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Litany for a Broken World

Hardwick author releases ninth science fiction novel

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Resident and author Lisa Janice “LJ” Cohen has recently released her ninth novel, the first in a trilogy called “Litany for a Broken World”.

Cohen began writing science fiction novels about 20 years ago, having previously worked as a physical therapist for 25 years.

“I wrote this book...or sort of this book, six years ago,” she said.

Cohen said she was inspired to write “Litany for a Broken World” after hearing a story about a tent city in Boston on NPR. She decided to set her novel in the world of the unhoused.

“I thought it would be important enough to do that,” she said. “As a physical therapist you worked with unhoused patients.”

It is also set in the multiverse, where some of the characters are able to travel between universes.

“The walls between the universes are a little bit



Hardwick author Lisa “LJ” Cohen reads from her newest novel, “Litany for a Broken World” at the Stone Church Cultural Center on March 16.

porous,” Cohen explained. “The multiverse is a really interesting concept.”

Cohen held a book reading and signing at the Stone Church Cultural Center on March 16, welcoming ques-

tions from the audience and sharing her creative process.

She started by thanking those in attendance for their support, and reading the novel’s two epigraphs, one by Rabbi Tarfon and the second

by William Sloane Coffin, which she heard at the funeral of her husband’s coworker.

“It struck me, and I knew I had to use it,” Cohen said.

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Hearing reviews social services

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – The Community Development Authority and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission held a public hearing to discuss the fiscal year 2025 Community Development Block Grant application.

“We do a service plan with them and identify the steps they need to take. We work with them in an order they choose.”

– Paula Kularski

This grant is offered annually by the Department of Housing and Community Development, with this year’s award amount available to the town up to \$850,000.

If awarded, up to 20% of the grant can be used to fund various social services, including The Literacy Project, which offers high school equivalency preparation and career pathways; Behavioral Health Network’s Planned Approach to Community

Health; Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation’s Senior Outreach Program and the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force.

At the March 17 hearing, a representative from each of these social services organization presented their requests for funding, while explaining how these services benefit the community.

Colleen Kucinski, Executive Director of The Literacy Project spoke about how the non-profit has helped many in the community earn their high school equivalency diploma by offering both in-person and online classes for adult learners. Each year, The Literacy Project holds a commencement ceremony for its graduates in Grenville Park.

This year, The Literacy Project will celebrate its 40th anniversary.

Paula Kularski of the Behavioral Health Network explained how the PATCH program is a model of how

Please see **SERVICES**, page 11

School Committee hears update from special ed. audit

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – School Committee member Christopher Desjardins said the special education auditor met with seven parents and 10 general education teachers and completed 24 classroom observations in the buildings.

At the March 11 School

Committee meeting, Desjardins said the auditor was looking at common themes through her interviews with the parents, including issues with communication and lack of services. For the teachers, the theme was lack of support.

The auditor noted that the high school was 40% compliant in terms of having the required support for the students; the middle school had

about 29% compliance; and the elementary school was 100%.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Lovato said on the day that the auditor came through the schools to observe, the principals had to pull the special education support from those classrooms to fill teacher absences.

“The special education teachers were assigned to

fill some of the regular education absences, therefore when she [the auditor] went in there, they were not available for that service,” Lovato said. “And so that’s how we were out of compliance.”

Lovato said issues with communication were identified throughout the school district, from teachers to administration.

“It wasn’t identified with one group, but it was a

consist message across the board,” he said.

Desjardins said there needs to be a district-wide improvement with communications, and that phone calls need to be returned to parents.

He said in terms of absences, there needs to be substitutes every day, and suggested the committee

Please see **AUDIT**, page 5

Selectmen appoint new Housing Authority member

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – The Board of Selectmen began their meeting with a discussion to appoint Mark Carron to the Warren Housing Authority until the annual town election on May 6.

Carron attended the Board of Selectmen’s meeting and expressed his interest in joining the Housing Authority, which is currently experiencing a lot of vacancies. Recently, the Selectmen appointed Travis Baker to the Housing Authority and is now looking to appoint another member to help fill those vacancies.

There was one resident who addressed his concerns about appointing a new member to the board. The resident said that there is a history of poor management groups in the town’s Housing Authority and the resident does not want to have a repeated incident.

Members of the board told the resident that the appointment is short term, and the residents will have the opportunity to vote for or

Please see **WARREN**, page 7

‘Ireland to America’ program presented at Town House



By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library welcomed musician and performer Roger Tincknell to the Town House this past weekend.

The program was called “Ireland to America”, where guests could sing, clap, dance and witness the multi-instrumentalist who provides music programs for all ages.

This program was supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. This event was also supported by the Friends of Paige Memorial Library.

Please see **IRELAND**, page 8

PB continues health care zoning hearing

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – The Planning Board continued with the public hearing on a proposed Health Care Services zoning bylaw amendment.

This public hearing was continued from the Feb. 20 Planning Board meeting to consider the newly proposed health care services amendments to the zoning map which will include the Mary Lane Hospital site. There are various adjacent parcels and sections as part of this zoning proposal.

The board reviewed and read a letter and a proposal that was submitted to them in regard to what is in the best interest of the community and what appropriate use or uses will be placed in the area that follows the proposed zoning of

health care services. The Planning Board will keep the letter and proposal in their records for future reference.

Planning Board member Richard Starodj believes there is no accomplishment by just continually talking about the proposed zoning district. The ultimate decision will happen when the residents vote on it at town meeting.

“Get it to the point of actually voting on it,” Starodj said.

The board suggested that whoever presents the article at the town meeting will have to keep the presentation brief and to the point of what is being proposed.

Secretary Liz Hancock wanted to go over the list of uses sections of the proposed zoning district,

Please see **ZONING**, page 3

Submitted Photo by Julie Bullock
Roger Tincknell is a performer who presented his program “Ireland to America” at the Town House in Hardwick this past weekend.



Voter registration deadline for STM is March 28

WARE – The Town of Ware will have a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Ware High School.

The last date to register to vote to participate in this Special Town Meeting is Friday, March 28, at 5 p.m. If you are already registered to vote and have remained at the same address you need not register again.

However, if you have moved and failed to register at the new address you must do so. If you have never registered to vote you can on this date or any date prior to in order to participate in the Special Town Meeting.

You can register in person during normal business hours at the Town Clerk’s Office on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Town Hall is now closed to the public on Wednesdays.

You may also register online at www.ma.gov Elections and Voting. You can also check your voter registration status here.

Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk Nancy Talbot by calling 413-967-9648 extension 177.

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, March 24
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, March 25
9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class
9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Cornhole
5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, March 26
9 a.m. Tai-Chi
10 a.m. Scat
10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse office hours
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, March 27
9 a.m. Walking Club. Meet 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
1 p.m. Cornhole
2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, March 28
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 you name on the lunch list.

Monday, March 24
Pastrami Sandwich, Onion Rings, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, March 25
Chicken Marsala, Mushroom Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, March 26
Veal Parmigiana with Pasta, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, March 27
Chicken Fingers, French Fries, Greek Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, March 28
Fish Sandwich with Lettuce, Tomato and Pickles, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Are You Old News?



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

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



File Photo

Last week's photo from 1989 showed the Ware Jr. High Basketball team at the end of their season. This team was coached by Bob Casaceli, the junior high gym teacher at that time. Pictured front row from left are Michael Gerulaitis, Tim LaGrant, Scott Chouinard, Becca Kelly (Wenning), Chris Seveney and Paul Skutnik. Back row from left are Chris Talbot, Mike Cembura, Justin Grushey, Lonny Murphy, Derrick Mettig, Mark Martinez and Derek Atherholt. The team and coach were correctly identified by Becca (Kelly) Wenning, who now resides in Coldwater, Ohio. Wenning said the photo brought a "huge smile" to her face.

Wenning shared about her experience on the team: "I truly believe that the experience of playing with the boys significantly contributed to my development as a confident founder, CEO, and community leader. It was a pivotal time that shaped who I am today. The impact of being on that team was profound, inspiring me to establish a girls' soccer program and mentor students for over 20 years, all thanks to the opportunity granted by a coach who believed in my potential and the boys who accepted me as their teammate."

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

Dog licenses must be purchased by March 31

WARE – Owners of dogs, six months or older, must register their dogs in the city or town they reside in per Massachusetts General Laws each year.

If you live in Ware, your dog must be registered prior to Monday, March 31. To date only 410 dogs have been registered by owners, while there are over 1,100 unregistered dogs needing to be licensed.

If you have moved, no longer have a dog please notify the Town Clerk by calling 413-967-9648 extension 177.

Dog licenses can be purchased in person during

normal business hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Town offices are now closed to the public on Wednesdays.

Licenses may also be purchased by U.S. Mail, simply see the instructions located on the Town Clerk page of the town website (www.townofware.com) or under News and Notices. The information on how to license by mail or using the drop box are listed.

Check your current licenses – if the rabies vaccination information is current there is no need to send in the certificate; however,

if your dog’s rabies vaccination has expired you will need to get a new vaccination and mail the new certificate with your request.

When licensing other than in person you must make check payable to the Town of Ware, and enclose a self-addressed, postage paid envelope with your request to license.

Be sure to give us your name, address and telephone contact information so we can enter accurate information for the record.

Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk by calling 413-967-9648 extension 177.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day April 12

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, April 12 from 8 a.m.-noon.

This event is open to the residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. A recycling center sticker is not required.

Please note, there are fees per item charged to cover the cost of hauling and processing.

Prices are as follows: mattress/waterbed mattress/futon, \$30; couch, \$30; sleeper sofa bed/pullout couch, \$40; loveseat/upholstered chair, \$25; pool table, \$25; wall unit cabinets, \$20; large entertainment center,

\$20; sink, \$15; ceiling fan/upright fan/box fan, \$10; toilet, \$20; carpeting/foam carpet backing, \$15; kitchen/dining table, \$15; bookcase/bureau, \$15; trash compactor, \$10; wooden chair/end table/coffee table/night stand, \$12; car seat (baby/child), \$7; bulk Styrofoam (bagged), \$5; and suitcases, \$5.

The staff and volunteers reserve the right to price or reject other items not listed above accordingly on site.

For more information, people can email recycling@townofhardwick.com or stop by the Hardwick Recycling Center during open hours. Volunteers are also needed during the Bulk Waste Collection Event.

Brown Bag Sale of winter clothing ongoing until April 14

WARE – The Ware Senior Center Thrift Store, 1 Robbins Road, will have a Brown Bag Sale now through April 14 for winter clothing only, including hats, gloves and winter coats.

Fill up a brown bag supplied by the senior center with men’s or women’s clothing for only \$10. This sale is presented by the Friends of the Ware Senior Center, Inc.

Store hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. The thrift store is open to the public.

Beaver Lake Club Corporation offers it annual Louis H. Healy Scholarship

WARE – Beaver Lake Club Corporation of Ware announces its annual Louis H. Healy Scholarship of up to \$1,000.

This scholarship will be presented to deserving high school seniors or current college students who are residents of the Town of Ware or who are a member of the Beaver Lake Club

Community.

The scholarship is given in the memory of Louis Healy a long time and well-respected member of the Beaver Lake community and the town of Ware. Lou was an active leader and participant in both town and community matters and his family and friends continue to celebrate his thoughts, ideals, and memory by awarding this yearly academic scholarship.

The application deadline is April 14, and applications must be postmarked by that date. The selected recipient will be named and the scholarships will be awarded in early June.

Applications and information can be obtained by sending an email to crietsch22@gmail.com or by mailing a request to BLCC: P.O. Box 253, Ware, MA 01082.

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USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR DELI MONTEREY JACK CHEESE.....	\$3.99 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN PIG FEET	\$2.49 lb
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USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB BAG	77¢ lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN AT SEA TALAPIA FILLETS.....	\$2.99 lb
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Paige Memorial Library lists March, April events

HARDWICK – On Saturday, March 29 at 1:30 p.m., Edward Orzechowski will present his latest book “Becoming Darlene – The Story of Belchertown Patient #4952” at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road.

Darlene, the eighth of 14 children, was abused, neglected, and sent to Belchertown State School. Although established with good intentions, Belchertown State School grew overcrowded, under-budgeted, and understaffed.

Darlene was “Discharged from Placement” at age 17 with no skills or training but she dreamed of getting married and raising a family. She married a recently returned Vietnam veteran and they had two sons.

Darlene was determined to raise them to see that the world isn’t an awful place.

Registration is requested by calling 413-477-6704, or emailing director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com.

The library is also a good place to try a new hobby or rediscover an old interest.

The library has books and workshops: Knitting for Adults on March Saturdays at 11 a.m., Paige Writers

on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m., Book Club on the third Wednesday at 2 p.m., Cookbook Club on the last at 5 p.m., and FUNDamentals of Art on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. offering printmaking, cardmaking, painting, calligraphy, or bring your own craft and join with others to socialize and share knowhow.

Explore Pysanky on April 1 and 8. Please call for more information or to register at 413-477-6704, or email director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com.

On Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library open their Seed Library and Bake Sale. Buy home baked goodies and choose some seeds for your garden.

Learn tips on seed starting and growing with special guest Paulina Borrego, UMass Science & Engineering Librarian, Mass Aggie Seed Librarian, and the Common Seed program teaching gardening and seed saving.

Bring the children and visit with the Easter Bunny and make a craft. For more information, call 413-477-6704 or email director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com.

AMVETS Post announces Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship

WARE – The Ware AMVETS Post 2577 will award the annual Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship to a graduating senior residing in Ware regardless of the school district they attend.

