceled

Services Rendered

Handled

3:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

3:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

1:05 p.m. Assist Citizen, High

4:25 p.m. 911 Medical

5:02 p.m. Safety Hazard,

5:34 p.m. Safety Hazard, Out

Petersham Road, Dispatch

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Investigation, Church Lane,

1:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Emergency, Ruggles Street,

Tuesday, Jan. 9

town of Hardwick.

Hardwick Police Log

the Hardwick/New Braintree Street, Officer Handled

1:12 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call,

South Street, Investigated 2:07 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Investigated

2:26 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Report Made 3:19 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, West Street, Advised

Thursday, Jan. 11

2:48 a.m. Bylaw Violation, West Main Street, Citation/ Warning Issued

3:01 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Eddy Court, Citation/Warning

6:16 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, Main Street, Services Rendered

12:44 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, South Street, Services Rendered

2:55 p.m. Assault, West Street, Report Made

5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/ Warning Issued

Friday, Jan. 12

2:29 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Monson Turnpike Road, Citation/ Warning Issued

9:20 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, North Street, Services Rendered

12:37 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, North Street, Advised 1:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Belchertown Road, Citation/ Warning Issued 2:14 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call,

Gould Road, Dispatch Handled

2:53 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered 5 p.m. Drugs, Fisherdick Road, Investigated

Saturday, Jan. 13

7:24 a.m. Safety Hazard, Monson Turnpike Road, Services Rendered

9:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning

2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation/ Warning Issued

4:59 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Patient

8:56 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Road, Report Taken

10:56 a.m. Assist Citizen, Motor Vehicle Operations, Main

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.

6:41 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Services Rendered

Sunday, Jan. 14

2:33 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued

5:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Warren Road, Citation/ Warning Issued

11:43 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, North Street, Services

Rendered 12:17 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Assist Given

2:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation/ Warning Issued

4:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Report Made 5:02 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, North Street, Services

Rendered 5:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Unfounded

Monday, Jan. 15

5:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Pulaski Street, Services

5:54 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Meadow Heights Drive, Services

9:39 p.m. 911 Complaint/

Saturday, Jan. 13

Barre Road, Citation Issued

32, Negative Contact

Arrest(s) Made

11:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

3:21 p.m. Missing Person,

5:31 p.m. 911 Complaint/

8:04 p.m. 911 Medical

Motor Vehicle Operations, Route

Emergency, Bridge Street,

Sunday, Jan. 14

Main Street, Written Warning

Lower Road, Written Warning

Street, Services Rendered

1:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

6 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

11:35 a.m. Complaint, Main

3:45 p.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske

4:46 p.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske

9:36 p.m. 911 Medical

Road, Taken/Referred to Other

Road, Taken/Referred to Other

Church Lane, Services Rendered

Senate passes 'Blue Envelope' bill for people with autism

BOSTON - The Senate recently voted unanimously to pass "An Act facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder" (S.2542), also known as the "Blue Envelope" bill, filed by Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton).

The bill creates a voluntary program to make available special blue envelopes to people with autism spectrum disorder that hold the driver's license, registration, and insurance cards, and which can be handed to a police officer in the event of a traffic stop. On the outside of the envelope are specific instructions for law enforcement officers on the driver's diagnosis, impairments, triggers, emergency contact information, as well as best practices for communicating.

"I am deeply grateful to Senate President Karen Spilka, Ways and Means Chair Michael Rodrigues, Transportation Chair Brendan Crighton and my colleagues for passing this important legislation," said Comerford in a press release. "The Blue Envelope bill will make our Commonwealth a safer place for people who are neuro-diverse. It moves us closer to equal opportunity and access for people of all abilities.'

"The Arc of Massachusetts and Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts are grateful to Senator Comerford, Senate President Spilka and Chairman Rodrigues for passing the Blue



Shown from left are UMass Police Chief Tyrone Parham, Max Callahan and Senator Jo Comerford.

Envelope, a priority bill for our advocacy organizations. This bill will ease interactions between police and autistic drivers. We know these situations can escalate and become traumatic or even dangerous," said Maura Sullivan, Director of Government Affairs, The Arc of Massachusetts/ Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts. "The Arc and AFAM applaud the Senate for taking action to be inclusive of the needs of the drivers with autism, in Massachusetts."

