

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Boards discuss living conditions of three properties

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen heard concerns from the Board of Health about the conditions of three properties in town.

Board of Health member Daniel Thibodeau said a couple of the properties are considered “blighted,” and not inhabitable. One property is marked as a “total condemnation” by the board.

A well-being check on the house’s occupant brought this last property to the attention of the Board of Health, when first responders noted its condition. It was later determined that the occupant had moved and was no longer living there.

Thibodeau said this property, a single-family residence, is located at 200 O’Neil Road and it is now tied off, and marked with posted signs.

“It is not currently livable for humans,” he said, adding that the property is infested with rats and covered with “piles of trash.”

Thibodeau said the first floor of the house is full of trash and there is mold growing on the outside of the refrigerator. He said the Board of Health didn’t inspect the basement or upper level due to the extreme conditions of the living area.

“You could smell the house halfway down the driveway,” he said. The property is overgrown, and not visible from the roadway.

Thibodeau said the property owner was notified twice, and has not responded since the first notification. The person initially thought to be living at the property was the owner’s wife and she is currently living out-of-state with family.

Thibodeau said the second property of concern is located at 38 Elm St.

He said the Board of Health received complaints from neighbors about rodents and other vermin coming from the property. An inground pool with black, stagnant

Please see **BUILDING**, page 3



Ware Police's Jake Crevier tips the ball out of Randy Gratton's reach to start the Class of 2026 Basketball Game Fundraiser.



Hip-hop dancers put on a show.



Dancers from Limelight Dance Center check out their new looks after visiting the beauty salon.

Class of 2026 Basketball Game



Police reclaim title over Fire at fundraiser game

WARE – The Ware Police Department and Ware Fire Department faced off for another action packed battle for the ball during the Class of 2026 Basketball Game fundraiser held on Feb. 2 at Ware Jr./Sr. High School’s gym.

In the first half of the game, Ware Fire took a solid lead early on, with Ware

Jake Crevier looks for an open teammate to pass to.

Police catching up before the halftime buzzer sounded, narrowing Ware Fire’s lead to one point with a score of 18-17.

The Ware High Band performed a variety of songs and dancers from Limelight Dance Center showcased several of their performances. A 50/50 raffle was also held, netting one lucky winner \$229.

Within the first minute of the second half, Ware Police took the lead, finally beating out Ware Fire with a final score of 30-37.

Proceeds from the game, including admission, 50/50 and refreshments, will benefit the Class of 2026.



Police Chief Shawn Crevier congratulates Randy Gratton on a good game.

Capital Planning Committee has its first meeting

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The first Capital Planning Committee meeting took place on Jan. 23.

As of now the Capital Planning Committee consists of Town Administrator James Ferrera, Treasurer Dawn Swistak, Selectman Richard Eichacker and Ray Kopacko.

Eichacker was appointed chair of the committee, with Swistak as vice-chair and Kopacko as clerk. The committee is looking to add two town residents to its members.

Ferrera began to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Capital Planning Committee and review the updated bylaw.

The goal of the Capital Planning Committee is to work in an organized and thoughtful process with other departments in town and to be sure that money is spent appropriately. To review, plan, and coordinate capital improvements to promote a systematic, organized replacement and acquisition schedule.

“Capital plans are the greatest impact for the greatest number of residents,” Ferrera said.

The Capital Planning Committee wants to identify the

Please see **CAPITAL**, page 9

Cable Advisory Committee welcomes new member

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Cable Advisory Committee welcomed a new member to the committee during its Jan. 31 meeting.

Dimitra Stefanou was appointed to the Cable Advisory Committee for a one-year term.

The Cable Advisory Committee announced that the cable license renewal with Comcast was completed and then discussed how it affects WCAT. The franchise fee from Comcast was increased from 2% to 4%.

For new equipment purchases, the committee has purchased new tripods and converters. The budget for the Cable Advisory Committee is capped at \$30,000 a year.

For any needed purchases, the committee is also looking into buying new desks.

The discussion on cleaning and organizing the WCAT studio was next on their agenda. The

Please see **CABLE**, page 2



Auctioneer Paul Varney started the live auction at the Friends of the Stone Church's Valentine Gala held at Hardwick Crossing Country Club on Feb. 3.

Valentine Gala

Fundraising event benefited Stone Church Cultural Center

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – The day Kat McCrohon drove by the Trinitarian Congregational Church in Gilbertville; it was love at first sight.

With its breathtaking stonework and architecture, she knew preserving this building was essential

Please see **GALA**, page 5

Quaboag presents 'The Addams Family' musical

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – They’re creepy and they’re kooky, mysterious and spooky and they’re all together ooky; but the cast of Quaboag Drama Club’s upcoming musical “The Addams Family” is also all together talented as they put their own spin on a favorite tale.

With opening night this Friday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m., the large cast is ready to sing and dance through a performance that is sure to have you laughing out loud. Other dates include Saturday, Feb. 10

at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. at Quaboag Regional Middle/High School’s auditorium, 284 Old West Brookfield Road.

A preview of the show will be performed for students at the middle/high school during the school day on Friday.

Quaboag’s Fine Arts Director James Joinville said “The Addams Family” musical is a slight departure from the club’s usual performances, with the characters’ quirky and oftentimes dark humor.

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St. Aloysius celebrated Catholic Schools Week

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COMMUNITY

Dance Unlimited held dance party

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SPORTS

Ware Indians faced Palmer

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WareRiverNews

KofC presents gifts to Police and Fire chiefs

WARE – The Ware Knights of Columbus presented Police Chief Shawn Crevier and Fire Chief James Martinez with custom-made wooden American flags, made by the local Fourth Degree.

Grand Knight Paul Harper and Financial Secretary Robert Chartier presented each chief with their own flag to display in their respective departments.

Harper said the flags were given to the departments out of appreciation for everything they do in town.



Turley Staff Photo
Members of Ware Knights of Columbus Paul Harper (second from left) and Robert Chartier (right) presented wooden American flags to Police Chief Shawn Crevier (left) and Fire Chief James Martinez (second from right).

Paige Memorial Library lists February events

HARDWICK – How do you beat winter doldrums? Try a new activity at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road.

Practice mindfulness through meditation, journaling, or breathing. Try light therapy or exercise or join staff at the library to develop new programs.

Participants guide the programs as to time, day, and focus. If you cannot attend the first sessions, please share your preferences for when and how the program develops.

Contact the Paige Library for more information about any of the upcoming programs listed below by emailing director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or calling 413-477-6704.

French Café experience
RSVP, (s'il vous plait), to the Paige Memorial Library for a French Café experience on Feb. 15 at 3 p.m. Come share les petits gateaux and conversation in the

Activity Room transformed for the event into a French Café.

Anne Van Arsdell will guide participants in armchair travel to France to challenge the winter blues. Come practice your French vocabulary or just come for coffee, tea, treats and chat.

Paige Writers
Join Paige Writers, an enjoyable social experience dedicated to stress-free writing and sharing ideas and memories. Build confidence in your abilities at the Paige Memorial Library on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. for an adventure in creativity.

Cookbook Club
Everybody loves food so come help develop the Cookbook Club at Paige Library. The first meeting is Feb. 20 at 3 p.m., but that is just to organize. The idea is to choose, test, and share recipes but how often and when is up to the participants.

Let library staff know your preferences as to frequency of meeting

and time of day.

Book talk
On Saturday, Feb. 10, Julie Rawson and Jack Kitteridge of Many Hands Organic Farm in Barre, will discuss their book: "Many Hands Make a Farm", shareholding, living and farming in Barre, and their connection with the Northeast Organic Farming Association.

Organic farming respects the balance of natural cycles and works as much as possible within those cycles. Come to the Town House, 40 Common St. at 1:30 p.m. for an inspiring presentation just in time for planning your gardens.

Share your suggestions
Would a workshop for artists and craftsmen of all abilities, or a computer class, or another topic be your choice? Call 413-477-6704, email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com, or stop in to share your ideas or suggest a presenter you would like to have visit the library.

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.

St. Mary's Church hosts take-out Polish plate dinner, March 9

WARE – St. Mary's Church, 57 South St., will be having a pre-order take-out dinner on Saturday, March 9.

The dinner will consist of four pierogi, one golombek, kielbasa, kapusta and rye bread. The cost of the dinner is \$20.

The dinner will be cold and will need reheating. Place your order by calling Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207 from noon-7 p.m. starting Wednesday, Feb. 14 through Saturday, Feb. 24.

Curbside pickup will be available between 11:30 a.m.-noon for anyone with a handicap card. Please let them know when you call in your order.

All other orders will be picked up in the church hall. You will be given a time between noon-2 p.m. for your pick up when you call.

Please put your money in an envelope with your name, number of dinners and pick up number. St. Mary's Church thanks you for your continued patronage.

Are You Old News?

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

File Photo
Last week's photo from 1960 showed Warren High School's basketball team from left, Coach Mike Gorman, Billy Dominique, Billy Perry, Tom Emery, Tim Carroll, Bill Grehoski, Co-Captain Jim Blanchard, Dan Rozzen and Co-Captain Richard "Zeb" McCarthy.
The team and coach were identified by Margaret "Peg" Gorman and Harold Odiorne.

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

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, Feb. 12
• 9 a.m. Tai Chi
• 10 a.m. Scat
• 11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, Feb. 13
• 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
• 10 a.m. Scat
• 11:30 a.m. Lunch
• Valentine's Party

Wednesday, Feb. 14
• 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)
• 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
• 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
• 10 a.m. Scat
• 10-11:30 a.m. Office Hours, Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse
• 11:30 a.m. Lunch
• 1-2 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, Feb. 15
• 9 a.m. Senior Walking Club (meets at Senior Center)
• 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
• 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
• 10 a.m. Line Dancing
• 10 a.m. Scat
• 11:30 a.m. Lunch
• 2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Feb. 16
• 9 a.m. Tai Chi
• 10 a.m. Scat
• 11:30 a.m. Lunch
• 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
• 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.
All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, Feb. 12
Blueberry Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Feb. 13
Valentine's Party
Baked Haddock, Rice Pilas, Baby Carrots, Dessert and Entertainment by the Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc.

Wednesday, Feb. 14
Grilled Cheese with Tomato, Tomato Soup, Potato Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Feb. 15
Spaghetti with Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Feb. 16
Fish Sandwich, Onion Rings, Coleslaw, Dessert of the Day

CABLE from page 1

committee is figuring out when during the week members can come into the WCAT studio to commit a couple hours of keeping items organized. The only issue is picking a date that does not interfere with meetings such as the School Committee, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen and others.

The studio has many file boxes, VHS boxes and wires for equipment that is no longer in studio. The committee wants to organize and box and date equipment adequately.

An inventory list for the town is also being discussed in order to be aware of what items are in possession of the town in case it gets lost. For example, if there was a power outage or a fire in the building, the committee could have an accurate list of what items or property are lost or damaged and can be covered by insurance.

The Cable Advisory Committee discussed options for internet service upgrades. The town currently pays \$143.35 a month, but their internet service lags, and live streams freeze up constantly during meetings. One of the options is that Comcast could install a line which would be close to \$4,500 a year for a more efficient upgrade to internet service.

The Committee is looking to approach the Selectmen to see if they could possibly split the bill with them. If not, the Cable Advisory Committee would handle the bill.

The Cable Advisory Committee then discussed possibly requesting to increase the budget cap from \$30,000 to \$50,000 at the next annual town meeting. The motion was made to request the budget cap increase and the motion passed unanimously.

