

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Plan addresses housing needs of town's senior residents

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Senior Planner Becky Basch of Pioneer Valley Planning Commission presented the Ware Senior Housing Plan to the Planning Board at a recent meeting, outlining

a list of recommendations to help the town's aging population.

The plan was completed with a grant from the District Local Technical Assistance Program. Basch said PVPC completed analysis of housing data and demographic trends, working with the subcommittee of the Age Friendly

Ware group.

"We held a listening session with older adults, to hear about the type of housing they wanted and presented different housing types," she told the Planning Board at the Jan. 18 meeting.

Basch said over 34% of Ware residents over age 65 live alone, and

almost 75% of that group live in homes they own.

About 40% of homes in town were built prior to 1959 and most housing stock does not meet age-ready standards of accessibility.

"The age of housing in Ware is very old," she said. "About 30% of housing dates to 1939 or earlier,

60% to 1979 or earlier...there gets to be significant challenges regarding upkeep and maintenance...accessibility and safety becomes an issue."

Only 6.7% of homes in New England are "aging ready," Basch

Please see **SENIORS**, page 3

Select Board approves renewal of Class II license

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Brian Gillespie of Affordable Cars, located at 2089 Greenwich Road, appeared before the Select Board in order to reconsider a decision to delay renewing the business's Class II license.

At the Jan. 22 meeting, Town Administrator Nicole Parker said the Select Board had issued a one month Class II license extension for Affordable Car as a courtesy, as the license holder was not present to defend his position during the renewal process.

"This was another courtesy to the applicant for them to come in and give their explanation on why they should have the annual license," she said.

Select Board Vice-Chair Kelly Kemp said her concern is the complaints the board has received from abutters about the property.

Gillespie said he has passed all inspections, and there has been no revocation hearing regarding his license. He questioned the validity of delaying the renewal and only issuing a 30-day extension.

He said people from the public were allowed to speak about his business during the renewal hearing, which should only be permitted during a revocation hearing.

"My concern is about being a good neighbor, and maybe just trying to rectify some of the concerns as a business owner," she said to Gillespie.

Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim said the number of vehicles on the property is another concern the Select Board has.

Vollheim questioned if there were two businesses operating on the same property, and if

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 5

Construction of the Winsor Dam

DCR explores creation of Quabbin Reservoir's impoundments

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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BELCHERTOWN – This past weekend, the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Interpretive Services Supervisor at the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, Maria Beiter-Tucker, led the first of this year's Sunday presentations, continuing a long tradition of providing informative and educational programs about the Quabbin Reservoir and its watershed.

With the visitor center located at one end of the 2,640 foot Winsor Dam, the main impoundment structure of the Quabbin Reservoir, this earthen structure and its secondary impoundment structure, the Goodnough Dike, were the focus of Beiter-Tucker's presentation.

The creation of the dam and the dike in the Swift River Valley was an engineering feat accomplished solely by brainpower, paper and pencil, Beiter-Tucker said, at the time construction started in 1927.

"This valley has remarkable topography," Beiter-Tucker said, something that appealed to engineers.

The Swift River Valley had been considered an ideal location to construct a reservoir in order to meet Boston's drinking water needs; dating as far

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 6

IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME!



Haiden Chabot was thrilled to have a State Trooper stop and buy cookies from her in Ware this past weekend.



Emerson Lebel sells Girl Scout cookies outside of Domino's Pizza.

Turley Staff Photos



Sisters and troop mates Mallory and Cara Donaghy sold cookies in front of Subway.



Sisters Melanie and Jaelynn Anderson are shown selling Girl Scout cookies at NAPA Auto Parts.

Historical Commission continues discussion about Mary Lane

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – At a meeting on Monday evening, the Ware Historical Commission continued reviewing the location, buildings and reuse of the former Mary Lane Hospital site.

Prior to Monday's meeting, the Ware Historical Commission had voted to delay the demolition of the buildings at the property on South Street. The delay could last up to nine months, and in that time, the commission along with the Hospital Review Committee,

are taking all ideas into consideration of what can be done with the property.

The purpose of the delay is for the Historical Commission and the property owner, Baystate Health, to work together to consider alternatives to demolition of the buildings.

A representative of Baystate Health, Attorney Ryan Barry attended the meeting. Barry engaged in conversations with the commission and residents who had a series of questions in regard to what is going to be the future plan for the buildings and the Mary Lane Hospital property.

Barry started off by sharing the input from other parties who had expressed interest and reviewed the property. When it comes to buildings of the former Mary Lane Hospital, many are wondering if the buildings are salvageable for uses.

One of the parties interested in development is the Westmass Area Development Corporation.

Westmass shapes and manages large-scale development projects, prepares district development strategies, and has successfully developed financing and incentive

Please see **MARY LANE**, page 5

Author shares her love for family through a sash

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas
Author Paula Grandpre Wood holds her masterpiece memoir "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash" which shares the story of her family through the passing of a beloved sash.

HARDWICK – Everyone has a unique family history that sets them apart from those around them, and it is worth looking into and can even reveal a thing or two about yourself.

Barre author Paula Grandpre Wood is one such person with a fascinating and wonderful story and family history that she developed a desire to share with the world. She shared her story at the Town House this past Saturday, sponsored by the Paige Memorial Library.

Her book, "The Long Walk Home with the Ceinture Fléchée: The Arrow Sash", shares the story of her family through the passing of a beloved sash.

"I never thought I'd write a book," Grandpre Wood said. "And the journey still continues."

This is her story – her family's story – and how it impacted her faith.

Her family history traces back to a little city on the western coast of France, La Rochelle. Her eight-times great-grandfather moved the family to the "New France" which

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community

Drumming Circle at Workshop 13 hits the spot

By Jim Russell
Correspondent



From left are Rich Eichacker, Abigail Tolar and Joyce Eichacker at this past Saturday's drum circle.

Turley Photos by Jim Russell



A Drum & Dance Circle Meet-Up was held at Workshop13 Saturday evening, Jan. 20.

WARE – It was a cold and snowy night but inside Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center's Grand Hall a Drum Circle beat old man winter blues Saturday evening.

The circle is a new program at Workshop13, officially called the "Drum & Dance Circle Meet-Up." It started in November – organized by Ware residents Juan Cruz and his drumming partner, Claire Pavlik Purgus; and meets the third Saturday of each month, from 7-9 p.m.

The couple have led these types of social/musical event in greater Boston area for the past decade, performing mainly African and Afro-Cuban inspired rhythms using hand drum instruments such as djembe, as well as African stick drum, dundun.

During intermission at the Jan. 20 event, Cruz and Purgus extolled social, emotional and health benefits that come with people gathering in a public space to drum.

"The drumming has a lot of health benefits. It gets people together, releases stress," Cruz told a reporter. "It's easy to let things go when you're drumming."

Speaking of the venue, Purgus said, "We love this place. It's a real gem."

"We come because it's a fantastic place for the community," Joyce Eichacker, who attended with Rich Eichacker and Abigail Tolar, said.

"It's just fun, fun to figure out the rhythm, and just be part of something," Eichacker said. "A lot of emotions you can just put on this when drumming," Tolar added.

The Ware arts center is "a fantastic place for the community," Eichacker said.



Ware residents Juan Cruz and his drumming partner, Claire Pavlik Purgus, organize monthly drum circles at Workshop13.

Maricia Verma said she had traveled from Chelmsford to Ware on Saturday night.

"Claire introduced me to drumming years ago, and that's what brings me here," she said.

A \$5 donation is suggested for those 12 and older; under that age is free, but adult accompaniment is required.

"Bring your own hand drums and small percussion instruments if you have them, and we'll have some to share, too," Workshop13's website says. The arts center is located at 13 Church St. in Ware.

Regular events include open mic poetry, open mic music with a host band, in addition to art classes including painting and pottery.

The Weir River Jazz Ensemble will perform free of charge on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 11 from 2-4 p.m. This program is titled: "Mardi Gras, Big Band Jazz Concert". Soft drinks, beer and wine will be on sale.

For more information about



Maricia Verma of Chelmsford attending Drum Circle at Workshop 13.

the drum circle, visit <https://www.workshop13.org/calendar-event/drum-dance-circle-meet-up/2024-02-17/>.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Are You Old News?

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

Email your answers by Monday at noon to pouimette@turley.com.

File Photo
Last week's photo from 1990 showed Warren residents Ursula and William N. Wright Jr. greeting the new year with dancing feet at the Warren 1991 Committee's party. If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

Open auditions for the Workshop13 Players

WARE – Workshop13 is proud to announce upcoming open auditions for the new addition of a theatre program.

The "Workshop13 Players" will 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 mid-40s, who will be double cast in the three productions.

For further information please call the Director Dave Blessing 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.

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Proceeds from the Soup Off will go toward additions and maintenance of Light Up Palmer's community programs; including the Purple Heart banner, American flag and flower display on Main Street, Depot Village, as well as the Xmas holiday decorations and event. LUP thanks the Tailgate Tavern, their employees, and patrons for their continued support of our efforts to honor resident Veterans who have received the Purple Heart medal. If you, or someone you know is a recipient and does not currently have a banner recognition, please see the Town of Palmer's Veterans agent (Tina Brohman) to have their name added.

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Board OKs revised site plan for Tractor Supply

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Casey Burch, senior project manager at Solli Engineering representing Palm Coast Capital regarding the proposed Tractor Supply at 256 West St., shared details of its site plan during a public hearing.

At the Planning Board's Jan. 18 meeting, Burch said after meeting with the Conservation Commission and reviewing comments from the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation Agent, he made some changes to the parking layout.

This includes relocating some parking spaces in order to remove sitework from the 200-foot riverfront buffer.

Burch said there is also some modification to the stormwater system to accommodate the new pavement area. A white vinyl fence will be installed in two locations bordering the property, and six-foot high opaque screening will shield the display area.

Burch said the Conservation Commission requested a four-foot high chain link fence with a three inch gap at the bottom, to allow for turtles to pass through. He said the fence will help prevent trash from being blown into the wetlands.

An abutter to the site shared his concerns about the store being located in a wetlands area.

The resident said he has no concerns about Tractor Supply itself, but rather the impact any development of the site would have on the environment.

At a previous board meeting on Dec. 7, Burch shared the full details of the site plan. The building will be a 21,930 square feet concrete masonry unit brick structure, painted two shades of tan with a red stripe.

A sign will be displayed on the front facade of the building, and next to the building directing customers to the live goods center. A pylon sign will be located near the entrance.

The site will be accessed

through a 30-foot-wide entrance, which will connect to a parking lot with 75 parking spaces, including handicapped accessible parking spaces at the storefront. Three additional parking spaces will accommodate trailers and larger vehicles.

Stormwater will be collected from the parking area in the front to a water quality unit, where it will then be put into a subsurface infiltration basin. Burch said the stormwater off the roof will go into another infiltration basin.

Utilities will access the site from the entrance, tying into an existing utility pole. A leach field for the septic system will be located behind the building site.

A comprehensive landscaping plan has been developed, including native trees, shrubs and seed mixes. Red maple trees, hornbeam and red bud will be added to the front and parking area, and trees will be planted bordering the Brookside Manor side of the site.

Lighting will be added to the site, in the form of poles in the front and back of the building, as well as wall-pack lighting. Lighting will be dark sky compliant.

The lighting will be turned off an hour after the store closes, which is around 8-9 p.m.

The peak hour of traffic during the week would occur from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and would see about 62 vehicles coming in and out of the site. That same hour on the weekend would see about 140 vehicles.

The board voted in favor of the revised site plan approval.

Old business

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the Planning Department is still waiting to hear from the Animal Control Officer regarding the inspection of The Boston Puppy. He said the Planning Department and Building Commissioner have inspected the site and found it in accordance with the special permit.

He said he has not heard of any new developments with Minuteman Farm, LLC since the board's last meeting.

Supt. discusses snow day determination

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Parent Patrick Howe asked the School Committee what the process was for determining a snow day, after Ware Public Schools remained open during last Tuesday's snowstorm.

All neighboring school districts had called for a snow day.

Howe told the School Committee at their Jan. 17 meeting, that he had spoken with Superintendent Michael Lovato, who informed him that he is in contact with the State Police regarding road conditions. He questioned why Lovato wouldn't consult with Ware Police or the Department of Public Works to determine local conditions.

Howe said the road conditions that day "were not favorable for school."

Lovato said the Director of Maintenance communicates regularly with the DPW to check the conditions of the roads locally. He said the roads had been salted the night before and the schools' driveways and parking lots were clear.

"We contact everybody we can," Lovato said.

Lovato said after speaking with

the Highway Supervisor, he decided to release school early as the storm was worse than initially predicted.

Student Representative update

Student Representative Maia Lamothe said learning at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School was in "full swing" this month, and report cards would be sent home on Jan. 23.

"Teachers have been working hard to provide information to parents about their student's progress," Lamothe said.

Paraprofessional Mary Durr and her husband are running chess club again and it is open to all students in grades two and three, meeting every Tuesday from 3:30-4 p.m. in the SMK library.

Lamothe said the Student Council also began meeting, and will meet one Thursday a month for the remainder of the school year.

The Ware Middle School Leadership Council will host their annual Snow Ball on Friday, Jan. 26 from 6-8 p.m. Behavior contracts are required in order to attend.

Lamothe said prior to the holiday break, 26 sixth grade students were celebrated for being solid

classroom citizens and leaders.

High School students were able to attend a Business Showcase at the school on Jan. 10, meeting with local colleges and manufacturing companies.

"This provided our students a real life perspective and information," she said.

Lamothe said high school students are excited for Winter Carnival coming up.

Reorganization

School Committee Chair Chris Desjardins said he was no longer able to remain chair and asked to reorganize. Desjardins said he will continue to stay on as a member.

Current Vice-Chair Brian Winslow was appointed to replace Desjardins as chair and Michael Foran was appointed as vice-chair.

The committee will reorganize again following the annual town election.

Grant award

The school district received a High-Quality Instructional Materials Purchase grant.

Lovato said the grant will cover half of the total cost to purchase a new curriculum. He said they want to purchase math curriculum to cover kindergarten through grade

12.

"We don't have consistent curriculum k-12," he said, with students having to switch materials as they move up. "We want to keep it pretty consistent across the board."

Lovato said Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds have been put aside to match the grant.

The new curriculum would be implemented in September 2024. Lovato said the school district will reapply for the grant for English Language Arts.

The school committee voted to accept the grant.

Superintendent's report

Lovato said the first meeting of the Leadership Committee was "pretty exciting," and the first topic of discussion with students was about attendance and the challenges they face.

"We got a very well rounded Leadership Committee," he said. "The conversations that they shared were pretty insightful."

Lovato said the information gathered from the students will be shared with the adult Leadership Committee.

He said interviews have started for the position of high school principal.

SENIORS from page 1

said.

Basch said there is already an assisted living facility in town, but it is only affordable to people with sufficient savings or pensions to pay the high monthly fees. She said there is a high demand for smaller, single story housing that has some supportive services, such as property maintenance and transportation services.

Basch said there are parcels of land available for single-family home development, as well as the redevelopment of existing properties such as Baystate Mary Lane Hospital, St. Mary's School, and mill buildings for larger, multi-unit housing.

There is also interest in having the ability to develop detached accessory dwellings on properties occupied by single-family homes.

"That's a good way to add to the housing stock, without changing the character of the neighborhood," Basch said.

The overall population is projected to decrease but the population of people over age 65 is projected to increase. She said at least 10-20% of people over 65 have a disability that could require an accessible unit or caregiving services.

The Ware Housing Authority, Hillside Village and Highland Village all have significant wait lists.

