

WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 138 No. 10

16 Pages

(Plus Supplements)

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY



THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

Highway barn's roof needs replacing

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Capital Planning Committee Chair Mark Zorzec updated the Select Board on the results from a recent inventory of town-owned buildings and land.

At the April 8 meeting, he said there are 41 parcels of land, 22 structures and 178 acres.

"I've now been to most of those structures," Korzec said. "So, what we're doing here is making a recommendation from the Capital Planning about the old Highway Department building."

The building is located behind the Town House and Historical Society Museum. He said it is utilized by the Highway and Fire departments, Hardwick Fair Committee and the Historical Society.

"The roof is in real bad shape," Korzec said, including a large hole in the roof.

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 7



Kids tested out the special eclipse sunglasses.

Residents witness SOLAR ECLIPSE

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – This past Monday, April 8, marked the rare occasion of the solar eclipse.

To celebrate the occasion, The Young Men's Library Association and Ware Family Center host-

ed Total Eclipse of the Sun at Grenville Park. Residents gathered on a warm afternoon to catch the eclipse on time.

A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun, thereby obscuring the view of the Sun from a small part of Earth, totally or partially.

The peak time was estimated

to happen around 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon and many residents gathered on the fields of Grenville Park to get there an hour or so early to enjoy some pre-eclipse related activities.

Many residents along with their children brought picnic blankets

Please see **ECLIPSE**, page 6

Board votes down recommending zoning changes

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – On Tuesday evening, about 300 residents from Hardwick and surrounding towns attended a public hearing hosted by the Planning Board to discuss proposed zoning amendments.

These amendments were submitted by Casella Waste Systems for the purpose of reopening and expanding the solid waste landfill on Patrill Hollow Road.

Casella's Vice-President Brian Oliver said his company was approached by Hardwick brothers Dan Roach and Darryl Roach about reopening the landfill and combining it with their adjacent gravel pit.

"We feel there's significant need," Oliver said of reopening the landfill.

He said Casella would only move forward with the project if they had support from the community.

Project proposal

Oliver said the Host Community Agreement drafted by Casella offers \$6 per ton

tipped, or \$2.1 million a year. He said the HCA will remain in effect for the life of the landfill.

Previously, Casella had predicted about a 20 year lifespan, but due to the discovery of ledge, they believe it will be less than that. Oliver said Casella expects the landfill to be open for about 13 years.

Joining Oliver was Professional Engineer Steve Wright, who explained the need for zoning amendments in order for the project to move forward. This included re-zoning 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 and uses (Zoning Bylaws, Section 2.3.2); and adding solid waste landfilling as an allowed use in the Industrial District.

The proposed landfill cover 48 acres, but a total of 146 acres (62 existing and 84 abutting) would need to be rezoned as Industrial (I-40), which was one of the zoning amendments brought forward

Please see **ZONING**, page 6

Smith and Desmond elected to Selectboard

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Monday's annual town election saw some newcomers securing seats on the Selectboard and School Committee, along with some familiar faces.

Earning the majority of votes cast for one of two three-year term Selectboard seats was newcomer Terrance W. Smith, who also serves on the Finance Committee and the Hospital Review Committee. The next candidate to secure a seat was John A. Desmond, who has served the town for decades on a number of boards and committees.

Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot posted the unofficial results of the election, and of the 1,126 votes cast, Smith earned 622, Desmond 620, and Catherine R. Buelow-Cascio, 592.

Incumbent Julie A.F. Slattery received the majority of votes cast

with 591, and newcomer Michael Lewis-James DuBois received 579 to secure a seat over Melissa Ann Whitham, who had 554.

Two write-in candidates ran for one five-year term seat on the Planning Board, with Shane Millier receiving the majority of the votes with 88 and Kirk Brown with 39. Other write-in candidates included Denise Blodgett with 126 votes for a five-year Ware Housing Authority seat and Thomas Clark with 94 votes for a three-year term on the Cemetery Commission.

The following candidates ran unopposed: Moderator, three-year term, Kathleen Coulombe, 718 votes; Board of Assessors, three-year term, Devin M. Peterson, 815; Board of Health, three-year term, Donna L. Rucki, 883; Park Commissioner, three-year term, Kimberly E. Swarts, 867; and Planning Board, three-year unexpired term, Elizabeth M. Hancock, 767.



Submitted Photo

The Moryl, Shunaman, and Barbale kids posing for a photo as they get ready to support their school.

Spaghetti for a cause: local school raises funds

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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WARE – The St. Aloysius Catholic School, located in Gilbertville, has been working towards the goal of raising funds for the construction of a new playground for the students to enjoy.

Parents on the PTO board including Bill and Jennifer Moryl, Megan Morrison, and Joanne Barbale came together alongside other volunteers and the Knights of Columbus to make this dinner possible.

There was delicious spaghetti, homemade meatballs, salad,

bread and butter, and dessert, all made by the members of the Knights of Columbus. The dessert was donated by Cakes and Confections by Jana.

All of the families of the school sold tickets for the super raffle, which had three amazing prizes: first place was \$500, second was \$250 in raffle tickets, and third place was a \$150 gift certificate to Teresa's Restaurant.

There was even a raffle for a trip to St. Maarten, and a St. Aloysius family won the trip! Students and volunteers also sold tickets for a 50/50 raffle for fun baskets and other prizes.

Please see **SUPPER**, page 7

Rep. Aaron Saunders speaks about need for Quabbin bill

By Nick Boonstra
Staff Writer
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BELCHERTOWN – State Rep. Aaron Saunders (D-Belchertown) spoke at a meeting of the Friends of Quabbin on April 7, to promote a bill that aims to improve regional equity for the communities that host the Quabbin Reservoir.

House Bill 897, also known as An Act Relative to the Quabbin Watershed and Regional Equity, would create a trust fund to benefit Quabbin Reservoir Watershed Communities, which would be funded by a fee based on the amount of water used by supplied municipalities.

The fee proposed by the bill would be set at five cents per

1,000 gallons drawn, and would be expected to raise \$3.5 million for the fund, according to a summary document for the bill provided by Saunders. The bill also proposes to adjust how communities would be paid from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, basing payments on total state land acreage as opposed to acreage above the high water mark as is currently mandated.

Additionally, the bill would ensure that three members on the MWRA Board of Directors were residents of Connecticut River Basin communities. Currently, Monson Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz is the only one of the board's 11 members repre-

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 7



Submitted Photo by Ed Comeau

READY TO LAUNCH IN THE QUABBIN

Photographer Ed Comeau captured this majestic image of a bald eagle at the Quabbin Reservoir recently.



Turley Photo by Nick Boonstra

State Rep. Aaron Saunders spoke at a meeting of the Friends of Quabbin held at the Belchertown United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall this past Sunday.

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**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.

community

Paige Memorial Library launches Seed Library April 13

HARDWICK – All are welcome to come to the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road on Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for the launch of the 2024 Seed Library, a bake and book sale, and a raffle, all offered by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library.

Choose some seeds, buy some home cooked baked goods, buy some books, buy some raffle tickets.

The garden-themed raffle basket includes a \$50 gift certificate from Hardwick Farmers Co-Op Exchange and other valuable garden

items. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

If you would like to donate to the bake sale or raffle or have any questions, email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com, call 413-477-6704, or stop in, but don't miss being part of this big event.

Silk scarf tie-dyeing

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.

Ongoing programs

Explore the library's ongoing programs: the Paige Writing group meeting on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m., the Paige Book Club meeting at 2 p.m. monthly, and the Cookbook Club meeting at 5:30 p.m. monthly on the last Wednesday.

Are You Old News?



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



File Photo
Last week's photo from 1992 showed the Pinewood Derby winners for Cub Scout Pack 167 from left, Brian Cote, first place; Scott Daigle, second place; and Paul Larson, third place.

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

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.

Senior Center hosts 'Meet & Greet' for new director April 18

Submitted Photo

Join the Barre Hardwick Senior Center in welcoming the new director at a Meet & Greet to be held Thursday, April 18 from 9-11 a.m. at the center located at 557 South Barre Road. All are welcome to attend. Coffee hour and refreshments will be served.



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 ctrietsch22@gmail.com or by mailing a request to BLCC, P.O. Box 253, Ware, MA 01082.



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





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Effective Community Interviewing Training

Please join the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council (QVFPC) for a training provided by the Collaborative for Educational Services (CES). Help us implement our Community Food Assessment by joining the data collection team and interviewing your neighbors through community chats!

This training is focused on how important building trust is when collecting data from community members who are sharing personal stories. You will learn how to respectfully approach people's lived experience, record their responses, and provide support.

For more information please contact Caitlin at cgeaghan@townofware.com.

Pre-Registration is required. Register today at <https://forms.gle/dfH6F9CbAkCzfSej9> or scan the QR Code below.

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Submitted Photo
Pianist Mackenzie Melemed returns to the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville on Saturday, April 20 at 7 p.m.

Prize-winning pianist performs at Stone Church

HARDWICK – Friends of the Stone Church proudly present pianist Mackenzie Melemed in an exclusive return engagement at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 20.

He will perform works of Sibelius, New England composer Amy Beach, Brahms, Jaakko Kuusisto, and Beethoven, in "My Two Homes," a program inspired by his background as a native New Englander and his adopted home in Finland. Melemed was honored to give the U.S. premiere. A wine and cheese reception with the artist will follow the concert.

Tickets are \$35 at the door or at FriendsOfTheStoneChurch.org. Students under 18 will be admitted at no charge.

Finnish composer Kuusisto died in 2022 but his music lives on. Melemed was honored to give the premiere performance of his Piano Concerto in Minnesota last summer. His piece for this concert is inspired by a small Finnish island, creating a beautiful soundscape.

Originally from Paxton, Melemed studied piano with Olga Rogach and attended the Bancroft School in Worcester. He received the \$25,000 Avery Fisher career grant for emerging musicians of outstanding ability in 2022.

This 29-year-old Massachusetts native has been credited with "pianistic maturity twice his age," called "a magician for romance and sweet lyricism," and lauded as a consummate solo artist whose "crystal-clear pianism" is "nothing short of thrilling." Among his many prizes are The Juilliard School's 2019 Leo B. Ruiz Carnegie Hall Recital Prize, the 2018 Arthur Rubenstein Prize, the Jade Medal at the 2019 China International Competition and the first prize and chamber music prize at Finland's 2017 Maj Lind International Piano Competition.

Melemed graduated with a dual bachelor's and master's degree and an Artist Diploma from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Robert McDonald and Emanuel Ax. The New York Times praised him as "an excellent young pianist."

He has performed as a soloist at the White House (2004-2008), Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Warsaw Philharmonic Hall, and with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the

Stamford Symphony, the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, and the KBS Symphony in Korea. His mentorship by Emanuel Ax led to his 2022 performance at Tanglewood, summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

In 2021, Melemed was a laureate of the American Pianists Award; he received a \$50,000 cash prize from the American Pianists Association for the distinction.

Melemed's 2023-2024 season includes several debuts and numerous re-engagements with orchestras in the United States, Canada and Finland, including the Edmonton Symphony, Tampere Philharmonic and the Lohja City Orchestra in Finland. A creative collaborator, Melemed commissioned a new Piano Concerto from Israeli-American composer Avner Dorman. Melemed's discography features world-premiere recordings of Dorman's "Three Etudes" on the Steinway and Sons label (2018) and Jaajoon Ryu's Piano Concerto with Ralf Gothóni and Sinfonia Varsovia on the Warner Classics label (2019). Melemed is currently working on a solo album offering classics and works he has premiered, to be released in 2026.

This appearance is sponsored by the Salvadore Family of Auto Dealerships.

Partial support comes from the Mass Cultural Council and from Local Cultural Councils of Barre, Oakham and Petersham. Local Cultural Councils are local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

EBT, Connector Care and WIC cardholders may claim two free admissions at the box office on the day of the concert, through the Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture program.

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015 and open to all. Its mission is to preserve and protect the Gilbertville Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of community enrichment.

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

WHS art students recognize Doctors' Day

PALMER – Baystate Wing Hospital physicians were delighted by the thoughtful cards sent by 17 students from Ware High School who took a moment to recognize and celebrate the dedication of Baystate Wing Hospital physicians on National Doctors' Day, recognized annually on March 30.

Each carefully crafted, hand-painted card had a note of thanks from the students thanking doctors for their dedication and compassionate care. The watercolor notecards were done under the guidance of Ware High School Art teacher, Pam Grant, and Brooke Kelley, student-teacher candidate from UMass, Amherst.

"Doctors' Day, held on March 30, is a time that we pause and honor all our physicians who tirelessly care for us, our loved ones, and our community, with pur-

pose. We are thankful to the Ware High School art students for sharing their incredible talents and thoughtful sentiments with our doctors. It gave them a reason to pause, smile, and cherish these special gifts," said Karli Barrett, vice president and chief nursing officer/chief administrative officer at Baystate Wing Hospital.

Submitted Photo
Displaying the Doctors' Day note cards from Ware High School art students from the top left to right: Dr. Linda Schoonover, Baystate Primary Care - Palmer, and Dr. Joe Sills, chief of Emergency Medicine, Baystate Wing Hospital, from the bottom left to right Dr. Scott Siegel, BMP- Quabbin Pediatrics, and Dr. Joanna Preibisz, Baystate Primary Care Palmer.



Meet the voice of the Palmer Panthers

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PALMER – The voice echoing through Legion Field at Palmer High School is that of public address announcer Mike Wadas.

Growing up in the village of Thorndike and Palmer, Wadas is a Panther by heart.

Starting off as a student at Palmer High School, Wadas was heavily involved in sports. As a high school athlete, Wadas participated in baseball, football and hockey.

As a hockey player, Wadas had 85 career points in high school. The highlight of playing hockey was being a part of a high school all star team, Team USA New England.

Wadas alongside his USA New England team got play in the European countries of Switzerland, Italy and France.

Wadas shared the fact that playing in Europe and representing the U.S. was one of the best memories he had as a Panther.

It was "a thrill to have USA on my jersey," Wadas said. "Representing my country as a teenager."

In his junior year of high school, Wadas was the alternate captain of his team and later captain in his senior year. Wadas played center as a hockey player and sported #22 on his jersey.

Wadas is still in contact with his former hockey coach, Jim Cerbo, to this day.

As a football player, Wadas played as a wide receiver, cornerback and linebacker.

In the years 1985 and 1986 Wadas experienced tremendous success with the Panthers. The football team went back-to-back years undefeated, 11-0 and won two consecutive Western



Mike Wadas is the public address announcer for the Palmer Panthers. His journey with the Panthers began when he was a student and athlete.

Massachusetts High School Super Bowl championships.

Wadas also played baseball throughout his entire high school years. The positions he played were pitcher, shortstop and center field.

After high school, Wadas did have interest in further pursuing sports and attending college. However, at some point he decided not to pursue college and start a new life outside of Palmer.

In the 1990s, Wadas resided in Katy, Texas, a small town outside of Houston. A promotion at work brought him to Texas and his son Will attended school in Katy.

Will played baseball in high school and Wadas soon came across an opportunity that would get him involved in sports again.

Will's school was looking to assign parents as volunteers to help out throughout the school year, especially during sporting events. The school was looking for an announcer during the games and it was a role Wadas never originally thought of taking.

The idea of announcing reminded Wadas of one of his favorite New England Sports teams growing up, the Boston Red Sox.

For years, Wadas always enjoyed listening to Sherm Feller, a radio personality and PA announcer for the Red Sox. Feller announced for the Red Sox at Fenway Park for over 20 years.

Wadas took up the role of PA announcer at his son's high school and was fascinated by the work behind the whole process. It was a learning curve he figured out almost immediately.

"I figured it out on the fly," Wadas said. "Got really good at it."

Wadas was a PA announcer during his son's time in high school and did it for a total of seven years.

One memorable moment while announcing in Texas was one of his son's baseball games.

Wadas happened to check the results of a Red Sox game that was happening that same day. Even though he was in a small Texas town, Wadas still briefly announced the results of the Red Sox game during a high school baseball game.

His son's baseball coach found it amusing and let Will know of his father's random announcement.

