

WARE RIVER NEWS



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Residents discuss open space needs

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee held a public forum at the Senior Center last week, seeking input and ideas for possible uses of the town's open space.

At the June 28 forum, residents and community members reviewed the results of the town's recent survey, and revisited goals from the last Open Space and Recreation plan from seven years ago.

"Tonight, is about getting your ideas about Open Space and Recreation," Town Manager Stuart Beckley said.

Looking at maps of the town, those in attendance at the meeting pinpointed areas they believed should be a focus in the town's future.

While the focus was mainly on open space, recreation was also included. Accessible activities were also listed as a need, especially for the town's senior population.

Many in attendance, as well as those that participated in the survey, said the need for athletic fields should be a top priority. Specifically for baseball, soccer and football.

A small parcel of land on Pleasant Street, adjacent to Kubinski Field was high-

Please see **NEEDS**, page 5



Victoria Schiavi gave Toto a kiss at Warren Public Library's Summer Reading kick-off held on the Common last week.

TOTO kicks-off SUMMER READING

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Continuing a longstanding tradition, Toto the Tornado Kitten returned to the Warren Public Library to kick-off the Summer Reading program, "All Together Now" this past Thursday.

On June 29, audience members of all ages came to the Common to meet with Toto, who was discovered clinging to a tree at barely a week old, in the aftermath of the June 2011 tornado that swept through the area.

The tornado traveled for 38-miles, touching down in

Please see **TOTOS**, page 7



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
Toto relaxed while Jonathan Hall read two stories about his life.

Voters approve school's \$609K above minimum request

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Within days of the start of fiscal year 2024, voters approved the town's assessment for the Quaboag Regional School District's budget at a special town meeting last week.

On June 29, voters approved spending \$609,903 for the town's above minimum contribution, bringing the total assessment for FY 24 to \$4,525,289.

This figure includes a total operating assessment of \$4,384,964 and minimum local contribution of \$2,886,067, as well as \$888,994 for transportation and \$140,334 for debt service capital payment. The assessment for transportation will be reduced through the use of state aid for regional schools.

Before this figure was approved, resident Cynthia

Baxter made an amendment from the floor to reduce the above minimum contribution from the \$609,903 put forward by the School Committee, to the \$110,000 previously recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

The \$110,000 was the amount presented for the above minimum contribution at the annual town meeting held in the spring, in place of the School Committee's request of \$1.2 million.

Interim Superintendent Maureen Binienda said if the amended figure passed, it would be "extremely devastating" to the school district. It would cause budget cuts that would eliminate all sports, eight teachers, four paraprofessionals, one dean of students, as well as a custodian.

"You can expect that you will not have the school district you

Please see **VOTERS**, page 6

Summer Reading starts off on the right beat

By Eric Troy
Correspondent

HARDWICK – Getting kids to enjoy summer reading can be a challenge (to say the least), but getting them together for socialization during the summer break doesn't have to be.

On June 27, children and adults came together at the Town House to learn hand drumming techniques, various beats and rhythms, and to feel the power of percussion together.

Tuesday's drumming circle—sponsored by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council—was the first of a four-part series occurring this summer. Led by Kane Drums father and son duo

Tim and Chris Kane, participants enjoyed playing djembes, frame drums, and accessory instruments.

Tim taught the audience how to generate different sounds on the drums, the value of drum circles, and encouraged each participant to discover their inner creative percussionist by generating their own unique beat.

Tim believes in the therapeutic power of drumming. As a participant in the drum circle, I can attest: Drumming together is a powerful and cathartic experience.

The vibration through the airwaves from a dozen different

Please see **DRUMMING**, page 11

State Police host Community Day July 12

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – The Massachusetts State Police Academy is offering people the unique opportunity to visit the campus and meet with Troopers, specialty units, as well as members of the 88th Recruit Training Troop.

On Wednesday, July 12 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Day will be held at the State Police Academy located at 340 West Brookfield Road. The free event will be held rain or shine.

"We look forward to seeing everybody...anyone interested can come," Captain Jon Provost, Commandant of the State Police Academy said. "Hopefully we'll

make it a regular event." The public is invited to meet Troopers assigned to a variety of roles within the department and get a close-up look at special equipment.

Specialty units such as the K-9 Section, Mounted Unit, Drone Unit, Air Wing, Marine Unit, Bomb Squad, Special Tactical Operations Team, Recruitment and

Diversity Unit are expected to be in attendance.

"People like to see our specialty units," Provost said.

Complimentary light refreshments will be provided by the State Police Academy's third-party catering service, Eurest. The cater-

Please see **STATE POLICE**, page 13



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette
Actors Juani Feliz (left) and Alice Kremelberg (right) enjoy a quiet moment with Jennifer Lafleur and her daughter, Alma.

Coming home to Coventry

Filmmakers turn hospital, historic farm into movie set

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

BROOKFIELD/WARE – For the past few weeks, locations around Brookfield and Ware have been transformed into the fictional small town of Coventry for the filming of the full-length indie movie, "Birthrite".

Late in the afternoon on June 25, the emergency room

at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital became part of the movie set, as people dressed in scrubs and uniforms walked into the building to set up for the scene being filmed.

Nurses walked briskly through the busy halls of the hospital, where a woman could be seen talking quietly with a doctor.

The concern was clear on the woman's face as they discussed her partner, who is expecting the couple's first child. Wren is questioning her pregnant partner Mya's sanity.

The couple has been through many changes lately, both with

Please see **MOVIE**, page 13



Turley Photo by Eric Troy
Parents and children learn djembe striking and rhythm techniques together.

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COMMUNITY

Playgroup ribbon-cutting July 9

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HEALTH

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BUSINESS

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

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

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



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Volunteers get playground ready for ribbon cutting

Grenville Park's playground now features a soft rubber base.

WARE – Volunteers worked to spread special double-ground woodchips around Grenville Park's playground this past Monday, following the installation of new equipment. This \$320,000 upgrade to the playground features a variety of new climbing structures, slides, and swings. A grand opening and ribbon cutting will be celebrated on Sunday, July 9 at noon.



Many volunteers helped spread woodchips this past Monday.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
Andrew Bonilla, Aaron Bateman and Kristin Bateman work together to spread special double-ground woodchips under the newly installed playground equipment at Grenville Park.



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 Carm Huntress (left) working on a xylophone at the annual work day at the Hardwick Playground while Frank Hanson (right) sands down a rough spot on the wood.
If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

Teddy Bears at the Stone Church

Free Fun Day picnic and craft event

HARDWICK – Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. announce "Fun Day with Teddy Bears," a free Teddy bear adoption and clinic, arts activities, and a picnic for children of all ages, on Monday July 10, from 10 a.m.-noon on the lawn at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville.

Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. As space is limited, register at FriendsOfTheStoneChurch.org.

Local artists and crafters

will offer instructions in Teddy Bear paintings, mask-making, reading and telling stories, and a clinic to fix and mend your loved torn bear. Attendees may also sew on decorative hearts, learn to dance "the teddy bear picnic march" and play other games.

Volunteer knitting mavens Marilyn Fischer, Melody Salvadore, and Stephanie Starr will join Friends of the Stone Church board members and artists Judy Kohn, Cheryl Wolfe, and dance teacher/choreographer Kathy McCrohon as they bring about this "Fun Day" with Teddy Bears.

Community volunteers Sue Donohue and Judy Knight, also an FOSC Board member,

will facilitate the event, which is sponsored by Quabbin Valley Healthcare.

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015 and open to all. Their mission is to preserve and protect the 1874 Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of cultural and community enrichment.

Donations toward this ongoing historic preservation project can be made online at www.FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

Lions Club fireworks/concert rescheduled to July 9

WARE – The Ware Lions Club has rescheduled its annual fireworks celebration to Sunday, July 9 starting at 5 p.m. in Grenville Park.

There will be food vendors, music by Never Say Never and

a DJ, games and of course fireworks.

Fireworks are expected to start around 9 p.m.

For more information, visit the Ware Lions Club website <http://e-clubhouse.org/site/ware/> or find them on Facebook. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 913, Ware, MA 01082 or hand delivered to Nat Falk, 64 Main St.