Recommendations to boost the housing supply includes increasing density in suburban residential district, allowing for the development of tiny homes, researching the infrastructure needs of smaller congregate care facilities, partnering with private developers or nonprofits to increase affordable housing units, amending zoning bylaws to allow accessory dwelling units, creating a detailed inventory of suitable property in towns, adopting an inclusionary zoning bylaw, researching methods of incentivizing developers to include accessible housings for people 60+ and encouraging real estate developers and property owners to renovate existing properties to meet Americans with Disabilities

Act requirements.

Recommendations for aging in place includes expanding the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation's Senior Outreach Program, identifying "naturally occurring retirement communities, seeking funding to support rehabilitation of existing homes, identifying licensed contractors or public safety personnel who can access homes for safety accessibility, accessing funds to making Housing Authority property units more accessible, developing a volunteer based or intergenerational community service program to assist people with home upkeep and landscaping, expanding opportunities in the property tax work-off program, researching development of the Village Model, investigating programs such as foster care for older adults and engaging local banks to provide education about home refinancing.

QVDC Senior Outreach Coordinator Carol Zins said developers can receive subsidies and grants to build affordable housing units. She said the first step would be creating zoning to allow such a development.

Zins said a bond bill at the State House contains a lot of subsidies and tax breaks for developers in rural areas.

"There's money to help some of these homes that are already built to come up to code, there's money in there for infrastructure for buildings for rural places like us...but there's all kinds of grants that are coming before the legislature right now," she said. "We want to get prepared for all of that. We want to talk and work and find as many voices as we can to make that happen."

Zins said there are grants and agencies to provide support services as well.

Basch said there are also efforts to increase the work force, particularly with certified nursing assistants.

"There's going to be a lot of people who are going to need support if they are living at home without support or even living in a facility," Basch said. "You're going to need the services available."

Planning Board member Chris Dimarzio said the town already has a lot of the recommendations in place, but developers have not utilized them. He said bylaws allow for ADUs and property owners aren't taking part.

Dimarzio said many property owners of rental units have opted out of being landlords due to housing courts being "heavily weighted" against them and in favor of the renter.

"At any given time, someone could just stop paying rent. It may take a year to get them out of there," he said. He said property owners are afraid of renting due to the loss of money.

Zins said people in town are going to be facing a crisis with housing, as they can't afford \$300,000-400,000 homes and need apartments. She said there are no apartments to meet these needs.

Basch said the town could ease regulations and allow accessory apartments by right or allow two-family homes in multiple zoning districts.

The Planning Board members agreed that finding ways to keep seniors in their homes by finding supports for maintenance and accessibility modification was key to focus on.

The board members also said that regulations outside of the town's bylaws are "prohibitive" for developers and property owners to

create affordable housing.

"Overall, the goal is laudable, it's ambitious, it's a great goal, but I don't think our zoning regulations or anything like that are the sticking point of what's going on," Vice-Chair Richard Starodaj said.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley agreed that the town's zoning already allowed for affordable housing opportunities, including accessory dwelling units.

Board members agreed that keeping seniors in their own homes with the help of renovations and supportive care was something to focus on, as well as looking at developing existing properties (such as St. Mary's School and Baystate Mary Lane Hospital) for senior housing.

The hospital in particular is already laid out in a way that would support senior housing as it has private rooms and bathrooms, with shared common areas.

"It certainly is a very good site for what we're looking for," Planning Board member Elizabeth Hancock said, adding that it is centrally located. Starodaj said that site would tie in nicely with the assisted living facility at the adjacent Cedarbrook Village.

"It's already there, the infrastructure's there, the parking lots are there...everything's there," Dimarzio said of the hospital.

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. 29

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, Jan. 30

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 p.m.)

Wednesday Jan. 31

9 a.m. Tai-Chi
9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50

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Monday, Jan. 29

French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Jan. 30

American Chop Suey, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Italian Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

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 purchase.

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ACCURACY WATCH

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

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viewpoints



How can I get details about my Social Security payment?

Dear Rusty:

How do I find the actual breakdown of the Medicare insurance that I have auto deducted and my actual Social Security payment?

I was just looking at a video which explained the 3% Cost of Living Adjustment we will be receiving this year and it compared the current payout to the new payout. There seems to be a big difference in what I am getting and what they said in the video.

Currently my Social Security payments are \$1,431. My Medicare insurance is supposed to be \$165, which means my total Social Security is about \$1,596.

On the video it said all retired workers are getting \$1,848 with the new increase to take it to \$1,938. There are a couple hundred dollars there that I seem to be missing out on. Can you help me understand that difference?

Signed: Confused Senior

Dear Confused Senior:

What you're asking for is an itemized breakout of your gross Social Security benefit, any deductions being taken therefrom (e.g., your Medicare Part B premium), the amount of your COLA increase and your net Social Security payment for 2024. If that is the case, the best way to get this detail is in your personal "my Social Security" online account, which provides all the information mentioned.

You can access your online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount, and if you don't already have that online account set up, you'll need to first establish your online access credentials. Instructions for how to do that will be at that website.

I'm not sure which video you watched, but "all retired workers" do not get \$1,848 or \$1,938. Everyone's Social Security benefit is different, based on their lifetime earnings record and the age at which they claimed benefits. The numbers you heard in the video were likely average Social Security payments, not the actual amount you should personally be receiving.

Here's how it works:

Your personal benefit is based on your Primary Insurance Amount, which is the amount you get if you claim for your benefits to start at your Full Retirement Age, which is somewhere between 66 and 67 depending on the year you were born. Claim before your FRA your benefit is permanently reduced; claim after your FRA it is higher.

Your personal maximum benefit is achieved if you claim at age 70. The Medicare Part B premium (for outpatient healthcare services) is automatically deducted from your Social Security payment.

Although the standard 2023 Part B premium was \$164.90, the standard 2024 Part B premium is \$174.70.

You may also have other things, e.g. income tax, withheld from your monthly Social Security payment.

The annual Cost of Living Adjustment for 2024 is 3.2%. That means your gross Social Security benefit goes up by that percentage starting in 2024.

But there was also a \$9.80 increase in your Medicare Part B premium starting in 2024, which means that you won't see all of the COLA increase in your Social Security payment. Since your Medicare premium is deducted from your Social Security, that Medicare increase will also be taken from your SS payment, so you won't see the full 3.2% COLA increase in your 2024 Social Security payment.

To see all of this detail for you personally, I suggest you access your online "my Social Security" account as described above. As an alternative, you can also call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 and request a Benefit Verification Letter which will include all the information you seek about your Social Security payment.

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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Crazy for carrots

I used the last of my home grown carrots in soup today.

Growing enough carrots to last into the winter months is a huge accomplishment for me. You see, I've never been the best carrot grower.

In the past, either the seeds didn't germinate well, or if they did, bugs ate the seedlings when they were just an inch tall. One year I got past that only to have the roots taste so bitter at harvest that I ended up throwing them all out.

All that work for nothing!

After a good carrot growing experience last year, however, things are looking up, and I'm planning for an even better harvest this summer. I've been slow to inventory my seeds this year, but in preparation, I did some research on carrot varieties and culture.

My great-flavored carrots were due in part to the variety.

I don't remember the exact name, but I know for certain they were a Nantes type. The sausage shape and blunt end is a give-away. They were crisp and sweet and about six-seven inches long.

If you aim to grow the kind of standard carrots that are typically sold in the grocery store, Imperator types are what you should look for. Because they can grow very long, be sure you have loose, deep soil.

Some experts say that although they can top off at nine-10 inches long, they are not always flavorful.

Chantenay types are a good choice for shallow soils.

These carrots have wide shoulders but are extremely tapered, growing only five-six inches long. They are typically crisp and sweet, and like most carrots, taste even sweeter after

a few frosts.

Another good choice for shallow or dense soils are the Danvers types. Originating in Danvers, Massachusetts, this heirloom six-eight inch carrot tapers to a point.

Typically, they store well and are good for cooking.

In addition to these types, there are hybrids of the above types and specialties beyond that. Once thing they all have in common is their culture.

Growing carrots is not hard if you follow a few hard and fast rules.

Ideally soil should be deep, loose and free of stones. Carrots grow well in raised beds for this reason.

Regular garden beds should have the soil loosened to about a foot deep. Be wary of using fresh manure or other sources of fertilizer that are super high in nitrogen.

While it's true that carrots like some nitrogen, having ultra rich soil will make for fibrous, hairy roots. Last year, I sowed my carrot seeds immediately after harvesting my garlic in July.

I did not amend the soil at all in preparation of the planting. Experts say that if you are going to amend it should be done the fall prior.

It can take a long time for carrot seeds to sprout. Gardeners have tried all sorts of extraneous measures to get them to germinate more quickly and with greater consistency.

Here are some things I have read about and some I have tried.

The old radish trick - try sowing radish seed interspersed among your carrot seed. The radishes will sprout first, marking the row and providing some shade for the developing carrot seedlings.

Some people pre-sprout. Place seed in a moist paper towel and set it in a warm spot in the house and it will sprout. Immediately after sprouting it is sown in place in the garden.

The rows are kept moist and ideally the seedlings take hold. Sadly, I have read that sometimes this causes roots that end up misshapen.

Sometimes gardeners use wood, shade cloth or burlap to keep the seedbed moist. If you miss when the seeds sprout, they could be smothered under these coverings or worse yet, get tangled up in the fabric.

Check daily and remove coverings on the

first notice of germination. Continue to keep the bed watered or seedlings will perish.

My success this past summer was due in part to when I sowed. In mid-July, soil temperatures were optimum (around 75 degrees) and seedlings germinated in a week.

I kept the plot watered until they were up and growing. Although carrot seed can germinate in early spring- even when soil temperatures are below 50 degrees, it will definitely require some patience, and work, on our part, to keep the seedbed from drying out.

Another concern gardeners have, has to do with sowing the tiny seeds and/or thinning the seedlings. Carrots mature to the right size when given at least two inches between plants.

I usually try to sow my seed a half-inch apart and then thin to two inches. Thinning is a pain to do, especially in bigger plantings, but it can be done.

In order not to damage nearby seedlings, I often use a tiny pair of scissors to cut away the crowding seedlings. A thumb and index finger can also be used to pinch away the excess plants right at the soil line.

Sometimes gardeners mix carrot seed with sand or dry coffee grounds to make sowing the small seed easier; using seed tape or pelletized seed are other, albeit expensive options to insure more equidistant seedlings. Regular carrot seeds are viable for two-three years whereas pelletized seed is viable for a year.

Plan accordingly by not ordering more than you need. Tape and coated seed do still need to be kept as moist as regular sowings - maybe even more so, due to the additional layers.

I am excited to grow carrots again this year. Hopefully a bigger harvest will enable soup-making well into spring.

Tackling what types of carrots to grow and ensuring good germination and a healthy stand of seedlings will mean I am well on my way to achieving that goal!

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.

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By Ellenor Downer



Bluebirds

I received an email from a West Brookfield resident, who included two photos of bluebirds at her feeder.

She took the photos on New Year's Day and had six or seven of them. She said last year she had bluebirds visit regularly in late winter arriving on Valentine's Day.

She said in the email, "We built a meal-worm feeder (thanks to Mark Blazis instructions) and the outcome was a pair nesting in one of our nesting boxes and bringing their pair of fledglings to the feeder."

Bluebirds are migratory, but some stay around all winter just like some of the Canada geese and robins do. Bluebirds, along with other small birds, will use nesting boxes for shelter during storms or at night. The boxes provide a dry place and protection from the wind and cold.

The bluebird is about 6 1/2 inches long. The male has a brilliant blue head, back, wings and tail with a brick red throat and breast. The female is has a rich, buffy throat and breast. She has a grayish blue head and back with light blue wings and tail and a white eye ring.

Bluebirds may come to feeders for peanut butter mixes, berries, meal worms and raisins. The female lays three to six pale blue



eggs in a nest in a tree cavity, abandoned woodpecker hole or birdhouse. The nest consists of grasses, plant stems, pine needles and is lined with hair, feathers and fine grasses.

They inhabit farmlands, open woodlands and rural yards.

Brimfield birds

A Brimfield resident said in an email, "Yesterday (Jan. 6) there were about a dozen robins in the yard feasting on the crab apples and they were joined by a few cedar wax-wings."

He said, "Today we awoke to about eight inches of snow and all of the trees were covered with snow that was stuck to the branches. The crab apple trees were full of robins. One tree near the front of the

house had over a dozen robins in the tree eating apples along with a wax-wing or two."

The robins and wax wings also finished off the last of the fruit from the mountain ash and gleaned a bush with red berries. He said there were about three dozen robins and a half dozen cedar wax-wings in his yard as well as the "regulars" and two white-throated sparrows.

Grackles

I received an email from a woman, who had grackles at her feeder on Jan. 12. She also reported seeing some robins and a flock

of about 30 to 40 juncos. She said she usually doesn't see grackles until spring.

Christmas bird count

Results for some Christmas Bird Counts that took place in our area are now available by visiting the website at <http://www.warivernewsclub.org/announcements.html>. Many new records were set, and many old ones broken, with high numbers of species and individuals recorded.

An open, ice/snow-free landscape, unfrozen waterways, and an abundant wild food crop were combined factors that encouraged many species to linger longer than usual.

Feeder activity

Birds at my feeder before the Jan. 7 storm consisted mainly of a few juncos, a white-throated sparrow or two and a few chickadees and downy woodpeckers. That all changed on Sunday, Jan. 7. I saw my cardinal pair, bluejays, lots of chickadees and tufted titmice. I also had mourning doves, white-breasted nuthatches, a downy woodpecker and a few goldfinches.

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, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

OPINION POLICY

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 at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

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2024 dog licenses available and due by March 31

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

Dog licenses are now available for sale and must be purchased by March 31. The last date to purchase in person at the Town Clerk's office will be Friday, March 29.

If you are licensing by U.S. Mail, the Town Clerk's office must receive your request to license prior to March 31. The drop box will also be available, but requests must be received by March 31.

Fees for licensing are \$10 for spayed/neutered and \$15 for males/females.

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

You may purchase your dog license daily in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours between 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office sometimes close for lunch between noon-1 p.m.

Licenses may also be obtained through the U.S. Mail. If your dog was licensed last year, please check the printed license you were issued as follows:

Each dog is listed separately on the paperwork by name

Has information on the rabies expiration date (if the date is current, you do not need a new Rabies Certificate; but if it has expired then you will need to include the Rabies Certificate for Town Clerk use (it will be returned with the

license when it is issued).

Your mail in request must include a check or money order made payable to the Town of Ware for the correct amount. Please contact the Town Clerk's office at 413-967-9648 extension 177 if you failed to license last year.

Please provide the Town Clerk's office with a self-addressed, postage paid envelope if you are licensing through the mail or using the drop box. Be sure to put adequate postage on the envelope if you are licensing more than one dog.

It is also recommended that you use a business sized envelope as the license and tag(s) must fit in the envelope when they are returned to you.

Mail the request to: Town Clerk, 126 Main St., Suite F, Ware, MA 01082

Please note there is a blue drop box outside the Town Hall which may be used to drop off your information, but you must provide a self-addressed postage paid envelope for this also.

If you are licensing a dog or dogs for the first time the information needed is the name of the owner, street and mailing address if different; a telephone number and a Rabies Certificate issued to you by the veterinarian; a Spayed/Neutered Certificate unless it is stipulated on the Rabies Certificate; a check made payable to the Town of Ware for the appropriate fee; and a self-addressed, postage paid envelope.

Workshop13 holds live music open mic night

By Rowan Bernstein
Correspondent

WARE – Workshop13 kicked off the new year last Friday with their first live music open mic night of 2024.