This request will be put to a vote at the next town meeting.

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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.

Welcome

KELLY N. POULIOT, O.D.

Dr. Pouliot is a board-certified Optometrist who joined Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center in January 2024. She graduated from the Ramapo College of New Jersey with a Bachelor's degree in Biology. She received her Doctorate degree from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University.

Dr. Pouliot has had over two thousand patient encounters upon completion of her clinical externships in the following specialties:

- Contact Lenses (Jacksonville, NC)
- Ocular Diseases (Johnson City, TN)
- VA Hospital (St. Cloud, MN)
- Low Vision Rotation (Philadelphia, PA)

Dr. Pouliot has a special interest in ocular/systemic diseases and other ocular emergencies. She is a member of the American Optometric Association and the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists. She is a native of the Pioneer Valley. She enjoys traveling and spending time with friends and family.

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Country Bank appoints Mary McGovern as President, COO

WARE – The Board of Trustees of Country Bank announced the appointment of Mary McGovern as President and Chief Operating Officer, effective April 1.



Mary McGovern

In her new role, McGovern will oversee the bank's operations and drive its strategic growth initiatives. Paul Scully who has been the President and Chief Executive Officer will remain as the CEO.

McGovern brings over 30 years of experience in the banking industry, making her a valuable asset to Country Bank. She holds degrees from Emmanuel College and Babson College, and her extensive knowledge and expertise have been instrumental in the bank's success.

She joined Country Bank in 2011 as its Chief Financial Officer and has since been an esteemed member of the Bank's Leadership Group.

McGovern recently attended the American Bankers Association Wharton Leadership Lab at the University of Pennsylvania, earning an ABA Wharton Leadership Certificate. This accomplishment further solidifies her commitment to excellence and continuous professional development.

"We are thrilled to announce Mary's appointment as the next President of Country Bank," stated James Phaneuf, Chair of the Board, in a press release. "Mary's proven track record, dedication,

and strategic vision make her the ideal candidate for this role. We are especially proud to break the proverbial glass ceiling by appointing the first female president in Country Bank's 174-year history."

Phaneuf further stated, "The Board is confident that Mary's leadership will drive the bank's continued success and growth. With her extensive experience, strategic mindset, and dedication to excellence, Mary is poised to lead the bank into a new era of innovation, and customer satisfaction while maintaining its position as one of the most highly capitalized financial institutions in the region."

McGovern, a resident of Wilbraham, is married to Stephen, and they have two children, Abigail and Aidan. Her deep roots in the community and passion for serving others makes her an exceptional fit for Country Bank's customer-centric approach.

About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8 billion financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached by calling 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

Students celebrate Catholic Schools Week at St. Aloysius

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville observed Catholic Schools Week Jan. 28-Feb. 3 by participating in different themed activities for each day of the week.

On Monday, the community was celebrated, and school officials delivered goodie trays to town offices, thanking them for all the hard work they do in the community.

Students enjoyed a pizza lunch on Tuesday and had the chance to showcase their collections. It was interesting to see what they brought in and learn why they collect what they do.

On Nation Day, flag etiquette was shared in each classroom by three resident Boy Scouts. The entire school participated in making sensory blankets for the Holyoke Soldiers Home, thanking our veterans for their service to our nation.

Thursday was vocation day; it was honored by inviting guests to talk about religious life. Students had many questions for Sister Madonna, Sister Susan and Father Derek.

Parents also visited and talked about their professions. It was great to see all of the varied jobs students can aspire to.

On Friday, in celebration of staff, students left their uniforms behind and got to dress like a teacher. Staff enjoyed a special lunch and other treats from parents.

Bingo wrapped up the week on Saturday with a first ever family bingo tournament.

"Here at St. Aloysius, we celebrate our Catholic faith every day, but Catholic Schools Week is a chance to highlight what we do by focusing on these daily themes. We had a wonderful week full of special outreach, great visitors, and

many activities for the students. We know we are blessed beyond measure!" said Dawn Rudnansky, Head of School, in a press release.

St. Aloysius Catholic School serves students from preschool through grade eight. The school day runs from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. with an afterschool program through 5:30 p.m.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024/2025 school year. Visit www.staloyusiuscs.com for more information and all the necessary enrollment paperwork.

For more information email Roberta McQuaid, Enrollment Coordinator, at rmcquaid@staloyusiuscatholicsschool.com or call the school at 413-477-1268. Private tours and shadow days are great opportunities for prospective families to experience St. Aloysius Catholic School on a typical school day.



Submitted Photos
Students at St. Aloysius Catholic School made sensory blankets for veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers Home.



Parents visit the school to talk about their professions during Catholic Schools Week.



Boy Scouts demonstrate proper American flag etiquette.

BUILDING from page 1

water is another concern for neighbors.

Thibodeau said the pool is not maintained and is now home to amphibians and reptiles.

He said there is also outside structure damage to the porches and eaves. A correction order was sent to the property owners.

Thibodeau said the correction order was sent back to the board, unopened.

"They didn't respond at all," he said.

Thibodeau said the Building Inspector needs to be involved with this property, due to the structural damage and other safety concerns. He said the electric company had shut off power to the property, and he is unsure if it is turned back on or not.

He said a dog is also residing at the property, and a correction order stipulates that no animals are permitted there.

Board of Selectmen Chair David Dufresne said the Elm Street prop-

erty owner owes over \$50,000 in back taxes and the O'Neil Street property owner owes over \$16,000.

Thibodeau said the Board of Health can fine the property owners \$500 per day until the necessary corrections are made.

"We have to do something at this point," Dufresne said, adding that the owners have been given time to make corrections and have not complied. Dufresne said the Board of Health needs to start fining the owners of these two properties.

The Board of Selectmen voted to impose daily fines on 200 O'Neil Road for up to two months, before revisiting the discussion with the Board of Health. Selectmen voted to notify the Treasurer that the board will start the tax title taking process for 38 Elm St.

The third property is a multi-family building owned by Queens Management located at 24 North St., and Thibodeau has been called to the property "multiple times" since May of last year. The

property owner also owns the adjacent 18 North St., but Thibodeau said he has not received complaints on that building.

Thibodeau said Unit 3A was the first to file complaints with the board regarding the condition of the building, which includes broken balusters on stairs, missing storm door, mold in hallways walls and unit doors, mold in common hallway and unit doors and ceilings not being made of impervious surface in bathrooms.

The mold poses a respiratory hazard to tenants, many of whom require breathing machines.

Signage with the contact information for the property owner and maintenance company does not meet the 20-inch requirement.

He said most of the tenants in these units are elderly, and they have two reports of tenants falling down the stairs.

Thibodeau said there is also insufficient amperage to the units, along with other electrical concerns. There is also rat and rodent infestation in the building and

monthly rodent inspections are not being completed.

Unit 2B is missing a burner to the kitchen stove, and the interior panel of the oven door falls off when the door is closed and there is no handle on the door. A leak has also been found in the bedroom next to the bathroom and there is mold on the wall.

Thibodeau said the water damage to the wall was attempted to be repaired using paper napkins.

An outside support rail post from the walkway had been stabilized using expandable spray foam and does not meet standards.

There is also a rat and rodent infestation, Thibodeau said. He said the dropped ceiling in one of the units is full of rodent feces.

The tenant in Unit 2A has fallen down the stairs trying to access the apartment, and also faces similar issues with mold. The windows to the building are loose in their frames, and are not weathertight.

Thibodeau said the maintenance company has been given adequate time to make repairs and it has not

been done.

Over \$13,000 in back taxes is owed on this property.

He said the residence is unfit for human habitation and that the tenants of Unit 3A are in the process of moving out. He said the unit cannot be rented out from this point on due to conditions.

Thibodeau said this property, in addition to 18 North St., are both currently for sale. He said numerous buyers have backed out after learning of the Board of Health's involvement.

Thibodeau said the property owner called him recently and said the repairs were corrected, but after inspection, Thibodeau determined repairs were not adequately made by the property maintenance company.

The Board of Health could fine \$500 per day for each unit that is not in compliance.

The owner of Queens Management, Jahan Habib, called into the meeting to discuss concerns about his property at 24

North St.

"There's some serious health conditions that the Board of Health is bringing to us," Dufresne told Habib. "We're pretty well convinced that the house should be condemned."

Habib said he understands that these concerns are serious, but he wasn't aware of the "gravity of the violations." He said he needed more time to correct these violations and that it was clear that the property management company he hired did not comply with his requests.

Habib requested two more weeks to correct the concerns.

"I would like to be able to get this building into proper habitable condition," Habib said. "I'm fully committed to that."

Both boards agreed to give Habib until Feb. 8 to correct the violations.



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LEGAL NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of Corporators of Country Bank for Savings will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at 420 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA for the election of Corporators, Trustees and any other business as required by law or the Bylaws of Country Bank for Savings.

Dawn Piechota
Clerk of the Corporation

The Southbridge Softball league is now enrolling teams and players for the 2024 season.

Games are played at Henry Street Field (located off Rt. 169) in Southbridge.

We have 3 levels of Mens Leagues (A, B & C) that play weeknights starting @ 6:30 PM, a Mens JB draft league (for players age 39 by Sept. 30th) that plays Sunday AM starting at 9 AM and a COED league (5 & 5) that plays Sat & Sun evenings starting @ 6 PM. The potential for a Women's league or a weekday COED league (6 & 4) exists depending on the number of teams we receive – a minimum of 4 teams would be required for either to be considered.

THE FEES FOR 2024 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

\$425 team roster fee and a \$125 forfeit fee for a total of \$550.
If your roster is turned in on or before 3/5 the fee is \$550.
If your roster is turned in between 3/5 + 3/12, the fee is \$600.

No rosters will be accepted after 3/12/24.
Player fees for 2024 will be \$55 and a \$5 additional fee will be charged to those players playing on (2) or more teams.

Please email info@southbridgesoftball.org or check out our Southbridge Softball Association Facebook page for more information.



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Tuesday, February 13 & Tuesday, February 27
Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Valentine Day Specials
Available on Facebook and Our Website

Murder Mystery Dinner
Friday, February 23 & Saturday, February 24 - 6:00 p.m.
Tickets Now Available at Hardwick Crossing

February Special
Purchase a New Membership & Receive Up to \$225.00 in Gift Cards
See Website for More Information

viewpoints



Fox sparrow

I received an email from a birder in Brimfield, who sends bird updates on a regular basis.

He reported an acquaintance in Hardwick have five fox sparrows visiting their yard this winter. He said, "Lucky them, I only see one or two fox sparrows in the yard during migration and didn't see any this year."

The fox sparrow is a large sparrow about 7 inches in length. It has rufous streaking and a gray head and back. The tail and rump are reddish brown and the underparts whitish with brown streaking. There is a central, irregular shaped dot on the breast.

Like many sparrows, it feeds on the ground eating seeds, fruits and insects. It jumps forward and back pulling up ground debris to uncover food beneath. It may come to feeders where seed is scattered on the ground.

Fox sparrows inhabit deciduous or coniferous woods, brushy areas and wood edges. Their song is a short series of clear, melodious whistles.

The female lays four to six light blue green eggs in a cup like nest of grasses, lichens and leaves lined with hair fur and rootlets. The nest is placed on the ground under a small tree or shrub.