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Celebrate Independence Day at the Meeting House

WARE – Continue celebrating Independence Day in Ware Center and come to see where local militia practiced for the Revolutionary War.

Learn more about Ware's history by visiting the Ware Center Meetinghouse and Museum on Route 9 on Sunday, July 10, from 1-3 p.m.

Explore unique examples of depictions of Noah's Ark. This was once the only toy children could play with on Sundays.

See photographs of how Ware looked in the past, a reproduction of one of the three horse barns shown in old photos constructed

by Eric Moulton using wood salvaged from the covered bridge, and a miniature model of the Meeting House built by Chris Novak.

View military memorabilia and learn about those who served our country in the military. Come to ring the bell.

If you cannot come on July 9, make sure to stop by on July 23, Aug. 6 and 20 from 1-3 p.m. Enjoy music on the Green at 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 16 with Trio Deschamps and on Sunday, July 30 with Ron Jones and Band.

There will be a service in the sanctuary on Old Home Day, Sunday, Aug. 13 at 10 a.m. and a

tour after.

Come on Saturday, Aug. 26 to the Grange Fair and tour the Meeting House after 2 p.m. Don't miss the Ware Center Fair on Saturday, Sept. 16.

The Ware Historical Society's purpose is to preserve historical artifacts and to help people learn and honor the history of our town and our country. Come to the Ware Center Meeting House and Museum to discover "Ware" you live and to help support the Meeting House.

For more information call 413-967-6882.



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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Ware Senior Center news

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The thrift store is open each of those days from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations to the store are only accepted by Sue LaBarge, who can be reached by calling 413-544-1574

ACTIVITIES

Monday, July 10

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, July 11

9-9:45 a.m. Donna Farmer - Chief of Staff for state Rep. Donald Berthiaume

Wednesday, July 12

9 a.m. Tai Chi

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams (call for appointment at 413-967-9645)

10 a.m. Kristen Krieger - Quabbin region DPH Nurse Office Hours

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

Thursday, July 13

9am New Senior Spring Walk Meet at Senior Center and wear comfortable footwear. Water, sunscreen, bug spray and energy snack suggested.

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners

10 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, July 14

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Brown Bag Program

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Chair Yoga

1:30-3:30 p.m. Chair Massage

(available by appointment by calling 413- 967-9645; \$5 for 10 minutes)

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

Monday, July 10

Cold Plate, Egg, Potato, Tuna Salad, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, July 11

Kentucky Stuffed Peppers with Ham and Mushrooms, Cucumber Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, July 12

Grilled Reuben Sandwich, Onion Rings, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, July 13

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, July 14

Mac & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Beets, Dessert of the Day



Gilbert the Party Pig nibbles pieces of lettuce kids held in their mouths.

Turley Photos by Eric Troy



Meadow the mini pig snacks in style while wearing a gold hat.



Meadow the mini pig makes his way through a play tunnel.

Gilbert the pig brings the party to Ware library

By Eric Troy
Correspondent

WARE – Two highly entertaining guests graced the Young Men's Library Association this week: Gilbert the Party Pig and his fellow inking compatriot Meadow.

Gilbert and Meadow call Connecticut home, but are adored far and wide for their ability to bring smiles, laughs, and enjoyment to audiences.

Children and parents sat in a circle on the library floor as Gilbert and Meadow showed off their skills and intelligence.

Thanks to owners Michelle and Terry Burns, audiences learned some interesting facts about pigs, like their highly attuned sense of scent that enables them to locate food up to 25-feet underground. But Gilbert and Meadow didn't have to smell under the dirt or through the library floor to find treats hidden

under cups or bits of lettuce held in the mouths of excited attendants.

These mini pigs performed tricks and followed commands like dogs, donned hats and glasses, and loved the attention and adoration of their fans at the Ware library. Gilbert and Meadow show that not all pigs belong in the barnyard, some are meant for the limelight.

This event is part of the Summer Reading program at the library. Other events include Toto the Tornado Kitten Storytime, Thursday, July 6 at 10:30 a.m.; Henry the Juggler, Monday, July 10 at 5 p.m. (sponsored by the Cultural Council); Hands on Nature (Butterflies), Tuesday, July 18 at 2 p.m.; Therapy Dog Storytime, Thursday, July 20 at 10:30 a.m.; Juice & Jelly Funtime Band, Monday, July 24 at 4 p.m.; Sharpie Tie Dye at Grenville Park, Thursday, July 27 at 3-4:30 p.m.; Kulina Folk Art Candle Making, Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 2 p.m.;



Michelle Burns gives treats to guests to feed Gilbert the Party Pig.

Cupcake Decorating Workshop with Cupcakes & Confections by Jana, Monday, Aug. 7 at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.; and the Summer Reading

Finale with Ed Popielarczyk at Grenville Park (weather permitting), Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 3 p.m.

Summer Reading events at Ware library begin today, July 6

WARE – Summer Reading is off to a hot start at the Young Men's Library Association, 37 Main St.

Upcoming events include Toto the Tornado Kitten Storytime, Thursday, July 6 at 10:30 a.m.; Henry the Juggler, Monday, July 10 at 5 p.m. (sponsored by the Cultural Council); Hands on Nature (Butterflies), Tuesday, July 18 at 2 p.m.; Therapy Dog Storytime, Thursday, July 20 at 10:30 a.m.; Juice & Jelly Funtime

Band, Monday, July 24 at 4 p.m.; Sharpie Tie Dye at Grenville Park, Thursday, July 27 at 3-4:30 p.m.; Kulina Folk Art Candle Making, Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 2 p.m.; Cupcake Decorating Workshop with Cupcakes & Confections by Jana, Monday, Aug. 7 at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.; and the Summer Reading Finale with Ed Popielarczyk at Grenville Park (weather permitting), Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 3 p.m.



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GUEST COLUMN



Julie and Tom get ready to hike the Appalachian Trail through Georgia.

Hiking the Appalachian Trail through Georgia

By Julie Midura
Correspondent

“Keep throwing me everything you’ve got, Georgia! I can take it!” I said with false bravado as I collapsed into my tent at 7:30 p.m., thoroughly exhausted after five days on the trail.

For the first 50 miles of our backpacking trip, Georgia lured us in with her smooth dirt paths, but as soon as we let our guard down, she sucker punched us with so many roots and rocks and uphill that it felt as though we were hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. To make matters worse, we had been battling fierce wind for the past three days.

We began our hike five days earlier under the iconic stone arch at Amicalola State Park’s 8-mile “Approach Trail.” It took us five hours to hike to the summit of 3,782-foot Springer Mountain—the southern terminus of the Appalachian Trail.

We would continue walking until we arrived at the North Carolina border.

As we passed our first white blaze marking the official start of the A.T., I reached up and pressed my hand over the 2-inch wide by 6-inch tall painted trail marker on the tree, feeling a curious connection to the unknown path that lay ahead of us.

At 6 p.m., we found a primitive spot in the woods to set up camp for our first night in Georgia. We knew that there was an official campsite just up the trail, but we prefer to seek out dispersed camping spots instead for the solitude and serenity that they provide.

We pitched our tent, washed the stench from our bodies, changed into our camp clothes, made dinner on our stove, then sat just outside our tent to watch the daylight fade and the stars come alive...until a hiker walked into our tent-site.

“Do you happen to know how far it is to the official campsite?” the man asked. I told him that it was three tenths of a mile ahead.

The weariness on his face told me that he was ready to call it quits after a long day on the trail. “Well, I don’t want to disturb you, so I guess I’ll keep going to the shelter,” he said.

While a peaceful first night on the trail would have been lovely, we insisted that there was ample room for him to stay. We showed him to a bare spot of level dirt where he could pitch his tent, then we chatted while he unloaded his backpack.

His trail name was Buffalo and it was his first day on the A.T.

Unlike Tom and I, he was a thru-hiker, attempting to hike all the way to Maine. But he was new to backpacking, and he hadn’t had the chance to set up his brand new tent prior to starting his journey.

It was getting dark, and Tom and I wanted nothing more than to collapse in our tent for the night. But there was a fellow hiker in need, so we donned our headlamps and helped Buffalo get his somewhat complicated new tent set up.

