

WARE RIVER NEWS

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WARE POLAR PLUNGE



The Ware Polar Plunge returned to Beaver Lake and these participants made it memorable.

returns to Beaver Lake

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The 2024 Ware Polar Plunge is more than just a fun time; it is for a great cause.

In the last seven years, Ware Police Officer Jeannine Bonnayer has coordinated and participated in the Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics athletes in Massachusetts. All donations go straight to Special Olympics as the plunge celebrates inclusion.

Bonnayer is very much involved with Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. This campaign benefits the Special Olympics where law enforcement worldwide engages in championing acceptance and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities, starting first with their own communities.

Bonnayer has always participated in LETR events and being part of those events convinced her to host an event of her own. The Ware Polar Plunge would soon be



Officer Jeannine Bonnayer is shown alongside high school students who did the Polar Plunge for the very first time.

Please see **PLUNGE**, page 7



Ware High School students Angelina Wilcox (left) and Lily Bissonnette both selected careers as artists at Country Bank's Credit for Life program held last week at their school.

Credit for Life

Country Bank brings financial literacy to schools

By Paula Ouimette
and Ryan Drago
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Now in its 11th year, Country Bank kicked off the first in its series of Credit for Life fairs held across the region, offering high school seniors an opportunity to boost their financial literacy.

"It's an honor every year to work with these kids," Vice President of Community Relations Jodie Gerulaitis said at the fair held at Ware High School on March 13.

Seniors from Ware, Palmer and Belchertown high schools attended the Credit for Life fair, and also participated in an orientation led by Gerulaitis at each individual school prior to the fair.

During the Credit for Life fair, students receive a career, a salary and credit score, before visiting a number of booths designed to simulate life's expenses. These expenses range from housing, to

insurance, to utilities and transportation, even furniture and "Fun, Fun, Fun."

"We try to make the fair as realistic as possible," Gerulaitis said.

Superintendent of Schools Michael Lovato greeted the students at the start of the fair and said Credit for Life was an opportunity not offered in most schools, and to be grateful for it.

"What you're about to learn here today, is going to be so beneficial for you," he said.

Incoming Country Bank President Mary McGovern, who will also be the bank's first female president in its nearly 175 year history, told the students to take advantage of the knowledge each volunteer brings to the fair with them.

"It's really a terrific opportunity," McGovern said. "I remember graduating high school and not even knowing what a credit score was. There was really no course that taught that."

McGovern said her own children have benefitted from

Please see **CREDIT**, page 8

Fifth grade students present poetry to School Committee

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Students in Courtney Lynch's fifth grade class recently participated in a classroom poetry slam, featuring their original works.

Several of the students volunteered to present these poems to the School Committee at its March 14 meeting.

Superintendent Michael Lovato said he was able to listen to the class share their poetry during the poetry slam, and he described it as one of the best things about his job.

"I was inspired," he said, crediting Lynch for her ability to get the students involved and excited about their poetry.

Lynch said there are two times in her curriculum in which she really focuses on poetry. She gave students the opportunity to write 13 different types of poems in January, using all of the rules and frameworks outlined for each type.

"These kids worked really hard to understand what they needed to do," Lynch said.

She said she is "so incredibly proud" of her students.

The poems focused on subjects that appealed to the students, including animals, their hobbies, their favorite colors and being at the beach.

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said this is what education is all about, and he thanked the students for sharing their poems.

Comments and concerns

One parent asked School Committee members when their meetings would return to in-person. The committee currently meets remotely via Zoom.

She said it's also difficult for those wishing to attend to find the meeting link on the school district's website.

Wilson said the state has allowed them to meet remotely until April 2025 and he is unsure if it will be extended. He said the committee will reevaluate the need for remote meetings at that time.

He said meeting remotely does have advantages, including

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 2

Community stands together to stop demo of Mary Lane Hospital

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

WARE – This past Saturday, members of the community joined together to host a stand-out at Veterans Park to protest the demolition of Mary Lane Hospital.

Concerns were brought up, and grief was shared over the state of the availability of healthcare in the area.

"We need healthcare," Hardwick resident Barbara Granlund said.

"We need a hospital," another community member said. The members of the community present at the stand-out wanted to make it clear that they wanted Mary Lane Hospital to stay.

Residents at the stand-out said they have experienced many losses with the closure of the hospital, and they shared their anxieties about how they would be able to access mental health care, health care, and more.

Many people present shared



Community members joined together to protest the demolition of Mary Lane Hospital at a stand-out this past Saturday at Veterans Park.

their stories, whether they had worked at the hospital for decades, received treatment there, or were born there.

Those present at the stand-out

said the hospital holds a place in the hearts, and to see it go has filled many with anger as they call

Please see **MLH**, page 7

Boards continue to look at hazardous properties

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Board of Health member Daniel Thibodeau provided an update to the Board of Selectmen about several properties that are of concern.

At the March 14 meeting, Thibodeau said he contacted the Rhode Island Sheriff's Department to serve the owner of 200 O'Neil Road after not receiving response to certified emails. He said as of March 12, the sheriff's office had not served the notice.

The Board of Health has applied fines to the property that now total \$75,300, minus taxes and utilities.

Thibodeau said the Board of Health can't continue to apply

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Locals named to Senior All-Star game

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Connect with us



WareRiverNews

Ware River News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



Students at St. Aloysius Catholic School stand where the future playground will be built.

PTO helps fundraise for St. Aloysius playground

WARE – The PTO of St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville is hosting a spaghetti and meatball dinner dance at St. Mary's Church hall, South Street on Saturday, April 6 at 5:30 p.m.

This is an event to raise funds for the completion of

the Joe C. Knight Memorial Playground at St. Aloysius Catholic School.

The event will feature live music by the Eddie Forman Band, as well as raffle baskets, 50/50 raffle and a super raffle (\$10 per ticket) with big prizes. Beer and wine will be available to purchase.



Tickets are \$20 adults and \$10 for children. Please call Jenn at 978-660-7422 to reserve your tickets.

Listening offers Spring Enrichment Programs for Kids

BARRE – Listening Wellness Center, 35 South St., is offering Spring Enrichment Programs for Kids.

Upcycled Art with Jen Swan

This program will be held over six weeks on Mondays March 25, April 1, 22, 29, May 6 and 13, from 4-5 p.m. for children in grades one through five. The cost is \$85.

Be creative and find new ways to make art out of unexpected materials. Children will paint ocean creatures using bubble wrap to add texture, create portraits out of paintbrushes, and make mosaics using tile, glass, and found objects.

From buttons to bottle caps, each class will be an opportunity to express yourself and recycle.

Abstract Painting & Collage with Jen Swan

A free workshop: Teens Community Through Art, will be held on Friday, April 19 from 3-4:30 p.m. for ages 12+. Space is limited and registration is required.

Learn techniques in collage and acrylic painting in this workshop designed to explore relationships of color, pattern, and texture. Teens will use gel medium, decorative papers, and found materials to infuse your acrylic paintings with added interest and creativity.

All levels welcome and all materials provided. This workshop is funded by a Festivals & Projects Grant from Mass Cultural Council.

Posture Power: Stand Tall, Feel Great!

Rhonda Hamer will lead a two-hour workshop on Tuesday, April 9 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. for youth in grades six through eight.

The cost is \$24.

Do you know there are activities and exercises you can do a few times each week to really improve your posture? Better posture can make you look taller, feel better and gain confidence.

It's a little bit lecture and a bunch of practice with exercises and stretches to improve posture.

Yoga for Teens with Lisa Holloway

This program will be held over six weeks on Thursdays March 28, April 4, 11, 25, May 2 and 9 from 2:30-3:15 p.m. for ages 12+. The cost is \$60.

Class will begin with a grounding exercise. Work on strength, balance, and flexibility through yoga poses. Develop emotional equilibrium, self-esteem, and concentration with breathing, relaxation, and meditation components.

End in Savasana, a restorative yoga pose, integrating everything we did throughout class.

How to register

Visit listeningwellness.org and click on each program button found on the flyer for more information and to register on Eventbrite. Cutoff date is seven days prior to first class.

Scholarships are available. People are encouraged to apply by emailing office@listeningwellness.org or selecting the scholarship ticket in the event.

Funding in part by local Cultural Councils including Hardwick/New Braintree Cultural Council, Barre Cultural Council, and Oakham Cultural Council, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Knights of Columbus hosts Easter egg hunt on March 24

WARE – Ware Knights of Columbus Council 183 is hosting its annual Easter egg hunt behind St. Mary's School, South Street, on Sunday, March 24 at 11 a.m. with a special visit from Mr. and Mrs. Easter Bunny.

The event will be moved inside the All Saints Church hall, North Street, if it rains.

Are You Old News?



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

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



File Photo
Last week's photo from 1961 showed Principal Stanley Koziol of South Street School being presented with a special "King Grinder" from cafeteria workers Emily Sinkoski and Mary Cullen. Koziol reportedly had a weakness for grinders, which included Polish ham, minced ham, tomato, cheese and lettuce on a roll.

Solar eclipse program offered at library March 25

WARE – In advance of the upcoming solar eclipse, the Young Men's Library, 37 Main St., will be hosting Richard Sanderson, president of the Springfield STARS club and retired curator of physical science at the Springfield Museums on Monday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Sanderson will be presenting a talk on "The Solar Eclipse Experience". He will explain why solar eclipses occur, how they differ from lunar eclipses, and describe the profound and unexpected emotional impact they often have on witnesses.

He will also look back at several past eclipses, including the "Great American Eclipse" of

2017.

Sanderson will then discuss the upcoming April 8, total solar eclipse, which will be visible from the northeastern United States, with an emphasis on how to view it safely. The presentation will be illustrated with eclipse photos that Sanderson has taken over the past 50 years from sites as far away as East Africa.

The library will have eclipse glasses available for those who attend the program. Glasses will also be available at the library starting Monday, March 18 while supplies last.

Please call the library at 413-967-5491 with any questions.

SCHOOL from page 9

increased attendance.

School Committee member Chris Desjardins said attendance at meetings was usually one person or less, and that has improved when the format switched to remote.

Parents of elementary school students also expressed concerns about the need for paraprofessionals to work with students requiring services.

One parent spoke about their child being left out from the school concert last year, due to a miscommunication between staff and lack of paraprofessionals. Another parent spoke about her child's recent individualized education program meeting and her concerns about their need for one-on-one staffing to stay on task in the classroom.

Another parent shared her child's need for one-on-one staffing and how well it worked for them.

"Having these people, that are constantly with them, does mean a lot and it makes it easier that there's somebody there looking out for their best interest as well," the parent said.

Lovato invited the parents to meet with him to discuss these concerns.

Student representative report

Student Representative Maia Lamothe said the month of March has been filled with lots of fun activities at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School including a Dr. Seuss-themed spirit week.

"It was fun to see the creativity amongst the students and staff," Lamothe said.

Students who participated in the Springfield Thunderbirds Stick to Reading program received a visit from Boomer, along with a certificate, bookmark and a ticket to an upcoming hockey game.

Students in third grade are preparing for Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System testing, which will take place on April 9-10 for English Language Arts and May 14-15 for math.

Lamothe said the Middle School hosted the annual Community Reading Day, welcoming

community members into the schools to read books to students.

Middle School students are celebrating March Madness with a spirit week.

Lamothe said the Middle School needs substitute teachers and the Ware Middle School PTO is looking for parents and teachers to join their group.

Students at the High School joined the Guidance Department for a tour of Westfield State University for Career Exploration Day. Credit for Life will be held in the gymnasium, sponsored by Country Bank.

Grade 10 students will complete the ELA portion of MCAS on March 26-27.

Lamothe said the Student Council had a successful trip to Hyannis for the annual conference and announced that Phillip Orszulak was elected Massachusetts Association of Student Councils' secretary. Other highlights included receiving Gold Council of Excellence, Advisor of Year nomination, 15 Years Ware Student Council Advisor and Lip Sync winners.

Lamothe congratulated the boys and girls basketball teams for their success in the state tournament. She also thanked the cheerleaders for supporting the teams.

The Student Council is sponsoring an Easer egg hunt on Saturday, March 30 at 11 a.m. for children under 12. The cost is \$3.

Superintendent's assessment

School Committee members discussed including a self-evaluation from Lovato in his superintendent's review.

Lovato will submit his self-evaluation to the committee on March 27 to be included with his assessment. School Committee members will submit their individual evaluations on April 10.

The complete evaluation will be presented to the public on April 24.

Superintendent's report

Lovato spoke about the Credit for Life fair hosted by Country Bank at the school, and how impressive it was to see the students learning and interacting with other students from neighboring school districts.



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

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!		INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS		PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!	
USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN ROAST RIB END or LOIN END	\$2.09 / lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBEYE	\$8.29 / lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS TRAY PAK.....	49¢ / lb
EASTER HAMS		WHOLE OR HALF	CUT FREE	Lenten Specials	
USDA INSP. HATFIELD OLD TIME HARDWOOD SMOKED SKINLESS & SHANKLESS WHOLE HAM	\$2.44 / lb	USDA INSP. FRESH AMERICAN LEG OF LAMB	\$4.99 / lb	USDA INSP. KINGFISH STEAKS w/ HEAD OR TAIL.....	\$4.99 / lb
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USDA INSP. BONELESS HONEY HAM 3 LB AVERAGE....	\$1.99 / lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CLEANED CONCH MEAT 5 LB BOX.....	\$49.99 ea	USDA INSP. FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 16/20 COUNT 1 LB BAG.....	\$7.99 ea
USDA INSP. FROZEN HAM PORTION BUTT or SHANK 1 LB.....	99¢ / lb	HAPPY EASTER FRIENDS & CUSTOMERS!			
USDA INSP. FROZEN 1/2 SPIRAL HAM.....	\$1.29 / lb	90 Meat Outlet			
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SALE DATES: 3/21/24-3/27/24		HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3 We reserve the right to limit quantities.			