"Your dad just announced the Red Sox score," Wadas said paraphrasing what the coach said to Will that day.

For the most part, other than that brief Red Sox announcement, Wadas kept his PA announcing on a professional level during his whole time in Katy, Texas. Wadas was the PA announcer for seven years and stopped until another parent came in and wanted to take over the role of announcer.

In 2015, Wadas left Texas and returned to his hometown of Palmer. The Athletic Director and Palmer Football Coach at the time

Please see **VOICE**, page 5

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 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.

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Turley Photo by Nick Boonstra

Aaron Packard addressed a meeting of the Monson Republican Town Committee to share his reasons for running to oppose Sen. Elizabeth Warren this coming November.

Fitchburg resident announces campaign for Senate

By Nick Boonstra
Staff Writer
nboonstra@turley.com

MONSON – Aaron Packard, a U.S. Army veteran and Worcester native, spoke at the March 20 meeting of the Monson Republican Town Committee to win support for his bid to challenge Senator Elizabeth Warren in this November's general election.

Packard, a self-described constitutional conservative, shared personal stories of persistence and dedication in his remarks.

He began by making clear his intentions to oppose and defeat incumbent Elizabeth Warren in this coming November's election.

Packard said that his interest in running for the Senate was in part due to a desire to have a say on federal judicial appointments, expressing his sentiment that the judiciary was engaging too much in opining on the law and too little in upholding it. He also advocated for the revitalization of civics and history education in the United States.

Packard also said the impetus to run for Senate sprang from his initial oath as a member of the U.S. Army to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

He shared a story from his time at Basic Training, in which he directed the members of his platoon to get their evening meal despite not receiving authorization from his superior officer to do so. Later, he said, the officer berated him, but nevertheless lauded his assumption of responsibility and leadership instinct.

"You know, you made the wrong decision, but you made the decision, and that's what counts," he recalled being told.

He went on to say that he felt that the leaders of today failed to demonstrate the same level of accountability that he had done in Basic Training.

"Whether they're local, or all the way up to federal, they just do whatever they want to do, thinking, because they have a title, that gives them entitlement," he said.

"I'm a working man, just like the rest of you are," he added, going on to detail his current situation of working two small-business jobs, one in a restaurant kitchen and the other for a silk-screening company. "I work with my hands," he said.

Packard said it was the feeling that no one else was doing their civic duty that motivated him to engage in his own.

"That's one of your American citizenship responsibilities, is to be involved in civic duty," he said. "That's part of why this country has made it as long as it has, from people being involved."

Packard said he started volunteering in 2021 for signature-gathering efforts for a number of proposed ballot initiatives. After this, he mounted a bid to represent the state's 3rd Worcester District, largely consisting of his home city of Fitchburg, on Beacon Hill, ultimately losing to Democrat Michael Kushmerek.

He said that the defeat was hard to take at first, but that he refused to let it keep him down for long.

"The only promise that I ever made to anybody is that I don't quit," he said. "When in a fight, I won't give up."

One of the members of the audience shared during the speech that addressing illegal immigration was a priority to them, an issue that Packard said concerned him as well. Packard also shared that he grew up in a family with a parent who had immigrated from England, and spoke about his family receiving federal assistance for a period during his childhood, which he decried as "socialism under the Carter Administration."

In summarizing his campaign, Packard said, "I know that my tools, my personal traits, my skillsets, my mindset, my loyalty to God, country and family will help more than just this state. That's why I'm going after U.S. Senator Warren."



Transplanting your homegrown seedlings

I bet there are a few garden enthusiasts out there with seedlings up and growing indoors.

My tomatoes are just poking through, but my peppers are ready for transplanting. Why transplant you ask? It's important that we give our young plants room to spread out!

If seeds were sown in rows, chances are that several seedlings have sprouted and are now growing within a close proximity to one another. They are competing for nutrients and moisture.

Even if two seeds were sown in a single cell of a six-pack and both germinated, they too are competing with one another in that tiny of a space. So, if we want garden center quality seedlings, we must transplant them to their own cell or small pot.

You know a seedling is ready to transplant when it has its "true leaves," not the cotyledon leaves that were first to sprout from the seed, but those that come right after. At this point in growth plant roots aren't tangled up and therefore transplant shock can be kept to a minimum.

Although the seedlings may be tiny and appear fragile, transplanting them is quite sim-

ple.

First, take a wooden plant label or dull butter knife and "cut" into the row of seedlings. Then, use your implement "spatula-style" to remove a small cluster of plants from the bottom up.

I always tell folks to "think brownies!" Be careful to get as many roots as you can.

Once you've done this it is time to separate them from one another. Gently pull on a leaf, not the stem, to pry them apart.

Think of it this way: the plant has two leaves but only one stem. If it should snap, that's it! Leaves on the other hand, can and will be replaced if accidentally torn off.

Individual seedlings can be planted in small containers or cell packs filled with soilless growing medium. We steer clear of garden soil because of the pathogens and weed seeds it may contain as well as its tendency not to drain very well.

Soilless mix is sterile, and has the ability to retain moisture yet drain freely- just what the young seedling needs as it grows additional roots and top growth.

Make a hole in the moistened growing medium with your finger, a pencil or wooden dibble. Insert the seedling to the correct depth then firm around it with your fingers.

Most are transplanted to the same depth they were growing in the pack.

One exception is tomatoes; they can be buried deeper than they started out. This is because tomatoes have the ability to make roots along the length of their stem.

Another exception are marigolds. More roots mean healthier shoots!

Water the transplants well with a gentle spray. They can now be put back under the artificial lights you've rigged up.

Continue to keep the lights within inches of the plants for the stockiest growth. Or, if you're lucky enough to have a sunroom or hobby greenhouse, the seedlings will thrive there!

Shade them from direct sun for a few days after transplant to prevent wilting. Soon the roots will recover from the shock of transplant and will again be able to sustain the plant.

Night time temperatures can dip as low as 50 degrees for most plants. In fact, lower night temps will help to ensure the stocky specimen we desire.

Fertilize with half-strength liquid plant food every 10 days to two weeks. Begin to "hard-en-off" your transplants a couple of weeks prior to putting in the ground.

Thus far they have been kept in a carefully controlled environment. Planting them without a period of acclimatization may mean disaster! Place them outdoors in a shady spot protected from the wind for only a few hours each day. As the days progress keep them out longer and increase their exposure to bright sun and wind.

Don't forget to water during this process, but forgo all fertilizer.

With less than two months to go until the danger of frost is officially passed, our home grown seedlings won't have long to wait, and neither will we!

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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Selectboard candidate thanks supporters

Dear Editor,

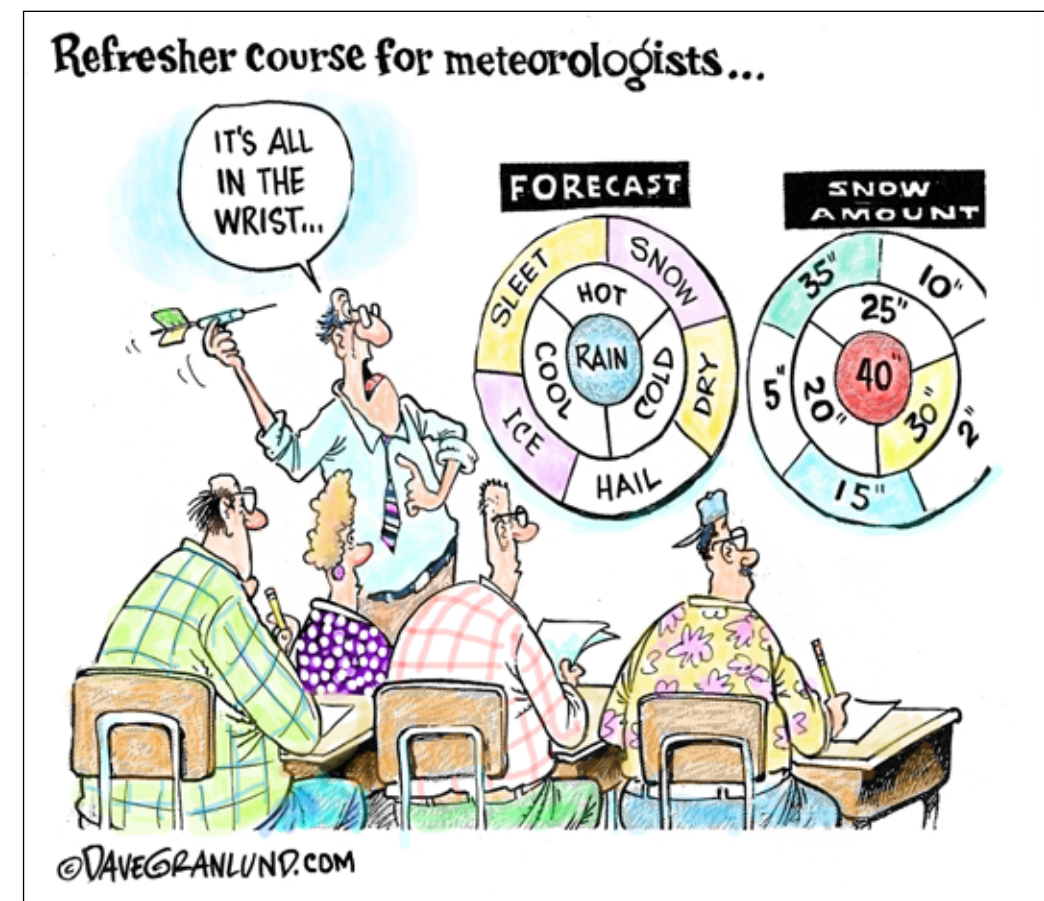
I want to take this opportunity to congratulate both my opponents: Mr. John Desmond and Mr. Terry Smith, as the newest members to the Board of Selectmen.

I want to wish them the very best of luck in moving this town forward, as I know we have many challenges ahead...including but not limited to the town water and sewer and the Mary Lane hospital project.

I want to thank those voters who voted for me. I am sorry I did not garner enough votes to bring me to the top.

I appreciate each and every one of you who thought enough of what I stand for to vote for me. I did have a lot of ideas and plans for the town in the hopes of improving the way things are currently being done and managed by the Board and others.

I want to publicly thank a great supporter/worker of mine, Nick Bousquet, as he assisted me in my efforts in running for the Board of Selectmen. He will be leaving for college in the fall in pursuit of a political science degree and I know he has a great future ahead of him.



Again, congratulations to all the people who ran for offices, or who offered to be write-in candidates. Giving of one's time to hold public office should be greatly admired

and appreciated by all.
Thank you

Cathy Buelow-Cascio
Ware



When should my wife claim her Social Security benefit?

Dear Rusty:

I just saw an article which said that certain spousal options were going away, but there are still good options for when a spouse can claim.

I am filing for my Social Security to start in October when I turn 70. My wife's Full Retirement Age is in December, and she now plans to file then for half of what my FRA benefit would have been (our original plan was for both to file in August).

My wife's main reason for delaying until her FRA is to lock her into my maximum benefit if she has to someday change to Survivor's Benefit. Will this be gone for us? Neither of us was born before Jan. 1, 1954. Please advise.

Signed: Planning for Both

Dear Planning:

I expect that the article you refer to was speaking of the option to claim only a spou-

sal benefit first and allow one's personal SS retirement benefit to grow. That option was available only to those who were born before 1954 and had reached full retirement age.

As you now know that option is not available to you.

Assuming your wife's highest benefit entitlement will be as your spouse, your current strategy - you claim your maximum benefit to start in October at age 70 and your wife starts her benefit in December at her FRA - is a good one which will yield the maximum possible monthly benefit for both of you. But for clarity, your wife's survivor benefit as your widow has nothing to do with when she claims her spouse benefits now.

The only thing which will affect your wife's benefit as your surviving spouse is her age when she claims the survivor benefit. If she has already reached her FRA of 66 years and 8 months when you pass, she will get 100% of the amount you were receiving when you died, instead of the smaller spousal amount she was receiving while you were living.

Her survivor benefit would only be less than 100% of yours if she claimed it before reaching her full retirement age (which, of course, we hope would not be the case).

Just so you have the complete picture, your wife could, if desired, claim her Social Security to start at the same time as you in

October but, since that would be earlier than her FRA, the amount she would get would be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. Her spouse benefit would be reduced by 0.694% for each month earlier than her FRA it starts.

For example, if your wife starts her spousal benefit in October when your benefit starts, she will get about 98.6% of the amount she would get if she waited until December to start her benefits. That's a permanent reduction, so if your wife's life expectancy is at least average about 87, it's likely still wisest for her to wait until her FRA to start benefits.

But in any case, when your wife claims her spousal benefit now will have no effect on the survivor benefit she will get as your future widow.

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 informational purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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The Ware River News (USPS 666100) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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

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

Turley Election Policy

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

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



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Capital Planning meets with department heads

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Capital Planning Committee welcomed several department heads to discuss capital improvement requests.

The first to speak during their April 2 meeting was Fire Chief Adam Lavoie.

Lavoie went over a list of proposals he made for possible capital improvement projects. For each proposal, Lavoie explained in detail what every project was and what made them essential for the fire department.

Some of these projects could be funded by grants which Lavoie said he does apply for them when applications come around. However, grants are not always a sure thing and can be competitive.

The first request Lavoie talked about was a hose and appliance replacement project. Due to the age of the current hose lines on the firetrucks they will need to be replaced.

There is a grant that Lavoie applied for that will help cover the cost of the hose and appliance project. If the Fire Department gets the grant, Lavoie will remove the hose and appliance project off his capital improvement list.

When asked how quickly he might need this project done, Lavoie told the Capital Planning Committee that the department can wait for the project until after Special Town Meeting. With the grant, the Fire Department will be able to replace everything for hose and appliances.

Another capital improvement project request from the Fire Department was the replacement of Engine 2. This firetruck from 2001 is aging very quickly and nearing the end of its lifespan.

Lavoie hopes to replace this truck as soon as possible as it

won't be as reliable in the line of duty as it gets older.

"I believe we need to remove it from the front line," Lavoie said.

New engines can be very expensive and cost roughly around \$850,000 but departments can get about 20-25 years of use out of it.

The Capital Planning Committee asked if there was a potential grant to support the funding of a vehicle and Lavoie said its not easy being awarded a grant for a vehicle. Grants for vehicles are very competitive and Lavoie thinks the town should not heavily rely on them.

"I would not count on a vehicle grant for this vehicle," Lavoie said.

To handle Engine 2, the committee believes that could be a project funded over time.

Another proposal Lavoie brought up was hydraulic extrication equipment. This project is a smaller project with less cost the Fire Department is seeking to get.

Hydraulic extrication tools are high powered tools designed to cut through vehicles and used to assist in the extrication of victims involved in vehicle accidents, as well as other rescues in small spaces.

Lavoie is looking to replace his current equipment with new battery powered tools including a cutter and a spreader. The current hydraulic equipment is aging and Lavoie thinks the battery powered equipment will be more resourceful.

The battery powered hydraulic tools would have a charger as well to keep the battery full charged and operational when needed.

“

I WOULD NOT COUNT ON A VEHICLE GRANT FOR THIS VEHICLE.”

**ADAM LAVOIE
WARREN FIRE CHIEF**

In addition to hydraulics, Lavoie would also like to replace the department's structural turnout gear. In other words, the required firefighter gear from head to toe including boots, helmet, jacket, and pants.

Lavoie said ordering this equipment must be done in advance; at least 18 months in advance. He

wants to get his department updated gear and be in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association.

"Gear must not go out of service," Lavoie said.

Ambulance replacement is another proposed project for the department. The current ambulance has about five more years left for operation.

The Capital Planning Committee believes that the ambulance can be a project funded over time just like Engine 2.

Lavoie shared his top priorities before leaving the meeting. The hose and appliance equipment along with the extrication equipment and turnout gear are top priority for the Fire Department.

"The main stuff is the equipment we use every day," Lavoie said.

Highway Department needs

Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson was next to speak about proposed capital improvement projects for the Highway Department. The first project Olson talked about was the F600 truck.

