RAFFLE from page 1

The drawing night will have a reception from 5-7 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served, and festive fellowship will be enjoyed by all who are able to give back this holiday season and support those facing food insecurity.

Fay said the gallery has been hosting this fundraiser for the past several years, and that last year's proceeds were used to make improvements to The Sharing Cupboard's facilities including shelving and flooring.

"Food banks can stretch a monetary donation much further than retail grocery donations. While canned goods are helpful, financial contributions allow food banks to buy perishable items like fresh produce, dairy, and lean proteins that aren't often part of standard grocery drop-offs," Fay said. "Local food assistance eases immediate household budget pressures-freeing up scarce money so families can pay for rent, utilities, medicine, or childcare without having to choose between bills and a meal."

Fay will also be collecting nonperishable food items for The Sharing Cupboard on Nov. 20 and anyone who brings a full bag of groceries will receive a free raffle ticket.

Currently, The Sharing Cupboard is looking for items to help with holiday meals, including stuffing, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie filling, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, evaporated milk, cake frosting and cake mix.

The Sharing Cupboard serves households in Warren, West Warren and West Brookfield. The Sharing Cupboard was started in 2002 and operates out of the basement of the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, 36 North Main St.

Each month, between 65-85 households are provided with food.

The Sharing Cupboard is open two days per week and both daytime and evening hours, to fit different schedules. Hours are Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursday from 7-8 p.m.

The Sharing Cupboard is closed the fifth week of the month and when school is canceled due to the weather,

One of the founding principles of The Sharing Cupboard has been to allow clients to choose what they receive from available supplies, as opposed to everyone getting a pre-packed bag of the same items. Clients can come once per month and get a list of available items in different categories.

Household size affects the quantity of food offered in each category.

The Sharing Cupboard receives food from the Worcester County Food Bank and donations from local businesses and individuals and it is staffed by a dedicated group of volunteers who stock the shelves and pack the orders for the clients.

For more information about The Sharing Cupboard, people may call the church at 508-867-7078.

About the gallery

For more information and a complete listing of gallery happenings, call the gallery at 508-753-8604, email yafacceber@hotmail.com, visit westbrookfieldartandframe.com or the gallery's Facebook page, or stop by the gallery during open hours, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

This necklace made by Jennifer Geldard will be raffled off to benefit The Sharing Cupboard food pantry.

This "Jailbird Crow" was painted by artist Rebecca Fay.



Above, Karen Bullock made this hand-bound journal. Left, this ring was made by Cathe Palo.



A live edge bowl by woodturner Frank White.

STM from page 1

is for long-term positions within the town.

Article 2 was to raise and appropriate or transfer $500 to establish a hospitality account for the Highway Department to fund regional meetings and for food during long-term operations in the winter.

Article 3 raised and appropriated or transferred $1,300 to fund a Massachusetts Emergency Management Association director salary, which is a separate salary for the fire chief acting as director.

Article 4 raised and appropriated or transferred $3,500 to fund an increase in highway wages for a heavy equipment operator to attract and retain an operator to replace one who is retiring.

Article 5 was to raise and appropriate or transfer a one-time highway vacation accrual cost of $7,000 which is a buyout of a retiring employee.

Article 6 transferred $12,000 from free cash to fund a core of the municipal building facility study of the HVAC system.

Article 8 was to transfer $28,000 from available funds to conduct a FY 26 audit which is required when the town is using over $1 million in federal grants.

Andrew Lynch, Board of Selectmen chair, said this comes out of free cash so it doesn't affect the tax rate. Town Accountant Donna Couture said the grant was identified as federal in September.

Article 9 was to raise and appropriate or transfer $5,000 for veteran's benefits to replenish amounts expended so far this year.

The final article 10 was to transfer from water retained earnings or other funds a total of $20,713.29 for Water Department projects and loans to complete projects.

MEETING from page 1

students and financially responsible for both North Brookfield and the Quaboag towns of West Brookfield and Warren.

During the meeting, Grant said an example of shared services would be a part-time person at Quaboag could also work some hours in North Brookfield.

The boards also discussed a feasibility report by Mark Abraham regarding a tuition agreement, but according to Board of Selectmen Chair Jamie Gilman, there were some numbers that were incorrect in the report, which Town Accountant Shiela LeBlanc corroborated.

Superintendent of Schools Tim McCormick said it was a five year projection, and some of the first year numbers were incorrect, which threw off the rest of the projection. He said the error was in the town version of the budget, as in the voted-on amount at town meeting, but offsets and formulas were all correct.

The boards agreed to come back to the topic when the numbers are worked out, but Gilman noted budget season is on the horizon.

The School Committee also went over some numbers in enrollment, saying there's an unusually small kindergarten enrollment this year at about 21-22 students, which will be put in two classes.

McCormick said enrollment is declining across the state. McCormick noted there are eight students in the pre-K program who could potentially become a part of that class though.

The committee also noted that 200 students from K-12 choice out of North Brookfield, and that does not include students going to Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School District. About 59 students choice into the district, and fewer than 80 students are in grades 9-12.

Finally, the committee noted there is some advocacy for more funding to rural schools, looking to make the state allot $68 million for rural districts.

Executive Assistant Mary Beth Kularski provided a written correspondence to the Quaboag Current going over the past seven years of this discussion, which she said has been going on much longer.

In the email, she said the newest study started in 2019 with a grant to explore regionalization because it's something the state encourages, and enrollment has been declining, and it looked like it would continue to decline because less people were being born.

She wrote that they looked at the districts in Spencer/East Brookfield, Quabaog and Quabbin Regional School District and found that Quaboag would be the most viable to regionalize with.

Kularski wrote they then moved on to drafting a regional agreement, but the Quaboag Regional School Committee had voted to cease pursuing regionalization in 2024. She wrote that in 2025, a tuition agreement became a talking point, which would require North Brookfield to pay a certain amount to send kids to another district.

Kularski said the current plan is to have a tuition agreement for grades six-12 and keep the elementary school children in town. She wrote that this was voted down in this spring under the former School Committee, but the current committee is opening up talks again.



- public notices -

Town Of
West Brookfield
Conservation Commission

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, 18-25, as amended by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009, The Wetlands Protection Act, the West Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **WEDNESDAY, December 2, 2026 at 6:00 pm** in the first floor meeting room, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street.

6:00 – Public Hearing:

NOI – 69 Lake Shore Drive – Blair – Septic repair

NOI – 16 Pierce Road – Lattarulo – Landscape/Wetland Alterations

NOI – Existing Transmission Line Right of Way – Continuation - New England Power Company – Improvements to access roads and replacement of all structures/wires on the O15N electric transmission line

NOI – 380 West Main Street – Continued - Raymaakers Construction – Staging area

11/20/2026

TOWN OF
WEST BROOKFIELD
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 8th, 2026 at 6:00pm** in the Assessors Office, West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit for West Brookfield Spirits LLC and Nicola Farms LLC, for the property located at 107 E. Main St, West Brookfield, for a Farmer Series Pouring Permit. A Special Permit is required per Section 3. Use Regulations, 3.23 Commercial Use of the West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws.

11/20, 11/27/2026

PUBLIC NOTICES
ARE NOW ONLINE
1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.
Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.
visit www.publicnotices.turley.com