Michael was a devoted musician sharing his talents with the town of Ware. He represented the town at the Quabbin Music Festival, Western District Festival and was a member of the Ware Community Band.

A music graduate of Westfield State he continued to honor the veterans

of the town by playing Taps at their burial ceremony and also at all patriotic and Memorial events.

To apply for this award of \$1,000, you need only to send your application, school transcript and an essay stating your accomplishments and what your future plans are. Applications are available at your guidance office and must be submitted by May 1.

Please mail to: Ware AMVETS Post 2577, c/o Richard Rucki, 8 First Ave., Ware, MA 01082.

Take-out turkey dinner set for April 7

WARE – The United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will hold a take-out turkey dinner on Monday, April 7 from 5-6 p.m. or until food runs out.

Drive up to 49 Church St. and a runner will take your order and bring it to your car. Meals are \$15 per

person and can be paid by cash or check.

The turkey dinner includes all of the fixings: potatoes, stuffing, vegetable, roll, coffee, tea and dessert.

For more information, people may call the Church Office at 413-967-9981.

Fun on the farm

Line dancing and more at The Farm Next Door

By Abby McCoy
Correspondent

WARE – If you’re looking for a fun, welcoming way to spend your Monday evening, The Farm Next Door has just what you need.

From 6-7:30 p.m. every Monday, the barn at 61 Coffey Hill Road transforms into a lively dance floor for line dancing enthusiasts of all levels. Whether you’re a complete beginner or have some experience, this class welcomes everyone to join in the fun for just \$10 per person.

The Farm Next Door is the labor of love for Gina and Eric Dane, who started their business in 2022. With over 100 chickens on their property, they were left with an abundance of eggs that would go bad if not sold.

What started as a humble egg-selling operation quickly blossomed into a vibrant community space. Today, the farm hosts events, classes, and gatherings in their barn, providing a variety of activities for the locals to enjoy.

Aside from the line dancing classes, The Farm Next Door also offers the space for weddings, graduation parties, and other special events when the weather warms up. They are also expanding their offerings by taking beekeeping classes with the Hampden County Beekeeping Association,



Participants enjoy Monday night line dancing at The Farm Next Door.

aiming to introduce two beehives in April to produce honey for sale.

In the fall, the farm becomes a hub for Halloween activities, providing a safe and fun space for neighborhood kids to enjoy the festivities.

At the heart of the Dane family’s mission is a desire to give back to their community, offering affordable eggs, enjoyable activities, and a place to connect with others.

When The Farm Next Door received requests from customers about hosting a dance class, Gina reached out to her longtime friend, Tracy Levinson, to make it happen. Tracy, who has been passionate about dance her whole life, began teaching line dancing at the farm in January 2025.



Turley Photos by Abby McCoy
The Farm Next Door owner Gina Dane is shown with line dancing instructor Tracy Levinson.

Tracy’s dance journey took a break in her 20s, but she rediscovered her love for movement a few years ago.

Two and a half years ago, she took up line dancing, and

Please see **FARM**, page 8

ZONING from page 1

which includes definitions, area requirements, special use regulations, and height and coverage requirements.

Hancock wanted to know if the board wanted to keep helipad use as part of healthcare services. There were some notes in their packets for the proposed zoning district that needed to be corrected. The board wants to understand and the public to understand all the allowable uses on the site if it becomes a health care services district.

There are some uses that would be allowed by right, but some uses even falling under healthcare services would require a special permit. A special permit is described as a review process to make sure the applicant is obeying the zoning bylaw.

Vice Chair Chris Dimarzio explained the special permit is to “make sure the proposal is going to be in compliance with the harmony of the neighborhood.”

The board reviewed other potential uses that fall under healthcare services. For example, retail sales, materials and supplies for medical use or purposes. There are other uses being discussed involving the helipad, hospital and a museum.

Looking ahead towards the future, the board wants to include an explanation of uses to guide the residents in the future. The other uses discussed that fall under healthcare services is research and development laboratories, clinics or urgent care facilities.

The Planning Board would sort through the defi-

nitions and hope to have some form of healthcare come to town in the next few years. The town is hoping a developer or company will want to see the hospital site and perhaps offer some sort of healthcare service. Starodoj said developments are not rushed and take time to be installed.

“Be better to let sit and see what comes along,” Starodoj said.

The board would then review the zoning map as well as the parcels on the property that still houses Mary Lane Hospital. Hancock read a copy of the 2016 Master Plan that included several pages of references to how healthcare promotes big business and can help support other establishments in the area and surrounding areas.

Hancock also stated while reading the pages from the Master Plan that healthcare does help promote the economy.

Chair Kenneth Crosby believes the proposal for the zoning amendment has reached a proper format and has good terminology as to what the zoning amendment is proposing. The majority of the Planning Board believes the proposal should be moved to the town meeting. When presenting the proposal, the Planning Board suggested that the zoning proposal is to be explained in a simple manner.

The Planning Board would close the public hearing on Health Care Zoning Bylaw amendment for the consideration of the newly proposed zoning district, Health Care Services.

NOTICE

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

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 pouimette@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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Auditor’s Medicaid audit identifies potential cost savings

BOSTON – State Auditor Diana DiZoglio’s Office released an annual report of the recent work conducted by the office’s Medicaid Audit Unit, from March 2, 2024, through Feb. 28, 2025.

Over the past year, the State Auditor’s Office released three audit reports on the state’s Medicaid program, known as MassHealth, and its compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and other applicable authoritative guidance. Combined, these three reports identified an estimated \$27,259,164 in potential cost savings and provided several recommendations to strengthen internal controls and oversight in MassHealth’s program administration.

MassHealth provides

access to healthcare services annually to approximately two million eligible children, families, seniors, and people with disabilities, all with low and moderate incomes. In fiscal year 2024, MassHealth program expenditures totaled \$20.1 billion, of which approximately 39% was paid by the Commonwealth. Medicaid program expenditures represent approximately 33% of the Commonwealth’s total annual budget.

The State Auditor’s Office maintains ongoing independent oversight of the MassHealth program and its contracted service providers, with audit reports identifying ways MassHealth can strengthen its controls to prevent and detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanage-

ment in the Massachusetts Medicaid program, as well as improper claims for Medicaid services.

The Office uses data analytics in all audits conducted by the Unit. By doing so, auditors can identify areas of high risk, isolate outlier providers, and in many cases perform reviews of 100% of the claims under audit, thus significantly improving the integrity, efficiency, and effectiveness of audits.

Moreover, in many cases, data analytics has enabled the Unit to fully quantify the financial effects of improper payments, whether they involve one claim or 10 million claims. The use of data analytics techniques has enabled the Unit to identify greater cost recoveries and

savings; isolate weaknesses in claim-processing systems; and make recommendations regarding MassHealth’s system and program regulations to promote future cost savings, improve service delivery, and make government work better.

Released on Dec. 31, 2024, an audit of the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) – Review of Capitation Payments with Multiple Identification Numbers revealed MassHealth made capitation payments on behalf of members with multiple IDs, with an estimated \$3,813,827 in improper billings.

The audit recommends MassHealth require that all members flagged by data matches submit documenta-

tion to confirm their identity. If the member does not provide documentation, then MassHealth should either pause the member’s coverage or move the member to its fee-for-service model until it can determine whether the member’s coverage should be terminated.

MassHealth should also investigate and resolve all instances where its data matches indicate that a member has been assigned more than one member ID. Moreover, MassHealth should implement a match criterion that focuses solely on Social Security Numbers (SSNs). Because an SSN should be unique to each

Please see **MEDICAID**, page 6

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Can I avoid paying the Medicare premium?

Dear Rusty:

Is there any way I can get out of paying the \$185 I am told will be taken out of my Social Security for Medicare Part B when I turn 65?

We pay for Medicare all our working lives, and now I have to pay a monthly premium for insurance that only covers 80%.

Signed: Disheartened Senior

Dear Disheartened:

For clarification, the money you paid into Medicare while working during your lifetime was for Medicare Part A, inpatient hospitalization coverage. The Medicare taxes paid while working entitled you to free Medicare coverage for Part A, inpatient hospitalization coverage, but they do not entitle you to Medicare coverage for outpatient services coverage for doctors, medical tests, etc.. For that coverage from Medicare, you must enroll in Medicare Part B, for which there is a monthly premium (\$185 per month for 2025). If you wish to have Medicare Part B coverage, you must enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65, unless you have other “creditable” healthcare coverage from an employer.

The Medicare Part B premium will be automatically deducted from your Social Security payment when you enroll in Medicare and there is no way to avoid it if you wish to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient medical services. But, if you currently have “creditable” healthcare coverage from an employer, you can delay enrolling in Medicare Part B (thus avoiding the premium) until your employer coverage ends.

If you don’t enroll in Medicare Part B during your initial enrollment period at 65 or in a Special Enrollment Period following the end of your creditable employer healthcare coverage, then you will incur a penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside

of the prescribed enrollment periods. That penalty is a permanent increase in your Medicare Part B premium. FYI, “creditable” is an employer group plan with at least 20 participants.

We do not advise going without outpatient healthcare coverage, so you should carefully consider enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. If you are already collecting Social Security benefits, you will be automatically enrolled, but you can opt out of Part B if you wish – it’s just not advisable, unless you have current creditable healthcare coverage from an employer.

So, to recap: the Medicare taxes you paid while working only entitled you to free Medicare Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage. You must enroll in Medicare Part B (for which there is a monthly premium) to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient healthcare services. Both Medicare Part A and Part B have deductibles and copayments, for which you may wish to consider getting either a supplemental insurance plan or a Medicare Advantage plan. But, in either case, you must still have both Medicare Part A and Part B to obtain such additional healthcare coverage.

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

Grateful for the March garden

I don’t know about you, but those first few warmer days do something to my brain. I begin to expect that we are in for nice weather all the time.

It’s easy to start dreaming and scheming, but alas, we are not exactly on a fast track to summer just yet, nor should we be. There is much to enjoy about this time of year.

Here are just a few of my favorite things about March.

First on the list is that my however-many-year-old Gerber daisy houseplant gave me a flower, with a couple more on the way. I had three of these plants last year. I gave a two away in one of my “less is more” moods.

Do they bloom as well as they did when they were a year old? No, but that bright and cheery daisy in seashell pink was just the pick-me-up I needed last week.

Soon, you will see Gerber daisies for sale in the grocery stores and plant nurseries. Try overwintering one in a bright but cool window next winter for your own dose of pre-spring happiness.

After the size 10 footprint landed on the corner of my front border, in exactly the spot that I planted some tulip bulbs last fall, I made a fence out of apple tree prunings. What a fun March activity!

I bent each long piece into a U shape and plunged the ends into the ground, starting the next one in the middle of the one prior. That outta keep my husband off the bulbs; I hope at least.

Speaking of prunings, I have started to accumulate “pea brush.” I’ll be sowing pea seeds in the next few weeks, and although I typically plant the seeds right up

against the garden’s fence, I am going to need more room this year, and these leftover

prunings will be perfect for the tendrils to grab hold of.

I make a wide bed the length of the garden row, insert the prunings in the middle of the row and plant pea seeds four deep up against the branches. In addition to my old stand by, shelling peas, I am going to be sowing sugar snap and snow peas.

My first experience with sugar snap peas came from harvesting some pods while on a weekend getaway at bed and breakfast. It was a cool little place in southern New Hampshire where you could pick the vegetables from the kitchen garden and eat them for dinner.

It’ll be fun to grow my own for fresh eating.

“Pea brush” can also be used to support annual or perennial flowers that tend to have weak or floppy stems. The brush blends into the scenery a little better than stakes and twine, and it’s easily dismantled when the time comes.

My favorite March bulb is a harbinger of all harbingers, the Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*). Toughened points on the leaf tips make it possible for the snowdrop to push through the crusty soil of late winter.

Two or three strappy leaves grow from each bulb; most often there is just one flower. You’ll notice three

white outer petals first and upon closer inspection you’ll see green tipped inner petals.

The flowers are held on the stem in a nodding fashion and in my experience they stay in bloom for upwards of three weeks. Reportedly they are well adapted for bees, at least those that are brave enough to venture out of the hive in search of pollen during the warmest days of late winter!

Snowdrops will naturalize if happy, increasing in numbers both above and below the ground! Although we “deadhead” most bulbs, keeping spent flower heads of this genus in place will allow seeds to ripen and new plants to form.

It is interesting to observe the process of a snowdrop self-sowing. Once the flower has gone by a large seed will form; because of its weight, the stem will bend toward the ground dropping its ripe seed at a perfect distance from the mother plant.

Under no circumstances should the foliage of a bulb be removed until it is brown and dry. It may not be the most beautiful to look at, but all the while that it is green it is making and storing food for next year’s flowers.

Enjoy these early days in and around the garden.

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



WARE RIVER NEWS

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OPINION

POLICY

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

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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

Quaboag Connector adds first hybrid van to fleet

WARE – The Quaboag Connector recently added an accessible hybrid van to its fleet of vehicles.

The minivan has a rear fold-up ramp providing access for riders in wheelchairs. The van is the first hybrid vehicle in the Quaboag Connector fleet and had a purchase price of \$73,000.

It was purchased with grants provided by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts. The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority assisted the Town of Ware with the purchase.



Submitted Photo
Quaboag Connector Transportation Manager Michael Dambrosio stands next to the fleet's new accessible van outside Ware Town Hall.

Quaboag Historical Society seeks scholarship applicants

The Quaboag Historical Society is proud to announce its annual scholarship program, designed to support high school seniors with a passion for history and a commitment to preserving the past.