"The Blue Envelope Bill would

be a game changer for our family and for so many Massachusetts residents," said Ilyse Levine-Kanji, an Executive Committee member of Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts. "Like many people with autism, my 25-year-old son Sam does not have any physical characteristics that indicate he has autism. In a stressful situation, where split second decisions must be made, I'm relieved that a police officer could see a blue envelope in Sam's car and immediately under-

Please see **AUTISM**, page 13

During the weeks of Dec. 24-Jan. 6, the Warren Police Department responded to 467 building/property checks, 224 community policing, 56 traffic enforcements/radar, 30 emergency 911 calls, three larcenies/thefts, six complaints, one fire/illegal burn, one trespasser/prowler, one property damage, one motor vehicle accident, one safety hazard, six animal calls and 62 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

12:37 a.m. Chemo Reaction, Shamrock Drive, Mutual Aid

Douglas Road, Officer Spoke to

Street, Mutual Aid Transport

Monday, Dec. 25

1:45 p.m. Gunshots, Town Farm Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Unresponsive/Syncope, Constitution Avenue, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Main Street, Report Filed

12:17 a.m. Complaint, Keyes Road, Citation Issued

8:10 a.m. Falls, Keys Road, 4:29 p.m. Breathing Difficulty,

Shamrock Drive, Mutual Aid

Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital

12:43 a.m. Complaint, Bacon Street, Citation Issued

Summer Street, Written Warning 4:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Vehicle Towed 6:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Report Filed

80, Vero Beach, Florida

Number Plate Violation; Firearm, Carry Without License; Firearm, Carry Without License; Ammunition Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm, Store Improper

8:03 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned, Brimfield Road, Report Filed

Ambulance, Main Street, Mutual

8:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

10:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Saturday, Dec. 30 4:18 a.m. Assist Other Police

Department, Ware, Mutual Aid 5:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning 6:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Stop, Southbridge Road, Written

9:34 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/ Abandoned, Old West Brookfield Road, Information Taken

11:02 a.m. Unconscious/ Unresponsive/Syncope, Winthrop Terrace, Mutual Aid Transport

3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning 6:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 8:22 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed 9:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Sunday, Dec 31

East Road, Written Warning

9:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brook Road, Written Warning 10:01 a.m. Property Damage, Trudeau Drive, Report Filed 3 p.m. Hypertensive, Coy Hill

Road, Mutual Aid Transport 9:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Monday, Jan. 1

1:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

7:35 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Shamrock Drive, Mutual Aid Transport

1:27 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency

4:37 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Hillside Avenue, Fire Extinguished 6:08 p.m. Trespasser/Prowler, High Street, Report Filed

Tuesday, Jan. 2 12:11 a.m. Complaint, Pine

Street, Citation Issued 4:54 a.m. Fire Alarm Activation,

Winthrop Terrace, Investigated 4:19 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, North Street, Mutual Aid

4:49 p.m. Falls, Washington Street, Referred to Other Agency 5:10 p.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle, Main Street, Report Filed 7:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 8:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

9:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint Summons: Marie A. Daguilh, 51, Warren

License Restriction, Operate Motor Vehicle in Violation; Speeding in Violation Special Regulation

Wednesday, Jan. 3 1:25 a.m. Safety Concern, Old

West Brookfield Road, Verbal Warning 5:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 5:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued 12:52 p.m. Complaint, Main

Street, Information Given

4:06 p.mm. Harassment, Yankee Drummer Drive, Report Filed

4:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed 5:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Thursday, Jan. 4

5:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

8:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written

11:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Crouch Road, Written Warning 1:18 p.m. Fire Alarm Activation,

Winthrop Terrace, Investigated 4:37 p.mm. Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Mutual Aid

Transport 5:57 p.m. Seizures, Main Street,

Mutual Aid Transport 8:56 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed

Friday, Jan. 5 6:03 a.m. Breathing Difficulty,

Bemis Road, Mutual Aid Transport 6:43 a.m. Seizures, Moore Avenue, Referred to Other Agency 10:23 a.m. Post-op Complications, Central Street,

4:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued 8:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Mutual Aid Transport

Main Street, Written Warning 9:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Summons: Garrett A. Allain, 33, Unlicensed Operation of Motor

Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Speeding in Violation Special Regulation

Saturday, Jan. 6

11:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Coy Hill Road, Criminal Complaint Summons: Richard W. Brown, 52, Warren

2:06 p.m. Allergic Reaction, Town Farm Road, Mutual Aid

5:19 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Crouch Road, Mutual Aid Transport

8:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

9:03 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/ Parking Issues, Main Street,

Uninsured Motor Vehicle

7:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning

Officer Spoke to Party

RACE from page 10

Officer Handled

three ASA-branded touring super late model series, the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion and the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series frontrunners. Although current 2023 champion for the Whelen Modified Tour Ron Silk isn't making the trip, Bonsignore is filling the seat to take laps around one of the fastest and iconic tracks in the world.