Brimfield birds

I received an email from a Brimfield resident. He said, "[I] wanted to pass on some of my backyard action this winter. I was surprised to see five or six cowbirds along with a solitary red wing blackbird last week."

He has a lot more juncos around with the white throated sparrows. He said chickadees and nuthatches and the titmice population is down a bit. He had a few starlings that stop by now and then along with cedar waxwings. He has not seen as many wild turkeys this year.

Golden crowned kinglet

A Brookfield resident emailed two photos of a golden crowned kinglet he took on Saturday, Jan. 27. He said, "Walking into my home, I spotted this tiny bird at the door." Tiny is an apt description of this bird as it is only 3 1/2 inches long.

More Brimfield birds

A frequent emailer said he read about the sighting of bluebirds and grackles in this column. He wrote, "Coincidentally we had a lone grackle in the yard last week. It showed up for a couple of days. I thought it was unusual to see just one grackle, they are most often seen in a group especially this time of year."

The Brimfield resident said, "When I mentioned to a friend from Belchertown that I had seen a grackle at the feeders he mentioned that he had a group of about 30 grackles visit his feeder briefly one day last week."

He said three days ago "I noticed a male bluebird at the feeders. It has visited daily since first being seen. The bird is feeding on suet cakes and a 'log' that is made of seeds, fruit and meal worms."

He counted over 70 juncos and four white-throated sparrows in the yard. He recently had three starlings, who seemed to like a feeder containing suet pellets. He said he rarely sees starlings at his feeders. He removed the feeder to deter the voracious eating starlings.

Bluebirds

This seems to be the year for flocks of bluebirds showing up at feeders. On Friday, Jan. 26 six or eight male and female bluebirds were at my suet cake, which contained fruits.

I removed the ice from a small dish like feeder, I use for mealworms, grape jelly or orange halves. The bluebirds ate all the mealworms and I filled it again. They have been hanging around daily and I put out mealworms twice a day.

Tuesday, I looked out the window and saw several bluebirds perched on my car. One occupied a side mirror, another was on the roof and two on the hood by the windshield wipers. I think they may have been drinking the water from the melting snow on the car.

Later, when I looked to see if they were still there, a mourning dove was perched by the wiper blade.

Large flock of robins

A North Brookfield resident, who lives on Lake Lashaway, emailed on Friday, Jan. 17 and said she had a flock of 30 or more robins zoom in to the neighborhood.

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.



Spare the vase this Valentine's Day

My husband gave me a bouquet of roses on the first Valentine's Day we spent together.

They were beautiful in the vase, but I felt bad that he had spent the money he did for the gift. Being in the business, I told him how much roses are marked up because of the holiday.

It's a supply and demand thing mostly, and tradition to give them of course, but wouldn't it be nice if we received a gift that kept on giving? One solution would be to preorder your sweetheart a rose bush through a mail-order nursery.

What excitement it will bring when it arrives in springtime, and then imagine the delight when it blooms year after year. If your interest is piqued, then read on to learn about proper planting techniques and basic rose culture, so that you (or your sweetheart!) will be a successful rose grower.

Rose bushes will be shipped once it is deemed safe from freezing temperatures. In my experience, mail-order roses can arrive anywhere from the end of April through the end of May.

First off, unpack the rose and soak its roots in room temperature water for at least one

hour (and up to twelve). This is necessary to rehydrate roots that may have dried out in the shipping process.

Once rehydrated, the rose is ready for a quick pruning. Carefully snip back any broken or crossing canes.

A rose bush 8-12" tall at planting will start out nice and bushy. If you need to trim back canes that are longer than that, prune back to an out-facing bud, that way growth will be directed out and not towards the plant's center.

Consider placement carefully. To bloom their best, roses need, at the very least, six hours of sunshine.

Morning sun is preferred, so that dewy foliage will dry quickly, diminishing the chances of foliar disease such as black spot or powdery mildew. Soil should drain well and be rich in nutrients or amended to that end.

The planting hole should be prepared while the rose bush is soaking. Dig a hole about twice the diameter of the plant's roots, roughly one and a half feet by one and a half feet.

As long as the soil removed from the hole is decent, in other words, not all sand or clay, 50% of it can be mixed with well-rotted manure (fresh will burn!) or cured compost, and used as back fill. First, take a small amount of the mixture and make a mound in the hole for the plant to sit on and the roots to spread down.

In our locale, and anywhere that temperatures dip below 0°F, the graft union (the bump at the plants base), if there is one, should be planted two inches below the soil surface. With that in mind, position the rose on the mound at the proper depth and begin to refill the hole with soil, a third of the hole at a time, firming as you go.

Once the rose bush has been planted, water it well at the base of the plant (a couple gallons at least). If you find that the water isn't sinking in, but running away, dam up a couple inches of soil about a foot away from the base of the plant to act like a basin.

Water is crucial at this stage; never let a newly planted rose dry out. A three inch layer of bark mulch or cocoa bean hulls can be applied around the rose to reduce moisture loss and discourage weed competition.

Avoid fertilizing until the rose has broken dormancy and is growing vigorously. Use half strength fertilizer and only do so until mid-July so that succulent growth will have a chance to harden before cold weather hits.

This way your rose will be less prone to winter kill. I do not provide any winter cover for my roses.

There will likely be a few branch tips that suffer winter kill regardless. Those I prune back in springtime when the roses start to leaf out.

I prune just past the damage, at a leaf bud. Besides that, and general shaping, the only other pruning I do is deadheading.

Spent blooms should be removed from rose bushes to direct energy away from seed production and back to flower production. Where the cut is made depends on the type of rose that you have.

Over the last decade, tremendous gains have been made in rose breeding, resulting rose bushes that blend well into landscape plantings and require less maintenance for the homeowner. I still enjoy my heirlooms, and grow the Rugosa to remind me of the beach.

Still others prefer climbers or hybrid teas. Whatever your sweetheart may fancy, indulge this Valentine's Day in a gift that will keep on giving!

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.



Will my WEP reduction go away if I continue working?

Dear Rusty:

I'm 63 years old and have not yet started my Social Security.

I now work for the State of Illinois and will draw a pension from that state's university system. I don't pay into Social Security from this position and, as a result, my Social Security payment will be reduced. But I have also worked elsewhere and contributed to Social Security for 26 years.

If I retire from the state university and begin drawing my reduced Social Security payment and then work in a different job, which does contribute to SS, will the reduction to my Social Security payment ever be eliminated? Or will I be permanently stuck with the smaller Social Security payment?

Signed: Curious Educator

Dear Curious:

A rule called the Windfall Elimination Provision will apply to your Social Security benefit because your Illinois state pension was earned without paying into the Social Security program. The basic rule is that anyone with a pension earned without contributing to Social Security and who is also entitled to Social Security benefits, is subject to WEP, which reduces that person's Social Security retirement benefit. It's a law enacted many years ago to equalize how SS benefits are paid to all Social Security beneficiaries.

However, the WEP rules also provide relief for those who have only a small non-covered pension and for those who have separately contributed to Social Security for a lot of years. For example:

The WEP reduction to your SS benefit cannot be more than 50% of your non-covered (IL) pension

The WEP reduction is smaller for each year over 20 years contributing to Social Security from substantial earnings

WEP does not apply to those who have at least 30 years contributing to SS from substantial earnings

Although you could retire at 63 and collect your pension from the university and also collect your WEP-reduced Social Security, you have something else to consider if you take another job, which pays into Social Security.

Social Security has an annual "earnings test"



for those who collect benefits before their Full Retirement Age. The earnings test limits how much you can earn while collecting early SS before they take away some of your benefits. The earnings limit for 2024 is \$22,320 and, if that is exceeded, you will lose \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

If your work earnings substantially exceed the earnings limit, you would likely be temporarily ineligible to receive Social Security benefits. FYI, the earnings test no longer applies once you reach your full retirement age, which for you is 67.

Without knowing your expected income from a new job, I can't say how much of your SS you would be able to receive, but you can use this as a guide: Social Security will take away benefits equal to half of what you exceed the annual earnings limit by and they typically recover by withholding future benefits.

If 12 months or more of benefits are withheld, you will be temporarily ineligible to receive benefits until your earnings are less or you reach your full retirement age, the earnings test no longer applies once you reach your FRA. So, depending on your expected annual work earnings, you may wish to defer claiming your Social Security until you either earn less or reach 67 years of age.

If you already have 26 years contributing

to Social Security from "substantial earnings," your WEP reduction will already be mitigated and any additional years of substantial earnings from which SS payroll taxes are deducted will result in an even smaller WEP reduction.

If you can achieve 30 years of SS contributions from substantial work earnings, WEP will no longer apply. So, you may not be "stuck with" the WEP reduction permanently, but you will need to contact Social Security to request that your WEP reduction amount be reviewed in light of any additional years of SS-covered earnings. This should be done after you submit your income taxes each year you have additional SS-covered earnings.

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

BBB warns about scammers posing as friends

If a friend asks for a favor, you do it, no questions asked. Right? Time to rethink that policy.

In this new con, a scammer poses as a friend asking for a simple favor. The email is so convincing that Better Business Bureau staff almost fell for it.

How this scam works

You get an email that appears to be from a friend or family member. The message looks harmless and casual – like something a friend might really write.

For example, one version reads: "Hi, how are things going with you? Are you busy? I need a quick favor." The message even ends with "Sent from my iPhone."

Concerned about your friend, you reply and ask for more details. The "friend" quickly responds that they are trying to buy a gift card for their niece's birthday.

However, they are traveling and having trouble purchasing the card online. "Could you get it from any local grocery store around you?" reads the email. "I'll pay you back as soon as I am back."

The request sounds reasonable. But if you do buy the gift card, your "friend" will ask you to share the card's PIN and/or send a photo of the back of the card.

Unfortunately, by doing this you are essentially handing money to the scammer. It's nearly impossible to get the money back because gift cards do not have the same pro-

tections as credit or debit cards.

How to avoid similar scams

Reach out to your friend directly – If you get an unusual request, call or text your friend to confirm their story. No matter how harmless the story sounds, always double-check before sending someone money.

Use gift cards wisely – Never do business with anyone who insists on payment with gift cards. Remember, providing the numbers from the back of a gift card is just like sending cash.

For more information about this scam and others, visit BBB.org.

If you've spotted a scam (whether or not you've lost money), report it to BBB.org/ScamTracker. Your report can help others avoid falling victim to scams.

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

Send opinions to:
Ware River News
Letter to the Editor
80 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
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.

GALA from page 1

not only to the village where it is located, but to the region as a whole.

McCrohon has been part of the Friends of the Stone Church for several years now, helping to create fundraising events to continue the group's mission to preserve the church and its character, but also to breathe new life into it as it becomes a mecca for arts and culture.

Although it is not their first gala event, this was the first year the Friends decided to host a Valentine themed gala, and this time at Hardwick's newest restaurant, Hardwick Crossing Country Club on Feb. 3.

Housed in the club's large banquet hall overlooking the snow-covered greens, supporters of the Stone Church enjoyed a social hour and appetizers before a buffet dinner, while they browsed the countless silent auction items that spanned the length of the hall.

Donated by businesses, artisans and community members, the silent auction items ranged from gift certificates for services, to wood-turned bowls and pottery, to one-of-a-kind pieces of art.

The live auction, led by Barre's own Paul Varney, included chances to get away both locally and somewhere tropical. Lucky bidders will be able to take their loved ones for a two-night stay to the Sugar Maple Trailside Inn along the rail trail in Florence, to Great Wolf Lodge indoor water park in Fitchburg or to Villa Camilla on Grace Bay Beach in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands.

