

WARE RIVER NEWS

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www.warerivernews.turley.com

Selectboard welcomes new town accountant

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Kimberly D'Amato introduced herself to the Selectboard as the town's new Accountant.

D'Amato said she has a master's degree from Nichols College and has a background in manufacturing.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity and learning and growing with the community," D'Amato said at the April 2 meeting.

D'Amato said she is getting her self acclimated to using the Munis system, and she will work closely with the Treasurer and each department head to learn more.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said Human Resources Director Amy Przypek has found two accountants who will help mentor D'Amato to use Munis.

Comments and concerns

Selectboard member Keith Kruckas said he has received "a lot of questions" about the resi-

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 7



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz

Patrick Lizak is the director of the Mousehole run and was at Lucy Stone park for the 2nd annual Mousehole Run.

Annual Mousehole Run returns

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The second annual Mousehole Run Canoe, Kayak and SUP Race passed through Lucy Stone Park last weekend, a fun tradition of racing down the Quaboag River.

Directing the Mousehole Run is Patrick Lizak. Lizak grew up paddling canoes with his family on the Quaboag River without ever knowing that racing existed.

Many years later he learned of a race in Sturbridge called the All-American River Race.

Please see **RACE**, page 8



Longtime Senior Center volunteer RETIRES

Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette
Craig Simmons is congratulated on his retirement by The Friends of the Ware Seniors Inc.

Craig Simmons honored for years of service to town's seniors

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Ware Senior Center volunteer Craig Simmons said he set a goal when he retired from his career with the town of Ware many

years ago; to help people as much as he could.

"I really did what I set out to do," Simmons told those present at a party held in his honor on March 29.

Members of the Council on Aging and The Friends of the Ware Seniors Inc., surprised Simmons with a retirement party, complete with cake and ice cream and a certificate of appreciation for this service. After the presentation, they celebrated him by singing "He's a Jolly Good Fellow".

The party marked the second

retirement for Simmons, this time from his over 17 years tenure as a volunteer at the Senior Center.

"When I retired from the town, I said, 'what am I going to do?'" Simmons recalled. He saw an ad in the Ware River News seeking drivers for the Ware Senior Center van and decided to give that a try.

Simmons joined RSVP of the Pioneer Valley on Jan. 2, 2012, and has served 12 years.

"To date, he has logged 5,778.08 volunteer hours, all of

Please see **SIMMONS**, page 7

Selectmen discuss changes to Quaboag agreement

By Paula Ouimette
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WARREN – Board of Selectmen Chair David Dufresne said he has looked over the proposed Quaboag Regional School District amended regional agreement, which includes North Brookfield, and he has some concerns.

"I think we're getting ahead of the horse on that," he said. "I think there should be a real talk about how/if North Brookfield is beneficial to our town to have a regional agreement with them."

At the board's March 28 meeting, Dufresne said he believes the proposed agreement is more beneficial to the school district than the towns.

Clerk Derick Veliz, who represents the board on the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee, said a company was hired to conduct a study to determine what would happen if the three towns regionalized.

He said there wasn't a clear answer about the long-term benefits or drawbacks of adding North Brookfield to the school district along with Warren and West Brookfield.

Dufresne said he didn't like how the students would be divid-

ed between the towns, with kindergarten through grade five staying in their own elementary school; grade six through eight going to North Brookfield and grades nine through 12 going to Quaboag.

Dufresne said he did like that the proposed agreement dropped the number of School Committee members from each town down from six to three.

He said he would like to have town counsel review the proposed agreement to offer an opinion.

Dufresne said he is "not convinced" transitioning to a three-town school district would be beneficial. Both Vice-Chair Richard Eichacker and Veliz agreed there wasn't clear evidence to support adding North Brookfield to the regional agreement.

In order to make a change to the existing regional agreement, including adding North Brookfield, each town would need to approve the amendment at a town meeting vote. If one town fails the amendment, the agreement will not change.

Town Administrator James Ferrera said in his conversation with Superintendent Stephen Brookfield.

Please see **WARREN**, page 13

Casella's zoning requests focus of public hearing

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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HARDWICK – On Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m., the Planning Board will hold a public hearing at the Hardwick Elementary School, 76 School House Drive, Gilbertville to decide whether or not to recommend to town meeting an amendment to the town's bylaws as requested by Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

This proposed zoning bylaw amendment was submitted by Casella for the purpose of reopening and expanding the solid waste landfill on Patrill Hollow Road.

In a Feb. 20 letter to the Select Board, Casella's Vice-President Brian Oliver said the amendments including increasing the allowable height of the landfill from 670 feet above Mean Sea Level to 850 feet (General By-laws, Article XV, Section 2).

Oliver said Casella is also requesting an amendment to the zoning map to re-zone certain parcels of land on Patrill Hollow Road from Agricultural Residential (AR-60) to Industrial (I-40); adding language to the schedule of land intensity regulations for buildings, structures

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 8

School district sees reduction in absenteeism

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Superintendent Michael Lovato said there have been "significant improvements" in overall attendance for the school district.

At the School Committee's March 27 meeting, he said his office continues to recognize students with perfect attendance and they will begin recognizing students with just two or three absences.

When it comes to addressing discipline, Lovato said most of the emergency removals are due

to vaping. He said the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance has grant funding available to provide support to students using substances.

"I personally believe as superintendent that we need to make a strong statement that it is not allowed on our campus," Lovato said.

Recognition

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow thanked committee member Michael Foran for his years on the School Committee. Foran chose not to seek re-election.

Please see **ABSENT**, page 12



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Mary Remington, right, of ClayWorks alongside Amherst Survival Center's Dale Rice and studio artists David Walulak. Rice was amazed by the great craftsmanship and the number of bowls being donated

ClayWorks donates bowls to survival center

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – ClayWorks Community Ceramics Studio in Ware had made bowls to donate to the Amherst Survival Center.

These bowls are made to support local food and nutrition pro-

grams for families in need. Dale Rice of Amherst Survival Center had reached out to ClayWorks last year and members of studio rallied to make 50 bowls last year.

This year, ClayWorks members produced 82 bowls to donate and Mary Remington was proud of the outcome her and her associates had accomplished.

"This activity contributes to the growth of ClayWorks' membership and bringing members together," Remington said.

Joining Remington is David Walulak who handmade some of the bowls and helped with firing

Please see **BOWLS**, page 6



I'm Asking for Your Vote! ON MONDAY, APRIL 8TH

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- ✓ Encouraging Citizen Involvement
- ✓ Fiscally Conservative Budgeting
- ✓ Full Transparency in all Town Decisions

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★ **CATHY** ★
CASCIO
FOR SELECTBOARD

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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.



Submitted Photos removed.

These bears are searching for birdfeeders, which the resident had already removed.

The bears are back

WARE – Spring is here, and the black bears have emerged from their dens in search of food.

One resident was visited by three black bears Monday night, hoping to find their birdfeeder, which had already been taken inside.

According to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's website, black bears typically leave their dens between February and mid-April. Birdfeeders should be removed at the first sign of any bear activity



One of the bears is shown climbing a tree.

A trio of bears made their way through a Ware resident's yard Monday night.



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.

Are You Old News?



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

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

File Photo
Last week's photo from 1991 showed Paul Wilkes (center) presenting the Boar's Head Award to James Nields and the David Huntress Youth Award to Kellie Ruggles. If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.



Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – Don't miss the big event at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library will launch their 2024 Seed Library, one of the very first Seed Libraries, and they will do it again with a Bake Sale, a Book Sale, and a garden-themed raffle basket that includes a \$50 gift certificate from the Hardwick Farmer's Exchange.

If you would like to donate to the bake sale or raffle or have any questions, email director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com, call 413-477-6704, or stop in.

On Saturday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m. at the Town House, learn from Gariné of Kalina Folk Arts 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. This program is supported by a grant from the Hardwick Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Registration is required. Email, call, or stop in.

Story Hour is held on Wednesday mornings at 11 a.m. The Paige Writing group meets on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m., and the Paige Book Club meets at 2 p.m. monthly.

The Cookbook Club meets at 5:30 p.m. monthly on the last Wednesday. A Legos open building session will be held from 2-4 p.m. on April 10, which is a half day in the Quabbin Regional School District.

All are invited to join the library's Friends group, suggest a new program or present a new workshop.

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

compactor, \$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.



Department of Developmental Services

The Department of Developmental Services is looking for Direct Care Workers and Licensed Practical Nurses to join their team in Central & Western Massachusetts.



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*Must be at least 18 years old and possess a valid driver's license to qualify.

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<https://tinyurl.com/u3tacaay>



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Easter on the Common



This boy found a colorful striped egg during the Easter egg hunt.

HARDWICK – Families gathered on the common this past Saturday for a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny, pose for photos, enjoy crafts and games, and take part in the annual egg hunt. Sponsored by Eagle Hill School, volunteers helped cover the common with brightly colored eggs filled with sweet treats for children of all ages to collect.

Turley Photos by Single Shot Photo
Noah (left) and Luca Grandinetti sit with their mom April for a photo with the Easter Bunny on the common this past Saturday.



Children line up with the Easter Bunny before the egg hunt begins.

Quabbin Visitor Center lists free upcoming events

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center will offer several free programs in April and May.

The Quabbin Interpretive Services program operates the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, offering public and school education programs, teacher workshops, and general information about DCR's water supply resources and watershed management, the history of the Quabbin Valley and wildlife of the area.

Staff members are available to assist with visitor information and services. An automated telephone system, 413-323-7221, provides 24 hour access to current information on fishing, hunting, programs, rules and regulations, and public access.

All ages are welcome to these events. Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov with questions or to be added to the mailing list.

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Quabbin Watershed. Space is limited.

To register for any of these events, visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir/events.

Exploring the Ware River Watershed

On Saturday, April 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., explore the Ware River Watershed with a moderate 4.4 mile looped group hike near Muddy Pond.

Meet at the Ware River Watershed, Route 122 rest area parking lot in Oakham. The rest area is in the shape of a banana with grass and picnic tables.

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/jWsgofmrD6N-DyGzB6>)

DyGzB6)

The route climbs/descends roughly 140 feet in elevation. The foot path hikers will travel on is non-technical.

The last mile of the hike is on a scenic section of the Mass Central Rail Trail. The hike begins/ends north of Muddy Pond.

Visit the following website for additional information on the route: <https://www.trailforks.com/route/4mi-loop-near-muddy-pond-from-rest-area/>.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ab0e732a488d4dfda9847662dfe78286>.

Exploring Quabbin Park

On Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., exploring Quabbin Park via the Tower Trail and Webster Road Trail at Quabbin Reservoir, 100 Winsor Dam Road, Belchertown.

The hike will begin at the Tower Trail parking area which is located just inside the Middle Gate off Route 9 in Belchertown.

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/KeEppMJmKDSjMFz8>)

Participants will hike up to the Observation Tower and take in the scenic view. The tower is currently closed indefinitely for repairs, so people won't be able to go inside.

Hikers will then utilize a connector trail down to Webster Road, and then loop back to where they began. The trail to the tower gains 475 feet of elevation.

Register here: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ce6482df-ca1943e78057b9bf42c06a5c>.

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 12

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.

St. Aloysius Catholic School lists honor roll

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville lists students named to the second trimester honor roll.

High Honors
Jason Aller

Honors
Dianne Aller, Sophia Adams, Aria Carfagna, Hannah LaRochelle and Christopher Rice.

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When should we claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I am almost 63 and my husband will be 61 soon and we are looking to see when our best time would be to start our Social Security benefits.

We would like to know if one of us qualifies for benefits from a previous marriage from 1984 to 1995. And we are wondering if I can start drawing at age 65, in two years or if it is better that I wait until 67 because my spouse is two years younger than me. Also, if I were to continue working limited hours after 65, what would my earning limit be?

Signed: Almost Ready

Dear Almost Ready:

The first thing to understand is that Full Retirement Age for both of you is 67. If either of you claim before that, your monthly benefit amount will be permanently reduced and, because you are working, you will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test."

If you claim your benefit at age 65 your monthly payment will be about 87% of what you would get if you claimed at age 67. If your husband claims at age 62, his benefit will be about 70% of his FRA amount.

The only way to get 100% of the benefit you've each earned from a lifetime of working is to claim at your FRA. You can choose to claim at age 65 as long as you're comfortable with the benefit reduction which will occur and as long as your annual work earnings do not significantly exceed the earnings limit for that year. In any case, when each of you claims will not affect the other's retirement benefit amount.

Social Security's "earnings test" for those claiming before FRA sets a limit for how much can be earned before some or all benefits are taken away. The earnings limit for 2024 is \$22,320, but it changes yearly. If you claim early benefits and your work earnings exceed that year's limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

They take away by withholding future benefits long enough to recover what you owe for exceeding the limit. If you significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you may be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your FRA.

The earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA. I cannot predict what the earnings limit will be two years from now, but it will be more than the 2024 limit and published at that time. FYI, in the year you turn 67 your pre-FRA earnings limit will be much higher and when you reach your FRA the earnings test no longer applies.

Regarding your previous marriage, you cannot receive spousal benefits from an ex-spouse while you are currently married. But when to claim may also be influenced by whether either you or your current spouse will get a spousal benefit from the other. If the FRA (age 67) benefit amount for one of you is more than twice the other's FRA entitlement, the one with the lower FRA amount will get a "spousal boost" to their own amount when both of you are collecting.