The trip will be his first laps on the Daytona high-banks of his

"Taking laps at Daytona is definitely something every race car driver dreams of when you

directed/area patrols, eight traffic Handled 11:48 a.m. Assist Citizen, Church Street, Dispatch Handled 1:42 p.m. Scam, Greenwich Road, Spoken To 3:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

69 building/property checks, 44 Hardwick Pond Road, Officer Street, Arrest(s) Made

Barre Road, Citation Issued Thursday, Jan. 11 8:26 a.m. 911 Threat, Main

Petersham Road, Written Warning

3:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Street, Taken/Referred to Other 3:30 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered

5:08 p.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Jan. 12 7:34 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Petersham Road,

Investigated 10:03 a.m. Assist Citizen, Parker Court, Spoken To 10:13 a.m. Assist Other

10:44 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Miner Road, Transported to Hospital

start racing," Bonsignore said.

"Appreciate the opportunity given

by NASCAR, ARCA, Andy and

his entire team to be able to get

behind the wheel. Looking for-

ward to soaking in the experience

and showcasing the NASCAR

Whelen Modified Tour on this

ARCA Menards Series, visit

ARCARacing.com. For the lat-

est updates surrounding Justin

Bonsignore, fans are encouraged

to visit JustinBonsignore.com

and also follow Bonsignore's

Athlete page on Facebook for

updates, including from the track

For more information on the

stage."

on race day.

Officer Handled

Agency, Police Department, Emergency, Patrill Hollow Road. Services Rendered 10:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Petersham Road,

11:55 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick

Vehicle Towed

COOKIES from page11 entrepreneurial program in the world. Not only is the cookie program fun, but it also helps Girl Scouts learn life and leadership skills.

When you buy Girl Scout cookies you are creating opportunities for Girl Scouts to learn, grow, and thrive. From learning how to interact with customers to creating budgets and taking orders, the Girl Scout Cookie Program teaches Girl Scouts invaluable skills that they'll use to succeed throughout their

Girl Scout Cookie proceeds stay in the community to support local councils and troops.

Warren Police Log

Sunday, Dec. 24

1 ransport 12:37 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Old

7:06 p.m. Bleeding, Main

2:26 p.m. Unconscious/

10:40 p.m. Larceny or Theft,

Tuesday, Dec. 26

Ambulance Signed Refusal

6:51 p.m. Breathing Difficulty,

Wednesday, Dec. 27 12:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Friday, Dec. 29

2:36 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Crouch Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal 4 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Summons: Dwight Deaquair,

8:19 p.m. Mutual Aid

Aid Assist

ABBA tribute band comes to Hardwick

HARDWICK -On Saturday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m., The Center at Eagle Hill is excited to present Dancing Dream: The Tribute to ABBA.

Dancing Dream electrifies audiences of all ages with the group's well-known hits, including "Mamma Mia", "Dancing Queen", "Take a Chance", "Fernando", "Waterloo", and many more.

Established in 2009, the New York City-based touring tribute act transports nostalgic audiences back to the happy and groovy times of the 1970s.

Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$30 for students and seniors. The Center also offers discounted \$10 tickets to EBT cardholders through Massachusetts' Card to Culture Program.

For tickets and information, visit www.thecenterateaglehill. org or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746.

About The Center

The Center at Eagle Hill is a performance venue in central Massachusetts presenting world class music, dance, theatre, and comedy. For more information about this, and other events, please visit www.thecenterateaglehill.org.

The Center at Eagle Hill is located at 242 Old Petersham Road.