As we finished, Buffalo admitted that he had never practiced hanging his bear bag, either. So with the light of three headlamps aimed upwards to light up the night sky, I lobbed my rock sack and paracord over the limb of a tree and showed him how to keep his food bag from becoming dinner for a hungry bear.

It was 10:15 p.m. before Tom and I finally crawled into our tent for the night. As we shook hands and said goodnight to Buffalo, he couldn’t stop thanking us for our help.

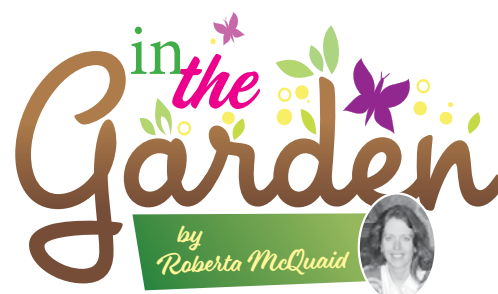
“It’s what hikers do for each other, Buffalo. It’s what hikers do,” we said.

Our first night on the trail may not have been the solitary experience we were hoping for, but being given the opportunity to help someone in need made it one of the most special.

The next seven days on the trail were filled with green tunnels and wide open vistas, sunny skies and driving rain, level

Please see **HIKING**, page 10

Tips for successful summer pruning



year’s blooms.

Simply hold on to the center of the spent flower cluster and bend it forward. This will send more energy back to the plant and encourage healthy bud formation.

Dense plantings or tall lanky specimens can be rejuvenated next year by cutting “windows” into the bush like I describe above to encourage interior sprouting. Once enough stems have sprouted, taller branches can be cut back to a lower juncture.

The immensely popular pinkish flowered Spirea x bumalda “Anthony Waterer” has the ability to grow 3-4-feet tall and 5-6-feet wide when mature. Unfortunately, most folks buy it in a gallon pot and site it for that size, often planting it in front of the shrub border or in and amongst perennials.

In a year or two, when the plant has crowded out its neighbors, they are sorry for the misjudgment.

Alas, there is hope. The following pruning technique works for all members of the genus—most are hardy growers.

Once the Spirea is done blooming, look into the center of the plant and find the largest branches. Cut those down to ground level.

Stand back and look at what is left. Prune remaining branches back to a point of new growth,

really reigning in the girth.

Plan to rejuvenate the plant over a three year time frame by taking one third of the bush each year.

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*) is usually growing by leaps and bounds this time of year and is preparing to burst into bloom soon.

How do you keep it covered in flowers? By lots of deadheading.

Removing spent blossoms will encourage new shoot growth and more flowers. If you have a Butterfly Bush that has gotten way out of hand, consider cutting it back in late winter or early spring— to about a foot in height— then fertilize it.

Expect a much more compact version come summertime.

Euonymus fortunei is sold as a popular groundcover that can grow quite tall if left to its own devices. Most often seen in the landscape are the variegated species.

“Emerald Gaiety” has silver edged leaves where “Emerald and Gold” has dark green foliage with yellow margins. This time of year, a haircut is needed.

Prune away gangly stems back to the base.

Also, be on the lookout for solid color stems on these variegated plants. Cut any that you find away completely, otherwise they may take the lead, leaving you with not exactly what you had planted.

It may seem like you live in a jungle...but an afternoon’s worth of work will definitely reign in the vegetation. Enjoy your time with the clippers!

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.

I thought it would be fun to follow up my spring pruning column with one geared towards shrubs that are best tackled during the summer months.

Enjoy this read, straight out of the archives! After the recent (and glorious) rain we’ve been receiving, my shrubs have had a major growth spurt! Now is a great time to tackle much needed vegetation control.

Here are instructions for pruning five of our most favorite shrubs.

Yews (*Taxus* species) may not rank as top pick, but many homeowners have inherited a yew or two flanking the foundation of their home. For this pruning job you will need a pair of hand clippers, not hedge trimmers.

The new growth is obvious: it is very flexible, lighter in color and extends several inches from the shrub’s silhouette.

With clippers in hand, grab a branch, and instead of removing just the new growth, make a cut well within the body of the shrub. This process is called “making windows.”

The windows allow light to penetrate the plant’s interior causing regeneration to occur. Repeat in various spots on each shrub for a balanced appearance.

Any straggly growth that remains can be nipped back. By pruning in this manner each year, healthy, new growth is encouraged, yet height and width control is maintained.

Too labor intensive for you? Alright, use the hedge trimmers first, then make a few windows, for nearly the same effect.

Azaleas, rhododendrons (*Rhododendron* sp.) and mountain laurels (*Kalmia latifolia*) set their flower buds the summer before bloom. Prune these bushes immediately after they flower next spring; it is just about too late to do much more now.

One task that can be accomplished immediately is deadheading. Inspect the shrubs and gently break off seed pods that have formed from this



Should I have taxes withheld from Social Security if working part time?

Dear Rusty: I just started receiving my Social Security in February of 2023. I am also working part time at a company 24 hours a week.

My question is... I feel like I missed something when I signed up for Social Security because they are not taking any taxes out.

What did I miss? How do I go about fixing it, so I don’t get hit at the end of the year?

They are taking taxes out of my paycheck now; do they still take it out of my Social Security because I am working? Please help if I am not doing something right.

Signed: *Conscientious Senior*

Dear Conscientious: Unfortunately, when the Social Security Administration processes your application for benefits, they don’t usually inform you that your Social Security benefits may become part of your taxable income. I expect that’s because your benefits only “may” become taxable – they do not definitely become taxable, because Social Security benefits are taxed only if you exceed a certain income threshold.

The thresholds at which Social Security benefits become part of your taxable income are different depending on your income tax filing status – those who file as an individual have a different threshold from those who file as “married – filing jointly.” To further complicate matters there is more than one threshold for both individuals and joint filers.

Here’s how it works:

If you file your income tax as an individual and your “combined income” from all sources is more than \$25,000, then 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your particular IRS tax rate. But if your combined income as an individual tax filer is more than \$34,000 then up to 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income.

If your income tax filing status is “married – filing jointly” the thresholds are higher – if your combined income from all sources as a married couple exceeds \$32,000 then 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your tax-



able income. But if your combined income as a married couple exceeds \$44,000 then up to 85% of your SS benefits received during the tax year are taxable.

“Combined income” is also known as your “Modified Adjusted Gross Income” or “MAGI.” Your MAGI is your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year, plus any non-taxable interest or untaxed foreign income you had (note that withdrawals from a Roth IRA are not included).

If your “MAGI” exceeds the above thresholds, some of your Social Security benefits are taxable; if you are under the first threshold for your IRS filing status they are not.

Social Security doesn’t automatically withhold taxes from your monthly benefit, and the FICA tax being withheld from your earnings is not used for that purpose.

Everyone who works and earns must pay SS tax on their earnings, which are mandatory contributions supporting the federal Social Security program. But that FICA payroll tax has nothing to do with income tax on your Social Security benefits.

If you are working 24 hours per week and also collecting Social Security benefits, you will likely exceed the threshold for your tax filing status, which means that at least some of your 2023 benefits will become taxable. That could, as you suspect, result in a surprise

“hit” when you file next year’s income tax return.

Nevertheless, fixing this is quite easy: Download IRS form W-4V from the IRS website here: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf. You will be able to choose the percentage of your Social Security benefits you wish to have withheld for income tax purposes.

Complete the form and mail it to your local Social Security office (get the mailing address here: www.ssa.gov/locator). Social Security will then start withholding income tax from your monthly Social Security benefit payment, which will mitigate any additional tax due when you file your 2023 tax return next year.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



In the Constitution, Congress comes first. In real life, not so much.

There’s a reason the founders started with Congress when they created the blueprint for our representative democracy: It’s the institution closest to the American people.

This isn’t just political theory. For all their faults, members of Congress throughout our history have made an effort to stay close to and understand their constituents.

They still do. More than any other branch of government, Congress reflects the feelings

of the diverse and ever-evolving population of the United States – even if, with population shifts boosting rural power in the Senate these days and gerrymandering affecting House districts, the proportions are out of whack.