Spouse benefits reach maximum at one's FRA, but each person's personal SS retirement amount will continue to grow if not claimed at FRA. Waiting past FRA to claim allows the SS retirement benefit to grow by 8% per year, up to age 70.

So, with an FRA of 67, claiming at age 70 will yield a payment 24% higher than the FRA amount, 76% more than the age 62 amount and about 37% more than the age 65 amount. But waiting beyond FRA is only smart if financially feasible and life expectancy is at least average about 84 and 87 respectively for a man and woman your current ages. And, as a general rule, if one's spousal benefit at FRA (50% of their partner's FRA entitlement) is highest, then that spouse should claim at FRA to get their maximum benefit.

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

in the Garden

by Roberto McQuaid



Asparagus plants- upkeep, harvest and oddities

It was so much fun to be outdoors on Easter Sunday.

I enjoyed just sitting on the deck, talking with family and moseying around the yard while the little kids enjoyed an Easter egg hunt. It's funny that being outside is one of those things that once you do it, you want to

do it more often.

It got me thinking of some of the tasks back home I have to do to get the gardens ship-shape.

One of the tasks concerns my asparagus bed. The grocery stores are teasing us lately, with spears from Mexico making an appearance in the sales circular.

I usually hold off buying it, preferring my home-grown to anything store-bought. I never did get to cut back the foliage in the fall after the first frost.

Presently, its laying down in the beds, making a catch-all for leaves. I'll get in there with a pair of sharp clippers, cutting away the foliage, then with a rake to further tidy up.

Once complete, I'll sprinkle lime on the beds, followed by some compost, since asparagus prefers fertile soil on the alkaline side.

It'll be a few weeks still before the spears start to poke through the surface. Since my beds are several years old at this point, I will be able to harvest for a good eight weeks.

Be on the look-out for the asparagus beetle midstream and the black eggs that are laid horizontally shortly thereafter, usually apparent on the upper portion of the spears. I monitor my beds often and flick the bugs into a yogurt container of soapy water while squishing the eggs in-situ.

I don't do more than that in terms of pest control and I'm able to keep populations down.

Weeds are another foe. It's important to keep the beds weeded - especially free of perennial grasses, and you will likely have a productive asparagus patch for decades to come.

I usually harvest asparagus with a knife, so that the cut is clean. If the spear has gotten a bit too tall, but the buds haven't opened too much, I will still harvest it at the appropriate length of 6-8" long, and cut the rest of the

stem off at ground level.

If the buds have opened and are too far gone to be edible (at least in terms of looking like traditional asparagus) I will just allow the foliage to grow, figuring that the photosynthesizing will benefit the roots in the long run, just as later foliage does after the harvest period is over. I usually let really skinny spears go to foliage as well - they are usually kind of tough.

Speaking of tough, what about those really thick spears, the kind that are "thumb-thick?"

If you notice the base of these spears to be woody and tough in appearance, get out the potato peeler and remove the outer skin, revealing a much more tender interior portion. An old friend taught me this trick, and it works out pretty well.

I'd be in remiss if I didn't address the stinky smell associated with eating asparagus.

Yesiree, it can happen even 15 minutes after ingesting it. Use the bathroom and voila, your urine will have a pungent, asparagus-like smell. Only maybe worse.

Our bodies convert asparagusic acid into sulfur-containing chemicals that are volatile enough to fly from the toilet up your nose, that is, if you have the ability to perceive it. Some people don't.

Call them lucky, perhaps. I consider myself lucky to have such an amazing vegetable growing right in my backyard, stinky or not.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Group calls upon Planning Board to oppose landfill rezoning

To the Editor,

The Physicians Advisory Panel to the Town of Hardwick, Board of Health would like to express its opposition to the proposed rezoning of the currently residentially zoned property owned by Hardwick Landfill, Inc. to industrial zoning for the ultimate purpose of creating a regional landfill for municipal solid waste disposal.

For the sake of the public health and safety of Hardwick and Ware, the siting of a landfill in the midst of a residential zone, overlying a high and medium yield aquifer, in a valley with poor air circulation, accessible only by narrow rural truck routes poses a significant health threat to the communities.

The physician panel comprised of physicians with extensive and varied academic and clinical training are deeply concerned about toxic exposure and road safety posed by the proposed Regional landfill.

We strongly urge the Planning Board to unequivocally recommend against siting the landfill in Hardwick for indisputable health and safety reasons.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Romano, M.D.
Hardwick



in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer



Fox sparrow

I had fox sparrows under my feeder for several days now.

Most recently I counted five of them usually it is two or three. The fox sparrow is a large sparrow about seven inches long. It has a gray head and back with bold, rufous or brown streaking.

It has an irregular shaped central dot on its breast and reddish, brown rump and tail. The reddish coloring resembles the color of a fox, hence its name.

It often jumps forward and back, pulling aside ground cover to find food underneath. It

may come to feeders when seed is scattered on the ground. I not only put seed in the tray feeders, but I sprinkle some on the ground for the juncos, sparrows and mourning doves.

The female lays four to six light blue green eggs with darker marks in a cup like nest of grasses, lichens and leaves lined with hair, fur and rootlets. When we had horses, I would often find nests with their hair in them.

My daughters and I would leave hairs groomed from their manes and tails on the ground for the birds.

The fox sparrow's song is a short series of clear melodious whistles and it is more melodic than most sparrows. Males may have one to three versions their songs, which are distinct to each male.

Interesting sightings

I have received emails of several interesting sightings. A Granby resident wrote, "I recently saw a bald eagle in my neighbors tree right next to my property. It was on Feb. 28. To make sure what I was seeing, I grabbed my binoculars and sure enough it was a bald eagle. He stayed there for around five minutes then he flew away." She said, "It was my first time spotting an eagle in Granby. I did spot one in the 90s at the Quabbin flying around. I usually see hawks in my neighborhood on a regular basis. But this was a nice site to see for sure."

A Barre resident saw a snow bunting on March 15. An Oakham resident saw two sandhill cranes on the morning of March 15. He said, "While driving down Rutland Road in Oakham, I did a double-take and hit the brakes. There, near the road at Eva Grimes' old place, stood two Sandhill Cranes. They almost could have been mistaken for lawn ornaments, but they were real. One stood erect while the other pecked at the lawn grass.

Last year I observed three cranes fly over my house. Perhaps they plan to nest in one of our large beaver-impacted marshes?"

Brimfield resident

A Brimfield resident reported on March 18, he saw 22 ring-necked ducks and an immature bald eagle at a pond in Warren. He also said, "On South Street where last year there were three great blue heron nests and an osprey nest. There were two great blue herons standing in one of the nests used last year and an osprey sitting on the nest used previously. The osprey have been present there for three years, producing at least one chick each year. He also said his wife saw a dozen chipping sparrows in their yard, a first of the year at this location.

He report the only spring arrival in our yard had been one male robin a few days ago. No phoebes yet and he still has some juncos and at least one white-throated sparrow.

The Brimfield resident said he did a tour of some local ponds on Wednesday. At the heron rookery at

Conant Brook in Monson he saw one great blue heron and one tree swallow. In Brimfield, there were 54 male and 18 female common mergansers.

Turkey vultures

On Tuesday, I spotted about four turkey vultures perched in a dead tree in Oakham. Several more were circling overhead. I have seen then at this location in past years.

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 edowne@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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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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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.



Submitted Photo
Izzy Lenihan will lead a Gratitude Mandala workshop at the Warren Senior Center on April 13.

Gratitude Mandala workshop offered April 13

WARREN – The Warren Public Library will host a Gratitude Mandala workshop with Izzy Lenihan, a certified life, career and wellness coach at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health. On Saturday April 13 at 4 p.m. at the Warren Senior Center.

Expressing and practicing gratitude deepens your relationship with yourself, others, and the world. In this fun creative workshop, learn a lighthearted way to connect emotionally to yourself and the grace of life.

This program is free and sponsored by the Warren Public Library with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship applications 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.

Visit us on the web
www.turley.com

Capital Planning continues to prioritize improvement projects

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Capital Planning Committee continued to prioritize and rate Capital Improvement Projects.

During its March 26 meeting, the committee began reconsidering how to categorize their projects and choose a more appropriate rate system.

Capital Planning Committee Chair Richard Eichacker brought up the idea of reorganizing the categories and know firsthand which ones are essential. Also, the Capital Planning Committee wants to prioritize what projects are tied to the economic impact of the town and which projects are multi-year projects.

For the rating system that was discussed in the previous meeting, the members agreed that rating

projects would be easier using a 0-5 scale. Zero indicates the project doesn't apply at all.

The committee is also factoring in mandated items that would be high on the scale when they review capital improvement projects.

As a guide to better organize and rate projects, the committee has been reviewing and studying Springfield's Capital Planning system as an example to figure out a more efficient way to rate a project.

What factors into some of the multiple projects submitted to the committee are potential grants to help fund certain projects. However, the Capital Planning Committee is in need of more data to implement what projects are eligible for a grant or within the criteria of the Capital Improvement Projects.

The Capital Planning Committee will be meeting again

in April to look at every category and have a final draft of categories prior to placing the submitted requests. The committee plans to define what each category is in regards to mandated projects and essential needs to the town.

Moving forward, the committee reviewed and discussed some of the submitted departmental requests that came from multiple town departments.

The Police Department is looking to replace a cruiser sometime this year. Capital Planning Committee member Raymond Kopacko mentioned that the committee should consider the life span of the vehicles, including much mileage cruisers can get over the course of three- to five-years. Nowadays, a cars lifespan can exceed over 100,000 miles until the vehicle needs to be replaced.

Kopacko, understanding the essential need for cruisers and the

mileage certainly elevates due to use of the cruisers in law enforcement. Kopacko estimates that the Police Department is looking to replace one cruiser a year.

"He needs to replace a car every year," Kopacko said.

The Capital Planning Committee will continue reviewing costs of the cruiser if one needs to be replaced soon.

For the Highway Department, the requests consist of a dry storage building, a sweeper and a vehicle. From what was shared with the Capital Planning Committee, the current elgin sweeper the department has is near the end of its lifespan.

A brand new sweeper is approximately \$300,000 and may be too costly for the Capital Planning Committee to approve. Kopacko pointed out that a used sweeper is less expensive; approximately a third of the cost of a new sweeper.

For the dry storage building the Highway Department is requesting, the Capital Planning rates it as a level four priority. The committee is planning to invite Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson to the next meeting and have them address the needs of the projects being requested, to determine the main priority from the department.

The committee also received requests from Fire Chief Adam Lavoie regarding an ambulance, firetruck and hose replacement for the Fire Department. The hose replacement project might be needed for completion a lot sooner.

There is a possibility for the hose replacement project to be supported by a grant and the committee is looking to discuss these requests with Lavoie at the next meeting.

CDAC reviews Master Plan Survey Draft

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Community Development Advisory Committee reviewed questions on a master plan survey.

The first draft was made by Sarah O'Brien of Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission and presented the draft to the CDAC via Zoom. The draft of the master plan survey consisted of questions that will be answered by residents of Warren and get a full understanding of what is needed for the town's master plan.

The CDAC wants to review this draft make any changes prior to the survey being released to residents of Warren and West Warren.

One example question was "What recreational opportunities would residents like to see more of?"

Other questions revolved around economic development, businesses and housing. Wanting to get a better idea of what residents want to see more of in their town and what is sentimental to them.

If there are areas of development residents would support, the CDAC wants to identify those locations as soon as possible.

"We're looking to see what projects that could be developed," said CDAC Chair Jeremy Olson.

The village of West Warren has several locations of older properties and acres of land that have potential for new developments: ones in multiple forms such as housing, business and open space

recreation.

There are also transportation questions regarding the roads in town along with questions that may answer the overall input residents have on the town. In other words, how satisfied residents are with the services and the buildings in town.

Public buildings include libraries, the police station, fire department, senior center, and the municipal building.

The CDAC also wants to know how Warren residents are satisfied with their town's public services. O'Brien organized a list on the survey to acknowledge all services Warren offers.

"It covers a lot of different angles," Olson said.

Community outreach was next to begin campaigning this master plan survey. Flyers will be posted on social media and even send out a town alert to bring awareness to the residents that a survey is looking to be filled.

The CDAC went over who will reach out to each department and boards and multiple locations in town. Many businesses will be informed about the survey and hopefully a lot of participation will happen in town to get a more genuine answer to what will be Warren's master plan.

A resident at the meeting asked what the goal after the survey is completed. O'Brien explained how the results will be used and will lead to a workshop that will be done at the end of May. At that point, the survey will help determine what the future of Warren will await when the master plan goes in motion.

"What is the general future we are looking at," O'Brien said.

Grant Program Updates

CMRPC representative Chris Dunphy went over updates regarding Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness and hazard mitigation. The MVP was completed, and hazard mitigation plan just has a few remaining tasks prior to completion.

Open Space and Recreational Planning is near completion as Lucy Stone Park is awaiting further updates on signage.

Dunphy informed the CDAC that grants for proposed projects for fiscal year 2025 are due June 5.