Varney revealed that the gala just happened to fall on his birthday and that he "couldn't get a bigger party than this."

The purpose of the gala was to continue to raise funds for the Stone Church's preservation work that began in 2019.

"We felt like a lot of people would come to this event," McCrohon said. "It's important to save this historical place."

Stonemason Ken Hall of the Joseph Gnazzo Company, Inc. has been at the Stone Church since the start of the project to secure the steeple, which is now in phase four.

Built using Monson granite, this Tudor Gothic style church was designed by noted Worcester architect Elbridge Boyden; who also designed Mechanics Hall in Worcester, the Hubbardston Public Library and the Congregational Church in Brookfield. The Stone Church's tower is the only one of three such



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette
Paul Varney handed an auction item to the winning bidder.

towers of Boyden's still standing. Hall has been a stone mason for 16 years, and primarily works to restore churches and military forts.

"It truly never ends," Hall said of the preservation work. "The scope of the project is to stabilize the steeple."

To do this, Hall and crew are installing 32 anchors that will secure the exterior to interior steel plates, sealing cracks and reconstructing the interior floor.

"It's designed to be strong, but also allow for a little bit of movement," Hall said.

Phillip Warbasse, the project architect for the Friends, said work on the steeple will resume in warmer weather.

"It's a fascinating process," Warbasse said.

Emcee of the gala was Friends Vice-President Cheryl Wolfe, who gave a recap of the group's progress since its formation, when pieces of the steeple were actually falling off.

"Today, we are well over half-way done," Wolfe said.

The Friends now own the church, following a deed transfer early last year, and the addition of a handicapped accessible ramp has opened the church's doors to all.

Wolfe thanked the gala committee, along with musician Paul Provost, who performed throughout the event, and Hardwick Crossing's staff. She also thanked Mary and Phillip Warbasse for their expertise in grant writing and architecture, respectively.

Thanks to Mary, the Friends offer a "robust music program" and have received over \$200,000 in grant funding, Wolfe said.

Wolfe then addressed those in attendance and thanked them for their continued support over the years.



Paul Provost provided musical entertainment for the Valentine Gala to benefit the Stone Church Cultural Center.

Upcoming events

The Friends of the Stone Church will be hosting a number of events throughout the upcoming year, including "Piano Magic" with pianist Diana Fanning on Saturday, March 9 at 3 p.m. This event is sponsored by Barbara Boothman Grofic and Laura Boothman Stamm.

On Saturday, April 6 at 7 p.m. organist Peter Krasinski returns to accompany the silent film comedy, "Speedy" from 1928, starring Harold Lloyd with appearances by Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig.

Pianist and Avery-Fisher prize winner Mackenzie Melemed will also return with "My Two Homes" on Saturday, April 20 at 7 p.m.

The Friends will also host two free Sunday concerts on the lawn with the Weir River Concert Band and the Weir River Jazz Ensemble in June.

For more information about the Friends, or to help support their preservation work, visit www.friendsofthestonechurch.org or mail donations to Friends of the Stone Church, Inc., 283 Main St., P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

Dancing through the 'Eras'



Dance Unlimited dancers and staff were proud to be Swifties at the Taylor Swift Eras dance party.

Taylor Swift dance party held at Dance Unlimited

WARE – In true Taylor Swift fashion, anything with the pop star's name on it quickly becomes a hit; just like the Taylor Swift Eras Dance Party held at Dance Unlimited this past Saturday night.

Over 50 dancers of all ages channeled their inner Swiftie for a dance party centered around the music of Swift's Eras Tour. Fun was had by all as the dancers sang along to their favorite songs and danced into the night.



Ryan Deliz poses for a quick photo before returning to the dance floor.



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette
Kennedy Kettles enjoys a hug with her new "BFF" Kylie Burke.



Olivia Dudek, Ariana Rohan, Haiden Chabot and Maybrie LeBlanc enjoyed Dance Unlimited's Taylor Swift Eras dance party on Feb. 3.



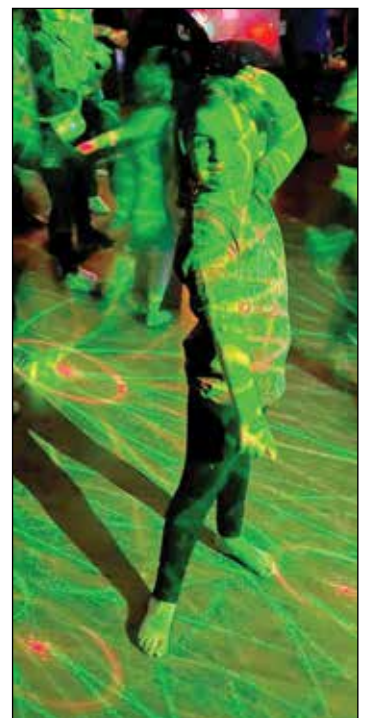
Dozens of silent auction items spanned the banquet hall, including this dried flower wreath provided by Hartman's Herb Farm.



Clothing and artwork were also included in the silent auction.



Submitted Photo
Nora Fluegge, Aubrey Clark, Hannah Orszulak, Emerson Lebel, Madison Clark and Haiden Chabot posed in the photo booth.



Submitted Photo
Brynn Lagimoniere shows off her best dance moves to Taylor Swift's music.

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QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL
Craft/Small Business Fair
February 10th, 9am-3 pm
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!
80+ vendors participating in the fair, there will also be a huge raffle table, so please be sure to bring cash
There will be no ATM on site. Venmo / Cashapp / etc. accepted at the discretion of vendors.
Fair Location is at the Quaboag Regional Middle High School, 284 Old West Brookfield Road, Warren, MA

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Friends of Ware Town Hall spring 2024 Lotto Calendars on sale

WARE – “Another fun fundraiser,” is how Pat Skutnik, President of Friends of Ware Town Hall describes the group’s current Lotto Calendar campaign.

“These Lotto Calendars are very popular” said Skutnik. “We’ve had a tremendous positive response to them in the past.”

Calendars are \$10 each, with drawing beginning April 1 and ending April 30. Prizes range from \$25-\$500.

“Each person who buys a calendar has multiple chances to win, since winners names are put back into the pool,” Skutnik said. “These calendars are fun to buy for yourself and also to give. These always put a smile in someone’s day - everyone likes a game of chance.”

Calendars are being sold locally at the following locations: Changes Hair Salon, Crystal Springs Dairy Bar, DeSantis Garage, It’s Wine O’clock, Moulton Insurance Agency, Nat Falk, Silhouettes, Subaguru, Sunny & Shears Beauty Salon, Talk of the Town, Ware Library, Ware River Club, Ware Senior Center, Ware Town Hall (Town Manager’s Office) and Wilton Children’s Store.

Skutnik added, “anyone from out of town wishing to purchase a calendar may do so by mailing a check for \$10 for each calendar to: Friends of Ware Town Hall, P.O. Box 692, Ware, MA 01082. We will be happy to complete the calendar stub with your information and mail you the calendar. Good luck to all!”

Gilbertville library hosts Valentine Station through Feb. 14

HARDWICK – Love is in the air and if you want to tell a loved one or a friend just how special they are, stop by and visit Valentine Station at the Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., Gilbertville. Beginning Feb. 2, and during

regular hours until Feb. 14, the library will have a self-guided craft station where you can create a work of art and add it to a cut-out greeting card donated by Lisa at Plymouth Cards (www.plymouth-cards.com).

The library will have everything you need to make a special art piece which you can slide into a card and send to that special someone. Your card can fit into a 5 inch by 7 inch frame so the recipient can save it and hang it in a special place

to be reminded of you, each time they see it.

The library is open from 2-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 4-7 p.m. on Friday. If school is closed due to weather, the library is closed too.

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.

Friday Fish Fry returns to Swift River Sportsman’s Club

BELCHERTOWN – The Swift River Sportsman’s Club at 350 Cold Spring Road is pleased to announce that its Friday Fish Fry is returning on Fridays, starting Feb. 16 and running through April 5.

Prices range from \$14 for fish and chips to \$18 for a fish, shrimp and chip combo. Clam chowder will also be available.

For more information, please call the club at 413-323-9387.

Opioids and Opioid Rescue Training



- Understand what opioids are and why people become addicted.
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Presented By:

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Public Health Nurse
(413) 967-9615

Email: kkrieger@townofware.com

Website: www.quabbinhealthdistrict.com

Please RSVP by 2/23/2024 to:
kkrieger@townofware.com

New Date and Time!

Training provided courtesy of the following organizations:



SPORTS

Indians boys basketball falls to Palmer



Gavin Kanovek keeps his eyes trained on the ball above the rim.



Brady Guimond knocks down two with this outside jumper.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—Playing their third game in as many nights wasn't a major factor for the Palmer boys' varsity basketball team.

The Panthers had just enough gas left in the tank to pull away from archrival Ware down the stretch for a 58-42 home victory in a Bi-County West League contest, last Wednesday night.

"Ware has been our biggest rival for the past 100 years, and this is a very big win for us, especially after we lost to them in football last fall," said sophomore Matt Santos, who's the Panthers starting quarterback. "We played very well as a team in tonight's game. Whenever we work together as a team nobody can stop us."

The Panthers wound up sweeping the season series on the hardwood against the Indians. They also celebrated a 50-39 road win on Dec. 18.

Last Wednesday's home victory, which was played before a large crowd, including two spirited student sections, improved the Panthers overall record to 9-6.

The Panthers began last week with a 67-43 win at Baystate Academy before suffering a 71-65 overtime home loss to Belchertown the following night.

"We lost to Belchertown in overtime last night, but I wasn't very worried coming into tonight's game," said first-year Palmer head coach Missy Rucker. "The players were pumped up because this is a big rivalry game for them, and they really wanted to win it. We put all the pieces together and played a complete game tonight."

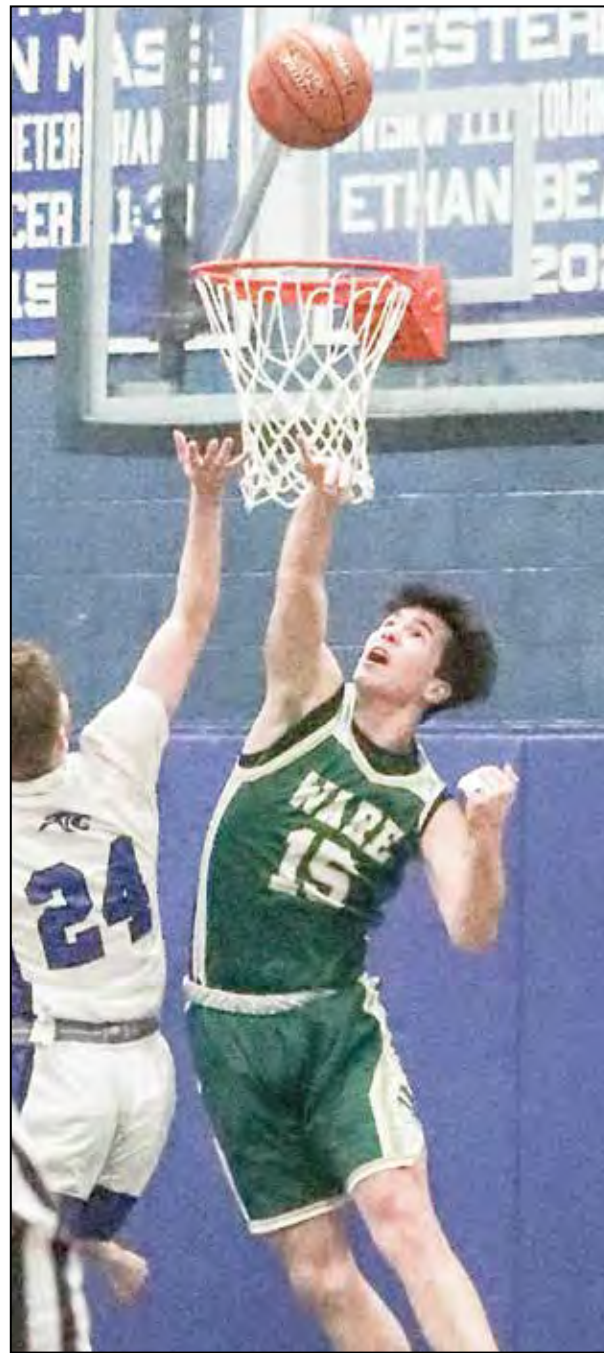
The road setback evened the Indians overall record at 7-7.