Blood Donation Team is coming to Palmer

PALMER -The Baystate Health Blood Donation team will host a blood drive at Baystate Wing Hospital, 40 Wright St. in Snow Conference Room C on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Additionally, Blood Drives will be held every other month on Wednesday throughout the year at Baystate Wing on April 10, June 5, Aug. 7, Oct. 9 and

"There continues to be an urgent need for blood, when you donate blood to Baystate Health, your precious gift remains in our local communities," said Nicole VanZandt, MLT III, Supervisor, BRL Blood Donor Services in a press release. "Please help us to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available by donating blood with the Baystate Health

Blood Donor Program...there is no substitute for human blood."

Blood donations take approximately one hour to complete, including the interview, donation, and refreshments. To donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old; weigh at least 110 pounds have a photo ID; be in good health (no colds, or sore throat); and have not donated blood within the past eight weeks.

In appreciation, all eligible donors will receive a \$10 gift

For more information or to book an appointment to donate blood please call the Blood Donor Center at 413-794-4600. Please be sure to note the Baystate Health hospital location you would like to make your donation at when you make your appointment.

Beaver Lake Club Corporation offers scholarship

WARE – Beaver Lake Club Corporation of Ware announces its annual Louis H. Healy Scholarship of up to \$1000.

These scholarships will be presented to deserving high school seniors or current college students who are residents of the town of Ware or who are members of the Beaver Lake Club Community.

The scholarship is given in the memory of Louis Healy a long time and well- respected member of the Beaver Lake community and the town of Ware. Lou was an active leader and partic-

ipant in both town and community matters and his family and friends continue to celebrate his thoughts, ideals, and memory by awarding this yearly academic scholarship.

The application deadline is April 19 and applications must be postmarked by that date. The selected recipient will be notified, and the scholarships will be awarded in early June.

Applications and information can be obtained by sending an email to ctrietsch22@gmail.com or by mailing a request to BLCC, P.O. Box 253, Ware, MA 01082.

Creative writing/publishing workshop offered

WEST BROOKFIELD - With just 26 letters and a handful of punctuation, writers create fascinating worlds and unforgettable

A creative writing and publishing workshop will be held on Sunday, March 10, from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Salem Cross Inn in West Brookfield.

Award-winning author Ed Londergan provides a full day of information. "The workshop will cover the entire writing and publishing, including idea development and sources of inspiration, drawing from storytelling traditions, developing the story, structure and flow, conceiving and bringing characters to life. dialogue, editing, short fiction, writer's block, and the publishing process," Londergan said in a press release. "The publishing ees have enjoyed and learned

process can be confusing and frustrating. I'll take the group through the various publishing options available. There will also be some fun writing exercises."

"Everyone has a story to tell. The workshop aims to help those who want to write but don't know where to start or have had an idea for a story that's been bubbling in their head for years and finally want to put it on paper. I also help people who have written something and need to know how to move ahead."

Past workshops have been attended by people of all ages and occupations, from 12-yearold students to 75-year-old retir-"Four attendees have written books and had them published," Londergan said.

"One of the things past attend-

from is the writing exercises," Londergan said. "The writing exercises this year are different than what I've done in the past. I enjoy seeing the creative ideas that come out of them.'

"Back-and-forth discussion is always a popular part of the day. Attendees learn from each other. Individual issues or problems anyone has with their writing are discussed, and the group helps them with suggestions and observations. At times, a lot of 'here's what happened to me, and here's what I did.'

The workshop is limited to 14 participants. The cost is \$110, and lunch is included.

Registration is required. The registration deadline is March 3. To register, email ed.londergan@ gmail.com or call 508-864-8685.

River East School to Career hosts Trivia Night

PALMER - River East is thrilled to announce an exciting evening of brain-teasing fun with an upcoming Trivia Night to be held on Saturday, Feb. 3 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Country Club of Wilbraham.

Tickets are \$35 per person and include dinner. A cash bar will be offered. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner is at 6 p.m. and Trivia begins at 7 p.m.

Teams of trivia enthusiasts will go head-to-head in a battle of wits. With a wide range of categories to choose from there's something for everyone - whether you're a seasoned trivia pro or a casual player, Trivia Night promises to be an entertaining experience for all.

The legendary Trivia Host Bobby Roast Beef will keep the energy high and the laughs rolling throughout the night. With his wit and charm, he will guide participants through the trivia journey, making it an engaging and memorable experience.

Trivia Night is open to all, and teams can consist of up to six members. Prizes will be for the top three winning teams.