Warren is also eligible for a Green Communities grant. The Green Communities Designation and Grant Program helps municipalities navigate and meet the five criteria required to become a Green Community, in turn qualifying them for grants that finance additional energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at the local level.

The Wrights Mill is also being looked at as well as surrounding areas. The town is hoping that a developer will look into the property for a future development.

In the past, the Wrights Mill has been looked at for possible housing. There is no clear indication as to what the Wrights Mill will become in the future but has several buildings on site that could offer several developments.

Areas surrounding the mill have a lot of potential for future developments and will be further discussed.

JAWM accepting nominations for 2024's '18 Under 18'

SPRINGFIELD – Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts is now welcoming nominations for its 18 Under 18 Class of 2024 presented by Teddy Bear Pools and Spas.

This event provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding young people throughout the region who exemplify innovative spirit, leadership and community involvement.

"This is the third year we are holding this event, and after the high caliber of nominees we received during first two years, we're even more excited to review this year's candidates," said Amie Miarecki, JAWM president in a press release. "As we have seen, there are many students who are making meaningful impacts in their local communities across our service area. We encourage teachers, youth group leaders, mentors, parents or other community members to submit nominations."

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, April 5. The judges will then select finalists to interview via Zoom.

The final 18 will be notified of their selection in late April.

Recipients will be honored at an event at Tower Square in Springfield on May 16. They will also be featured in various local media outlets and benefit from a meaningful new network of community leaders and peers and may also receive additional opportunities through event partners.

Nominations are open to students 18 years or younger who attend school in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin or

Berkshire counties; Tantasqua and Quabog Regional School Districts; or the State of Vermont. Involvement in JAWM programs is not required; however, it is considered favorably during the evaluation process.

A letter of reference and an academic submission to support the nomination are required.

The judging criteria is divided into three categories: innovative spirit, leadership and community involvement.

For more information about the criteria and the event, or to request a nomination form, please email amiarecki@jawm.org.

About JAWM

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA learning experiences are delivered by corporate and community volunteers and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through age 25 knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship.

JA was founded in Springfield in 1919, making Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts the organization's first chapter. Today, it serves thousands of young people in Western Massachusetts and parts of Worcester County and Vermont participate in JAWM learning experiences annually.

For more information, visit jawm.org.

Earth Day/celebration at Wells State Park on April 20

STURBRIDGE – Grassroots Central Mass will continue its tradition of celebrating Earth Day with its fourth "Trees Are Treasures" event on Saturday, April 20 at Wells State Park in Sturbridge from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

GCM, a local affiliate of Indivisible Mass Coalition is again co-sponsoring this year's events with Brookfields Fight Fear. Both GCM and BFF are local groups

dedicated to serving the communities we live in through finding and supporting solutions to issues in our communities, our state, and our nation.

This event includes a short, level walk along the Mill Pond Trail at Wells State Park, where costumed interpreters are stationed to discuss the importance of wetlands and forest ecosystems, at both child and adult levels. This

is a family friendly stroll.

This free event will also include children's crafts under the pavilion, storytelling, facepainting and a free tree seedling giveaway. Join GCM to celebrate and appreciate the beauty of our native forest.

For more information visit grassrootscentralmass.org/

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Easter at Lucy Stone Park

Annual egg hunt draws crowd at riverside park

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – For the third consecutive year, Lucy Stone Park hosted a series of Easter egg hunts, divided by age groups.

This past Saturday, a large crowd of children eagerly lined up to race through the park and collect colorful eggs. Although the event is always well attended, this year saw an impressive increase in the number of participants and volunteers.

Volunteers included students from Quaboag Regional Middle High School, Elders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and the park's usual crew of dedicated volunteers.

Located between downtown Warren and Quaboag Regional Middle High School on Old West Brookfield Road, Lucy Stone Park is a roughly 6-acre parcel of land that is owned by the Conservation Commission and maintained by volunteers.

Through their efforts, Lucy Stone Park now features an accessible parking lot, trails, pollinator garden, benches, kayak landing and more.

Right now, volunteers are focused on completing a loop trail, that connects both sides of the property which is divided by the roadway.

One of the founders of Lucy Stone Park, Tim O'Brien, remains dedicated to bringing awareness to all the park has to offer.

The weekend prior to the Easter egg hunt, paddlers passed through the park on the Quaboag River as part of the Mousehole Run Canoe, Kayak and SUP Race, braving four miles of rapids, while onlookers cheered them on from land.

Next up for Lucy Stone Park's volunteers, will be participating in an Earth Day Community Cleanup spearheaded by Warren Parks and Recreation on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m.-noon. Those looking to volunteer to help cleanup an area in town can sign up at <https://forms.office.com/r/puDfQSQ0mf>.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz

Children run to collect Easter eggs at Lucy Stone Park.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz

Tim O'Brien posed for a photo with the Easter Bunny.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Volunteer Diane Banfield gathered children to start the next round of egg hunts.



Volunteers also offered an Easter-themed basket raffle.



Submitted Photo

Elizabeth Melanson, age 4, takes off to collect eggs.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz

These children arrived dressed in their Easter best to enjoy the annual Easter egg hunt at Lucy Stone Park this past Saturday.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Miles Bouvier, age 7 and River Bouvier, age 2, counted the eggs they collected.

BOWLS from page 1

and glazing the bowls as well. Walulak is one of 20 studio artists who made the bowls.

ClayWorks already has a goal to make 100 bowls next year for the Amherst Survival Center.

ClayWorks was established in Ware back in 2019 and has expand-

ed over time. For the last 10-15 years, the Amherst Survival Center is thankful to have the contributions from these potters who support their biggest fundraiser of the year.

"We're so grateful for the potters," Rice said. Adding that they've made "a huge impact."

Rice has been a volunteer for The Amherst Survival Center for last 10 years and knows how important this fundraiser is every year for the communities in the Pioneer Valley. The bowls donated are spread out on a big table and they are the first items people see when they visit the center.

These bowls are collectable bowls but are also used for the soups that are donated. The event is called Empty Bowls 2024 and will take place on Saturday, April 6 from noon-4 p.m. at the Amherst Survival Center at 138 Sunderland Road, North Amherst.

ClayWorks Community

Ceramics Studio is located at 71 Main St. and is looking to further expand.

ClayWorks offers pottery classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-9 p.m. Every third Saturday of the month, a quick spin class is offered for beginners.

The second Friday of the month, ClayWorks hosts a date night. Youth classes will be offered in the summer. ClayWorks also offers private parties and studio space for established potters.

To learn more about ClayWorks, visit workshop13.org/education/pottery-classes.

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Ware Junior Senior High School Student Council

Student Council held Easter egg hunt fundraiser



The Student Council provided a snack table for the kids and families during the easter egg hunt.



Peeps made their way through the football field to take pictures with the kids during the egg hunt.



Easter Bunny made an appearance during the school's easter egg hunt.



Kids sorting through their easter eggs after the egg hunt.

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – With Easter on its way, the Ware Junior Senior High School Student Council hosted a fun egg hunt.

Dozens of families and friends brought their kids to the football field to hunt for Easter eggs. The Saturday before Easter was a sunny and windy morning, but the Student Council was on the job preparing for a fun egg hunt.

The Student Council put out hundreds of colored easter eggs filled with treats and prizes for the kids. In addition to the egg hunt, a raffle was going on and many of the patrons had a chance to win some fun prizes.

The prizes consisted of a few Easter baskets and a jumbo-sized stuffed peep bunny.

Announcing the winners of the raffle was Nick Vantangoli. Alongside Vantangoli was the Easter Bunny and a couple of Peeps greeting the kids, taking pictures and spreading Easter spirit.

More than 30 students of Student Council made this fun day possible, and Advisor Melissa Briggs-Lefferts appreciates their efforts.

"They have done a lot," Briggs-Lefferts said. "We have a great group of kids from freshmen to seniors."

This year was the 12th year the school has provided an Easter egg hunt for kids. Proceeds from the raffle and the snack table during the egg hunt goes to support the Student Council.



Student Council was collecting the eggs after the hunt was over.

Annual Town Election will be held April 8

WARE – Registered voters for the Town of Ware are notified of the Annual Town Election which will be held on Monday, April 8 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. at Ware Town Hall Auditorium.

There will be several contests this year, and several offices which are listed with no candidates. Naturally write-in candi-

dates are allowed by law for any office.

Vote by Mail ballots have been mailed out but must be returned prior to the polls closing at 8 p.m. in order to be counted.

Vote by Mail ballots may be returned via the U.S. Mail, or the Blue Drop Box located at Ware Town Hall lower level – this box

is secure, locked and checked regularly. No Vote by Mail Ballots can be brought to the polling location on election day April 8.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot by calling 413-967-9648 extension 103 at any time.

WARE BOS from page 1

ency requirements to run for town office.

Kruckas said a person running for Selectboard hasn't resided in town for four months, and that "people are concerned" and he asked for clarification from Town Clerk Nancy Talbot.

Beckley said town counsel reviewed the concern, and said if the person is registered to vote, they are allowed to run for office. He said the Board of Registrars has the authority to review this.

"If there's a question after the election, that would be directed to the Board of Registrars and they would investigate and make a determination," he said.

Kruckas said town counsel's response was "vague," regarding the amount of time a candidate doesn't live in town.

Beckley said town counsel's opinion will be posted on the town's website for residents to review.

Review of hospital trust

Beckley said he and Selectboard Chair Caitlin McCarthy met with an attorney regarding the review of the deed, will and trust of Mary Lane Hospital.

"She had great avenues we could take and different routes," McCarthy said. "She has lots of areas to look into...the community deserves that."

Town Manager's report

Beckley said Grants Coordinator Jay Mooney submitted an almost \$8 million grant to the Environmental Protection Agency, which includes the replacement of the town pool, as well as programs that would bring children to the pool through additional transportation as well as setting up electric vehicle stations.

He said this is in coordination with the Community Development Block Grant application for the splash pad and playground.

Beckley said the second round of Americans with Disabilities Act improvement funding is now out and will address the Town Hall and High School.

Interviews are ongoing to fill the positions of Department of Public Works director and cemetery worker and Beckley said it has been challenging to find applicants, but they have found good applicants for each position.

Beckley said he has received requests from residents to review the town's charter.

He said the Selectboard can place an article on the annual town meeting warrant to form a charter review committee. Beckley said the annual town meeting will be held May 13 and the warrant closes on Thursday, April 11.

Beckley said last year's water damage to the Town Hall has been repaired and maintenance is working to remove mold behind the Assessors office. He said the town received a good quote to address a gap in the roofs at the Fire Station where leaking is occurring.

Water flushing will start next week, and the Water Department will also flush the tanks.

A bulky waste day is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 from 7 a.m.-noon at ReSource Waste Services of Ware, 198 East St. He said per the Host Community Agreement, most items will be accepted at no charge.

A flyer with complete information and cost breakdown is posted on townofware.com.

Four yard waste days will be hosted by the DPW at Robbins Road on April 13, 20, 28 and May 4 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Leaves, branches and vegetative debris can be dropped off by residents at no charge.

End of term

Kruckas thanked the taxpayers for supporting him during his term on the Selectboard. He said he was "glad to make some changes and see some positive things and to try

to help bring business into town," adding that it is "pretty disheartening" to see these attempts "driven out."

Kruckas and McCarthy have both opted not to seek re-election on April 8.

"I appreciate all the taxpayers and everything that they've done," he said. "I know people don't agree with everything I say or do, but I've been 100% honest and have never worked on conspiracy theories...it's all facts and truth and we're going to find out some more soon."

Kruckas said the town needs more oversight and he is a "firm believer" that the town needs more business rather than more housing.

He said the town "isn't what it used to be," and people have been driven out due to it becoming unaffordable.

McCarthy said she "jumped in with two feet" when she ran for Selectboard three years ago, and had a lot of people help her along the way to learn her role.

"I'll be back at some point in time," she said, and will continue to sit on committees and be involved with the community.

Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz presented a certification to Kruckas for his six years of dedication and service and McCarthy for her three years.

Appointment

The Selectboard accepted the application of Joseph Vecchione to the town's ADA Commission.

Consent agenda

The Selectboard approved a special event application for a Suicide Awareness Walk to be held at Grenville Park on Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Also approved was the graduation ceremony for The Literacy Project at Grenville Park on Saturday, May 18 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

A public hearing to transfer a liquor license for Bruso's Liquor Mart, was scheduled for April 16 at 7:10 p.m.

SIMMONS from page 1

them in Ware (That's the equivalent of 2.7 years of full time employment)," Ware Senior Center Executive Director John Zienowicz said. "He was honored with the RSVP Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award, for 4,000+ hours of service, in 2019."

The past four years were shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic, but Simmons and others were able to meet the challenges of ever-changing guidelines, social distancing and isolation.

"I have made so many friends here," he said.

Ware Senior Center Chef Alton Davis said Simmons has been a constant help, arriving in the early hours of the morning and helping carve the meat for parties.

"He's been wonderful," Davis said. "I'm going to miss him."

Zienowicz said calling Simmons a volunteer is "an understatement."

"He has served countless seniors by driving our van in all seasons, year round, to make sure they got to their appointments and were able to shop for necessities," he said. "He has also been a key contributor in our kitchen for our larger community events such as



Ware Senior Center Chef Alton Davis presents a certificate of appreciation to Craig Simmons.

making pancakes for the veteran's breakfasts and Youth Soccer fundraiser."