According to Olson, the F600 would be a heavier duty upgrade in regard to sanding and plowing the roads. The one they have now

is from 2012 and has over 100,000 miles on it and has been pushed to its limits.

Olson is worried the vehicle won't make it to the next winter season and it is a top priority to replace with an F600 that can perform more effectively.

"It's a performance difference too," Olson said.

Olson also discussed about getting an Elgin sweeper. The current sweeper the Highway Department has was described as dirty and has had a series of parts replaced over-time.

Olson says the parts are difficult to come by and would like to find a good quality used sweeper. Olson thinks a good pre-owned sweeper would be no older than 2007.

The sweeper is essential for taking care of the roads after any form of storm damage. Therefore, a sweeper is also a big priority.

"The sooner the better on this one," Olson said.

Olson is also looking to get a dry storage building. This storage space will be used to store essential equipment that could be damaged if left outdoors.

The Capital Planning Committee agreed that the dry storage building would be a good idea and help prolong the lifespan of the equipment.

"We should do this," Richard Eichacker said. "It increases the life of the other equipment."

Mandated projects and rate system

The rating system for other capital improvement requests is still in the works, but the Capital Planning Committee has it narrowed down based off what is mandatory and timeframe. Projects will be rated based off of what is in need of an immediate mandate, a mandate within three years, mandates over three years and legislation under discussion.



Submitted Photos

Mike Wadas comes prepared with notes, rosters and more information prior to announcing every football game.

VOICE from page 3

Peter Farr reached out to Wadas regarding a new opportunity.

Farr found out about Wadas' announcing experience down in Texas and was searching for someone to announce during the football games. Wadas was intrigued by the offer but was a bit hesitant since he only announced for baseball and not football.

"Theres a little more work in football announcing," Wadas said. "But I'll give it a shot."

Wadas carefully studied the new tasks for his new announcing role for the Panthers. The tasks included getting a schedule of the football season, look up the opposing team's roster, the players' grade level and name memorization.

Wadas would study and prep before every game at Legion Field. At the press box, Wadas would have his whole counter flooded with notes and would always do a pre-game prep.

When it came to covering football games Wadas admitted he was extremely nervous. However, with a lot of announcing experience with his credit he just did what came naturally.

"It just kind of clicked," Wadas said. "I have this figured out."

All came together as Wadas returned to the PA announcing role but did it for the very team he was once a part of. After the game, Wadas would get to connect with the players and they always express their appreciation for Wadas announcing during the game and making it so much fun for them and the crowd.

As an announcer for the Panthers, Wadas recalls many memorable moments that happened at Legion Field.

One of his favorite years as the PA announcer was witnessing the Panthers make the State semi-finals. The team lost in a close game and were beat by Oxford, 19-17.

Wadas is a solo announcer and is a Panther at heart.

His passion for the team is certainly heard through his announcing. Many players and crowds can hear it echo all across Legion Field.

A lot of this passion comes from Wadas' time as a player and he recalls many competitive moments on the field. Wadas reflects moments when he was a high school football player, and

the Panthers would have very competitive games with Ware High School.

Wadas believes both Palmer and Ware were big rivalries when it came to sports.

"This rivalry is a lot like the Red Sox and the Yankees," Wadas said. "As a player, it was all business."

That passion was even more at a higher rate when Wadas alongside his fellow teammates were always focused on beating Ware when it was time to play them in a football game.

As an announcer, the passion of being a Panther is still there for Wadas, but according to him, the rivalry with Ware is not as bitter as it was back when he was in high school.

Another well-known rivalry Wadas remembers was games against Frontier Regional in Deerfield. That high school team was also very competitive with Palmer when Wadas was a Panther.

As an announcer, no matter who played against the Panthers, Wadas would stay focused and never get emotional behind the microphone. The passion of being a Panther remains with Wadas today.

"I'm very passionate about my Palmer Panthers," Wadas said.

Wadas does the announcing for the Panthers from September until November. During the off season, Wadas hosts raffles and is also the MC for the annual soup cookoff at Tailgate Tavern in Palmer.

Occasionally, Palmer Legion Baseball would ask Wadas to announce their baseball games during the summer.

Wadas always looks forward to announcing for the Panthers every season but is open to more opportunities to announce in multiple places.

"I would love to go someplace bigger," Wadas said.

As of now, Wadas will continue to be the voice of the Panthers at Legion Field and will do it until he may be asked not to do it anymore. Wadas loves his gig as a PA announcer and enjoys hearing the townies of Palmer just simply call him or know him as "Wadas," a name he has gone by his whole life.

When you attend a Panther game at Legion Field, and hear the voice echoing across the field, it is the voice of the Palmer Panther, Mike Wadas.

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.

Parks and Rec. offers balloon twisting workshop

WARREN – The Warren Parks & Recreation will sponsor at balloon twisting workshop with Kristy the Birthday Girl on Friday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Shepard

Municipal Building gym, 48 High St. This workshop is free for Warren and West Warren children ages 9 and up. Out of town students that attend

Warren Community Elementary School are also welcome to attend. Please register at <https://forms.office.com/r/AljU5ZQK80?origin=lpLink>.

Town Clerks offer voter registration April 27

WARREN / WEST BROOKFIELD – Warren Town Clerk Laura J. Stockley and West Brookfield Town Clerk Heather E. Gough will hold voter registration in their offices on Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for the annual town election, which will be held on Tuesday, May 7.

Read the Ware River News online at www.warerivernews.turley.com

WEST WARREN WATER DISTRICT 2023 Water Quality Report Now Available!

Contains important information about the quality of West Warren's Drinking Water

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or visit westwarrenwater.com/reports.html

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BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

The Belchertown Public School District is now accepting applications for the following School Choice openings for the 2024-2025 school year:

Grade K	7	Grade 6	2
Grade 1	10	Grade 7	10
Grade 2	6	Grade 8	10
Grade 4	3	Grade 9	5
Grade 5	5	Grade 10	5

The Belchertown Public Schools combine innovation and tradition to provide positive educational experiences for all of our students through quality programs, dynamic teaching and healthy relationships.

The deadline for submitting a **complete** application is 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, May 10, 2024.**

The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces. There will be two drawings for this purpose. The first will take place on May 10, 2024, and in the event of unexpected additional openings, a second drawing will be conducted on August 9, 2024.

The application and guidelines can be downloaded at www.belchertownps.org or picked up at 14 Maple St., Belchertown, MA 01007.

The Belchertown School District does not discriminate in the admission of any child on the basis of age, sex, gender identity, race, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation or ancestry, athletic performance, physical handicap, special need, academic performance, disability or proficiency in the English language in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.



Children's Librarian Cathy Goulet, left, explaining the fun eclipse craft kids could enjoy.



The library provided books for kids to read related to the subject of the eclipse.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

ECLIPSE from page 1

and chairs to pick a comfortable spot on the fields of Grenville Park and watch the eclipse. On one of the fields were crafts and snacks provided by the library.

Children's Librarian Cathy Goulet provided an Eclipse craft and special eclipse sunglasses for kids.

The library also provided Oreo snacks for the occasion. The Oreos are uniquely symbolic to the solar eclipse and kids certainly enjoyed having a snack while hanging out at Grenville Park.

On one picnic blanket, the library provided a lot of cool books about the Sun, Moon, Earth and eclipse. Books such as "The Earth and I", "Secrets of our Earth", "I love you to the Moon and Back", "Mooncake" and "Goodnight Moon".

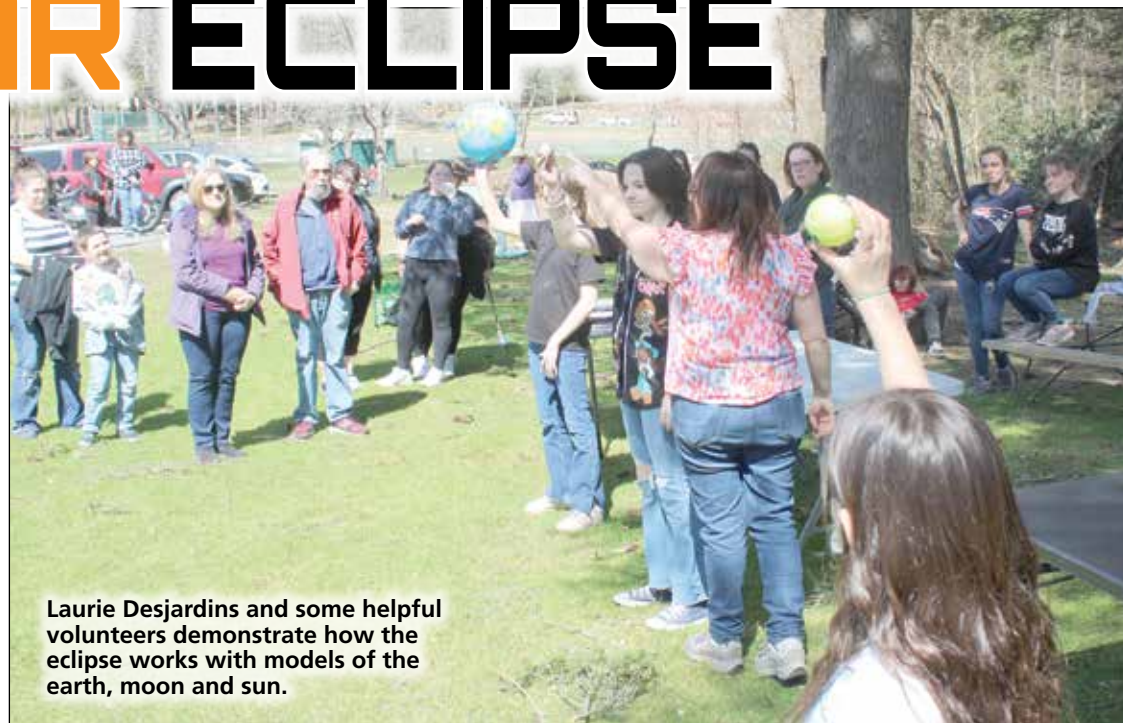
Many kids and adults checked out some of the books and read while the peak time for the eclipse was fast approaching. There was a lot of looking up going on as the solar eclipse was about to commence.

All the sunglasses the library had will now be sent to South America prior to their eclipse happening later in the summer.

These special eclipse sunglasses help people see the eclipse happening a lot more clearly. You don't want to hurt your eyes trying to witness the eclipse without the proper eye-wear.

"It's so much fun," Goulet said. "I keep looking at it".

The solar eclipse is a rare occurrence that many people enjoy seeing. The day at



Laurie Desjardins and some helpful volunteers demonstrate how the eclipse works with models of the earth, moon and sun.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago



Many compare the solar eclipse to an Oreo cookie based off its formation and these snacks were enjoyed during the total eclipse of the sun.



Kids used black construction paper and white chalk to craft their own eclipse.

Grenville Park can only be described as beautiful when the eclipse occurred.

"It is the most beautiful day for this," Goulet said.

The Young Men's Library

Association has several spring break programs coming up soon. On Monday, April 16 at 3 p.m. there will be Talewise: "Saving Earth Together."

On April 24 bring your

kids down to make Watercolor Bookmarks with Margaret McCandless. The event will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon and will be for kids ages 2-5; drop-ins are welcome.

ZONING from page 1

by Casella.

Other zooming amendments include increasing the 670 foot limit to 850 feet. Oliver said the final capped elevation would be 800 feet above Mean Sea Level, or 300 feet above ground level.

A portion of Patrill Hollow Road would also need to be discontinued and reconfigured.

Questions from Planning Board

Planning Board Vice-Chair Harry Comerford asked about the route trucks would take to and from the landfill. Casella has projected that about 50 trucks would be traveling to the facility each day.

Oliver said Casella is looking at a number of different routes, which will be outlined in the HCA. He said trucks will not travel through the center of town.

"The truck routes would be memorialized in the HCA," he said. "The truck routes will be set and no need to question."

Oliver said voters will need to know this information before voting at a town meeting.

Oliver said trucks would not be able to enter the facility via Greenwich Road in Ware, due to an ordinance from the Ware Board of Health prohibiting it.

Casella Site Manager Tracy Markham said trucks are required to travel to and from the facility using approved routes. If truck drivers don't use the approved route, they will no longer be allowed to use the facility.

Comerford also asked Casella representatives about the potential for pollution from diesel truck exhaust, especially along the truck routes, as well as leaking from the solid waste the trucks are transporting.

Markham said if a spill is identified, Casella will clean it up, but said it is unlikely to be hazardous.

"Municipal solid waste is not a hazard by definition," she said.

Markham said the landfill will have spotters to monitor every load arriving at the facility for waste bans, including hazardous materials. She said in 20 years, she has never pulled hazardous waste from municipal solid waste loads.

Comerford asked if Casella would be paying to repair the town's roads, caused by wear and tear from 50 large trucks a day.

Markham said Casella knows that there needs to be improvements to the infrastructure in order to accommodate the increased traffic flow, adding that tipping fees could be used by the town to make any repairs following that.

"In general, the tip fee is normally there for that," she said.

Comerford also asked about monitoring at the landfill if the project were to move forward.

"It's been ongoing and will not stop," Markham said.

Markham referenced a Department of Environmental Protection study circa 2007 that said there was no imminent danger of contamination at the landfill. In 2017, Casella conducted a study using monitoring data and found there was "no trend of contamination."

Comerford asked about groundwater contamination, and if any Casella facilities had experienced trouble with this.

Markham said there was groundwater contamination at Casella's Southbridge landfill between 2014-2015, and that landfill monitors took samples from 141 locations.

"There was no direct scientific information that showed contamination," Markham said.

Markham said Casella teamed up with the area towns and the state to provide both temporary and permanent public water to the residents who were affected.

Comerford asked what Casella would do if the Gilbertville Wastewater Treatment Plant could not accept the increase in leachate generated by the landfill if it reopened.

Markham said that doesn't seem to be an issue. She said Casella discussed the increase of leachate with the engineer, and it was determined the plant could handle this when its upgrades are completed.

Comerford said the Planning Board received correspondence from Water Pollution Control Facilities Superintendent Scott Potter that stated the plant cannot accept the proposed amount of leachate.

Planning Board member William Cole read the board's charge and questioned if it included the town having more money to spend, which he believed it did not.

Cole said if the town voted to allow landfills in the Industrial zone, it could have a bigger impact on the town as a whole, well into the future.

"We need to recognize that if this occurs; it's going to occur indefinitely," he said.

Markham said even though landfills would be allowable in any of the town's Industrial zones, it would be unlikely, due to the stringent siting criteria required by the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency.

Cole asked Markham how many other landfills Casella owned in the commonwealth, and how many total landfills were in operation at this time, and would be by 2032.

Markham said Casella does not own or operate any actively operating landfills in Massachusetts and Wright said there are six other landfills in the state, of which three are municipally owned.

"There are no other towns opening or considering opening in 2032...must be a reason," Cole said.

Markham said the commonwealth is facing a solid waste crisis, which would intensify if mid-western landfills began to turn them away.

Planning Board Chair Jenna Garvey shared town counsel's recommendation to change landfills from being permitted by site plan approval, to limited special permit instead. While both processes require a public hearing, there is a higher level of review for special permits.

Planning Board alternate Jeff Schaaf said reopening the landfill would create major changes to the area.

"It's a very rural area," he said. "It could really change the character."

Concerns from citizens

Chris Lance and Danielle Lance, director abutters to the landfill, said they both have deep roots in the town.

"I grew up on these back roads," Danielle Lance said.

Now, the couple owns 57 acres on Greenwich Road, which they worked hard to buy and build a home for their children and animals.

"I saved my entire life to get 57 acres and you are going to destroy it," Chris Lance said to the Casella representatives. "I'm going to have trash higher than any tree on my property."

"I refuse to allow it to be trashed," Danielle Lance said.

William Zinni, Conservation Commission chair, shared concerns about the threat to the town's wetlands located along Muddy Brook.

"It's one of five priority landscapes recognized by Hardwick residents," Zinni said.

Zinni said there is also Hardwick Pond to consider, and the roughly 40 residences with private wells that could have contamination from the landfill.

"Water resources are not appropriate locations for landfills," he said.