Luso Federal Credit Union is the Event Sponsor. Additional sponsorships are available.

To purchase tickets or to become a sponsor, please call 413-283-5051, or visit Rivereaststc.org/events The Country Club of Wilbraham is located at 859 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham.

'We are very excited about the trivia event and welcoming our guests to join in. Bobby Roast Beef is a known trivia host throughout our community, and we are sure he will make it a fun night," stated Amy Scribner, Partnership Director of River East School to Career, in a press release. "We are very appreciative to all of the sponsors, vendors, and others involved who are contributing to this event to benefit student scholarships," she added.

About River East

River East works with nine high schools in the local area - Belchertown, Hampden-Wilbraham, Longmeadow, Monson, Palmer, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, Ouaboag Regional, Tantasqua Regional, and Ware. Their mission is to assist students in preparing them to be successful in their careers through workbased learning opportunities.

In the past five years, they have helped over 1,500 local students. River East School-to-Career is a business and education partnership under the MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program is supported in part, seventy-five percent, through the Massachusetts Connecting Activities.

AUTISM from page 12

stand that any unusual behavior or speech pattern is a result of autism. Thus, this bill could dramatically decrease the possibility of a tragic misunderstanding. Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts is extremely grateful for Senator Commerford's leadership in introducing and championing this common sense initiative and to the Senate for moving so quickly to pass the bill."

"Massachusetts police officers conduct thousands of traffic stops each year. While most of these interactions are relatively 'routine,'

officers do not know who they are interacting with before the traffic stop so they proceed with caution. Each driver reacts differently when they are pulled over by the police," said Tyrone Parham, UMass Amherst Chief of Police. "The introduction of the blue envelope under stressful interactions will provide immediate informa-

tion and context to the officer as they begin to communicate. This will be instrumental to help bridge the communication gap for both motorists and police officers."

For drivers with autism spectrum disorder, being stopped by a police officer can be particularly challenging. At times, law enforcement officers or other first responders have had little or no training about how to communicate appro-

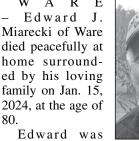
priately with people with ASD. The bill facilitates understanding and better communication between law enforcement and drivers with ASD. In other states, like Connecticut, a similar voluntary program has been shown to reduce stress, facilitate better communication, and improve safety.

This bill will now move to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for consideration.

obituaries

Edward J. Miarecki, 80

 $W \quad A \quad R \quad E$ Edward J. Miarecki of Ware died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on Jan. 15,



born Sept. 29, 1943, to the late Julian and Adele (Fudyma) Miarecki.

He grew up in Gilbertville, and graduated from Hardwick High School. Edward bravely served his country in the Vietnam War before returning home to marry his wife of 55 years, Sandra J (Lanier) Miarecki.

After more than 40 years, he retired from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Ware Big Y where he made many wonderful, lasting friendships.

Death notices

Miarecki, Edward J. Died Jan. 15, 2024

Quink Jr., Joseph J. Died Jan. 12, 2024 Services Jan. 26, 2024

Edward will be remembered as a loving husband, wonderful father and amazing Grampy. He is survived by his wife Sandra and their three sons, Brian Miarecki and his wife Amy of West Brookfield, Jon Miarecki of South Boston, and Timothy Miarecki and his wife Jessica of Upton; along with three grandchildren, Molly, Luke and Grace Miarecki, who he cherished. Edward will now join coffee and casino trips in spirit with his best buddies Henry and Richie.

Funeral Services for Edward will be held privately.

Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware is assisting his family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com.

Ware River News Obituary **POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries**

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Joseph J. Quink Jr., 85

BELCHERTOWN - Joseph pet playing from a young age, and John Quink Jr., beloved husband,

ther and brother, passed away peacefully on Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, at the age of 85.

Joe was born on July 9, 1938, in Ware, to the late Joseph John Quink Sr., and Stella (Sierakowski) Quink.

He was raised and educated in Ware, and graduated from Ware High School in 1956. Joe lived in Ware for most of his life, until relocating to Belchertown and spending winters in Florida. On Jan. 14, 1961, Joe entered

into Holy Matrimony with Sandra Clark, and they have been happily married for 63 years. Joe was employed as the

maintenance foreman for the Massachusetts State Police Academy in New Braintree. He was a communicant of All Saints Church in Ware.