Simmons has also "lent his backbone" to the efforts at the Mobile Food Pantry in Grenville Park and even before that when it was held at Hillside Village, Zienowicz said.

"The Ware Council on Aging wholeheartedly applauds the volunteer efforts of Craig Simmons and wishes him the best on the next chapter in his life, he will leave a very deep and lasting

impression on the seniors of Ware," Zienowicz said. "Craig will always serve as a shining example of selfless dedication to community and others and a credit to the title of volunteer."

Simmons said he will still be present at the Ware Senior Center, enjoying the friendships he has made over the years, and he will never stop working on the goal he set when he first retired.

"I'll still continue to help people as much as I can, in small ways," Simmons said.



Glenda's

Friday, April 5th ~ 7pm-10pm
Moonlight Saints

Wednesday Nights ~ 7pm-10pm
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2nd Annual Mousehole Run



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz
Amy Thornton and Eric Jones paddled their canoe to a third place finish.



Submitted Photo
The Mousehole Run is roughly four-mile race on the Quaboag River that includes class 2 rapids on the course.

RACE from page 1

“My brother and I entered the race and I was hooked,” Lizak said. Lizak joined the racing organization New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association and wanted to put on a race of his own someday. However, with a busy schedule Lizak had put the idea of organizing race aside for many years. Lizak discovered race results from the Lucy Stone Downriver Open Canoe Race in 1976 that his father Michael Lizak and grandfather Rodney Perkins participated in. After the passing of his father, Lizak used the discovery as an inspiration to start the Mousehole Run on the very same river that his

dad had participated in long ago. Last year was the first running of the annual race and in 2024, The Mousehole Run returned to Lucy Stone Park for its second run. “I plan to do this for years to come,” Lizak said. Lizak aims to host the Mousehole Run at Lucy Stone Park every year in late March. The race gets its name after a popular rapid just downstream from the finish line. This is the only Moushole Run but it is part of the NECKRA points series. The entire race is operated by a team of volunteers including Lizak’s fiancée Christine and his children Logan, Beckett and Ted. The Warren and West Brookfield fire departments were

on hand to ensure the safety for the participants in the race as they go down the Quaboag River for about four miles. As the Mousehole Run continues to be a fun race and a family tradition, Lizak hopes to start some sort of charity in the future to give back to the community. A place like Lucy Stone Park is a place that Lizak cherishes and is the home of the Mousehole Run. “Lucy Stone Park is a special place to me and provides a wonderful place for spectators to get close to the action,” Lizak said. Lizak plans to continue hosting the event on an annual basis. “I look forward to the Moushole Run every year in late March,” Lizak said.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz
Patrick Lizak's son Logan was ready for the Mousehole Run.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz
Amanda Bater and Joseph Riopel make their way downstream.



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz
Ted Kenyon and Theo Kenyon were the second place finisher



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz
Alex Ciampa took sixth place with a time of 40:02 Mousehole run 7

HARDWICK from page 1

and uses (Zoning Bylaws, Section 2.3.2); and to add solid waste landfilling as an allowed use in the Industrial District. In order for Casella to be able to reopen and expand the landfill, a portion of Patrill Hollow Road would need to be discontinued and reconfigured. Oliver also submitted a draft Host Community Agreement to the Select Board on March 21. The draft states that Casella will pay the town a host fee of \$6 for each ton of “acceptable waste” (also known as solid waste). This does not include “excluded waste” such as highly flammable substances, hazardous waste, liquid waste, certain pathological and biological wastes, explosives, oil, motor vehicle parts, animal carcasses, human waste, hospital and laboratory waste, and more. The fee also does not apply to acceptable waste that may be accepted at the landfill at no charge to the customer. According to the draft, Casella would pay the host fee monthly, and the host fee would be payment in lieu of taxes, fees, charges and other assessments with respect to the landfill, with the exception of real estate taxes for the land on which it is located. The draft also states that Casella agrees to keep trucks from driving through the town’s center. The proposed hours of operation for the landfill would be Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 7-11:30 a.m. The landfill shall not accept waste on New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. A landfill oversight program would be managed by a landfill operator with engineering support from an independent engineering consultant. Casella also proposed reimbursing the town up to \$75,000 for legal and consulting fees incurred through negotiation of the HCA and advising the town concerning the bylaw amendments and warrant articles. Casella is also requesting that the town receive and treat leachate from the landfill, up to 25,000 gallons a day. Casella has proposed paying the town \$.08 per gallon of leachate. The complete draft HCA can be found on the town’s website, hardwick-ma.gov under “Important Notices.” Those who wish to submit a comment prior to the public hearing for the Planning Board to take into consideration can do so by emailing planning-board@townofhardwick.com. These will be taken into consideration at the hearing.

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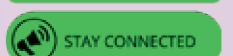
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Games being delayed or moved off Monday for solar eclipse

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Athletes, parents, and fans are seeing changes to their schedules related to next Monday, April 8.

Several games and contests being held outdoors have had their start times delayed or have had the games moved off the date completely due to the upcoming solar eclipse set for the late afternoon hours that day.

Agawam High School Athletic Director Karen Gomez said she moved a softball game to later in the afternoon after she and other athletic directors received guidance from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association urging them to move events away from the time the eclipse is scheduled for.

According to the email from the MIAA: "On Monday, April 8, Massachusetts will be experiencing a solar eclipse from 2 to 4:30 p.m. You may already be aware of the danger of looking at the sun during the eclipse. Outdoor activity, practices, and games should be approached with extreme caution as unavoidable exposure to the harmful intensity could happen accidentally with extreme harm to athletes."

The email did not specifically bar events from happening during that time period, but most of the rescheduled games outdoors were moved to the 5 p.m. hour to avoid

the eclipse, which is supposed to result in more than 80% coverage of the sun in Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also issued guidance to all schools, directing education officials not to allow students to look directly into the eclipse while it is happening.

"A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes directly between the Earth and the sun," the DESE guidance states. "The moon is much smaller than the sun, but because it is so close to the Earth, it can appear to partially or completely block the image of the sun."

South Hadley High School Athletic Director Eric Castonguay confirmed he had to move some events scheduled Monday, including a track meet due to the eclipse's timeline. "I didn't really have an issue with it," Castonguay said. "I don't really know a lot about it, but I certainly would not want to expose the kids to anything that could be harmful to them."

The forecasted weather for Monday, April 8, is actually supposed to be ideal for the eclipse. It is currently forecasted to be sunny with temperatures in the low 60's. For more information on what contests have been moved to different times or off the date altogether depending on the availability of officials, go to www.arbitratorlive.com for up-to-date schedules.

Boys lacrosse looks for improved season



Monson co-ops with Pathfinder in the sport.

MONSON – Last year, the Monson boys lacrosse team, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, had a tough season overall. The Mustangs are hoping to change their fortunes, starting with a matchup against Lenox. The Panthers were scheduled for their home opener on April 4 against St. Mary's, but severe weather, as of press time, was threatening that matchup. Monson's next game is on Monday against Granby High School at 7 p.m.



The boys were scheduled to open the season earlier this week.



Monson boys lacrosse works out last week in practice.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



The Panthers were also scheduled to play this Friday, but will not.



Late last week, Quabbin softball continued its preparation for the regular season.

Panthers look to open season

BARRE – Earlier this week, Quabbin softball was scheduled to face off with Littleton in the team's season opener, but that game was postponed on Monday. The game was rescheduled to Tuesday, but weather was still

not ideal. The Panthers were also scheduled to face Oakmont on Friday, April 5, but that game was postponed. The Panthers finally hope to open the season on Monday, April 8 against Narragansett.



The Quabbin offense will need to perform if the Panthers are to have a successful season.



The Panthers were scheduled to face competition at the beginning of the week.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Zander Auffrey makes the long throw to first.



Dayne Shanley reaches high to get an out at first.



Brayden Mega fields a ground to shortstop.



Tim Russell delivers a pitch for the Pioneers.

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN – 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.

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

Pioneers hold off Sci-Tech

SPRINGFIELD – On Monday afternoon, Pathfinder was able to get its baseball season started with a matchup against Sci-Tech at Forest Park. Though leading 6-1, Sci-Tech was relentless in the late innings. The Pioneers were able to overcome a late rally in the seventh for a 10-9 victory. Sci-Tech was able to get three runs in the seventh off Brayden Mega, but Mega was able to get the final out for the save for the Pioneers. Tim Russell got the win, allowing just two earned runs on seven hits. Errors hurt the Pioneers a bit, resulting in some unearned runs scoring for the Cybercats. On offense, Russell had a two-run double, and had three hits, three RBI and scored three times. Ethan Nomplessi had two hits and two RBI.

See **2024 VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES** on Page 10

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2024 SPRING VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

Ware High School

Baseball

Tuesday, April 2	Home	Monument Mountain	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 4	Home	Ludlow	7 p.m.
Saturday, April 6	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Saturday, April 13	Home	Taconic	7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	Away	Granby	4 p.m.
Friday, April 19	Home	Monson	6:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Away	Amherst	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Ludlow	4 p.m.
Saturday, April 27	Home	Frontier	7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Saturday, May 4	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Quaboag	TBD
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Turners Falls	4 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	Home	Granby	7 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Monson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	South Hadley	4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 17	Away	Hopkins	4 p.m.

Softball

Thursday, April 4	Away	Holyoke	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 9	Away	Central	4 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Away	Granby	4 p.m.
Monday, April 15	Away	Smith Academy	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	Away	Southwick	4 p.m.
Thursday, April 18	Away	SICS	4 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Home	Palmer	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Central	4 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	Smith Academy	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30	Home	Holyoke	5:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Home	Granby	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Athol	4 p.m.
Friday, April 10	Home	Southwick	4 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	SICS	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	Palmer	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 16	Away	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.

Boys Volleyball

Monday, April 1	Away	Athol	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2	Home	SICS	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, April 4	Away	Commerce	5:15 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Away	Granby	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	East Longmeadow	6 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Home	Belchertown	5:15 p.m.
Monday, April 15	Away	Longmeadow	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	Home	Holyoke	6:15 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Home	Duggan	5 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Southwick	5:15 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	Granby	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30	Away	Sci-Tech	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Sci-Tech	6 p.m.
Friday, May 3	Home	Athol	5:15 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Duggan	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Commerce	6 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	Chicopee	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	South Hadley	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, May 16	Away	Chicopee	5 p.m.

Quaboag Regional High School

Baseball

Monday, April 1	Home	Blackstone-Millville	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2	Away	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Home	Grafton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19	Away	Quabbin	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Away	Millbury	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	Douglas	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Away	Pathfinder	7:15 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Home	Ware	TBD
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Home	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 21	Home	Leicester	3:30 p.m.

Softball

Monday, April 1	Home	Blackstone-Millville	4 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Home	Grafton	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	Away	North Brookfield	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19	Away	Quabbin	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Away	Millbury	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27	Away	Palmer	10 a.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Away	Pathfinder	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Home	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	Worcester Tech	3:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 16	Home	Ware	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 21	Home	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 23	Home	North Brookfield	

Boys Track

Wednesday, April 10	Away	Millbury	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	League Meet	3 p.m.

Girls Track

Wednesday, April 10	Away	Millbury	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	League Meet	3 p.m.

Boys Tennis

Friday, March 29	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 1	Home	Palmer	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2	Home	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Away	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Grafton	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25	Away	South	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Away	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Home	Bromfield	4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 17	Home	Belchertown	4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 21	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.

Girls Tennis

Friday, March 29	Home	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2	Away	Advance Math & Science	4 p.m.
Thursday, April 4	Away	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Away	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Home	Grafton	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	Home	Notre Dame Academy	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Home	Advance Math & Science	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25	Home	Wachusett	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 3	Home	Algonquin	4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Home	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.

Quabbin Regional High School

Baseball

Tuesday, April 2	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Narragansett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Lunenburg	4 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Home	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Away	North	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Gardner	3:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 3	Home	Lunenburg	4 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Gardner	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Clinton	4 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.

Softball

Tuesday, April 2	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Narragansett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Lunenburg	4 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Home	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Away	Notre Dame Academy	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Gardner	3:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 3	Home	Lunenburg	4 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Gardner	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Away	Clinton	4 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	Home	Montachusett	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.

Boys Track

Monday, April 8	Home	Narragansett	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Groton-Dunstable	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Hudson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	Lunenburg	3 p.m.

Girls Track

Monday, April 8	Home	Narragansett	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Groton-Dunstable	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Away	Hudson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Away	Lunenburg	3 p.m.

Girls Tennis

Monday, April 1	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Away	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Away	North Middlesex	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Home	West Boylston	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Away	Gardner	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23	Home	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Away	Hudson	4 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Away	South	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	North Middlesex	4 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Away	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	West Boylston	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	Doherty	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	Gardner	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15	Home	Leominster	3:30 p.m.

Girls Golf

Thursday, April 4	Home	Auburn	3 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Ayer Shirley	3 p.m.
Tuesday, April 9	Away	Nashoba	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	Ayer Shirley	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23	Away	Hopkinton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	Nashoba	3 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Notre Dame Academy	3 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Away	Westborough	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 3	Home	Burncoat	3 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	Away	Burncoat	3:30 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	Wachusett	3 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	Hopkinton	3 p.m.
Friday, May 17	Away	Wachusett	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 20	Home	Westborough	3:30 p.m.