Best Wishes & Thank You

Tracy Meehan
TOWN ACCOUNTANT

We wish you all the best in your new career adventure. Thank you for being a great colleague, friend, and mentor.

It has been a great pleasure to work with you for over 16 years. Thank you for your dedication to the Town of Ware.

We will miss you!

Residents and Staff of the Town of Ware

Organist Peter Krasinski celebrates America's pastime

Accompanies silent film 'Speedy' at Stone Church

HARDWICK – Organist extraordinaire Peter Edwin Krasinski will present "Speedy", a 1928 baseball-themed silent film on a theater-sized movie screen with live improvised accompaniment on the historic instrument at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 6.

Harold Lloyd, Ann Christy and Bert Woodruff star in this Oscar-nominated comedy classic, with cameo appearances by Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Hosts Friends of the Stone Church will serve free popcorn and snacks.

Tickets are \$20 at the door or online at <https://buytickets.at/friendsofthestonechurch/943723>. Youth under 18 are admitted free.

Group tickets for families of more than three will be capped at \$60 for the group.

Nominated for an Oscar in 1928, "Speedy" is the story of a Yankees fan who saves from extinction New York City's last horse-drawn trolley, operated by his girlfriend's grandfather.

Krasinski's unique live accompaniment will take the audience on a captivating journey into the Roaring Twenties, a golden age for American sports fans.

To integrate sound and silent pictures, Krasinski memorizes each film. His spontaneous performances seamlessly reflect the films' actions and characters' states of mind, bringing productions to life with relevance and compassion. In recognition of his talent and creativity, he received the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition.

House Organist of the Providence Performing Arts Center, Krasinski was named last year as the official House Organist at Mechanics Hall, Worcester. A past Dean of the Boston Chapter AGO, Krasinski is active as Organist at First Church of Christ Scientist in Providence, accompanist at Beth El Temple Center in Belmont and



Harold Lloyd as Horold Speedy Swift; Ann Christy as Jane Dillon; Bert Woodruff as her granddaddy Pop Dillon; and Byron Douglas as W.S. Wilton starred in the 1928 silent film "Speedy".

he has presented Master Classes at the Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland.

Krasinski appeared in 2023 in his own cameo for an Oscar-nominated film "The Holdovers", set and filmed in New England.

"Speedy" will be Krasinski's seventh family film concert in the Silents Are Golden series in Gilbertville. Home viewers can hear excerpts from his Let Joy Resound! organ concerts, re-opening the landmark Stone Church in 2016, and two of his best accompanied silent films, the 1924 original "Peter Pan", recorded in 2021 with no audience, due to the pandemic, and the 1929 film "It", starring Clara Bow, recorded in 2022 with live audience.

Tune in via the FOSC website: www.FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org/music/.

Spring 2024 Concerts at the Stone Church Cultural Center are sponsored by Boston Financial Management and many FOSC donors. Additional support comes from the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, and from the Cultural Councils of Barre, Oakham and Petersham, which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

FOSC is pleased to be participating in the Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture pro-



Peter Krasinski is shown with soprano Maria Ferrante at Mechanics Hall

gram by extending discounts to EBT, WIC and ConnectorCare health plan insurance cardholders. Eligible participants may request up to two free tickets at the box office on the day of the event. Bring EBT, WIC or Connector Care health plan card for 2024.

About FOSC

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group orga-

nized in 2015 and open to all. Its mission is to preserve and protect the Gilbertville Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of community enrichment.

The Friends welcome donations toward the ongoing preservation project and the concerts online at www.FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

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 25

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

Tuesday, March 26

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
9-10 a.m. Council on Aging meeting
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking (\$3 per class)
6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, March 27

9 a.m. Tai-Chi
9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
10 a.m. Scat
10-11:30 a.m. Office Hours, Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse
11:30 a.m. Lunch
2:30-3:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, March 28

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

9 a.m. Senior Spring Walk. Meet at Senior Center.
9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
10 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, March 29

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 25

Grilled Reuben Sandwich, Onion Rings, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, March 26

BBQ Ribs, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, March 27

Brunch
Chocolate Chip Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, March 28

Chicken Parmigiana with Pasta, Veggie Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, March 29

Stuffed Shells (no meat), Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Monson Button Club hosts button show on April 13

THREE RIVERS – The Massachusetts State Button Society's spring meeting will be hosted by the Monson Button Club on Saturday, April 13, at the Amvets Post 74 on Main St., from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the day's activities and to purchase buttons and button related items from 9 a.m.-noon and from 1:30-3 p.m. There will be

no button sales during the break from noon to 1:30 p.m. as lunch, a business meeting, and auction will take place.

Morning visitors will be treated to coffee and refreshments provided by the hosting club; bring your own brown bag lunch, and dessert will be provided. There is no admission fee, and all are welcome.

The Recovery Center of HOPE

(RCH) is a community run for and by people in recovery.

We welcome those in or seeking recovery from alcohol, drugs, or any other addiction, whether that be personally and/or with a loved one.

Our community recognizes

Multiple Pathways because we understand that one size does not fit all.

RCH is open Monday through Friday, with occasional weekend events.

52 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082
(413) 277 6290 • RCHinfo@wmtcinfo.org



RCH strives to create a safe, inclusive environment conducive to healing and growth. Our families and allies are valued members of our community.



Recovery on Main, a cozy and comfortable space with plenty of room for everyone to enjoy.

Building your recovery capital? Need a ride to move forward.

We're here to help! RCH is also home to Guiding Rides, a free recovery transportation support. This includes Monday through Friday transportation to nearby methadone clinics, as well as rides to treatment, providers, and other recovery supports.



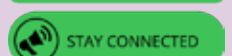
Join us in community for:

- Daily All Recovery Meetings
- Flapjack Fridays
- Art Hour
- Game Nights
- Holiday events
- Wellness planning
- Recovery Coaching

Coming soon..

- Recovery Dharma
- Yoga
- Nutrition in Recovery
- Meeting exploration trips
- ...and more!

For current hours and offerings:



GUEST COLUMN

Life Together

That's depressing – a 16-year-old student cut off during the pandemic and then expected to start up again as if it did not happen.

When youth experience depression, everything slows down and color turns to black and white. Low energy does not allow engagement, and isolation becomes the safe place.

Some students are depressives, with or without the pandemic. They struggle to deal with competition and expectations; social events are not their favorite.

When left alone, they surround themselves with vivid video games or mysterious board games, filled with all kinds of strange, even horrific characters.

Family members are trying to figure out how to reach their child. The child resists being "reached," they do not want to come out from the safe place they have created.

This is especially true with situational depression, it comes and goes; it just takes time and a loving presence to be in the situation and move forward. Then there is clinical depression, the serious sense of loss and the child needs treatment; medication, therapy, or hospitalization.

There is no shame with depression or any mental illness, yet many in our society shame the patient and the caretaker. There is no magic bullet and there is no "cure."

It is about relationships built on trust.

It is important for a family member to sit with, be with, the child, and no words are needed. It is the healing presence of loved ones that makes a difference.

Wait for the child to initiate speaking. For some of us, silence is difficult; however, silence is often the door the child opens to begin reconnection.

We need professionals to help us identify the nature of the depression and the best way to proceed.

Rev. Dr. Randy Wilburn
Minister, Therapist, Consultant

Life Together is written by Rev. Dr. Randall K. Wilburn. With over 54 years as a parish minister, Wilburn is also an experienced marriage and family counselor. Life Together will deal with topics such as stress, grief, anxiety, healing and hope.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Historical Commission is updating inventory of homes/buildings

To our friends and neighbors,

The Ware Historical Commission plans to implement one of our preservation goals, and therefore you may catch a glimpse of one of us taking pictures on your street.

We are excited to begin updating our historic inventory of homes and buildings in Ware that are over 75 years old. Our current inventory was completed in 1986, and many of the places included have changed over time.

Additionally, for many years, the Massachusetts Historical Commission wanted only professional entries, but we have now been encouraged to take this project on ourselves.

The streets on which we will begin are Church Street (over 30 properties!), Main Street, Highland Street, Chestnut Street and South Street.

We would also love to hear from you if you believe you live in a historic home in Ware that has been overlooked. Feel free to call me at 413-967-7223 and leave a message, or send an email to me at llak31@comcast.net, and I'll get the information to the right person.

We have a seven member commission, so many hands should make the task move along!

Thanks for your support,

Lynn Caulfield Lak
Chair, Ware Historical Commission



Thank goodness for the 'happy plant'

It was a bad night and the next day didn't start out much better.

I had heard that the days prior to delivery can be a bit uneasy for a soon-to-be-mother (and therefore for her spouse!), now I know it to be true. Luckily, even before my husband came home from work, the smile he is accustomed to had returned to my face.

My grin grew even bigger, however, when I greeted him at the door and found he had a pot of gerber daisies in his hand. Years ago, I deemed this particular potted plant "the happy plant."

For me it is next to impossible to look at its brightly colored flowers and remain in a bad mood. If you feel the same way but have never had any luck growing the gerber daisy, read on to learn just what cultural requirements are necessary to keep it happy.

The gerber daisy was discovered by Robert Jameson in the early 1880s near the gold fields of Barberton, in the Transvaal region of South Africa. The most popular species, the one which we will concentrate on today, bears his name, *Gerbera jamesonii*.

The Barberton daisy, the Transvaal daisy, and the African daisy are all common names for the plant that relate back to its place of origin.

Not long after its discovery, breeding began on the gerber daisy in England, eventually resulting in improved quality and enhanced color variations. Today, the Netherlands and Columbia are the primary producers of gerbers in cut flower form.

In the floral trade, it ranks an impressive fifth in popularity, behind the rose, carnation, chrysanthemum and tulip.

According to floral lore, the meaning behind the gerber flower is one I would wholeheartedly agree with: cheerfulness, probably due to the wide palette of colors it is available in – nearly every one except blue. Look for vivid orange, cool coral, hot pink, crimson red and sunshine yellow, not to mention bubblegum pink and creamy white!

Unfortunately, the gerber daisy is not hardy in our area; it prefers a much warmer location in which to grow. On the eastern seaboard, the only place it will overwinter is the southernmost tip of Florida, in hardiness zones 9 and 10.

Here in New England, it is best enjoyed on the windowsill during the winter months. As long as the plant is provided with normal room temperatures, bright light and sufficient but not excess moisture it should bloom prolifically.

Remember to remove spent flowers to keep up the gerber's good looks as well as to encourage future blooms.

Once the danger of frost has passed, it is also safe to plant the gerber daisy outdoors, just as you would any other summer annual. More and more consumers are doing this each



year and with success!

The best type of soil for it is one that is organically rich and well-drained. Full sun is a must for flower production.

If you wish to dig up the plant after the season wanes and attempt to overwinter it indoors, be extra careful not to disturb its deep root system or death may incur. Some gardeners who plan on overwintering their gerbers sink the pot and all at planting time to avoid any potential risk later on.

Right now, the "happy plant" sits on the bureau in the nursery, awaiting the arrival of our little girl, just as we are. There is indeed so much to be happy about!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



How do survivor benefits work for a married couple?

Dear Rusty:
How does Social Security handle the death of one spouse? Say, for example, the husband receives \$2,000 per month in Social Security and his wife receives \$1,000 per month. How is the death of either spouse handled?

Signed: Concerned spouse

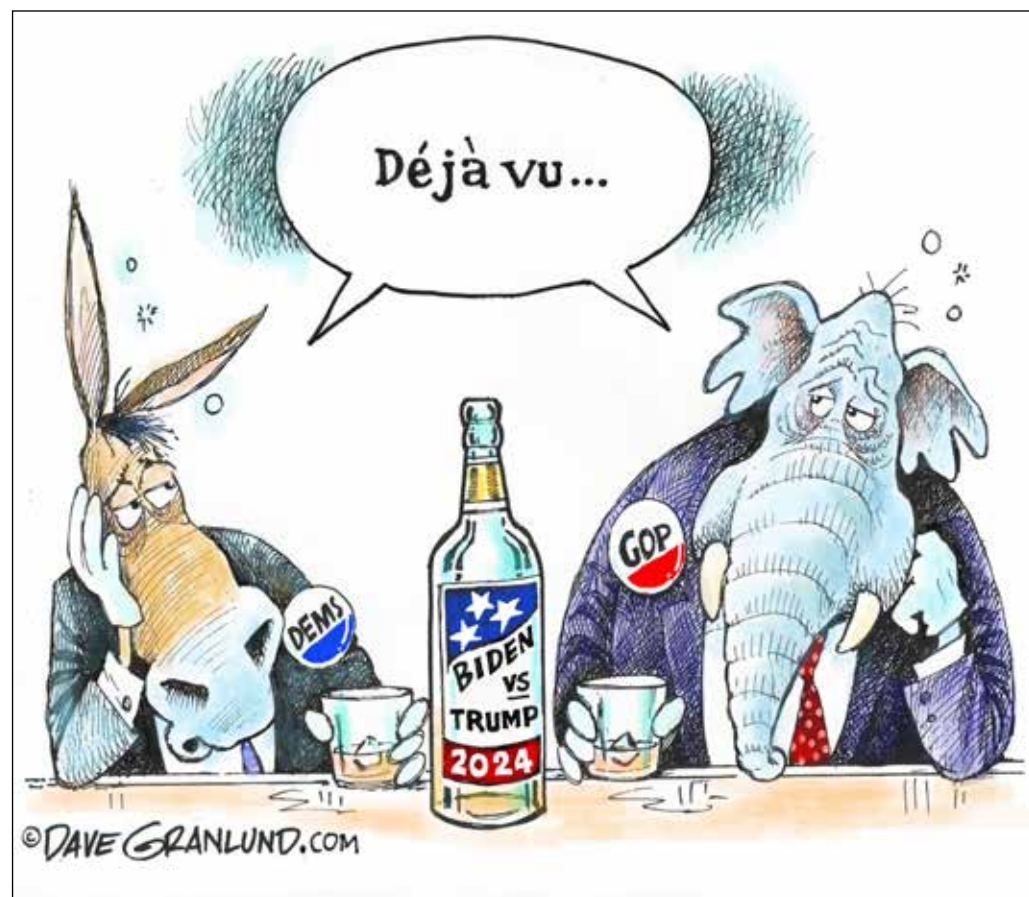
Dear Concerned:
Benefits to a deceased beneficiary stop as soon as Social Security is notified of the death (notification usually done by the funeral director who handles arrangements). Benefits are not paid for the month of death, only for the preceding month when the beneficiary was alive for the entire month.