"I thought Palmer played extremely hard tonight and I give them a lot of credit because this was their third consecutive game," said Ware head coach Gene Rich. "We put ourselves in a position to make a fourth quarter comeback, but unfortunately, we weren't able to sustain it."

Palmer, who never trailed in the second meeting of the regular season against Ware, held a 50-42 lead with less than three minutes remaining in regulation.

Santos halted the Indians comeback by burying a 3-pointer from the right corner. He then received a pass from classmate Angel Torres before making a reverse lay-up, which sealed the Panthers victory.

Please see **WARE**, page 8



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com
ack Goodreau watches his layup drop in.



Owen McKeever drives towards the paint.



Josh Mulligan delivers a sweet underhand layup.

QUABOAG'S OFFENSE SHUT DOWN BY NORTHBRIDGE

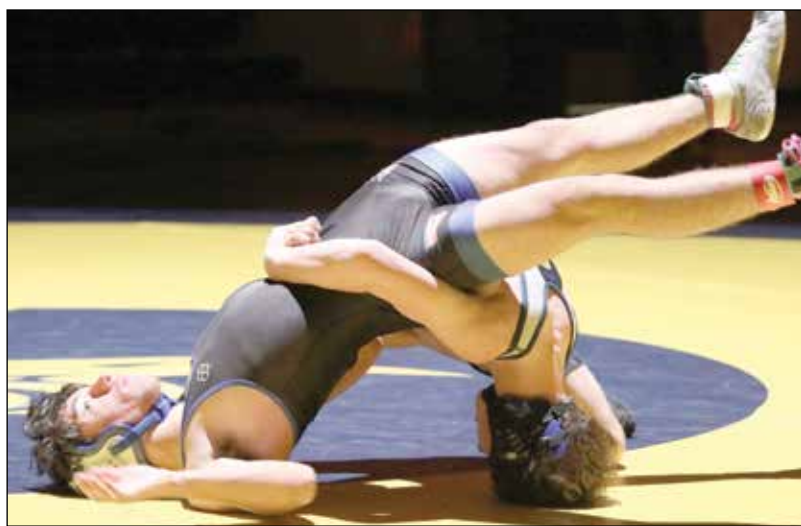
QUABOAG – Last Monday evening, Northbridge visited Quaboag and hurt the Cougars' offense with a 40-15 defeat. Parker Tunley had nine points for Quaboag in the defeat. The Cougars are now 5-7 on the season.



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com
Hailey Dumont moves to the paint.



Parker Tunley drives through the Cougar defense.



Turley photos by Ray Duffy
Abe Brown flips his opponent during the 120-pound match.

Quabbin Panthers compete against Leominster

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School wrestling team took on Leominster in a recent meet at home. The Panthers are working toward the Central Mass. and state tournaments coming up in the next couple of weeks. The Panthers closed up their meet scheduled last weekend with multiple meets at Triton High School.



Jack Fors wrestles his opponent.



Cole Wilson with a hold on his opponent.

Pathfinder girls close in on tourney spot

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—Only three of the twelve players listed on the Pathfinder Tech girls' varsity basketball roster have ever experienced playing in a postseason tournament game.

The Lady Pioneers moved a step closer to clinching a berth in the 2024 Division 5 state tournament with a 49-22 home victory over Tri-County North League rival Gateway, last Tuesday night.

"One of our goals every year is to make the postseason tournament. We just need two more wins to qualify for the state tournament," said Pathfinder Tech head coach Kevin Aldrich. "We're also currently sitting in fourth place in the small school vocational tournament standings. This game counted towards that record. We haven't made the vocational tournament since 2019. It would be great if we could qualify for that tournament as well. Anytime that you can play extra games, especially with a younger team, it's invaluable."

Pathfinder Tech, who had an 8-5 overall record following the home victory, were ranked 33rd in the MIAA Division 5 power rankings. They can automatically earn a berth in the Division 5 state tournament for the first time in two years by winning two of their remaining six regular season games. They'll also qualify by finishing in the top 32.

Two years ago, the Lady Pioneers entered the inaugural



Victoria Stephens rushes to the hoop.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Greenly Lagimoniere looks to drive to the hoop.

Division 5 state tournament as the 48th seeded and lost to 17th-seeded Georgetown in a preliminary round road game.

During the past twenty years, they've only played one postseason home game, which took place in 2019. The Lady Pioneers squeaked out a 28-27 home win over St. Mary's of Westfield in a Western Mass. Division 4 tournament game before losing at top-seeded Monson on the road two days later.

The Lady Pioneers probably won't be one of the eight teams competing in the Western Mass. Class C tournament.

Two of the current Lady Pioneers players, who were members of the 2021-22 varsity squad are seniors Victoria Stephens, who

scored a game-high 10 points in the game against the Gateway Gators (4-7), and Brianna Beynor, who contributed eight points.

"Our two seniors normally play a lot of minutes, but our younger players are learning from them," Aldrich said. "They've been our team leaders this season."

Beynor has been a member of the varsity basketball team since she was a freshman.

Junior Greenly Lagimoniere (9 points) was also a member of the team two years ago.

One of the Lady Pioneers younger players is junior Addison Doktor, who scored all six of her

Please see **PATHFINDER**, page 8



Maddie Potvin maneuvers to center court.



Evelyn Doe takes command as she muscled through the Northbridge defense.



Isabelle Manzano goes to the net.

Hurricanes qualify for state tournament

AMHERST – The Amherst Regional High School ice hockey team, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, defeated Taconic 3-1 last Wednesday night in Pittsfield. The Hurricanes are now 11-4-1 on the season and have already qualified for the

state tournament.

There are just three games remaining in the regular season as the Hurricanes both try to be among the top teams in Class B to enter the Western Mass. tournament. Amherst also hopes to raise its ranking in the state tournament

so it can host a state tournament game or two.

The Hurricanes remaining games will be against Ludlow, Easthampton, and Suffield, CT.

The playoffs will begin toward the end of the month, beginning with the sectional tournament.

sports



Jaxon Warburton puts up the rebound from under the hoop.



Zeke Santoro foes in for the lay-up.



Kyle Clark drives to the hoop.

Panthers drop matchup to Tyngsborough

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—The Quabbin Regional High School boys basketball team gave Tyngsborough High School a hard fought battle in last Friday night's Mid-Wach C matchup. Unfortunately, the Panthers lost the game, 55-38.

This year's squad had a 2-13 overall record, and a 0-11 league record following last Friday night's loss.

"We're a very young basketball team with only one senior, but we played one of our better games of the season tonight. The players from the 1999 championship team provided us with a lot of energy tonight," said Quabbin head coach

Dennis Dextradeur. "You lose touch with your former players over time, and it's always nice to reconnect with them."

Dextradeur, who started his varsity basketball coaching career as the Quabbin girls coach in 1980, has been coaching the boys' varsity team since 1992. He has won more than 450 games.

Junior Quinn Geary made a lay-up on the game's opening possession giving the home team a 2-0.

Geary, who scored a team-high 17 points and pulled down nine rebounds, gave his thoughts about the special evening following the game.

Quabbin junior Kyle Clark posted a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds. He also had a

team-leading five steals.

The Panthers only senior is Nick Whitelaw.

"Our basketball program has a great history," said Whitelaw, who didn't score any points in the game. "I'm really looking forward to coming back and watching the returning players play basketball next year. They've been great teammates."

The Tigers (9-7, 7-5) outscored the Panthers, 15-4, during the rest of the opening quarter.

The second and third quarters were evenly played, as the Panthers entered the final eight minutes trailing by 10 points (37-27).

The Tigers outscored the Panthers, 18-11, during the fourth quarter.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League finished up the month of January this past Tuesday, Jan. 30.

In one match, Team BK bowled against Life is Good. In game one, Life is Good defeated Team BK by a score of 388-341. Paul Cyr of Life is Good started off the evening with a 113. In game two, Life is Good won again by a score of 376-346. Paul Cyr continued breaking 100 with a 104.

In game three, Team BK won the last game by a score of 379-376. Jeff Whyte of Team BK led his team to victory by finishing his evening with a 107 game.

Life is Good won total pinfall by a final score of 1140-1066.

Thursday Night Mixed League

The winners of the first round, Team Six bowled against Team Four.

In game one, Team Six won the first game 404-393. In game two, Team Six won again 421-393. Dan Mahoney of Team Six had a good game bowling a 111. In game three, Team Four won the last game, 402-392.

Team Six won total pinfall by a final score of 1217-1188.

Team One bowled against Team Three. In game one, Team One edged out Team Three by one pin, 399-398. In game two, another close game between both teams, but Team One wins again, 394-390. In game three, Team One wins again for a three-game sweep, 410-378.

Total pinfall went to Team One, 1203-1166.

Team Five bowled against Team Two. In game one, Team Two won the first game 427-410. Danny Fennyry of Team Two led the team with an opening game of 126. In game two, Team Five won the second game 419-397.

In game three, Team Five won the last game of the evening 473-409. Mike Wadas of Team Five, who is a new reader of the league news, finished strong with a final game of 125. His teammate, Joe Danek had a strong finish by bowling a 110.

Team Five won total pinfall by a final score of 1302-1233.

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

pinfall by a final score of 1104-1071.

The Champs R Here bowled against their average and won all three games. Their team scores were 365 in game one, 414 in game two and 385 in game three.

Modifieds champion plans lengthy 2024 schedule

CHELMSFORD – Modified champion Jon McKennedy announced today that he will drive in over 15 Tour-Type Modified races across the New England region in 2024.

Competing for his own team, McKennedy will mix between Outlaw Open Modified Series races at Thompson Speedway, Open Modified races at Stafford Motor Speedway, select NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour events and a few Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series races to make out a robust calendar for 2024.

"We're excited to get the ball rolling in our FURY race cars and go chase some trophies," McKennedy said. "I feel this is a great opportunity for me to go out there and continue to show we can win races. We did have some other opportunities for rides, but felt this was the best route for this season. We have picked some of the higher profile events at my favorite tracks for the 2024 season and feel the competition is going to be stout at all of them."

A full sponsor lineup for the car and paint scheme will be released in the near future.