Pathfinder Regional High School

Baseball

Monday, April 1	Away	Sci-Tech	4 p.m.
Friday, April 5	Home	Smith Vocational	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10	Away	SICS	4 p.m.
Friday, April 12	Home	Commerce	2 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Home	Gateway	4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Away	Westfield Tech	4 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	St. Mary's	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Home	Putnam	2 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30	Home	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Home	Quaboag	7:15 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	Smith Vocational	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Away	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	SICS	7:15 p.m.
Saturday, May 11	Away	Monson	12 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	Westfield Tech	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 14	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Thursday, May 16	Home	Granby	3:30 p.m.

Boys Lacrosse (co-op with Monson)

Tuesday, April 2	Away	Lenox	4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 4	Home	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Monday, April 8	Home	Granby	7 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	Home	McCann Tech	4 p.m.
Monday, April 15	Away	Hoosac	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	Home	Pittsfield	4 p.m.
Thursday, April 18	Away	Northampton	7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23	Away	Central	7 p.m.
Thursday, April 25	Away	Smith Vocational	4 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Away	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Granby	4 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Away	McCann Tech	4 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Home	Bay Path	5 p.m.
Saturday, May 11	Home	Central	1 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Home	Smith Vocational	4 p.m.

Softball

Wednesday, April 3	Away	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 9	Home	Belchertown	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	Away	Pope Francis	4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	Home	North Brookfield	11 a.m.
Thursday, April 18	Away	Commerce	4 p.m.
Monday, April 22	Home	Putnam	2 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	Home	Renaissance	2 p.m.
Friday, April 26	Home	Hampden Charter	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29	Away	Belchertown	4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1	Home	Pope Francis	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 2	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6	Home	Franklin Tech	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 7	Home	Commerce	7 p.m.
Friday, May 10	Away	Putnam	4 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 14	Away	North Brookfield	3:30 p.m.

Railers suffer loss to Newfoundland

WORCESTER – Newfoundland beat Worcester, 9-3, to pile more logs into the jam that has become the North Division playoff race. After Saturday night's various scores there are three teams tied for third place with 66 points. They are Worcester, Trois-Rivieres and Newfoundland.

Maine has 65 points but games in hand. Reading has 61 points.

"It was the worst game we've played all year, by far," coach Jordan Smotherman said.

Isaac Johnson, just down from the AHL, registered a hat trick by

scoring with five seconds left in the third period. He also had an assist. Neil Shea scored two goals for the Growlers.

The Railers got single goals from Brendan Robbins, Connor Welsh and Jake Pivonka. Robbins' was his first since Jan. 5. Pivonka's was his 20th. He is the first rookie in Railers history with a 20-goal season.

Newfoundland's first eight goals were scored against John Muse, who faced a relentless onslaught of breakaways and 2 on 1 rushes. After the eighth goal, which came at 4:44 of the third

period, Smotherman pulled the veteran in favor of emergency backup Joe Spagnoli.

Until this season, the Railers had never used an EBUG in a game. It has happened twice this year with Joel Eisenhower taking over for Tristan Lennox in Reading on Dec. 15 after Lennox suffered what turned out to be a season-ending injury.

Spagnoli has served as a Railers, and opposition, EBUG often through the years and practices with Worcester if needed.

Please see **RAILERS**, page 11

Registration now open for Quabbin Valley baseball

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2024 season.

Registration for the 20



Abdel Talabi settles the ball for the Pioneers.



Juri Schlingmann looks to avoid losing possession.

WMass Pioneers look to keep adding

LUDLOW – With about a month remaining until the regular season begins, the Western Mass. Pioneers got a look at their potential 2024 team in the Open

Cup match, a loss, held two weeks ago. Now, the Pioneers will continue practice at Lusitano Stadium until they have a “friendly game” exhibition contest on May 10

against Third Eye FC. The home opener for the Pioneers will be on Thursday, May 18 against Pathfinder FC, a familiar opponent for the Pioneers.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ben Awashie works on the offensive side of the field.



Tomas Duben looks to get through an opponent during an Open Cup match.

RAILERS from page 10

Smotherman had hoped to get him into a regulation game at some point.

“But not like that,” the coach added.

Spagnoli is a 40-year-old Rhode Islander, a professional goalie coach. He replaced the 35-year-old Muse, which might be some kind of ECHL record. Spagnoli stopped 11 of 12 shots, only allowing Johnson’s late goal.

He played sparingly in the Federal League into 2014-15, his most recent appearance a four-minute stint for the Watertown Wolves.

Since then Spagnoli has served as an EBUG for, he guessed, about 40 to 45 games.

“He is the ultimate EBUG,” Smotherman said.

Spagnoli knows the job description.

“Usually something pretty bad has to happen for an EBUG to come in,” he said. He was not the EBUG for the Lennox injury, but joined the Railers in Glens Falls the next day.

Nine years after his last pro appearance, Spagnoli was in a game against a high-powered team. He did not appear to be nervous.

“Honestly, I thought I would

be,” he said. “at least a little more than I was. I felt like I settled in pretty quickly. A couple touches of the puck and you’re right into it.”

The cities of St. John’s and Worcester have had a lot of similarities.

Both had two different AHL franchises. Worcester had the IceCats and Sharks. St. John’s had the Maple Leafs and IceCaps. Both have an ECHL team. Worcester leads the all-time series by 45-43-12. The American Hockey League teams were 29-18-9. The Growlers prevailed in this league, 25-16-3.

Late power-play goal sinks T-Birds

UTICA, N.Y. -- The Springfield Thunderbirds (29-30-3-2) battled back from an early two-goal deficit, but a late power-play goal from the Utica Comets (29-26-4-5) resulted in a 4-3 Comets win on Saturday night at Adirondack Bank Center.

For a second straight evening, the T-Birds relented a goal to their opposition in the opening half of the first period. Just 4:00 into the action, Shane Bowers skated the puck across the T-Birds blue line, creating a 2-on-1. Bowers opted to take it himself, beating Colten Ellis on the glove side and making it 1-0 for Utica.

Springfield’s power play had two chances in short order to try to equalize, but the man-advantage came up empty each time. Utica made the T-Birds pay for that at 12:26 when Will MacKinnon let go a seeing-eye wrist shot from the blue line that nicked the inside of the post and beat Ellis to give the Comets a 2-0 lead.

The Comets continued to have penalty troubles, though, and at 16:28, Tanner Dickinson got Springfield’s power play on

the board with a perfectly placed wrist shot over the glove of Akira Schmid, and the lead was cut to 2-1.

The Comets, though, were undeterred, and they restored the two-goal cushion just 1:29 later when Erik Middendorf crashed the net from the right-wing side. Ellis made the first save, but the rebound sat in the crease, and Middendorf polished it off to give Utica a 3-1 advantage at 17:57, a lead that carried through to the break.

The T-Birds’ power play again had a chance to turn the tide of the game when a pair of Utica penalties gave Springfield some time on both 4-on-3 and 5-on-3 advantages. Unlike the night before, though, the T-Birds came up empty, and the 3-1 score carried past the midpoint of the game.

With Utica on a power play at 12:15 of the period, Springfield used its shorthanded unit to claw back into the game when Will Bitten won a footrace to a loose puck at the Utica blue line, storming in on Schmid and roofing a shot over the goaltender’s trapper to make it a 3-2 game on Bitten’s

17th goal of the season.

Bitten’s goal got the T-Birds’ mojo back, and 3:12 later, Ryan Suzuki tied the game on his second point of the night. After Adam Gaudette narrowly missed the top corner, the T-Birds’ leading scorer retrieved the puck in the left corner and laid it off to Hugh McGing. With little space available, McGing slid a perfect pass through the top of the blue paint to Suzuki, who one-timed it through Schmid to tie the score.

The stalemate carried to the second intermission, and the two teams cautiously played the opening 15 minutes of the third scoreless. Unfortunately for the T-Birds, a Bitten minor penalty opened the door for Utica’s power play, and after a Justin Dowling shot rang off the post, Bowers was in the right place to lift the loose change into the twine with 3:18 to play. Bowers’ fourth point of the night and eighth goal of the season proved to be the dagger, and for the fourth straight time in the season series between Springfield and Utica, the home team came away victorious.

Bonsignore picks up win ahead of Thompson Speedway return

RICHMOND, Va. – For the 41st time in his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour career, Justin Bonsignore was celebrating in Victory Lane on Friday night.

Bonsignore bested defending series champion Ron Silk in a final dash to the finish to score his second career Richmond Raceway victory and first of the 2024 season driving the No. 51 Modified for Kenneth Massa Motorsports.

Bonsignore started from the second spot, and swapped the lead back and forth with Silk for most of the race. But, the real battle started on the final restart, with just three laps to go, when Silk restarted first and Bonsignore second.

Bonsignore got behind Silk coming off turn two coming to the white flag and crossed underneath him going into turn three. The two drivers raced side-by-side for the final lap with Bonsignore on the bottom of Silk coming to the checkered flag, edging out for the win.

The victory - his 41st career - all driving for Kenneth Massa Motorsports - places Bonsignore just one win away from tying the late Ted Christopher for third all-time on the NASCAR Whelen

Modified Tour wins list. He is also just three away from tying Reggie Ruggerio for second on the all-time list as the series heads for Thompson Speedway next weekend.

“The last restart went pretty smooth, it was a wild finish,” Bonsignore said. “Ron and I have had a rivalry going and tonight was some good, hard racing. For 150 laps, we just battled our guts out. Anytime our series gets to run at a NASCAR Cup Series venue - it’s huge. These facilities are unbelievable and we’ve been able to win at a handful of them. The trophies definitely stay out front and center when you get home.”

The win came with Coastal Fiber LLC on the side of the Kenneth Massa Motorsports machine. Coastal Fiber, LLC, a local Virginia business that is a full service fiber optic construction and splicing company, is owned by Mark Langevin, the owner of Phoenix Communications Inc. - Bonsignore’s normal primary sponsor.

Justin will return to the track at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Icebreaker 150 on Sunday, April 7.

MWCC announces honors lists

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College announces the President’s and Dean’s lists for the fall 2023 semester.

Local student making President’s list is: Kacie Gallagher, Ware.

Local students making Dean’s list are: Jared Hall of Hardwick and Luke Guertin of Ware.

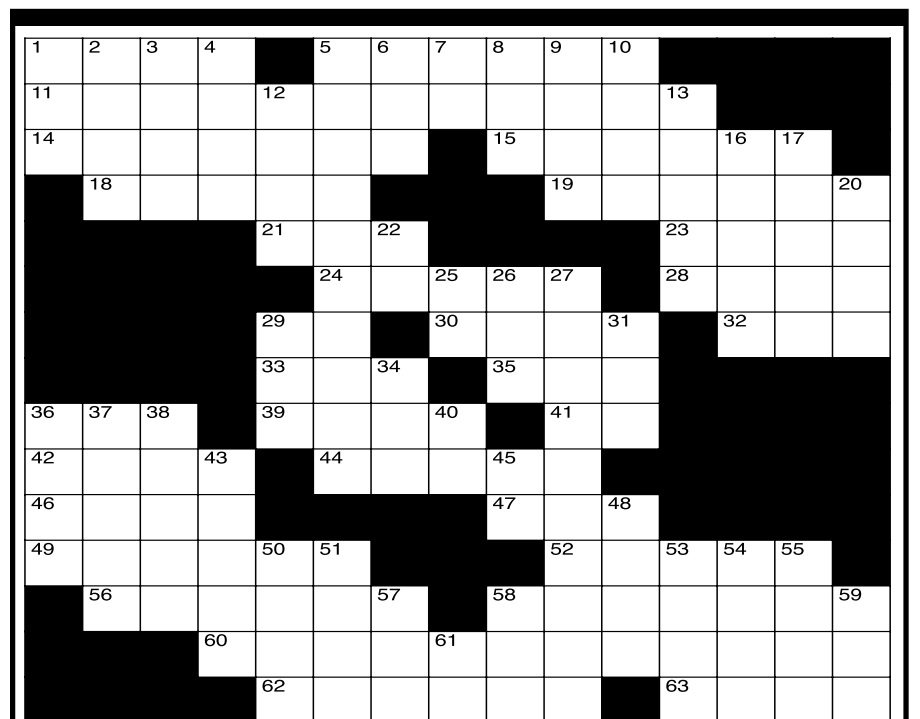
Local students making Distinction list are: Abby Bryant of Ware, Angelina Cote of Ware and Megan Muheim of Warren.

Local students making Excellence list are: Lauren Gassnola of Warren and Mikayla Harnois of West Warren.

Students who complete a minimum of 12 semester hours are eligible. The Dean’s List requires a 3.30 to 3.99 grade point average while the President’s List requires a 4.0 grade point average.

Students who have earned between 6 and 11.5 semester hours and who have attained a grade point average of 4.0 and receive no incomplete grades are honored with placement on the Distinction List, while those who attain a grade point average between 3.3 and 3.99 are honored as Excellence List members.