Zinni said Hardwick and surrounding towns also shoulder the responsibility of protecting Boston's water supply, the Quabbin Reservoir.

Representing the Physicians Advisory Panel to the Hardwick Board of Health, Dr. Richard Romano said the health and safety of the town's residents should be first and foremost, citing a list of health concerns associated with landfills and pollution.

Two residents spoke in favor of Casella's proposal, both having lived through or witnessed life altering medical emergencies. Both experienced a delayed emergency medical response, as Hardwick relies on the towns of West Brookfield and Barre for ambulance services, along with mutual aid from Ware.

In rural areas of town, including west Hardwick, ambulance response can exceed 20 minutes, which for some, could be a matter of life or death.

Patrill Hollow Road resident Mark Kmiec experienced a medical emergency at his home, and his wife gave him CPR for eight minutes while waiting for an ambulance. He said police officers on the scene had to use the AED twice to keep his heart beating.

"It was 20 more minutes until an ambulance got there," he said. "I believe it will be beneficial to the town at this point to get ambulance services back in the town."

Kmiec said if not for his wife and police officers, he wouldn't be there to speak at the public hearing.

Robert LoRiccio spoke about a time he witnessed a fatal motorcycle accident in town and tended to the victim while waiting for an ambulance. He said if the town had an ambulance, that person's life might have been saved.

"Our town is dying," LoRiccio said. "We are financially dying. Something has to be done."

Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley spoke about the possible impact the landfill could have on residents of that town.

"Our primary concern for the inhabitants of Ware is the drinking water supply," he said.

Beckley said the town has been working to clean up the Muddy Brook area for the past year and a half with the help of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

Beckley said the proposed zone change and subsequent use are located in the Zone 3 of Ware's drinking water supply aquifer.

"While the Zone 3 area does not directly recharge water to the aquifer, it does drain to the Zone 2 area located just south of Hardwick Pond. The Zone 2 is the recharge area for the aquifer that is Ware's source of drinking water. The possibility of contamination of the water increases with an industrial use in this rural location," he said.

Beckley said 65% of Ware's residents depend on this aquifer for drinking water.

Ware resident Claudia Kadra said she has great concerns about the landfill's threat to her town's water supply.

"Water is our most precious resource," she said.

Owen Wright has spent all 23 years of his life in Hardwick, and he spoke on behalf of younger residents in town.

"We really have something special here," he said. "We appreciate that every single day."

Planning Board's decision

Following the closing of the public hearing, the board members voted unanimously against recommending the proposed zoning changes.

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#SaveLunch campaign get support from legislators

WestMass ElderCare, in partnership with Meals on Wheels America, has been leading the charge in advocating for senior nutrition through the #SaveLunch campaign.

This March, local and state legislators joined forces with the organization to deliver meals to constituents and raise awareness about the importance of senior nutrition programs, like Meals on Wheels.

During the last two weeks of March, a host of esteemed legislators dedicated their time to engage directly with the community and witness firsthand the impact of the Meals on Wheels program. Chicopee Mayor John Vieau, Representative Dan Carey, South Hadley Town Administrator Lisa Wong, Representative Shirley Arriaga, Senator Jake Oliveira, Representative Pat Duffy, Ludlow Town Administrator Marc Strange, Councilman and Legislative Aide Juan Anderson-Burgos, and Senator

Peter Durant all participated in this initiative, demonstrating their commitment to supporting the older adult population in our community.

The event provided an opportunity for legislators to connect with constituents in a meaningful way by personally delivering meals and engaging in conversations about the challenges facing older adults, particularly in accessing nutritious food. While the impact of senior nutrition programs is well documented, funding has remained flat for several years, regardless of inflation and rising food costs.

By participating in the #SaveLunch campaign, these legislators showcased their dedication to addressing food insecurity among older adults and their willingness to take action to support vulnerable members of our society.

“We are immensely grateful to have the support of our local and state legislators in our efforts to ensure that no older adult goes hungry,” said Roseann Martoccia, Executive Director of WestMass ElderCare in a press release. “Their participation in the #SaveLunch campaign not only raises awareness about senior nutrition but also underscores the importance of community engagement and collaboration in addressing critical issues facing our aging population.”

About WestMass ElderCare

WestMass ElderCare is a private, non-profit agency founded in 1974, and celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2024, that serves Holyoke, Chicopee, South Hadley, Granby, Belchertown, Ludlow, Ware and other surrounding communities.

As part of a national network of Aging Services Access Points and Area Agencies on Aging, WMEC provides home and community supports to older adults, persons with disabilities, individuals with chronic conditions, and caregivers.



A special sign thanking all the people who donated to make the dinner possible.

Submitted Photos



Members of the Knights of Columbus who volunteered to cook all of the delicious food.

SUPPER from page 1

“This was a great collaboration and outpour from the community,” Bill Moryl said. The Eddie Forman Band donated their time for the event and played fun music for the attendees to enjoy.

“We made a total of \$33,000 for the playground, and pieces of it were delivered over the weekend and work will start soon,” Morrison said.

The event was a success, and the members of PTO and the rest of the families are hoping to be able to see even more people in attendance at the upcoming 5k race to be held at Grenville Park on May 4, 2024.

QUABBIN from page 1

sending a community outside of the I-495 corridor.

Saunders explained that this bill, the first of its kind to be introduced in the House, was one that he proposed with a focus on the future of the region, rather than its past. However, he made clear that it was the history of the region and its stewardship of the reservoir that made a bill like this necessary.

“When the Quabbin was built, when the four towns were taken from us, there were a number of communities that were also impacted forever,” he said.

Saunders went on to detail how many of the towns that contain the reservoir are left to rely primarily on property taxes over commercial development for raising municipal revenues, leading to both buildings and services that were beginning to degrade as a result of those lower figures. He said that this state of affairs was directly a result of the fact that these communities host the reservoir for other parts of the state.

“The lands that we protect for the Quabbin have foreclosed the ability for these communities to do anything else that may generate the type of revenue that funds public safety, that funds basic services that we expect from our communities,” he said.

Providing one example of suffering public facilities, Saunders

said, “There is one usable room in the New Salem Town Hall; it’s in the basement. The rest of the building is not fit for human consumption.”

He said that this bill was not concerned with seeking repayment for these impacts historically, but rather was merely an attempt to recognize the worth of the region’s protection of the reservoir, as well as to assure that the region will continue to be able to protect it going forward.

“The water provides such innumerable value to the people and the businesses and the communities of eastern Mass that there ought to be some consideration given to the communities that steward this resource,” he said. He added that this consideration would come at a minimal cost to MWRA ratepayers, providing an estimated figure of an additional six cents per month for the average Boston water and sewer customer.

Saunders also said this proposed bill was coming at a time when the burden placed on the Quabbin Reservoir may soon be increasing.

“There are a great number of communities in the eastern part of the state who are dealing with very serious water quality issues,” he said. “These are communities that need a reliable source of water, and they are looking to us to provide that.”

He later added that he also would like to make sure there would



Turley Photo by Nick Boonstra

A view of the Quabbin Reservoir from atop Winsor Dam.

still be water left should communities in western Massachusetts also show an interest in joining the MWRA system.

Saunders admitted that he had encountered difficulty in trying to help those from different parts of the state understand why a bill like this would be so important.

“Ofentimes, the initial response I get back is, ‘Yes, it’s sad that four towns were drowned, but it was a necessary step in the Commonwealth’s future’ – so on and so forth,” Saunders said. However, he stated that it was possible to push back against this line

of thinking. “The way this is combatted is through the voice of the folks who live here in the region,” he said. “Not only recounting the past, but talking about what life is like in western Mass now.”

For this reason, Saunders emphasized the importance of individuals to speak out about the matter of regional equity as well as related topics such as water quality and public access to natural resources.

“The more that we can have these voices heard outside of just rooms like this, the more effective it is,” he said.

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.

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.

HARDWICK from page 1

Korzec said he has been working with Highway Superintendent Marty Gyszowka on bids to replace the roof. The project is estimated to cost less than \$40,000.

Korzec said they have three options to address the roof: they can take temporary measures and cover the roof with a tarp, make repairs to the southside of the building, or replace the entire roof. He said the Capital Planning Committee recommends the third option, and going with a metal roof.

“We recommend do the whole thing,” he said. Korzec said the Finance Committee made the same recommendation.

Korzec said the town could take out a multi-year loan and make payments from the Capital reserve account.

The board approved a motion to move forward with repairs to the roof.

Town Administrator’s report

Town Administrator Nicole Parker updated the board about progress being made at the Gilbertville mill located at 94 Main St. She met with owner George Lang on March 26, and he told her that they are finishing installation and stairs now.

Parker said Lang will contact the Building Inspector to seek a

permit, and he is also requesting a license from the Cannabis Control Commission.

“They’re working with National Grid as they need two transformers for all of their power,” she said. “It’s very much moving along.”

Parker said the National Heritage & Endangered Species Program has not collected the clam shrimp, which has impeded the developer from leaving equipment on the site.

Parker said on April 3 there was an emergency closure of the Creamery Road bridge by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. She said the bridge was slated for replacement by MassDOT in 2026.

“We’re working diligently with them now,” Parker said of MassDOT, adding that the East Quabbin Land Trust is donating permanent and temporary easements.

She is hoping to be able to go out to bid this summer.

Parker said updates on the U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded wastewater treatment project are posted on hardwick-ma.gov under the Wastewater Treatment Plant page.

Pathfinder assessment

Parker said the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical

School’s assessment increased by about \$44,000. She said the Finance Committee will look into the increase and will likely meet with Pathfinder’s School Committee to review it.

“We just do the best we can to get them at a reasonable amount... that’s manageable for the towns,” she said.

Parker said Hardwick’s enrollment in the Pathfinder school district increased by five students.

Revolving account transfers

Parker said the Finance Committee and Select Board need to approve revolving account transfers for the Town House Committee and Recycling Commission. Both went over their budget limits, she said.

Anne Barnes, representing the Town House, cited the rising costs of heating oil and utilities. She said the money has gone to install an electric outlet, as well as cover the cost of a structural engineer to evaluate the roof.

“We were careful how we spent it,” she said.

The board moved to transfer \$6,236 to the Recycling Commission from the revolving account; and \$700 to the Town House Committee from the revolving account.

Town administrator position

Parker said she has been selected to be Town Administrator in Southwick, pending negotiations.

She thanked the Select Board for giving her the opportunity to work with the town.

“I love the town,” Parker said. “I think we did a lot of good work here...I really want to thank you for really giving me the opportunity three years ago.”

Annual town election

The annual town election will be held on Saturday, May 4, with polls open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There are no contests on the ballot.

Appointments

The board appointed Lucas Wright and Curtis Stillman to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Janet

Skagerlind to the Conservation Commission to fill vacancies. These terms will run until June 30, 2024.

Resignation

The board accepted a letter of resignation from Zoning Officer of Appeals member Glen Wojcik, effective March 25.

Morss Scholarship application

Select Board members reviewed a draft application for the Elizabeth Morss Scholarship. The board voted to accept the draft application and distribute to area school districts.

The application will also be posted on the town’s website, Facebook and Virtual Common.

Town report dedication

The board approved a suggestion from Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos to dedicate the 2023 town report to Lillian Holden.

Approval

The board approved the Rimfire Rampage event at the Hardwick Rod and Gun Club the evening of Saturday, April 20, starting at 7 p.m.

Correspondences

Parker said the town received notice from the Mass Central Railroad regarding vegetation control. Herbicide applications will occur May 17-June 28 and July 19-Aug. 16.

She said the Select Board was also included on a notice from MassDOT regarding parking on the state highway.

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Up, Up and Away

Quilt guild announces spring show

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

SPRINGFIELD – The Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild was formed in 1988, and since then, has been an amazing addition to the community where lovers of quilting can come together.

“The Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild was originally formed in 1988 by six quilters who met at Calico Stitchery. Enthusiasm was so great that in less than six months the space was outgrown, and they moved to the Agawam Baptist Church,” Elaine Conway said.

Since then, the guild has over 60 members, and meets once a month on the first Wednesday, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Elks Lodge #61, 440 Tiffany St.

The guild meets together to learn new quilting techniques from the occasional speaker, or a workshop will happen. At the end, there’s always a show-and-tell for members to talk about their recent projects.

Conway, the secretary and publicity person for the group, is very excited to announce that the guild will be hosting a special “Up, Up and Away” Quilt Show the first weekend of May, on Saturday, May 4 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, May 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The cost of admission is \$10, and groups of 10 or more are eligible for a discount by calling Janet at 413-267-9997.

“The main attraction is going to be the 82 quilts and quilted items on display for people to enjoy and look at. We will have a ballot for people to vote for their favorites, with ribbons given for the winners,” she said.

The show will also feature a beautifully made raffle quilt made by members of the guild, along with tables of quilted items the guild members made to sell. There



Submitted Photos

This year’s Quilt Show raffle quilt, made by the Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild, has beautiful shapes and colors.

will also be a basket raffle.

The guild will also include its famous Hot Air Balloon for display. The balloon part is made of quilts the guild has made, and is composed of 24 panels total, 12 on top, 12 on the bottom.

“It’s our pride and joy,” Conway said of the Hot Air Balloon. It was made in 2012, and to this day is a treasured part of the guild and its foundation.

The show raises funds for the guild to buy supplies for the quilts, as well as providing speakers and workshops to enhance quilting skills for those who attend.

But that’s not all the Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild does.

“We donate to shelters across the Pioneer Valley,” Conway said.

The beautifully made quilts are donated to organizations that help people in need, including the

Springfield Rescue Mission.

They also donate quilts and quilted items to veterans organizations, foster children organizations, and before COVID, brought quilts to people recovering from surgeries.

“We want to serve the community and also bring an awareness of quilting to the general public and encourage people who may be interested in quilting to go ahead and do so. We are open to men and women,” she said.

The upcoming April meeting will focus heavily on prep-work for the Quilt Show, and the members will put together the baskets for the raffle and any other finishing touches.

Conway started quilting in 2014 and joined the guild in 2018 at the recommendation of a friend after falling in love with the craft, and



One of the Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild members finished and shared their vibrant animal quilt at this past meeting.

the guild itself.

“My favorite part is the camaraderie with the people who are a part of the guild,” Conway said. “I think that there is always something to learn from one another.”

The guild and its members want to open their doors to the community and let them know that anyone with an interest in quilts or quilting is welcome – no requirement for skill level.

“Joining the guild has given me a chance to improve upon my quilting skills, while at the same time making lifelong friendships,”

Conway said.

You can join the guild at any time, and the cost for a yearly membership is \$30. A guest can be brought by an existing member for \$5, and it will go toward membership if they choose to join.

“We started with the formation of the guild because of its desire to give back to the community,” Conway said. And it does, in many, many ways.

For more information about the Pioneer Valley Quilt Guild, visit pvquilt.org or follow them on Facebook.

Taize Music service to be held April 28

MONSON – Under the direction of Kiel Krommer, Director of Music Ministry, First Church of Monson, 5 High St., will hold a service of Taize Music on Sunday, April 28 at 7 p.m.

This ecumenical service of music and meditation is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the service.

Fashion show held on April 25

WILBRAHAM— A Fashion Show Luncheon featuring Chico’s is being sponsored by the Wilbraham Women’s Club, Thursday, April 25, at the St. Cecilia Parish Center, 42 Main St. The event begins at 11:30 a.m. with a social hour and lunch will follow at noon. The meal choices are chicken franchise or salmon with dill sauce. The \$35 donation helps to fund the club’s scholarships and community service projects. In addition, there will be a raffle for many prizes. For reservations please contact Norma Bandarra at 596-8173 by April 17.

Drum circle in April

MONSON— Hearts Willing Club will be sponsoring a Drum Circle at First Church of Monson on Wednesday, April 24, at 7 p.m. Dave Curry will be the drum facilitator. If you have a drum, please feel free to bring it; if not, drums will be available to rent for the evening for \$3.00, payable at the door. Be prepared for a fun and informative evening of gentle drumming.