A surviving spouse is entitled to the higher of two benefits, their own personally earned SS retirement benefit or an amount based on the deceased spouse's benefit at death. In the example you cite, and assuming the surviving spouse has reached Full Retirement Age: if the husband dies first the wife will receive the husband's \$2,000 monthly benefit instead of her previous \$1,000 amount.

But if the wife died first, the husband would continue receiving only his \$2,000 monthly amount because that is more than his deceased wife was receiving. Note in either case, the surviving spouse would be entitled to a one-time lump sum "death benefit" of \$255.

The surviving spouse would need to contact Social Security to claim the "death benefit" and unless the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit also to claim the higher monthly amount, if eligible. If the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit from the deceased and not entitled to SS retirement benefits on their own, then Social Security would automatically award their higher survivor amount when notified of the death.

If a surviving spouse has reached full retirement age somewhere between 66 and 67 depending on year of birth and is eligible for a survivor benefit, the amount of the sur-



vivor benefit will be 100% of the deceased spouse's benefit. But if the survivor claims the benefit before reaching FRA, the amount of the survivor benefit will be reduced by 4.75% for each full year earlier.

The survivor's benefit reaches maximum at the survivor's full retirement age.

If a surviving spouse has not yet reached their FRA and if they are entitled to not necessarily collecting their own Social Security retirement benefit, the surviving spouse has the option to delay claiming the survivor benefit until it reaches maximum at their full retirement age. If the survivor's personal SS retirement benefit will ever be more than their maximum survivor benefit, the surviving spouse also has the option to claim only the smaller survivor benefit first and allow their personal SS retirement benefit to grow to maximum at age 70 if desired.

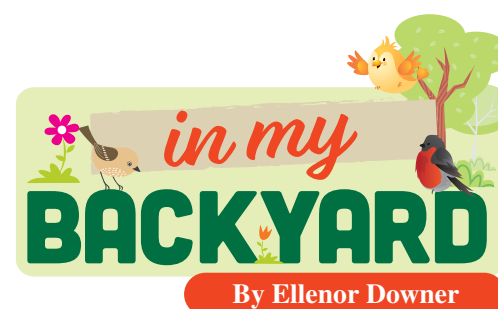
With Social Security there is hardly ever a simple answer to a question but, in the example you use, if both are over their SS full retirement age:

If the husband dies first, the wife will get

100% of the amount (\$2,000) the husband was receiving, instead of the small amount (\$1,000) she was previously receiving.

If the wife dies first, the husband's monthly benefit will remain at \$2,000 and he will get no increase in his monthly amount. In either case, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a one-time lump sum death benefit of \$255.

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



A Fiskdale couple reported seeing an American woodcock in their large field.

They said, "On Saturday, March 9 we heard the first woodcocks of the season. So happy to have them back."

The woodcock has an extremely long bill, a short neck, a dark back and buff breast. Its feathers blend into the leaf litter. The long bill allows the bird to probe into the earth and it can open its beak below the surface to grab prey.

It can eat its weight in earthworms within 24 hours. It also eats insects and seeds.



Photo by Keith Ramos/USFWS
American woodcock

Woodcocks inhabit woods and thickets bordered by open areas.

Both sexes make a "peent" call. In spring, woodcocks display in open fields. The male rises in the air in wide circles. When he reaches about 50 feet about the ground his wings start to make a twittering sound. At about 200 to 300 feet the twittering stops.

He give a canary-like flight song and begins a zig zag descent.

Several males may display in the same field. Woodcocks are polygamous. Females

are attracted to the area and mate with the males. Males continue to display after mating and may mate with other females.

After mating, the females raise their brood alone. The nest is a scraped depression in the ground lined with twigs or grass and placed within 100 to 200 yards of the male's display ground. The female lays four buff eggs with brown splotches.

Canada geese

On Friday, March 1 I saw a large flock of Canada geese in a field in Spencer. On Monday, March 4 I heard the honking of geese. I looked up and saw two large flocks of Canada geese fly overhead.

The first flock flew lower and lower and landed in my hayfield and the pond next to it. The second flock flew much higher and headed northward.

Belted kingfisher

On Feb. 29, a spotted pair of belted kingfishers at a small pond in Ware on my way back from the Ware River News/Barre Gazette office. I was surprised to see them this early.

Black bears and more

I received an email from a Wilbraham resident. He said, "It was March 1, when I woke to see the damage a bear did to our poles and feeders. This was the second time our poles and feeders were damaged by a bear, in the last few years. Shame on me, for not bringing the feeders in at dusk."

He said, "We have been casual bird watchers and feeders for over thirty years. It is relaxing and fun to see the local and migratory birds visit our feeders. Unfortunately, we have to consider the risks associated with placing food sources in our back yards. It means we have to be aware and maybe take the feeders in at dusk, putting them back out in the morning."

He also said, "However, that will not eliminate the chance for a bear/human encounter. Last year, a black bear was in our neighbors back yard, at 10:30 a.m. in the morning. The bear was attracted by the chickens in the coup. Fortunately, they have an electrified fence, surrounding the coup. After getting shocked,

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 5

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

Send opinions to:
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Letter to the Editor
80 Main Street
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or via email to:
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

Social Science Club of Ware accepting scholarship applications

WARE – Each year the Social Science Club of Ware/Young Men's Library Association offers scholarships to one or more graduating seniors who are residents of the Town of Ware, attend any area high school and meet the following criteria:

The student must be in good standing throughout their high school career.

The student must be involved in school and community activities.

The student must be furthering their education at an institution of higher education in the fall of their graduating year.

The application procedure is as follows: Student must submit a properly typed, formatted, one-page letter, indicating how they have fulfilled the scholarship criteria. If applicable, please mention in the letter any employment held by the student and any special financial circumstances (i.e. sibling(s) in college, family illness or hardships, etc.).

Please also submit a high school transcript showing overall grade-point average, a Student Activity sheet, letter of acceptance from the college or university where the student has been accepted and one letter of recommendation from a teacher or advisor.

Applications are due May 1, either by dropping them off at the Young Men's Library, or by mail to "The Scholarship Committee-Social Science Club of Ware," 37 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

The scholarship awards will be made at graduation, and the monetary award will be given after successful completion of the first semester. A transcript of the recipients' grades must be submitted to the Library in order for them to receive the award.

Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship applications now available

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 the 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 Avenue, Ware, MA 01082.

Celebrate the music of Taize on April 28

MONSON – Under the direction of Kiel Krommer, Director of Music Ministry, First Church of Monson will hold a service of Taize Music on Sunday, April 28 at 7 p.m.

Taize Music comes to us from the Taize Community located in Taize, France.

About 100 brothers from Catholic and various Protestant backgrounds dedicated to reconciliation live at the monastery. The order was founded in 1940.

Much of the music is of the chanting genre and easy to sing.

First Church is inviting singers from choirs and communities in surrounding towns to join the choir for this ecumenical service of chanting and meditation.

Rehearsals will begin after Easter and are as follows: Wednesdays, April 10, 17 and 24 at 7 p.m. These will be at First Church of Monson in the Julia Sprague Chapel, second floor accessible by elevator or stairs.

Anyone who would like to participate in the Taize service is asked to contact Peter Matrow by email pmatrow@icloud.com preferably by April 1. Please send your name, email, and phone number.

First Church hopes that singers will join us for this special service, the first to be held in our area. Lift up your voice and sing in this special service of meditation and song.

BACKYARD from page 9

it ran across the street and into Cedar Swamp woods. It will be back, since a bear does remember where the food sources are located." He said he recently saw a male, pileated woodpecker.

Loon fact

The Loon Preservation Committee in Moultonborough, New Hampshire included these interesting loon facts in their newsletter.

Loons are physiologically adapted for life in the water, so much so that they struggle to walk on land as a result. Their dense, thick walled bones help to weigh them down in the water. The extreme rear-placement of their legs and feet allows them to maximize the propulsive force that they can exert with each kick.

Many studies documented the duration of observed loon dives. Most of these studies have reported that average

loon dives last somewhere between 33 and 52 seconds, regardless of season or location.

Loons diving to deeper depths tend to spend more time underwater than those diving in more shallow areas.

In a study of loons using Lake Michigan as a stopover site during fall migration, Kenow et al. (2018) found that loons diving to depths of 40 m (131 feet) were spending, on average, 139 seconds (over 2 minutes) underwater per dive. In contrast, loons diving to depths of just 20 meters (65 feet) in that study were spending less time under water per dive (87 seconds, on average).

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

Emergency medical services

CDA participates in 'Kitchen Table Conversation'

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Community Development Authority welcomed Monica Moran and Ashley Higgins of the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force to talk about domestic violence, and the community's awareness of it.

Moran said the task force's members are trying to have casual conversations with members of the community about domestic violence through their "Kitchen Table Conversations."

"The task force is trying to do something where we go out and have conversations with different groups of people," Moran said. "To sort of get people from the community, your perspective, on what you're seeing with domestic violence."

At the March 11 meeting, Moran explained the role of the task force in the communities of Ware, Warren and Hardwick since it was formed in 2000.

"It's a group of people that meet monthly," Moran said. Its members include residents of the three towns, as well as employees of agencies

such as schools, health centers, law enforcement and more.

Higgins explained what happens when a domestic violence call is received by the police departments in these towns, and how she follows up with survivors to offer them support or services.

"It can really range from anything," she said, including just providing a listening ear. She also provides education about domestic violence to survivors.

The task force looks at data from domestic violence calls, to determine the best course of action for the community to both prevent domestic violence and provide support to survivors.

Moran said the task force is also preparing to train police officers with the help of three local survivors; with the survivors providing input about how police officers can better support others like them when responding to domestic violence calls.

Higgins said last year, there were 72 domestic violence arrests in Ware alone.

The task force has also trained health care providers, especially in the emergency department and faith leaders. Moran said the task force

also supports the Ware High School Task Force.

CDA members talked about other ways the task force could reach the community, including having survivors speak at assemblies in schools for students and families. A stronger social media presence could also help.

Brochures could be placed at public areas around the towns, including libraries and senior centers. The town's electronic sign board could also be utilized, as well as Ware Community Television.

Moran distributed flyers, magnets and stickers to CDA members to distribute throughout town.

FY 24 CDBG projects

Erica Johnson of Pioneer Valley Planning Commission said the proposed splash pad does qualify for a project that is eligible for funding in the fiscal year 2024 Community Development Block Grant application.

"We have to show that the benefits will reach at least 51% of the population that is low/mod income," she said.

Johnson said aging in place has been removed from the list of projects after conducting an analysis

and reviewing the budget. She said they can no longer afford to include aging in place on the application.

"It was not a fundable project," she said, in Ware and other towns. Johnson said they will revisit this program next year.

Johnson will continue working with the town to complete the application.

Facade program update

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the town approved using \$100,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover facade improvements for qualified businesses in town.

Johnson said PVPC will be meeting with the state to sort out funding issues with the Façade Improvement Program and she will have more to report to the CDA at another meeting.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the CDA will be held on Tuesday, April 9.

The CDA is also looking for new members to join. For more information about this and other vacancies, people may visit www.townofware.com.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day April 13

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, April 13 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 or box spring, any size, \$30; couch, \$30; futon or waterbed mattress, \$25; loveseat, \$25; upholstered chair, \$25; pool tables, \$25; wall unit cabinets, \$20; large entertainment center, \$20; sink, \$15; toilet, \$20; carpeting/foam carpet backing, \$15; kitchen/dining table, \$15; bookcase, bureau, \$15; trash

compact, \$10; wooden chair, end table, coffee table, night stand, \$12; infant car seat, \$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 email recycling@townofhardwick.com.

United Church hosts turkey dinner, March 25

WARE – United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will host a turkey dinner on Monday, March 25 from 5-6 p.m., take-out only.

The cost is \$15 per meal; payable with cash or check.

Reservations are not required, just park on the side of the street (same side as the church) and stay in your car. A runner will come to take your order.

WARREN from page 1

finer until a notice of penalty is served to the property owner. Once the notice is served, fines can continue to accrue.

Thibodeau said he also sent a certified notice of penalty to the owner of 24 North St., has not received confirmation that the property owner has accepted it. Fines have reached \$43,200, minus taxes and utilities.

Notice of penalty was also sent to a property owner of 27 North St., which was received through certified mail. Thibodeau said the owner has not contacted the board at this point and fines have reached \$5,700.

Thibodeau also updated the Board of Selectmen about property at 38 Elm St. He said the front porch is falling off of the house and is fully separated.

He suggested having the building inspector visit the property to view the porch.

A property at 11 O'Neill Road is considered uninhabitable and is full of "swarms of flies and mold." He said the occupant is living in a nursing home and will not be returning to the home.

Thibodeau said the Board of Health has received complaints about people living at 29 Bacon St., which is currently in receivership. He said the property is condemned and cannot be rented out.

Water has also been shut off to the property.

The boards also discussed animal waste concerns at 250 Reed St.

Capital planning needs

Town Administrator James

Ferrera put together a request form for capital planning needs. One of these requests includes repointing of the Shepard Municipal Building.

He said it needs to be addressed to "continue to preserve the useful life of this building and to prevent any further water damage that has been damaging the building."

Ferrera has reached out to contractors and the town of Ware to get an estimate of what the cost would be. In 2021, Ware paid \$25 per square foot for repointing of its town hall, and he estimates that it would be around \$35 per square foot now.