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. A minute amount (British) | 41. Commercial | 4. Clip | 37. Doctor _____ children’s book author |
| 5. Mystical or magical | 42. Spots where golfers start | 5. In a way, misleads | 38. Hebrew calendar month |
| 11. Shortening | 44. Polite form of address (Indian) | 6. Human gene | 40. Designated hitter |
| 14. More satisfying | 46. French river | 7. The Golden State (abbr.) | 43. Northern Poland village |
| 15. Other side | 47. Reduce the light | 8. Lizard genus | 45. A passport is one form |
| 18. Philippine island | 49. Blood-sucking fly | 9. Parasites that invade the skin | 48. Hand (Spanish) |
| 19. More unnatural | 52. A way to categorize | 10. Took apart | 50. Hit with the open hand |
| 21. Mutual savings bank | 56. Procrastinates | 12. Mild yellow Dutch cheese | 51. Actor Idris |
| 23. Famed designer Chanel | 58. Tall slender tower | 13. S. California town | 53. Shakespeare’s nickname “The _____” |
| 24. Makes less wild | 60. Where researchers work | 16. Suffix plural | 54. Northern U.S. lake |
| 28. At some prior time | 62. Office of the Pope | 17. Painting technique | 55. Marvin and Horsley are two |
| 29. The cops who investigate the cops | 63. Office furnishing | 20. Small Eurasian deer | 57. Soak |
| 30. Immune system response | | 22. Mr. T character | 58. Partner to cheese |
| 32. Distress signal | | 25. Microsoft | 59. Expression of disappointment |
| 33. Engine additive | | 26. Shock therapy | 61. College dorm employee |
| 35. “No Scrubs” trio | | 27. Able to be sold | |
| 36. Very fast airplane | | 29. A doctrine | |
| 39. A reward | | 31. These three follow A | |
| | | 34. Pulse | |
| | | 36. Quantitative fact | |
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Possesses
2. American Board of Orthopedic Surgery
3. Ancient Syrian

BLCC scholarship application deadline April 19

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

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

The application deadline is April 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 clrietsch22@gmail.com or by mailing a request to BLCC, P.O. Box 253, Ware, MA 01082.

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of March 26-April 1, the Ware Police Department responded to 13 miscellaneous calls, 49 administrative calls, 10 traffic violations, 14 emergency 911 calls, one safety hazard, one theft/larceny, two frauds, one damage/vandalism/mischief, nine motor vehicle accidents, five animal calls and 13 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, March 26
 11:53 a.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Advised
 5:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monroe Street, Investigated
 5:53 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Big Tree Drive, Advised

Wednesday, March 27
 7:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 9:27 a.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, West Street, Assist Given
 9:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cottage Street, Dispatch Handled

11:55 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 2:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pulaski Street, Report Made
 6:49 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Church Street, Advised

Thursday, March 28
 8:30 a.m. Warrant Service, North Street, Arrest Made
 Arrest: Jenniger L. Jerome, 38, Ware
 WMS Warrant
 8:53 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Woodland Heights, Dispatch Handled
 12:57 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Castle Street, Services Rendered
 4:38 p.m. Safety Hazard, Dale Street, Investigated
 6:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Report Made
 7:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Eddy Street, Report Made

Friday, March 29
 11:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning

Issued

Saturday, March 30
 2:38 a.m. Odor, Hillside Village, Investigated
 3:34 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Hardwick Pond Road, Could Not Locate
 5:15 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate
 6:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Spring Street, Investigated

Sunday, March 31
 9:05 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 10:53 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Mountain View Drive, Investigated

Monday, April 1
 10:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 2:55 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Investigated
 4:06 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, South Street, Report Made

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 25-April 1, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 67 building/property checks, 55 directed/area patrols, five traffic controls, five radar assignments, 12 emergency 911 calls, two assist other agencies, three citizen assists, one complaint, two scams, two threats, three safety hazards, one brush fire, one motor vehicle accident, two motor vehicle investigations, one animal call and 10 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, March 25
 11:02 a.m. Scam, Lower Road, Spoken To

Tuesday, March 26
 12:54 a.m. Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
 6:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 6:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning
 8:35 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Turkey Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:42 a.m. Assist Citizen, Out of Town, Dispatch Handled
 10:11 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:55 a.m. Welfare Check,

Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, March 27
 8:05 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, River Run, Spoken To
 11:24 a.m. Officer Initiated, Out of Town, Arrest(s) Made
 3:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
 4:33 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Upper Church Street, Dispatch Handled
 4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated
 9:56 p.m. Threat, Unknown Location, No Action Required

Thursday, March 28
 10:47 a.m. 911 Misdial, Church Lane, Officer Handled
 3:27 p.m. Fire Alarm, Old Petersham Road, Investigated
 5 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated

Friday, March 29
 5:17 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 6:11 a.m. Fire/Brush, Chagnon Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:08 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Spoken To

2:27 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Citation Issued
 2:32 p.m. Scam, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 3:52 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:43 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 8:05 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Removed Hazard

Saturday, March 30
 4:11 a.m. 911 Misdial, Charity Hill Road, Spoken To
 10:50 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ridge Road, Dispatch Handled
 11:09 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ridge Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 12:58 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Arrest(s) Made
 5:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled

Sunday, March 31
 11:43 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Ware, Services Rendered
 1:54 p.m. 911 Threat, Broad Street, Officer Handled

Monday, April 1
 1:38 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Barre Road, Officer Handled

QUABBIN from page 3

Quabbin's Hidden History
 On Sunday, May 12 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. learn about Quabbin's Hidden History: Webster Road on this approximately .5 mile easy hike.
 Meet at the Hank's Meadow parking lot.
 (https://goo.gl/maps/4Ri-Eq17PCNEf6s9E7)
 Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight - if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster Road.
 Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago.
 Register here: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8fa0a8815fd-1474c801926220047b22f.

Memorial Day at Quabbin Park Cemetery
 On Sunday, May 26 from 11 a.m.-noon, a Memorial Day Commemoration will be held at Quabbin Park Cemetery.
 Refreshments will be offered at 10 a.m. and the parade and services begin at 11 a.m. No registration required.
 In 1868, Major General John A. Logan, the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, named May 30 as a special day for honoring the soldiers that had died in the Civil War. Like communities across the United States, the towns of the Swift River Valley commemorated their war dead each year on Memorial Day until the towns' demise in 1938.
 Since 1947, Quabbin Park Cemetery has been the center of Memorial Day services for the four towns. Please join the Friends of Quabbin, the Swift River Historical Society, the Veterans Council of Belchertown, Chauncey D. Walker Post #239, American Legion and the staff of

the DCR Quabbin Reservoir for our annual Memorial Day Service at Quabbin Park Cemetery.
 The public is welcome but please, no dogs.
 (https://goo.gl/maps/tDuKU-2VLjxnHvBdc8)
Quabbin Park Cemetery tour
 Following Memorial Day events on Sunday, May 26 from 2-3 p.m. take an easy walking tour of Quabbin Park Cemetery. The walk is on uneven ground
 (https://maps.app.goo.gl/rv4tz-dEPrrobaljV9)
 After they Memorial Day remembrance ceremony, join DCR staff for a cemetery tour focused on the stories of some of the Valley residents that served and lost their lives in service to the United States. The tour will begin at the town monuments.
 Register here: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/31306340e82941628d5e7fb-1bee3b017.

Warren Police Log

During the week of March 24-30, the Warren Police Department responded to 125 building/property checks, nine community policings, 23 emergency 911 calls, three frauds/forgeries, one stolen vehicle, one complaint, two motor vehicle accidents, five animal calls and 56 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Tuesday, March 26
 2:07 a.m. Overdose/Poisoning, Mill Street, Transported to Hospital
 2:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Warren Post Office, Vehicle Towed
 3:16 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Bemis Road, Area Search Negative
 8:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Warren Road, Citation Issued
 10:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Wednesday, March 27
 12:40 a.m. Diabetic, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 6:35 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:08 a.m. Complaint, Old West Brookfield Road, Investigated
 11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:16 p.m. Pregnancy, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, March 28
 2:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Reed Street, Report Filed
 8:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:19 a.m. Falls, Yankee Drummer Drive, Transported to Hospital
 3:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Warren Road, Criminal Complaint
 4:48 p.m. Alarm Activation,

3:35 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed
 5:25 p.m. Anxiety Attack, Bemis Road, Transported to Hospital

Sunday, March 24
 7:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation Issued
 8:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Bacon Street, Citation Issued
 11:57 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 4:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:49 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Bemis Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Bacon Street, Citation Issued

Monday, March 25
 7:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Criminal Complaint
 10:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, River Street, Criminal Complaint
 11:20 a.m. Fraud/Forgery, Sturbridge, Report Filed
 1:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
 3:06 p.m. Stroke, Comins Pond Road, Transported to Hospital

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.

Main Street, Investigated
 9:30 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, March 29
 10:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
 8:01 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, March 30
 7:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning
 8:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Arrest(s) Made
 Arrest: Andrew D. Place, 36, Thompson, Connecticut
 Warrant; Marked Lanes Violation
 2:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Criminal Complaint
 4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Southbridge Road, No Fire Service Necessary

ABSENT from page 1

tion for another term.
 "I would like to thank him for his service, thank him for all the years," Winslow said.
 Foran said he started on the School Committee by being appointed to fill a vacancy before being elected.
 "It's been a pleasure working with all of you," he said. "And also, just working with administration, the town, the kids, the teachers, the superintendents...everything that goes into this."
 Foran said COVID-19 was a challenging time for the school, the committee, families and students. He credited the committee for continuing to work together to get children to be "comfortable in this world again," which he said is a years-long effort.

Student representative report
 Student Representative Philip Orszulak said Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School teacher Meghan Lagimoniere was recently awarded the Most Valuable Teacher award by Country Bank.
 Students in the elementary school are preparing for Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System testing. Teachers and parents are also preparing to discuss student growth and development during spring conferences.
 Ware Middle School celebrated March Madness with a different spirit day each Wednesday.
 Orszulak said the Leadership Council's Lucky Raffle was a "huge" success, raising \$3,858.
 "Congratulations to our winners and top student sellers," he said.
 Orszulak said the middle school has been using IReady for assessments, enrichment and engagement in math and reading. He said the fourth grade team has challenged students to complete a certain number of minutes of

IReady reading and math each week as an incentive.
 He said attendance rates continue to stay at around 95% in the middle school.
 Orszulak said the high school has been busy, and recently held a Hawaiian-themed dance for seventh and eighth grade.
 A community resource fair was also held at the high school, and the Student Council prepared for its annual Easter egg hunt.
 Orszulak said spring sports have begun and volleyball, baseball and softball are all preparing for their first games.
 Students will visit the Palmer Public Library with the Guidance Department the first week in April for a career exploration fair.
 The first ever Suicide Awareness Walk will be hosted by School Resource Officer Jeannine Bonnayer and Kristen Murphy on Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Grenville Park.
 "The walk is called a campus walk to encourage students and school groups to create teams and join the event," he said.

Vacation accelerated academics grant
 Lovato said the school district will use grant money to allow students to recover attendance during April vacation and summer vacation. This will allow chronically absent students to make up for missed days.
 He said the \$15,000 grant can also be used for academic enrichment.
 "We just received the grant, we met with our principals a couple of days ago and they're working on their plans so that they can start sharing with our parents," he said.

2024-2025 academic calendar
 The first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year will be Aug. 26 and the preschool will start on Sept. 9.
 "One of the things that we're

really looking at improving in our district is Child Find," Lovato said. "When we look at our preschool programs, every student should be getting a screener whether they are potentially qualifying or not."
 He said one of the changes is that Christmas break will start on Dec. 23 for the upcoming school year, following an early release day on Dec. 20.
 The committee voted to approve the 2024-2025 academic calendar.

Science center field trip
 The committee approved a June 5 field trip to the Connecticut Science Center for eighth grade students. Last year, seventh grade students attended the center for a field trip.
 Teacher Kathy Keough said, "it's a really great opportunity for students to learn about what's out there and get more exposure to all the cool things in tech."
 The cost of the field trip will be paid for by a grant.

Comments and concerns
 A parent shared concerns about the school district's budget and a potential shortfall.
 "Having our schools...and our educators be well funded is paramount to why people want to live here," she said. She said it's possible that the town's excise taxes, and property taxes, are not high enough and that an override may be necessary to increase tax revenue.

Budget update
 Andy Paquette of TMS, Inc. provided an update about the current budget. He said there was some encumbering for technology purchases, as there typically are this time of year, for Chromebooks.
 Paquette said they are still in the target range of their contingency funds.

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WARREN from page 1

Duff, it was unlikely this would appear as an article on the annual town meeting coming up in June, but it could appear on a later special town meeting warrant.

Ferrera said Duff is still waiting for reports to come back, and a review from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, before the article could be presented.

Dufresne said Duff was unable to attend the meeting and has asked to be on the agenda for the April 4 meeting.

Town Administrator's report

Ferrera the new phones the town is testing have made their way through most of the town departments and so far, there have been no issues. He said the Senior Center and sewer plant do not have the option for redundancy, only an ethernet port.

"If the internet does go down at either one of those locations, there'll be no backup of a system," he said, due to low wireless signal, which is a drawback.

He said the cost to transition to the new phone system would be a capital investment of about \$5,200, and about \$922 a month going forward.