On Jan. 19, an eager audience quickly filled the tables in the grand hall of the former church building, ready to hear what musical talent their community had to offer.

"It's amazing, the talent that's in driving distance [of Ware]," said Workshop13 co-founder Pat Goudreau. Event organizer Mary Remington said that "we want to bring out folks from our town and see what's happening."

"They've really fixed [the building] up," said Goudreau, remarking that "you can barely tell it used to be a church." Some elements of the church architecture remain, though, like the cathedral ceilings, which Goudreau said give the space great acoustics.

She also praised Workshop13's sound engineer Brian W. Jyring for his work at the open mic nights and other live events.

The featured band, who opened and closed the night, was the Worcester-based Big-League Collective. Performing all original music, the band members all took turns on vocals, and frequently traded instruments between songs.

The song "Blue Mountain Mistress" was a highlight of their closing set, featuring impressive



The Big-League Collective was the featured band at Workshop13's open mic on Jan. 19.



Bill Cole performed a mix of country and bluegrass.



Muldrow plays the guitar while he sings his set.



Turley Photos by Rowan Bernstein
Jim, Cindy, Karen, Roc, Brian, Mike, and Gary wowed the audience.

three-part harmonies, and, to the audience's delight, an unexpected trumpet solo.

Once the open mic officially began, the first performer up was Muldrow, who played the gui-

tar while he sang a set of covers
Please see **OPEN MIC**, page 11

MARY LANE from page 1

packages. Some Westmass projects in the area include the Palmer Industrial Park and the Ludlow Mills.

Westmass staff have extensive experience in site planning and analysis, green infrastructure and low impact development, and historic preservation projects.

According to Barry, Westmass stated that it would be too costly and difficult to preserve the buildings based on the level of contamination in the buildings. Barry also stated that there has been a "lack of referrals from the town of Ware" regarding what to do with the property.

According to Chairperson Lynn Lak, the Ware Historical Commission is responsible for identifying, evaluating and protect-

ing the historic, architectural and archaeological assets within the town. The commission also seeks to document the historic value of locations in the town of Ware.

"We've always valued Mary Lane Hospital," said Lak.

There are several buildings located on the property including the Gilbert house that was once owned by Lewis Gilbert prior to the development and opening of Mary Lane Hospital. The hospital was named after Gilbert's late wife.

Commission member Wanda Mysona mentioned that the Gilbert house property could potentially be sold as a one-off.

During a Jan. 3 commission meeting, Westmass President and CEO Jeff Daley said Westmass was "willing to work with the town of Ware to redevelop the property." Daley later said that Westmass

would not be able to participate in the review during the nine month delay.

Barry mentioned that certain building preservations may not be financially possible to happen when it comes to certain buildings on the Mary Lane property.

"All buildings are different buildings," said Barry.

The commission asked about the Gilbert Trust fund and how the money is used. The trust is consistent with Gilbert's expressed wishes to provide health services to the residents of Ware and Gilbertville.

The property is currently fenced in and there have been reports from residents living near the property that the buildings are slowly deteriorating over the last couple of months. Windows are open, broken and not boarded up.

The commission asked that the

building commissioner determine if the buildings can be checked for better protection and undetected deterioration.

Members of the Hospital Review Committee shared some input during the commission meeting. It is still being determined what the site is most useful for in serving the community.

The idea of having senior housing was briefly mentioned by a member of the public and this is one of the amenities wanted by the town of Ware. The town is interested in having medical services, economic development and housing.

The commission will gather data to assist with its review of the buildings.

"It's just the numbers that help

close this gap," said Lak. "To figure out the process."

As of now, Baystate will be paying for the demolition. Westmass may be taking over the property once it is demolished.

As part of their next steps moving forward with this Mary Lane Hospital discussion, the Ware Historical Commission wants to keep a measure of good will and bridge this gap between Baystate and help get to a resolution of what the Mary Lane property can become.

Mary Lane Hospital has served the community of Ware and neighboring communities for over a century and means a lot to many residents.

Resident Stephen Granlund

proposed posting a banner on the property fence to memorialize Mary Lane Hospital. The idea is to place the banner somewhere between South Street and Marjorie Street in Ware and it could say "Mary Lane Hospital. For all who were born here. For all who received care here. For all who worked here. In memory of all who died."

The banner idea will be taken under advisement by Baystate Health, according to Barry. In addition, the next step for the commission is to discuss building data with their architect and other interested parties.

The next Historical Commission meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 26.

HARDWICK from page 1

both had received a special permit. Gillespie said his special permit covers both businesses.

"Everything was done legally," he said.

The second business on the property is Gillespie Car Care, and it offers towing services. He said there are seven cars on the Gillespie Car Care side and about 15 on the Affordable Car side.

Gillespie said the State Police have inspected his property multiple times and it has always passed.

The owner of the property, who is the landlord for Gillespie's businesses, provided a statement from his attorney to the Select Board. Both the landlord and Gillespie are due to appear in court regarding the property.

The Select Board voted to allow for the renewal of the Class II license for Affordable Car, with the condition there be a 10-car limit, to be achieved within 60 days. The car limit does not apply to the Gillespie Car Care side of the property.

Interim Fire Chief salary

Interim Fire Chief Joshua Pease said there is \$17,017 remaining in the Fire Chief's Salary account.

Pease earned \$1,400 last year as Deputy Chief, in addition to receiving payment for call response.

The Select voted to approve a prorated salary of \$21,000 for fiscal year 2024 for Pease, and still allow him to get paid for call response.

Pump station color scheme

The Select Board selected autumn brown for the siding color of the pump station building with flat black for louvers, trim and doors. The darker colors will make the building blend in better with the surrounding woods.

Town House repairs

Vollheim said the stone slabs in front of the Town House have settled, and have created a tripping hazard for anyone walking in and out of the building.

Sometime after the stones had been laid by stonemason Randy Noble, they were lifted during a construction project on the Common, and the clay underneath was removed and filled with another material.

"That could be why they settled," Vollheim said.

The stone slabs had been placed there by Noble in 1996.

Vollheim said he and Noble have ideas on how to fix the problem. He said the front step is also too high, and it could be replaced to improve accessibility.

Vollheim asked for permission from the Select Board to look into the cost of the repairs. Town House Committee member Anne Barnes is looking into grant funding through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund.

Sewer report

Water Pollution Control Facilities Superintendent Scott Potter said with the change in temperatures, there have been a lot of alarms going off at the Wheelwright pump station.

Potter also updated the Select Board about a resident's complaint regarding sewer odor and gases at their High Road house. He said he met the Plumbing Inspector at the residence to determine what can be done to help with the sewer odors.

He said the resident may try putting an extension on the pipe in the front.

Town Administrator's report

Parker said a Zoom public meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 30 from 6:45-7:45 p.m. to talk about the Patroll Hollow dam removal. The Zoom link is post-

ed on the town's website, hardwick-ma.gov.

She said she attended the Massachusetts Municipal Association conference last week and received a lot of information about rural community needs and support.

Parker said the town administrators representing the five towns of the Quabbin Regional School District met with the school administration to go over prospective enrollment and needs. She said enrollment is down, but needs are up, especially with special education.

Sale of buildings

Vollheim said the Capital Planning Committee is getting a request for proposal together for the sale of the Ruggles Hill school. He said he would also like to get an auction going in the spring to get rid of surplus equipment.

Assessors contracts

The Select Board accepted a proposal from CAI Technologies on behalf of the Assessors for Mass GIS maintenance services in the amount of \$2,100 and an additional \$20 for building footprints per building added.

The Select Board also accepted Mayflower Valuation's cyclical inspection services for fiscal year 2025 in the amount of \$17,800.

Reconsideration of license

Parker said when the application for the Whistle Stop Restaurant's liquor license was sent to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, there were a couple of mistakes. She said the ABCC took no action on the license and sent it back to the Select Board to make the corrections.

She said the applicant will make the necessary changes in order for the Select Board to reconsider the application.

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Override vote to maintain government services

WEST BROOKFIELD – “Expenses are growing faster than revenues.” For years, this has been a warning to voters from the Town’s Advisory Board at Town Meetings.

At the last Town Meeting, residents voted to utilize one time revenue in the amount of \$380,164 (Free Cash) to balance the budget. A key mandate included the State Minimum Education Requirement of a 5% increase in education costs over each of the last 3 years.

This increased the town’s deficit and is not sustainable. The town cannot use its town savings account to pay for ongoing expenses.

Furthermore, like you, the Town faces inflation with increased costs in healthcare, retirement, insurance, labor, and in every government service that we provide to our citizens.

To correct this ongoing problem,

the Board of Selectmen, Advisory Board, and Financial Consultant projects that, with the current state mandates as well as inflationary spikes, a \$1,000,000 override is necessary to keep the town fiscally solvent for five years.

The Police, Fire, and Highway are important to protect public safety. The library, senior center, and all town departments provide critical services that the citizens need.

The town has minimum staffing, and many departments are only open on a part-time basis. There is no place to cut without damaging current services.

There are a few small, needed additions included in this override, including:

An additional police officer to ensure 24-hour coverage of the community. Imagine the one officer on shift going to a call with the

only backup being a neighboring town. This places citizens’ and officers’ lives in danger.

The Rescue Squad, the local ambulance provider, has notified town officials that they can no longer provide free service to the town. The town needs to protect this life saving service.

UMass is doing a study of the town to help it retain its town employees. The town is providing limited funding to make its salary levels competitive with other communities.

Town Administrator Ron San Angelo stated in a press release: “The Board of Selectmen have no choice but to put this on the ballot for citizens to consider. It is either pass an Override or be forced to eliminate important services to our community.”

The West Brookfield Tax Rate of \$11.23 per \$1,000 of assessed

value is currently ranked 250th out of 342 towns (nine towns have not yet reported fiscal year 2024 tax rates). San Angelo said town officials have worked hard to keep taxes as low as possible, with the only town in the area that has a lower rate being Oakham at \$11.08.

The cost of the override is \$146.74 each quarter or \$1.60 per day for the average single-family home assessed at a value of \$336,413. Of course, the impact felt by property owners will vary with the assessed value of their property.

“This is an important decision for our Town. We need to keep moving forward, to ensure vital services for our citizens and for the long-term prosperity of our town” said members of the Board of Selectmen.

Nominations papers available for annual town election

WARREN/WEST BROOKFIELD – Town Clerk Laura J. Stockley announced that nomination papers are available on Monday, Feb. 5 for the annual town election, which will be held on Tuesday, May 7.

These papers must be filed with the Board of Registrars in the Town Clerk’s office for certification on or before Tuesday, March 19 at 5 p.m. The final day to withdraw as a candidate is Thursday, April 4 at 5 p.m.

Appearing on the ballot will be the following positions: Selectmen, three-year term; Board of Health, three-year term; Assessor, three-year term; Park Commissioner, three-year term; Cemetery Commissioner, three-year term; Sewer Commissioner, three-year term; Planning Board, five-year term; Housing Authority,

two-year term; and Tree Warden, three-year term.

The Quabog Regional School District positions will also be incorporated on the town ballot. Two members from the Town of Warren for three-year term and two members from the Town of West Brookfield for a three-year term.

Nomination papers for School Committee are available on Feb. 6 at the Superintendent’s office at 284 Old West Brookfield Road. The deadline for returning these papers is Friday, March 22 by 4 p.m.

The last day to register to vote before the town election is Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Town Clerk’s office in the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High St.

QUABBIN from page 1

back as 1895 when it was noted in a Board of Health report. But it wasn’t until 1926/1927 that legislature passed the Ware River and Swift River acts, and work began to create the 412 billion gallon reservoir.

With the Ware River Watershed and the Wachusett Reservoir, the Quabbin Reservoir provides the drinking water supply for 43% of people in the commonwealth.

Quabbin Reservoir is the largest piece of the water supply system, Beiter-Tucker said.

“It was a massive construction, and an ‘earthquake,’ you might say for this area,” she said, with the disincorporation of four towns; Enfield, Greenfield, Dana and Prescott.

Beiter-Tucker said it took 11 years to move residents out of the valley, and relocate 7,000 known graves (which are now interred in the Quabbin Park Cemetery).

“It was a long slow process,” she said.

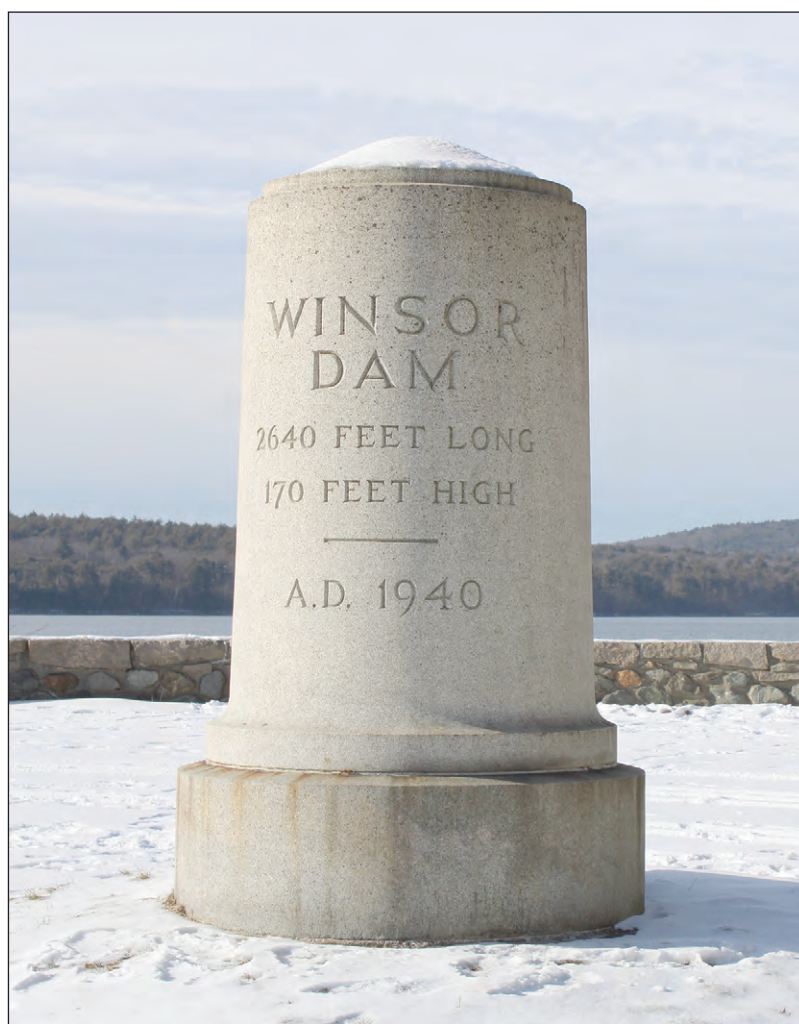
Structures were also removed, leaving only stone walls, foundations and roads behind. In total, the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir cleared about 80,000 acres.

Creating the impoundments

To create the reservoir itself, the engineers wanted to close off where the Swift River exited the valley, Beiter-Tucker said. The plan was to build two large earthen structures, which was done near the end of the project.

Winsor Dam is the main structure, and it impounds the Swift River and the Goodnough Dike is the secondary structure, impounding Beaver Brook. Construction of both took place between 1935-1939. The dam and the dike are located three miles apart from each other.

At 295 feet above bedrock, the dam is named for Frank Winsor,



This marker is located at one end of the Winsor Dam, which spans 2,640 feet and is 170 feet high. This dam is the primary impoundment structure for the Quabbin Reservoir.

who died before the project was done. At the time of his death, he was being sued by the state of Rhode Island, and during questioning at a hearing he had a heart attack and died.