So one of the more puzzling aspects of the evolution of power in Washington has been the extent to which Congress has sat by over the decades while its strength has ebbed. For the most part, we think of this in terms of its relations with the presidency, with everything from war powers to budget-making to an increasing reliance on executive orders putting presidents of both parties in an ever-stronger position to set and steer the national agenda.

But recently, CNN’s Zachary Wolf drew attention to a similar process taking place vis-à-vis the Supreme Court. The mechanisms are different, but the result is the same: Congress

loses room to maneuver.

Wolf was actually delving into a recently published book by University of Texas law professor Stephen Vladeck, “The Shadow Docket: How the Supreme Court Uses Stealth Rulings to Amass Power and Undermine the Republic.” Vladeck’s chief concern is what for the last few years has come to be called the “shadow docket,” referring to cases that are not formally heard by the Court, with oral arguments and then long written decisions and dissents, but instead are generally unsigned orders that arrive without explanation.

They can be quite consequential.

As Vladeck explained to Wolf in their interview, the Court last year intervened in redistricting cases in Alabama and Louisiana in

Please see **CONGRESS**, page 5

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

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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

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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.

Beat the bite



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Quabbin Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger brought examples of ticks, courtesy of the Department of Public Health's Bite Lab.

Tips offered to avoid ticks and mosquitoes

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Illnesses spread by ticks and mosquitoes have been an increasing problem lately; especially tick-borne illnesses such as Lyme disease.

“The last two years are probably the worst on record,” Quabbin Health District Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger said of tick-borne illnesses.

Krieger presented a program about ticks and mosquitoes at the Young Men's Library Association on June 27.

Krieger started her role as a public health nurse covering the towns of Ware, Belchertown and Pelham last July, and she has been helping the Department of Public Health track infectious illnesses, including those spread by ticks and mosquitoes.

But Lyme disease isn't the only illness people (and pets) need to worry about; there have also been reported cases of anaplasmosis, babesiosis and even borrelia miyamotoi.

Krieger said there have been two confirmed cases of borrelia miyamotoi in the past 30 days, one in Ware and one in Belchertown. One of the people infected was experiencing heart palpitations and fainting spells.

Doctors are getting better at testing for tick-borne illnesses, especially Lyme disease, which is one of the most commonly checked for.

While a bull's eye rash is one of the easiest ways to spot a Lyme disease infection, it isn't always apparent. Many times, when a rash does appear, it's oval-shaped instead of round.

But symptoms can vary greatly, and many times the infection can go undetected for some time.

Late stage symptoms include arthritis, which will develop in the larger joints of more than half of the people infected. Other complications include meningitis, Bell's palsy, weakness, fainting and low heart rate.

“You can have more than one [tick-borne illness] at a time,” Krieger said.

Mosquitoes also pose a health risk, spreading eastern equine encephalitis and West Nile virus. Both illnesses range from having almost no symptoms, to severe

symptoms that can be fatal.

There is no medication to treat EEE or WNV.

Krieger said mosquitoes have been around since dinosaurs roamed the Earth, and there are 51 different types in the commonwealth.

Only female mosquitoes bite humans and animals though, with males feeding on nectar to survive. There is even one type of mosquito that feeds on nectar alone.

Prevention is key to avoiding tick and mosquito-related illnesses, and this includes removing standing water from your property (this is where mosquitoes breed) and doing a thorough check of your body after being outside. Make sure to keep tall grass and vegetation trimmed in your yard.

Chickens make excellent prevention tools, Krieger said, as they eat ticks.

To avoid ticks while enjoying a hike, stay away from the edge of trails. This is where they sit on vegetation, waiting to hitch a ride on anyone walking by.

DEET and permethrin can also be used as a repellent, and should only be applied as directed. Permethrin should be used to treat clothing, and never be applied directly to your skin.

Do not apply repellent to hands, mouths, eyes, cuts or irritated skin.

Light colored clothing makes it easier to spot ticks crawling on you, and the DPH recommends wearing long pants, long sleeves and socks when outdoors to reduce exposed skin.

If you do find a tick biting you, make sure you use clean, fine-tipped tweezers to pull upwards. To avoid having mouth parts break off in the skin, do not twist or jerk the tick.

“Hurting the tick while it's biting you can force it to vomit into your blood stream,” Krieger said.

Wash your hands and the bite area with soap and water after handling the tick. The bite area can also be cleaned with rubbing alcohol.

Do not crush or pinch the tick, as this can release bacteria that is in the tick's gut. After removal, dispose of the tick by putting it in rubbing alcohol, placing in a sealed bag or tape, or flushing down the toilet.

The longer a biting tick is attached, the greater the risk of infection.

For more information about ticks and mosquitoes, and how to avoid them, visit www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks.

Selectboard approves water/sewer rates and transfers

By Chayton Honeywell
Correspondent

WARE – A public hearing was held to address rate increases for water and sewer usage.

The Selectboard approved the rates as presented at the June 20 meeting, to cover the next three years. Department of Public Works Director Geoffrey McAlmond said the next rates will go into effect in November of this year.

Wastewater transfers

Also covered in the meeting was the transfer of \$10,000 and \$30,000 to the Purchase and Services account, both made to pay bills for sludge and some repairs.

The \$30,000 will be transferred from the Capital Improvement account.

The list of funding transfers continues, as it's stated that though they have the necessary funding, there won't be capital improvements made this year.

In response, Selectboard member Keith Kruckas asked for clarity, “If there's money there and we have money to do capital improvements, why are they not being done?”

Kruckas said there are plenty of capital needs that should be addressed.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley

said a full wastewater treatment plant assessment has begun, but other grants for capital improvements have not been initiated, yet which is why there is available funding in the Capital Improvement account.

McAlmond said the Capital Improvement funds are available because the operation and maintenance manual and tractor purchases came in under budget. The O&M manual was originally expected to cost \$50,000, but they signed a contract for \$24,500 instead.

Transferring the two amounts of money will prevent the DPW from having old bills in need of payment at the fall special town meeting.

Approvals

Selectboard members approved permits for Workshop 13's Rock the Park Music and Arts Festival

The special event permit as well as the one-day liquor license was approved for the festival, which will be held Saturday, July 29, from 1-10 pm.

The festival celebrates the 50-year anniversary of the Summer Jam at Watkins Glen, on July 28, 1973, which is considered the largest single-day gathering in American history.

Impact fees

Another subject discussed at

the June 20 meeting pertained to local marijuana dispensaries. To ensure the well-being of the new business, B'leaf Wellness Centre, talk of doing away with some of the impact fees was had.

Four items have been discussed in a draft version of a revised Host Community Agreement with B'leaf Wellness Centre, including elimination of the impact fee.

Beckley said B'leaf Wellness Centre is agreeable to contribute \$5,000 to local charities, similar to what Curaleaf does.

Kruckas said they should consider limiting the number of licenses issued, adding “too much is not good.”

“We don't want people putting each other out of business here,” he said.

Selectboard Chair Caitlin McCarthy agreed that they don't want businesses having to work against each other.

Enforcement orders

Beckley presented the board with three enforcement orders issued by the Conservation Commission issued to three independent parcel owners of Maple Street Power, LLC/All Parts Racing, LLC.

Kruckas asked how these orders will be enforced, adding that Selectboard member Jack Cascio will have to recuse himself, as Cascio has represent-

ed the company in front of the Selectboard in the past.

Beckley said zoning issues will be enforced by the Zoning Enforcement Officer and licensing issues will be enforced by the Selectboard.

Conservation restriction

Beckley said some of the language changed once an approved conservation restriction for the Dumas property reached the state. The conservation restriction was previously approved by both the Selectboard and Conservation Commission.

“The state changed some of the language,” Beckley said, but nothing else has changed.

The Selectboard approved the changes to the language in the conservation restriction.

Community Development Authority

SK Robinson has been filling a vacancy on the Community Development Authority and sought appointment to that position. Robinson said he is currently on five boards and committees in town.

McCarthy said the Selectboard agrees that Robinson is on too many boards and committees and did not move to appoint him to the position.

Lions Club starts summer concert series with a bang

WARE – The Ware Lions Club will kick off its annual summer Concerts in the Park series at Grenville Park on Sunday, July 9 starting at 5 p.m.