"We're currently paying about \$860 a month if you include some of the wireless phones that are in the network," Ferrera said. He said it's a slight increase, but would give the town an entirely new system.

Discussion of warrant articles

Ferrera said one potential article for the annual town meeting includes a wage compensation study for the town's new wage scale, which could be funded through a best practices grant from the state.

"They've historically funded these types of studies," he said. "We will be eligible for a round come the fall."

Ferrera said if the town doesn't get the grant, or if the money comes in late, the study would still need to be completed. He suggested the board reserve the funds for the study through a warrant article as a backup plan.

Chapter 90 acknowledgement
Ferrera said the town is receiving \$282,941.83 in Chapter 90 funding for the next fiscal year.

Ferrera said Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson would like to discuss possible uses of this funding at the next board meeting.

Resignations

The board acknowledged the resignation of Parking Clerk Mildred Gushue. Gushue has been Parking Clerk for over 20 years.

"Mildred has worked for the town for many, many years," Dufresne said. "She's been a great part of the town. We thank her for all services; she's done a great job."

Anyone interested in filling the vacant position should send a letter of interest to the board.

The board also acknowledged the resignation of Christopher Elmore from the wastewater treatment plant; and the pending retirement of Police Lieutenant James Early.

"Lieutenant Early has been a great member of our community and our police force," Dufresne said.

Board of Health hearing

Board of Health member Daniel Thibodeau said the property owner of 24 North St., has requested a hearing regarding the notice of penalty he received for code violations at the property that have not been addressed. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 17 at 6 p.m.

Right of first refusal vote

The board again waived the right of first refusal for a parcel of land on Lot 18, Town Farm Road.

Ferrera said a second vote was necessary after the property owner's attorney did a second title exam which revealed a second record of lien. The initial exam only revealed one lien.

"This document is now before the board again for signatures because of the second lien that was discovered by the attorney," he said. Ferrera said neither of the liens are municipal liens.

Zonta Club's program makes women's self-care a priority

LUDLOW – Self-care means taking the time to do things that help you live well, better manage stress, lower your risk of illness, increase your energy, and improve your overall physical and mental health.

Too often, however, women's self-care takes a back seat to everyone-else care. On Monday, April 8 at the Ludlow Country Club, the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley will host two women entrepreneurs determined to raise awareness about why women need to shift the focus and how even small acts of self-care in your daily life can have a big impact.

Jen Belanger, Registered Dietitian, the featured speaker, is focused on self-care from a food perspective. Belanger appears regularly on local television, showcasing recipes and healthy-eating tips, and hosts a podcast "Mom, What's For Dinner?" for parents who need help navigating the muddy waters of feeding their kids.

She will dispel the myths of dieting and share how healthy eating can be fun. Attendees are invited to submit questions and be prepared to leave with practical ideas that will improve their outlook on self-care.

Shannan Swinton, CEO of Shandoll's Beauty Lounge, uses natural ingredients to create skin care products that improve both skin health and self-confidence.



Jen Belanger, Registered Dietitian, is the featured speaker at Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley's April 8 program on self-care.



Shannan Swinton, CEO of Shandoll's Beauty Lounge, will present on skin health using her own skin care products.

Attendees will get a chance to learn about her products and services and even purchase a selection of soaps, scrubs, and lotions, starting at 5:30 p.m. She accepts cash, cards or Venmo.

The public is invited to join Zonta Club at the Ludlow Country Club on April 8 with a 5:30 p.m. gathering, 6 p.m. dinner, followed by the program. Pay at the door for the buffet (\$28), but RSVP is required by emailing info@zontaqv.org.

Questions can be directed to Mary Knight, secretary, by calling 413-219-8260.

About Zonta Club

Since 1919, Zonta has been working to create a more equitable future for women and girls. Members believe that fostering a diverse and inclusive global community is a powerful platform to bring about the social change needed to make our vision for gender equality a reality.

For more information, visit Zonta.org or email info@zontaqv.org.

MSBS 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.

Ware students inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA – The following Amherst residents recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Students include John Boles and Olivia Vadnais, both attending the University of Massachusetts.

They are among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.

Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5% of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

public notices

**Legal Advertisement
TOWN OF WARREN
SCHOOL STREET
Phase 2 and Otis Street
Improvement Project**

The Town of Warren invites sealed Bids for the School Street Phase 2 and Otis Street Improvement Project. The project includes installation of approximately 1,170 linear feet of HDPE drain line and associated precast concrete structures, 5,550 square feet of cement concrete sidewalk, 2,090 linear feet of monolithic concrete and hot mix asphalt curb, 2,910 square yards of road reconstruction, and associated work for Schedule A School Street Phase 2. The project includes installation of

approximately 360 linear feet of 8-inch DI water main and associated water services, 380 linear feet of HDPE drainage pipe and associated precast concrete structures, 1,150 square feet of cement concrete sidewalk, 670 linear feet of monolithic concrete and hot mix asphalt curb, 870 square yards of roadway reconstruction, and associated work for Schedule B Otis Street. This project is being administered by the town of Warren and the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) and funded by the MA Department of Housing and Community Development, Warren Community Development

Block Grant Program and the MA Community One Stop For Growth Grant Program. The Engineer's opinion of probable construction costs for the Base Bid Schedule A plus Schedule B is \$1,100,000. Contract Documents, including plans and specifications, may be viewed electronically beginning April 3, 2024 at www.BidDocsOnline.com and hard copies requested at Nashoba Blue, Inc., 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167). There is a refundable deposit of \$50.00 per set payable to BidDocs Online, Inc. Deposits may be electronically paid or must be a certified or cashier's check. Bidders

requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for \$40.00 per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), payable to the BidDocs Online, Inc., to cover mailing costs. Bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit in the amount of five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount, considering all alternates, and made payable to the Town of Warren. All bids for this project are subject to the provisions and minimum wage rates required by M.G.L. c.30, §39M as amended, and M.G.L. c.149, §§26 to 27H, inclusive, or by the federal Davis-Bacon

wage rates, whichever hourly rate is higher. The project is subject to HUD's Section 3 policy, under which, to the greatest extent possible, affirmative steps shall be taken to ensure training and employment for lower income workers and project area residents and award of subcontracts to HUD-defined Section 3 businesses. Bidders on the work shall also make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder. Bids may be changed

or withdrawn prior to the bid opening, but not within the sixty (60) days subsequent to the bid opening, by submission of such a change in writing in a sealed envelope, identifying the submitting party and indicating that it contains a correction of the bid for the School Street Phase 2 and Otis Street Improvement Project, Warren, MA. The lowest qualified responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract subject to availability of funds under the DHCD Block Grant program. The Town of Warren, the Awarding and Contracting Authority, may cancel this Invitation for Bid (IFB), in whole or in part, at any

time that such an act is deemed in its best interest, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town, and will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB. Questions regarding the bid specifications should be directed in writing to Bill Storti at Weston & Sampson, at storti@wseinc.com. Contract documents may be viewed at the CMRPC, 1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520, Worcester, MA 01608, Shepard Municipal

Building, 48 High Street, Warren, MA 01083, or Weston & Sampson, 712 Brook Street, Suite 103, Rocky Hill, CT, 06067. **Bids must be received at the Office of the Town Administrator, Second Floor, Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street, Warren, MA 01083 no later than 2:00 PM on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. Bids will be opened and read aloud at that time.** 04/04/2024

See More Public Notices on Page 13

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Hardwick
Jessica Crawford, Collector of Taxes
Office of the Collector of Taxes
Notice of Tax Taking**

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned

You are hereby notified that on Friday the 19th day of April, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. at the Tax Collector's Office, 307 Main Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Hardwick the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

Assessed to BLUM MEIRA MURRAY And C/O DANIEL VALCOUR JR
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 2.047 Acres located and known as NORTH ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 137-18 and being part of the premises recorded in book 6567 4 on page 88 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$683.62

Assessed to CLARK EMMA A & WARREN E And C/O JANET WROBLESKI BELROSE
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.5 Acres located and known as 1649 BARRE ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 125-19 and being part of the premises recorded in book 11246 on page 28 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$1,872.64

Assessed to GAUTHIER PAUL R & And LOWELL ERIK
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.562 Acres located and known as 52--54 HARDWICK ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 52-38 and being part of the premises recorded in book 60997 on page 287 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$811.46

Assessed to GOCLOWSKI CATHERINE & ELIZAB And C/O IRENE GOCLOWSKI
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.284 Acres located and known as 424--430

MAIN STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 63-3 and being part of the premises recorded in book 61612 on page 300 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$2,655.24

Assessed To HENDRICKSON MICHELLE A
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 3.303 Acres located and known as 678 JACKSON ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 16-18 and being part of the premises recorded in book 57791 on page 100 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$446.19

Assessed To GEDENBERG SANDRA
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.43 Acres located and known as 71 HIGH STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 63-14 and being part of the premises recorded in book 49924 on page 134 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$1,623.93

Assessed To GREEN VALLEY INVESTMENTS CORP
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.218 Acres located and known as 10-12 DUHAMEL COURT shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 52-4.8 and being part of the premises recorded in book 60160 on page 86 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$1,472.31

Assessed To ALLARD RANDALL
A condominium located and known as 66 NORTH STREET A shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 51- 18.A and being part of the premises recorded in book 44726 on page 54 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$2,022.93

Assessed To BATEMAN SHERRY J
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 3.889 Acres located and known as 437-8 FISKE ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 88.A-2 and being part of the premises recorded in book 33998 on page 378 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$3,579.03

Assessed To BOUDREAU DARREN

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 14 Acres located and known as OFF FISKE ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 88.8-13 and being part of the premises recorded in book 54424 on page 174 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$279.30

Assessed To GAUMOND JUDITH P
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.385 Acres located and known as 384-386 MAIN STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 63-5 and being part of the premises recorded in book 4362 on page 140 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$1,791.51

Assessed To GAUMOND JUDITH P
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.306 Acres located and known as MAIN STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 61-20 and being part of the premises recorded in book 4362 on page 140 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$284.62

Assessed To LAFLEUR ROBERTA H
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.605 Acres located and known as MELLON ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 11-3. D and being part of the premises recorded in book 26379 on page 182 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$706.23

Assessed To LAFLEUR ROBERTA H
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.61 Acres located and known as BREEN ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 11-3.B and being part of the premises recorded in book 26379 on page 182 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$667.66

Assessed To LAINE NICOLE & NICHOLAS
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.13 Acres located and known as 103 PINE STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 147-53 and being part of the premises recorded in book 38604 on page 17 4 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$472.94

Assessed to SAMEK AUDREY D
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 4.236 Acres located and known as PATRILL HOLLOW ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 86-19 and being part of the premises recorded in book 49297 on page 98 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$15.24

Assessed to SKUTNIK WALTER & HELEN And C/O MICHELLE ARNHOLD
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1 .2 Acres located and known as BRIDGE STREET shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 54-4 and being part of the premises recorded in book 3298 on page 391 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$23.94

Assessed To WILK JASON L
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.745 Acres located and known as MELLON ROAD shown on the Town of Hardwick Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 11-3.F and being part of the premises recorded in book 50741 on page 143 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.
2023 Tax \$670.32

4/04/2024

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Local, Beautiful, Calm and Adorable Bernedoodle puppies. Raised in our family setting and ready to come bless your home! Parents are DNA tested for health and good genetics. Puppies guaranteed healthy. Their Hypoallergenic coats make them ideal indoor/outdoor pets. Call/text Melvin 413-265-6737 to set up your visit.

HELP WANTED

CLASS A DRIVER. Triaxle dump trailer work. Local deliveries, minimum 40 hours, rate based on experience. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

FIREFIGHTER/EMT
The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill a vacancy for Firefighter/EMT. Paramedic Certification or currently attending paramedic school highly preferred. For application and more info, visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Deadline 4/17/24

BUY LOCALLY
support our community!

HELP WANTED

GRANT WRITER/FACILITATOR

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time (15 hours per week) Grant Writer/Facilitator. See job description at brookfieldma.us. Salary is commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$30.28 per hour. Please submit a resume and cover letter to selectmen@brookfieldma.us Open until filled. *Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer*

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC. Construction equipment and trucks. Experience required, full time. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

PART-TIME, 15 to 20 hours per week. Must be dependable and have flexible schedule. Podiatry office. Portuguese or Spanish speaking helpful. If interested send CV to podbill@aol.com or pickup application at 77 Winsor St., Ludlow, MA; 413-589-7287.