This \$1,000 scholarship aims to assist students planning to pursue higher education in any historical related field.

The scholarship is only offered to a student who resides in one of the Quaboag Plantation towns of Brookfield, East Brookfield, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Warren, or West Brookfield.

It is offered to a current high school senior planning to enroll in a college or university for the upcoming academic year who will pursue a degree in one of the following fields: education, history, museum studies, anthropology, women's studies, American studies, or archaeology. Students wishing to study closely related fields are encouraged to apply.

The application deadline is May 2. For applications or more information, please contact Jeff Robbins by emailing jeffrobbins@charter.net or calling 508-579-4786.

EQLT to hold game night and potluck

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will hold team crossword, them team trivia followed by a potluck on Saturday, March 22 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at their office, 120 Ridge Road.

The program will start off with a team crossword followed by team trivia. Themes for the evening will include local history, conservation, recreation and the environment. They had a crack team working on the puzzles and trivia questions and promise it will not boring.

People should bring a snack or dish to share, along with their thinking cap and sense of humor. People should RSVP by Wednesday, March 19 by emailing atrevvett@eqlt.org.

AUTHOR from page 1

Cohen read several pages of the first chapter of the novel, which introduced the character Jace, “a lone man wandering the streets of a small, post-industrial, pre-spacefaring city.” Readers learn that this city is Boston, as Jace comes upon a sign for the Boston Public Library, where he goes to seek warmth and information.

“The library was my refuge. My best place,” Cohen said.

Raised by a couple of avid readers, Cohen began fully reading books by kindergarten and recalled that Meg from “A Wrinkle in Time” was a character she was very drawn to.

Cohen described the character of Meg as her

friend, but added that her own characters that she has created tend to fight her all of the time. She said she “eavesdrops” on her characters having interactions to capture their authentic identity.

Cohen noted that her characters are not heroes, but rather people, with flaws like anyone else. This novel has even included the addition of an animal character.

Poplar the dog, showed up in “Litany for a Broken World” rather unexpectedly, and was not part of the original story.

“She’s my favorite character,” Cohen said. “I’ve had a lot of dogs in my life.”

Cohen said she kept trying to make this novel simpler, but ended up with

almost 10 different points of views being shared throughout the novel.

“Sometimes you just have to finally let the story read how it wants to read,” she said.

Cohen incorporates science and facts in her writing, to give it more depth and realism.

“They say that every fiction writer can use the element of ‘hand waveium’...I try to limit my making things up whole cloth,” she said.

Cohen credited her team with giving her the support she needs to bring her stories to life, including her editor Karen Conlin, cover artist Chris Howard. She also thanked her husband, Neil, who always reads her first drafts.

“It’s important to have a

good team,” she said.

Cohen said she originally intended “Litany for a Broken World” to be a standalone novel, but now it is the first in a trilogy with the second book, “Every Sky a Stranger” due out next February, followed by the third book, “Compass for the Lost.”

“This was a hard book,” Cohen said. “It took a lot out of me...I’m also really glad I wrote it.”

“Litany for a Broken World” and Cohen’s other novels are available in both print and eBook. Books can be ordered through Amazon or bookshop.org, or ordered from any independent books store.

For more information about Cohen and her work, visit ljcohen.net.

Friends of Library host herbs for health program

NEW BRAINTREE – On Sunday, March 23 at 2 p.m. at the New Braintree Town Hall, the Friends of the New Braintree Library present Herbal Answers for Common Health Issues with Elaine Griffith.

Elaine has over 50 years experience using and helping others use holistic medicine. She will share her knowledge of how to use herbs, vitamins and other foods to deal with life’s unexpected moments and inevitable annoyances. This program is funded by the Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. This program is free and open to the public.

AUDIT from page 1

look at budgeting for a permanent substitute to have on staff.

Desjardins said the auditor will next be interviewing the special education teacher, administrators and service providers.

“She is on track to present to us at our April 9 meeting,” he said.

Independent investigation

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said the committee has received a contract to hire Attorney Mary-Lou Rup as an independent investigator into allegations made against Lovato.

“There was just a couple things to be inserted in it,” he said. “One of them was to get monthly reports as far as the cost so they have agreed to do that. They’ll just put it in the contract, and we’ll be all set.”

Winslow said the investigation is expected to start March 24.

He said the cost of the investigator is \$275 an hour, with the cost being less for work completed by a paralegal. He said there is a cap on

the amount spent of \$15,000.

“They will be reporting monthly on where they stand on what’s being spent so far,” Winslow said.

Winslow said the scope of the investigation includes the list of allegations brought forward by the Ware Teachers Association, except for concerns about special education, due to an ongoing audit already looking at that area.

“There’s no sense looking at things that’s already being looked at,” he said.

Upcoming meeting schedule

The School Committee will meet three times during the month of April including April 2 and 9 and either April 16 or 30.

Superintendent’s evaluations are due back from committee members on March 26 and results will be presented at the April 2 meeting; and the special education audit report will be presented on April 9.

Winslow said the budget subcommittee needs more time to meet prior to holding a public hearing on the budget. He said there will poten-

tially be a meeting on April 16, depending on the status of the budget; if not it will be held on April 30.

The budget will be voted on at the May 12 annual town meeting.

The superintendent’s evaluation needs to be completed by April 30 per his contract, unless both Lovato and the School Committee agree to extend it.

School Committee Vice-Chair Aaron Sawabi suggested the committee extend the evaluation’s deadline until the results of the independent investigation have been received. Desjardins said with the potential for two new committee members following the annual town election, it wouldn’t necessarily be fair to Lovato or those members to complete an evaluation when they have only been in the position for a month.

School Committee member Julie Slattery said the committee is in a unique situation with both the independent investigation and the election occurring at the same time. She said she has no issues with waiting until the results of the investigation to complete the evaluation.

“I certainly would like to hear all of the information from the independent investigation,” she said. “I agree with what you’re saying... and I would like to hear what Dr. Lovato has to say in response to those allegations that have been put against him. I don’t think anybody’s heard those responses yet.”

School Committee member Michael DuBois said he believes that the committee has a responsibility to complete the evaluation in the agreed upon timeline.

“Heeding the advice of MASC, it’s one of our core responsibilities and our core job duties to evaluate the superintendent,” he said. “It’s not the person providing the evaluation, it’s the seat on the board.”

Winslow said the evaluation is based on goals for the year and he said he believes the committee can complete the evaluation with the information they have, but he was willing to delay until after results of the investigation are received.

“It’s based on what the committee wants to do,” he said.

The School Committee

members voted to approve the schedule of meetings proposed by Winslow, with three in favor, one opposed and one abstained.

Superintendent’s report

Lovato said the fiscal year 2026 budget could increase by \$400,000 with a needs-based budget and about \$136,000 with a service-level based budget.

He provided an update about Kid Stop, which could potentially impact parents of elementary school students.

“We did have 13 parents that got a notification from Kid Stop that they were going to disenroll due to some square footage requirements based on the SMK use,” he said. “They have retracted that letter because we are continuing to work with them.”

Lovato shared data about the school district, showing that 99% of teachers are licensed, which is 2% higher than the state average. He said the ninth grade passing rate has increased from 52% to 69%, with the state average being about 78%.

“We still need some work to do to keep up with the

state, but when you’re looking at a 17% increase on ninth grade passing, there’s obviously a number of things that are happening good in the high school,” Lovato said.

Graduation requirements

Lovato said the student handbook lists the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System exam as a requirement graduation, and he suggested striking that language.

“That would allow us to be on pace with what the new requirement is,” he said.

He said any further changes can occur later when the state continues to look at graduation requirements. He said there is no need for policy changes at this time.

The committee voted to remove language related to the MCAS exam as a graduation requirement in the student handbook.

Use of facilities

The committee approved the use of facilities for the Special Town Meeting on April 8 and the School Committee Candidates Forum on March 21.

The Palmer Water District #1 is seeking a Part-time Administrative Assistant

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Food Bank held interactive cooking class

By Abby McCoy
Correspondent

WARE – The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts hosted an informative and interactive nutritional class at the Ware Library recently.

Led by Abby Killian, a registered dietician from the Food Bank, the class aimed to provide practical cooking tips, nutritional education, and community resources to individuals seeking to improve their diet and overall health.

Killian kicked off the session by handing out information packets for attendees to take home, including recipe cards for two featured dishes: Mexican quinoa and a healthy banana split dessert. She demonstrated how to prepare both dishes step by step while explaining various food-related tips and tricks.

The mood was light and engaging as Killian shared her expertise, offering simple, affordable alternatives to making nutritious meals at home.

In addition to the cooking demonstrations, Killian spoke about several valuable programs offered by the Food Bank in the community.

One notable initiative is the Mobile Food Bank, which operates at Grenville Park every third Tuesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. The mobile service distributes fresh produce free of charge with minimal paperwork, only asking if attendees have visited before and whether they need family-sized portions.

Volunteers from Country Bank assist with the distribution, and the service even features a convenient drive-thru option, allowing

recipients to stay in their cars while receiving food.

Another key program discussed was the Brown Bag Program, which is available to individuals aged 55+, those with disabilities, veterans, or those on fixed incomes or Supplemental Security Income. The program provides a variety of shelf-stable food items and has garnered positive feedback from community members, including a senior citizen who was in attendance.

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts also supplies local food pantries with food, ensuring that community members have access to essential resources. All of these programs are funded through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, a federal initiative aimed at improving food security.

Killian's enthusiasm was infectious throughout the session, and she made sure to slow down the cooking process to explain each step thoroughly. She also used the opportunity to share valuable nutritional information with the class.

For instance, she discussed how MyPlate, which replaced the food pyramid in 2010, serves as a helpful guide to balanced nutrition. While she emphasized that it's not necessary to follow it rigidly, she encouraged attendees to strive for balance in their meals.

In addition to cooking tips, Killian provided practical advice on how to prepare healthier broths, including using vegetable scraps or a rotisserie chicken carcass to make your own nutrient-rich broth. She also highlighted the importance

of choosing lower-sodium options, explaining that sodium should be limited to help manage blood pressure and reduce the risk of other health issues.



Turley Photos by Abby McCoy
Registered dietician Abby Killian prepares Mexican quinoa at the Ware Library last month.

One of the main takeaways from the session was understanding the core components of a balanced diet. Killian stressed the importance of consuming fiber, whole grains, leafy greens and protein.

Killian referred to protein as “the limo driver of the cell,” helping other nutrients get where they need to go.

She also covered the importance of being mindful of added sugars, which are found in many processed foods.

“Sugar is sugar,” she explained, whether it’s from honey, agave, or regular cane sugar.

In fact, each teaspoon of sugar, regardless of the source, adds about 4 grams of sugar to your diet. She encouraged participants to



Abby Killian is a registered dietician with the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts.



Abby Killian made a healthy banana split recipe during a program at the Ware Library.



The Mexican quinoa also featured black beans, tomatoes and corn.

praise, agreeing that the dishes were not only delicious but also nutritious and easy to prepare.

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts offers a series of Seven Nutritional Sessions via Zoom, in partnership with Big Y, which go deeper into the topics covered during this class. If the community shows enough interest, more in-person classes and workshops may be scheduled in the future.

For those interested in learning more about upcoming classes, or to take advantage of the Food Bank's many programs, reach out to the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. They are a vital resource for individuals and families seeking to improve their health, food security, and quality of life.

For more information, visit www.foodbankwma.org or contact your local community center to inquire about future events.

MEDICAID from page 4

individual, a targeted match criterion that only includes an SSN would reduce the prevalence of multiple IDs by 19%, based on sample testing.

Released on Oct. 1, 2024, an audit of the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) – Review of Payment for Telehealth Adult Day Health revealed MassHealth paid providers for ADH that it did not authorize and/or that did not have supporting documentation. MassHealth also paid providers for transportation to ADH that it did not authorize and/or that did not

have supporting documentation.

Moreover, MassHealth paid providers \$11,797 for 109 claims for services allegedly rendered to 31 members who were proven to be deceased. In total, the audit identified \$465,683 in improper billings.

The audit recommends MassHealth should ensure system edits to prevent payments for ADH without prior authorization are properly implemented; investigate the paid claims identified by OSA and take corrective action as it deems appropriate; investigate ADH claims from providers outside the five OSA reviewed for improper documentation; establish monitoring controls to ensure that ADH claims are documented; update its algorithms to cross-reference members' dates of death with additional data sources and not rely solely on the Department of Public

ADH claims from providers that OSA did not review; ensure that system edits to prevent payments for ADH without prior authorization are properly implemented; investigate the paid claims identified by OSA and take corrective action as it deems appropriate; investigate ADH claims from providers outside the five OSA reviewed for improper documentation; establish monitoring controls to ensure that ADH claims are documented; update its algorithms to cross-reference members' dates of death with additional data sources and not rely solely on the Department of Public

Health's Vital Statistics file when verifying members' dates of death; and establish a plan to recoup the \$11,797 in overpayments made on behalf of deceased members.

Finally, released on Sept. 4, 2024, an audit of the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) – Review of Payment for Telehealth Adult Foster Care and Group Adult Foster Care revealed a total of \$22,979,654 in improper billings.

The report found MassHealth did not ensure that AFC and GAFC registered nurses/licensed practical nurses and care managers conducted required oversight visits.

MassHealth also paid AFC and GAFC providers for services that did not have supporting caregiver/direct care aide log documentation. Moreover, MassHealth paid for AFC and GAFC caregiver/direct care aide services that were incorrectly coded

as telehealth.