McKennedy's season will begin at Thompson Speedway with the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series during Icebreaker weekend on Saturday, April 7, followed by the Open Modified event at New Hampshire Motor Speedway's Northeast Classic on April 13.

He will follow that up with seven more Thompson events during the 2024 season (May 27 - Outlaw Mods, June 13 - Outlaw Mods, June 27 - Outlaw Mods, July 25 - Outlaw Mods,

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.

WARE from page 7

"My 3-pointer late in the fourth quarter helped us keep the momentum and it put us in a very good position to win the game," said Santos, who only made those two baskets in the game. "I then made a reverse lay-up which gave us a double digit lead."

Palmer continued to pull away with a lay-up basket from senior Andrew Menard (9 points) and sophomore Farris Seide (1 point) made a foul shot with 7.5 seconds left. It pushed the Panthers lead to 16 points.

Freshman Taydem Haley, who led the way offensively for the Panthers, scored 12 of his game-high 17 points during the first half.

"Taydem is only a freshman, but he's such a fun player to watch," Rocker said. "He has so much more to accomplish on the basketball court, but he's already an outstanding competitor. He always plays very hard in every game."

Haley knocked down a 3-point

er from the top of the key and made a runner in the lane during the first three minutes of the contest, as the Panthers raced out to an early 10-1 lead.

Ware responded with an 11-3 run, which began with back-to-back field goals from sophomore Brady Guimond (8 points).

With 1:50 left in the opening quarter, Ware senior Jack McKeever (10 points) made a lay-up cutting the Indians deficit to one point (13-12).

The Panthers entered the second quarter holding a 17-12 lead following a put-back hoop from sophomore Stephen Fredette (6 points) and a Haley lay-up.

Haley, who scored eight of his team's points in the opening quarter, began the second stanza with an inside hoop.

Back-to-back field goals by junior Owen McKeever (7 points) and senior Josh Mulligan (4 points) closed the gap to 23-17 with 4:20 left in the second quarter.

Ware didn't get any closer than that during the rest of the first half, as Palmer held a 31-22 advantage at the break.

Sophomore Jack Gaudreau scored eight of his team-leading 12 points in the third quarter, which kept

the Indians within striking distance.

With a little more than two minutes left in the third quarter, Haley hit a base-line lay-up, which gave the Panthers a 42-31 lead.

Less than a minute into the fourth quarter, Guimond made a lay-up making the score 44-39.

The home team responded with a pair of lay-ups from center Shawn Troche (8 points) and an inside hoop from sophomore Gavin Smola (4 points) pushing their lead (50-39) into double digits for the third time.

The Indians were trailing, 50-42 with 3:11 left in regulation after a Mulligan steal and lay-up.

"We always feel like we can make a run and get ourselves back into the game," said Rich, whose team was ranked 14th in the Division 5 power rankings. "It just didn't happen in tonight's game. It's a disappointing loss and we just need to turn things around."

That's when Santos took over the spotlight for the Panthers.

Palmer, who were ranked 15th in the MIAA Division 5 power rankings, clinched a berth in the state tournament with a 73-36 home win against Franklin County Tech, last Friday night.

The two cross-town rivals could possibly face each other twice more in the Western Mass. Class C tournament and in the Division 5 state tournament.



Taylor Allen heads down the court to start a play.

Disciplined game nets win for T-Birds

HARTFORD, CT – The Springfield Thunderbirds (21-19-3-2) went on two separate runs of three straight goals to defeat the Hartford Wolf Pack (23-13-5-0) by a final score of 6-3 on Saturday night inside the XL Center.

While the scuffling Springfield power play would not get the credit for the game's opening goal, they were responsible for the offensive possession that led to it. Jakub Vrana found his way to a soft space at the top of the right circle, where Hugh McGing located him for a one-time blast past Dylan Garand's glove at 9:05. Vrana's seventh goal of the season made it 1-0, and the T-Birds offense was far from finished.

Just 1:54 after Vrana's tally, a misplay of the puck in neutral ice sprung Ryan Suzuki on a clean breakaway. Suzuki perfectly picked the lower corner over Garand's blocker, making it 2-0 at 10:59.

Then it was Vrana's turn to join the breakaway game, as he, too, beat Garand on the stick side off a stretch pass from Mikhail Abramov, making it 3-0 at 13:59.

Brennan Othmann took it upon himself to give his team a spark, as the Wolf Pack rookie dropped the mitts with ex-Hartford blueliner Wyatt Kalynuk at 16:40 of the first. Kalynuk, unfortunately, received a game misconduct for removing his elbow pads prior to the fight. Just 24 seconds later, the scrap paid dividends for the Pack as Alex Belzile crashed the paint and cashed in with a backhand poke through Malcolm Subban to make it a 3-1 score after 20 minutes. Subban was flawless in turning aside 14 of 15 Wolf Pack shots in the first.

As the second began, it became evident that Othmann's fight lit a spark in the Hartford bench. Just 55 seconds into period two, Ryder Korczak found a loose puck in a four-

PATHFINDERE from page 7

points before halftime. She also pulled down a team-leading 11 rebounds.

Another underclassman is sophomore Desiree Croteau, who hit a jumper from the right corner making the score 9-0 with five minutes left in the first quarter. It was her only points of the contest, but she was credited with five steals.

"Desiree has a very high basketball IQ," Aldrich said. "She played very well defensively in tonight's game."

The Lady Pioneers were leading 16-2 at the end of the first quarter and they never looked back after that.

Freshman Ciara Green (4 points) and Doktor combined to score eight points during the second quarter, as the Lady Pioneers built a commanding 30-7 halftime lead.

Pathfinder Tech scored the first ten points of the third quarter and led by as many as 35 points during the second half.

The other Pathfinder girls' basketball players are freshman Megan Clark (8 points), freshman Taylor Allen (2 points), sophomore Cassandra Nykiel, junior Althea Jewell, and sophomore Jinx Ripley.

Freshman Hannah Mellor is also a member of the girls' basketball team, but she's sidelined with an injury.

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They walk beside us everyday.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed and very dear.

Forever missing you.
Love, your wife, daughters, and family

obituaries

Hands-on pottery workshop explores history

WARREN – Tales of the unusual, the unknown and the unpredictable are told at “Throwing Back - Massachusetts Pottery History with Hands-on Workshop” with a demonstration of techniques and many types of pots.

Sponsored by the Warren Public Library, this event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 1-2 p.m. at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St., West Warren. The event is free and appropriate for both teens and adults.

Who were the Tufts and Cornell families? Who's drinking tea on the roof? Is Boston the original Beantown? This is a fast and fun exploration of the Commonwealth's pottery legacy.

Participants will pass from person to person a freshly made pot from the potter's wheel and have the chance to feel a dry and wet pot as it rotates on the wheel. Each person will also make a pinch pot and the unfired piece will go home with the participant.

CAPITAL from page 1

main needs of a capital plan for the town and is looking into creating a fiscal year 2025 budget and a timeline for the budget.

The Capital Planning Committee will work coherently with other town departments and hear what requests they may ask for in the near future. For example, a new police cruiser, firetruck and dump truck.

Other requests may include new roofs for town buildings, roads, sidewalks, roofs and transportation.

The committee also brought up possibly looking into getting new computers for the municipal building. Also, maintenance for the town buildings including the schools and the senior center.

The committee discussed creating a Capital Improvement Program for the following fiscal years.

Prior to its next meeting, the committee is seeking to identify what the town can afford and how much money can be used. There are no financial numbers or timelines at this point.

The Capital Planning Committee is currently working on a letter to send out to other town departments to solicit a list of requests and determine a budget for capital planning.

The next Capital Planning Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12 at 4 p.m.

ADDAMS from page 1

“The kids have been really excited,” he said of performing the show. “We wanted to do something a little different. This really was the right show for this year.”

“The Addams Family” also features one of the largest casts to take the stage at Quaboag, with students in all grade levels playing a role either onstage or backstage.

“The experience has been great,” Joinville said. “This gives so many kids an outlet to be creative, take risks...just being involved in a team.”

Taking on the role of Wednesday Addams is senior Rachel McGrath.

This is McGrath's third year of performing in a cast, with two years before that as a crew member.

When asked how she felt about playing such an iconic role, recently made more popular by the Netflix series “Wednesday”, starring Jenna Ortega and also by Christina Ricci in the 1993 hit movie “The Addams Family Values”, McGrath said she is making Wednesday her own.

“She's so bold and confident,” McGrath said of Wednesday. “She's unapologetic of herself.”

McGrath said she since taking on this role, she often asks herself “what would Wednesday do?” when faced with challenging situations.

“It's amazing to play her,” she said.

McGrath shared that her favorite moment in the show happened during a late night rehearsal of the “One Normal Night” dance, which had the cast and crew laughing.

“That was the best,” McGrath said of that moment.

Playing Wednesday's broth-

First Church of Monson to honor composer Charles Callahan

MONSON – A special service of worship to honor composer Charles Callahan (1951 -2023) will be held at First Church of Monson, 5 High St. on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m.

Kiel Krommer, Director of Music Ministry, will lead the service which will include organ solos, choral numbers, and instrumental arrangements. The public is invited to participate in the celebration of Callahan's contribution to our music heritage.

Callahan was a prolific composer for organ, chorus, and orchestra. His style has been described as “gentle, confident and lyrical.”

Callahan was a graduate of the Catholic University of America and the Curtis Institute

of Music. He performed on organs around the world and was organist and music director at churches in several states including Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Washington D.C.

In 2014, Callahan received the Distinguished Artist Award from the American Guild of Organists “for his illustrious career as composer, performer, teacher, consultant, and for lifelong service to the sacred music profession.”

The public is invited to this service of tribute to Callahan as participants enjoy the many talents evident in compositions, the singing of hymns, and the glorious sounds of the historic Johnson Organ, Opus 781, 1892.

Zonta Club is now accepting scholarship applications

The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley is now accepting applications for Zonta International's Young Women in Public Affairs Award.

This scholarship is open to a young woman (ages 16-19) who has demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes.

Deadline is March 8. The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley is also accepting applications for Zonta International's Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship.

Women of any age, pursuing a business program with major

field of specialization in accounting, economics, finance, business management, business technology, information technology, marketing, operations management, human resources management, international business or entrepreneurship at an accredited university/college/institute, who demonstrate outstanding potential in the field and are living or studying in a Zonta district/region, are eligible.

Deadline is June 15. For details about either of these scholarships, visit the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley's website at www.zontaq.org/scholarships.

ASSE seeks host families

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a non-profit, public benefit organization, is inviting local families to discover the many rewards of hosting a foreign exchange student.

ASSE students come from more than 50 countries worldwide: France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Japan and Australia, to name a few. They are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, and they are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture, family life, school, sports, etc.

Students also love to share their own culture and language with their host families, who welcome the students into their home, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience. Host families may be single parents, couples and single

persons. The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are carefully selected based upon academics and personality, and host families choose their student from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries and personal interests.

ASSE also offers qualified American students the opportunity to learn another language and culture by spending a school year, semester or a summer with a host family in another country.

Those interested in hosting an exchange student or becoming an exchange student abroad should call Alina at 1-800-677-2773, visit www.asse.com or send an email to asseusouth@asse.com to request more information or start the application process.

Robert Donald Brown Sr., 79

WARE – It is with great sorrow that our family announces the death of our dad and pepe, Robert Donald Brown, Sr.

He passed away at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, from natural causes, at the age of 79.