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PALMER seeks a skilled, outgoing, and caring Church Administrator to manage the business affairs of the church and to work closely with our Pastor, Moderator, and church members to advance church missions and community outreach. The ideal candidate will have strong communication and organizational skills, be proficient in the use of computer and website technologies, and be creative in developing procedures and practices. The applicant must maintain strong, positive interpersonal relationships with members, ministries, and staff. This job is a 25-hour/week position, Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm, with PTO benefits. Pay commensurate with experience. Please email resumes to scc1847media@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF HAMPDEN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The town of Hampden Highway Department is seeking to fill a full-time skilled worker/truck driver position. All applicants must possess a valid Class B CDL, 2B Hoisting License, OSHA 10 Certificate of Training, and a copy of current driving record. Applicants must have the skills and knowledge necessary to perform general road and grounds maintenance and the ability to operate and maintain all associated tools and equipment. The capability to perform maintenance/repair on trucks and equipment, welding, and the use of other garage tools, along with light construction and snowplowing experience, would be beneficial. Please call the Hampden Highway Department (413) 566-8842, or email highway@hampdenma.gov for inquiries and application/resume submittals.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR 1
P/T BORROWER SERVICES ASSISTANT
P/T RECYCLING ATTENDANT
SUMMER CAMP COUNSELOR
SUMMER LIFEGUARD

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Open until filled. EOE

TOWN TREASURER:

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time (40-hour week) position of Town Treasurer. Full job description at brookfieldma.us. Salary commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$80,498.62. Submit cover letter and resume to: selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Reviews begin week of April 15th. Open until filled. *The Town of Brookfield is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.*

REAL ESTATE

HOME FOR SALE. Duplex home on dead end street, two baths, three bedrooms. Fully occupied. Off street parking. Great investment property. 413-283-8196.

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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Suburban Residential
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public notices

**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.
HS24P0204EA
Estate of:
Laurette F. Fox
Date of Death:
05/30/2014
CITATION ON
PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Jane Boyle of Bowdoin, ME** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Jane Boyle of Bowdoin, ME** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner 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 the return day of 05/08/2024.**

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a 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.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 02, 2024
Mark S. Ames, Temporary Register 04/04/2024

**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.
HS24P0201PO**

To all interested persons:

**In the matter of:
Gilbert Lewis Trust
TRUST CITATION**

A Petition has been filed by: **Cynthia Jo Allen of Ware, MA** requesting a halt of distributions; **Mary Lane Hospital** to be transitioned to new healthcare entity; and all other relief requested.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner 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 05/02/2024.**

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 04/04/2024

**(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 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 Lumbis 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 **May 13, 2024** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on March 27, 2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 04/04/2024

**Hardwick
Planning Board
Notice of Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board, acting as Site Plan Approval Granting Authority for the Town of Hardwick, will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:45 PM** at the **Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01301.**

Pursuant to Hardwick Zoning Bylaw Section 5.0, this Hearing is regarding the application by Verizon Wireless for Site Plan Approval to collocate antennas on the existing cell tower and support equipment with existing compound at 59 Thresher Road, Hardwick. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties can also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>
Hardwick Planning Board
Jenna Garvey, Chair 04/04, 04/11/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE
Public Hearing on
Ware School Budget
Set for April 24, 2024**

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter

71, Section 38N, of the Massachusetts General Laws there will be a Public Hearing on the Ware School Department's Proposed Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year.

The hearing will be held virtually via WARE TV-REMOTE ACCESS Zoom Meeting - https://www.wareps.org/scmeet now at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

Public comments can be e-mailed to sc-comments@ware.k12.ma.us.

All interested residents from the Town of Ware are invited to attend and participate.

A copy of the proposed budget will be available for viewing on the Ware Public School's website (www.wareps.org).

Brian Winslow, Chairperson
Ware School Committee 04/04/2024

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family
Court**

**Hampshire Probate and
Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton MA,
01060**

**Docket No.
HS24P0159PM
In the matter of:
Henry Brown, Sr.
Of: Ware, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be
Protected/Minor)
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF
CONSERVATOR OR
OTHER PROTECTIVE
ORDER PURSUANT
TO G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Samuel Charron of Easthampton, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Henry Brown, Sr.** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Nancy Godbout** of Granby, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance

at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **04/18/2024**. This day is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 15, 2024

Mark S Ames Temporary Register of Probate 04/04/2024

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE**

Premises: 38 W Main Street, Ware, MA 01082

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Sherry A Starrett to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC., and now held by **AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC**, said mortgage dated February 1, 2019 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13193, Page 137, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC to Movement Mortgage, LLC by assignment dated December 10, 2021 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 14383, Page 175; said mortgage was assigned from Movement Mortgage, LLC to Amerihome Mortgage Company, LLC by assignment dated April 27, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 14612, Page 320;

for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on May 30, 2024 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

38 West Main Street, Ware, MA 01082

A certain piece of property with buildings thereon located on West Main Street, Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, bounded

Northerly by West Main Street, seventy one and 1/2 (71.5) feet;

Easterly by land now or formerly of Mary N. Lewis one hundred and eight and 1/2 (108.5) feet;

Southerly by land formerly of George S. Marsh, forty seven (47) feet;

Easterly by said land formerly of Marsh thirty two (32) feet;

Southerly by land of Michael Brown thirty four and 3/4 (34.75) feet; and

Westerly by land of Edward McBride one hundred and fifty-one (151) feet.

Also, a right of way as heretofore used Easterly of the dwelling house of Fisherdick and Winter to West Main Street; also a right of way over a proposed way, described in deed of Richard H. Lewis to Edson Lewis.

The premises are conveyed SUBJECT to a right of way from the land now or formerly of the estate of Mary N. Lewis adjoining the premises hereby conveyed over the rear portion of these premises into and over the private way first above mentioned to said West Main Street.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor herein by deed of Lisa Rodrigues and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds herewith.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated February 1, 2019 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13193, Page 134.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified

check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC
Present Holder of the

Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2024

**TOWN OF WARE
PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE**

The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7:10 p.m.**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear an Application for Transfer and Pledge of Liquor License §15 Package Store, Wine and Malt Beverages, 144 Main, Inc., d/b/a Bruso Liquor Mart, Inc., 144 Main Street, Ware, MA. Copies of the petition are available at the office of the Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA.

All interest parties are invited to attend.

Caitlin McCarthy, Chairman
Selectboard 04/04/2024

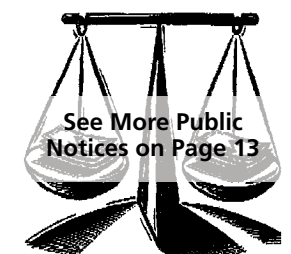
LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Rachaël Poulin will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 31 Southbridge Rd., Warren, MA on 4/27/24 at 9 AM.**

The contents of Danny Olivera, and Valentina Moriarty will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 167 West St., Ware, MA at 9:30 AM on 4/27/24.**

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.
04/04, 04/11/2024



**NOTICE OF
INTENT TO FILE
FOR FEDERAL
FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE**

The Gilbertville Water District (GWD) proposes to file an Application for Federal Financial Assistance with the USDA, Rural Development (RD).

This application for financial assistance is for funding under the Rural Utilities Service, Part 1780 Water and Waste Loans and Grants (CFDA 10.760).

The application is anticipated to be submitted by March 30, 2024.

The specific elements of the project include preparation of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and Environmental Report (ER) in accordance with RD requirements. Submission of the reports will be followed by contract documents and construction of a new water storage tank.

Costs relative to preparation of the PER and ER are \$25,830. The GWD portion of the costs for preparation of the PER & ER are \$6457.50. The remaining \$19,372.50 will be funded by Rural Development. The estimated cost to design and construct the new water tank is \$1,400,000.

The District is securing grants and loans for the project from USDA Rural Development.

Any comments regarding this application should be submitted to the Gilbertville Water District at gpa80nn@icloud.com; garystine6641@yahoo.com; or by leaving a message at 774-200-9751 within fifteen (15) days of this publication.
03/28, 04/04/2024

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

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

DRIVE FOR THE QUABOAG CONNECTOR

Description
Drivers wanted for the Quaboag Connector community transportation service! The Connector operates in ten towns in the Quaboag Region, connecting residents to their everyday needs. We are seeking friendly, responsible drivers to be the face that community members see while traveling to work, medical appointments, grocery stores, and beyond.

Hours and Salary:
We are looking for van and bus drivers for full and part time opportunities. 6AM-2PM shifts and 3PM-7PM shifts for van operators available starting at \$16.00/hour. We are also looking for full-time CDL Class B drivers starting at \$27/hour.

Application Process:
Interested applicants should visit the Ware Town Hall for an application or visit our website at www.rideconnector.com/driveforus. If you have any questions, please call (413) 667-7196.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and committed to excellence through diversity. Qualified applicants are considered for all positions regardless of race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Police Supervisor's Position Warren Police Department

The Warren Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of full time Police Lieutenant.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services, supervision of staff and maintain discipline and moral within the Department. It is required that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferred candidates will have the following: an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, 10 years of Law Enforcement experience and experience as a supervisor. For further position description please go to www.warren-ma.gov.

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than Tuesday April 16th, 2024, to the attention of Chief Gerald Millette, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or Millette@warren-ma.gov. The Town of Warren is an EOE.

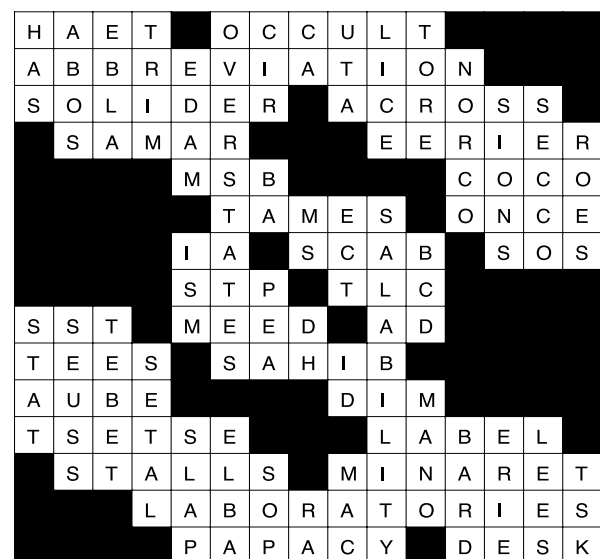
Ware River News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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



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NEW LISTING - \$389,000
 56 Front St., West Brookfield, MA

Welcome to your cozy circa 1980 farmhouse located in the quaint town of West Brookfield, where modern comfort meets rustic charm. Cabinet packed kitchen leads to a large dining area with sliders to the pool area. Enjoy the hot days of New England in your above ground, 18X33, swimming pool. Nestled within this home are 2 convenient and efficient pellet stoves, offering warmth and ambiance on chilly evenings. A bedroom and laundry area are located on the 1st floor. Plenty of room for gardens and animals. This home also boasts an impressive detached garage/barn featuring an Atlas, 10k lb. car lift, waste oil heating system, and an oversized 12 ft. garage door. A dream come true for any car enthusiast. The property is the last house on a dead end street.

OPEN HOUSE-SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH 12-1:30
NEW LISTING - \$259,900
 2 Old County Lane, Holland, MA

Enjoy one level living with this cozy 1 bedroom ranch with deeded rights to Hamilton Reservoir. This home offers a tranquil retreat with easy access to nature. There is a large enclosed porch to enjoy your morning coffee or to just relax. The house offers a kitchen, dining area, bedroom and a living room with a fireplace. A garage is attached for your convenience. A quick closing is possible. Close to major routes.

Cassie Paolucci
774-200-3523
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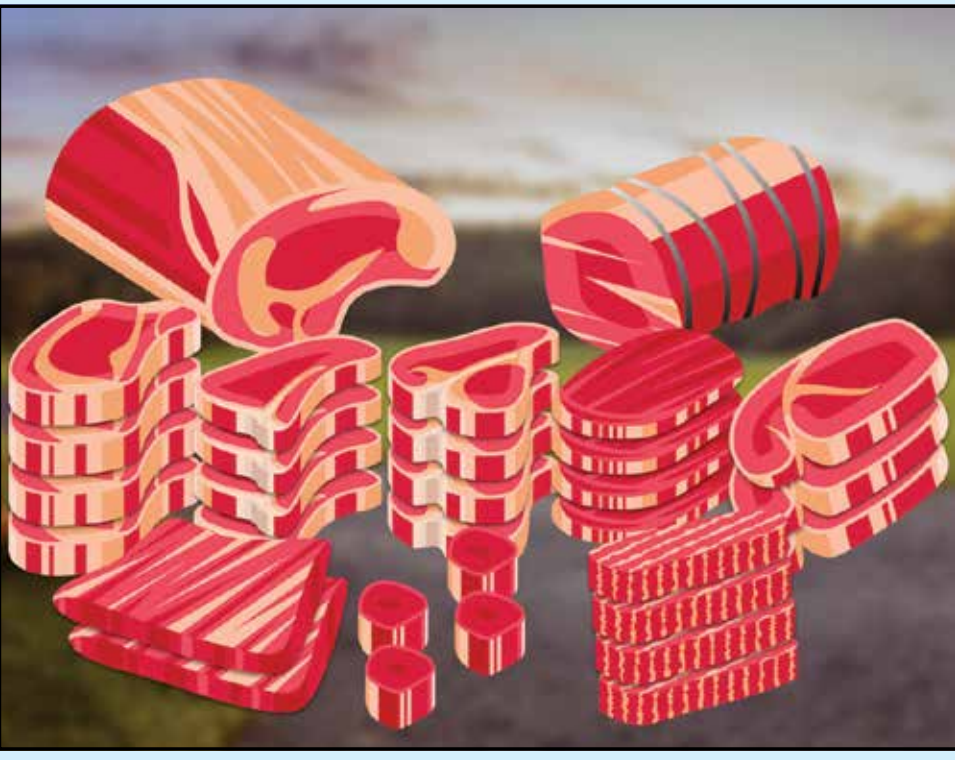
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 or email adventuretours@att.net
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