Reservations are required. To reserve a place, please call Lee at First Church of Monson and/or leave a message at 413 267 3312 or email Lee at office@firstchurch-monson.org before Sunday, April 21. Please be sure to let her know whether you will be bringing your own drum or if you’ll be needing to rent one. The evening is free if you bring your own drum.

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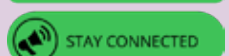
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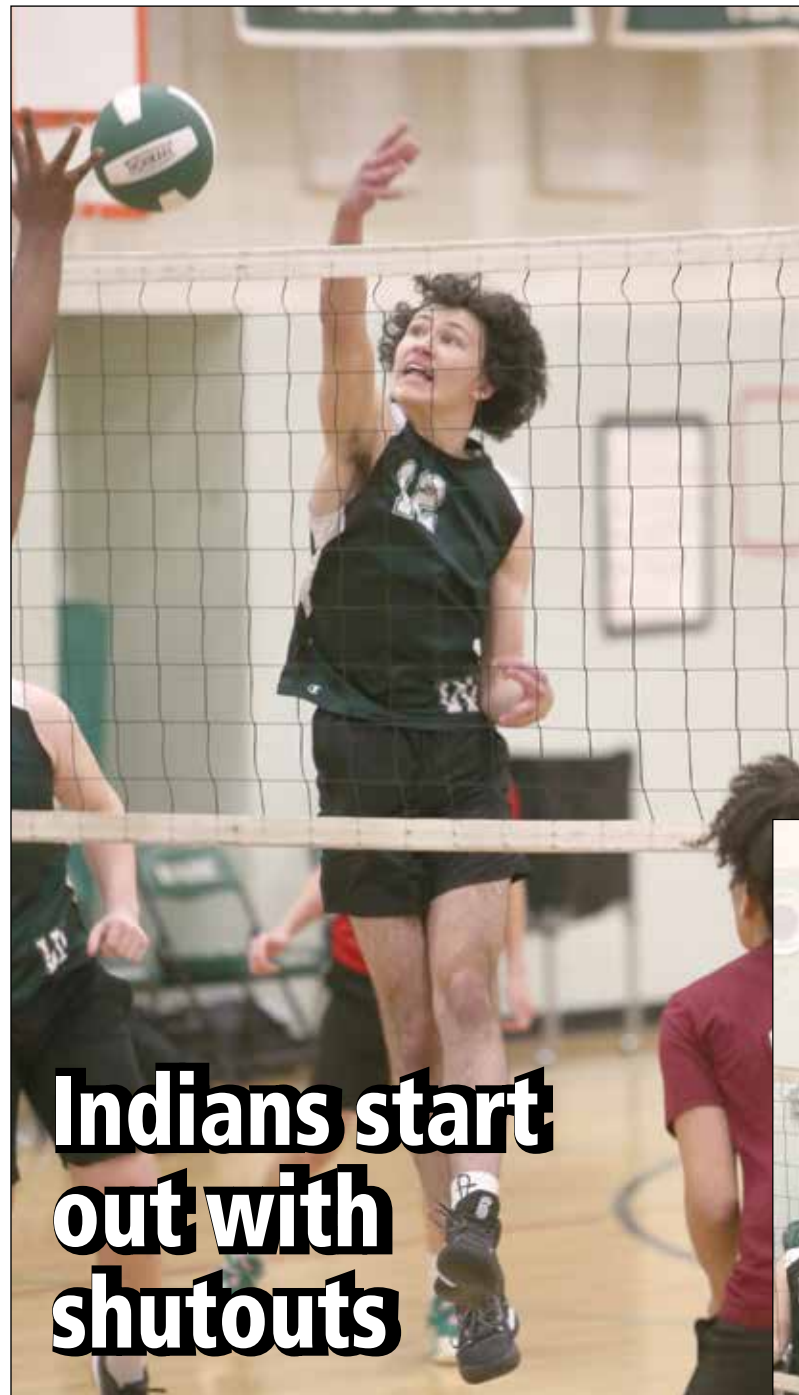
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Sean Bernier goes for a spike.



Nathan Hamon sets up a possible spike.



Indians start out with shutouts

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ryder Cahalan follows through on a hit.

WARE – Last week was a phenomenal opening week for Ware High School boys volleyball. The Indians scored three 3-0 wins. The Indians defeated Athol and Commerce on the road, and won their home opener against SICS. Against SICS, the Indians had three tough battles, but came out on top 25-22, 26-24, and 25-22. Remy Cahlan had 15 kills and 23 digs. Nathan Hamon picked up 13 digs and 21 assists.



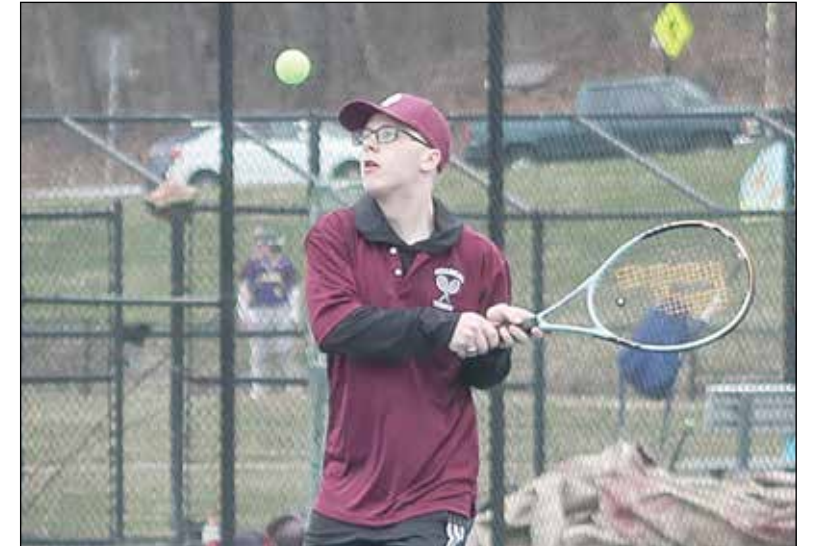
Johnathan Adkins sends a hit over the net.



Kyle Gordon looks to score a point for the Indians.

Cougars out to hot start

WARREN – Boys tennis continues to be a powerful program at Quabog Regional High School. In three matches this season, the boys, as a team, are 13-2 and team wins in all three contests. The Cougars defeated Palmer, David Prouty, and Southbridge last week. The Cougars had one match this week and then next face Leicester on April 24 at 3:30 p.m.



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com

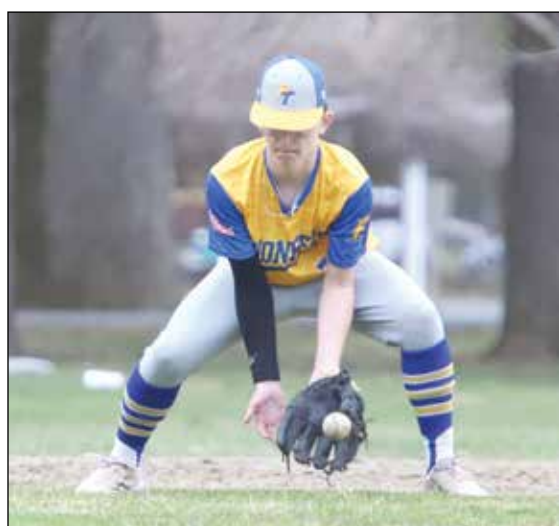
The Cougars will continue their season with a matchup against Grafton next.



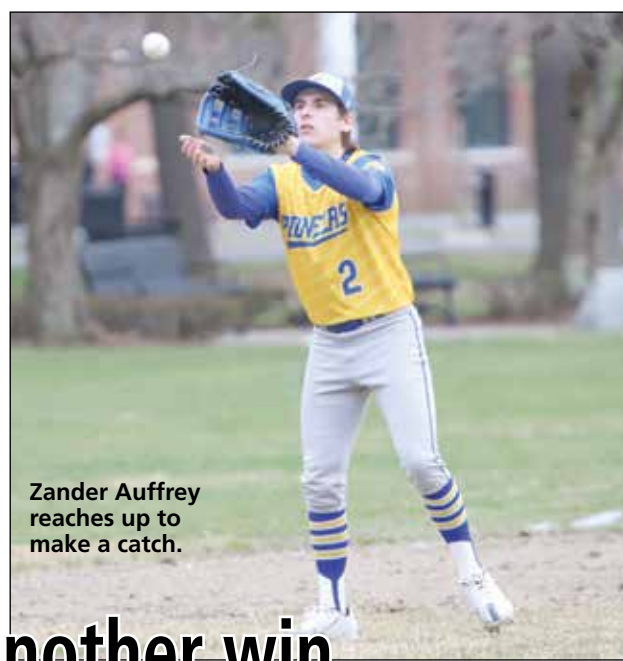
Quabog boys tennis opened up the season against Palmer last Monday.



The Cougars scored a big win over neighboring Palmer.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Brayden Mega cleanly fields a ground ball.



Zander Auffrey reaches up to make a catch.

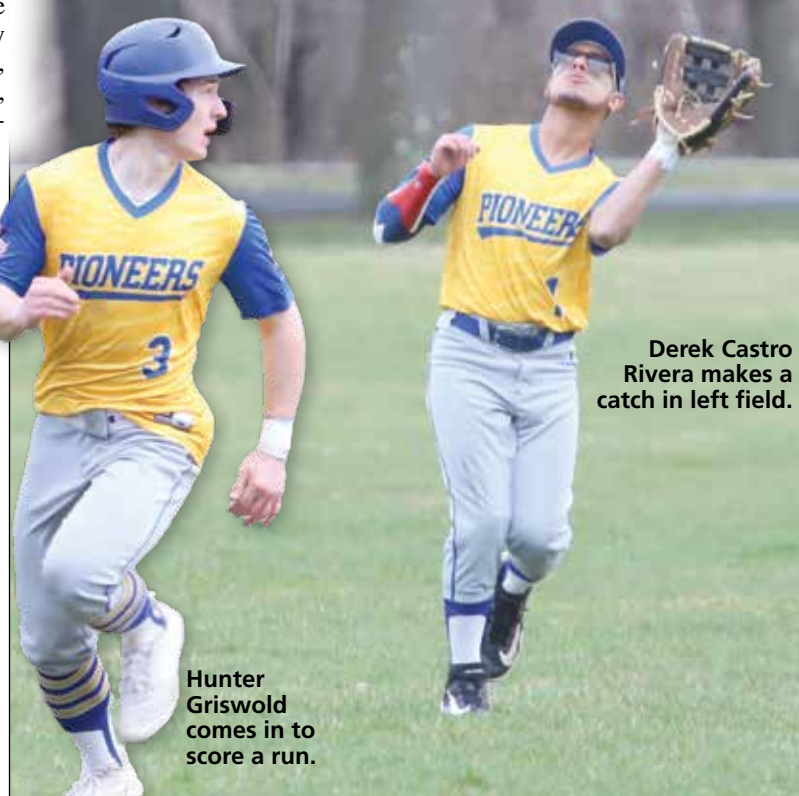
Pioneers look for another win

PALMER – Pathfinder Regional baseball got the win in their first matchup of the season against the High School of Science and Technology last Monday afternoon 10-9. But the action has been limited for the Pioneers since then thanks to poor weather. The Pioneers have had one game postponed by rainy weather and poor field conditions, and despite warmer temperatures, the Pioneers game against SICS ear-

lier this week was also in danger of being postponed. The Pioneers are supposed to have their home opener against Commerce on Friday, April 12 at 2 p.m. at St. Joe's Field.

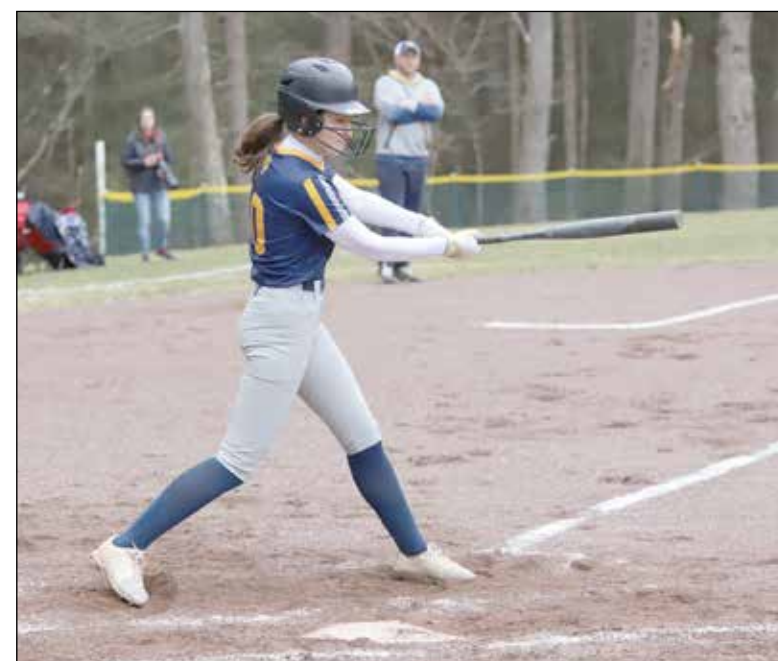


Tim Russell makes his way down the first base line.

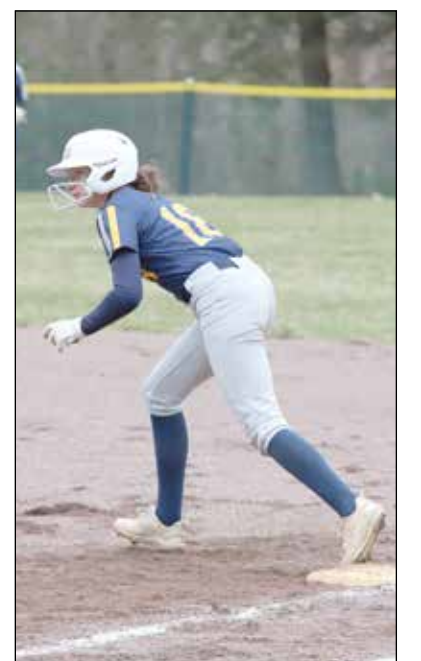


Derek Castro Rivera makes a catch in left field.

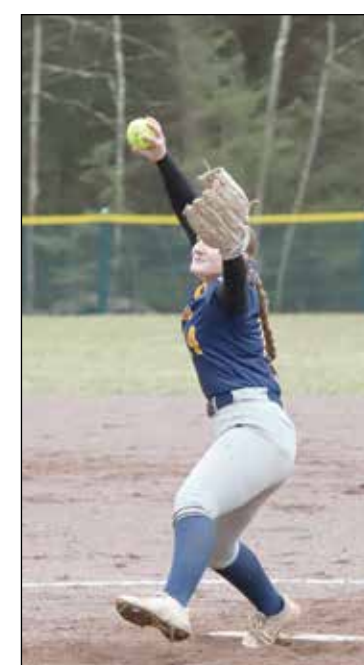
Hunter Griswold comes in to score a run.



Ana Dunn socks a base hit to center.



Kherington Deschenes takes her lead off first base.



Mady Breault fires a pitch to the plate.



Meaghan Doyle makes the catch in center field.