The core wall of the Winsor Dam was built with 40 caissons, ranging from 30-125 feet tall, with an average height of 100 feet. The caissons were sealed to the bedrock, then sealed with concrete and hydraulic soil which was gathered from the valley.

“They spent a lot of time investigating the best soil throughout the valley,” Beiter-Tucker said. “They

apparently found a lot of it.”

Hydraulic soil was taken from “borrow pits” and is also known as “rock flour,” as it compacts densely together when water is removed.

The soil would be kept in a dry box, brought uphill to a hog box where it was mixed with water, then fed down sluice lines. A pump barge would reuse water, pumping it back up to the hog box.

“The sluice lines never worked out really well, they clogged a lot,” Beiter-Tucker said, causing engineers to eventually open them fully. Laborers then used batter boards to push the soil and water out to spread it evenly.

Before it went into the dry box, soil was sifted through metal grates known as “grizzlies,” which were repurposed from Rabbit Run railroad tracks.

To start the dam’s construction, engineers first had to divert the Swift River using a coffer dam. Once that was completed, a 2,700 foot long trench that was 30 feet deep was dug to lay the caissons.

The caissons were built piece by piece, with the first piece placed being a metal shoe. On top of the shoe was the work chamber, which was reinforced with steel.

The weight of the concrete gradually pushed against the shoe’s sharp edge and worked the entire structure down until it reached bedrock, where it would eventually



A roadway passes over the top of Winsor Dam. Although it is no longer open to public vehicles, walkers and bicyclists are welcome to explore the massive structure.

be sealed. Workers would remove dirt as the shoe and chamber were forced down through the earth.

Beiter-Tucker said compressed air was pumped into the work chambers to provide oxygen for the workers and they were limited to two, 40-minute shifts a day inside the work chamber.

“The workers were inside those work chambers while it was being forced down,” Beiter-Tucker said. “They were lowered down into chamber with bucket.”

After completing their shift, the workers would go into a decompression chamber before spending the rest of their work day completing other work on the project, above ground.

Beiter-Tucker said it was hard work, and men were paid 50-60 cents an hour (about \$8 in current money). Construction of the Quabbin Reservoir took place almost entirely during The Great Depression, she said, and there were lines of men to get these jobs and work 12-hour shifts.

“It was hard work,” Beiter-Tucker said.

In 1937 the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir moved to a 24-hour project. Large lights used during night work cast shadows, which resulted in a lot of injuries and deaths.

“26 men were killed out of thousands on the entire project,” Beiter-Tucker said.

Once the caissons were sealed to the bedrock, soil was applied to both sides to build the base of dam, and compacted with a sheep’s foot roller.

After the caisson wall was completed, soil was stripped away from either end to seal with concrete

blankets to prevent leaking. That was the first stage of construction.

Beiter-Tucker said the Goodnough Dike was constructed in almost completely the same way, just on a small scale. The dike measures 2,140 feet long and is 264 feet above bedrock.

It was named for Henry Goodnough, an engineer who lived in Sudbury and liked to come out to the Swift River Valley to fish.

She said the major difference between the dam and the dike is that the dam has an outlet for water, while the dike blocks only.

After construction of the dam and dike was completed, it took seven years to fill the Quabbin Reservoir.

Chicopee Valley Aqueduct

“It was decided the Swift Tiver would not be cut off completely so it could flow to Three Rivers,” Beiter-Tucker said, as it’s part of Connecticut’s water supply as well. The design of the dam included diversion for the Swift Tiver, releasing below the Winsor Dam down to Chicopee and the Connecticut River.

A tunnel was built under the dam and the upper intake structure is the only one in use. The lower intake structure was blocked.

The upper intake structure continues to be in use today, releasing about 20 million gallons of water a day.

The Chicopee Valley Aqueduct outlet building was eventually constructed (known by many as the “power station,” as for many years it did create a small amount of hydroelectric power for DCR buildings).

In 1950, towns were invited to

join the system, but only Chicopee, Wilbraham and South Hadley Fire District No. 1 joined the system. They have their own treatment plant located on Route 9.

Spillway

Reservoirs are designed to hold a certain amount of water and the spillway is located at the east end to release water when the reservoir is at capacity or close to capacity.

The spillway was blasted out of rock, and the channel goes under a bridge and creates a waterfall on the other side.

“It’s not always active,” Beiter-Tucker said, only when the reservoir is at a certain level.

In 76 years, the reservoir has reached its capacity 33 times.

“We are probably going to reach capacity this spring unless weather changes,” Beiter-Tucker said.

In June of 1946, the lower spillway was opened for the first time, and a dedication ceremony was held for the waterfall it created.

“A lot of people focus on the history of the lost towns,” Beiter-Tucker said. “I’m always fascinated by the actual construction of the reservoir itself. The engineers were able to envision this and transform the valley into this reservoir. It’s a pretty fascinating story.”

Upcoming events

For more information about other programs hosted by DCR’s Les and Terry Campbell Visitor Center, visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir.

Programs are held in the visitor center located at 100 Winsor Dam Road, and via Zoom. Registration is required.



The lower spillway creates a waterfall, and only releases water when the Quabbin Reservoir is at or near capacity.



The spillway was formed by blasting rock.



There are 40 caissons buried under this impoundment.

business

Country Bank announces promotions

WARE – Country Bank announces recent promotions of several key team members who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and expertise in their respective roles.

These promotions reflect the bank's commitment to recognizing and developing talent within the organization.

Shane Elder has been promoted to First Vice President, Business Banking Team Lead. With over 11 years of experience in commercial lending and eight years in commercial lending management, Elder has proven himself as a valuable asset to the Business Banking Department.

In addition to his role as Team Leader, he also oversees the Cash Management Sales Department.

Brett LoCicero has been promoted to First Vice President, Facilities and Security. With seven years of service to the bank, LoCicero expertise in managing facilities and security operations.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Nichols College and is pursuing his PMP certification.

Justin Calheno has been pro-

moted to Vice President, Retail Lending Business Development Officer. With an impressive 20 years of lending experience, including the last seven years with Country Bank, Calheno brings a wealth of knowledge to his role.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Westfield State University and is currently attending the American Banker Association, Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

Antonio Palano has been promoted to Vice President, Retail Lending. Palano's 15-year tenure at Country Bank showcases his commitment and dedication to the organization. Having progressed through various roles, he currently manages the Retail Lending Servicing and Operations Departments. He holds an associate's degree in business administration from Springfield Technical Community College and is a 2023 graduate from the New England School of Financial Studies.

Cuc Nguyen has been promoted to Retail Banking Officer of the Paxton Banking Center. With over 16 years of banking experience, Nguyen brings a wealth of

knowledge to her new role.

Her previous experience at Commerce Bank, Berkshire Bank, and DCU has equipped her with a deep understanding of frontline management and customer satisfaction. Nguyen holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and finance from Southern New Hampshire University.

"We are excited to announce the promotions of Shane, Brett, Tony, Justin, and Cuc," said Miriam Siegel, First Senior Vice President, Chief Culture and Development Officer of Country Bank in a press release. "We are thrilled to be able to recognize their hard work, dedication and contribution to the Bank's success. We are proud to support the commitment of all of our team members to their ongoing professional and personal growth leading them down all of the many career paths in community banking today."

Country Bank congratulates these individuals on their well-deserved promotions and looks forward to their continued success in their new roles.



Jackson made his first ever sock snowman at the Young Men's Library Association.



Kids had fun making their own sock snowmen.

Do you want to build a snowman?

Children enjoyed making sock snowmen at Ware library

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdragot@turley.com

WARE – The Young Men's Library Association enjoys offering fun craft activities for children of all ages.

Embracing the winter season, the Ware Library hosted a sock snowman craft this past Saturday morning. This was the first time the Ware Library had done a sock snowman craft and staff were looking forward to seeing how much fun the kids would have crafting their own snowman out of the everyday item.

The craft took place inside the children's room at the Young Men's Library Association. The socks were pre-filled with rice and then it was up to the kids to craft from there. The first step is to use stuffing to fill the sock halfway up.

Once the sock is stuffed, kids tied the sock with a rubber band.

The next step is to fill the top half of the head of the snowman with stuffing and tie with a rubber band.

To make room for a hat, the sock length should be anywhere from four-five inches in length. The remaining length of the sock can be folded down to make a hat.

For added features, participants tied a piece of fabric to make scarves for their snowman. The scarf helped cover the rubber band that is in between the sock snowman's head and body.

Other features include buttons and markers to make a face for the sock snowman.



A pair of sock snowmen were completed during the Saturday morning craft.



Miss Cathy's sock snowman has a scarf and winter hat.



Sock snowmen were all over the children's room at the Young Men's Library Association.

The materials were provided by the library and helping kids with the sock snowmen was children's librarian, Cathy Goulet.

Goulet got into the winter spirit by crafting a sock snowman of her own.

The next crafting event at the Young Men's Library Association will be on Tuesday, Feb. 6 from 4-5:30 p.m. To celebrate Valentine's Day, kids will be working on special valentine cards while enjoying cupcakes.

MassDOT recommends Palmer as future West-East Rail stop

PALMER – After years of advocating for the inclusion of a Palmer stop in the plans for the West-East Rail Project (now titled Compass Rail), state Sen. Jake Oliveira (Hamden, Hampshire & Worcester District) was delighted and relieved to see the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) officially recommend the town as a future stop on the upcoming West-East Rail.

The announcement was made on Jan. 17 during the MassDOT Board of Directors Meeting. Rail and Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger was on hand to make the announcement.

"I'm grateful for the commitment made by the Governor and the administration for this pivotal development for not only the West-East Rail but for Palmer and Western Mass" Oliveira said in a press release.

"The West-East Rail represents a monumental infrastructure project that will connect the greater Commonwealth, bridging the geographical and economic gaps between Western Mass

and Boston. The promise of this railway network is immense, with the potential to catalyze economic growth, promote regional development, and bolster social cohesion. I'm thrilled to see MassDOT take the next step in this generational project, and I'm glad they realized what we've known for some time. Palmer is the ideal location as a gateway to Western Mass."

MassDOT came to the decision to recommend Palmer for a future stop on the rail following studies they conducted last year and will be allocating \$4 million for Planning and Design through their Capital Investment Program.

Consulting firm RTD was selected in December for Planning and Conceptual Design. This will include key components such as public outreach, site selection, identification of station amenities and access, conceptual design, and environmental scoping.

The project is expected to follow an estimated 18-month schedule.

Student Council hosts craft fair Feb. 10

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School Student Council is hosting a Craft/Small Business Fair on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Quaboag Regional Middle High School, 284 Old West Brookfield Road.

Vendors include handmade woodcrafts, candles, soaps, seasonal decor, pottery, jewelry, and many more.

Enjoy a fun day of shopping and make this your one stop shop for Valentine's Day, or shop early for Mother's Day and Father's Day.

In addition to the 80+ vendors participating in the fair, there will also be a huge raffle table, so please be sure to bring cash.

Vendor fees and proceeds from the raffle will go to the Student Council members attending their annual state conference in Hyannis. Thank you in advance for your kind support.

There will be no ATM on site. Venmo/Cashapp/etc. accepted at the discretion of vendors.

Congratulations
MEGAN

Megan Joyce Aldridge, daughter of Sherrie and Jesse Aldridge Jr. of Dripping Springs, Texas was named to the Texas All-State Choir recently. Megan is a junior at Dripping Springs High School and was selected to the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State Treble Choir after placing third at the Area E auditions in January in San Antonio.

Megan will perform with the all-state choir on February 10th at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio. Megan is the granddaughter of Patricia and Jesse (deceased) Aldridge of Austin, Texas and great granddaughter of Doris and Joseph Supczak (both deceased) of Ware.

and Beyond!

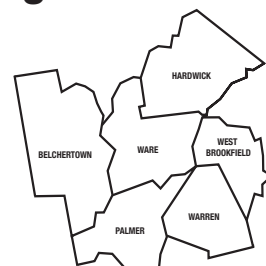
WB&CA
Ware Business & Civic Association

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!

JOIN TODAY!

Visit warebca.com
email warebca@gmail.com



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.

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 committee 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.

► Seamless Entry

► Embrace Uniqueness



Ware, Hardwick announce nomination papers available for town elections

WARE

Nomination papers for the annual town election on April 8 are now available to any interested individual who are registered voters in the Town of Ware.

Nomination papers are available for the following elected offices which will appear on the annual town election ballot of April 8: Selectboard, two for three year terms; Moderator, one for a three year term; School Committee, two for three year terms; Board of Assessors, one for a three year term; Board of Health, one for a three year term; Cemetery Commissioner, one for a three year term; Park Commissioner, one for

a three year term; Planning Board, one for a five year term; and Ware Housing Authority, one for a five year term.

All incumbent office holders have been notified of their terms expiration.

Current office holders are as follows: Selectboard – Caitilin McCarthy and Keith Kruckas; Moderator – Kathleen H. Coulombe; School Committee – Michael Foran and Julie Slattery; Board of Assessors – Deven Peterson; Board of Health – John A. Desmond; Cemetery Commissioner – Craig Simmons; Park Commissioner – Kimberly Swarts; Planning Board – Edward Murphy; Ware Housing Authority –

vacant seat.

Craig Simmons will not be seeking reelection for the position of Cemetery Commissioner

Nomination papers are available at the Town Clerk's Office daily Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The deadline to obtain and return nomination papers is Friday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m.

Information about the town election is also posted on the Town of Ware's website, www.townofware.com, under "News & Notices."

If you are interested or have a question, please call the Town Clerk, Nancy J. Talbot at 413-967-9648 extension 103.

HARDWICK

Nomination papers for the May 4 annual town election are now available.

The last day to obtain and submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification is Friday, March 15 by 5 p.m.; the last day to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk is Friday, March 29 by 5 p.m.; the last day to object or withdraw nomination papers is Tuesday, April 2, by 5 p.m.; the last day to register voters for the annual town election is Wednesday, April 24 by 5 p.m.; and the last day to apply to vote by mail is Monday, April 29 by 5 p.m.

Voter registration

Voter registration is available at

the Myron E. Richardson Building, 307 Main St. on Wednesday, April 24 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This is the last day and hour to register voters who wish to vote at the annual town election. Mail-in voter registrations will be accepted if postmarked no later than the April 24 deadline.

Financial statements

Financial statements must be filed by all candidates for election by the following dates even if the candidate has no financial activity to report: pre-election report, eight days prior to election, Friday, April 26; and post-election report, 30 days after election, Monday, June 3.

Offices for election

Offices up for election and those currently holding office are as follows: Selectman, H. Robert Ruggles, three-year term; Assessor, Kathryn W. Hosley, three-year term; Board of Health, Judith Berg Kohn, three-year term; Paige Agricultural Fund Trustee, Halley T. Stillman, five-year term; Paige Memorial Library Trustee (three positions), Christopher M. Buelow, three-year term; Jennifer E. Garvey, three-year term, unexpired term, one-year term; K-12 Quabbin Regional School Committee Member, Kristyl B. Kelly, three-year term; Planning Board (two positions), Erik L. Fleming, three-year term; and William R. Cole, three-year term.