He said replacement of brick work is estimated at \$200 per square foot, and sealant installation at \$60 per linear feet.

Ferrera said it's possible to address just the worst sections of the building for now, and he will discuss it with the Building Inspector.

Another capital planning need is to replace the town's outdated computers, Ferrera said.

Fire Department report

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie said the Fire Department responded to 34 fire calls during the month of February, including five motor vehicle calls, 10 medical assists, two activated alarms, one carbon monoxide call, three investigations, six false/cancels, one service call, two structure calls, one chimney fire, one oil burning malfunction, one vehicle fire and one electrical equipment malfunction.

Emergency medical services

responded to 66 calls including 18 advanced life support intercepts, six some/CO inspections, two oil burners inspections and three liquid propane inspections.

Lavoie said his department completed the annual CPR refresher for all firefighters and first responders, as well as EMS personnel that needed it.

"Last month was pretty heavy on getting people caught up with CPR that needed it," he said.

Lavoie said the water heater was replaced at Station A at a cost just under \$4,000. He said it may require a line item transfer.

Lavoie said a full-time employee that was injured off duty should return to work in about a month and a half to two months. He also has three firefighters and some EMTs in the academy.

"We're making the best with what we have available and we're doing everything we can," Lavoie said.

Board of Selectmen Chair David Dufresne asked Lavoie to look into getting reimbursed for MassPike toll fees for emergency responses.

The board officially proclaimed Aug. 26 as Dennis Desrosiers Day in recognition of the recently retired Warren firefighter.

Promotion

Police Chief Gerald Millette said Officer Matthew Morin has agreed to accept the promotion to the position of detective. The board approved the appointment for a one-year term.

Dufresne said he thinks it's a "great choice," to promote Morin.

Morin thanked the board and Millette for considering him for this position.

"Hopefully I can do the best for the town and continue to be involved in the community," he said.

Town Administrator's report

Ferrera said Verizon sent demo units for the OneTalk system. He said he tried it for a day, and it worked well.

Ferrera said several staff and the Police and Fire chiefs are also testing them. Verizon will also send a signal booster to try with the system.

"I think it's definitely an option that the board could potentially look at doing in the future," he said of the phone system.

Ferrera said the Board of Health and the Quabog Regional School District both presented their budgets at the recent Finance Committee meeting. A joint meeting between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen will be held on Saturday, April 27 starting at 9 a.m.

Ferrera said Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School's assessment for the town increased by a little over 10%, from \$441,706 to \$487,044 for fiscal year 2025. Warren has 45 students enrolled at the regional school.

Biweekly payroll discussion

Ferrera said the Department of

Revenue recommended the town switch from weekly payroll to biweekly in their analysis of the town last year. He said he included this discussion on the meeting's agenda to see if this was something the board wanted to look into.

Ferrera said there is a potential to save money by switching to biweekly payroll.

"A lot of communities and a lot of industry are biweekly payroll," Ferrera said.

Ferrera will get more information about the process and the potential savings and report back to the board.

FY 25 Board of Selectmen's budget

Ferrera said he received the final numbers for insurance, with the liability insurance at \$123,000; and worker's compensation at \$51,000.

Updated fee schedule

The board approved the Building Inspector's updated fee schedule for inspections. Ferrera said the town's current fee schedule was approved in 2022.

Resignation

The board acknowledged the resignation of Julie Towlson.

Right of first refusal

The board members waived their right of first refusal for a one-acre lot located at Lot 18, Town Farm Road. Dufresne said the lot does not meet any of the town's needs.



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Starting at 6:30 p.m.

GOLF COURSE OPENS APRIL 1

Easter Egg Hunt & Photos with the Easter Bunny
Sunday, March 24 at 1 p.m. FREE

Easter Brunch
Sunday, March 31
Seatings at 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 2 p.m.
Menu Available on Facebook & Website

Visit Our Website For More Details

News from the Quabbin Regional School District

From the desk of Colleen Mucha
Superintendent of QRSD

The Hills of Quabbin are alive with the sound of music

For 40 years, March has been designated as "Music in our Schools Month" by the National Association for Music Education and Quabbin is proud to showcase and share the work of our students and our educators that support them.

The Quabbin Regional School District has a proven track record in performing arts. Students have won prestigious awards and taken part in incredible trips and performances over the past several decades.

This year has been no exception, recently we had eight students, Ben Darcey, Fiona Derr, Tess Dunphy, Em Gentile, Jacoby Hartshorn, Jaiden Ortiz, Benjamin Vasseur and Gareth White accepted into the Senior and Junior MMEA Central District Music Festivals following challenging and competitive audition processes. In addition, we had 45 middle and high school students participate in the Quabbin Valley Music Festival with students from across western and central Massachusetts.

For the first time in many years we had three seniors, Ally Legare, Chalice Riendeau and Benjamin Vasseur participate in the UMASS Honor Band with hundreds of other musicians from across the entire state.

You may be wondering just how it is that Quabbin students are able to be so successful. For many, it begins in elementary school. Not only do we offer comprehensive general music classes to all students in kindergarten through grade five, but we also offer chorus and instrument lessons starting as early as grade four.

These lessons take place during the regular school day and are taught by our talented teachers. Additionally, the music department offers an "Artist in Residence" program. This is an after school program where Quabbin students can take additional lessons with local musicians and even some of our high school students for a minimal fee.

By the time our elementary students move up to the middle high school they have a secure foundation in music education. In middle school, students have the opportunity to participate in band, chorus and orchestra.

It is also the first time that many students may decide to "try" their hand at drama. It is never "too" late to join one of our programs and our educators are continually seeking new members.

In high school, students have the opportunity to further hone their skills and align with their areas of



At Choralfest, the Quabbin Regional School District elementary choral students joined the Quabbin Regional Middle High School choral students for a wonderful evening of joy and song.



Quabbin students participated in the Quabbin Valley Music Festival at Auburn High School in February.

interest. Many think about what their future may look like and if performing arts might play a role in it.

We offer a wide variety of courses including drama workshop, history of music, music theory, jazz band and more. Perhaps as important as the course offerings is the opportunities for students to have authentic hands-on experiences.

Led by Lisa Payne, our students have worked on set and costume design for our productions. Students feel so accomplished when they see something that they have created help bring a production to life.

Students also can focus on lighting and sound and have the opportunity to be a part of our productions.

They work diligently as they strive to bring performances alive with sights and sounds that captivate our audiences. Oftentimes, these are internship opportunities where students receive "credits" for their work and yet for many they engage in this work because they simply love it.

Julia Tuttle leads our choral and drama programming. She is a Quabbin graduate, who is passionate about instilling in our students great confidence. As most of us know, being on stage can be



Em Gentile and Benjamin Vasseur are shown at Mechanics Hall, Worcester MA for the Massachusetts Municipal Educators Association Central District Music Festival in January.

a terrifying experience and Tuttle provides students with actionable strategies that help them work through their fears and anxieties. She is an amazing cheerleader and her energy is contagious.

Our music department also

includes another Quabbin Graduate Rebecca Kelly and her husband, Sean Kelly. The Kellys are "instrumental" in our programming. Sean delivers general music education at

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 12

Senior Resource Fair returns to Ware Senior Center on March 23

WARE – The 2nd annual Senior Resource Fair will be held on Saturday, March 23 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road.

This free event will include a number of vendors, organizations, service providers and more. A light lunch will be served.

Participants include home modifications specialist, realtors, Ware Senior Center staff, senior placement, in-home care services, movers, estate appraisers, legal and financial planning, senior living options, Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation Senior Outreach Program, senior health services, hospice and palliative care, funeral services, supplemental benefits, junk removal, housing authority, Social Security Disability Insurance support, community development authori-

ties and many more.

Free rides to the fair will be provided by the Quaboag Connector. Pickup times and locations to attend the event will be as follows: 10 a.m., Highland Village Office; 10:15 a.m., Hillside Apartments Office; 10:20 a.m. Church Street Senior Housing Office; 10:25 a.m. Valley View Office; and 10:45 a.m. Winthrop Terrace, outside mail room (Warren seniors should call 413-544-3401 to confirm a ride).

Return ride times are as follows: 12:15 p.m. to Winthrop Terrace in Warren; and 12:45 p.m. to all Ware locations. Please wait for rides outside the Senior Center front door.

For more information about the Senior Resource Fair, contact Danielle Souza by calling 413-949-0422 or emailing danielle.souza@fairwaymc.com.

Beaver Lake Club Corporation offers its annual scholarship

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

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

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

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

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

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

Friends of Ware Town Hall spring 2024 Lotto Calendars on sale

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

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

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

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

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

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

and Beyond!

WB&CA

Ware Business & Civic Association



Aerial pictures provided by Above the Law Imagery

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

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

Join Our Small-Town Business Development Adventure!

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

Our Mission

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

Why Join Us?

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

A Legacy of Achievement

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

Events that Sparkle

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

Network that Expands

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

An Investment in Success

For just \$120 per year, you're securing your spot in our thriving business ecosystem.

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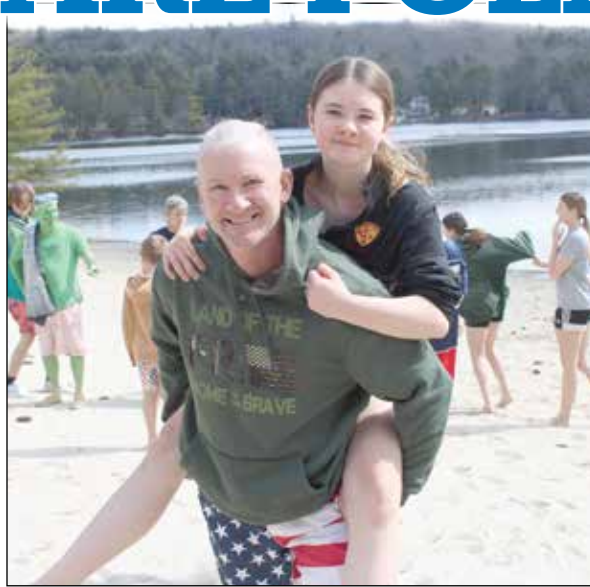
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WARE POLAR PLUNGE



Ware Police Officer Jeannine Bonnayer, left, alongside Molly McGrail who lasted a long while in the cold water for the Polar Plunge fundraiser.



Wilbraham Police Sergeant Mike Cygan and his daughter Callie Cygan attended their first Polar Plunge.



Police Sergeant Mike Cygan brought a grill to make delicious hotdogs for all the guests during the Ware Polar Plunge.



Many guests plunged into the cold waters of Beaver Lake and Officer Jeannine Bonnayer found it amusing that one brought a bath robe to wear after the Polar Plunge.

PLUNGE from page 9

introduced to the community of Ware and has always taken place at Beaver Lake.

This polar plunge takes place during the cold winter months where the water temperatures are chilly. Participants plunge into the cold water and stay in as long as they can.

Bonnayer believed the Polar Plunge to be a fun way to celebrate inclusion, friendship and continuously contribute to the Special Olympics.

"It is all for the fundraiser," Bonnayer said.

The annual Ware Polar Plunge takes place in March where winter temperatures still linger in Massachusetts. The cold waters don't stop Bonnayer and her fellow comrades from enjoying the atmosphere of sponsoring lifelong friendships and competitive spirits while supporting a great cause.

"Besides me, who else wants to go in cold water," Bonnayer asked the crowd assembled on the beach.

Many local law enforcement officers came down with their friends and family to participate in the Polar Plunge. Junior high and high school students joined the plunge as well and many were first timers in participating in the fundraiser.

Sisters Emily and Molly McGrail attended the 2024 Polar Plunge and were excited to try it for the first time. Both sisters agreed it was a wonderful chance to support a great cause.

Also joining the polar plunge for the first time was police sergeant of the Wilbraham Police Department, Mike Cygan. Enjoying his first time attending the Ware Polar Plunge, Cygan enjoys supporting great fundraisers that bring communities together.

"This is going to a good cause, community support," Cygan said.

Cygan helped during the Polar Plunge and provided a grill to make hotdogs for everyone in attendance. After the plunge, the guests enjoyed a nice cookout at the West Beach of Beaver Lake.

Joining Cygan is his daughter Callie Cygan. Just like her father, Callie was also participating in her first Polar Plunge. Callie was accompanied by her friend, Abby Bateman, another first timer in the plunge.

Bateman and Cygan are eighth graders of Ware Junior-Senior High School and wanted to come down and support Officer Bonnayer and the Special Olympics. Both students mentioned that their parents talked them into doing the Polar Plunge.

Callie predicted that she would only last about five seconds in the cold water. When the plunge was over, Callie estimated her time in the water was around 80 seconds.

This year's Polar Plunge had over 20 people participate and jump into the cold water of Beaver Lake. More people who didn't take a plunge still came down to root the Polar Plunge and support the empowerment of over 14,000 Special Olympics athletes in

Massachusetts to train and compete in the sports they love.

One athlete in attendance was Robert Skomro participating in his first ever Polar Plunge. Skomro competes in football and bowling and participates in about four bowling tournaments a year for the Special Olympics.

The Ware Polar Plunge was a great first-time experience for Skomro.

"It was cold but refreshing at the same time," said Skomro. "I'm definitely returning next year."

Other supporters joining in the Polar Plunge were Nick Gasperini and Paul Mayo of the Monson



The 2024 Ware Polar Plunge had an outstanding turnout and enjoyed a fun cookout afterwards on West Beach at Beaver Lake.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago



The Polar Plunge is a fundraiser that supports Special Olympics athletes in Massachusetts. Participants plunged into the cold water of Beaver Lake this past Saturday.

Police Department. Teams who donated to the fundraiser include the Ware PD Penguins, the Monson Police Association and Miller's Maniacs.