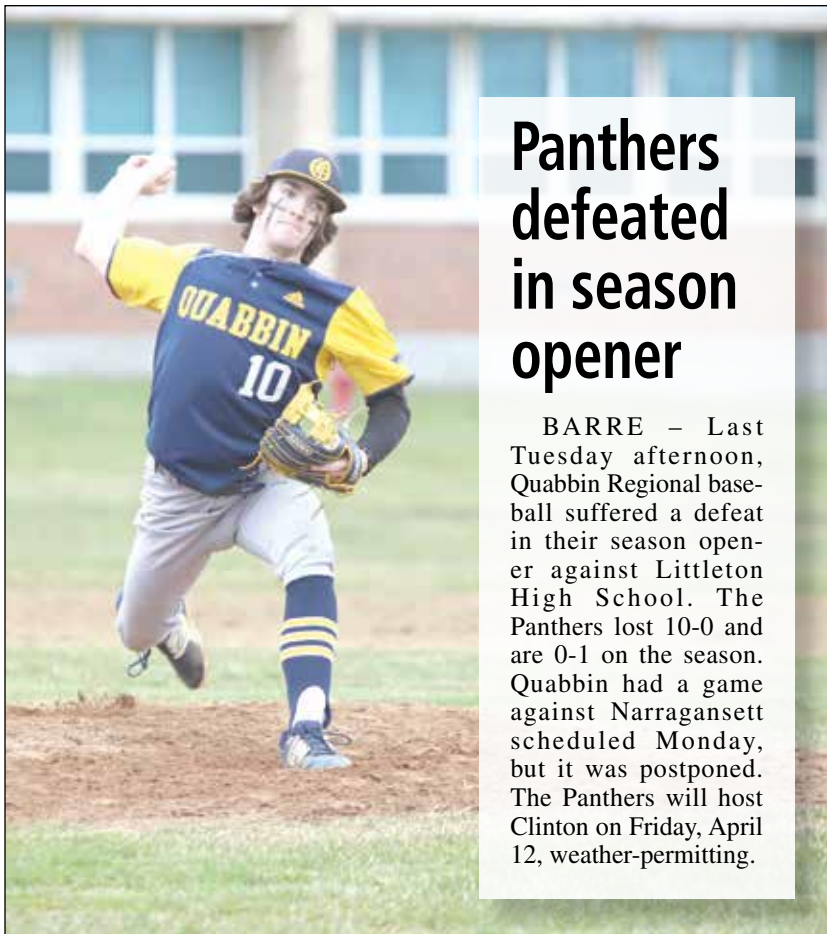
Lady Panthers softball loses wild one

BARRE – Last Tuesday afternoon in some rainy, raw conditions, Quabbin softball had its season opener. Though they were

able to put eight runs on the board, Littleton put up a lot more as the Panthers lost 22-8. Quabbin fell to 0-1 on the season. Like base-

ball, a matchup with Narragansett was postponed on Monday. The Panthers next face Clinton on Friday, April 12 at 4 p.m.

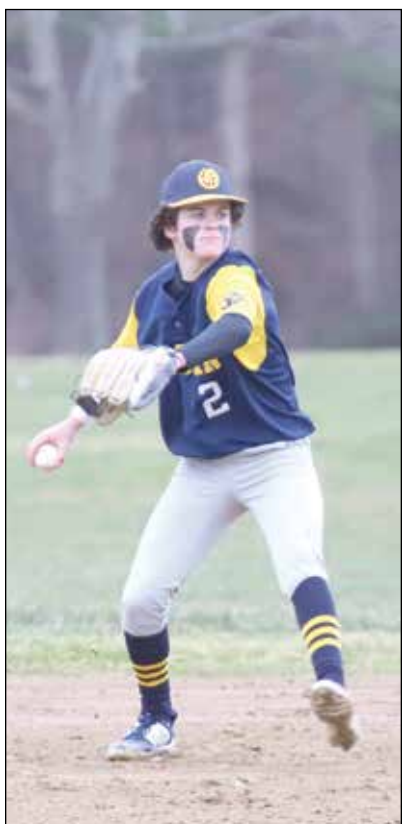
sports



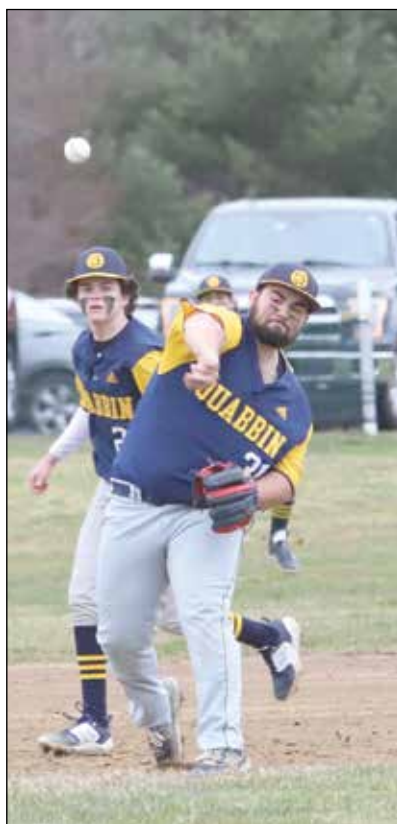
Panthers defeated in season opener

BARRE – Last Tuesday afternoon, Quabbin Regional baseball suffered a defeat in their season opener against Littleton High School. The Panthers lost 10-0 and are 0-1 on the season. Quabbin had a game against Narragansett scheduled Monday, but it was postponed. The Panthers will host Clinton on Friday, April 12, weather-permitting.

Adam Adams delivers a pitch for the Panthers.



Aiden LaPointe comes up with the grounder and throws to first.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Alijah Flint makes a cutoff throw home.

T-Birds suffer loss against Laval

LAVAL, QC – The Springfield Thunderbirds (29-33-3-2) witnessed history from their leading scorer, but an offensive surge from the Laval Rocket (32-28-6-2) was too much, as the home team emerged with a 7-4 win on Saturday afternoon inside Place Bell.

The matinee affair doubled as a day at the fights in the first 2:45 of the game, as two separate scraps elevated the temperature on the two benches and throughout the Place Bell crowd. First, Sam Bitten came to the aid of his brother Will after the elder Bitten took a sturdy check from Tobie Bisson. Six seconds after Sam and Bisson scrapped, Brayden Guy made an impression in his second Thunderbirds game as he scored a winning decision in a tussle with Laval penalty minute leader Riley McKay.

Things did not get off on the right foot for the T-Birds, as a net-mouth scramble just 4:04 into the contest saw Mitchell Stephens open the scoring, jamming a forehander through Vadim Zherenko and giving Laval the 1-0 edge. That goal came moments after Zherenko made a marvelous sliding blocker save on a Stephens one-timer in the opening minute.

The Rocket and their raucous crowd were hoping to run Springfield out of the rink just 3:17 later when 2023 fifth-overall pick David Reinbacher stepped up in the offensive zone to the right circle and uncorked a post-ringer under the bar to make

it a 2-0 game on the rookie's second AHL goal.

Despite the early stumbles, the T-Birds stayed with the program. At 11:06, with an abbreviated power play, Mikhail Abramov connected from the low slot off a centering feed from Hugh McGing, cutting the Laval lead in half. Ryan Suzuki nearly equalized the game just seconds later when he slipped behind the defense, but Rocket netminder Jakub Dobes stood up to Suzuki with a sturdy blocker save.

Despite the Suzuki chance at Dobes' end of the rink, Zherenko continued to have a far busier period than the Laval goalie. To his credit, the T-Birds' second-year backstop stabilized and helped Springfield kill off a pair of abbreviated Rocket man-advantages to keep the 2-1 score intact after 20 minutes.

The T-Birds began the second period on another power play, and after a brief 5-on-3 ended, Adam Gaudette got the game evened up with a wristed shot from the right side just 1:03 into the middle period. The goal, his 39th of the season, brought him back into a tie with Samuel Fagemo of Ontario for the AHL goal-scoring lead.

Springfield, however, could not vault to the lead, and before long, the Rocket had scored two more to take a 4-2 advantage on goals 1:06 apart from Arnaud Durand and Philippe Maillet.

Down but unfettered, the T-Birds again showed resolve. Gaudette drew a penalty shot

after being held on his way in on goal on a breakaway. With a chance to become the first man in the AHL to reach 40 goals this season, Gaudette made no mistake, deking to the backhand and roofing a shot over Dobes to make it 4-3 at 11:40. The sharpshooter's 40th goal also marked the first time since 1990-91 that a Springfield AHL player recorded 40 goals in a single season.

Gaudette's marker also lit a fire under his team. Just 45 seconds later, Abramov whistled a cross-steam pass to a crashing Joey Duszak, who beat Dobes to tie the game, 4-4, at 12:25.

The 4-4 tie carried into the third, but an unfortunate break wound up putting Laval back in front for good. After Leo Loof fearlessly blocked a shot up near his face, the loose puck landed flat at the feet of Durand, who snapped it into an open net before Zherenko could locate it, and the Rocket lead was restored, 5-4, at 6:37 of the third.

This time, a third comeback was not in the cards for Springfield, as Stephens added his second and third goals of the night with a power-play redirect at 10:25 and an empty-netter with 1:11 remaining to finish the scoring. Stephens finished the night with three goals and two assists.

The T-Birds are next in action on Friday, April 12, when they begin a three-game weekend in Hartford against the Wolf Pack.

Puck drop is set for 7 p.m. at the XL Center.

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 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2024 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 21. The league plays most Sunday from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley normally used.

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

The league is currently in the process of preparing for the 2024 season and held a meeting on March 24 to discuss plans for the upcoming season. The next meeting will be held after the league's open practice for all players, including players interested in joining the league. The open practice will be at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley at 10 a.m. on April 14.

Registration 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.

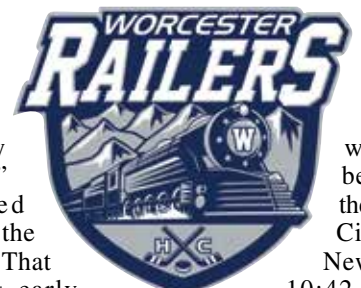
Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school

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,

Please see **GAMES**, page 11

Calder's five goals score huge win for Worcester Railers



WORCESTER – It is hard to separate the various histories that were made in the Railers' 9-5 victory over Maine at the DCU Center Sunday afternoon but let's give it a try.

The triumph came after Worcester had fallen behind, 4-1, early in the second period. No Railers team in a history that dates back to 2017-18 had ever even earned a point, let alone won a game, after trailing by three goals.

Five Worcester goals were scored by Ashton Calder. That set a Railers

record, established an individual league high for the season and was the first five-goal performance by a Worcester player of any uniform since the IceCats' John Carter scored five versus Cape Breton here on Jan. 4, 1995.

Do the math. It last happened 29 years ago.

Calder also had two assists for a seven-point day. That set a team record and tied the Worcester pro mark set by Jim Campbell of the IceCats on Dec. 28, 1999 in a 9-4 victory over Saint John. He had

three goals and four assists.

Finally, the nine goals were the most ever in Railers history. They had scored eight four times before including Saturday night.

After taking two of three from the Mariners this weekend, Worcester is in position to win itself into the playoffs. The Railers play three games at Trois-Rivieres next weekend. Two victories and they are in. Worcester still has a chance to finish third, as well.

Maine has four games left, all versus first-place Adirondack.

Calder was plus-5, tying a Railers record. He has a four-game points streak during which he is 6-5-11. He has six goals in the last two games after enduring a stretch where he had six goals in 33 games.

"Basically," Calder said, "I just play the game the right way whether that means I score or make plays. Lately my linemate (Jake Pivonka) has been hot shooting the puck so I try to find him a lot, and when I have a pass I'm a passer, when I have a shot I'm a shooter.

"I don't try to think about it too

much. I just play my game and go from there."

As has happened throughout the season the Railers started slowly. That translated into a big early deficit and with the talented Brad Arvanitis in goal foe Maine, that deficit looked like Mt. Katahdin.

"I wasn't thinking good thoughts," coach Jordan Smotherman said of that bad beginning, "but we have a resilient group and they did not let down."

The Railers argued that the Mariners' fourth goal by Sebastian Vidmar was directed in off his skate. That was at 3:24. They lost the debate but Calder scored his second of the game at 5:10 and the mood changed.

"As soon as we scored the second goal everything on the bench shifted," Smotherman said. "It got everybody's attention. The shoulders all came back from a slouch."

Calder made it 4-3 at 6:50 on

what might have been the pass of the year from Joey Cipollone. Reece Newkirk tied it at 10:42 and Christian

Krygier put Worcester ahead for good at 11:11. It was Krygier's second goal of the season, first since opening night.

Calder got his fourth at 18:14 with the Railers on a power play.

Tyler Drevitch got Maine back on the board at 1:43 of the third period making it a one-goal with lots of time left. Calder got his fifth at 4:48, though, to restore some scoreboard space.

Brendan Robbins hit an empty net at 18:17 and Ryan Verrier got his fourth of the season at 18:37 to set the franchise record.

Henrik Tikkanen got the win with 22 saves on 27 shots. Arvanitis was replaced by Shane Starrett for the third period and he made two saves.

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Fisher Museum Harvard Forest hosts open house on April 27

PETERSHAM – Fisher Museum Harvard Forest, 324 North Main St., welcomes the public for a free open house on Saturday, April 27 from 1-4 p.m.

This is an opportunity for the public to visit and get to know Harvard Forest. They will have an afternoon filled with games, guided tours and a tree planting in honor of Earth Day.

The afternoon will begin with a series of guessing games in the Fisher Museum followed by a welcome. The first tour will depart at 2 p.m. This will be an hour and half tour led by Greta Vanscoy, Education Coordinator and Field Technician and Jackie Hatala Matthes, PhD, senior scientist at Harvard Forest. The shorter (45 mins) tour will depart at 2:30 p.m. and will be led by Clarisse

Hart, Director of Outreach and Education at Harvard Forest. The tours will explore the forests and delve into research carried out at Harvard Forest.

The lawn will be filled with games and art projects throughout the afternoon. The day will end at 3:30 p.m. with a tree planting in celebration of Earth Day.

This event at the Harvard Forest is free and open to the public. No RSVPs are required. There is plenty of parking spaces available. Everyone of all ages is welcome. The Harvard Forest welcomes individuals with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities.

If people require accommodations or have questions about the

Please see **MUSEUM**, page 11

Biologists speak on aquatic invasive species

Clare Ladue named assistant VP of Customer Care Center

By Nick Boonstra
Staff Writer
nboonstra@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – Aquatic biologists from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation gave a virtual presentation on March 10, educating the community on the dangers of aquatic invasive species in the Quabbin Reservoir and Ware River Watershed, and providing tips on how to prevent the introduction and spread of these unwanted plants and animals.

Shasten Sherwell and Tayelor Gosselin shared on how an aquatic invasive species is defined, what species have been identified in the area's bodies of water, and how these plants impact the environment and the community. Fishers, boaters and other recreationists are advised to take care as the winter comes to an end and the warmer season starts ramping up.

Sherwell explained to attendees that an aquatic invasive species is not only one that is not native to the region, but also one that can out-compete native species and cause negative impacts to the environment.

Some of the negative impacts caused by invasive plants include reduction in water quality, disruption of natural food webs, and damage to human-built infrastructure. Sherwell also mentioned that the values of waterfront properties



File Photo
Aquatic biologists from the Department of Conservation and Recreation provided tips on how to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.

have been found to fall in areas affected by aquatic invasive species.

Invasive species that have been identified locally include milfoil, phragmites, purple loosestrife and fanwort. Two types of zooplankton, the spiny water flea and the fish-hook water flea, as well as hydrilla have also been found around New England but have not been detected in local reservoirs or watersheds as of yet.

Sherwell said that human activity can contribute to the introduc-

tion and spread of aquatic invasive species. Unknowingly, people can transmit invasive species through dumping ballast water and live bait, or by allowing straggling "hitchhikers" to remain on their boat or equipment.

Gosselin highlighted DCR's techniques for managing and preventing the growth of aquatic invasive species. She highlighted widespread education about these plants as critical to these efforts.

She explained that there was constant monitoring of local bodies

of water to ensure any spread of invasive species is detected early. This included 14 annual surveys of the Quabbin Reservoir and the use of GPS to track both native and invasive species.

If a suspected invasive species is found, Gosselin said that the response was in-depth. "We do have a lengthy process to make sure we're being thorough," she said, adding that each species was handled differently from others.

Harvesting areas of invasive species could be as simple as having DCR contractors pulling growths by hand, Gosselin said, but could involve the more aggressive use of suction hoses if conditions were appropriate.

The biologists closed by asking visitors to DCR sites to ensure that they are inspecting and cleaning their boats and equipment, draining any standing water away from waterways and, if possible, allowing everything to completely dry out for at least five days between visits. They also reminded boaters to only utilize designated boat launch areas, and to pay attention to all signage at these locations.