Joe was known for his trum-

through his days in the Ware High father, grandfather, great-grandfa- School Band. After his gradua-

tion, he formed his own band "The Rainbow Kings", he entertained crowds in the area until the early 1970s, when he retired from music.

One of his greatest accomplishments was the recording and release of an original album in 1962.

Joe enjoyed all of his family, following his children and grandchildren at their sporting events through the years, but he was most happy when it was just he and Sandy quietly spending time with each other.

Joe leaves behind his loving wife, Sandra (Clark) Quink, his loving children; Deb Gagnon and her husband Chris of Ware, Stephen Quink and his wife Valerie of Sturbridge, and Diane Messier and her husband John of Ware. Joe was the loving grandfather of six grandchildren: Joseph Gratton and his wife Shannon,

Randy Gratton and his wife Taylor, Erin Arnold and her husband Tom, Jack Messier and his fiancée Susan, Sam Quink and Andrew Quink. He also leaves behind his great-grandchildren, Lorenzo Gratton, Xander Gratton, Andreina Gratton, James Gratton and Kobe Gratton, as well as his siblings, Phillip Quink of Big Piney, Wyoming and Janice Surprenant of Three Rivers.

lings, Stephan Quink, Frederick Quink and Irene (Quink) Fuller. A Funeral Mass will be offered for Joe on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, at 11 a.m. in All Saints Church, North Street, Ware. Everyone will meet directly in the church.

Joe was predeceased by his sib-

There are no calling hours. Burial will be private at the convenience of Joe's family.

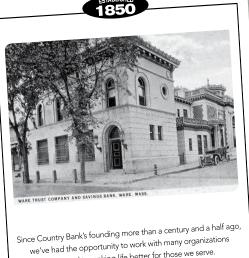
Funeral Services are under the direction of Cebula Funeral Home. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

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public notices

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF WARE Public Hearing -Monday, January 29, 2024 **6:00 PM in the** Selectmen's Meeting

Room at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA

https://zoom.us/join or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082

Proposed FY 2024 CDBG Application

The Ware Community Development Authority will conduct a Public Hearing on January 29, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA regarding a proposed FY2024 application to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and livable Communities (EOHLC) for up to \$950,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds. This meeting is hybrid and the public is welcome to attend in person, or through the Zoom link or phone number provided above.

The Town is encouraging input on community needs and projects which would benefit from grant funding. The projects currently being considered include:

- Pleasant Street Parking Lot Improvements
- Accessibility Improvements to Town buildings
- Cottage Street Infrastructure Improvements Housing Rehab-
- ilitation and/or Aging in Public Social Services

Additional projects may be discussed and may be included in the grant application.

tions or comments regarding the grant application will have an opportunity to be heard. Ware Town Hall is handicapped accessible. Persons who require special accommodations to attend the hearing should contact the Town at (413) 967- 01/18, 01/25/2024 9648, ext. 118 one week prior to the hearing. Those unable to attend can send written comments to Paralee Smith, Director of Planning and Community Development at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 or psmith@townofware. com. For further information contact Erica Johnson at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission at 413-781-6045 or ejohnson @pvpc.org. 01/11, 01/18/2024

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-02

NOTICE is here-

Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on THURSDAY, **FEBRUARY 15, 2024 at 7:15 p.m.**, on the application of Frederick T. Smith III, for a Special Permit for annual renewal (SP-2024-02) of an approved earth removal operation under Section 4.8.5, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to https://zoom. us/join or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password:

SITE LOCATION: Greenwich Road, Ware,

MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 10396, Page 108. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 35-0-12. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

A complete copy of the application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under Recent Filings. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

Ed Murphy III, Chairman

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-01

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware by given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on THURSDAY, **FEBRUARY 15, 2024** meeting at 7:05 p.m., on the application of ReSource Waste Services of Ware LLC, for a Request for Modification of Approval Special Permit (SP-2024-01) regarding approved existing Special Permits (SP-2001-01, SP-2013-01, SP-2014-01) under Section 4.8.5, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to https://zoom. us/join or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 198 East Street, Ware, **MA**. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 10452, Page 147. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 24-0-16. Zoned: Highway Commercial (HC).