There will be food vendors, music by Never Say Never from 7-9 p.m. and DJ Chris St. Germain, games and of course fireworks. Fireworks are expected to start around 9 p.m.

Concerts will continue on Thursday evenings in the park from 6:30-8:30 p.m., starting with the 60's Experience on Thursday, July 13; Charlie Lask's Neil Diamond Tribute on Thursday, July 20; WheelSmith on Thursday, July 27; and Wicked Biscuit on Thursday, Aug. 3.

Concerts are made possible by support from Country Bank, Talk of the Town, North Brookfield Savings Bank, Westfield Bank, B'leaf Wellness Centre, St. Germain Insurance Inc., Brad Matthews Jewelers, Cluett's Furniture & Appliance, Sidur & Sons, Quabbin Wire & Cable, Crystal Springs, NAPA Auto Parts, Nat Falk, Moulton Insurance, It's Wine O'clock, Fitness Factory and Donna and Ray Mathews.

Hot dogs, chips, soda, freeze pops and popcorn are available to purchase at each concert.

The Lions Club thanks all who support them by buying raffle tickets and food.

CONGRESS from page 4

such a way that it “helped to give the Republicans the majority they currently have in the House.” It did so in 2020 and 2021 as well, especially to address cases involving COVID regulations.

The Court's power, Vladeck points out, lies not just in its decisions, but in choosing which of the many issues arriving on its doorstep it will decide.

In fact, that's not just true of cases on the shadow docket. Until about a century ago, the Court was required to make a decision on any case under its jurisdiction.

That, Vladeck argues, “made it a lot harder for the justices to have an agenda. It made it a lot harder for the justices to target particular disputes and look around for cases.”

The reason it can now pick and choose – and hence steer the national agenda – is because Congress gave it the power to do so, especially with the 1988 Supreme Court Case Selections Act, which granted the Court full authority over whether to hear appeals from circuit court decisions. So it chooses which 80 or so cases it will hear out of the 5,000 to 7,000 it is asked to review each term.

To be sure, it's hardly the case that the Court has avoided precedent-setting decisions in the past – dating all the way back to Marbury v. Madison in

1803, when the Court gave itself the power of judicial review over executive and legislative decisions. Still, if you think about our recent political history, especially around abortion, you can see Vladeck's point: The Court does not reflect the thinking of a majority of Americans.

For members of Congress who would rather not have to cast unpopular votes on controversial issues that could cost them a seat, having the White House or the Supreme Court make those decisions can be handy. But as Vladeck argues, “When we look at the Court today – at the ethics issues, the docket issues, the legitimacy debates – a lot of what's going on here is a court that's just not remotely checked and not worrying about being checked.”

Congress historically had the authority to exercise control over the Court's ability to set the agenda, he insists, and there's no reason it can't again.

The balance of power in Washington demands it.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Tickets available for chicken BBQ/pig roast

BELCHERTOWN – It's not too late to get tickets to the Swift River Sportsman's Club Chicken BBQ/Pig Roast happening on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Starting at noon and going through 6 p.m. at 350 Cold Spring Road, three different meal tickets will be offered: chick-

en BBQ, pig roast and a combination chicken BBQ/pig roast. Entertainment will be provided by the Time Trippers from 1-5 p.m.

For more information, including tickets, please call either Mike at 413-205-6778 or Ed at 508-981-7249.

NEEDS from page 1

lighted in the last Open Space and Recreation plan as a potential location for parking. Participants agreed that this goal was still important today.

The parcel is located across from Aspen Street, and was donated to the town by the Storrs family many years ago. The parcel has a trail that connects it to Kubinski Field.

Lighting on the field was also listed as important to recreation, and the lit field could be used to host adult softball league games at night.

Right now, the only lit athletic fields in town are at Memorial Field and Ware Public Schools.

Banas Farm and Old Penny Brook were both listed as potential locations for athletic fields, with Banas Farm being a more centralized location.

Old Penny Brook could be too far from the center of town to be useful as an athletic field, but it could provide camping opportunities for Scouts.

Parts of Aspen Grove Cemetery are not suitable for burial, and could be developed into a walking trail, connecting to Mount Carmel Cemetery.

With hills, trees and some wetlands, a trail here could provide a unique walking experience.

It is also said that part of the historically significant Hadley Path crossed over this proper-

ty, according to Arthur Chase's “History of Ware, Massachusetts”.

If a walking trail was developed, a bridge could be built to connect the two cemeteries.

Participants also discussed dredging Snow's Pond to make it more accessible to fishing and paddling.

Land behind the former Baystate Mary Lane Hospital, accessible from Marjorie Street, was also listed as a possible recreation site.

Survey takers listed access to swimming areas as an important need, including repairing or replacing the town's pool, building an indoor pool, or reopening Snow's Pond for swimming. Replacing the pool with a splash

pad was another suggestion.

Better sidewalks to recreational areas were also noted as a need for the town's pedestrians.

Providing clear information about where the town's open space is located could also help bring awareness to the town's outdoor offerings, with some survey takers commenting that they'd never heard of some of the locations, despite being longtime residents.

More activities and recreational opportunities for teenagers were highlighted in the survey as areas of focus, including suggestions for building a skatepark or youth center.

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'Flower Power' opens at ArtWorks Gallery

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery, located at 69 Main St., is celebrating the beauty of nature this summer with an exhibition of artworks exploring floral imagery in a wide range of styles and media, from photorealistic oil paintings to playfully abstract sculptures and everything in between.

"Flower Power" will open with a reception on Saturday, July 15, from 3-5 p.m. Award-winners will be announced at the opening reception and spotlighted on workshop13.org as well as social media and in Workshop13's weekly newsletter.

"Flower Power" will be on display at ArtWorks Gallery from July 15 through Aug. 27. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1-5 p.m.

For those who cannot attend the show in person, a virtual gallery will be available for viewing at workshop13.org.

Renowned local artist Deborah

Rubin is the juror for "Flower Power".

Rubin paints in watercolor and occasionally oils and gouache. She has been pushing the boundaries of photo-realism and hyper-realism since the mid 1970's with an eye on nature and more recently, architecture.

Born in Chicago in 1948, Rubin holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Illinois. She currently lives in Western Massachusetts.

The window installation for "Flower Power", visible from the street, is the creation of Anne Krauss. She is a New Jersey State Council on the Arts and Ford Foundation award recipient, and her work has been exhibited in galleries and museums in the United States and Japan.

Commercial artwork includes design for film, theatre, television, and private industry. Her fiber and

mixed media artwork has been featured in magazines, design books, and on public television.

Currently a resident of Amherst, Krauss manages her art studio in addition to a counseling practice, which specializes in work with artists, writers, and musicians.

About ArtWorks Gallery and Workshop13

ArtWorks Gallery is Workshop13's gallery on Main Street. This space features numerous art exhibitions each year and is also available to rent for individual or group shows.

Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator located in Ware, and devoted to increasing the appreciation and accessibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of our community through instruction, collaborations, and arts-based initiatives.

Harper's Landscaping & Mowing

Official launch of business fulfills resident's dream

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – This year marked several momentous milestones for resident Mason Harper; graduating high school, becoming an adult and officially launching his own business, Harper's Landscaping & Mowing.

"I've been doing it since I can remember," Harper said of landscaping. "It's what my dad has been doing his whole life."

Harper said he's been working on his own for about five years after learning the trade from his father, Joe Harper. Once he turned 18, Harper filed paperwork on the growing business.

When asked why he decided to start his own landscaping company, Harper said it's something he's skilled at and enjoys.

"I've always loved to do it," he said.

His customers are another reason he started Harper's Landscaping & Mowing.

"I know a lot of people and they trust me," Harper said.

Harper's Landscaping & Mowing offers mulching, pruning, yard cleanups and mowing, or "pretty much everything landscaping," Harper said.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are landscaping days, and Thursdays and Fridays are mowing days. Harper said right now, he travels as far as Longmeadow and Pelham, but is willing to travel farther for a fee.

When he's not working, Harper is studying criminal justice at Holyoke Community College, and hitting the links.

"In my spare time, I love to golf," Harper said, having played six years on the varsity golf team at Ware Junior/Senior High School.