“Pepe” as he was known to his family, was born in Colchester, Vermont (Chittenden County) on Sept. 27, 1944, to the late Wilbur Edward Brown and Katherine Margaret (Moulton) Brown.

He was from a family of seven brothers and sisters, who have predeceased him. Bob has one surviving sister, Shirley Cook of New York. He has left his long-time love, Sandra Brown, with whom he had four children; Robert Brown and his wife Michelle, Darin Brown and his wife Lori, Shellie Brown and her fiancé, Dean, and Gloria Boone and her husband David. Pepe



Death notices

Brown Sr., Robert Donald
Died Feb. 2, 2024

Lizak, Ida H. (Rivers)
Died Feb. 3, 2024

leaves behind six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Bob was employed for most of his life as an employee of Ludlow Paper Mill, now Kanzaki Specialty Papers, where he retired after 20 plus years of service. He enjoyed building items, fishing, socializing, playing the guitar, and riding his Harley Davidson Motorcycle with his family.

Bob will be cremated at Springfield Cemetery & Crematory in Springfield. The family will have a Celebration of His Life at a later date. In lieu of flowers, sympathy cards may be sent to his family at 175 Osborne Road, Ware, MA 01082.

Cebula Funeral Home, Ware is assisting his family with the final arrangements. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

Ida H. Lizak, 82

WARREN – Ida H. (Rivers) Lizak of Warren, passed away on Feb. 3, 2024, surrounded by her family, at the age of 82.

She was the wife of Thadeus (Teddy) M. Lizak, whom she loved and adored. Ida was predeceased by her husband Teddy in 1989, stepson Michael in 1985 and son James (Jimmy) in 1987. She leaves behind her daughter, Linda (Lizak) Beaudry and her husband Robert, their children Robert III and his wife Julie, and Olivia. She leaves her daughter-in-law, Gail Fountain and her husband Mike, and their children Michael, Patrick and his fiancé Christine, Kevin and his wife Aubrey, and Kaitlan and her husband Kyle. Ida also leaves behind great-grandchildren Adalynn, Kylee, Ted, Layne, Abigail, Madison, Edie; and long-time family friend, Betty Barlow.

Ida was the thirteenth of fifteen children. She leaves behind her sister Mary Jane Alexander of Leicester, her brother Robert Rivers of Spencer, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers Wilfred (Peg), Kenneth, Roger, Henry, Donald and Willie and her sisters Helen, Betty Lou, Beverly, Iona, Harriet and Cecelia.



During her lifetime, Ida loved and worked hard. She would do just about anything for the people she loved.

Ida was baptized in the First Congregational Church in Spencer. Ida retired from Monson Developmental Center as a Certified Nursing Assistant. She loved the residents she cared for and she advocated for all people to be treated with respect and kindness, especially those that could not advocate for themselves.

When Ida retired, she spent some of her free time at the Warren Senior Center playing pitch and

cribbage. She looked forward to the banquets and social gatherings held at the Center.

Ida also enjoyed cheering for the Boston Red Sox. Most of all, Ida loved spending time with her entire extended family. Everyone looked forward to Ida's coffee cake and would ask that she bring it to all events.

Ida will be missed by her family and friends. She cared for others while she was here and can now rest with family and friends that have gone on before her.

A graveside service for Ida will be held in the spring in Pine Grove Cemetery in Warren. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Warren Fireman's Association at P.O. Box 608, Warren, MA 01083, or to Disabled American Veterans at help.dav.org.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

Spaghetti dinner at Eagles Club is Feb. 7

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

The West Warren Eagles Aerie 4133 offers a spaghetti dinner once

a month on the first Wednesday. In the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the term Aerie is the name of the building in which the members meet and hold events.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international non-profit orga-

nization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope.

er Pugsley is freshman Jade Fontaine. This is her second year on stage with Quaboag Drama Club.

“It's a lot of change,” Fontaine said of her role as the mischievous little brother. “It's really fun to reach out of my comfort zone.”

Staying in character while dancing and singing in a child-like voice has been a challenge that Fontaine has faced head-on and met.

Fontaine said her favorite part of being involved in this show is the camaraderie the cast and crew have shared with each other.

“It's definitely when we all cheer each other on,” she said.

Junior Abigail Jolin is in her fifth year of drama club, and has taken on her biggest role ever as Morticia Addams. Last school year she played the mother in “Freaky Friday”.

Playing Morticia, “is such a new experience,” Jolin said. “It's a very unique challenge, staying true to her character.”

Jolin said the rehearsals for “The Addams Family” have been a lot of fun and that all of the students get along “really well.”

Opposite Jolin is Gomez Addams is senior Ty Armitage, in his second year of drama club and his first leading role.

Gomez is a “super fun dad type,” Armitage said, but in a more morbid way.

“He brings such ‘dad joke’ energy to the whole thing...more so taboo,” he said.

Armitage said he's comfortable singing and dancing on stage (something he's done his whole life), but he is still getting used to acting.

“It's the one thing I struggle with,” he said, but through months of rehearsals he is well-prepared.

The best part of being involved with “The Addams

Family” has been getting to know the cast through countless rehearsals.

“It's been a great experience,” Armitage said.

Landing the role of Wednesday's love interest Lucas Beineke is Joshua Leaming in this third year with the drama club.

“He's the most normal person in the show,” Leaming said of Lucas. “He's a normal amount of happy, a normal amount of mad, and almost too normal for Wednesday.”

This role has challenged Leaming, who is a baritone, as some of Lucas' songs have high tenor notes.

“It's helped my singing a lot now in general,” he said.

Leaming gets to experience a lot of firsts in “The Addams Family”, with his first stage kiss, and marriage.

Playing Lucas' very normal parents Mal and Alice Beineke are Haylee Nash and Falon Rice, respectively.

Nash said Mal is the biggest role she's ever taken on and that it's been really fun. She said there's an inside joke amongst the cast and crew involving a spoof song “When You're a Beineke” (a play on “When You're an Addams”) and a good old-fashioned knee-slap.

Rice said Alice is a “very bubbly and in-your-face” character with a cheesy sense of humor.

“She's like the American dream reinvented as a person,” she said.

Acting as timid as Alice is in the show, is definitely a challenge for Rice, who is more outgoing than the character she plays.

Dante Martino is playing Lurch, a character that “takes some finesse” to play, due to his lack of speaking parts and emotionless demeanor.

Martino said he's finetuned his “zombie stare” to embody the family's tall and mysterious butler.

Parker Chaffee has been performing at Quaboag since the seventh grade and is taking on the role of fun-loving Uncle Fester.

“I feel like it's pretty natural for me,” Chaffee said of this role.

As Fester, Chaffee has had to learn how to play the banjolele, which has been a less than enjoyable experience for his friends and family. Practice has paid off and Chaffee is ready to amaze audiences with his acting and musical talent.

“It's a good show,” Joinville said. “I think the community is really going to enjoy it.”

About “The Addams Family”

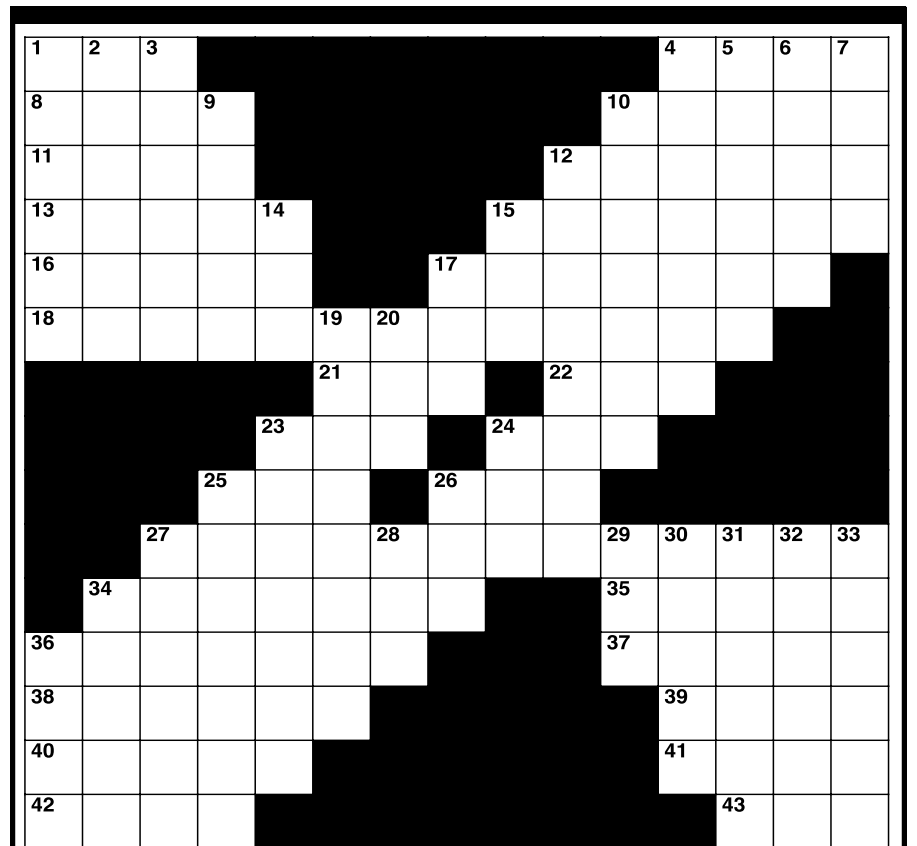
“The Addams Family” musical is presented by the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School's Drama Department and 21st Century Program. “The Addams Family” is based off a book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Music and lyrics for the musical are by Larry Hockman, which is based on the characters created by Charles Addams.

Tickets to the show are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors, and are available at the door.

The Quaboag Performing Arts Booster Club will offer concessions, a 50/50 raffle, and launch new merchandise featuring a new logo. Money raised by the booster club helps to support and promote the music and drama programs at the school.



CLUES ACROSS

- One point south of due east
- Coagulated blood
- Fortifying ditch
- Devotee of Hinduism
- Trunk of a tree
- Bank note
- Capital of Guam
- Study again
- Covered with hoarfrost
- Opening
- Legendary Rolling Stone
- Stray
- Computer storing system
- Signal
- Pitching

CLUES DOWN

- A way to board
- Get down
- Highly seasoned sausage
- First day of month
- Eurasian shrubs
- The organ that bears the ova
- Small lake
- Belief
- Sunrooms
- Metric weight unit
- Vasopressin
- Bravo! Bravo!
- One-time family room staple
- Got back

- together
- Anger
- Sang merrily
- Sea eagle
- Military men
- Kilo yard (abbr.)
- Found in the sea
- Protects from weather
- Type of medicine
- City along the Rhine
- Animal disease
- Martini ingredients
- Get away
- Lack of disunity
- One-time European Commission officer

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Jan. 29-Feb. 6, the Ware Police Department responded to 20 miscellaneous calls, 39 administrative calls, six traffic violations, 14 emergency 911 calls, two frauds, two harassments, two thefts/larcenies, one safety hazard, two breaking and entering/burglaries, three motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 30 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Monday, Jan. 29
12:13 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
2:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:49 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, South Street, Services Rendered
8:18 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Cummings Street, Services Rendered
8:53 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made

Tuesday, Jan. 30
2:10 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Prospect Street, Citation/Warning Issued
8:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
8:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Wednesday, Jan. 31
2:43 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled
3:59 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:46 a.m. Fire Alarm, West Street, Investigated
12:30 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Investigated
2:26 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Hutchinson Road, Services Rendered

Thursday, Feb. 1
2:39 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
6:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation/

Warning Issued
9:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
11:29 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Berkshire Drive, Services Rendered
12:15 p.m. Assault, West Street, Report Made
5:33 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Webb Court, Assist Given
7:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pleasant Street, Dispatch Handled
8:24 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Fisherdick Road, Could not Locate

Friday, Feb. 2
4:15 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Aspen Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:29 a.m. Assault, Pulaski Street, Advised
1:16 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
4 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Hillside Village, Services Rendered
5:49 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
9:58 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Services Rendered

Saturday, Feb. 3
12:01 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Walnut Street, Assist Given
12:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
3:33 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Otis Avenue, Report Made
5:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
8:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Sunday, Feb. 4
2:38 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Hillside Terrace, Citation/Warning Issued
9:29 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, North Street, Investigated
11:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vigeant Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Juan A. Fuentes Nieves, 43, Springfield

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.