A complete copy of the application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under WARE PLANNING Recent Filings. Anyone BOARD interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

WARE PLANNING **BOARD** Ed Murphy III, Chairman 01/18, 01/25/2024



See more Public Notices on Page 15

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement

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TOWN OF WARREN - JOB POSTING

POLICE OFFICER Full/Part Time Openings

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time and part time Police Officer. Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights, and holidays.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services. It is preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferences include an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, serve in the US military, or experience as a Police Officer.

The Patrolmen's contract provides an education incentive and a candidate with prior experience may also be considered to start at a higher step rate

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than Friday, January 26th, 2024, to the attention of Lt. James Early, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or early@warren-ma.gov.

The Town of Warren is an EOE

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or call: 413-283-8393 **CATEGORY:** Quabbin **Village Hills** Circulation: 50,500 12 13 14 15 16 17 Suburban Residential 21 Base Price \$26.50 Base Price \$27.00 Base Price 24 Base Price \$28.00 Circulation: 59,000 Hilltowns 25 Base Price \$28.50 Base Price \$29.00 Base Price \$29.50 Base Price \$30.00 Circulation: 9,800 29 Base Price \$1.00 Base Price \$32.00 All Three ZONES for \$26.00 33 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Base Price \$36.00 Address: **GREAT VALUE!** Town: X per week rate = \$____ Number of Weeks: ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# Credit Card: THE PRICE OF ONE!

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VOICES from page 1

were printed anonymously on the displayed photographs, adding context and poignancy to them.

One evidence-based practice encouraged at the event was that of carrying Narcan, also known by its generic name naloxone. Narcan is a life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose and can be purchased at many pharmacies without a prescription.

Representative William "Smitty" Pignatelli, of the 3rd Berkshire District, emphasized the importance of carrying Narcan in remarks he gave at the event.

He related the tragic story of a young man who passed away as a result of an opioid overdose while his family and a police officer were present as they waited for an ambulance to arrive with Narcan.

Because of this and similar stories, Pignatelli said that he was supporting a bill that would require all first responders in Massachusetts to carry Narcan. The bill, H. 2008, most recently had a joint hearing in October, according to the Massachusetts General Court's website.

"You never know who's going to show up at your front door," Pignatelli said, emphasizing that this was especially true in rural communities, and demonstrating that EMTs should not be expected to be the only ones with Narcan available.

Department of Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein also spoke at the event, sharing the startling news that the 2,359 overdose deaths recorded in 2022 were a record for the Commonwealth.

In addition to further stressing the importance of carrying Narcan, Goldstein laid out the evolution of the opioid crisis in Massachusetts, starting with prescription drugs around 2005, and escalating with the influx of fentanyl, a synthetic opiate, over the last decade.

"The drug supply is poisoned," he said, referring to the fact that illicit street drugs are now frequently contaminated with substances like fentanyl and xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, unbeknownst to the user.

Dr. Jeffrey Samet, Boston Medical Center physician and Principal Investigator for the HEALing Communities Study in Massachusetts, said that the Commonwealth had taken on a leadership role in addressing the national opioid crisis, but that there was still a long way to go.

"The essence of the HEALing Communities Study was to see if we can engage community members to come together in coalition within their communities," Samet said. Specifically, Samet highlighted how the study empowered participants to make decisions about the most helpful ways to allocate resources within their own communities.

Randy Gratton, a fourth generation Ware resident, shared how the



The "Voices of Resilience" exhibit was on display at the State House in Boston.



Community Coordinator Alyssa Curran spoke about the photovoice project held in Massachusetts' communities.

HEALing Communities Study had helped him in his own recovery, expressing his gratitude to the Study for "giving the little town of Ware the big help it needed."

Gratton said that community members in recovery had been having similar ideas about what was needed, but that they "didn't know how to put them together." As a result of individuals coming together, Gratton said, the Recovery Center of HOPE was opened on Main Street in Ware, and a van was also commissioned that would be able to connect community members without access to transportation to recovery resources.

Gratton closed by sharing the personal story of how one of his mentors in recovery encourages him every year on the anniversary of his sobriety with the words, "Good start." In the same way, he said that the efforts undertaken as a result of the HEALing Communities Study were good, but that they were just a start.

"I would encourage you all to continue to work, and more than anything to continue to care," he



From left are Department of Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein, state Rep. Smitty Pignatelli, Dr. Jeffrey Samet, Randy Gratton and Alyssa Curran.