To donate to the Polar Plunge fundraiser, visit the website at this link, <https://fundraise.speciaolympicsma.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=763>. The website will be up until the month of April.



Officer Jeannine Bonnayer began the countdown to the Polar Plunge.

Questions needed for Ware's 'Meet the Candidates' forum

WARE - Ware Community Television and the Ware River News will be hosting a "Meet the Candidates" forum prior to the April 8 election, and we need questions from the community.

Select questions will be asked to each candidate running for the Selectboard and School Committee

during the March 23 forum.

Please send your questions, specifying the board or committee it is intended for, by email to pouimette@turley.com or mail to Ware River News, 80 Main St., Ware MA 01082. Written questions can also be dropped off at our office, 80 Main St.

Gilbertville library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK - The Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., Gilbertville, lists the following upcoming programs.

On March 28, there will be an Easter bake and book sale from 1-4 p.m.

The library will participate in a craft fair at St. Joseph's Church in Barre on April 27.

On May 16, make Mother's Day and Father's Day cards from 3-4 p.m. and on May 30, plant a mini garden from

3-4 p.m.

Davis Bates will perform at the library on June 13 at 3 p.m. and Ed the Wizard will visit on June 11 at 3 p.m.

Summer Reading begins on July 11 and people can learn to use a loom and make a potholder from 3-4 p.m.

On July 18, build and paint a bird house from 3-4 p.m.

Summer Reading will end on Aug. 8 with a party from 3-4 p.m.

MLH from page 1

for a "cease and desist" of all operations to demolish the building.

Hardwick resident Stephen Granlund and Ware resident Cindy Allen Bourcier came together to collect information on the legal ownership of the building, and also led another early morning protest this past Monday.

Representatives from Baystate Health said they are "committed to serving the health needs of its communities. We continue to work with the Town of Ware and the Ware Historical Commission on a collaborative transition plan for the site and are currently complying with the Historical Commission's demolition delay."

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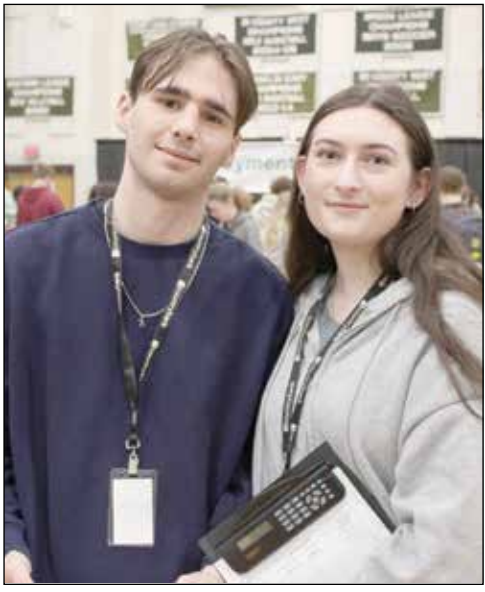
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Belchertown High School students Evan Johnson and Karyna Rondeau both chose careers that aligned with their future plans



Country Bank's Ashley Bressette explains how a rebate works to Nathan Fernandes.



Ware's Superintendent of Schools Michael Lovato addresses students from Ware, Palmer and Belchertown high schools.

CREDIT FOR LIFE

SEE MORE PHOTOS PG. 15



Palmer High School students Jordan Bigda, Vanessa Baer and Grace Burke posed for a photo at Country Bank's Credit for Life.



Country Bank's Vice President of Marketing Justin Roberts explains how this student's "Reality Check" will either help or hurt their budget.



Belchertown High School students Rainer Kristensen and Nathan Fernandes learned that rent was their biggest monthly expense.

CREDIT from page 1

attending Credit for Life, adding that "it's a great program," and has always been a great experience for all involved, from students to volunteers.

Volunteering at each booth are Country Bank employees, joined by members of the business community.

Helping to run the "Insurance" booth was Country Bank's Board of Trustees Chair James Phaneuf, who has been a trustee with the bank for over 25 years.

"Credit for Life is one of the many things that sets Country Bank apart from the competition," Phaneuf said. "It's a way to help young people prepare for life."

Phaneuf said the Credit for Life fair not only helps students preparing to head off to college in the fall, but it also helps those entering the workforce after graduation.

"This gives them an opportunity to see which jobs pay more than others," he said.

Mike Pulchtoppek from Kanzaki Specialty Papers Inc. returned as a volunteer and said its "fun to see the kids learning."

Volunteering at the "Housing" booth was JoMaria Velez, who helped students go over housing options such as renting an apartment and buying a home. In this exercise, the student's randomly assigned credit score helped provide them with more options the better it was.

Velez believes the biggest responsibility students must have when they shop for a home is affordability.

Students need to make sure they can afford a home, she said. "Know what you want," she said, whether renting or buying.

Transportation is another important purchase that involves credit as well. Transportation volunteer Michael DeMarco helped students decide between buying bus passes or leasing or owning vehicles that are fuel efficient. Interest rates also factored into transportation, and credit scores impacted them heavily.

"You must work within the parameter of your salary. It is a true

real-life example for the kids," he said.

Ware High School students Lily Bissonnette and Angelina Wilcox both selected careers as artists during the fair.

Wilcox said choosing a career was a "hard choice" and that she wouldn't mind working in an office or retail store in her future.

"A lot of these are really cool," she said of the career options.

Bissonnette said she chose to become an artist because she wants to pursue a career in animation or character art.

Both Wilcox and Bissonnette opted to become roommates, to help cut down on expenses.

Also deciding to be roommates were Belchertown High School students Evan Johnson and Karyna Rondeau. Johnson chose to become an electrician and Rondeau an environmental technician.

Salaries for both of these jobs were lower than either student expected.

The two also decided to adopt a dog from a shelter, which increased their monthly expenses by \$100.

Rainer Kristensen and Nathan Fernandes, also from Belchertown High School, chose careers in mechanical engineering and biology, respectively.

While their salaries were less than expected, Kristensen said they both ended up pulling high credit scores, which gave them an advantage in housing.

Both agreed that rent was the biggest expense they faced so far at the fair.

Students that needed more money were able to apply for part-time jobs to help supplement their income. But they quickly learned that landing a second job wasn't an easy task as students competed for a select few jobs.

Palmer High School students Jordan Bigda, Grace Burke and Vanessa Baer each choose a career they will pursue when they've graduated.

Bigda decided to select law clerk, after interning at the Palmer District Court, an experience she said was "a lot of fun." Burke chose to become a dental hygienist, which



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Incoming Country Bank President Mary McGovern helps students budget for "Fun, Fun, Fun" during Credit for Life held at Ware High School.

comes with a higher salary than she expected.

Burke even used some of her extra income to purchase a trip to Cancun from the "Fun, Fun, Fun" booth.

Fionn Lydon and Thomas Marshall of Belchertown High School also selected careers in which they were interested. Marshall wants to be a State Trooper and Lydon wants to be a U.S. Marshal.

Both agreed that law enforcement, given the risk to personal safety, was paid much lower than they thought it would be.

Ware High School senior Nick Bousquet viewed the fair as a chance to learn from the experience and be prepared to handle real life situations.

"It helps to learn how to mitigate and fix your finances," Bousquet said, as well as understanding credit.

Belchertown seniors Caleb and Conner stayed together during the exercise and appreciated the experience of Credit for Life.

Caleb's career choice for the exercise was accounting although he aims to pursue a career in science. Conner's career choice was being an architect and he plans to study construction management after high school.

Palmer High School senior Nyela Dupre chose registered nurse as her career and she was able to get a good credit score, as well as share an apartment with friends and share a car.

Dupre said the fair helped her "learn to cut back on expenses and balance a budget."

Dupre plans to study nursing after high school and wants to follow in her mother's footsteps.

After students visited each booth, they turned in their budgets to receive a prize, and walked away with a better understanding of their personal finances and the importance of budgeting.

Gerulaitis encouraged the students to "stick with it," as they navigated through the fair and said, "you're going to learn a valuable lesson today."

Gerulaitis said Country Bank has been active in supporting a bill at the State House that would make financial literacy a mandatory requirement for high school students. If enacted, this bill would make the commonwealth the 26th state to have this requirement.

Even without financial literacy as a requirement, Country Bank is still able to sponsor and provide education to high school seniors in 12 schools through its Credit for Life program.

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Locals named to Senior All-Star game



Ware's Jack McKeever was named to the Senior All-Star Game.

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the team rosters for the 2024 Western Massachusetts Senior High School All-Star Games. On Thursday, March 21, the Hall of Fame hosted the 2024 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.

“The Basketball Hall of Fame is honored to host the top high school basketball players from Western Massachusetts at our 13th annual All-Star celebration,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “We encourage the residents of Western Mass. to join us as we celebrate these outstanding seniors in 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 13th 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 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 were held on Thursday, March 21. There were two boys games and a girls game on the slate.

Among the all-stars named were Granby’s Colin Murdock, Monson’s Colin Beaupre, Ware’s Jack McKeever and Emily McGrail, Palmer’s Andrew Menard, Minnechaug’s Lylah Jeannotte, South Hadley’s Drew Alley, Holyoke’s Amilyan Treadwell-Mercedes and Shawn Rivera, Chicopee Comprehensive’s Alyssa Caney and Tineus McCluster, and Agawam’s Colin Smith.



File photos

Girls basketball player Emily McGrail will be representing Ware in the Girls Senior All-Star game.

More players needed to fill Quabbin Valley League rosters

With April looming, the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking for more players to fill its open roster spots.

There are more than 15 open roster spots as the league heads for its open practice and tryout date and teams are looking to fill their 14-player rosters for a 2024 season that will see the league get back to its normal schedule.

The league is very enthusiastic to welcome new members to the league to fill these roster spots so all teams have the full depth they need. To register, go to: www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org and click on the Registration tab.

Following heavy turnover between 2022 and 2023, the league had to downsize to five teams and ran a modified schedule that included scheduled doubleheaders and bye weeks for teams in order to complete a 15-game schedule. Rain also hampered the league’s schedule as well last year.

On March 3, the league’s board voted to bring in a new team, bringing the league back up to six teams and creating an even schedule with every team playing on 15 Sunday morning starting on Sunday, April 21 through late August with playoffs to follow.

The league is also voted to play a segment of its schedule using wood bats only. The middle five games of the schedule will be played that way while the rest of schedule is played with either metal or wood bats.

The league will be holding an open practice for all league players and especially players who are new to the league on Sunday, April 7 at 10 a.m. at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley.

Prior to that, the next meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 24 at 12 noon at the Hangar Pub & Grill in South Hadley. All are welcome to attend the meeting, ask questions and express interest in joining. The league’s board will be discussing final preparations for the 2024 season.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team.

Games are typically held in the Easthampton and South Hadley area with some expansion to Chicopee, West Springfield, Agawam, and Granby being considered.

Quaboag youth heads for Suburban playoffs

WARREN – Last week, Quaboag’s youth 5-6 Suburban Basketball team faced off with

Belchertown and South Hadley. The Cougars season ended with a 4-12 record in the Blue-Green

Division.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Ben McGraph lets go of a long jump shot.



Colton Allen starts out down the court on a play.



Zach Dermian attempts a free throw.



Turley photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Brianna Whitelaw looks to make a pass.

Girls basketball puts bow on successful season

BARRE – With the spring bloom beginning and softball players getting ready to hit the field, the bow has been placed on a very successful campaign for the Quabbin Regional High School girls basketball team. After a few seasons hovering near the middle of the pack, Quabbin lost just three games during the entire regular season,

including a five-game winning streak in the early part of the season and seven wins in the first eight years. Quabbin had a small hiccup with two straight losses on Jan. 9 and 17, then only lost one game between then and the end of the sea-

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 10

More than 6,000 brighten great day at Holyoke’s St. Patrick’s Road Race

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – After some dreary, cold, or rainy weather during the past few years, the people attending the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Road Race drew a winner yesterday.

On a sun-splashed afternoon with comfortable temperatures, the 47th running of the popular 10K Road Race took place.

With more than 6,000 harriers competing, and many more taking part in the Fun Run or walking events, the first part of St. Patrick’s weekend was definitely a success.

Louis Serafini was the big winner of the main event. He completed the very hilly, 6.2-mile course in 30:12. Serafini is from Cambridge.

The top female was a local runner from Western Massachusetts. Anna Steinmen, of Springfield, came across the finish line at 37:00.

Ryan Davis, of South Hadley, was one of the top local finishers at 34:36. He was 20th overall.

This year’s race would feature



The wave of runners head down the first stretch of the 6.2-mile course.

runners from all over the region, the state, and surrounding states as many are preparing for the Boston Marathon, set to take place in just under a month on Monday, April 15. Many runners over the years have enjoyed using the St. Patrick’s

Day Road Race as practice for the marathon because of the challenging hills throughout the streets of Holyoke that runners must navigate through.

Of the more than 6,000 runners who were registered, 4,442



The runners are off in the 2024 Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Road Race.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

finished the 10K course this year. Race officials have said the participation level in the event is still rebounding from the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic in 2019, race participants totaled about 7,000. The race was not held in 2020 and

2021 before it returned in 2022 with around 5,000 participants. More made their way out to the race last year, but that number was surpassed this year.

Because of that, the start of the race featured multiple waves,

though 4RUN3 ran the bibs and electronic results kept accurate results for all those involved.

A number of this year’s participants were featured in the usual

Please see **ROAD RACE**, page 10

sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League is nearing the end of the regular season.

The top five teams in the third and final round are seeking a play-off spot at the end of the season. As of March 5, Acres are in first place at 10-2. Close behind Acres in second place is The Blue B's at 9-3.

In third place, The Champs R Here are at 8-4 and still lead with team high single (439) and team high triple (1253). Team BK and Last in Line are tied for fourth place at 6-6. The two lower seeded teams, Compression and Life is Good, have already clinched a playoff berth after each team won a round.