General information about the Quabbin Reservoir can be found online at <https://www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir>. Information about the Ware River Watershed is available at <https://www.mass.gov/locations/ware-river-watershed>.



Submitted Photo
Clare Ladue was appointed as the Assistant Vice President of the Customer Care Center at Country Bank.

WARE – Country Bank, a leading full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the appointment of Clare Ladue as the Assistant Vice President of the Customer Care Center.

With an impressive 30 of financial service expertise, Ladue brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to her new role.

She graduated from Massachusetts Bankers Association – New England School of Financial Studies. She has a Commercial Lending Certificate from Massachusetts Bankers and numerous professional leadership certifications.

Throughout her career, Ladue has gained extensive experience in banking, including retail banking, deposit operations, commercial lending, and regional management. This diverse background makes her the ideal candidate to lead Country Bank's Customer Care Team.

Her connection to the local community is evident through her previous involvement as an executive committee member of the Quabog Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Ladue's commitment to community service is commendable. She has actively participated in numerous charitable initiatives, including the Walk of Champions, Junior Achievement, Rays of Hope, Lorraine's Soup Kitchen, and Link to Libraries. Her dedication to making a positive impact aligns perfectly with Country Bank's core values.

"I am thrilled to join Country Bank and utilize my leadership skills and experience to support our valued customers," said Ladue in a press release. "I will focus on their financial wellness, ensuring a superior customer experience from our exceptional Customer Care Team and I am eager to make a difference and contribute to the continued success of Country Bank."

"We are thrilled to welcome Clare to the Customer Care Center team; her experience in

retail and commercial banking, combined with her leadership roles make her a perfect fit for Country Bank. We look forward to Clare's enthusiasm and dedication representing Country Bank, and supporting our iSTEP Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence and Prosperity, and we are pleased that she has chosen Country Bank to be her Employer of Choice."

About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8B mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester. With a commitment to personalized service and community involvement, Country Bank offers individuals, businesses, and municipalities a comprehensive range of banking products and services.

Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached by calling 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

Listening Wellness Center welcomes new executive director

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – After celebrating its 20-year anniversary four years ago, Listening Wellness Center is ready to turn the page on its next chapter with a new executive director at its helm.

Barre resident Beatriz Arroyo has recently filled the role, following the departure of longtime Executive Director Laura Dusha Nelson.

Arroyo and her boyfriend moved to Barre with her sister, purchasing their dream home near the idyllic common. With the first year spent making the old house into a home, Arroyo decided it was time to look for a new career path.

Having followed Listening Wellness Center on Facebook since she moved to town, Arroyo decided to take a chance and apply for the executive director position.

"Something kind of nudged me to just send it. I sent it in, and they contacted me for an interview. I felt really good about it," Arroyo said. "It's really a dream."

Now, she has a job she can walk to and from every day, taking in the beauty of her neighborhood.

"You can tell that people love it [Barre] and that makes me love it too," she said.

Originally from south Florida, Arroyo attended Florida Gulf University in Fort Meyers, Florida, where she studied sociology.



Submitted Photo
Barre resident Beatriz Arroyo has been named Listening Wellness Center's newest executive director.

Please see **CENTER**, page 13

MUSEUM from page 10

event, they may call 978-724-3302 or email hfvistit@fas.harvard.edu.

The Harvard Forest, founded in 1907 and located in Petersham, Mass., is Harvard University's outdoor laboratory and classroom for ecology and conservation, and a Long-Term Ecological Research site funded by the National Science Foundation. Its 4,000-acre property, located on unceded Nipmuc land, is one of the oldest and most intensively studied research forests in the U.S. Open to the public year-round, the site includes educational and research facilities, the Fisher Museum and miles of recreational trails. Harvard Forest scientists and educators host educational programs for thousands of K12 and university students each year and work closely with the Nipmuc people to ensure that this land and its benefits are accessible and sustaining. People may learn more by visiting <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu>.

GAMES from page 10

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.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Slow and steady: A smart way to invest

You've probably heard stories about fortunate investors who "get in the ground floor" of a new, hot company and quickly make a fortune. But while these things may happen, they are exceedingly rare and often depend on hard-to-duplicate circumstances — and they really don't represent a viable way of investing for one's goals. A far more tried-and-true approach is the "slow-and-steady" method.

To follow this strategy, consider these suggestions:

- Start small** — and add more when you can. When you're first starting out in the working world, you may not have a lot of extra money with which to invest, especially if you're carrying student loan debt. But one of the key advantages of the slow-and-steady method is that it does not require large investment sums to get going. If you can afford to put away even \$50 or \$100 a month into individual stocks or mutual funds, month after month, you may be surprised and pleased at how your account can grow. And when your salary goes up, you can put away more money each month.
- Take advantage of an employer's retirement plan.** If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar tax-advantaged retirement plan, try to take full advantage of it. Again, if you're just beginning your career, you may not be able to put away much in this type of plan, but even a small amount is better than nothing. And as soon as you can possibly afford it, try to put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. These types of plans can offer some key benefits — and perhaps the biggest one is that investing is automatic, in that the money is moved directly from your paycheck into the investments you've chosen within your 401(k) or other plan.
- Be prepared for downturns.** The financial markets will always experience ups and downs. So, you need to be prepared for those times when your investment statements may show negative results. By understanding that these downturns are a normal part of the investment environment, you can avoid overreactions, such as selling quality investments with good fundamentals just because their price has temporarily dropped.
- Chart your progress regularly.** A key element of a slow-and-steady investment approach is knowing how well it's working. But it's important to measure your progress in a way that makes sense for you. So, for example, instead of measuring your portfolio's performance against that of an external stock market index, such as the S&P 500, you may want to assess where you are today versus one year ago, or whether the overall progress you're making is sufficient to help you meet the financial goals you've set for yourself well into the future. Another reason not to use a market index as a measuring tool is that the index only looks at a certain pool of investments, which, in the case of the S&P 500, is simply the largest companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges. But long-term investors try to own a range of assets — U.S. and foreign stocks, bonds, government securities, certificates of deposit, and so on.

"Slow and steady" may not sound like an exciting approach to investing. But it's often the case that a little less excitement, and a lot more diligence, can prove to be quite effective.

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Ware Police Log

During the week of April 2-8, the Ware Police Department responded to 11 miscellaneous calls, 24 administrative calls, nine traffic violations, 21 emergency 911 calls, 13 safety hazards, three thefts/larcenies, two damages/vandalisms/mischiefs, eight motor vehicle accidents, two fires, three animal calls and 16 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, April 2
2:05 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Belchertown Road, Report Made
5:31 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
5:44 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
6:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Route 9, Dispatch Handled

Wednesday, April 3
5:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Chestnut Street, Citation/Warning Issued
11:26 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cherry Street, Dispatch Handled
4:10 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Advised
4:11 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Could Not Locate

Thursday, April 4
5:03 a.m. Safety Hazard, Shoreline Drive, Removed Hazard
5:13 a.m. Safety Hazard, Coffey Hill Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
5:21 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Services Rendered
5:43 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Warren Road, Services Rendered
5:52 a.m. Safety Hazard, Sygiel Road, Services Rendered
6:04 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Main Street, Services Rendered
6:15 a.m. Safety Hazard, Monson Turnpike Road, Assist Given
7:05 a.m. Safety Hazard, Shady Path, Removed Hazard
7:32 a.m. Safety Hazard,

Crescent Street, Unfounded
7:33 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard
7:41 a.m. Safety Hazard, Osborne Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
7:57 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Main Street, Services Rendered
11:03 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Investigated
12:09 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Highland Village, Unfounded
12:23 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
4:49 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Street, Dispatch Handled
6:29 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Park Street, Dispatch Handled
7:13 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Park Street, Dispatch Handled
8:59 p.m. Structure Fire, West Street, Extinguished

Friday, April 5
4:33 p.m. Traffic Collision, West Street, Report Made
9:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Saturday, April 6
1:04 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Hillside Village, Investigated
10:18 a.m. Safety Hazard, Sczygiel Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
12:19 p.m. Safety Hazard, Anderson Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
4:22 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Church Street, Investigated
8:19 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Report Made
10:52 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Vigeant Street, Services Rendered

Sunday, April 7
10:28 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Highland Village, Investigated

Editor's Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court's final disposition.

2:23 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Main Street, Report Made
3:01 p.m. Outside Fire, West Street, Services Rendered
5:44 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Services Rendered
10:53 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Homecrest Avenue, Dispatch Handled

Monday, April 8
7:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
10:32 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, Dispatch Handled
3:33 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Upper North Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Carmelo Perez, 23, Springfield
Assault with Dangerous Weapon +60 (Domestic); Disorderly Conduct; Assault and Battery on +60/Disabled (Domestic); Motor Vehicle, Malicious Damage to c266 \$28(a); Dangerous Weapon, Carry
7:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Vigeant Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:28 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Belchertown Road, Report Made
8:39 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pulaski Street, Dispatch Handled
9:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Warren Police Log

During the week of March 31-April 7, the Warren Police Department responded to 146 building/property checks, 33 community policings, 11 emergency 911 calls, two frauds/forgeries, one stolen vehicle, one animal bite, two motor vehicle accidents, one larceny/theft, four animal calls and 50 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, March 31
8:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Citation Issued
11:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:56 p.m. Animal Bite, East Road, Information Taken
2:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Citation Issued
7:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, School Street, Written Warning
11:04 p.m. Sick/Unknown, North Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, April 1
6:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
6:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
7:19 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Dunham Road, Transported to Hospital
12:08 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Milton O. Fountain Way,

Transported to Hospital
12:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
3:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
7:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
8:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, April 2
5:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
7:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Quaboag Street, Written Warning
11:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:05 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to Party
6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Wednesday, April 3
4:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Citation Issued
5:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
10:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Plates Seized
12:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued
Thursday, April 4
10:14 a.m. Power Lines Down/Arcing, Reynolds Road, Referred to Other Agency
2:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road Extension, Written Warning
2:15 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Maple Street, Officer Advised
4:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
9:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Report Filed

Friday, April 5
8:06 a.m. Power Lines Down/Arcing, Southbridge Road, Referred to Other Agency
9:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
12:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Cronin Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, April 6
1:25 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
9:16 p.m. Seizures, Bacon Street, Transported to Hospital

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of April 1-8, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 54 building/property checks, 45 directed/area patrols, five traffic controls, five radar assignments, eight emergency 911 calls, two assist other agencies, four citizen assists, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, 16 safety hazards, one motor vehicle investigation, one investigation, three animal calls and 12 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, April 1
10:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:25 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital
8:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Prouty Road, Officer Handled

Tuesday, April 2
6:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
2:57 p.m. 911 Elevator Call/

Alarms, Old Petersham Road, Dispatch Handled
5:25 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
9:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Summons Issued

Wednesday, April 3
9:35 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, Officer Handled
2:31 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Bridge Street, Report Taken
5:35 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
8:18 p.m. Assist Citizen, Old Petersham Road, Negative Contact
11:34 p.m. Safety Hazard, Muddy Brook Road, Removed Hazard

Thursday, April 4
6:14 a.m. Safety Hazard, Jackson Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
6:15 a.m. Safety Hazard, Lyman Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:15 a.m. Safety Hazard, Ridge Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:34 a.m. Safety Hazard, Jackson Road, Dispatch Handled
8:42 a.m. Safety Hazard, Muddy Brook Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
10:04 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Dispatch Handled
10:28 a.m. Safety Hazard, Church Lane, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
10:29 a.m. Safety Hazard, Jackson Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
10:33 a.m. Safety Hazard, North Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
1:21 p.m. 911 Medical, Hardwick Road, Dispatch Handled
1:54 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Petersham Road, No Action Required
9:38 p.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Services Rendered

6:24 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
6:33 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
7:05 a.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Services Rendered
7:40 a.m. Safety Hazard, North Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
7:41 a.m. Safety Hazard,
6:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
7:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Unknown Location, Investigated
10:01 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
1:35 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Services Rendered
2:32 p.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled
4:58 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Collins Road, Services Rendered
Saturday, April 6
8:07 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
1:16 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Transported to Hospital

Senate acts to prevent abuse and exploitation online

BOSTON – State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) joined his colleagues in the Senate to pass bipartisan legislation aimed at preventing abuse and exploitation online by criminalizing the dissemination of sexually explicit images or videos without an individual's consent. The bill, S.2073, An Act to Prevent Abuse and Exploitation, takes a multifaceted approach to tackling online harassment and

exploitation. It includes provisions for a comprehensive educational program designed to help adolescents understand the severe consequences of posting indecent visual depictions online. Oliveira emphasized the significance of the bill's approach in a press release, stating, "With this legislation, the Senate has made it clear that this form of bullying, harassment, and exploitation will

not be tolerated. Survivors will receive the justice and support they deserve. And the educational programs included in this bill will ensure that young people understand the damaging effects of this behavior." Oliveira thanked Senate leadership for their collaborative effort in developing this extensive bill.

Please see **ABUSE**, page 13

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obituaries

Pioneer Valley organizations set to receive addition \$1.7M

BOSTON – Senators Edward J. Markey (D-Massachusetts) and Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts) announced their successful efforts to secure an additional \$1,744,000 in federal funding to Pioneer Valley organizations to create career pathways in healthcare, support minority-owned small businesses, and expand access to mental health care.

The funding announcement comes in addition to more than \$10 million in federal funding for energy and water resources, housing and urban development, science, and rural developments in the Pioneer Valley announced by the delegation earlier this month. Additional projects receiving federal funding include: \$194,000 for the Franklin County and North Quabbin Children's Advocacy Center to expand Mental Health Services for Children and

Families Impacted by Sexual Abuse in the North Quabbin Region. These projects come in addition to five earlier awards in the Pioneer Valley, including: \$370,000 for the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts to develop digital resources, including a mobile app and website, to expand public access to real-time air quality data collected by the Healthy Air Network.

Poetry and music series offered at Merriam-Gilbert library

WEST BROOKFIELD – A poetry and music series will be held at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, 3 West Main St. on Tuesdays, April 16, 30 and May 7 at 6 p.m. Each evening will feature readings by area poets book-ended by a musical duet. This program is made

possible by the West Brookfield Cultural Council as supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. On April 16, poets Karen Sharpe and John Hodgen will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong, Rich Falco and Rich Ardizzone. On April 30, poets Andre Juarez and Geoff Wilkinson will be accompa-

nied by musicians Jerry Wilfong and Jim Capone and on May 7, poets Eve Rifkah and Paul Szlosek will be accompanied by musicians Jerry Wilfong and Rich Falco. The program is free and open to all. Please stop by or call the library at 508-867-1410 to reserve your seat.

ABUSE from page 12

"The final bipartisan bill, unanimously passed by the Senate on Thursday [March 21], was crafted with the guidance of Senate President Spilka, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Michael J. Rodrigues, Senate Chair of the Judiciary Committee Senator Jamie Eldridge, and the bill's primary sponsor Senator John F. Keenan. I want to recognize them for their efforts on this landmark bill." The key features of the bill include: Comprehensive Educational Program: The bill mandates the development of a comprehensive educational diversion program by the Office of the Child Advocate.

This program will educate adolescents on the consequences of sexting and posting indecent visuals online. School districts will be required to promote media literacy skills and utilize content from the OCA's program. Definition of Coercive Control: The legislation defines coercive control providing individuals with the ability to seek abuse prevention orders in threatening situations. Increased Fines and New Offenses: The bill increases fines for criminal harassment and establishes new offenses for the unlawful distribution of explicit material. Creation of Commission: An amendment was adopted to create a commission tasked with examining the impacts of technology and the internet on protecting individuals

from harm, abuse, and exploitation. Advocates across the state have voiced strong support for the bill. Deb Mann Schmill, Founder and President of the Becca Schmill Foundation, highlighted its importance in protecting individuals from online exploitation. "The passing of this legislation by the Senate today is an important milestone for all victims of online image-based sexual exploitation in Massachusetts," said Schmill. This marks the second time the Senate has passed a version of this legislation. Following the House of Representatives previous passage of a similar bill, the two branches will now reconcile differences before sending it to the Governor for consideration.