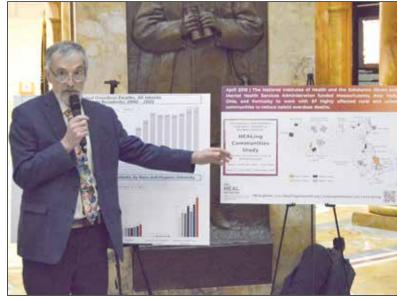
Department of Public Health **Commissioner Robert Goldstein** speaks at "Voices of Resilience."



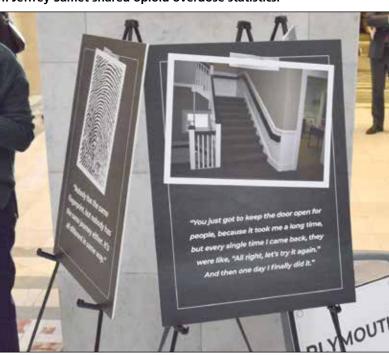
State Representative Smitty Pignatelli spoke in support of a bill that would require all first responders in Massachusetts to carry Narcan.

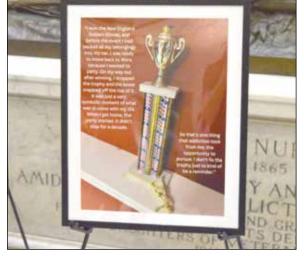


Narcan was available at the exhibit.



Dr. Jeffrey Samet shared opioid overdose statistics.





Photos in the "Voices of Resilience" exhibit shared messages rapher.

public notices

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE

OF REAL ESTATE By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Stephen G. Smith, also known as Stephen Smith to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for NetBank, its successors and assigns, dated July 25, 2005 and recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 8367, Page 10 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Nominee for Netbank, its Successors and Assigns to Bank of America, N.A. dated April 16, 2018 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 12929, Page 72, and Assignment from Bank of America, N.A. to U.S. Bank N.A. to Citibank, N.A., National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Trustee for the NRZ Pass-Through Trust VII dated June 5, 2019 and recorded at dated May 2, 2023 and

Book 13281, Page 241, and Assignment from Bank of America, N.A. to Citibank, N.A., not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 dated December 7, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 13902, Page 340, and Assignment from U.S. Bank National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Trustee for the NRZ Pass-Through Trust VII to Bank of America, N.A. dated January 5, 2023 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 14775, Page 276, and Assignment from Bank of America, N.A. to Citibank, N.A., not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 dated December 30, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 14777, Page 148, and Assignment from Bank of America, not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3

said Registry of Deeds in recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 14850, Page 168, and Assignment from U.S. Bank National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Trustee for the NRZ Pass-Through Trust VII to Citibank, N.A., not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 dated July 12, 2023 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 14910, Page 285, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 37 Pleasant Street, Ware, MA 01082 will be sold at a Public Auction at 2:00 PM on February 2, 2024, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land situated in Ware, Hampshire County, aforesaid bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a stone post on the North line of Pleasant Street and the Easterly side of Bank Street, it being the S.W. corner of the tract hereby conveyed;

Thence Northerly on the Easterly line of Bank Street about one hundred twenty seven and one-half (127 1/2) feet to an iron pin in the ground at the foot of a bank;

Thence Easterly in a straight line at the foot of said bank about one hundred twenty seven and one-half (127 1/2) feet from and parallel with the North line of said Pleasant Street about sixty-three (63) feet to an iron pin in the ground on the Westerly line of land formerly of Elizabeth W. Sturtevant;

Thence Southerly on the westerly line of land formerly of said Sturtevant about one hundred Twenty-seven and one-half (127 1/2) feet to the North line of Pleasant Street and at the southwest corner of land formerly of said Sturtevant; Thence Westerly on

the North line of Pleasant Street about sixty three (63) feet to the point of beginning.

BEING the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors herein by deed of Cynthia Armstrong dated December 10, 2005 and recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 6935, Page 152.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 6935, Page 152.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified

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check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the

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mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publica-Other terms to be announced at the sale. Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust

2019-RPL3 Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street **Suite 3102** Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Smith, Stephen G., 22-040424 01/11, 01/18, 01/25/2024

premises contained in said

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date,

> Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

time, spelling).

See more Public Notices on Page 14

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