While playing on the varsity team, Harper and his teammates had a number of impressive seasons.

"We won the Western Mass Championship for the first time in the school's history," he said, as well as winning league several times in a row.

Putting himself through college has been a dream of his, and Harper has been able to achieve it through his landscaping work.

"This has just been such a great opportunity," he said.

Harper plans to continue growing his business, and eventually invest in real estate.

An active member in his community, Harper also joined the Knights of Columbus on March



Fresh mulch pairs nicely with lush greenery.



Mason Harper, owner of Harper's Landscaping & Mowing, trims the edge of a customer's lawn.

Submitted Photos

16, even though he's been volunteering alongside his family members with Ware Council #183 for as long as he can remember.

"I was handing out barbecued chicken when I was 4 years old," he said with a laugh.

Harper has also volunteered with the National Honor Society, helping as a bellringer for the Salvation Army. He's also been involved with the Cloning for Kidz Foundation in West Warren.

Harper is looking forward to continuing his charitable work through Harper's Landscaping & Mowing, and will be participating in the Halloween Spooktacular drive-thru event at Greenville Park this fall.

Being active in his community is second nature for Harper, and

he's following in the footsteps of his parents and grandparents.

"It's all because of my family, they love to do it and I am thankful for it," Harper said.

Harper thanked his family for their unwavering support, including his father, mother, stepfather and grandparents.

"Everyone's been great. They've backed me on everything," he said. "They've been there for everything and never questioned anything I've done."

About Harper's Landscaping & Mowing

For a free quote, contact Harper's Landscaping & Mowing through Facebook Messenger, calling or texting 413-544-2684 or emailing masonharper254@gmail.com.



Audience members helped measure how long Toto is, from nose to tail.

TOTO from page 1

Westfield before coming to an end in Sturbridge. Significant damage was caused by the tornado in Brimfield, where Toto was found and his owner, Jonathan Hall, lives and works as a firefighter/paramedic.

Hall was on duty when Toto was brought in, before being sent to the Animal Rescue League of Boston for care.

Once he was old enough, Toto returned to Brimfield and was adopted by Hall and his wife.

Now 12 years old, Toto has been the focus of two books written by Hall, "Toto the Tornado Kitten" and "Oh Toto! Where Did You Go?"

Proceeds from the sale of the books benefit local animal shelters, raising about \$70,000 so far.

Hall and Toto spend much of their time visiting area libraries and schools and sharing his moving story of survival and hope.

Story time with Toto involves audience participation, including having children count his whiskers, measure his length and guess his age and weight. Toto is always eager to receive attention from his fans, as they line up to pet him and pose for photos.

Since last year, Hall has been teaching audience members some sign language to go along with Toto's stories, including "kitten," "tornado," "thank you," "you're welcome" and even "hamburger."

The Summer Reading program will continue through Aug. 18, when a Super-Fun Finale with Flying High Dogs will be held on the Common.

Each week, young readers will receive a prize ticket for every visit to the library when they check out at least one book. Become a "Super Reader" and enter to win four tickets to the Big E.

Weekly raffle drawings will be held for gift certificates to Amazon, Howard's Drive-in and more.



Jonathan Hall showed a photo of Toto being interviewed on television.



Participants learned how to sign "tornado."

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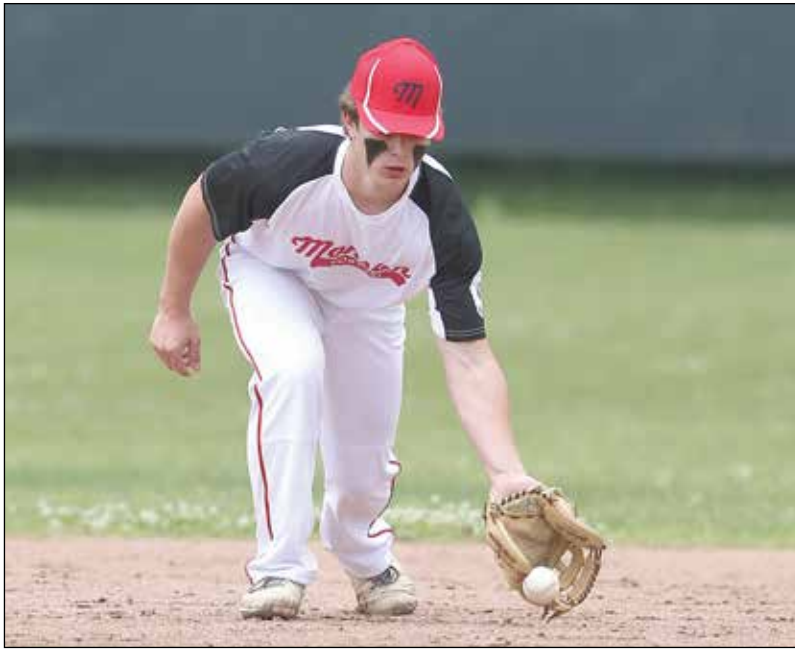
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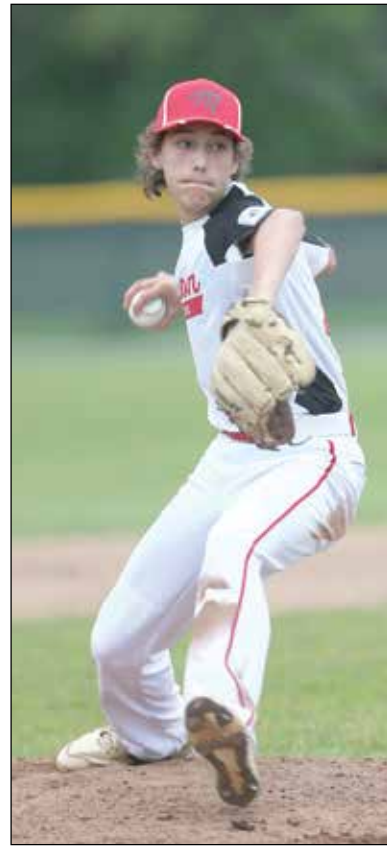
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Pathfinder's Hunter Griswold fields a grounder on the run.



John Mumper has been a constant in Post 241's rotation this summer.

Post 241 rebounds with a 7-0 win

PALMER – After suffering a pair of consecutive losses last weekend against Belchertown and Pittsfield, Monson Legion Post 241 scored a 7-0 win over Ludlow last Monday evening to get back on track. Monson is 4-2 on the summer season with a team built from players from Monson,

Palmer, Pathfinder, and Ware this summer. Monson had a matchup last Wednesday against Wilbraham postponed due to a thunderstorm. Monson had a couple of games scheduled before the Fourth of July holiday and next play on Friday, July 7 against Sheffield Post 340 at 7 p.m. at Legion Field in Palmer.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Brayden Mega squares up a ground ball.



Nathan Kaczuwka makes a long throw across the diamond to first.

Mutiny shut out at home

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The forecast called for thunderstorms, but the New England Mutiny lucked out with a beautiful night to play their third home match of the regular season. The weather turned out to be the only bright spot for the Mutiny.

Sporting CT, a first-year member of United Women's Soccer, made the trip north to Ludlow from Middletown, Connecticut and posted a 4-0 shutout before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium on Saturday, June 24.

"We faced a very tough opponent tonight. They played a 3-5-2, which is more of an attacking formation, against us," said Mutiny assistant coach Jill Kochanek. "We did have a couple of scoring opportunities. If we could've capitalized on them, it probably would've been a different result."

Kochanek took over the head coaching duties from first-year Mutiny head coach Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra for one night. Coimbra missed the home match because he was in Virginia coaching his club team at the Regionals.

The Mutiny (3-2-1), who lost 3-2 to the Albany Rush on the road on June 16, suffered their first regular season home loss during the past two years. They did lose to FC Buffalo, 2-1, at home in the Eastern Conference semifinals, last July.

"We've had a couple of setbacks, but that doesn't define you as a team," said forward Hope Santaniello, who's one of the Mutiny veteran players. "Our main goal now is to win our final two regular season matches."