Another match was between the #1 seed Acres against Last in Line. In game one, Acres won by a score of 374-363. Paul Tereso of Acres led the team with a 107 to start in the match.

In game two, Acres continued with a strong performance on the lanes and won 381-341. Matt Bertelli bowled a 104 and Kenny Trudel led the team with a 111.

In game three, Acres won the last game by a score of 408-379. Trudel finished the night with a 121 and Dave Cobleigh finished with a 113.

Acres won total pinfall 1163-

1083 and all four points to maintain their #1 seed position.

The winners of round one Compression bowled against the Blue B's. In game one, Blue B's won 387-375. Bobby Ward of Blue B's started off with a 101.

In game two, Compression defeated Blue B's 369-365. In game three, Blue B's won the last game by a score of 370-360. Blue B's won total pinfall by a final score of 1122-1104.

Thursday Night Mixed League After league night on March 14, The Thursday Night Mixed League will have two weeks left of the season.

In one match, Team Three bowled against Team Two. In game one, Team Three was victorious by a score of 412-379. Jesse Danek of Team Three led the team with a 106 to start the evening.

In game two, Team Three dominated with another win 433-378. Danek bowled his best game of the season 132, which is now the leading high single of the league.

In game three, Team Three won again for a three-game sweep by a score of 402-391. Danek finished with a 99 and a series of 337.

Total pinfall scores were Team Three at 1247 and Team Two at 1148.

Team Six, the winning team of round one, bowled against Team One. In game one, Team Six won 414-385. In game two, Team Six won again 416-390. Dan Mahoney of Team Six led the team in game two with a 107.

In game three, Team Six won 415-405 for a three-game sweep. Team Six won total pinfall by a final score of 1245-1180.

Worcester Railers fall to Adirondack Thunder

WORCESTER – Worcester was beaten, 5-1, by the Adirondack Thunder even though it outshot the visitors by 40-26.

The Railers have scored exactly one goal in four straight games on a total of 148 shots on goal. This is the third time in franchise history a Worcester team has scored one or fewer goals four straight times, the first time since Feb. 27 through March 3, 2022.

The Railers had two goals in that stretch.

"I'm sure that's part of it," coach Jordan Smotherman said of the confidence factor. "Any time

you put together (148) shots over four games and score four goals, guys start gripping the sticks and there's definitely a letdown every time you have that big chance and it doesn't go in."

Jake Pivonka had the Railers goal. Grant Jozefek, Andre Ghantous, Ryan Smith, Shane Harper and Mike Gillespie scored for the Thunder. Gillespie hit an empty net.

For the first time this season Smotherman changed goalies not because of injury. John Muse

Please see **RAILERS**, page 13

T-Birds get much-needed win over Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Springfield Thunderbirds (27-27-3-2) answered a Charlotte comeback the day before with one of their own en route to a 6-4 win over the Checkers (31-23-6-0) on Sunday afternoon at Bojangles' Coliseum.

It did not take long for the Checkers to score their fourth consecutive goal of the weekend, as captain Zac Dalpe worked a 2-on-1, give-and-go rush to perfection with Cam Morrison, snapping a shot over Colten Ellis to make it 1-0 Charlotte just 2:56 into the first.

Springfield answered in kind

on its first power play chance of the day, as Will Bitten hit a crashing Ryan Suzuki in the crease for a redirection past Magnus Hellberg at 5:22, making it a 1-1 game.

Charlotte continued having penalty troubles, giving the T-Birds two additional man-up situations in the period. However, the Checkers' PK answered the bell, and on their third kill of the afternoon, Rasmus Asplund added offense with a shorthanded shot past Ellis on the blocker at 14:32, finishing off another 2-on-1 and

Please see **T-BIRDS**, page 13



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Hannah Baxter is pressured near the hoop.



Meaghan Doyle goes for the layup.



Mia Ducos approaches the hoop.

QUABBIN from page 9

son. They entered the Central Mass. tournament and captured the championship for the first time, defeating Notre Dame Academy in a very low-scoring affair 35-23. Unfortunately, the season did come to an end in the

opening round of the state tournament as Quabbin fell to East Bridgewater on the road. The Panthers have a lot of positives to be pleased with, and much to look forward to next season with their overall 16-4 record to follow up on.

Please see **GAMES**, page 13

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBBURN – Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games

provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports

including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and

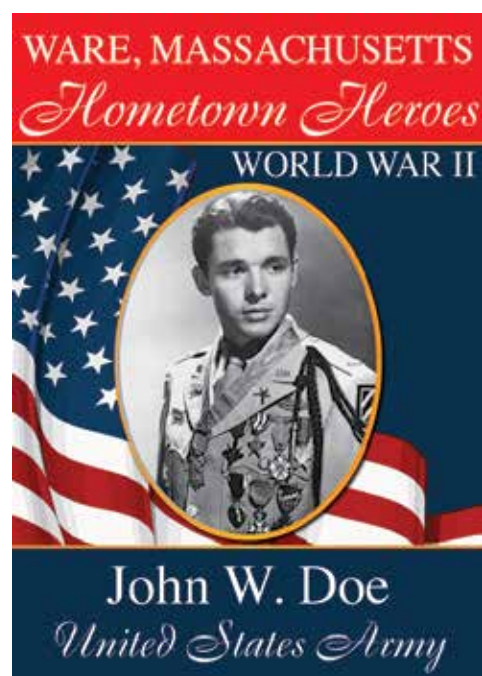
NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

Bay State Games is pleased to announce a new partnership with Marathon Sports to provide athletes, officials, and volunteers with a special, traditional Bay State Games gift. Details will be released later in March.

"We are excited to present the 2024 version of the Bay

Please see **GAMES**, page 13

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Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Male top finisher and first overall Louis Serafini, of Cambridge, finishes the race at 30:12.



Anna Steinmen, of Springfield, was the top female finisher at 37:00.

ROAD RACE from page 9

celebratory costumes and outfits for St. Patrick's Day, while many others opted for cartoon and other fictional characters, such as Spider-Man. Several local running clubs also made their way to the race, as did the youth of the region. Youth participants in the race were as young as seven-years-old.

Security was in full force at the event with plenty of presence from the Massachusetts State Police, Holyoke Police, and Hampden County Sheriff's Department, and the event went off without any incidents.

The pace truck makes its way across the finish line followed by state police, which escorts the first set of runners.



obituaries



Sisters Cindy and Monica decorating their winter luminary jars with beautiful colors. *Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas*

Winter luminaries light the way to spring

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

WARE – The library hosted a fun craft this weekend for kids to enjoy; making winter luminaries. The craft was rescheduled from last month and nearly all of its materials were donated to the library by various community members. The jars, which are washed Oui Yogurt jars, were donated by a local patron. The craft's lights were also donated, and it made these little lanterns possible. There was also cut up squares of tissue paper of all colors of the rainbow, and sponge brushes in order to glue the paper to the jars.

"I'm grateful for the community's help to make this possible," Cathy Goulet, the children's librarian, said. "I also want to thank the Friends of the Library." The library's attendance at these crafts is always a great turnout, and it shows how much the community cherishes it and the librarians who offer these programs. The children's Lego Club, for example, has group of anywhere from 30 to 35 kids at once meeting on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for fun with friends. The library will also be hosting a fun event for the upcoming solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, and will include free glasses, a snack, and a fun craft.



The final project: an adorable miniature lantern to light up any space.

Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – Let's GO with LEGOS is held on Thursdays in March from 4-5 p.m. at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road. No registration is required for open-ended free-building Lego sessions for children over age 5. Anyone under the age of 9 must have a grown-up with them. Come build on the beautiful Lego table purchased by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library. Constructions will be displayed for one week until they are completed or disassembled.

Pysanki eggs
On March 21 make an Easter Egg in the Ukrainian, Lithuanian, and Polish tradition. The folklore is that every pysanka created using the wax resist method strengthens the chains that hold back evil in the world – let's make pysanki and save the world! Registration required. \$5 covers one fresh egg, the use of the kistka, beeswax and dye. Register online at director.paigelibrary@gmail.com, or call 413-477-6704, or stop in.

'Scrunch-paint' tie-dye
On Saturday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m. at the Town House, learn from Gariné how to create a "Scrunch-Paint" tie-dye style silk scarf. This workshop is for teens and adults. Each participant will leave with a beautiful silk scarf masterpiece.

Explore ongoing programs
The library hosts a number of ongoing programs, including the Paige Writing group on Tuesdays at 3 p.m., Knitting on Saturday mornings, the Paige Book Club at 2 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month and the Cookbook Club at 5:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month. Make this your library. Join the Friends, suggest a new program, present a new workshop. For more information email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com, call 413-477-6704, or stop in.

Dan Kirouac to perform at Senior Center April 9

WARE – Regional entertainer Dan Kirouac will bring a piano and vocal concert to the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, on Tuesday, April 9 at 11 a.m. This performance will feature radio-friendly pop, rock, and easy-listening songs of the 1960s and 1970s. The performance is open to members of the Ware senior community and others as space and interest allow. For more information, call 413-967-9645. The program is supported by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Kirouac is a Massachusetts-based musician and singer. More about him can be found at www.facebook.com/DanKirouacMusic.

David P. Wheeler, 66

WARE – David P. Wheeler better known to many as "Goofy," died unexpectedly at home, in Ware on Friday, March 15, 2024, at the age of 66.



David was a husband, father and friend. He leaves his wife of 21 years, Linda A. Wheeler; his sons, Jeremy D. Wheeler and Corey M. Wheeler both of Ware; four daughters, Christy D. Wheeler, Jessica R. Wheeler, Amy L. Wheeler and her spouse Kim Fish, and Brandie A. Wheeler. He was predeceased by his first wife, Rebecca Ann (McKay) Wheeler. He also leaves behind nine grandchildren; Xavier, Alexis, Kimberly, Elisha, Aliyah, Emma, Allie, Kenyce and Khamari. He was born in Palmer, son of the late David G. and Judith E. (Leveille) Wheeler. David was the owner of C&D Auto Glass in Ware for eight years, where he served many customers throughout the years. He loved animals and always had pets. He leaves his canine friends, Harry, Diva, and Buddy behind as well. He enjoyed racing enduro cars at the former Riverside Racetrack in Agawam and also at Monadnock Speedway in New Hampshire. David had a love of cars and motorcycles which he rebuilt many and in later life, he enjoyed building model cars and cycles.

Death notices

Kent, Carole Marie (Geoffrion)
Died March 10, 2024
Services April 20, 2024

Wheeler, David P.
Died March 15, 2024

David loved to be outside and could often be found around the yard or in his workshop working on many projects; more often than not with his dogs close by his side. He also loved boating around Lake Wickaboag in West Brookfield surrounded by nature, which he enjoyed. Anyone that knew David well, was aware that his favorite holiday was the fourth of July. He took great pride in creating one of the biggest firework displays around town. Family, friends, neighbors and anyone else nearby, got a chance each year to witness his love of fireworks and watching others enjoy the production. The yard would be full of adults and children sitting in lawn chairs with bug spray in hand, enjoying their snacks and getting excited as they awaited that year's firework show he had organized. The sky would light up with magnificent colors that left everyone amazed that he put all of this together for so many to enjoy. David, you will be forever missed by so many and will remain in our hearts forever. A Celebration of Life for David is being planned for a future date. Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware is assisting family with arrangements. An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com.

Ware River News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Carole Marie Kent, 85

WARE – Carole Marie (Geoffrion) Kent passed away peacefully at her home on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the age of 85.



Carole was born in Ware on Aug. 13, 1938, daughter of the late George and Anna (Campbell) Geoffrion. She was raised and educated in Warren and was a graduate of the former Warren High School. On Jan. 25, 1958, she entered into matrimony with Edward D. Kent, Sr., they were happily married for 66 years. Carole has been a resident of Ware for 66 years. She was employed for 35 years as a cook for Palmer Healthcare. Carole was a member of All Saints Church in Ware. She loved camping, bowling, playing BINGO, going to the casinos and

Devlin. Carole also leaves behind her great-grandchildren: Avery, Charlotte, Aria, Caroline, Mila, Miles, Belle and Wyatt, and several nieces and nephews. Besides her beloved parents, Carole was predeceased by her sisters, Kathleen Fountain and Barbara Barton. A Memorial Visitation will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 10 a.m.- noon in the Cebula Funeral Home, 66 South St., Ware. A Closing Prayer Service will take place at noon in the funeral home. Thank you to Overlook Visiting Nurses and Hospice for their loving care of our mother. In lieu of floral offerings, Memorial Donations may be made to: Second Chance Animal Shelter in East Brookfield. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Small Eurasian deer
- Irish county
- A major division of geological time
- Broadway actor Lane
- Canadian province (abbr.)
- Human gene
- Two
- A famous one is blue
- Utter repeatedly
- Ring-shaped objects
- Spoils
- Occurs
- Commercial
- Near
- Products you may need
- Pledge thrown down as a challenge

CLUES DOWN

- Make up for
- Baltimore ballplayer
- Salary
- Influential world body
- Engravers
- Declared as fact
- One who steals
- Jewelry
- Hospital employee (abbr.)
- Nonsense (slang)
- Town in Galilee
- Value
- A fake name
- Sheep in their second year
- Town in Surrey, England
- Appropriate for a particular time of year

29. Creative works

- Recesses
- W. Pacific island group
- Tolkien character
- Ancient symbol co-opted by the Nazi party
- Pioneer
- Scribe
- Painted a bright color
- Lowest members of British nobility
- Actress Thurman
- Type of sugar
- Crest of a hill
- N. American people of British Columbia
- Device
- The Mount Rushmore State

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50" Vizio \$259-99 (Regularly \$549.99)	LG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT. \$699⁹⁹ WAS \$899.99	AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99	GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWSOSSNWW \$749⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99	20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$899⁹⁹ WAS \$1099.99	LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE \$729⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99	G.E. OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE \$229⁹⁹ WAS \$279.99