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- apalanoimpact@outlook.com
- www.quabbinhealthdistrict.com
- 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082



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PARTNERSHIP TEAM:

- QUABBIN HEALTH DISTRICT
- TOWN OF WARE
- QUABBIN WIRE AND CABLE CO., INC
- QUABOAG VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
- QUABOAG HILLS SUBSTANCE USE ALLIANCE
- HEALTHY QUABOAG

ACTION ITEMS:

- OUTREACH/AWARENESS OF RESOURCES
- INCREASE WORKPLACE WELLNESS/RECOVERY SUPPORTIVE
WORKPLACE PROGRAMS/POLICIES/PRACTICES
- IMPROVE ACCESS TO PROVIDERS AND PRESCRIBERS (MEDICAL,
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SPORTS

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Indians split games last week



Emily McGrail grabs the loose ball.



Reese McKeever goes after a rebound under pressure.



Reaghan Jacobs sends the ball toward the corner.

WARE – The Ware High School girls basketball team suffered a setback against Putnam Vocational 45-29 last Monday night. The Indians offense was largely shut down with Emily McGrail the only Indians to finish in double digits with 13 points. The Indians would rebound with a three-point win 45-42 over Athol last Thursday. The Indians are 6-5 on the season and currently hold No. 25 in the power rankings for the state tournament in Division 5.



Finn McFaul holds the ball high considering her next move.



Shelby Hogan heads down the court to start an offensive play.



Maddie Dufresne pulls this one down to keep possession.



Mia Letendre lets this jump shot go for two.



Maddie Potvin and Parker Tunley display a defensive double team.

Pioneers sweep PVCA



Hunter Griswold gets ready to drive into the paint.

PALMER – Last Thursday night, Pathfinder boys basketball picked a win over Pioneer Valley Christian School 68-65. The Pioneers beat PVCA for the second time this season, sweeping the season series with their league rivals. Hunter Griswold had a huge game with nearly half the team's points. He led all scorers with 32 points while Adrien Moskovitz had 16 points. Pathfinder is now 5-2 on the season.



Adrien Moskovitz makes a pass around the perimeter.



Adrien Moskovitz heads off-balance down the court after intercepting a pass.



Adam Slonka attempts a shot while Seth Mitchell signals he's open for a pass.



Seth Mitchell makes his way down the court.

Quaboag gets back to .500

WARREN – Last Thursday night, Quaboag girls basketball picked up a much-needed win by defeating Oxford 45-14. The Quaboag defense was excellent throughout the entire game, holding Oxford to no more than four

points in three of the four quarters of the game. Parker Tunley had 15 points while Evelyn Doe had 14 points, including four treys. Quaboag improved to 5-5 on the season.



Julliete Boos gets the height on this jumper.



Parker Tunley maintains control despite this defensive forearm.

Committee seeks HOF nominations

BARRE – Nominations for the Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2024 are being accepted.

Nomination forms are available on the Quabbin Regional

Athletic website (www.qrsd.org). All forms are due March 1. Please mail forms to: Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame; PO Box 874; Barre, MA 01005 or e-mail to mmiville@qrsd.org.

Full day of wrestling for Quabbin

GRANBY – Last Saturday morning, Quabbin Regional wrestling traveled to Granby High School in

Western Mass. to face several teams from the region in a series of dual meets. Participants in the multi-team

event included Westfield, Ludlow, Frontier, South Hadley, Chicopee, and host Granby High School.



Kailynn Shuster tries to hold the advantage in her match.



Chris Gross locks up at 144 pounds.



Cole Wilson tries to keep hold of his opponent's leg.



Alex Fors tries to avoid a takedown.



Jack Fors looks to attack at 165 pounds.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

sports

Meaghan Doyle's layup wins in double OT

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Evan Barringer has seen many outstanding student-athletes during the 23 years that he's been a coach and a history teacher in the Quabbin Regional School District.

Barringer is currently the Lady Panthers varsity basketball coach and one of his all-time favorite athletes is senior co-captain Meg Doyle, who's also an outstanding softball player.

Doyle's lay-up basket with 5.9 seconds remaining in double overtime gave the Lady Panthers a thrilling 50-49 home victory over Mid-Wach C rival Hudson before a raucous crowd, last Friday night.

"Meg Doyle is the finest athlete male or female that I've seen here at Quabbin in the past 23 years," said Barringer, who has also coached the Quabbin golf team. "I'm very glad that she had that moment at the end of tonight's game. She's just an incredible athlete and person. This was probably our most exciting game so far this season and I'm very proud of all my players. Everyone contributed."

Junior Brooke Austin didn't score any points in the home victory, but she contributed to her team's success in other ways.

"Brooke came off the bench and played about thirty minutes in the game," Barringer said. "I thought she played excellent defense and rebounded very well. It was awesome to see from her."

The Lady Panthers (8-3) had lost their previous two games against Tyngsborough and Littleton. They also lost at Hudson, 36-32 in overtime, back in the middle of December. Doyle, who's planning on entering the United States Marine Corps after she graduates from high school, scored a game-high 14 points in that contest.

Barringer drew up the game winning play in last Friday's contest during a timeout with 12.5 seconds left in the second overtime.

Senior Brianna Whitelaw, who's also a co-captain, inbounded the ball to Doyle from in front of the Quabbin bench. Then Doyle drove past a couple of Hudson defenders before scoring the lay-up.

"I was a little bit scared before I made the game winning shot in double overtime. It's the first time that I've made a game winning shot since I've been playing for the varsity basketball team," Doyle said. "We haven't won a game against Hudson in a couple of years, and it was a



Mia Ducos drives to the hoop.

lot of fun beating them in double OT."

The last time that Quabbin defeated Hudson on the hardwood was also at home on January 24, 2022. The final score of that game was 52-49.

Following Doyle's lay-up, the Hawks (7-5) did have a chance to win last Friday's game, but freshman Daria Giorgi-Woodford (7 points) missed a shot at the buzzer.

Doyle, who joined the varsity basketball team as a freshman, scored 12 of her team-leading 14 points in the second meeting of the regular season against Hudson during the second half. She spent most of the first half sitting on the bench after picking up her third personal foul with 1:21 left in the first quarter.

Neither team did a lot of scoring during the first 16 minutes.

The Lady Panthers built a 5-0 lead in the middle of the opening quarter following back-to-back lay-ups by Doyle and Whitelaw, which were her only points of the game.

With 32.3 seconds remaining in the opening quarter, Quabbin sophomore Mia Ducos made two foul shots, which gave the Lady Panthers a 7-3 advantage entering the second quarter.

Ducos, who's been playing for the varsity basketball team since the eighth grade, scored a game-high 21 points.

"I think Mia is the best point guard in Central Mass.," said

Turley photos by Ray Duffy



Bri Whitelaw puts up a three-point shot.



Riley Bassett grabs an offensive rebound.

Doyle, who's a shooting guard. "I've never seen a basketball player at this level who can handle the ball as well as she does. She's also a great passer and it's a lot of fun being on the court with her."

With Doyle sitting on the bench, Ducos scored four points

during the second quarter. Senior co-captain Hannah Baxter (4 points) also added a field goal and senior co-captain Riley Bassett (9 points) made a foul shot, as the home team went into the locker room holding a 14-6 halftime lead.

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L. ORSZULAK, GY Athlete of the Month

Brady Guimond

WARE HIGH SCHOOL

In a revenge win over league rival Monson two weeks ago, Guimond turned in a big performance with 17 points for the Indians.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Thursday Night Mixed League

PALMER – The Thursday Night Mixed League has a new team leading in first place during round two of the 2023-2024 season.

Team Four consisting of Nick Maslon, Brittany Earle, John Havens Sr. and Cindy Restaino are in first place with a record of 10-2. Right behind Team Four, there is a three-way tie for second place consisting of Team Three, Team Five and Team One who all have a 6-6 record.

Team Two is in fifth place with a 4-8 record and Team Six is at 4-8.

In one match, Team Three bowled against Team Five. In game one, Team Five won the first game 419-403. Joe Danek of Team Five started off the evening bowling a 103.

In game two, Team Five won again by a score of 385-377. In game three, Team Five won for the full sweep by taking the last game 395-389.

Team Five won total pinfall by a

final score of 1199-1169.

Another match was between Team Four, who is in first place, and Team One who is tied for second place with two other teams. In game one, Team One was the winner by a score of 430-425. Kris Rickson of Team One started off the evening by bowling a 125.

In game two, Team One was the winner by a score of 439-416. Sean Comerford of Team One led his team in game two with a 114 game. In game three, Team One held on to a short lead to take the last game 405-400.

Team One defeated Team Four in total pinfall by a final score of 1274-1241.

Team Two bowled against Team Six. In game one, Team Six won the first game of the evening by a score of 388-377. In game two, Team Six won again by a score of 404-395. In game three, Team Two won the last game by a score of 397-394.

Team Six won total pinfall by a final score of 1186-1169.

Visit Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes at 1446 North Main St. The alleys can be reached by calling 413-289-0013.

T-Birds drop decision to Amerks

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (18-15-3-2) could not keep pace with the potent offense of the Rochester Americans (19-13-3-1), falling 7-3 on Saturday night at Blue Cross Arena in Rochester.

The home team came out with firepower from the onset, and after a bad defensive zone turnover, Linus Weissbach cashed in with a wristed past Vadim Zherenko to make it a 1-0 game just 3:24 into the action. The Amerks were not finished, either, as Graham Slaggett found himself available for a deflection outside of Zherenko's crease, and he did just that at 6:07, tipping it by the Springfield goalie to make it a 2-0 Rochester lead.

In need of a positive shift in morale, the T-Birds got just that when Calle Rosen crept up into a play at the offensive blue line, stepping into the high slot to receive a one-touch pass from MacKenzie MacEachern. With a lane available to shoot, Rosen did just that, snapping it past Devon Levi's blocker just 39 seconds after the Slaggett goal to cut the Rochester lead down to 2-1 at 6:46.

Springfield's special teams stepped into the spotlight meaningfully after that, killing off a pair of Amerks power plays thanks to a stabilized effort by Zherenko and his defense.

When the T-Birds received their first power play in the closing minutes of the period, they took full advantage to erase the two-goal hole before a full period was even completed. In his first game as a T-Bird, recent ECHL call-up Tanner Dickinson made his presence known, beating Levi with a snapper from the left circle to even the score, 2-2, at 17:17. Rosen picked up the primary assist in accounting for both Springfield goals in the opening frame.

After 20 minutes, Zherenko exited the game with an apparent injury, so former Amerk Malcolm Subban was thrust into duty. Even with the goalie swap, history repeated itself to begin the second period as Rochester got to the scoreboard first. Kale Clague slipped down the far side of the ice, undetected, and tapped home a perfect centering pass from Brandon Biro to make it a 3-2 game. Lukas Rousek also assisted, extending his point streak to an AHL-best 13 straight games.

3:30 later, another turnover

reared its ugly head on the T-Birds, as Brett Murray intercepted a drop pass, weaved to the right side, and beat Subban with a wrist shot to make it 4-2.

With Springfield jumping on a power play with a chance to cut the lead in half, Rochester handed Springfield a bitter gut-punch as Isak Rosen stormed in on a breakaway and chipped a forehand over Subban's glove to make it 5-2 at 11:42. It was just the second shorthanded goal allowed all year by the T-Birds.

The T-Birds stopped the Amerks' run at the 14:47 mark when Jakob Vrana marched over the right-wing side on a 2-on-1 before flipping a perfect saucer pass to Mikhail Abramov, who one-timed it through Levi to make it a 5-3 game.

However, on this night, the T-Birds did not have the third-period magic, as Rochester held Springfield to just three attempts on goal in the final 20 minutes. Subban was forced to hold the 5-3 margin with a penalty shot save on Mason Jobst, but the Amerks persisted anyway, getting back-to-back goals from Viktor Neuchev and Weissbach separated by just 2:07 to finish the scoring.



Tommy Baldwin Racing, Coby set partial schedule For 2024

MOORESVILLE, N.C. – Tommy Baldwin Racing (TBR) announced today that six-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Doug Coby will pilot the No. 7NY for select Tour events in 2024. The team will begin the season at New Smyrna Speedway for the World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing and the Whelen Modified Tour opener on Saturday, February 10.

The team plans to run seven of the 16 Whelen Modified Tour events.

TBR will compete at Richmond Raceway on Friday, March 29, Riverhead Raceway on May 18 and New Hampshire Motor Speedway as part of NASCAR's National Series weekend on June 22. The combination will return to the track on Wednesday, August 14 at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, Saturday, October 5 at North Wilkesboro Speedway and Saturday, October 26 at Martinsville Speedway.

"Tommy has a deep racing history in the Modified community and when you drive for him, you know he's going to bring fast cars to the track," Coby said. "Having the opportunity to work with them again

in 2024 to simply try to win races is something I'm really excited for."

Coby and Baldwin first paired together in 2022 and won events at Riverhead Raceway and Lee USA Speedway in their first two races together. They also picked up a victory at Langley Speedway that season – one that saw Tommy Baldwin Racing seal the Whelen Modified Tour owner's championship with multiple different drivers. Coby drove the No. 7NY in 13 events last season with one victory and six top-five finishes.

"Doug is a proven winner and champion and we're happy he's back with us for 2024," Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. "We've selected a great list of events to compete on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at some of their biggest races. We're looking forward to having Doug back in the seat and it will be all about trying to get trophies."

The addition of Doug Coby to the 2024 Tommy Baldwin Racing lineup is yet another piece of what will be a busy season, including the likes of Luke Baldwin, Jack Baldwin, Bryan Narducci and Doug Coby.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and

share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

Railers stun Komets in shootout

FORT WAYNE, IN – The Worcester Railers HC (17-15-3-2, 39pts) took down the Fort Wayne Komets (19-16-1-3, 42pts) on Saturday night in a shootout by the final score of 4-3 in front of a crowd of 9,747 at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. The Railers wrap up their three-in-three on the road against the Komets this Sunday, January 21st at 5:00pm.

Blade Jenkins (2-0-2) opened scoring for Worcester to give the Railers the early lead in the first before Nolan Volcan (1-0-1) scored a short-handed goal to tie things going into the second. The second period looked as though it was going to be a scoreless frame before Ture Linden (1-0-1) scored with just over three remaining in the period to put the Komets up 2-1 going into the third. Jack Dugan (1-1-2) extended Fort Wayne's lead before Joey Cipollone () and Blade Jenkins tied things up for Worcester to force overtime. As neither team scored in the extra frame, a shootout was required. It took seven rounds until Jack Quinlivan scored in the bottom of the round to give Worcester the 4-3 shootout win on Saturday night.

Worcester came out firing in the first period, playing what would end up being one of their best first periods of play this season. Blade Jenkins (10th) worked a tip on a

Please see **RAILERS**, page 10

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Quabbin School District receives 'clean audit'

By Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

BARRE – Once again, the Quabbin Regional School District received a “clean audit.”

Craig Peacock of Powers and Sullivan said to the Quabbin Regional School District Committee at its Dec. 14 meeting the district business office works hard and the district personnel were “almost second to none.” He called them one of the best prepared clients.

He said the audit could not have gone any better and said the district received an unmodified opinion or a “clean” report, the best any client can get.

He also said the budget “looked great this year.” With a budget of over \$37 million, they turned back \$106,000, which went into the Efficiency and Deficiency Account. This indicated the district did not over appropriate or under appropriate.

Cardiac Emergency Preparedness

Three high school students, Jahzara Tweedel, Jasmine Young and Summer Young along with teacher, Robert Whitelaw gave a presentation about Automated External Defibrillators in the Quabbin Regional Middle High

School to the school committee.

They wanted to make people more aware of the severity of cardiac arrest. In one year, 436,000 die from cardiac arrest and more than 7,000 are under the age of 18.

Only 24 out of 50 states require AED devices in school. The Quabbin District has four AEDs in the middle/high school, two each at Ruggles Lane Elementary School and Hubbardston Center School and one each at Hardwick Elementary School, New Braintree Grade School, Oakham Center School and the Central Office.