If the Mutiny can post victories at the Worcester Fuel on Saturday night and at home against the CT Rush in the regular season finale on July 8, they should be able to clinch a berth in the U.W.S. playoffs for the second consecutive year.

Please see **MUTINY**, page 10



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ela Kopec gets set to punt the ball away.



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, eyes an open teammate.



Agawam's Hope Santaniello looks to take a shot.

Summer session continues in Auburn

AUBURN – The summer session is now in full swing at both Game On in Fitchburg and Auburn High School where the Quabbin cagers took home two out of three games with wins over Lunenburg and Nipmuc.

The only defeat suffered was a tough overtime loss to Oxford by a score of 43-41. In this game the cagers had the lead for most of the game only to allow Oxford back in the game and take a slim lead in the closing minutes. But the Quabbinians tied the score in regulation only to have Oxford nail a buzzer beater in overtime for the win. It was disappointing but added to the game savvy and experience of the team in those time-score situations.

The team, sponsored by E.P. Wine and coached by Quabbin alumni standouts Tim Hay and Luke Brownell will have to work on their defensive fundamentals especially closeouts and rebounding. It is an area both coaches are seeking improvement and will be emphasized the rest of the summer season. A few practices and clinics will be coming up.

The JV cagers took home and impressive 32-22 win over Lunenburg for their first victory to also even up their record at 1-1. Coach Dawn Sulmacy had nine players make the scoring column in this game led by emerging power forward Anthony Quarterone. The 6'2 athletic sophomore continues to add to his skill set each time he plays and his enthusiasm and effort does seem to inspire his team-

Please see **BASKETBALL**, page 10



Forward Kyle Clark looks for the ball in the post.

Submitted photos



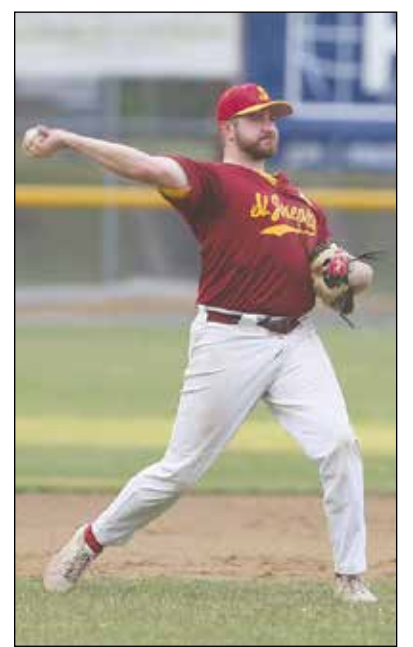
Point guard Jaxon Warburton spots a wide-open Kyle Clark from a baseline out of bounds play.



Cam MacDonald fires across the diamond.



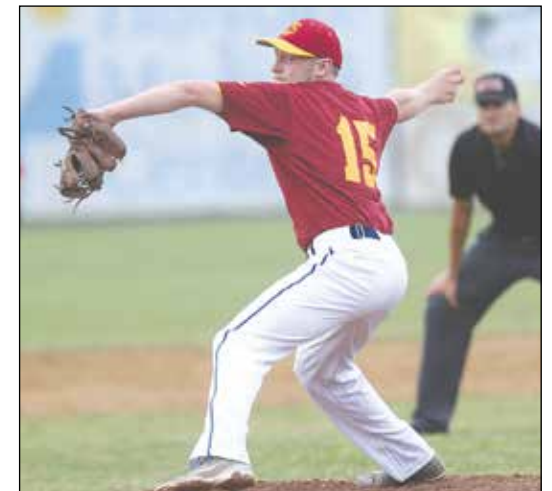
James Flahive delivers a pitcher for the Bankers.



Brandon Magni makes a play for St. Joe's.



Dave Clark makes a throw to first.



Sam Schriber delivers a pitch for the Saints.

PeoplesBank blows out St. Joe's

HOLYOKE – Last Tuesday night, PeoplesBank kept their momentum with a 14-0 mercy-rule shortened win over the St. Joe's Saints. Both teams, which

feature players from all over the region, will be back in action following the Fourth of July holiday. PeoplesBank holds down first place with 18 points.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

sports

Doug Coby finishes fifth at Seekonk

SEEKONK – Doug Coby rebounded after being collected in a mid-race wreck to finish fifth during Open Wheel last Wednesday at Seekonk Speedway. Coby won his qualifying heat race to start off the night in the Mayhew Tools No. 10 and rolled off ninth for the 100-lap, \$10,000 to win race.

Coby ran around the bottom of the top-five for much of the first half of the race until the wreck off turn two on lap 49 left him nowhere to go. During the caution period, the team worked to repair the car and Coby returned to the track, restarting from 19th. He was able to pass 14 cars up into fifth before the finish.

“It was a way different race compared to the NASCAR

Whelen Modified Tour race here a few weeks ago,” Coby said. “I thought it was a really competitive race. We raced hard out there, risking using up your stuff for track position, but you had to do it. To come back from a wreck and grab a top-five, we’re happy. The Mayhew Tools team worked hard.”

Doug Coby will return to the track driving for Tommy Baldwin Racing in the Mayhew Tools No. 7NY during the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event at Wall Stadium Speedway on Saturday, July 8. For more information on Doug Coby, visit DougCobyRacing.com and follow his page on Facebook for the latest news and updates, including from the track on both race days.

Valley Blue Sox falls to Danbury Westerners

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were defeated by the Danbury Westerners last Thursday night 8-4. Valley’s record now sits at 9-10.

Danbury got out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the fourth inning, following a two-run homer from Luke Boynton. The Westerners added three more runs in the bottom of the fifth after an RBI double and error from Blue Sox starter Jonathan Bautista.

Bautista made his team debut for Valley, and pitched five innings allowing five runs, and striking out seven batters.

Valley answered back in the top of the sixth inning. The offense hit back-to-back home runs to lead off the inning, with solo shots coming off of the bats of AJ Guerrero and EJ Kreuzmann. Both outfielders went 3-for-5 on the night with an RBI apiece.

Michael Zarrillo would add another solo home run in the inning, cutting the Danbury lead

to 5-3.

Leo Harris relieved Bautista in the bottom of the sixth inning, and allowed two runs in two innings of work out of the bullpen.

The Blue Sox scored one run in the top of the eighth inning off of a sacrifice fly from Sean Scanlon.

Jason Arrigo took over for Harris in the bottom of the eighth, allowing one run and striking out two batters in his one inning of work.

Last Tuesday evening, the Valley Blue Sox are back in the win column following a 5-4 victory over the Bristol Blues in 10 innings. The Blue Sox’ record stands at 9-9, and they hold a 1.5 game lead in the West Division.

Valley scored five runs off of nine hits in this game. The bats were rolling early after Matt Bergevin hit an RBI single to put the Blue Sox in the lead 1-0 in the top of the first inning. Bergevin went 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a

walk on the night.

The pitching staff was on point tonight for the Blue Sox. Graham Jeffries started the game for Valley, and pitched four innings allowing two runs and striking out one batter. Bristol took the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning following an RBI triple and a sacrifice fly. Manager Pedro Santiago turned the ball over to Dillon Ryan in the bottom of the fifth, who pitched a scoreless inning with one strikeout.

Thomas Ballard was the next man out of the bullpen for Valley. The right-hander pitched one inning allowing one run along with one strikeout.

The Blues would add one more run in the bottom of the sixth off of an RBI double to make it a 3-1 game.

Michael Weidinger struck out the side in the bottom of the seventh, his one inning of work in this game.

Valley would fight back to

tie the ballgame in the top of the eighth, scoring two runs off of an RBI fielder’s choice from Matt Bergevin and an RBI single from CJ Willis.

Zach Cameron took over for Weidinger in the bottom of the eighth inning, keeping the game tied in his first two innings of work to force extra innings.

The Blue Sox took the lead in the top of the tenth after an RBI double from CJ Willis scored Michael Zarrillo from second. Cian Sahler would pinch run for Willis and score on a wild pitch, making it a 5-3 game heading into the bottom of the tenth.

Cameron closed the door in his third inning of work, working a double play after a leadoff RBI single. The right-hander struck Bristol’s Dixon Black to end the game, and snap a five game losing streak for the Blue Sox.