The audit recommends MassHealth establish effective monitoring controls to ensure that AFC and GAFC providers conduct the required oversight visits for MassHealth members and caregivers/direct care aides.

To establish effective monitoring controls, MassHealth should establish a goal for the number of AFC/GAFC providers it will audit each year. MassHealth should investigate and resolve all instances where its data matches indicate that a member is enrolled in another state's Medicaid program.

MassHealth should also establish an effective monitoring process to ensure that caregivers/direct care aides of AFC and GAFC providers properly document care in their logs. Moreover, MassHealth should add a system control in the Medicaid Management

Information System to deny AFC and GAFC caregiver/direct care aide services in a telehealth setting.

The State Auditor's Office is currently in the process of several more audits of MassHealth's administration of the Medicaid program and Medicaid service providers' compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and other authoritative guidance.

This includes a review of MassHealth claims submitted by providers for durable medical equipment; a review of MassHealth claims submitted by Dental Arts; a review of MassHealth claims submitted for non-emergency transportation; and a review of MassHealth reimbursements for inpatient maternity services provided by University of Massachusetts Memorial Healthcare.

“Our MassHealth audits are designed to identify issues that will help improve programs, enhance delivery, and ensure taxpayer dollars are spent properly,” said DiZoglio. “These reports over the past year have identified a number of critical issues that need to be addressed. Accordingly, we urge the Administration to swiftly implement our recommendations and will be revisiting these findings, roughly six months from the audit issuance dates, to track progress.”

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Sewer Commission discusses FY 26 budget

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Sewer Commissioners met in March to discuss the fiscal year 2026 budget. Joining the meeting on March 12 was Town Administrator James Ferrera who wanted to know if the Sewer Commission was satisfied with its budget. Chairman Howard Moulson reviewed the information of the FY 26 budget and said, “it’s pretty well prepared.” Sewer Chief Operator Ralph Zebrowski read through some of the supply figures and purchase services to the commissioners and noted that supplies have

gone up 2% from last year’s budget. When asked about the project being done by Tighe & Bond, Zebrowski said there is an article for the Annual Town Meeting in June to help cover the contract and expenses. Ferrera spoke during the budget discussion and mentioned that the Sewer Commission’s budget is approximately \$400 less than what they had last year. He wanted to know if the commissioners were satisfied with that calculation and that their budget is accurate. According to Ferrera the budget was over the amount of \$902,800. Ferrera wants everyone on the Sewer Commission to be aware of the difference he pointed out

and that numbers are calculated accurately before the budget is submitted. Ferrera reviewed a copy of the Annual Town Meeting article from last year and found the amount of the Sewer Enterprise Fund. The amount read during the meeting was \$903,052.38. With the increase in wages and the 2% supply increase, Ferrera said he finds it odd that this year’s sewer budget would be slightly less than last year. The Sewer Commission was not ready to vote on the budget due to having the concern of running out of funds. Ferrera did mention that the commission has retained earnings that can help with capital projects.

Going over what has increased Sewer Commission Secretary Lisa Digris talked about office supplies, chair replacement, and the postage increase. Zebrowski talked about the increase in chemical expenses and the increase on testing. Ferrera reminded the Sewer Commissioners that the Finance Committee will be meeting on budgets soon, and they will need to have a submitted budget by them. “You need a finalized budget soon,” Ferrera said. Zebrowski will update the budget once the commissioners agree on a figure. The Sewer Commission agreed to approve the budget as presented plus a 1% increase.

Articles for Annual Town Meeting
One of the articles at the Annual Town Meeting on June 12 is the Tighe & Bond contract for copper reduction. Other articles include an RBC and primary pump repairs. According to the Sewer Chief Operator the copper reduction study would be approximately \$7,000. Zebrowski said he will use that money in conjunction with the \$36,000 they got already. The Sewer Commission voted and approved the articles for the Annual Town Meeting.

Open House at St. Aloysius Catholic School on April 7

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School located in Gilbertville, is hosting a spring Open House at the school on Monday, April 7 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Prospective parents are cordially invited to visit the classrooms and meet the faculty of the growing school. Administration is also happy to tour families during the school day and provide shadow days for students presently in kindergarten through grade seven. Please feel free to call the school at 413-477-1268 or reach out to Roberta McQuaid, Enrollment Coordinator, to set up an appointment to visit. Enrollment information and all the necessary paperwork is available on the website (www.staloyuscs.com) under the “Join our Family” tab.

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WARREN from page 1
against the candidate come election time. Town Administrator James Ferrera addressed the public and the Board of Selectmen that between the current Selectmen’s meeting and next week’s meeting the residents could have an opportunity to sit down and talk with Carron and get to know him better and see what he can do to help with the Housing Authority. Baker talked to the board during this discussion and understood the concerns of the resident. There are only two members currently on the Housing Authority and Baker said they’ve been sending their bills to the state.

“There are a lot of issues going on,” Baker said. There is a lot being stalled due to not having a board in place. Baker believes it is important to find a valid candidate for the Housing Authority, but also expressed that Warren is a small town and elections are approaching. At this point, Baker believes it is wise to appoint another member who can help. “Get things going and move along with the Housing Authority,” Baker said. Resident Ray Kopacko came up to speak to the board and believes it is a decision that shouldn’t be put on hold. “This is not the way to run business,” Kopacko said. “You have a valid candidate before you.”

Though he understands the opinion of the resident, Kopacko believes this is a simple appointment to the Housing Authority. Carron would only be serving a short period of time until the upcoming election. “He sounds like he’s competent, he is eager,” said Selectman Richard Eichacker. “It’s kind of a trial period.” The board believed it was best to appoint Carron to the Housing Authority and have residents get to know him and decide whether he is fit for the position or not prior to the election. Chairman Derick Veliz believes it is best to move forward and appoint Carron to the Housing Authority. The board appointed Carron to the Housing Authority until May 6.

Discussion with Highway Surveyor
The Selectmen spoke with Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson about the Chapter 90 funds for current and future road projects and the apportionment of fiscal year 2026 in the amount of \$492,277.86. Olson said it’s a very simple list of projects with one new project involving the preservation of East Road. Olson said the road is in decent shape but is showing its age rapidly. Olson also

wants to build up the account for possible projects for next year. One of the larger projects Olson is hoping to take up in the future involves a good portion of Southbridge Road. Another ongoing project that the Highway Surveyor is involved in is with the Department of Transportation for the road project on Route 19. The Selectmen thanked Olson for his continued hard work.

Emergency Management report
The Selectmen heard from Jim McKeon who gave his Emergency Management

report for the month of February. McKeon began by acknowledging that the sirens in town were tested and the testing went well. For Valentine’s Day, a dance was hosted and went very well and the Parks department did an amazing job with the set up. Parents and kids had a great time at the Valentine’s Day dance. McKeon talked about the snowstorms that took place in the month of February and said the town is fortunate that the snow melted away very quickly after the storms happened. The weather soon showed signs of early spring.

STM/ATM warrant articles
Ferrera shared a first draft of the warrants for both the Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting that will take place on June 12. There are various requests from multiple departments, according to Ferrera and the Finance Committee has reviewed these requests. Capital Planning has a lot of requests that have not been incorporated yet in the draft. Ferrera anticipates that these articles will get updated in the upcoming weeks and went through all the descriptions of each article for Special and Annual

Town Meeting. Article Two involves a missed bill with vanpool transportation. Another article involves maintenance to the levy. The Levy committee has been addressing some of the needs. Another article will involve maintenance to all the town buildings. Ferrera believes the use of free cash will address the continued maintenance of all the town buildings in Warren. Ferrera addressed all the amounts for each article that was listed in the draft for the Selectmen. After review, the Selectmen voted to open both warrants.

Online Workshop: Safe Drinking Water in Private Wells *Learn about Proper Management of Private Water Wells*



A public event of the Quabbin Health District



Did You Know?

Thousands of people in Massachusetts rely on private wells for their drinking water. These wells are the responsibility of the homeowner. It is up to you to make sure that your well is providing clean drinking water & we want to help!



Tuesday, March 25, 2025
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

REGISTER:
<https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/6922666391603903746>

Please note: There is no cost to attend, however advance registration is requested.

Workshop will provide information on:

- Water well basics & construction*
- Maintenance & management of existing water wells*
- Solving water quality & quantity problems*

This workshop is funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency, through a grant to the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP), a non-profit organization that provides technical assistance to rural water and wastewater communities. RCAP Solutions is a regional affiliate of RCAP. For more information visit: www.rcap.org

RCAP is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities.

Questions? Contact:
Jim Starbard
Phone: 978-502-0227
Email: jstarbard@rcapsolutions.org

Presented by:





The program was supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council. Roger Tincknell is shown playing on his guitar.



There were children participating in Roger Tincknell's performance at the Hardwick Town House.

This program had a great turnout as many adults and children joined Roger Tincknell during his performance.

IRELAND from page 1

The Town House had a great turnout as Tincknell of Shutesbury brought multiple instruments to play in celebration of traditional Irish music and culture. Tincknell would perform ballads, singalongs and work songs.

"This is one of the biggest turnouts we've had," said Julie Bullock, Director of the Paige Memorial Library.

Tincknell has been performing for children, families, and seniors in the U.S., Canada and Europe for over 45 years. "Ireland to America" is one of many of his most requested programs for seniors. There were various age groups who attended the program at the Hardwick Town House and the program included audience participation.

For some musical numbers, Tincknell invited several kids of various ages to do a dance to one of his songs. The performance was very much adored by the audience and the kids had a lot of fun.

"He was excellent at revamping his program to accommodate the children in the audience," Bullock said.

The instruments played by Tincknell included guitar, banjo, mandolin, Irish bouzouki, and the Irish bodhran, which is a type of drum. One of the unique instruments Tincknell brought out was a wooden figurine, a limberjack man.

"Ireland to America" is a popular program that Tincknell has been offering for the last 10 years, and it certainly brought a lot of joy in time for St. Patrick's Day.



Turley Photo by Abby McCoy
These chicken figurines are made from egg cartons.

FARM from page 3

her enthusiasm for the craft quickly turned into a desire to share her joy with others.

As Tracy says, "Pure joy is how dancing makes me feel," and that joy is evident in every class she teaches.

Since the first class in January, which drew an impressive 48 participants, the line dancing classes have continued to grow in popularity. On average, around 20 people attend each session.

A recent Monday class saw 18 participants, including both newcomers and regular dancers.

Tracy is known for her attentive teaching style, constantly moving through the group to ensure everyone is in sync with the moves. She makes sure to break down each dance into manageable sections, repeating steps as necessary until everyone feels comfortable.

Tracy is not only focused on teaching the motions but also the names of common moves, like the "Monterey," which involves a 90-degree

turn in a dance.

The classes attract people of all ages, from 10-year-olds to grandparents, and participants come dressed in everything from cowboy boots and flannel shirts to casual athletic wear. It's clear that no matter your age or attire, everyone is welcome at The Farm Next Door.

The line dancing playlist is a lively mix of country, pop, and dance hits. Recent songs have included "AA" by Walker Hayes, "Hicktown" by Jason Aldean, "I Don't Wanna Wait" by David Guetta and OneRepublic, "Miles on It" by Kane Brown and Marshmello, and "A Bar Song (Tipsy)" by Shaboozey. The music adds an extra element of fun, motivating everyone to keep moving and enjoy the experience.

Tracy also keeps a Facebook page where she shares links to tutorials and other resources for those looking to practice or learn more about line dancing.

If you're looking for something beyond line dancing, The Farm Next Door has some exciting events on the horizon.

On Saturday, March 22, they'll be hosting Baby Goat Yoga. There will be two classes that day, each lasting 50 minutes, with 10 minutes at the end for pictures and cuddles with the goats. The class is \$32 per person and open to all skill levels, so whether you're a yoga novice or an experienced yogi, you're sure to have a good time.

Be sure to sign up in advance to secure your spot.

In April, they'll also be hosting a workshop on how to make a bouquet of paper flowers, and they frequently offer Paint and Sip events. There's always something new and fun to look forward to at The Farm Next Door.

In addition to offering a variety of activities, The Farm Next Door also sells fresh produce and handmade items. You can pick up fresh eggs by the dozen, fresh cut flowers, and seasonal fresh fruit; they even have blueberry bushes on the property.

For those looking for something unique, they also sell adorable chicken figurines made from cut-up egg cartons, decorated to look like chickens.

Gina and Eric's eggs aren't washed, which helps keep them fresh longer. Unwashed eggs can stay on the counter for up to three weeks or be refrigerated for months. The Dane family's commitment to quality and sustainability shines through in everything they do.

Whether you're looking to learn something new, celebrate a special event, or simply enjoy time with others in a beautiful, peaceful setting, The Farm Next Door is a wonderful addition to the Ware community. With activities for all ages and interests, it's a place where everyone is welcome to connect, learn, and have fun.

For more information on line dancing classes or upcoming events, visit The Farm Next Door's Facebook page.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN!

PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS:

PALMER FOR TOMORROW

Gathering

WHAT IS IT?

Palmer has received funding in a settlement between Massachusetts and pharmaceutical companies, placing them at blame for the current opioid crisis.

Now we must decide how to best use the money to support our community, and we want to hear from YOU!

COME JOIN US TO DISCUSS THE NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS AS WE TALK ABOUT:

• Creating a Community Survey

• How to Support Those With Substance Use

• Preventative Measures

• After Care

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

• People with lived experience

• Individuals in recovery

■ Family/friends of those with substance use disorder

To Join Our Group!