The students said they sent a survey to staff and teachers. Of those, 95% work directly with students and 43% of them do not have experience with an AED. They said 25% of teachers know where all the AEDs are in the building.

They also said only one third of students take Health 2 with 90% not trained in the use of an AED and 56% have not been in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation or First Aid. The students made recommendations that link crew leaders receive a lesson on CPR and AEDs during their summer training and Health Class be mandatory.

The also recommended AEDs be in the middle school and sixth grade wing, which currently have none and the school nurses exten-

sion be written above the phones in the building. They said four or five more AEDs are needed in the middle/high school and signage such as an arrow with AED on it, pointing to all AED locations.

In addition, the AED should be more visible with a flag or bright color.

Freshmen at orientation should be shown the location of all AEDs in the school. An AED costs about \$3,000.

School Committee member Dr. Richard Allan, said the Health 1 and 2 class got merged and will be mandatory for all students.

Elementary student report

Three fifth grade students from Hubbardston Center School, Adrian, Analeigh and Jeri-Lynn, gave a presentation via Zoom to the School Committee about their trip to Nature’s Classroom in Charlton in October.

Adrian said his favorite thing were the field groups. Analeigh concurred with him and liked the animal dissection part. Jeri-Lynn said the night walk in the woods without lights was her favorite activity.

Superintendent’s report

Superintendent Colleen Mucha said the Safety Team meets twice

HCC criminal justice professor honored

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College criminal justice professor Nicole J. Hendricks was honored Oct. 6 with an Inspiration Award from the African American Female Professor Award Association.

Each year, the association celebrates a handful of Black female professors at its annual awards banquet, which this year was held at the Griswold

Theater on the campus of American International College in Springfield.

Hendricks, a 17-year faculty member at HCC, was one of four Black female professors recognized.

“It was a great honor to receive this award,” said Hendricks. “The ceremony itself was a great celebration of the incredible women who are working in education and a wonderful moment to bring attention to the fact that so few college faculty are Black women, less than 2%.”

That statistic was also emphasized by Traci Talbert, AAFPAA’s president and founder, who said professors like Hendricks are making strides to improve diversity and inclusion at their own institutions.

“Just their presence alone helps to engage with the students and help them identify and relate,” Talbert said. “They are also working in affinity groups and doing other things on college campuses as well as in the community to ensure that these experiences continue to enhance and build equity.”

Hendricks has served as chair of the Criminal Justice Department at HCC and teaches a variety of courses in that area, including criminology and women’s studies. She also teaches interdisciplinary courses as part of HCC’s Learning Communities program.

For example, in “Reimagining Incarceration,” she and her teaching partner, economics professor Mary Orisich, explore mass incarceration through the lens of feminist social justice

theory, gender and sexuality studies, critical race theory, and political economy.

Hendricks’ efforts to reimagine incarceration extend well beyond the classroom. Together, she and Orisich founded Western Mass CORE, a prison education program based at HCC that seeks to facilitate pathways to college for people impacted by the criminal legal system.

“Her strong commitment to education as a vehicle for social justice and societal change is evident in her work inside and outside the classroom,” said Kim Hicks, HCC’s dean of Arts and Humanities, who introduced Hendricks at the banquet and nominated her for the award.

In her own remarks at the banquet, Hendricks talked about the “cognitive dissonance” she experienced as a teenager visiting her older brother in prison while she was attending Deerfield Academy, an elite prep school, and later Wesleyan University, a private college in Middletown, Connecticut.

Holyoke Community College President George Timmons also attended the event and offered remarks at the banquet celebrating the Black women in his life, including his grandmother, who raised him, and his wife, Frankie, a tenured professor of criminal justice at Columbia-Greene Community College in New York.

In addition to a physical award inscribed with a personal message, Hendricks received an embroidered sash with colors representing African ancestry.

In accepting the Inspiration Award, Hendricks said she also accepted the responsibility that goes along with it.

“It signifies, to me, a dedication to continuing to live my purpose,” Hendricks said. “Fostering a political consciousness that places equity and racial justice at the center, and does so in community with others.”



Nicole J. Hendricks

OPEN MIC from page 5

including “Handle with Care” by the Traveling Wilburys and “Where is My Mind?” by Pixies.

Up next was Bill Cole, who covered songs including “Don’t Let the Old Man In” by Toby Keith, before ending his set with an original bluegrass song.

Avery Adams took the stage next, covering a range of artists from Cavetown to Fleetwood Mac to Taylor Swift.

Following Adams was Michael Candito on acoustic guitar, singing an original song as well as covers, including “I Am the Walrus” by The Beatles.

Up next was a full band - Jim, Cindy, Karen, Roc, Brian, Mike, and Gary. Their high-energy set wowed the audience and included covers of “Tennessee Whiskey” by George Stapleton and “Nights in White Satin” by The Moody Blues.

Then, Mike and Karen from the previous act were joined by Adam to perform a few songs, including “Redneck Woman” by Gretchen Wilson and “The Weight” by The Band.

Mike and Karen played one final set before Big League Collective were welcomed back to the stage.

“We’ve been doing these for a while,” said Goudreau. “COVID

shut us down for a while,” she explained, but since restarting the live music open mic nights, held on the third Friday of every month, attendance has been increasing.

In addition to live music, Workshop13 also hosts a poetry open mic on the first Friday of each month, and an African drum and dance circle on the third Saturday of every month.

Soon, Workshop13 will be starting up a theater program, as well, beginning with a series of short, original plays. Open auditions will be held on Jan. 29 and 30 from 7-9 p.m.

ry of opportunities in the extra frame, as Fanti made four saves for the Komets while Muse made three for Worcester. Neither team broke through in overtime, meaning the game would be settled in a shootout.

The Komets shot first in the shootout. Shawn Szydlowski, Jack Dugan, Ethan De Jong, Matt Wedman, Carl Berglund, Xavier Cormier, and Ture Linden were all turned aside by John Muse. For Worcester, Keeghan Howdeshell, Blade Jenkins, Anthony Repaci, Connor Welsh, Anthony Callin, and Andrei Bakanov were all denied by Ryan Fanti. In the bottom of the seventh round, Jack Quinlivan had his turn in the shootout. He came in wide along the right-wing side, cut back across to the left, and skated in slowly as he then finished past Fanti to deliver Worcester their second shootout win of the season, and the extra point on the evening.

in the second. Shots in the middle period favored Fort Wayne 15-7, and were tied across the game after two, 21-21.

Fort Wayne extended their lead in the third period thanks to Jack Dugan’s (10th) goal off a wrister from the slot to make it 3-1 Komets. The third period was Worcester’s from there. Joey Cipollone found the puck loose in the slot and skated it to the far side where he ripped it clean past Fanti to make it a 3-2 game. With John Muse pulled and the Komets ahead by one late in the game, the Railers worked their way into the attacking zone. Anthony Callin cut to the right wing through the defense and delivered a perfect cross-ice feed to Blade Jenkins (11th) who finished past Fanti to tie the game for the Railers and give them new life. Neither team scored across the remaining 1:41, as the game was headed into overtime.

Both teams exchanged a flurry

Grandpre,” Grandpre Wood said. “She was the keeper of all things, and the reason I wrote this book.”

“My great aunts wrote these beautiful stories about the great stone church,” Grandpre Wood said about the church at St. Laboire where several of her ancestors are buried. “What I really loved about their stories was that Christmas was all about Jesus - the true meaning.”

As Grandpre Wood moved through life, she decided to journey through the lands of Canada and the Long Trail itself through Vermont where her ancestors once walked.

“I always wear the sash, I always bring the sash,” Grandpre Wood said. “You are feeling like you’re connecting with the, like a constellation of stars.”

In 2010, Grandpre Wood felt called back to the Catholic church, and took a pilgrimage to Medjugorje where her faith lit up like a spark of a flame. On her and her husband’s 30th wedding anniversary, they remarried with a beautiful Catholic service with their original maid of honor and best man returning for the ceremony.

It was at this point that Grandpre Wood began to feel that

calling from God to do something more, and that ended up being the desire to write her book. In 2015, she began, and by the time she reached 2020, she was writing.

She wrote and wrote her family’s stories, going on journeys and writing and taking photos. All the while, and through every step of the way, she brought the Arrow Sash, as her ancestors once did.

She decided to tackle the Long Trail with her niece, which began in Williamstown and ended in North Troy, Vermont near the Quebec border. All the while, she felt like a closeness to her ancestors she had never experienced before.

“Once you start connecting, it starts connecting you,” Grandpre Wood said. “They were walking me home.”

She could feel the presence of her family, and her faith and love for the journey only grew, and it grew into her book.

No synopsis can truly encompass Grandpre Wood’s wonderful story of her life’s journey, and one can only truly walk in her shoes through reading her book. Her journey of faith can be summed up with her simple phrase, “For me, Our Lady leads the way.”

Information meeting about Patrill Hollow Dam Removal Jan. 30

HARDWICK – The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife is inviting the public to a virtual informational meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at 6:45 p.m., which will be held via Zoom with the link available at hardwick-ma.gov

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed Patrill Hollow Dam Removal project in the Muddy Brook Wildlife Management Area. The Project Team will be available to answer questions and to seek input on the project.

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RAILERS from page 1

Ryan Verrier shot to put Worcester ahead 1-0 at the 5:58 mark of the frame. The Railers would slip on the power play, allowing Nolan Volcan (11th) to slip past the defense and throw a puck of the backside of John Muse into the net to tie the game shorthanded at 1-1 going into the second. Physicality was high in the first period, with multiple scrums playing out in front of both nets and in the end-boards after whistles. Shots in the first heavily favored Worcester, 14-6.

The physical play continued in the second, as was the theme for most of the period. The Komets began to get more shots on Muse in the second, finishing with 15 total in the frame. Late in the period, Ture Linden (17th) grabbed a rebound from the scrum in front which Muse dove for and patted it home around him to make it a 2-1 lead for Fort Wayne with 3:02 left

AUTHOR from page 1

was the region of Canada known today as Montreal.

New France required that all of its inhabitants be of the Catholic faith, and after immigrating there, gave up their Protestant faith in order to live in their new home.

“They gave up everything,” Grandpre Wood said.

Her family moved along the St. Laurence River, and with them they carried the Arrow Sash. All the way to where they finally settled so many years ago on the little island of L’ille Dupas where her six-times great-grandfather settled with his five sisters, and two brothers, who all married there.

“It’s not only a treasure to my family, but Canada as well,” Grandpre Wood said of the Arrow Sash, a brightly colored sash featuring a red arrow pattern through the center, which has a long history and symbolism to both of the Matisse and French Canadian people.

The Ceinture Fléchée, the Arrow Sash, was passed on through Grandpre Wood’s family and she was taught everything about it by her great-aunt Lucille De Grandpre.

“She knew all things De

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Jan. 15-22, the Ware Police Department responded to 17 miscellaneous calls, 49 administrative calls, nine traffic violations, 19 emergency 911 calls, one fraud, one harassment, four thefts/larcenies, one safety hazard, nine motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 38 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Monday, Jan. 15
5:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered
5:54 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Meadow Heights Drive, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Jan. 16
9:15 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Belchertown Road, Report Made
11:11 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Eagle Street, Assist Given
12:16 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Aspen Street, Advised
12:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Services Rendered
2:55 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Old Belchertown Road, Report Made
4:20 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Old Gilbertville Road, Report Made
4:42 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, Dispatch Handled
10:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Investigated

Wednesday, Jan. 17
9:27 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Report Made
4:40 p.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:52 p.m. Assist Other Agency, West Main Street, Assist Given
10:17 p.m. Assist Other Agency,

West Main Street, Assist Given

Thursday, Jan. 18
1:47 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Advised
4:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Robbins Road, Dispatch Handled
5:11 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
7:48 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, River Road, Investigated
9:18 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Could Not Locate

Friday, Jan. 19
8:25 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled
1:06 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Advised
1:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
1:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
3:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
3:57 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Investigated
6:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gilbertville Road, Citation/Warning Issued
9:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:46 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Church Street, Patient Refusal

Saturday, Jan. 20
7:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
8:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Vehicle Towed
Summons: Christopher M. Gagnon, 29, Ware
Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle;

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.

Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
10:26 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gareau Avenue, Dispatch Handled

Sunday, Jan. 21
3:27 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
3:47 a.m. Bylaw Violation, West Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
4:49 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made

Monday, Jan. 22
2:54 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Park Avenue, Citation/Warning Issued
3 a.m. Bylaw Violation, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
3 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Clifford Avenue, Citation/Warning Issued
7:59 a.m. Safety Hazard, Main Street, Services Rendered
2:55 p.m. Assist Other Agency, South Street, Services
3:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Warren Police Log

During the week of Jan. 7-13, the Warren Police Department responded to 199 building/property checks, 87 community policing, 20 emergency 911 calls, one larceny/theft, one complaint, one gas fume/leak, two property damages, three motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Jan. 7
8:23 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Cross Street, Transported to Hospital
5:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Southbridge Road, Vehicle Towed
6:05 p.m. Property Damage, Southbridge Road, Officer Advised
9:39 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Cronin Road, Information Given
10:03 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Little Rest Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Monday, Jan. 8
4:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Keys Road, Refused Services
9:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Old West Brookfield Road, Vehicle Towed
4:44 p.m. Suspicious Person, Old West Brookfield Road, Investigated

Tuesday, Jan. 9
7:34 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Bacon Street, Investigated
12:24 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Nelligan Terrace, Arrest(s) Made
Summons: Adam D. Lacroix, 45, Warren
Warrant
9:52 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, Jan. 10
5:52 a.m. Follow-up Investigation, Washburn Avenue, Investigated
7:20 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Bemis Road, No Fire Service Necessary
8:16 p.m. Property Damage, Bemis Road, Information Taken
9:51 a.m. Falls, Ware Road, Mutual Aid Transport
11:12 a.m. Fume/Gas Leak, Main Street, Investigated
1:46 p.m. Welfare Check, Mechanic Street, Investigated
2:18 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Constitution Avenue, Mutual Aid Transport
5:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
8:40 p.m. Investigation, South Street, Investigated
11:14 p.m. Falls, Old West

Brookfield Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Thursday, Jan. 11
5:13 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, East Road, Transported to Hospital
7:16 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to Party
4:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons: Amy L. Desroches, 48, Chicopee
Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle
5:20 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
Arrest: Alyssa M. Fortin, 39, West Brookfield
Shoplifting
6:10 p.m. Stroke/CVA, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
9:15 p.m. Suspicious Person, Maple Street, Investigated

Friday, Jan. 12
12:12 a.m. Complaint, Quaboag Street, Citation Issued

Saturday, Jan. 13
3:40 p.m. Animal/Wildlife, Brimfield Road, Report Filed
4:36 p.m. Mutual Aid Ambulance, Ware, Canceled

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Jan. 15-22, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 60 building/property checks, 54 directed/area patrols, six traffic controls, nine emergency 911 calls, nine radar assignments, three citizen assists, three assist other agencies, three complaints, one motor vehicle accident, one motor vehicle investigation, one vandalism, one animal call and 10 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Jan. 15
9:38 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Charity Hill Road, Spoken To
3:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Officer Handled
4:37 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Broad Street, Services Rendered
5:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Officer Handled

Tuesday, Jan. 16
1:12 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

9:08 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prouty Road, Services Rendered
11:14 a.m. Fire Alarm, Main Street, Services Rendered
11:41 a.m. Fire/Other, Main Street, Merge
12:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick/New Braintree Police, Spoken To
7:34 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Negative Contact

Wednesday, Jan. 17
2:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
12:44 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick/New Braintree Police, Officer Handled
1:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Lower Road, No Action Required
2:42 p.m. Assist Citizen, Fiske Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
4:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:29 p.m. Medical Emergency, Czesky Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Jan. 18
12:45 p.m. Assist Other Agency, East Brookfield District Court, Officer Handled

Friday, Jan. 19
2:39 p.m. Complaint, Lower Road, Officer Handled
2:42 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Greenwich Road, Report Taken

Saturday, Jan. 20
7:44 p.m. 911 Misdial, Ruggles Hill Road, Spoken To

Sunday, Jan. 21
8:30 a.m. Vandalism, Lower Road, Investigated
11:18 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Muddy Brook Road, Citation Issued
11:32 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Patrill Hollow Road, Transported to Hospital
7:59 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

Winter parking bans in your communities

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

It's the winter season and many towns are committed to keeping the roads clear and safe for residents, and winter parking bans are in effect.