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of March 12-19, the Ware Police Department responded to 27 miscellaneous calls, 36 administrative calls, 27 traffic violations, 16 emergency 911 calls, one trespass, eight harassments, three safety hazards, one theft/larceny, one fire, one breaking and entering, seven motor vehicle accidents, two animal calls and 21 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, March 12
 2:31 a.m. Safety Hazard, Sczygiel Road, Services Rendered
 4:38 a.m. Safety Hazard, Upper North Street, Services Rendered
 4:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 9:04 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Babcock Tavern Road, Report Made
 12:30 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Street, Investigated
 5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Greenwich Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Wednesday, March 13
 8:16 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Main Street, Report Made
 10:23 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
 2:45 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Second Avenue, Assist Given
 4:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Upper North Street, Advised

Thursday, March 14
 7:58 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/

Threat, Gould Road, Services Rendered
 9:21 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Could Not Locate
 1:20 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, South Street, Report Made
 2:39 p.m. Outside Fire, Lovell Street, Extinguished
 3:33 p.m. Assault, East Street, Services Rendered
 10:47 p.m. Disturbance, Main Street, Arrest Made
 Arrest: Andrew J. Swistak Jr., 52, Ware
 Disorderly Conduct; Resist Arrest; Assault and Battery on Police Officer; Assault and Battery on Police Officer; Motor Vehicle, Malicious Damage to c266 §28(a); Disorderly Conduct

Friday, March 15
 9:20 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Dispatch Handled
 10:08 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Gould Road, Services Rendered
 11:51 a.m. Assault, West Street, Report Made
 3:04 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Old Poor Farm Road, Services Rendered
 5:26 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Hillside Village, Dispatch Handled

Saturday, March 16
 9:19 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Hutchinson Road, Dispatch Handled
 1:45 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Aspen Street, Dispatch Handled

2:49 p.m. Drugs, Hillside Village, Services Rendered
 3:04 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Vigeant Street, Dispatch Handled
 4:51 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Vigeant Street, Investigated
 6:41 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Greenwich Road, Arrest Made

Sunday, March 17
 11:36 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Maple Avenue, Investigated
 4:13 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Bacon Road, Could Not Locate
 5:26 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Park Street, Services Rendered
 6:45 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Maple Street, Investigated
 7:13 p.m. Trespass, South Street, Advised
 9:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gilbertville Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Monday, March 18
 3:57 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Aspen Street, Dispatch Handled
 10:46 a.m. Wildland/Brush Fire, Upper Church Street, Extinguished
 4:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 10:43 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Pulaski Street, Advised

Tuesday, March 19
 1:02 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Investigated
 9:57 a.m. Drugs, West Street, Investigated

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 67 building/property checks, 48 directed/area patrols, four traffic controls, 15 radar assignments, five emergency 911 calls, four assist other agencies, six citizen assists, five complaints, four safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident and 14 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, March 11
 2:16 p.m. Safety Hazard, Turkey Street, Officer Handled
 4:29 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
 6:09 p.m. Safety Hazard, Thresher Road, Removed Hazard
 7:32 p.m. Assist Citizen, Broad Street, Officer Handled

Tuesday, March 12
 11:04 a.m. Safety Hazard, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Dispatch Handled
 1:52 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Officer Handled
 2 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department, Officer Handled
 3:04 p.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:23 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, High Street, Spoken To
 7:06 p.m. Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
 7:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
 8:18 p.m. Complaint, Lower Road, Officer Handled

Wednesday, March 13
 5:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Summons Issued
 11:10 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Red Bridge Road, Officer Handled
 4:54 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper Church Street, Citation Issued
 10:18 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Patrill Hollow Road, Investigated

Thursday, March 14
 6:24 a.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
 6:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 4:23 p.m. 911 Hang-up, Lower Road, Officer Handled
 6:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Petersham Road, Written Warning

Friday, March 15
 12:07 p.m. Assist Citizen, School House Drive, Investigated
 7:36 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Officer Handled
 9:41 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Maple Street, Investigated

Saturday, March 16
 11:34 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
 2:08 p.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Broad Street, Negative Contact
 7:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Pine Street, Officer Handled
 10:45 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Services Rendered

Sunday, March 17
 3:31 p.m. Assist Citizen, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Spoken To
 4:19 p.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Barre Rad, Voice Message Left

Monday, March 18
 6:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Report Taken

Brookfield UUC presents Jeff Warner in concert

BROOKFIELD – Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church, 9 Upper River St., will host a benefit concert featuring Jeff Warner on Sunday, March 24 at 2 p.m.

A \$20 suggested donation will be taken at the door.

Warner is among the nation's foremost performers/interpreters of traditional music. His songs from the lumber camps, fishing villages and mountaintops of North America connect 21st-century audiences with the everyday lives

– and artistry – of 19th-century North Americans.

His songs, rich in local history and a sense of place, bring us the latest news from the distant past.

Warner grew up listening to the songs and stories of his father, Frank Warner, and the traditional singers his parents met during their folksong collecting trips through rural North America. He accompanied his parents on their later field trips and is the editor of his mother's book, "Traditional American

Folk Songs: From the Anne and Frank Warner Collection."

All proceeds from this concert will fund Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church's missions to strengthen the local community, to maintain its wonderful music and choir programs, and to bring all joyfully together again and again by giving the opportunity to share more traditional folk and community music.

To learn more about BUUC, please visit <http://www.buuc.org/>.

QUABBIN from page 6

the elementary level and is the high and middle school orchestra director. Rebecca is the elementary orchestra director and teaches small group string lessons. They both have impressive personal performing experiences and we are thankful to have them on our team.

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

Our most recent member of the music department is Tim Kane. He provides general music instruction to our elementary students and works with some of our chorus students as well.

Kane has been working with our youngest learners, helping them to understand their voice and impact. Oftentimes, students are encouraged to use a microphone to help them build their performance skills.

Finally, our music department is spearheaded by Toni Brown. She is also a Quabbin graduate and has not only worked in our music department, but she also previously taught math here at Quabbin. For Brown, it is important that we provide equitable opportunities for our students and that is one reason the elementary program is so critical.

Barriers to access are removed for our students, they do not need to be provided transportation or have costs incurred to learn "how" to play an instrument or partake in vocal instruction. The Quabbin team strives to provide these opportunities to students throughout their educational journey to ensure that all students can access our programming.

Warren Police Log

During the week of March 10-16, the Warren Police Department responded to 146 building/property checks, 24 community policings, 14 emergency 911 calls, one fraud/forgery, one larceny/theft, one burglary, two motor vehicle accidents, one brush/wildland fire, two animal calls and 54 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, March 10
 3:45 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Chapel Street, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest: John Tetreault, 34, West Warren
 Firearm Without FID Card, Possess
 1:04 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed
 5:37 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Maple Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, March 11
 5:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 6:06 a.m. EMS/ETOH Withdrawal, Quaboag Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:39 a.m. Welfare Check, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
 11:46 a.m. Fraud/Forgery, Winthrop Terrace, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer, Citation Issued
 4:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Parkview Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, March 12
 3:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:15 p.m. Falls, Washburn Avenue, Transported to Hospital
 2:01 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Comins Pond Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 3:37 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:43 p.m. High Heart Rate, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 13
 3:09 a.m. Mutual Aid, Athol, Mutual Aid Assist
 7:32 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Warre, Information Given
 8:06 a.m. Burglary, Bemis Road, Investigated
 2:17 p.m. Trauma, Yankee Drummer Drive, Transported to Hospital
 3:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:02 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Constitution Avenue, Mutual Aid Transport
 7:30 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Mutual Aid Assist
 8:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Citation Issued

Thursday, March 14
 10:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, School Street, Report Filed
 12:29 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Cutler Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:33 p.m. Seizures, Bacon Street, Referred to Other Agency

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.

2:01 p.m. Brush/Wildland Fires, Coy Hill Road, Investigated
 8:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Reed Street, Criminal Complaint
 11:39 p.m. Falls, Milton O. Fountain Way, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Friday, March 15
 10:50 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Bragg Road, Information Taken
 3:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Citation Issued
 4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Saturday, March 16
 10:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 11:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning
 12:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Legislators help launch Browse Borrow Board

SPRINGFIELD – State Senator Jake Oliveira (Hampden, Hampshire & Worcester District) joined his colleagues in the Western Mass Delegation, representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, and the Massachusetts Public Library System to launch the Browse Borrow Board Program in the Pioneer Valley.

Browse Borrow Board will bring MassDOT and PVTA riders the opportunity to browse digital audiobooks, eBooks, newspapers, and magazines while waiting for their bus to arrive before borrowing and enjoying their reading materials on the go. The program was made possible through Oliveira's fiscal year 2024 budget amendment that increased state aid to regional public libraries by \$750,000.

MassDOT, and the PVTA is exactly the kind of engagement we as legislators want to partake in," said Gomez. "This pilot program, coupled with PVTA's Try Transit program, can entice families to browse digital audiobooks and eBooks while riding the bus. I look forward to seeing this program succeed and entertaining its viability down the line when East-West Rail is up and running."

Also on hand were PVTA Administrator Sandra E. Sheehan and the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Library System, Sarah Sogitjan.

"We are happy to join the Browse Borrow Board program that brings riders a vast assortment of reading options to ride the bus with an enjoyable read. Browse Borrow Board makes it as easy as one, two, three," said Sheehan.

For Oliveira, the program extends far beyond what riders can access.

"Like our public libraries, Browse Borrow Board is about more than just books. The program is a reflection of the values of equity, inclusivity, and accessibility upheld by our public libraries across the state. I'm thrilled to see the program expanded across the Commonwealth from Boston to the PVTA and to our regional transit authorities to provide the regional equity we strive for in the Legislature," Oliveira said in a press release.

Browse Borrow Board strives to promote literacy, local libraries, and public transportation. The program is multilingual and provides riders of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to browse digital audiobooks, eBooks, newspapers, and magazines while waiting for their bus to arrive and enjoying their reading materials on the go.

No library card is needed to access the collection. It's free and very easy to use. Just scan the QR code, create an account, and start browsing.

Oliveira went on to thank his colleagues in the legislature, the PVTA, and the Mass Library System for making the expansion possible.

"I want to thank the partners in this who have joined me today and were instrumental in making Browse Borrow Board a reality, Senator Adam Gomez and State Representative Carlos Gonzalez, as well as our partners at the Massachusetts Library System, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, and the Boston Public Library," he said.

Browse Borrow Board's primary goal is to reach riders who may not already be familiar with the library's offerings.

Library cards are not required to use this service. The program gives riders access to books, magazines, and other material through QR code links and doesn't need an app.

The program builds on efforts to make public transportation more enjoyable while also connecting residents to the resources the Boston Public Library offers.

Senator Adam Gomez (Hampden District) was grateful to Oliveira and expressed excitement about the potential of further expanding the program through the upcoming West-East Rail.

"Launching the Browse Borrow Board program at Union Station with Mass Library,

Since the start of the program in Boston, there have been a total of 4,145 QR scans, including 3,829 unique scans. 1,371 people have created accounts since March, and some of the most checked-out items are those in Spanish and Portuguese.

The top rented item is "La Ladrona de Libros" (The Book Thief).

Historical Society presents underhammer pistol program March 28

STURBRIDGE – On Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m. at the Publick House, Bob Arnold, Charlie Blanchard, and Doug Quigley will present a program on a local pistol manufacturer, Gibbs, Tiffany and Company.

In the 1830s they were the largest manufacturer of underhammer pistols. These were sold through an agent in Baltimore, many to people who were moving west.

The simplicity of the pistol's design made it easy and inexpensive to produce. In addition to its low cost, the pistol was small and light, which was convenient to carry making it a popular product for travelers.

This program will look at the history of the company and the pistols they produced.

Arnold is a freelance photographer, amateur historian, and avid collector of all things Sturbridge. In addition to serving clients throughout New England, he has been documenting life in our community since he and his family moved here in 1970.

Arnold's work over the past 50 plus years has yielded a unique perspective on the commercial, cultural, and environmental changes in our community.

After joining CPC Engineering in 1971, Blanchard and his family moved to Sturbridge in 1973. Following the example set by CPC's founders Lloyd Pote and Charlie Ciaffone, he served the community on the Water and Sewer Commission for 16 years, the Board of Selectmen for 18 years, and is currently serving on the Planning Board.

He is a founding member of the Sturbridge Historical Society and has served as its Treasurer since its inception.

Quigley has lived in Sturbridge for 45 years, coming here to work as an interpreter at Old Sturbridge Village.

Since he was a teen, Quigley has participated in living history events covering the Revolutionary War, the Federal Period, and the American Civil

public notices

GAMES from page 10

State Summer Games where Massachusetts amateur athletes of all ages and abilities can have their "Time to Shine," said Kevin Cummings, Executive Director of the Bay State Games. "This year will feature the addition of table tennis and ultimate as well as several new host venues including Babson College in Wellesley, Howard Park and Maplewood Park in Malden and NorthStar Ice Sports in Westborough. We look forward to welcoming athletes from across the Commonwealth as we celebrate the 42nd year of the Bay State Summer Games."

An additional feature in 2024 is that in over a dozen sports, athletes who win a gold, silver, or bronze medal at the 2024 Bay State Games will qualify to participate in the 2024 State Games of America in San Diego, California. The State Games of America features more than 8,000 athletes from over 25 different state games programs nationwide. To see the list of qualifying sports, please visit www.stategamesofamerica.com.

In addition to sports programming, Bay State Games offer college scholarships, a sportsmanship initiative, college internship opportunities, and a High School Ambassador program.

For more information on all sports in the 2024 Summer Games, links to online registration, and information on other programs, go to www.bay-stategames.org.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

T-BIRDS from page 10

giving the home side the 2-1 lead at intermission. It took Adam Gaudette just 19 seconds to restore a tie score when he stole a breakout pass and slapped a blistering shot over Hellberg's shoulder to even the game, 2-2. It brought him back into a tie for the AHL goal-scoring lead with Ontario's Samuel Fagemo.