WHEN & WHERE

The Second Wednesday of Every Month

3:00pm-4:30pm

at The Palmer Public Library

For any questions reach out to:

(413)283-2606 or ngauthier@townofpalmer.com

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Ware 7/8 wins Blue/Green Division

WARE – On Saturday, March 8 at home, the Ware 7/8 boys Suburban basketball team defeated Ludlow in the championship game. The final score of the matchup was not reported by the league.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Ray Kularski goes for the layup.



Sincere McLauren goes for a basket.



Raiden Druin shoots ahead of a block.



Jack Musnicki gets a shot off.



Finn DeMarco attempts to get a layup through a Ludlow blocker.

The Ware 7/8 boys Suburban basketball team defeated Ludlow in the Division finals on March 8.

Hall of Fame names senior all-stars

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the team rosters for the 2025 Western Massachusetts Senior High School All-Star Games. On Thursday, March 20, the Hall of Fame will host the 2025 All-Star event on the Jerry Colangelo Court of Dreams at the Hall of Fame. A total of 60 players were selected from different divisions within the region to participate in three games that will showcase the top seniors in their final high school contest.

“We are proud to host the top high school basketball players from Western Massachusetts at our 14th annual All-Star celebration at the Basketball Hall of Fame,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “Residents of Western Mass. are encouraged to join us as we honor these exceptional seniors as they play the final game of their high school careers.”

A committee of local coaches and media members who represent each division on the boys’ and girls’ sides selected the teams. Using the designated classes for the PVIAC Tournament, the players will be divided into six teams: two girls’ teams, two boys’ teams of Class A and B players, and two boys’ teams of Class C and D players. Only graduating seniors are eligible for the All-Star Games. Rosters can be found on the next page.

For the 14th year, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame will recognize one boy and one girl as the Western Massachusetts Players of the Year. A special presentation will be made for the recipients during

Please see **ALL-STARs**, page 10

Lusitano awards return

The Lusitano Club returned to their tradition of giving out awards and scholarships

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—More than 3,400 high school soccer players from throughout Western Massachusetts have been honored at the Lusitano Alumni and Fans (LAF) Awards Banquet during the past 35 years.

Because of the COVID 19 pandemic, the soccer banquet has been a lot smaller, but it’s always a very special event.

Six scholarship winners were honored at this year’s LAF banquet, which was held at the Gremio Lusitano Club in Ludlow on March 9.

The six award recipients are Thomas Wadas (Ludlow High School), Gabriella Fialho (Pope Francis/Ludlow), Samantha Lowe (Pathfinder Tech), Kylee Gamache (Franklin County Tech), Kennady Marino (East Longmeadow High School), and Burke Warchol (Longmeadow High School).

Wadas, who’s ranked seventh in the senior class academically with a 4.5 G.P.A., will be playing college soccer at UMass Amherst. He’s also a member of the



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Samantha Lowe represented Pathfinder Tech at this year’s event.

National Honor Society.

“I’m going to be playing soccer at UMass, which was my top college choice,” Wadas said. “Staying close to home was really important to me.”

A year ago, UMass lost at third-seeded Denver, 3-0, in the Elite 8 of the NCAA Division 1 tournament. The Minutemen finished with a 13-4-5 overall record.

“UMass had an outstanding season last year,” Wadas said. “I’m just going to try my best to make an impact as a freshman. I’m really looking forward to playing soccer at the next level. The college game is a lot more physical and quicker.”

The UMass men’s soccer coach is Fran O’Leary.

Wadas, who’s planning to study business in college, was a four year starter for the

Ludlow boys’ varsity soccer team, which is coached by Greg Kolodziej.

“Coach Kolodziej made a big impact on my life both on and off the field,” Wadas said. “I’m going to do everything that he has taught me at UMass. I’m also going to miss playing soccer for him a lot.”

Wadas, who was a team captain last fall, was selected to the All-State soccer team twice.

The Lions won three out of the past four Western Mass. Class A titles. They also advanced to the Elite 8 of the Division 1 state tournament each year.

“The new state postseason tournament format allowed us to play a few more

Please see **AWARDS**, page 10

Hockey co-op makes state tournament

GARDNER – Quabbin Regional High School participates in one co-op program during the winter months, sending some players to football rival

Gardner High School for ice hockey. This year’s team was able to make the state tournament with a 10-8-1 record, securing the No. 24 seed in the Division 4 State Tournament. The Wildcats faced North Reading in the Round of 32 on Feb. 25 out in Eastern Mass. North Reading, however, had too much offense on its side and defeated the co-op 7-2 in that matchup. Gardner’s season ended at 10-9-1.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Gardner and Quabbin have co-oped in hockey now for several years.

See more hockey photos on page 10.



Gardner had a season that ended in the state tournament.



Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Commercial Elks League at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes is halfway finished with their third round.

On league night on March 11, The Daft Kings bowled against Team BK. Daft Kings have already qualified for the playoffs and Team BK is currently in the running to win the third round.

In game one, Team BK dominated Daft Kings by a score of 435-374. Three out of four bowlers from Team BK broke the century mark with scores of 128, 111 and 104.

In game two, Daft Kings were the winners by a score of 398-386. Ken Trudel bowled a 111 to help his team get a victory.

In game three, Daft Kings bowled a 419 to win the last game and Team BK bowled a team score of 375. Trudel and his teammate, Matt Bertelli, broke the century mark with scores of 108 and 107.

Team BK managed to win total pinfall by a final score of 1196-1191. Each team won two points as the third round continues.

The next match featured Compression bowling against Last in Line. Both teams are playing for a playoff berth. In game one, Last in Line defeated Compression by a score of 348-300. Rich Chambers scored the best for his team with a 96.

In game two, Last in Line were victorious again by a score of 330-306. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line scored 105 to help his team win two games in a row.

In game three, Compression salvaged a win over Last in Line, 351-344. Navarro finished the match

by bowling a 110. Last in Line won total pinfall by a final score of 1022-957.

Gutter Mouths bowled against the Mailmen during league night on March 11. In game one, Gutter Mouths defeated the Mailmen 356-342. In game two, Gutter Mouths were victorious again by a score of 366-355. Stephen Manolakis bowled a 112 in game two, helping Gutter Mouths with the back-to-back win.

In game three, Gutter Mouths won again for a three-game sweep over Mailmen, 331-325. The final score was 1053-1022 in favor of Gutter Mouths.

Bogey Doubles

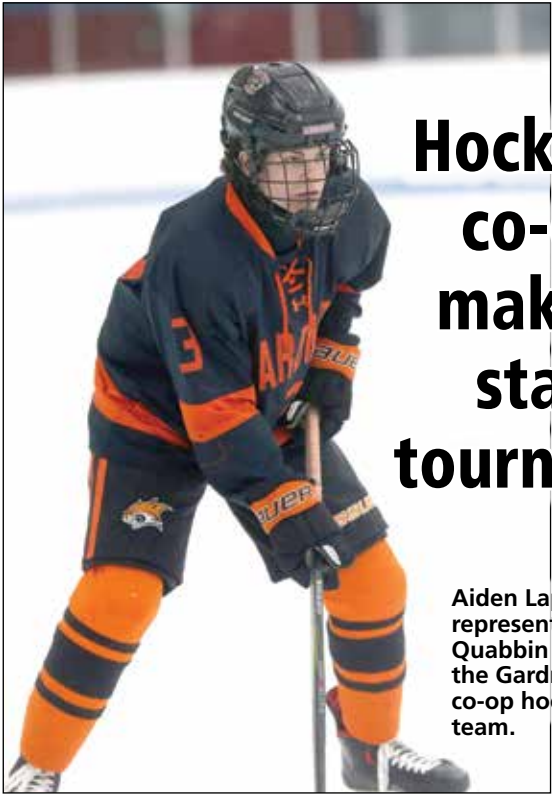
EAST BROOKFIELD – The bi-weekly Monday Doubles League at Bogey Lanes met this past Monday night; their first league night in the Month of March.

The team of Erik Pellett & Jim Nester are two points ahead of Dan Gauthier & Phil Clough for first place in the third round, 46 wins in total.

Lonny Murphy & Trever Kenneson bowled against the team of Jack Talamini & Bill Gravel. In game one, Murphy & Kenneson won the first game by a score of 312-252. Kenneson began the match with a 152.

In game two, Murphy & Kenneson won again by a score of 275-247. Kenneson followed up with a 126 in game two. In game three, Murphy & Kenneson swept Talamini & Gravel by winning 255-245. The final score was 842-744 in favor of Murphy & Kenneson. Trever Kenneson finished with a 106 and a series of 384.

Clauson & Santora took all three games and total pinfall against Sandman & Marvin. The final score was 772-739 in favor of Clauson & Santora. Gary Santora had a 122 to go with a series of 324. Luke Marvin had a 127 as a high game and a series of 321.



Hockey co-op makes state tourney

Aiden Lapointe represented Quabbin on the Gardner co-op hockey team.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Cullan White also represented the Panthers end of the co-op.

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ALL-STARs
from page 9

halftime of one of the participating games. A panel of local media members selects the award winners, who are recognized for their achievements on the court in addition to their sportsmanship and character off the court.

The three All-Star Games will be held on Thursday, March 20. The first game of the evening will feature the Class C and D boys’ teams at 5:30 p.m., followed by the girls’ matchup at 7 p.m., and the final game will showcase the Class A and B boys’ teams at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for the All-Star Games are available at the Hall of Fame box office on the night of the event. Each ticket provides access to all three games that evening (Adults: \$20, Students: \$10). Advance tickets can also be purchased online.

Justin Grout will represent Ware High School in the game.

Providence gets by T-Birds at ‘sensory-friendly’ Sunday

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-23-2-4) could not keep the newest Bruin quiet as Providence (33-19-4-3) skated away with a 4-1 win on Sunday afternoon in front of another sellout crowd at the MassMutual Center on CHD Sensory-Friendly Sunday.

The day began with fireworks as Kale Kessy and Joey Abate got both benches on their feet with a fight just two seconds into the action. As a scoreless first progressed, a late post-whistle penalty to the T-Birds set the Bruins up for the game’s first power play. Providence made Springfield pay, as newest Bruin acquisition Fraser Minten chipped a shot over Vadim Zherenko at close range to give the Bruins a 1-0 lead at 15:20 of the first, a score that held into the intermission.

Minten was far from finished in his first career game against the T-Birds, adding a second goal at 2:29 of the second as he parked himself in the paint and guided a Billy Sweezey shot behind a helpless Zherenko. The rookie then completed a natural hat trick at 9:55 with some crafty hands at the side of the net to chip a puck into the top shelf over an outstretched Zherenko.

The T-Birds finally got a bounce to go their way, literally, at 12:46 when a Dalibor Dvorsky one-timer went off Bruins net-minder Michael DiPietro, followed by the end glass. With everyone looking for the falling puck, it eventually careened off DiPietro’s back and over the goal line, giving the T-Birds’ 19-year-old his 19th goal of the season and making it a 3-1 game.

However, Springfield could not build upon their good fortune, as Minten fired another shot that Riley Duran tipped past Zherenko at 18:14 to polish off the rookie’s four-point game and send the game into the third at a 4-1 score.

DiPietro proved too tough to crack in the final period, as each of Springfield’s nine third-period attempts got swallowed up by the AHL’s leading victor in net. DiPietro picked up his 22nd win with 24 stops, while Zherenko was saddled with the defeat following a 25-save afternoon.

The T-Birds continue their four-game home-stand on Wednesday as the Hershey Bears make their final trip to the Thunderdome this season. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. at the MassMutual Center.



Photo by Gregory A. Scibelli
Justin Grout was named a Senior All-Star and will get to play at the Hall of Fame this week.

Valley Wheel tryouts set for next month

Players looking to join the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League can attend the tryouts beginning Sunday April 6. The time and location of the tryout is to be determined.

The league, which plays its games in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut, makes sure that everyone gets a fair share of the action. Everyone plays a minimum of 4 innings in the field, and everyone bats. The league follows MLB rules

with some modified rules adapted with safety in mind.

The Valley Wheel stands apart from other leagues across the country for this reason:

Their league charter and one of their main goals, is to work toward having a league with teams of equal strength.

The league is now seeking new players to fill open roster slots. Enjoy the competition and camaraderie with a great group of guys who enjoy the game as much as

you do. Stay in shape and make new friends. Be part of something that happens once a year, and with luck, win a championship that might be once in a lifetime. Grab your glove and cleats and join a team for a great adventure. It’s not too late don’t miss out; opening day is just around the corner. For more information, contact Jim Nason at 413-433-4308 or visit the website www.ValleyWheelBaseball.org

AWARDS from page 9

teams in the Boston area,” said Wadas, who scored 13 goals and had 12 assists as a senior. “I think we did very well against them. We beat Newton South, who was the number one team in the state in last year’s state tournament.”

Fialho has been a high honors student at Pope Francis since she was a freshman, and also has 4.5 G.P.A..

During Fialho’s varsity soccer career, Pope Francis has captured the Western Mass Class title three times.

Last fall, Pope moved up to Class A for the first time and posted a 1-0 victory against Longmeadow in the championship match. They also celebrated 1-0 victories against West Springfield in the quarterfinals and Minnechaug Regional in the semifinals, which was decided in penalty kicks.

Just like Wadas, Fialho also will be playing college soccer close to home.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
The winners pose with members of the Lusitano Club board.

“I’ll be playing college soccer at Springfield College next year,” Fialho said. “I’m very happy that I’ll be attending a college and playing

soccer close to home.”