Hardwick

The winter parking ban is in effect from Nov. 15 to April 15. In case of a bad winter storm, roads must be cleared so Highway Department personnel will be able to clear the roads.

During this winter parking ban, parking is allowed on the following streets: Mechanic Street (east

side), Broad Street (west side), East Street (west side), Bridge Street (south side), Convent Street (west side), Taylor Street (west side), High Street (east side), and School Street (west side).

Ware

The overnight parking ban is in effect for all town streets from Dec. 1 to March 31. Vehicles cannot be parked on town streets between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m.

Residents may purchase parking permits for each vehicle/trailer for the year by contacting 413-967-9648 extension 101. Visitors' temporary parking approval can be obtained by calling the Ware

Police Department at 413-967-3571.

Town parking lots should be empty on the day after a storm from 7-10 a.m. for accommodate plowing.

Warren

The winter parking ban begins Nov. 15 and ends April 1. No vehicles should be parked overnight from midnight to 6 a.m. In case of a winter storm occurring, no vehicles should be parked on the streets while it is snowing.

This winter parking ban applies to all streets in Warren and West Warren.

State Fire Marshal urges to check CO alarms and keep vents clear

STOW – With the season's first significant snow in Massachusetts, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine reminds residents to test their carbon monoxide alarms and keep dryer, furnace and other exhaust vents clear of snow.

"Carbon monoxide is a leading cause of fatal poisoning, and home heating equipment is the primary source of carbon monoxide in the home," Davine said in a press release. "As part of your storm planning, check your CO alarms to be sure they're working properly, and if an alarm is past the manufacturer's recommended lifespan, replace it."

Residents should also be sure to keep outside vents clear of falling, drifting or shoveled snow.

In January 2005, 7-year-old Nicole Garofalo died when a heat-

ing vent was blocked by snow drifts outside, allowing carbon monoxide to accumulate inside her Plymouth home. This tragedy led to Nicole's Law, which requires CO alarms on every habitable level of a Massachusetts residence.

"Fuel-fired heating appliances like dryers, furnaces, boilers, and fireplaces are all sources of carbon monoxide," Davine said. "If the vent or flue is blocked, this poisonous gas can reach deadly levels inside the home. Know where the vents on your home are, be sure to clear them when shoveling and be careful not to blow snow onto them if using a snow-blower."

Massachusetts fire departments detected CO at nearly 5,000 incidents in 2022, officials said and 90% of these calls were at resi-

dential settings.

The poison gas can cause headache, fatigue, dizziness and/or nausea at lower concentrations and death at higher concentrations. Exposure while asleep is particularly dangerous.

Children, older adults and people with lung or heart disease are especially vulnerable.

"We can't see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide, but we can detect it with working CO alarms," Davine said. "If your alarm sounds, get outside and call 9-1-1."

For more information on carbon monoxide and CO alarms, people may visit the Department of Fire Services website, <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/departments-of-fire-services>.

Bill to criminalize revenge porn and educate minor offenders

BOSTON – State Rep. Todd Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Ways & Means Committee) is backing efforts to crack down on "revenge porn" by supporting legislation that imposes strong penalties for sharing sexually explicit images or videos without the consent of the individual being photographed or recorded.

House Bill 4241, An Act to prevent abuse and exploitation, would also allow for the commitment of minor offenders to the Department of Youth Services while establishing an alternative comprehensive educational diversion program to help adolescents understand the legal and non-legal consequences of possessing or disseminating explicit visual material.

According to a press release, the bill was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 151-0 on Jan. 10.

Smola stated, "This legislation sends a clear message that the violation of consent will not be tolerated. I am dedicated to protecting individuals from the circulation of harmful material and fostering a safer digital landscape for all."

According to Smola, the educational diversion program will be developed and implemented by the Attorney General in con-

sultation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department of Youth Services, and the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association, and will be reviewed annually and updated as needed. The House bill also encourages school districts to implement media literacy skills instruction at all grade levels, and to incorporate aspects of the educational diversion program as a learning tool for students.

Massachusetts is one of only two states without a law banning revenge porn, the other being South Carolina. House Bill 4241 would change that by imposing a punishment of up to 2 ½ years in a House of Correction, a \$10,000 fine, or both a fine and imprisonment for individuals found guilty of disseminating explicit visual materials of another person without their consent.

House Bill 4241 also increases the existing fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and amends the definition of abuse to include coercive control. Under the bill, coercive control is defined as an act or pattern of behavior committed with the intent to substantially restrict an individual's safety or autonomy through threat, intimidation, harassment, isolation, control, coercion, or compelled compli-

ance.

Smola supported a similar bill filed by former Governor Charlie Baker during the 2021-2022 legislative session, which was engrossed by the House of Representatives on May 26, 2022. Despite unanimous support in the House, the Senate took no action on the bill until the final day of session on Jan. 3, 2023, engrossing an amended version of the bill that could not be reconciled with the House bill before time ran out.

During floor debate, Smola supported an amendment to the bill that addresses non-consensual "deepfake pornography" involving the use of digitization, which is defined as "creat(ing) or alter(ing) visual material, including, but not limited to, through the use of computer-generated images, in a manner that would falsely appear to a reasonable person to be an authentic representation of the person depicted." The amendment stipulates that the dissemination of deepfake pornography will be punishable by up to 2 ½ years in a House of Correction, a \$10,000 fine, or both.

House Bill 4241, as amended, now moves to the Senate for its consideration.

For additional information please contact Smola by email at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or call 617-722-2100.

Virtual cancer support groups offered for patients, families

During a cancer journey patients and their families often benefit from the support of others. Virtual support groups will be held in 2024 by Camille St. Onge, LICSW, and oncology social worker.

For many years, people had to travel to a predetermined location in order to attend addiction support group meetings. As a result of restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic and because of the increasing availability of digital services, these groups now meet online.

"Offering support groups virtually brings people together regardless of their location," said St. Onge in a press release. "Sharing concerns with a support

group can be a beneficial way for people facing cancer to get the help they need to cope with the physical and emotional concerns that arise during and after a cancer diagnosis. While support and self-help groups can vary greatly, groups share one thing in common, they are a place where people can share personal stories, express emotions, and be heard in an atmosphere of acceptance, understanding, and encouragement."

The support groups are designed to help patients, their families, and caregivers cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Virtual Support Group offered include General Cancer Support

Group on the first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving on the second Wednesday of each month from 5-6:30 p.m.; Expressive Writing through Cancer on the third Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Breast Cancer Support Group on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

All meetings are currently held virtually and made possible by funds raised by the Walk of Champions. For more information contact Camille St. Onge, LICSW, Oncology Social Worker by calling 413-239-7239 or by emailing cstomagin@gmail.com.

State Rep. Dan Carey to run for Clerk of Courts

By Nick Boonstra
Staff Writer
nboonstra@turley.com

EASTHAMPTON – State Rep. Dan Carey (D-2nd Hampshire) announced his intention to run to be the next Hampshire County Clerk of Courts after the incumbent, Harry Jekanowski, Jr., decided not to seek a sixth term.

Carey, who has served in the state legislature since 2018, will formally announce his candidacy at an event at the Hotel Northampton at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17, according to a press release from his campaign.

Clerks of Courts are county-level elected officials that serve six-year terms as the administrative head of their county's Superior Court, overseeing tasks such as the scheduling of cases and the handling of evidence.

Carey said of Jekanowski, "Harry's been there a long time and done such an amazing job." Jekanowski, also a Democrat, has served as Hampshire County Clerk of Courts since 1994.

Carey announced his campaign event soon after word of Jekanowski's retirement became public. He said his decision to pursue the seat came after a number of individuals in the county encouraged him to do so ahead of Jekanowski's announcement.

Carey added that he has already received positive feedback from the community since announcing his intention to run. "I've really been humbled by all the support already," he said.

Looking back over his six years on Beacon Hill, Carey highlighted the opportunity to work directly with his constituents as the most rewarding part of the job. "It has been a tremendous privilege for me to serve as State Representative serving the peo-



Hampshire County Courthouse

Turley Photo by Nick Boonstra

ple of Easthampton, South Hadley, Hadley, and Granby," he said in his campaign's press release.

Nevertheless, he made clear that he was still focused on finishing his term strong, saying that there was plenty to do this year and that he was excited about it.

A move to the Hampshire County Superior Court would be something of a homecoming for Carey, who previously served as an Assistant District Attorney and a District Court Administrator, and who currently serves on the House Judiciary Committee.

"I used to work in that courthouse, so I'm very familiar," he said.

Drawing from his firsthand experience, Carey said he intended to make modernization an important part of his work as Clerk of Courts should he be elected. Echoing comments from Governor Maura Healey in her recent State of the Commonwealth address, Carey said that "government should make things easier for people, not harder."

"I see across government and the judiciary the move towards electronic and digital services," he said. He went on to say that he wanted to make sure that the Hampshire County Superior Court was keeping up with these changes and remaining accessible for everyone who walks through the door of the courthouse — "folks walking in courteously on their worst day," he added.

His time on Beacon Hill already saw the passage of a bill that saw that Wi-Fi access was provided in all courthouses across the state.

"That's the type of area where there's room to add to the good work that Harry and his staff have been doing," he said.

Carey planned to make community input an important part of his campaign and, he hoped, his work as Clerk of Courts. "I want to learn from the folks of Hampshire County what they want," he said.

Howard E. Pratt, 91

WEST WARREN – Howard E. "Howie" Pratt of West Warren, died on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, at Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, at the age of 91.

He leaves his loving and devoted wife of 40 years, Sylvia A. (Dubois) Pratt; his son, David E. Dubois and his wife Maria of Sturbridge, as well as his two grandchildren, Drake and Monique, several nieces and nephews and many friends. He was predeceased by his six siblings, Norbert, Vernon, William, Norma, June, and Barbara.

He was born in West Warren, son of the late William and Mary A. (Chabot) Pratt and was a life-long resident of the town.

Growing up, Howard worked for his father at the local corner store. He then enlisted in United States Army, where he served during the Korean War.

Following his discharge, he graduated from the former Worcester State College where he earned a degree in Business Administration. He worked for several local industries including the former Chapman Valve, Ludlow Paper, and Warren Pumps.

He really found his calling though when he became a Career Counsellor with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Employment Services where he worked for 30 years until his retirement.

Robert A. "Bob" Trottier, 85

SHREWSBURY – Robert A. "Bob" Trottier, a longtime resident of Shrewsbury, passed away peacefully at Notre Dame Skilled Nursing Facility on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, after a short illness, at the age of 85.

Robert was born on Aug. 16, 1938, in Ware, the son of Oswald S. and Katherine V. (Korzyniak) Trottier. He was predeceased by his sister, Estelle K. (Trottier) Regin.

Bob leaves his beloved wife and best friend of over 62 years, Maria E. "Stella" (Villamil) Trottier, and two daughters, Patricia and her husband Brian Lake Sr., and Monica and her husband Jack Fitzpatrick of Shrewsbury. Bob leaves a legacy of six grandchildren: Brian Lake Jr. and his wife Aimee, Nicholas Lake, and his wife Kelly, all of Seattle, Washington, Kristin McKean of Sterling, Joseph and Timothy Fitzpatrick of Shrewsbury and Julianna Fitzpatrick of Centennial, Colorado. Bob was also blessed with seven great-grandchildren: Kylie, Hunter, Audrey, Remi, Noah, Henry, and Delores (Lola).

Growing up in Ware, Bob graduated from Ware High School in 1956 and continued his education at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1960. He met the love of his life and moved to Shrewsbury with Stella in 1963.

He served in the U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserves from 1961 to 1968 as a hospital corpsman. He was a pharmacist for over 60 years, working at various pharmacies, before retiring from Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital in Worcester in 2019.

Faith and family were very important to Bob. He served as an altar boy when he was young and later served at St. Anne's Church in the medical clinic, as well as assisting with funerals.

Bob loved spending time camping in New Hampshire and on his boat on Lake Winnepesaukee. He enjoyed traveling and camping all over the U.S., affectionately calling our family the "See America First Team."

Bob was an incredible history buff and enjoyed discussing politics with friends and family. He was also a very accomplished woodworker and builder and could fix almost anything.

Bob enjoyed music very much. Not only was he an accomplished musician, but he also enjoyed dancing with

Death notices

Pratt, Howard E.
Died Jan. 20, 2024
Services Jan. 25, 2024

Trottier, Robert A.
Died Jan. 18, 2024
Services Jan. 26, 2024

Known as Howie to most, he was very active in the local community of West Warren. He served on the School Committee, the Democratic Town Committee, and as Quartermaster of the former VFW Post 8606 in West Warren.

He also served as the Assistant Director of the Senior Center for many years where he enjoyed organizing the card parties and bingo, as well as setting up and traveling on local bus trips with the seniors. He would selflessly offer assistance to most anyone, and was always willing to lend a hand when needed.

A Funeral Mass for Howard will be held on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at 11 a.m. in St. Stanislaus Church, 2270 Main St., in West Warren. Calling hours will be held on Wednesday evening, Jan. 24, 2024, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield.

A short time of visitation will also be held on Thursday morning from 10-10:30 a.m. in the funeral home prior to the procession to the church for mass. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601 or at act.alz.org.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARY POLICY

Ware River News

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.

Mass Humanities announces new grant for climate change projects

NORTHAMPTON – Mass Humanities, the Commonwealth's leading funder of humanities programs, announced upcoming opportunities for its 2024 grant season.

Application materials for Expand Massachusetts Stories grants are available now on the website, with the application window opening on Feb. 5.

EMS grants support projects that collect, interpret, and share stories about the Commonwealth. Special consideration is given to humanities programming, events, and creative works that emphasize the voices and experiences of residents that too often go unrecognized, or have been excluded from public conversation and public history.

This year, Mass Humanities is offering a new grant track for projects that explore different aspects of climate change. Applicants are eligible to receive up to \$20,000 for projects that illuminate community knowledge, experiences, and values in response to the climate crisis.

Organizations interested in applying for a grant can now choose between the Climate Change Track, Advancing Equity Track, and Open Track.

"We believe that the humanities are crucial to confronting the complex challenges facing every human and every community," said Brian Boyles, executive director of Mass Humanities in a press release. "At this pivotal time

in our nation, Mass Humanities supports storytellers and change-makers who bring people together to listen, share and imagine a better future. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2024, we look forward to hearing their ideas and celebrating their work."

Mass Humanities launched the EMS initiative in 2021 with the support of Mass Cultural Council and the Barr Foundation. Since then, Mass Humanities has distributed more than \$1.8 million to projects across the state that included audio tours, documentary films, oral histories, public events, and archival research.