WMS Warrant
3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
4:43 p.m. Safety Hazard, Route 32, Dispatch Handled
5:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
6:42 p.m. Warrant Service, West Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Joshua Hubbard, 39, Ware
WMS Warrant; WMS Warrant
9:48 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, Dispatch Handled

Monday, Feb. 5
3:23 a.m. Bylaw Violation, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued
5:01 a.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:43 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Sheehy Road, Dispatch Handled
2:28 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered
3:47 p.m. Vehicle Fire, West Street, Advised

Tuesday, Feb. 6
6:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation/Warning Issued
9:41 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gould Road, Investigated
10:35 a.m. Assault, West Street, Report Made
10:37 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled

Warren Police Log

During the week of Jan. 21-27, the Warren Police Department responded to 229 building/property checks, 26 community policings, four emergency 911 calls, one trespasser/prowler, one identity theft, one fraud/forgery, one threat, one motor vehicle accident, two animal calls and 21 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Jan. 21
4:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brook Road, Written Warning
5:33 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Reed Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Jan. 22
5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, South Street, Transported to Hospital
Summons: Shane D. Riedle-Willar, 33, Ware
OUI-Liquor or .08%, 2nd Offense; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Marked Lanes Violation; Alcohol in Motor

Vehicle, Possess Open Container of; Unsafe Operation of Motor Vehicle; Seat Belt, Fail Wear; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

Tuesday, Jan. 23
2:13 a.m. Headache, Crescent Street, Transported to Hospital
4:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Jorge L. Leon, 40, Holyoke
License Revoked as HTO, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID; Number Plate Violation
4:31 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Old Dana Road, Officer Took Call
9:27 p.m. Overdose/Poisoning, Gilbert Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Jan. 24
3:22 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Comins Pond Road, Transported to Hospital

1:31 p.m. Bleeding, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Jan. 25
6:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
5:34 p.m. Welfare Check, Washington Street, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Jan. 26
8:50 a.m. Identity Theft, High Street, Message Delivered
5:58 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, High Street, Report Filed
11:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Saturday, Jan. 27
12:18 p.m. Threats, Maple Street, Criminal Complaint
Summons: Steven A. Moorhouse, 58, Warren
Threat to Commit Crime (Murder)
3:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Jan. 29-Feb. 5, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 78 building/property checks, 41 directed/area patrols, nine traffic controls, eight emergency 911 calls, eight radar assignments, one assist other agency, eight complaints, one safety hazard, two investigations, two animal calls and 13 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Jan. 29
11:28 a.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
11:51 a.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
1 p.m. Investigation, Main Street, Officer Handled
2:52 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

Tuesday, Jan. 30
10:28 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Fiske Road, Officer Handled
11:11 p.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Jan. 31
5:47 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Turkey Street, Transported to Hospital
6:01 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Lower Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:06 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
2:09 p.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Church Street, Arrest(s) Made
7:49 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Ware, Negative Contact

Thursday, Feb. 1
2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Lane, Written Warning
3:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
3:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
5:49 p.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, Feb. 3
3:18 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Rail Trail, Unfounded
3:51 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Joslyn Road, Spoken To
4:55 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Church Street, Vehicle Towed
5:02 p.m. Complaint, Joslyn Road, Officer Handled
9:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
10:01 p.m. 911 Stolen Motor Vehicle, Short Road, Could Not Locate

Sunday, Feb. 4
5:22 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
11:01 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
3:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
5:41 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Broad Street, Officer Handled

Workshop13 Players seeks to audition actors for theatre program

WARE –The Workshop13 Players will hold cold auditions on Feb. 15 and 16 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”. 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 Blessinger at 401-465-9686 or email dbless9766@aol.com. **About Workshop13** Workshop13 Cultural Arts

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

RACE from page 8

August 7 - Outlaw Mods, August 14 - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour and October 12 - Outlaw Mods). Thompson Speedway will continue to be operated by the American-Canadian Tour and Pro All Star Series for 2024, keeping short track racing alive at the Connecticut oval.

McKennedy will compete at Stafford Motor Speedway for the NAPA Spring Sizzler (April 27-28), Open Modified Mountain Masters (July 17) and the Fall Final with the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series on Sept. 28.

His NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour starts will take place at Monadnock Speedway (May 4 and July 20), Seekonk Speedway (June 1) and New Hampshire Motor Speedway (June 22). McKennedy will compete in the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series at Thompson (April 7), White Mountain Motorsports Park (July 27) and Star Speedway (Sept. 15).

The 2022 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion, McKennedy is no stranger to winning races and championships. On top of the 2022 title, McKennedy finished second in the 2020 Tour standings driving

for Tommy Baldwin Racing. He also picked up his first career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win at Myrtle Beach Speedway in 2018, and has another victory at Claremont Motorsports Park in 2022, which helped lead to his title.

McKennedy is a former ISMA Supermodified champion, 4-time ISMA Star Classic winner, 4-time ISMA Ollie Silva Memorial winner and 4-time Modified Racing Series champion. He has multiple Star Speedway championships to his resume, a North-South Shootout with Tommy Baldwin Racing (2018) and a championship in the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series (2014), along with many karting titles in his early years and additional race wins in multiple divisions. McKennedy was also named the 2016 North East Touring Series driver of the year.

For a full tentative schedule for Jon McKennedy's 2024 season, see below.

2024 Schedule
Subject To Change
April 7 - Thompson Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series
April 13 - New Hampshire Motor Speedway - Open Modifieds

April 27-28 - Stafford Speedway - NAPA Spring Sizzler
May 4 - Monadnock Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour
May 27 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series
June 1 - Seekonk Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour
June 13 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series
June 22 - New Hampshire Motor Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour
June 27 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series
July 17 - Stafford Speedway - Open Modified Mountain Masters
July 20 - Monadnock Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour
July 25 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series
July 27 - White Mountain Motorsports Park - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series
Aug. 7 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series
Aug. 14 - Thompson Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour
Sept. 15 - Star Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series
Sept. 28 - Stafford Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track NAPA Fall Final
Oct. 12 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

T-BIRDS from page 8

man scrum outside the blue paint and found Brandon Scanlin for a one-time shot through Subban to make it a 3-2 game.

Then at 2:46, Korczak was in the middle of things again, driving a puck to the net, where towering Matt Rempe rammed home the rebound, getting Hartford back to even in not even six minutes of game action.

Springfield utilized its timeout and was able to stabilize defensively. With just under seven minutes left in the period, rookie Zach Dean came up with his signature

play of the season. The rookie centerman beautifully toe-dragged the puck from the left circle to walk around a defender before elevating a backhand shot over Garand's glove at 13:47, giving Springfield the lead back at 4-3 on his first goal in 13 games.

Springfield's well-disciplined night carried through all 60 minutes, as the T-Birds did not allow Hartford's fourth-ranked power play any chances all evening. At 7:54 of the third period, captain Matthew Peca added to the lead again with a wrist shot that ricocheted off Garand high into the air and bounced over the goal line to

make it 5-3.

The insurance goal proved to be more than enough, as the Wolf Pack could not find a way to get one through Subban and the defensive front of the T-Birds. Will Bitten added his 10th of the season into an empty net at 18:08 with McGing tallying a third assist on the game's final goal.

The T-Birds get the All-Star break to get rest before their next contest on Saturday, Feb. 10 for Ice-O-Topes Night at the MassMutual Center against the Hershey Bears. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m.

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public notices

Town of Ware Notice of Public Hearing Zoning Board of Appeals LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-01

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Zoning Board of Appeals, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024 at 7:00pm** on the application of ReSource Waste Services of Ware LLC, for a Request for Modification of Approval Special Permit (SP-2024-01) regarding approved existing Special Permits (SP-2001-01, SP-2013-01, SP-2014-01) under Section 4.8.5, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members

of the Zoning Board of Appeals as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.
SITE LOCATION: 198 East Street, Ware, MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 10452, Page 147. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 24-0-16. Zoned: Highway Commercial (HC).
A complete copy of the

application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under Recent Filings. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.
WARE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Lewis Iadarola,
Chairman
02/01, 02/08/2024

Town of Hardwick Conservation Commission
Legal Ad :
Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act that a Public Meeting will be held for an **Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 6:30 pm** at the **Municipal Office**

Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville. All interested parties are urged to attend.
Applicant:
Ram Seetharaman
Description of Proposed Work: Establish boundaries and types of wetland resource areas present
Location: 0 Lyman Road
Town: Hardwick
Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspubli notices.org>.
02/08/2024

TOWN OF HARDWICK Public Hearing Monday, February 26, 2024 6:30 PM
Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031 FY 2024
Town of Hardwick CDBG Application
The Hardwick Board of Selectmen will con-

duct a Public Hearing on **Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:30 PM** at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031. The public is encouraged to attend this hearing to discuss the Town's FY 2024 application to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities (EOHLC) for up to \$950,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. If inclement weather occurs, the Public Hearing will be held on March 11, 2024, at 6:30 PM at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building.
The Town seeks public input on potential grant-funded projects. Potential projects under consideration for the application currently include 1) Highland Terrace infrastructure improvements, and 2) a planning project for

Gilbertville Memorial Park.
All persons and organizations with questions or comments regarding the grant application will have an opportunity to be heard. If awarded, the Town of Hardwick will be responsible for administration of the grant program with assistance from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC). Those unable to attend the hearing may mail written comments to the Hardwick Board of Selectmen, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031, or comments may be emailed to CMRPC at jferguson@cmrpc.org. Comments must be received no later than March 15, 2024.
The Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building is accessible to disabled persons. Persons who require special accommodation to attend the public meeting

should contact the Town Administrator's office at (413) 477-6197 Ext. 101 at least two business days prior to the hearing. For further information, contact Joe Ferguson at CMRPC at (508) 459-3359 or at jferguson@cmrpc.org.
Hardwick Board of Selectmen
February 08, 2024
02/08/2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN ON THE APPLICATION OF PATRIOT FIREARMS & AMMUNITION OF 317 PALMER ROAD TO BE A PUBLIC WAREHOUSE WITHIN AND FOR THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY OF WARE, MA FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A GENERAL WAREHOUSE BUSINESS AS PROVIDED IN

CHAPTER 105 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS
02/08, 02/15/2024
LEGAL NOTICE
In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Bruce Charpentier, Brandy Ventura, Jennifer Combs and Dennis Craig will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 31 Southbridge Rd., Warren MA at **9:00 am on March 3, 2024.**
Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.
02/08, 02/15/2024



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