The Springfield College women’s soccer team is currently looking for a new head coach.

Kristin Cannon will be

stepping down from her coaching duties for personal reasons on June 30. Fialho is hoping that the current assistant coach Brendon Boates is named as the new head

coach.

“I was recruited by coach Boates,” Fialho said. “He has a passion for the sport of soccer, and he has a lot of energy.”

Prior to her freshman year, Fialho decided to attend Pope Francis instead of going to Ludlow High School.

“All of my friends wanted me to go with them to Ludlow High School,” she said. “It was a very difficult decision for me to make, but I’m glad that I decided to go to Pope. It’s a great school both academically and athletically.”

Lowe, who lives in Ware, played soccer at Pathfinder Tech for four years and she was a team captain the past two seasons.

“I’m really excited to receive the scholarship award,” said Lowe, who’s not planning to play college soccer. “I’m proud of my accomplishments during my high school soccer career. The girls’ soccer team has improved a lot since I joined

the team.”

Lowe is planning to pursue a degree in culinary arts at a local community college.

“When I was growing up, I was always in the kitchen with my mom and we’ve grown a lot of our own food,” she said. “I was also able to get into the culinary arts program at Pathfinder.”

Lowe is currently working at Farmer Matt in New Braintree

“I’ve be working there for two years on April 1,” Lowe said. “They have a store, and we also make homemade soups. Working in a kitchen is just as fun as being on the soccer field. I’m learning something new every day.”

The LAF President is Joseph Jorge Sr., who received a 30 year service award. Jeri Humphries is the Vice President, Luis Vitorino is the Treasurer, and Steven DaSilva is the Secretary. The four board members are Joseph Jorge Jr., Richard Oliveria, Teri Myette, and Stephen Scott.

Students taking public safety education course

From the Desk of
Colleen Mucha,
Superintendent of Quabbin
Regional School District

We are very excited to share a partnership with our five community Fire and EMS services to provide a Public Safety Education course to 36 Quabbin Regional High School students in Grades 10-12.

Thank you to Christina Gustafson from Barre Fire Department for helping to organize the programming by working with our other local departments from: Hubbardston, Oakham, New Braintree and Hardwick. They are all participating in the instruction and prepara-

tion for this class.

The course began in January and is running through March. Class topics include: Introduction to Fire and EMS, CPR/Stop the Bleed certification, EMS Practices, Fire Behavior, Tactics & Tools and many more.

The course was made available to students in Grades 10-12. The response was so great that the instructors agreed to make adjustments to the program in order to serve all of the interested students.

Already students have expressed interest in the

Please see **QUABBIN**,
page 16



Students take turns practicing chest compressions on the infant dummy.

SERVICES from page 1

to work with clients to help meet their needs.

“It’s an approach to how we meet the client where they’re at,” Kularski said.

Kularski said the PATCH program looks at the needs of the whole family and provides the necessary resources and services they may need. This includes transportation to appointments, and talking about goals, needs and barriers.

“We do a service plan with them and identify the steps they need to take. We work with them in an order they choose,” she said.

Kularski said this also includes working with partners in the community, including The Literacy Project and the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force.

“We try to bring in as many community members as possible for the betterment of the client,” she said. “We try to empower them.”

Kularski said there is no timeline for the PATCH program, which is available to clients for free.

Quabbin Valley Community Development Corporation Executive Director Melissa Fales discussed the need for funding for its Senior Outreach Program, which currently serves over 20 seniors in Ware.

“We have a free errand service for seniors in Ware,” Fales said.

This errand service includes grocery store trips, prescription medicine pickups, taking out the trash, checking out and returning library books, and more. Senior Outreach workers also pick up food at food bank distributions on behalf of the senior clients.

“We also try to keep them abreast about what’s going on including vaccination clinics, food bank and fuel assistance,” Fales said. “Sometimes people call and just want to talk.”

She said some clients are in their 90s and live alone, some are in wheelchairs, some have mental health issues, and others are survivors of domestic violence. She said they try to limit calls to one per week, but some clients have greater needs, especially with prescription pickups.

Fales said initially some of the seniors were too proud to ask for help, but now that they receive the services, they are grateful for them.

Melissa Hutchins of the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force said its members are working on prevention, training, outreach and education. She said one of the ways they do this is to support the Ware High School’s domestic violence task force, which is led by the students.

Hutchins said the task force recently hosted a training for its members and

allies about coercive control as abuse.

She said they also provide outreach to people in the community through letters to the editor and to the school and more. Its members are also working with the Belchertown Court to create a video for domestic violence survivors.

The task force is currently working on a book project, sharing 12 books on consent and boundaries geared toward children ages 8 and under.

“If we start to have those conversations when they’re young; it will help to prevent those unhealthy relationships down the road,” Hutchins said.

Now in its 25th year, the task force is also planning its 10th annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk in October.

After discussing each request, the members of the Community Development Authority voted to recommend funding in the following amounts to the Selectboard for approval: The Literacy Project, \$48,412.50; BHN’s PATCH program, \$45,135; QVCDC’s Senior Outreach Program, \$23,000; and the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force, \$37,451.27.

Cottage Street Project

The FY 25 CDBG application will also include an infrastructure project using the remaining \$500,000 plus of the funds.

The Community Development Authority members voted to recommend phase one of the Cottage Street Project, which is a five-part neighborhood improvement project that includes upgrades to water, sewer and roadway.

Cottage Street is within the town’s Slum and Blight district and the street is also being income qualified as part of the grant application process. The infrastructure improvements proposed were identified through a design process completed with FY 21 CDBG funding.

The specific project limits and scope are still being determined by the project designer and town staff.

PVPC Principal Planner Erica Johnson said when the design for the project was completed over a year ago, it was estimated to cost about \$2 million to complete. She said that the cost is likely higher now, and that it will cost more overall to complete the project in phases.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said if broken into phases, the project could receive additional funding through Chapter 90 for roadwork, and through the town’s enterprise funds for water and sewer work.

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STIHL **Husqvarna**

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of March 9-18, the Ware Police Department responded to 39 miscellaneous calls, 21 administrative calls, 13 traffic violations, 18 emergency 911 calls, seven motor vehicle accidents, two harassments, two trespasses, three thefts/larcenies, one structure fire, two breaking and enterings, eight animal calls and 33 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

- Sunday, March 9**
11:38 a.m. Weapons/Firearms, Monson Turnpike Road, Report Made
2:48 p.m. Drugs, Pleasant Street, Services Rendered
4:31 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Greenwich Road, Advised
4:41 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate
10:31 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Eddy Street, Investigated
- Monday, March 10**
5:36 am. Assault, Church Street, Report Made
10:16 a.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Valley View, Services Rendered
1 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Upper North Street, Services Rendered
2:36 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Robbins Road, Services Rendered
5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gould Road, Citation/Warning Issued
6:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Church Street, Services Rendered
- Tuesday, March 11**
9:16 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Advised
10:10 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, Aspen Street, Advised
- Wednesday, March 12**
12:11 a.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Church Street, Report Made
7:18 a.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Pleasant Street, Services Rendered
2:41 p.m. Assault, Belchertown Road, Taken/ Referred to Other Agency
5:02 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
9:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Otis Avenue, Vehicle Towed
- Thursday, March 13**
5:53 a.m. Trespass/ Unwanted, West Street, Advised
2:08 p.m. Assault, Palmer Road, Patient Refusal
5:17 p.m. Traffic Violation, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:45 p.m. Extrication/ Entrapment, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered
- Friday, March 14**
1:40 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
3:57 p.m. Trespass/ Unwanted, Parker Street, Services Rendered
4:31 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Pleasant Street, Services Rendered
9:34 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate
- Saturday, March 15**
1:24 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
2:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
- Sunday, March 16**
4:25 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Hazmat Spill Control
1:31 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch

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.

- Handled
2:55 p.m. Suspicious, Otis Avenue, Report Made
4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Investigated
5:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Babcock Tavern Road, Citation/Warning Issued
7:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:14 p.m. Disturbance, Spring Street, Investigated
- Monday, March 17**
8:49 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Canal Street, Assist Given
10:15 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Services Rendered
1:28 p.m. Structure Fire, West Street, Investigated
2:15 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Vernon Street, Services Rendered
5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
6:32 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Warren Road, Services Rendered
10:47 p.m. Suspicious, Church Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Heather L. Lamoureux, 40, Wilbraham
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Drug, Possess Class B; Drug, Possess Class E

Warren Police Log

- During the week of March 9-15, the Warren Police Department responded to 269 building/property checks, 47 community policings, 19 emergency 911 calls, one safety concern, two structure fires, one brush fire, two frauds/forgeries, one larceny/theft, two motor vehicle accidents, one complaint, one illegal dumping, one animal call and 20 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.
- Sunday, March 9**
1:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
9:41 a.m. Welfare Check, South Street, Transported to Hospital
6:20 p.m. Structure Fires, Heritage Drive, Fire Extinguished
7:34 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Officer Took Call
7:56 p.m. Unknown Structure/Brush Fire, Burbank Avenue, Fire Extinguished
- Monday, March 10**
2:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
5:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:59 p.m. Brush/ Wildland Fires, Keys Road, Fire Extinguished
6:21 p.m. Chest Pain/ Heart Problem, Cottage Street, Transported to Hospital
- Tuesday, March 11**
5:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Written Warning
5:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning
9:23 a.m. Seizures, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
11:04 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed
1:06 p.m. Falls, Brimfield Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Confirmed Misdial
8:48 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Otis Street, Report Filed
- Wednesday, March 12**
9:25 a.m. Welfare Check, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
2:51 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Report Filed
3:20 p.m. Chest Pain/ Heart Problem, Carpenter Street, Transported to Hospital
4:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Rachid Aitighli, 55, Warren
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Marked
- Thursday, March 13**
2:50 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Quaboag Street, Transported to Hospital
8:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
2:11 p.m. Safety Concern, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer/ Chief Advised
3:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
4:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
- Friday, March 14**
2:49 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed
- Saturday, March 15**
1:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Street, Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Nathan J. Embair, 23, West Brookfield
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open Container of; Marked Lanes Violation
10:07 a.m. Fumes/Odor/ Gas Leak, Bemis Road, Investigated
10:33 a.m. Illegal Dumping, Heritage Drive, Report Filed
10:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Coy Hill Road, Citation Issued
5:03 p.m. Complaint, A Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Hardwick Police Log

- During the week of March 10-17, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 62 building/property checks, 53 directed/area patrols, 10 radar assignments, one traffic control, 14 emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, three assist other agencies, one complaint, two safety hazards, two fires, one motor vehicle accident and 11 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.
- Monday, March 10**
9:01 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
9:55 a.m. Unattended Death, Gaudet Road, Death/ Unattended
2:06 p.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, Dispatch Handled
2:23 p.m. Safety Hazard, Lower Road, Services Rendered
3:19 p.m. Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Transported to Hospital
3:26 p.m. 911 Fire/ Brush, Greenwich Road, Extinguished
5:30 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Officer Handled
- Tuesday, March 11**
11:30 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Thresher Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
4:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
6:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
- Wednesday, March 12**
9:06 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Services Rendered
9:28 a.m. Assist Citizen, North Road, Services Rendered
9:46 a.m. Fire/Other, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
11:16 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location, Spoken To
3:42 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, No Action Required
4:35 p.m. Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
5:40 p.m. 911 Hang-up/ Abandoned, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital
- Thursday, March 13**
10:06 a.m. 911 Hang-up/ Abandoned, Sessions Road, Negative Contact
4:32 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Sullivan Avenue, Officer Handled
5:40 p.m. 911 Hang-up/ Abandoned, High Street, Spoken To

- Friday, March 14**
4:22 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
6:59 p.m. Complaint, School House Drive, Officer Handled
- Saturday, March 15**
1:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
2:47 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
3:17 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
6:35 p.m. 911 Elevator Call/Alarms, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered
- Sunday, March 16**
9:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, North Street, Arrest(s) Made
6:38 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
7:46 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital
10:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning

Open burning season now open through May 1

WARE – Open burning season is now open by permit and runs through May 1. Permits will be available online only at ware.firepermits.com. If you are already registered for the site from last year's open burning season, you only need to log in and apply for a 2025 burn permit. Please make sure you

link your bank account for UniPay for a smoother process. The bank requires time to process your payment and your permit will be inactive until payment is approved. Cash will not be accepted at the fire station for a burn permit. All processing fees are required through the online website.

Cold weather clothing drive ongoing through spring

WARE – The Recovery Center of HOPE and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance will be hosting a Community Cold Weather Drive to benefit local individuals and families facing hardships. They will be accepting new and gently used gloves, mittens, scarves, sweaters, blankets, base-layers, jackets and coats and new beanies and socks.

Items will be collected through the spring and can be dropped off at the following locations: Town Hall, 126 Main St., Mondays and Tuesdays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Recovery on Main, 78 Main St., Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m.; Ware Library, 37 Main St., Thursdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Recovery Center of HOPE, Fridays from 2-4 p.m.

Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics moved to March 22

WARE – The Ware Polar Plunge to benefit the Special Olympics will be held on Saturday, March 22 at West Beach – Beaver Lake.



This event was previously going to be held on March 8, but has been rescheduled due to the ice. The gates will be open from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and there will be food, warm beverages, water, snacks and music provided. Check-in for the plunge is at 11 a.m. and the plunge will take place at noon. To register, scan the QR code or visit www.polarplungema.org.