The 2-2 tie only lasted 50 seconds, though, as Wilmer Skoog answered back on a jam shot from the right circle to give Charlotte the 3-2 advantage during a delayed Springfield penalty.

Charlotte's third power play proved to be a charm when Gerry Mayhew gave the Checkers a two-goal lead when he poked a loose puck under Ellis at 8:32 to make it a 4-2 game.

With much of the momentum seemingly on Charlotte's side, the T-Birds got a wonderful stroke of luck at the 10:25 mark when a Skyler Brind'Amour pass caromed off Uvis Balinskis' skate and squeaked under Hellberg's legs. Suzuki was given credit for his second of the game, and the Charlotte lead suddenly slipped to 4-3.

With their power play beaming with confidence, the T-Birds tied the game when Will Bitten deflected a Calle Rosen shot in behind Hellberg, tying the score, 4-4, with just 3:01 remaining in the middle period.

Early in the third, the Springfield power play again made a huge impact following a double-minor on Mayhew. With just two seconds remaining on the first minor, Jakob Vrana played the role of the deflector, as he guided a Dylan Coghlan snapshot through Hellberg, giving the T-Birds their first lead at the 2:30 mark of the third, 5-4.

After both teams committed minors just 51 seconds apart to set up 4-on-4 play, Coghlan added to the T-Birds lead on a 2-on-1, picking a spot over Hellberg's stick-side arm to make it a 6-4 lead for the visitors at 9:26 of the final period. Coghlan finished the two-game set with three goals and five points, and his goal put him atop the AHL leaderboard for goals by defensemen with 16.

From that point onward, Ellis and the T-Birds' defense stiffened, blocking countless Charlotte attempts en route to the win. Ellis, in picking up his third straight win over Charlotte, made 42 stops.

RAILERS from page 10

allowed four goals on 16 shots and was replaced by Cole Ceci at 17:09 of the second period.

"We've asked a lot of him," Smotherman said of Muse. "Especially seeing that he's 35 years old. I couldn't imagine doing that. He wanted to play tonight. He wanted to fight to give us a chance to win. We know that the next time he's in there he's gonna be the giant we've come to know."

With the defeat, the Railers have dropped into sixth place in the North Division, at least in terms of winning percentage. In terms of points, though, Worcester is remarkably tied with three other teams for the final playoff spot.

The Railers, Reading, Maine and Trois-Rivieres all have 57. Maine and Trois-Rivieres have winning percentages of .491. Reading is at .475.

Newfoundland is in third place with a .517 winning percentage, so the Growlers are in the playoff scrum, too.

"I told our guys — we're in a 13-game push. There are four teams with 57 points, one with 62 that's played a couple more games. We play all of them, so it's up to us. The ball's in our court."

The winning goaltender was Vinnie Purpura. He was the last man the Railers wanted to see as they battle an offensive slump. The triumph improved his record against Worcester this season to 5-0-1 with a 1.91 goals against average and .935 saves percentage.

Worcester outshot the Thunder, 9-1, through the game's first seven minutes and dominated play, but had nothing to show for it. Thus, Adirondack scored the first goal and took a 1-0 lead at 16:09.

Jozefek, a former Railer, snapped one home from the right circle.

Pivonka tied it late in the period as he converted a pass from Ashton Calder at 18:21. That could have translated into some momentum for Worcester heading into the second period, but did not.

Ghantous, newly signed out of Northern Michigan, got his first pro goal at 3:15. He put one under the crossbar from 20 feet. Smith scored similarly at 4:33 on a power play, then Harper beat Muse from the top of the left circle at 17:09 to end the veteran's night.

The Railers' next four games are on the road. They play at Adirondack Wednesday night, then do a three-in-three weekend in Reading. The next game at the DCU Center is March 27 versus Newfoundland.

Town of Ware Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-06

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 at 7:15 PM** on the application of Daniel and Amy Luksha, for a Special Permit (SP-2024-06) of a proposed attached accessory dwelling unit under Section 4.8.D.7, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 2 Quarry Street, Ware, MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 14785, Page 260. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 18-0-01. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

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

WARE PLANNING BOARD
Ed Murphy, Chairman
03/21, 03/28/2024

Ware Conservation Commission Legal Notice

Pursuant to the authority of MA General Laws and Local Wetland Bylaws the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:30 P.M.**, at the Town Hall Meeting Room. The purpose of the hearing is to review a **Request for Determination** for a deck with ramp to existing deck, stairs to existing platform and stairs to the ground in the buffer zone, located at #25 Horseshoe Circle, Ware, MA, submitted by Lois Lopatin, Administrator and Applicant in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act and the local Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Any person interested in this matter should appear at the time and place posted by the commission schedule. 03/21/2024

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.

WARE CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of MA General Laws and Local Wetland Bylaws the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024** at its regularly scheduled meeting at **6:30pm** at the Town Hall Meeting Room. The purpose of the hearing is to review a **Request for Determination** for the removal of dead and dangerous trees in the buffer zone, located at 22, 24 and 26 Beach Rd and 7 Horseshoe Circle, Ware, MA, submitted by Stephen Muniac, Administrator and Applicant in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act and the local Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Any person interested in this matter should appear at the time and place posted by the commission schedule. 03/21/2024

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-07

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, April 4, 2024 at 7:25 p.m.**, on the application of Bond Construction Corporation, for a 12 month extension of previously granted Special Permit for earth removal under Section 4.8.5, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Board of Selectman's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 219 Babcock Tavern Road, Ware, MA. Said

WARE PLANNING BOARD
Ed Murphy, Chairman
03/21, 03/28/2024

Ware Conservation Commission Legal Notice

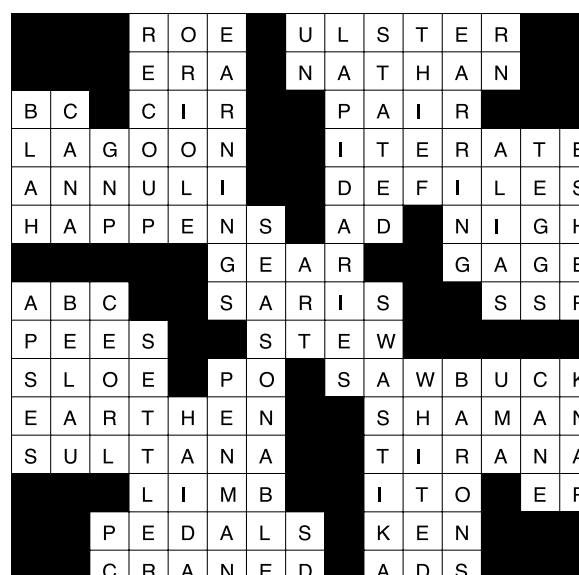
Pursuant to the authority of MA General Laws and Local Wetland Bylaws the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:30 P.M.**, at the Town Hall Meeting Room. The purpose of the hearing is to review a **Request for Determination** for a deck with ramp to existing deck, stairs to existing platform and stairs to the ground in the buffer zone, located at #25 Horseshoe Circle, Ware, MA, submitted by Lois Lopatin, Administrator and Applicant in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act and the local Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Any person interested in this matter should appear at the time and place posted by the commission schedule. 03/21/2024

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

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visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 12833, Page 207, and Book 07177, Page 314. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel 4-0-14 & 4-14-2. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

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

WARE PLANNING BOARD
Ed Murphy, Chairman
03/21, 03/28/2024

HARDWICK PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **April 9, 2024 at 6:30 PM** at Hardwick Elementary School, 76 School House Drive, Gilbertville, to consider amending the Town of Hardwick Zoning Bylaw, per proposal from Casella Waste Systems. Proposal can be found on the Hardwick town website www.hardwick-ma.gov. All interested parties are asked to attend.

This Legal Notice can also be viewed at <http://masspublicnotices.org>
Jenna Garvey, Chair
Hardwick Planning Board
03/21, 03/28/2024

Town of Ware Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2024-03

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, April 4, 2024 at 7:05 PM** on the application of Melink Solar, for a Special Permit for annual renewal (SP-2024-03) of a ground mounted solar array under Section 4.8.3, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person

attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: Greenwich Road, Ware, MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 9018, Page 321. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel #40-0-79. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

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

WARE PLANNING BOARD
Ed Murphy III, Chairman
03/21, 03/28/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No. HS23P0238PM
In the matter of: Melanie Mettig
CITATION ON PETITION TO MODIFY BOND
G.L.c. 190B, § 3-604

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Nancy Godbout of Granby, MA** requesting that the Court enter a Decree and Order modifying the bond of the Personal Representative and for any other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before **10:00 a.m. on 04/11/2024**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and

objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 13, 2024
Mark S. Ames, Temporary Register
03/21/2024

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 24 SM 000274 ORDER OF NOTICE TO:

Heirs, Devisees, and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Linda Picard; Anthony Picard; Stephen Richard Picard; Danny W. Picard

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

Citizens Bank, N.A. f/k/a RBS Citizens, N.A. s/b/m Charter One Bank, N.A. f/k/a Charter One Bank F.S.B. s/b/m Albank, FSB

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, numbered 57 Warebrook Drive, given by Emil Lumbs to Albank, FSB, dated July 15, 1997, recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 5156, Page 1 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 **04/29/2024** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of this Court on 3/15/2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
03/21/2024

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
03/21/2024

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
03/21/2024

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 24 SM 001033 ORDER OF NOTICE TO:

JEFFREY S. VINCENT and JESSICA L. VINCENT

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

BEVERLY A. ALLARD

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, 267 Osborne Road, given by Jeffrey S. Vincent and Jessica L. Vincent to Beverly A. Allard, dated February 5, 2019, and recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13194, Page 181, 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 **04/29/2024** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **Gordon H. Piper**, Chief Justice of this Court on 3/15/2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
03/21/2024

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Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
03/21/2024

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HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT The Town of Brookfield is seeking an experienced full-time Highway Superintendent. Full job description at brookfieldma.us. Please submit resume and cover letter to selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Application review will begin after March 28th. Resumes accepted until position is filled. Brookfield is an equal opportunity employer.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Open until filled. EOE

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Town Administrator. Responsibilities include professional, administrative, supervisory, and technical work. See job description at brookfieldma.us. Salary commensurate with experience. Current appropriation \$89,989.00 Please submit a resume and cover letter to Selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Open until filled. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

The Town of Worthington is seeking to fill the position of Assistant Treasurer/Tax Collector: 7-10 Hours a week, the position consists of assisting in the collection and posting of real estate, personal property and motor vehicle excise taxes. Assist in mailings and general office duties. Special requirement: Must meet the requirements to be bonded. Proficient in communicating with the public, computer skills, record keeping, and clerical skills. Please send a cover letter and resume to **Town of Worthington, Tax Collector's Office, P.O. Box 213, Worthington, MA 01098** by: April 11, 2024.

The Town of Worthington is an equal opportunity employer

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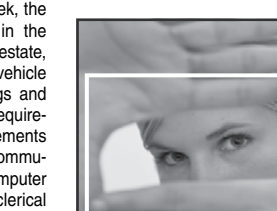
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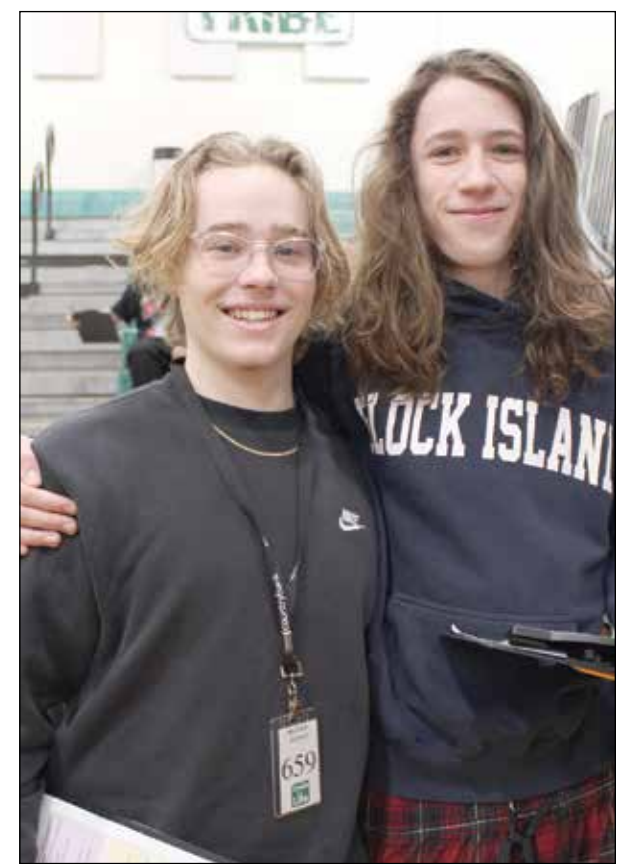


The team of volunteers at the banking information booth helped seniors with general banking questions and a chance to raise their credit score.



Employment information is one booth that helps students find a job that supports them while balancing their budget during the Credit for Life exercise.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago



Belchertown High School students Fionn Lydon and Thomas Marshall explored careers in law enforcement.



Students spin the wheel of unexpected expenses that may occur in the real world.



The 2024 Credit for Life season began with its first fair at Ware High School.



Country Bank's Vice President of Community Relations, Jodie Gerulaitis, stands with Country Bank Board of Trustees Chair James Phaneuf.



Volunteers of the Credit for Life Fair help students balance a budget and determine what is affordable based off their net salary and credit score.



There was a booth for fun activities such as time shares and vacations.

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PROGRAM from page 12

War. As a reenactor, he has collected both original and reproduction firearms that were used in the formation of the country.

He is currently President of the Sturbridge Historical Society.

Arnold, Blanchard and Quigley are all collectors of underhammer pistols who have pooled their interests and collected knowledge to present this program on an important local manufacturer.







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



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