"Every creative community has a compelling story to tell," said Michael J. Bobbitt, executive director of the Mass Cultural Council. "Today's EMS grant recipients are about to inspire us all through these conversations. I cannot wait to experience, learn and engage with them. Mass Cultural Council is proud to partner with and support Mass Humanities in this effort, which ensures these types of important dialogue happen in Massachusetts."

In 2023, Mass Humanities awarded \$751,357 in EMS grants to 42 cultural nonprofit organizations from Cape Cod to the Berkshires. The majority of funds went to organizations receiving their first Mass Humanities grant, while people of color lead 67% of the supported projects, and 65% of the organizations had annual

operating budgets of less than \$300,000.

Eligibility requirements and grant guidelines can be viewed on the Mass Humanities grants website. Resources are available in both English and Spanish.

For more information regarding Expanding Massachusetts Stories grants, contact Katherine Stevens, Director of Grants and Programs, by emailing grants@masshumanities.org.

About Mass Humanities

Mass Humanities, a non-profit foundation based in Northampton, creates opportunities for the people of Massachusetts to transform their lives and build a more equitable commonwealth through the humanities.

Since its founding in 1974, the organization has provided millions of dollars to support thousands of humanities projects across the Commonwealth. Established as the state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Mass Humanities is an independent programming and grant-making organization that receives support from the NEH and the Massachusetts Cultural Council and private sources.

For more information, visit www.masshumanities.org or connect on social media at [Facebook.com/masshumanities](https://facebook.com/masshumanities), [Twitter.com/masshumanities](https://twitter.com/masshumanities), or [Instagram.com/masshumanities](https://instagram.com/masshumanities).

Western Mass Runners name Hall of Fame inductees

HOLYOKE – The Western Mass Runners' Hall of Fame Board of Directors announced the inductees of the 3rd Class, set to be honored on Friday, March 8.

Since its inception, the WMRHoF has celebrated outstanding contributors to the running community, with its first class inducted in 2020 and the second in 2022.

The 3rd Class inductees are: Ric Bourie and Sue Haryasz, both of Longmeadow; Mary Cobb of Pittsfield; Howard Drew and Ed Sandifer, both of Springfield; Rich Larsen of Shelburne; Nicole McGilpin of Westfield; Bob Neil of Holyoke; Bill Romito of Leeds;

and John Stifler of Florence.

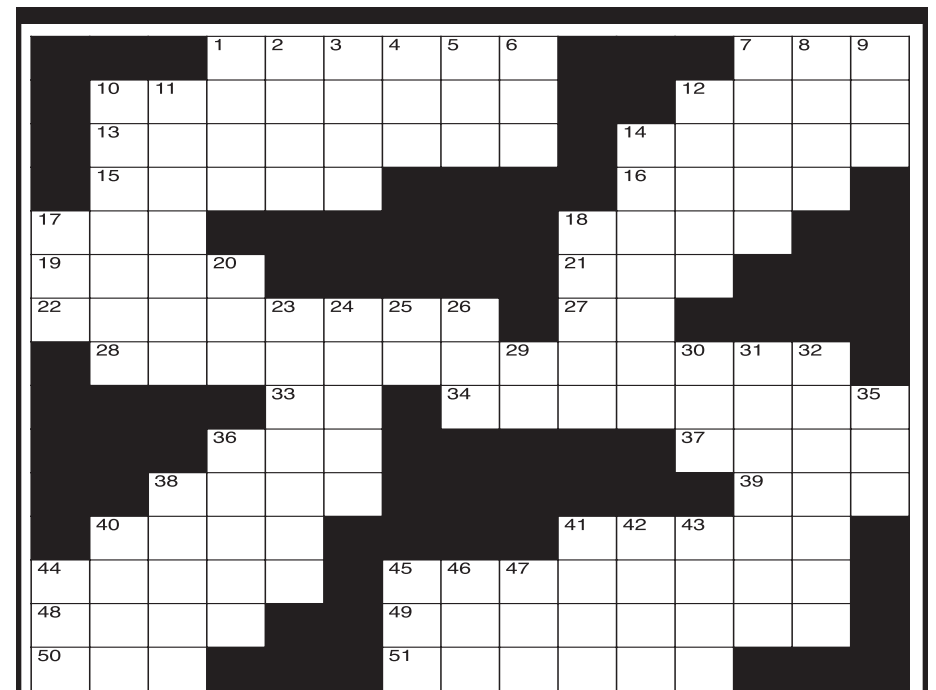
In addition to these distinguished individuals, the charity organization Griffin's Friends, who have supported children with cancer and their families for decades in the Springfield area by running and raising funds, will be inducted. Also, Neal Lamberton, a Springfield resident and runner who has volunteered his time to the running community for years, will receive the "Brian Goddu Volunteer of the Year" Award, founded in memory of Goddu, a founding board member of the Western Mass Runners Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony will

take place at 6 p.m. on March 8, at the Holyoke Elks Lodge, 250 Whitney Ave. Bob Hodge, the third place finisher in the 1979 Boston Marathon, multiple Mount Washington Road Race Champion, 40-year course record holder on the DH Jones/Amherst 10 Mile Course, and author of "Tales of the Time", will be the guest speaker.

Tickets for the dinner and ceremony are priced at \$20 and are available for purchase at <https://www.runreg.com/w-mass-runners-hall-of-fame-induction-banquet>. For those unable to attend

Please see **RUNNERS**, page 15



CLUES ACROSS

1. Winged nut
7. ___ Humbug!
10. One who sets apart
12. Circle above a saint's head
13. Unpleasantly loud and harsh
14. Expressed pleasure
15. Feminine given name
16. Company of badgers
17. Popular Dodge pickup truck
18. Witty sayings
19. Leader
21. Autonomic nervous system
22. Premolar
27. Atomic #28
28. Holiday decorative item
33. Exclamation of surprise
34. Rusk or

CLUES DOWN

1. Classify
2. Dismounted
3. Produced
4. Consumed
5. Director Howard
6. The products of human creativity
7. Thai monetary units
8. Away from wind
9. Builder's trough
10. Relating to Islam
11. It can sometimes ache
12. Small quantities (Scot.)
14. Poisonous plant
17. Laugh at
18. Vogul
20. C. European river
23. Type of cat
24. Exclamation of disgust

25. Stephen King novel
26. Without armies
29. Expression of sympathy
30. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
31. Previously
32. Illegal drug
35. Kiloelectronvolt
36. Large, flightless birds
38. For smoking
40. Binary
41. Competition
42. Mark resembling an arrow
43. Containers
44. Root mean square (abbr.)
45. Commercials
46. I.M., architect
47. 007's creator

SEE MORE PUBLIC NOTICES ON PAGE 15

public notices

Classifieds

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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

Advertise your **HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES** in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!** Call 413-283-8393

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

NOTICE is hereby 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 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: 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. **WARE PLANNING BOARD**
Ed Murphy III, Chairman
01/18, 01/25/2024

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 Recent Filings. Anyone 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

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-02
NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware 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: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114
Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §43 and 33 U.S.C. 1341 M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26 - 53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for the replacement of Bridge W-05-015 carrying Route 32 (Palmer Road) over the Ware River in the Town of Ware by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation - Highway Division, 10 Park Plaza, Room 7360, Boston, MA 02116. MassDOT is recertifying this permit with MassDEP in light of the Army Corps of Engineers 2018 General Permit Expiration. The project includes bridge replacement and roadway reconstruction with sidewalk replacement and drainage improvements. Additional information may be obtained from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation - Highway Division at the above address, attention Stephanie Regan or by emailing stephanie.m.regan@dot.state.ma.us. Written comments should

Public Notice Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways MassDEP Boston Office 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Public Notice Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways MassDEP Boston Office 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114
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be sent to Heidi Davis, MassDEP Wetlands Program, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston MA 02114 or heidi.davis@mass.gov within 21 days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments within 21 days of this notice may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.
01/25/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton MA, 01060 Docket No. HS21P0450GD
In the Interests of: Justin R Magnan of Ware, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Linda Manor of Leeds, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **02/15/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Diana S. Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 10, 2024
Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
01/25/2024

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Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-02
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TOWN OF NEW BRAINTREE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

HIGHWAY SECRETARY • PART-TIME
The Town of New Braintree Highway Department is seeking a part-time Secretary for five (5) hours per week during business hours. High school education; associate degree preferred. Minimum 3 to 5 years of responsible administrative work experience. Ability to maintain detailed statistics and records. Proficiency needed in computer applications. Knowledge of Chapter 90 procedures is suggested. Hourly rate of \$20/hour with no benefits. If interested, please mail a resume by 7th February 2024 4:00 p.m. to Select Board, Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531 or by email to: selectboard@newbraintree.org.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE SELECT BOARD
The Town of New Braintree is seeking an Executive Secretary to the Select Board. This position would be full-time, up to 32 hours per week with some evening hours required several times per month. An Associate's degree in business administration or related field, 3 to 5 years of experience in municipal government and/or strong administrative position or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary and benefits are conditional on experience. If interested, please mail a resume by 7th February 2024 4:00 p.m. to Select Board, Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, MA 01531 or by email to: selectboard@newbraintree.org.

The Town of New Braintree is an equal opportunity employer.

CAMPUS NOTES

Devin Pride named to Dean's List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, NY – Marketing major Devin Pride of Ware excelled during the fall 2023 semester at Hofstra University, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean's List.

Sydney Dimarzio makes UConn Dean's list

STORRS, CT – The University of Connecticut announced that Sydney Dimarzio of Ware made the Dean's list for the fall 2023 semester.

Springfield College announces Dean's list

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College announces the Dean's list for the 2023 fall semester.

Local students making Dean's list are Kyle Nastasi of Hardwick, a movement and sport studies major and Andrew Soltys of Ware, a mathematics major.

The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades, not have any incomplete or missing grades in the designated term and have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

Ethan Flamand named a Presidential Scholar at Clarkson University

POTSDAM, NY – Ethan Tyler Flamand of Ware, a freshman majoring in engineering and management, was named a Presidential Scholar for the fall 2023 semester at Clarkson University.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.

Andrew Soltys named to Springfield College Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College has named Andrew Soltys from Ware to the Dean's List for academic excellence for the 2023 fall semester.

Soltys has a primary major of Mathematics.

Leslie Wallace makes fall 2023 Dean's list

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Southern New Hampshire University announces the fall 2023 Dean's list. Leslie Wallace of Ware is on the fall Dean's list.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's list. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Perry Pultorak named to Dean's List

BRIDGEWATER - Perry Pultorak of Warren was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2023 semester at Bridgewater State University.

Madison Barr earns fall 2023 Dean's List honors

BRISTOL, RI – Madison Barr, of Ware has been named to the fall 2023 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, Rhode Island.

Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

HCC announces Dean's list for fall 2023 semester

HOLYOKE – Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's list.

A student is placed on the Dean's list if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean's list honors for the Fall 2023 semester.

Ware

Shelly S. Bowder, Dylan Michael Chartier, Justin Walter Daukewich, Kristen Marie Dubuque, Amanda Mae Jacques, Summer Arlene Prevost, Nicole Marie Prue, Anna Belle Turek and Brian Matthew Zylich.

Warren

Christina Mary Pereira.
West Warren
Melissa Jo Drago.

RUNNERS from page 13

but wishing to support the WMRHoF mission, donations are welcome via the RunReg website.

About WMRHoF

Established in 2019, the WMRHoF recognizes and honors the rich history and significant contributions of individuals and teams in road racing, cross country, and track in western Massachusetts.

For more information, email WMRRunnersHoF@gmail.com or visit <https://www.westernmassrunnershalloffame.com>.

Railroad enthusiasm celebrated in 'Rare Mileage'

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

PALMER – The Amherst Railway Society does not meet in Amherst but in Palmer. For that matter, neither does it meet in a railway station.

The clubhouse started out as a church in the Quabbin, but was moved before the reservoir flooding.

No matter what the venue looks like from the outside, or the location of the meetings at 1130 South Main St., it is all about the lore and history of trains. It is fitting that it should be in Palmer, as Palmer is referred to as the "Town of Seven Railroads."

What was the railroad station still exists, but like stations in many towns, has been repurposed. Its current existence is as the Steaming Tender Restaurant. The building is wonderfully restored, and the railroad theme is pervasive, but alas, it is not a clubhouse.

No matter, the South Main building serves the purpose as the club members are putting more and more model trains inside. Still, there is more than enough room for presentations and that was the purpose of the meeting held on Jan. 10.

Dave Brown, President of the Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts was there to give a talk with the title, "A Legacy of Rare Mileage: Riding the Rails with the Railroad Enthusiasts."

The Amherst Railway Society and the Mass Bay Railroad Enthusiasts might be called sister organizations as they share the same passion. MBREE affords ARS members the same rate on excursions as MBREE members and Brown was warmly welcomed by ARS attendees.

So, what is this "Legacy of Rare Mileage?" As Brown noted, the MBREE has been running excursions for 90 years. They ran the first one on Aug. 26, 1934. A train was chartered for a ride on Hoosac Tunnel & Wilmington Railroad in a train pulled by a steam engine.

Except in the tunnel, where an electric engine would pull the train because of the exhaust.

Your correspondent admits to being a bit surprised by the date of 1934.



Model Train Village at the Amherst Railway Society Clubhouse

Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

Railroads, in the first half of the 20th Century, were a vital part of national transportation. One thinks of Arlo Guthrie's City of New Orleans in 1972 as lamenting the decline, but here were people in Massachusetts during the depression taking a trip for the adventure.

They haven't stopped even as the environment has changed with diesel mainly replacing steam and many lines not as they were back in the day.

It was obvious that Brown was way too young, as in non-existent, to have been on the 1934 excursion, but he showed many slides from back then up through the years to the present.

There was much history in the excursions, as in 1937 with riders sitting down in gondola cars open to the elements. Said trip was in October in Suncook Valley New Hampshire when it could get chilly.

Brown showed another picture of an open car and a soaking rain. You've got to be tough to be a railfan.

Those of us not overly young would see pictures and comments that evoked memories of childhood.

There was a train known as the Budd Liner or Budd Rail Diesel Car remembered from the 1950s. They were silver,



This photo shows a Boston & Maine Budd Liner RDC

and to someone used to seeing large diesel locomotives, wonderfully modern looking and sleek for the day. Budds were self-propelled railcars.

Inquiring of Brown, he responded, "When you were a little boy, those cars were quite modern!"

There are so many pictures and stories that go with them. The lowering of the balls are red globes that, depending on position, signal that the crossing has

been switched and it safe to proceed. Get it wrong, and disaster could ensue.

Brown spoke well and with no little wit about a subject that means a lot to him. He had copies of The CALLBOY which is the official publication of the MBREE and it is a treasure trove of information for railfans, as is the organization's website: www.massbayrre.org. There you can find out about future excursions.

The evening's host, the Amherst Railway Society is also an active association with an engaging website, <https://amherstrail.org/>. The society will hold its annual Railroad Hobby Show on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 27 and 28.

The Railroad Hobby Show is the largest railroad-themed trade show in America and is held every year at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield.

Organizations such as the Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts and the Amherst Rail Society attest to the American romance with railroading. If you think you share that, the ARS meets every month except February on the second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 1130 South Main St.

public notices

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue 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 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 said Registry of Deeds in 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, 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 May 2, 2023 and 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 all with the benefit of all ease-

ments, 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 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 premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

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

Town of Ware PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, February 06, 2024 at 7:05 p.m.**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear a dangerous dog complaint in regard to one dog owned by a resident of 7 Gould Road.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Caitlin McCarthy
Chair
Selectboard
01/25/2024

SEE MORE PUBLIC NOTICES ON PAGE 14

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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.

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