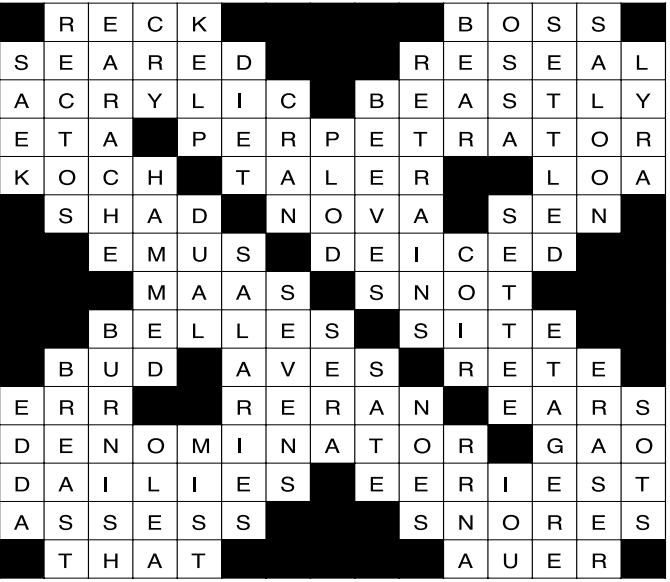
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NEWS & FEATURES

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

For more information on news or community features for The Ware River News, please email **warerivernews@turley.com.**

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Quabbin Regional Middle School lists Honor Roll

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional Middle School lists the Honor Roll for the second quarter.

Grade Six, High Honors
Nevaeh Andrews, Jacob Blanchard, Vincent Broten, Jaysen Cassano, Ayla Clark, John Cook, Anna Coomey, Ella Critelli, Joey DeMalia, Matthew Flamand, Andrew Fuller, Lincoln Graves, Colby Hill, Ryan LaRange, Walker Larson, Maishao Lee, Brady Malin, Sawyer Minton, Theodore Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Nolan O’Connor, Aviendha O’Neill, Emily Schur, Liam Shaw, Weston Stukuls Barrieau, Brayden Surprenant, Kenzie Thorpe, Hana Mae Tousignant and Joseph Youngstrom.

Grade Six, Honors
Lyric Alves, Aubrianna Babineau, Asher Baker, Julianna Bienvenu, Ava Blancato, Talasyn Boissoneau, Josie Castell, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ryan Colgate, Audrey Cutler, Hannah Cutler, Ethan Donaldson, Hannah Dube, Afina Griffith, Joseph Haley, Madilyn Houle, Silas Howe, Adrian Johnson, Colin Kania, Nathan Kearchner, Levi Kniskern, Isabella LaFountain, Kaydence Landry, Adalyn McHugh, Kayla McHugh, Avery Melanson, Lucy Merrill, Havenanna Morley, Owen Nason, Evelyn Palladino, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Bentley Parker, Logan Peters, McKenna Rengo, Waverly Rivard, Ava Rodriguez, Lillian Roohan, Ava Sherblom, Sophia Small, Landon Swindlehurst, Regan Toohill, Anthony Wade, Everett Weisman and Brady White.

Grade Seven, High Honors
Saylor Bissonnette, Julia Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Emily Johnson, Evelyn Johnson, Mathieu LeBlanc, Ava Maxim, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Madeleine Proulx, Autumn Rector, Lily Ryan, Emma Stauder, Katy Twarog and Elizabeth Welch.

Grade Seven, Honors
Albert Afonso, Addyson Barringer, Owen Black, Amelia Breault, Joyce Brown, Davis Burch, Jack Castell, Henry Corbett, Christopher Dallair, Preston

D’Amato, Sophia Dittami, Addison Ford, Eden Fortier, Lucas Gaspar, Jaidev Giumentaro, Meaghan Glidden, Nolan Herrick, Gabriel Houle, Aimee Ickler, Pele Johnson, Noah Kelter, Amy Landrin, Theodore Langer, Maggie Leander, Jack Leclair, Mackenzie Levesque, Chiara Manna, Bree May, Cameron McDonald, Valerie Metterville, Brayden Nadeau, Calleb Oliveira, Ashton Pride, Evelyn Priestley, Thomas Schoonmaker, Andrew Scott, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Bella Spring, Daisy Stevens, Fiona Stevens, Dominic Strickland, Kailyn Traynham, Olivia Vanoudenhove, Lila Wilson, Skylar Wisniewski, Raegyn Wnek and Milo Zantoliadis.

Grade Eight, High Honors
Alison Baptiste, Kalina Bassett, Hazel Carter, Lauren Colleton, Adalyn Cranston, Jeremy DeMoranville, Fiona Derr, Brynn Dunphy, Xavier Fjeld, Silas Flint, Nathan Gingras, Olivia Gregory, Hayston Hay, Gemma Mullins, Greyson Mullins, Whitney Reeves, Chloe Richardson, Ava Rogowski, Zoey Salvatore, Madisyn Shotwell, Annabelle Silver, Addison Surprenant, Michael Tabares, Robert Tobin, Launa Tran, John Tyler, Robyn Waltz and Jack Wynne.

Grade Eight, Honors
Olivia Abbas-Peck, Emma Ackert, Adeelya Andrade, Caleb Conway-Dias, Joseph Cook, Alexandra Cullen, Kalypso DeCologero, Gabriel DelGiudice, Tyler Ellis, Maya Faucher, Finian Fauteux, Tsadiku Fox, Juliana Guilderson, Madison Haley, Sawyer Harmon, Madisyn Hill, Reese Jamieson, Sarah Jean-Francois, Aubrey Lawson, Weston Letendre, Sage McQueston, Lunabelle Moore, Sarah Neal, Owen Newman, Olivia O’Connor, William O’Neill, Dante Orcutt, Quinn Ouimette, Joseph Perrone, Lukas Potter, Kimberly Riendeau, Jillian Rigney, Sophia Rogers, Connor Roohan, Jacob Rosario, Alexis Savary, Madison Scanlon, Deven Skinner, Brianna Souza, Rosalie Stark, Mackenzie Toupin, Halee Vasquez, Maxwell Wade, Isabelle Wentworth and Gareth White.

Jeffrey Bothwell, 65

WARE – Jeffrey W. Bothwell, 65 of Ware passed at home with his loving family at his side on March 10,

2025. He will be remembered by his loving brother Randy, as well as being a wonderful

uncle to his niece and nephews Tommy, Jake, and Katie. Jeffrey also loved being a dad to Chris and Ronnie.

Toni Rae Hebert, 74

WARREN – Toni Rae (Rearick) Hebert, 74 of Warren, died on Saturday morning, March 8, 2025, in Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Center.

She leaves her daughters, Tanya Wdowiak of Holyoke and Sarah Hebert of Palmer, along with three grandchildren Harlie, Bryce, and Ashtyn. She also leaves her brothers, David and Karl Rearick, and her sisters, Leanne Beswick, Lynn Pothier, and Leona Bilodeau. She was predeceased by her siblings Rick and Peggy Rearick.

She was born in Ware,



daughter of the late Frederick and H. Marie (LaPlante) Rearick and was a long-time resident of Warren. Toni attended Warren High and was a cheerleader for the Warren High Eagles. She graduated from Westfield State College with a degree in Social Services.

Her career began at the former Monson Developmental Center, and there she went on to work for the State of Massachusetts both as a care worker and then as a probation officer. In her later years she was a school bus driver for Lizak’s

Bus Service. She loved and enjoyed her work and spoke fondly of all her clients and school bus children.

Her favorite pastimes were taking her beloved dog Fritzie for walks, having coffee at the old Warren Spa and Package with friends, and treasuring her many collectible items.

She will be missed dearly by all those she held closest to her heart.

A Graveside Service in St. Paul Cemetery in Warren will be held in the spring. Varnum Funeral Home, 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online tribute page is available at varnumfuneral-home.com.

Margaret Ann Trombly

WARE – Margaret Ann (Garde) Trombly passed away on March 9, 2025, at Baystate Medical Center after a decade long series of illnesses.

A lifelong resident of Ware, Peggy attended Ware High School and was a long-time banker at the former Ware Cooperative Bank.

Peggy was an avid speed reader with unbelievable comprehension, touring the world through every book she touched. In later years she was able to tour extensively through the Caribbean and Mexico, her favorites being Bonaire, N.A., and Cozumel, Mexico. She made many friends in several of the countries she visited.

Peggy was immensely proud of the accomplishments of her children. Her daughter Donna Bennett, who is a successful businesswoman in West Brookfield. Her son John Lavallee, who is a business manager for Apple Inc. in Tokyo, Japan, and her daughter Jill Talamo who is a licensed physical therapist in New York.

Peggy was predeceased by her parents John and Jean (DesLauriers) Garde. She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Richard D. Trombly. Her daughters, Donna and Gary Bennett of West Brookfield, Jill and

Mark Talamo of Kenmore, New York, and her son John Yukie Lavallee of Tokyo, Japan. Her close cousin, like a brother, Ned and his wife Barbara Rowe of Oakland, California. Her cousin Jackie Carlson of Palmer. Her in-laws, Janice Orszulak, Frank Orszulak, Roger Trombly, and Richard Dietrich.

Peggy was affectionately known as G.G. to her grandchildren. She leaves four granddaughters, Colleen Bennett, Carly Bennett Norton, Kaelin and Mia Talamo. Three great-granddaughters, Isla and Lana Bennington and Reese Norton. One great-grandson, Wade Norton.

Peggy would never have survived a decade of all her illnesses without the care and

compassion of all her lifelong friends, especially her son-in-law Gary Bennett, Patricia Piche, Teresa Kabaniuk, Penny Nicholas and Richard Dietrich.

A Calling Hour for Peggy will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2025, from 10-11 a.m. in Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St. in Ware. A Funeral Service will be held in the funeral home immediately following the calling hour. Burial will be held in Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Ware following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson’s Foundation, 5757 Waterford District Drive, Suite 310, Miami, FL 33126.

An online tribute page is available at www.charbonneauafh.com.



Antique appraisal event offered at historical museum

NEW BRAINTREE – A much anticipated “Antiques Roadshow”- like event has been scheduled at the New Braintree Historical Society museum, 10 Utley Road, on Saturday, March 22 from 1-3 p.m.

Renowned appraiser and auctioneer, Kenneth Van Blarcom from South Natick (<https://kwvbauctions.com/about/>), will conduct an individual appraisal and history

of your item, for all to learn about.

The Society is thrilled to have Van Blarcom’s expertise here in New Braintree. His impressive credentials include antique appraisal positions with Shreve, Crump and Low, Co. and a Boston Directorship at the fine art and antique company of Skinner Auctions. Van Blarcom went on to start his own auction and appraisal

business conducting over 850 auctions over a 40 year period.

So, dust off your favorite treasure, and prepare for some historical entertainment. Limit of two items. Cost per appraisal \$5. No jewelry, please.

Refreshments will be served. For more information, visit <https://newbraintreehistoricalsociety.org/> or call 508-867-3324.

QHMA invites public to Bingo Night fundraiser

PALMER – The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce, the non-profit organization that promotes business and development within surrounding communities of Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester counties, has announced its Handbag & Hand Tool Bingo Night fundraiser.

The event will take place on Friday, March 21 at AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers. The Chamber will produce 10 exciting bingo rounds, each with a grand

prize featuring one of seven designer handbags or one of three premium tools up for grabs.

Tickets can be purchased on QHMA.com. The registration fee is \$40 per person and includes 10 bingo cards, bingo dauber, delicious snack platters, bonus raffle ticket and a cash bar.