CENTER from page 11

Following graduation, she moved back home and took a part-time job at Whole Foods. "That was supposed to be a little hiatus and ended up turning into a career," Arroyo said. Food is something that ties in closely to wellness, Arroyo said, and it becomes a shared experience for people from all cultures and backgrounds. "Food is the unifier for all people," she said. Arroyo had planned to stay with Whole Foods for her career, but following a change in ownership the culture of the company shifted. It's the culture of Listening Wellness Center that made Arroyo want to apply for the executive director position, something that is very important to her. "I wanted to do something really meaningful to me, and impactful," Arroyo said. "Everything kind of lined up." Arroyo is ready to immerse herself in Listening Wellness Center's programming, especially the cooking, yoga and children's classes. She is also ready for the community building that encompasses this role and the center in general. "We're gearing up for our spring program for the kids and the community. That's the stuff that I'm really excited about,"

Arroyo said. "I want more programs and access to the community. Barre is such a great community." Listening Wellness Center is looking to offer cooking classes for people that are older, teaching them how to cook for one or two people. Other ideas include cooking classes for college students living on their own for the first time. Juicing and smoothie-making would be another topic, along with finding fun ways to incorporate vegetables into your diet. These classes would be about "meeting people where they're at," then adding more diverse culinary classes. Arroyo has been listening to feedback from the community and beyond, to meet the center's growing needs. "We've had a lot of requests from the community for more yoga, and yoga options," Arroyo said of the center's yoga program. Listening Wellness Center has numerous yoga instructors leading a variety of classes for all skill levels and abilities. She's also been in touch with a nonprofit veterans yoga movement based out of California, to organize at least one veterans yoga event. "Their instructors are either veterans who have gone through the training, or yoga instructors who have been through trauma

informed veterans training," Arroyo said. "I'm hoping that it kind of opens up a door for them." Mental health is also just as important to wellness as physical health, Arroyo said, as is "flexing our social muscles." "Humans need activities to bond and build our social networking in the community," she said. "Physical and mental health are singular...[community events] bring in all different types of people and make bridges that wouldn't necessarily be there." Dusha Nelson is working alongside Arroyo as she transitions into her new role. "I am very excited for the future of Listening," Dusha Nelson said. "I've been working with Bea doing some training and some transitioning and it's been a pleasure to get to know her and I can see myself continuing to work with Listening in the future in my own new endeavors." Arroyo welcomed people from the community to stop in and meet her at Listening Wellness Center, located at 35 South St. "If you see me around say 'hi,'" she said. "I want people to feel comfortable coming here and reaching out." For more information on Listening Wellness Center and its offerings, visit listeningwellness.org or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

Kathryn A. Deslauriers, 90

WARE – Kathryn Ann "Kay" (Kanevski) Deslauriers, a longtime resident of Ware, passed away peacefully at her home on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at the age of 90 surrounded by her loving family.



Born in Brockton, she was the daughter of the late Anthony and Helen (Grimes) Kanevski. She leaves her loving husband of 71 years, Paul A. Deslauriers of Ware; her daughter, Lee Ann Martins (Bruce) of Cortland, New York; her son, Michael P. Deslauriers of Ware; her daughter, Susan DiTullio (John), of Hanover; and her daughter, Debra Clancy (Kevin), of Hamilton, Ohio. She also leaves grandchildren, Matthew Martins (Nicole), Timothy Martins (fiancée Kayla and her son Ethan), John DiTullio (Katie), Christina DiTullio, Sara Danks (Sam), Mari-Kate Supplee (Timothy), Andrew Gage, Eric Clancy (Christine) and Beth Schmitt. She leaves her beloved great-grandchildren, Davey, Evren, Oscar, Mackenzie, Gage, Kalyn, Trinity, Eli and Ethan. She also leaves many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her brother, David Kanevski and wife Becky, son-in-law David Gage, and by her great-grandson, John Luca DiTullio. Kathryn was a loving and devoted

Death notices

Deslauriers (Kanevski), Kathryn Ann
Died April 3, 2024
Services April 11, 2024

Holden, Richard C.
Died April 3, 2024

wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to many. She enjoyed reading, needlepoint, sewing, bowling, golfing, playing the piano and bird watching. She especially loved her summers in Onset where she met her beloved husband. She enjoyed sitting on the porch visiting with family and friends and watching the boats. She was loved by all. Kay and Paul also enjoyed traveling. Kathryn worked as a telephone operator in Brockton and in Ware, at Mary Lane Hospital Coffee Shop, and as a teacher's aide at Ware Elementary for many years before retiring. She was an active member of All Saints Church where she participated in many church programs. Calling hours for Kathryn will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2024, from 4-7 p.m. in the Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St. in Ware. A funeral mass will be held on Friday, April 12, 2024, at 11 a.m. in All Saints Church, 17 North St. in Ware. Burial will be in New Saint William Cemetery immediately following Mass. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice. An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com.

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.

Richard C. Holden, 61

WARE – Richard C. "Buzz" Holden, 61, of Ware, was surrounded by his loving family when he peacefully passed away on April 3, 2024.



We would like to thank the wonderful staff at Dana Farber, Brigham and Women's, family and friends that came together and supported us along this journey. Rich was born on Sept. 25, 1962, and grew up in Wheelwright and graduated from Quabbin Regional High School. Shortly thereafter he began working for E.P. Wine, Inc. in Barre and remained there for almost 40 years and was a gas inspector in the town of Ware. He was such a jack of all trades, that he could fix or figure out almost anything. He built two beautiful log homes. He was happiest at his cabin in Maine, either walking or scouting in the woods, or out boating and fishing on the lake. Rich loved watching and playing all sports. He played basketball, touch football and played on the men's softball league for many years. He was in several golf leagues and his best times were golfing with his buddies and tossing a few back then playing Keno. He was also an avid hunter and fisherman.

Every year, for 30 plus years he'd go way up to a hunting camp in Maine with his hunting guys and have the best of times. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. He was so proud of his children and as soon as he would hear any of his grandchildren it would bring the biggest smile to his face. He was known for his great sense of humor, quick wittedness and always having such a wonderful welcoming smile for all. His personality brought warmth and joy to everyone he encountered, and his passing will be mourned deeply by everyone who knew and loved him. Rich's memory will live on in the hearts of his family and all who knew him. Rich was predeceased by his parents, Jacqueline (Petra) Holden and Lester Richard Holden and mother-in-law Evelyn Baird, brother-in-law David Baird. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Laurie Baird-Holden; children Kenzi Holden (Ryan Czepiel), Kirsten Holden (Michael Gibree),

and Kurtis Holden; grandchildren Rylee Czepiel, Rhett Gibree, Mack Czepiel and he knew and was thrilled baby Gibree is arriving this fall. His siblings Dana (Bob) Yermish, Tom (Kathy) Holden; sister-in-laws and brother-in-laws, Dawn Baird (Steve Vaccaro), Scott Baird, Bonnie (Eddie) Kent, and nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, aunts, cousins, and many friends. "What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose, for all that we love deeply becomes part of us." A private ceremony will take place at a later date at the family's convenience. So, let's raise a glass in memory of Rich, you may have left this world, but you will forever remain in our hearts. Here's to you Rich. He was so thankful to all the amazing people who donated and registered to be "The Match." You are very much appreciated. In lieu of flowers, kindly consider a donation to: Danafarber.jimmyfund.org

Send Us Your Summer Event Information

Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes May 22.

Deadline for submissions is April 22.

Community Summer Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

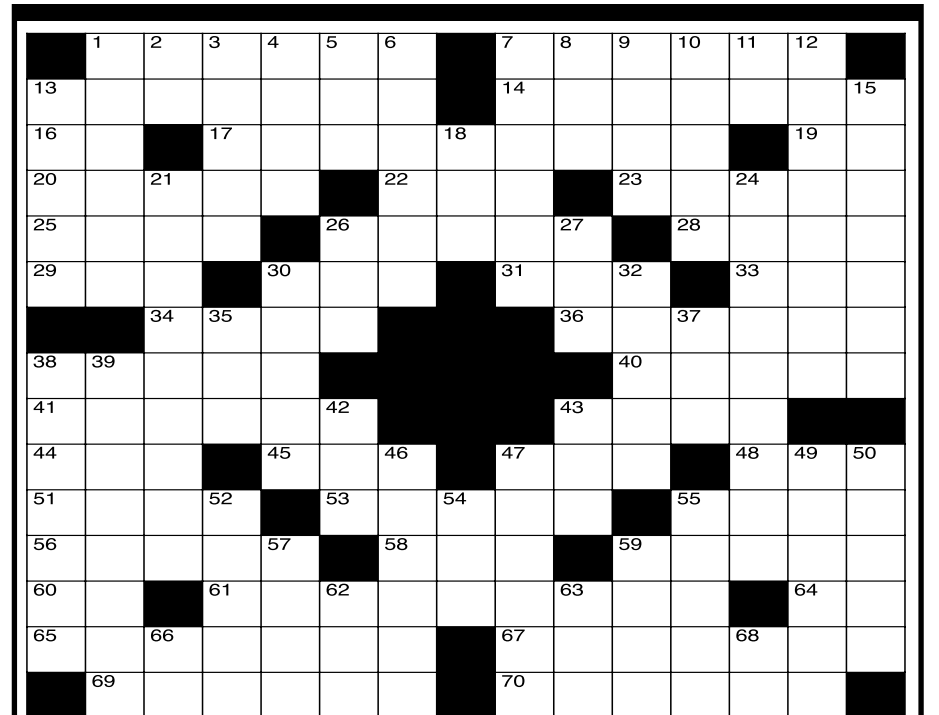
Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Island nation
7. Platforms
13. Project plan
14. French fishing port
16. South Dakota
17. Oakland's baseball team
19. Military policeman
20. Ornamental stone
22. Garland
23. Process that produces ammonia
25. Moususes
26. Music notation "dal"
28. Fail to win
29. Peyton's little brother
30. Not near
31. Some cars still need it
33. Lizard genus
34. An idiot (Brit.)
36. Postponed
38. African country
40. Gazes unpleasantly

CLUES DOWN

1. Used as a weapon
2. Yukon Territory
3. Makes a map of
4. An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
5. Unnilhexium
6. Merchant
7. Playing the field
8. Folk singer DiFranco
9. Something to scratch
10. Mexican agave
11. Equal to one quintillion bytes
12. Session
13. North American people
15. Ranches
18. Electroencephalograph
21. A type of compound
24. Avenue
26. High schoolers' test
27. A type of meal
30. Gradually disappeared
32. Ancient Franks law code

35. Popular pickup truck
37. Buzzing insect
38. Deal illegally
39. Lying in the same plane
42. Obstruct
43. Related
46. Challenge aggressively
47. Nocturnal hoofed animals
49. Bird's nests
50. Forays
52. B. de Mille, filmmaker
54. Title of respect
55. One-time name of Vietnam
57. Self-immolation by fire ritual
59. Private school in New York
62. Political action committee
63. A way to fashion
66. Email reply
68. "The Great Lake State"

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public notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family
Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No.
HS24P0192EA
Estate of:
Roberta Fay Boucher
Also Known As:
Roberta F. Carroll
Date of Death:
January 30, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION
NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kimberly A. Davis of Ludlow, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Kimberly A. Davis of Ludlow, MA

Stephen D. Boucher of Franklin, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 04/11/2024

**Notice of Public Hearing
Planning Board
LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, Sec. 5, the Ware Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, May 2, 2024** during their normally scheduled meeting starting at 7pm in the Town Hall meeting room, 126 Main Street, Ware MA. The purpose of this hearing is to consider amendments to Sections 4.1 (Use Designations) and 4.9 (Overlay District Regulations) of the Town of Ware Zoning Bylaws to revise language that pertains to the floodplain bylaw sections in order

to meet criteria for the National Flood Insurance Program.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with the applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in Town Hall Meeting room, 126 Main Street, Ware MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via Zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

A complete copy of the proposed changes can be found at the Planning & Community Development Department Office and on the department web page at www.townofware.com. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard should appear at the time and place designated. All interested parties are invited to attend.

WARE PLANNING BOARD
Ed Murphy III, Chair
04/11, 04/18/2024

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 Rachael 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 MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 38 W Main Street, Ware, MA 01082
By virtue 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 Mortgage 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

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **PATRICIA A. SWISTAK to SPENCER SAVINGS BANK**, dated August 21, 2013 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds (the "Registry") in Book 51404, Page 158 (the "Mortgage"), of which Mortgage the undersigned (the "Mortgagee") is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of the Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8, 2024** at the mortgaged premises located on or near 2186 Main Street, West Warren, Massachusetts

(the "Premises"), all and singular the premises described in the Mortgage, to wit:
"The land in Town of Warren, Village of West Warren, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:
FIRST PARCEL
BEGINNING on the northerly line of Main Street in said West Warren at a corner of land now or formerly of Cornelius Mahoney;

Thence easterly on line of said street 50 feet to land now or formerly of The Thorndike Company; Thence northerly by land now or formerly of said Company 127 feet, more or less, to land now or formerly of Frank F. Marcy; Thence westerly by land of said Marcy and land now or formerly of William Clark 50 feet to land of said Mahoney;

Thence by land of said Mahoney, southerly 127 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

SECOND PARCEL
BEGINNING on the northerly line of the Warren Cotton Mills at a point situated N. 79° 15' W., 42 feet from a stone point at the north-east corner of land of said Company;

Thence on line of land of said Company and other land of Lorraine T. Methote northerly 79° 15' W., 128.5 feet;

Thence by land of said Company N. 3° W., 104 feet to an iron pin;

Thence easterly by land now or formerly of Charles Guilette 85.5 feet;

Thence by land now or formerly of Joseph Brunell and land now or formerly of Jeremiah Sheehan southerly 160 feet, more or less to the place of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to Peter F. Swistak and Sibyl T. Swistak by deed of Lorraine T. Methote dated July 20, 1960 recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 4136, Page 266, Peter F. Swistak having died on March 7, 2008.

BSPC in Bk 42817 253"
The description of the Premises contained in the Mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The Premises, together with all improvements encumbered by the Mortgage, are to be sold and conveyed subject to all leases, tenancies, occupancies, mortgages, restrictions, covenants,

orders of conditions, easements, encroachments, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments or liens, federal and state tax liens, other liens or claims in the nature of liens and existing encumbrances recorded prior to the Mortgage and/or otherwise having priority over the Mortgage, if there be any.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable deposit of **TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS** is to be paid by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale, the balance to be paid by certified or bank cashier's check and deed to be taken by purchaser within thirty (30) days of the sale at the offices of Seder & Chandler, LLP, 339 Main Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, attorneys for the Mortgagee.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation on the date and at the time and place appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation on the date and at the time and place appointed for the adjourned sale.

In the event of the failure or inability of the purchaser to perform and to purchase the Premises in accordance herewith, the Mortgagee reserves the right (but is not obligated) to accept, subject to the Memorandum of Sale, the second highest bid for the Premises, without further advertisement and without further notice to other bidders or persons. In the event that the Mortgagee offers the Premises to the second highest bidder and such person declines either to purchase the Premises at the second highest bid price or to sign the Memorandum of Sale, then the Mortgagee may elect (but is not obligated) to exercise the rights of the second highest bidder under this paragraph and to purchase the Premises at the second highest bid price, without further advertisement and without further notice to other bidders or persons.

Other terms to be announced at the time and place of sale.

CORNERSTONE BANK
f/k/a
SPENCER SAVINGS BANK
Present holder of said Mortgage

Jennifer L. Conrad, Esq.
SEDER & CHANDLER,

LLP
339 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 757-7721
Attorneys for the Mortgagee

THE ZEKOS GROUP
P.O. Box 549
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
(508)842-9000
Auctioneer, License No. 104
04/11, 04/18, 04/25/2024

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 6:45PM** 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

**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.
HS23P0236EA
Estate of:
Gerald William Wallace

Date of Death:
01/25/2016
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen L. Wallace of Tonbridge, Kent, United Kingdom** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Karen L. Wallace of**

Tonbridge, Kent, United Kingdom be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal 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 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 day, 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 03, 2024

Mark S. Ames,
Temporary Register
04/11/2024

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.

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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.

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