Proceeds from the bingo event will benefit the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce and its on-going mission to assist its more than two-hundred member



businesses succeed and grow with programs and initiatives throughout the year.

obituaries

Death notices

Bothwell, Jeffrey W.
Died March 10, 2025

Hebert, Toni Rae (Rearick)
Died March 8, 2025

Trombly, Margaret Ann (Garde)
Died March 9, 2025
Services March 20, 2025

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.
Let them know you saw their ad in the Ware River News

	1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	
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48				49	50				51		52
53								54		55	
56									57		
	58								59		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Take heed
5. One's superior
9. Prepped meat
11. Tighten anew
13. Type of textile fiber
15. Animalistic
16. When you hope to get somewhere
17. Offender
19. Former NYC mayor Ed
21. Type of cryptocurrency
22. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
23. Herring-like fish
25. Popular PBS program
26. Congressman (abbr.)
27. Flightless Australian birds
29. Defrosted

31. Prior Yankee sensation Kevin
33. Nasal mucus
34. Some are southern
36. A place to construct
38. Popular beer brand
39. Shouts of farewell
41. Network of nerves
43. Make a mistake
44. Showed old movie
46. Body parts
48. A divisor
52. Congressional investigatory body
53. Papers
54. Most unnatural
56. Judge the worth of something
57. Makes sounds while sleeping
58. Which
59. Hungarian Violinist

CLUES DOWN

1. Pages
2. Head pain
3. A loud utterance
4. Large brown seaweed
5. Hulu's chef Carmine
6. Greek mountain
7. Made final
8. Bar
9. Tai subgroup
10. What you eat
11. Teaches again
12. Small constellation
14. Type of berry
15. Cows fattened for meat
18. A way to hoof it
20. Exaggerated a role
24. About two
26. Long upholstered seat

28. What employees earn
30. Fiber from a coconut husk
32. Digits
34. Polish by rubbing
35. Liquid body substances
37. Furniture with open shelves
38. Edible part of a chicken
40. Satisfy
42. Tool used to remove
43. Icelandic poems
45. Swiss village
47. Drunks
49. Evergreen plant genus
50. Light precipitation
51. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
55. An informal debt instrument

Classifieds

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FRIDAY AT 2 PM

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HELP WANTED

Executive Director for Community Survival Center
in Indian Orchard
Resume and references to **survivalcenterio@gmail.com**
Need experience in Management, Public Outreach, and Social Media
Four-day work week; 5 weeks vacation; 5 days sick/personal time; holidays \$60,000 salary

LOCAL TREE SERVICE looking for climber and ground person. Must have driver's license in good standing. Call **413-507-1949.**

The Town of Huntington is seeking a full-time **Highway Truck Driver/Equipment Operator/Laborer.** Applicants must possess a Massachusetts Class B CDL with Air Brake Endorsement and possess or be able to obtain 2B or higher & 4G Hoisting Engineer's licenses within 6 months of hire. \$2750 to \$2879 per hour based on qualifications. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us.** Position is open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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NEWLY REMODELED 2 BR., 15 Vigeant St., Ware. Close to center of town, off-street parking, coin-op laundry. \$1250/mo. plus utilities. No pets. **413-323-8707.**



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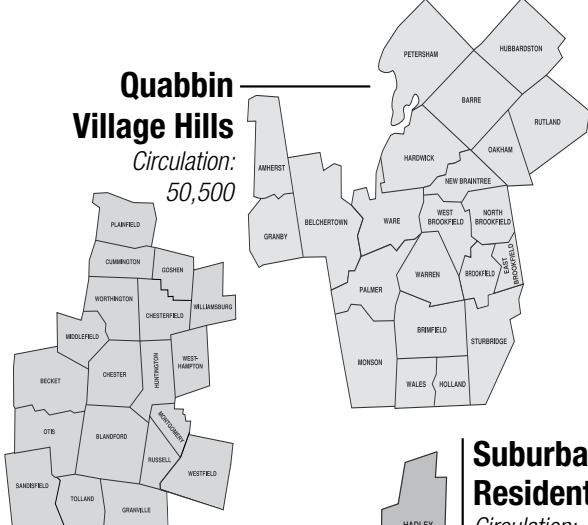
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

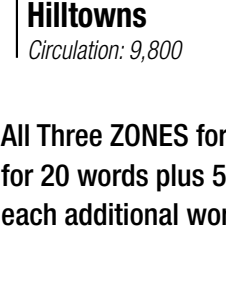
Quabbin Village Hills

Circulation: 50,500



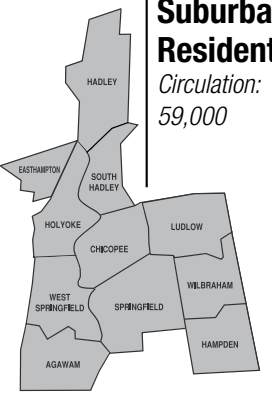
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Suburban Residential

Circulation: 59,000



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FRIDAY AT 2 PM



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public notices

Town of Ware
Conservation Commission
LEGAL NOTICE

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chap 131, Sec 40. The hearing will include consideration of a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) by Shayne Pedercini to review and approve a flagged wetland delineation at 108 Fisherdict Road. No current work on the property is being proposed. Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view the application and related plans, please contact the Conservation Office at 413-967-9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chap 4, Sec 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association’s (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org> 03/20/2025

Ware
Conservation Commission
Legal Notice

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. 31 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a Notice of Intent by Thomas Bianchi, for Construction of a single-family home with a wetland crossing at 6 Coldbrook Drive. Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at (413) 967-9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publisher’s Association’s (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org> . 03/20/2025

Form 299 Date: October 7, 2024
Attorney General’s
Notice
Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32
Town of Ware
Case No. 11545
Annual Town Meeting of
May 13, 2024
Article# 17

Attorney General’s Limited Authority to Waive Procedural Defects in the Notice of the Planning Board Hearing

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, if the Attorney General finds there to be any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment of any zoning by-law relating to the form or content of the notice of the Planning Board hearing prescribed by G.L. c. 40A, § 5, or to the manner or dates on which said notice is mailed, posted or published as required by that section, then instead of disapproving the by-law or amendment by reason of any such defect, the Attorney General may elect to proceed under the defect waiver provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32. Under those provisions, the Attorney General is conditionally authorized to waive any such defect.

Defect Determined in Notice of Planning Board Hearing

The Attorney General has determined that the planning board hearing notice relating to the above Article failed to comply with the notice requirements for such hearing established by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. Section 5 provides in part (with emphasis added):

No zoning ... by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a ... town has ... held a public hearing thereon ... at which interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard Notice of the time and place of such hearing, of the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the ... town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the ... town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abutting city and town In cases involving boundary, density or use changes within a district, notice shall be sent to any such nonresident property owner who has filed such a request with the city or town clerk and whose property lies in the district where the change is sought.

Based on the materials submitted to this Office, we have identified the following defect: the planning board hearing notice was not posted in a conspicuous place in the Town Hall, as required by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. For this reason, the 90-day period prescribed for the Attorney General’s review of Article 17 is suspended in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Town Clerk’s Certification of Compliance with This Notice

After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s).

Attorney General’s Election to Proceed Under the Waiver Provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32

The Attorney General has elected to proceed under the limited defect waiver authority conferred by G.L. C. 40, § 32.

Suspension of Review of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The 90-day period prescribed by law for the Attorney General’s review of local by-laws is therefore suspended in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Posting and Publication of This Notice

The Town Clerk shall post a true copy of this Notice in a conspicuous place in the Ware Town Hall for a period of not less than 14 days and shall publish a copy once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Ware.

Filing of Claim That Defect in Notice Was Misleading or Otherwise Prejudicial

Within 21 days of the date on which this Notice is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Ware, any resident of the Town of Ware, or the owner of any real property in the Town of Ware or any other party entitled to notice of the planning board hearing may file with the Town Clerk a written statement that the notice defect was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. The statement must include the reasons supporting the claim that the defect in the Planning Board Notice was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. This statement must be actually on file with the Town Clerk not later than 21 days from the date on which this Notice is published in the newspaper.

Town Clerk’s Certification of Compliance with This Notice

After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s).

Resumption of Attorney General’s Review

Upon receipt of one original copy of this Notice with the Clerk’s certification, the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General’s review under G.L. c. 40, § 32, shall resume. If no claim is made, the Attorney General has the discretion to waive any such defect; if any claim is made, however, the Attorney General may not waive any such defect.

Note: By not filing a claim under this provision, a person shall not be deprived of the right to assert a claim of invalidity arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment, as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 32, and in G.L. c. 40A, § 5.

Date: October 7, 2024
Very truly yours,
ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL
By: Kelli E. Gunagan
Assistant Attorney General
Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 792-7600

03/20/2025
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton MA, 01060
Docket No.
HS23P0238PM
In the matter of:
Melanie Mettig
Of: Ware, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR’S
ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **First and Final** account(s) of Nancy Godbout of Granby, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **04/10/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

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

Witness, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 12, 2025
Mark S Ames
Register of Probate
03/20/2025

Hardwick Planning Board
Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board, acting as Special Permit Granting Authority for the Town of Hardwick, will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:45PM** at the **Hardwick Town House at 32 Common Street, Hardwick MA 01037**.

Pursuant to Hardwick Zoning Bylaw Sections 3.2.3.i, 6.9.1 and 4.0, this Hearing is regarding the application by Quabbin Glamping and Camping, LLC for a Special Permit for a campground at 3305 Greenwich Road on 80 acres. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties can also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>

Hardwick Planning Board
Jenna Garvey, Chair
03/13, 03/20/2025

West Brookfield
Housing Authority
Asphalt Roof Replacement
#7 & #8 Project #307077
Section 00 11 13

**ADVERTISEMENT TO BID
MGL c.149 §50K to §150K**
THE WEST BROOKFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Asphalt Roof Replacement #7 & #8 at State Aided Development: Olde Village Place (667-1) in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by GCE ARCHITECTURE.

The Project consists of but not limited to:

Remove and replace asphalt shingles, underlayment and related roof penetration covers at 2 single story buildings.

The work is estimated to cost **\$55,177.00**.

All bidding Requests for Information (RFIs) shall be submitted online by 03/31/2025 at 3:00PM EDT for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at biddocs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General Bids will be received until **04 April 2025 at 2:00 PM** EDT and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates)

and made payable to the **WEST BROOKFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at biddocs.com (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Scheduled

Date and Time: 03/27/2025 at 10:00AM EDT

Address: 29 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

Instructions: None

West Brookfield Housing Authority
Asphalt Roof Replacement
#7 & #8 Project #307077

The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at:
Nashoba Blue Inc.
433 Main Street
Hudson, MA 01749
978-568-1167

Advertisement to Bid
00 11 13 - 1
EOHLC v1.0-20230630 MGL c.149 §50K to §150K
03/20/2025

STORAGE AUCTION

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Alice Petruzzi, Jasmine Ledy, William Backus, Amber Beach and Michah Hinkley will be auctioned off at Secure Storage 167 West St., Ware, MA on **April 5, 2025 at 9:30 am**.

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.
03/20, 03/27/2025

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket Number:
25 SM 000782
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Michael Hackett; Lisa Marie Caissie a/k/a Lisa Marie Hackett

And to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, numbered 246 Belcher-town Road, given by Michael Hackett and Lisa Marie Caissie to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, dated January 27, 2021, and recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13955, Page 224, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **April 28, 2025** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on March 17, 2025.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

03/20/2025

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

The Town of West Brookfield Highway
Department is seeking
TWO FULL TIME
OPERATOR/DRIVER/LABORERS

This position performs manual labor, operates and maintains equipment for the construction, operation and maintenance of town roads and maintains town owned facilities. Must possess current and valid Massachusetts Class B CDL license with an airbrake endorsement as well as current motor carrier medical examiners certificate (DOT card). This is a full time, 40 hour a week position that includes overtime for snow/ice removal or emergencies. Pay is commensurate with experience.

Applications and a more detailed job description are available on the Town website: **www.wbrookfield.com**

Please contact:

Jim Daley at (508) 867-1417 or email jdaley@wbrookfield.com

The Town of West Brookfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity at all levels of the workforce. EOE

Town of Warren
Full-Time Police Officer Vacancy

The Warren Police Department is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the vacant position of FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER. The Warren Police Department is a non-civil service department that is seeking individuals who are motivated, proactive and community oriented. All candidates must be at least 21 years of age, be a U.S. Citizen, have a minimum of a high school diploma, possess a valid driver’s license, and currently have, or have the ability to obtain a Class A license to carry firearms in the state of Massachusetts. Candidates must have successfully completed a Massachusetts full-time police academy or the equivalent to be considered for the position.

All applicants who move forward in the hiring process will be subject to a background investigation as well as a medical, physical, and psychological examination. All candidates will also be required to meet all requirements set forth by the Peace Officer and Standards Commission (POST). It is preferred that applicants currently hold an unrestricted certification from POST at the time of applying.

The Town of Warren currently offers full-time employees of the Police Department with an education-based incentive. Officers with the Warren Police Department will be required to work a schedule consisting of four (4) consecutive days on followed by two (2) days off and will be assigned to a shift based on departmental needs. All Officers will also be eligible for vacation time, personal time and holiday pay as outlined in the union contract.

All interested applicants are asked to please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Lieutenant Kyle P. Whitcomb, 1 Milton O. Fountain Way, P.O. Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or E-mail to Whitcomb@warren-ma.gov

The deadline for applications is **Friday, April 4, 2025**. Therefore, it is required that the Warren Police Department be in receipt of the candidates resume and cover letter no later than this date to be considered. The Town of Warren is an equal opportunity employer (EOE).

PUBLIC NOTICES
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1

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

QUABBIN from page 11
 topics and enjoyment in the practical learning experiences. When visiting the class recently here is what our students shared.
 “The instructors are great and the course is really fun.” “I appreciate that it is a good opportunity to learn about what they do.” “I’m interested in becoming a nurse and it is a great introduction to the medical field.” “My family is in the business and it shows me different options that I might be interested in.” “I like the first hand experience.” “I think it is good to learn these skills at a younger age, it is a good thing to have.”
 On the day of the visit, students watched a series of videos and then worked with pediatric dummies to administer CPR. They worked in small groups while the instructors circulated making recommendations or adjustments.

At the same time, students who felt ready were undergoing their CPR certification assessment in the back of the room. There was a lot of action in the classroom and students were responsible for retaining and applying their knowledge.
 Even though the academy does not run every day there is a Google Classroom that is populated with videos, resources, and assignments that the students are responsible to complete in between sessions.
 There is a lot of important information to know and students are eager to learn. Many feel that having the opportunity to engage in the hands-on aspect is helping them gain confidence in their skills. Several students are considering the possibility of careers in public safety. QRHS Senior Kylie George attended one session as part of her internship with New Braintree Fire Department and Chief Dennis Letendre.

From her observations she stated: “The Fire/EMS class gave me a good introduction to how structured training is for those just learning the basics of different topics. It covers the necessary skills and knowledge, with fewer hands-on activities. In contrast, my internship feels more hands-on and situational. Instead of sitting in a class, I get to be in the station and learn by seeing real-world operations. I have the chance to observe calls and even be involved. I interact with firefighters and EMTs every day, learning the day-to-day aspects of their job. I feel both are very helpful and important in the learning process.”
 QRHS offers many opportunities for internships and it is our hope that these students will also consider participating in an internship, like Kylie’s, with our local Fire/EMS departments upon completion of the course.

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