Quabbin Regional Middle School announces honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional Middle School announces the fourth quarter honor roll for the seventh and eighth grades.

Grade Seven, High Honors
Brent Benoit, Abraham Brown, Josephine Buck, Alianna Casey, Andrew Erickson, Samuel Feldman, Alison LaRoche, Marcus McDonald, Angelina Orr, Stella Pears, Ellie Poulin, Moira Powers, Juliet Priestley, Kristen Schur, Ava Sobol, Benjamin Thompson, Erin Trotter and Catherine Tucker.

Grade Seven, Honors
Haleigh Agurkis, Mackenzie Black, Vivien Burch, Carlmorisia Campbell, Charlotte Carpenter, Eleanor Carroll, Wyatt Clark, Brian Coletan, Kaylee Correia, Adrien Crane, Adrien Cyr, Samantha Davis, Claudia DeLaRoche, Olivia Drake, Aliya Edouard, Arianna Fagnoli, Sydney Freeman, Daniella Gaudreault, Samuel Jamieson, Spencer Kokoski, Matthew Labrousse, Emma

Lindsey, Kingston McKenzie, Lillian McKinstry, Max Melad, Gianna Montalvo, Audrey Niles, John Orsini, Zion Parks, Aubrie Phelps, Lucas Proctor, Veanna Salvadore, Hailey Stoll, Leah Thomasian, Noah Toupense, Akhai Tran, Matthew VanScoy, Charlotte Wilder and Shane Woodruff.

Grade Eight, High Honors
Jacob Bassett, Madeleine Boisselle, Makenzie Casey, Kylie Cerezo, Jayanna Cherry, Cameron Delamere, Jack Desjean, Lens Dorsainvil, Isabel Doty, Tess Dunphy, Alijah Flint, Morgan George, Anna Hautala, Emma Hill, Audrey Laursen, Nathan Marchand, Hannah Mellor, Anna Metcalf, Autumn Nagle, Samantha O’Connor, Robyn Orme, Breann Parker, Julia Quintal, Ella Reeves, Aubrey Reynolds, Andrew Rigney, Sienna Shaw, Lukas Tobin, Grace VanOudenhove, Brendan Welch, Molly Wilder and Leanna Zou.

Grade Eight, Honors

Skyler Bard, Carter Bassett, Auguste Bellerose, Halo Bissonnette, Makala Boucher, Madison Brouillet, Jacob Cogoli, James Cook, Melissa Cornelius, Benjamin Darcey, Kherington Deschene, Christopher Diaz, Oliver Doane, Owen Doolittle, Leah Doucette, Katelyn Durant, Anna Farmer, Quinlan Fauteux, Grace Flamand, Bryce Fleming, Jordan Greene, Paityn Harding, Jacoby Hartshorn, Janelle Hutchinson, Violet Kelley, Sadie Kennan, Jillian LaMontagne, Ailey Majoy, Scarlett Merriman, Noah Miett, Mia Miville, Jesse Newton, Kevin Njenga, Owen O’Donnell, Charlotte Oliver, Jaiden Ortiz, Sadie Ouimette, Madison Pedersen, Nahdiya Pena Leary, Arianna Riendeau, Abigail Rogowski, Emma Ryan, Madeleine Scheeler, Kailynn Schuster, Silver Spring, Aubrey Thorpe, Gabriella Totas, Camren Tremblay, Owen Twarog and Ellary White.

BASKETBALL from page 9

mates on the court. Quaterone is playing in two leagues and enjoys banging the boards for rebounds which is needed by his team.

Freshman Zach Alves scored six points followed by classmate Will Dupell with four points.

Both are taking advantage of playing in the summer and Coach Sulmasy’s instruction and teaching. Calvin Hurd and Matt Wade were key rebounders along with Anthony Quarterone.

Wade is a 6’2 incoming freshman and has ability in the post. A good passer, Wade enjoys setting up his teammates to score but Coach Sulmasy would like to see the athletic power forward use his scoring skills much more.

Hurd, another incoming freshman, has taken advantage of the numerous clinics offered by the Quabbin program and emerged as a player who likes to play physical and is always around the ball. His rebounding skills will be needed and the 6’1 forward enjoys hammering the glass.

The young team, sponsored by Ground Up Landscape, will play Fitchburg this week in what should be a challenging game.

In Auburn League action, Captain Quinn Geary scored 13 points to lead the team to a con-

vincing 41-30 win over Nipmuc. The 6’2 combo guard-forward has been working on his ball handling and movement without the basketball and observers have seen much improvement in those areas. Geary continues to work hard and has become a strong performance leader.

Point guard Jaxon Warburton, has been settling the team on offense and, mostly known for his defensive skills, the 6’0 junior, has been focusing on scoring opportunities which both his coaches have been encouraging. He has a smart intellect and acumen as he learns the position.

Kyle Clark, an incoming 6’4 power forward is accepting his role, along with 6’4 senior Captain Nick Whitelaw, as a rebounder at both ends of the court. Clark grabbed nine rebounds to lead the team while Whitelaw chipped in with 8 more as the Quabbinians dominated the boards.

Rebounding is the key to winning and Clark, Whitelaw and junior Zeke Santoro are working on their technique and aggressiveness.

Chris Prunesti-Leveille followed leading scorer Quinn Geary with 10 points while Kyle Clark added 7 points and Rickie Janoure helped out with 4 more. Janoure, a

5’7 guard brings a lot of energy on the court and is learning to place it in the right places. He can defend well and drew the games only charge which, of course, excited the crowd in attendance and his teammates.

Charges can change the momentum of the game and send a clear message to the opponent which Janoure understands and appreciates along with teammate Nick Whitelaw.

Also getting good minutes on the E.P. Wine sponsored team is incoming junior Bryce Venne, also a key defensive weapon for Coaches Hay and Brownell. Venne had a strong drive to the basket to finish a scoring opportunity which seems to have become a strong-point of his offensive arsenal. It’s a good role for the quick and athletic guard and one he is taking advantage with.

Joining the team after a successful soccer season was freshman guard Jacoby Dilling.

The 6’1 combo guard will be called upon to handle the ball along with Jaxon Warburton and add his offensive skill set to the team. A good learner on the court he is an effective continuous learner and his coaches recognize it.

MUTINY from page 9

The top eight teams in the East Division will automatically qualify for the Eastern Conference playoffs.

“We’re still vying for a play-off spot,” Kochanek said. “If we do want to make a long run in the playoffs, we’ll need to capitalize on our scoring chances. This game was a good learning experience for us.”

Santaniello, who’s from Agawam, has been a member of the University of Rhode Island women’s team during the past couple of years. She recently entered the NCAA transfer portal and is in the process of searching for a new school to play soccer at in the fall.

In last Saturday’s match, Santaniello had a couple scoring chances in the first five minutes of the contest. Santaniello’s first shot attempt sailed wide, and her second shot on goal was saved by Sporting CT goalie Abby McCarthy.

Midfielder Lily Fabian, who graduated from Monson High School in 2018, played in her first match of the season for the Mutiny.

“Lily has been one of our leaders during the past couple of years,” Kochanek said. “We’re grateful to have her back for today’s match.”

Sporting CT (6-0-0) took a 1-0 lead during the 21st minute when forward Aubrey Kupla fired a shot into the upper right corner of the net past Mutiny goalie Naya Lipkens. Tiffany Weimer, who’s the Sporting CT player/head coach, was credited with the assist.

Kupla finished her first ever soccer match at Lusitano Stadium with a hat-trick.

“The atmosphere at this stadium is electric,” Kupla said. “It was a lot of fun playing in front of a large crowd. Getting the win is the most important thing to me. Scoring the three goals was just the icing on the cake.”

Weimer, who’s also an assistant women’s soccer coach at Yale University, was a member of the Penn State women’s soccer team from 2002-2005. She holds the school record with 91 career goals.

Kupla, who’ll be a senior at Cromwell High School in the fall, will be following in Weimer’s footsteps. She has verbally committed



Laci Lewis sprints up the field.



Jenna Kalwa tries to maneuver through the opposing defense.

to playing college soccer at Penn State.

“Tiffany holds the record for goals at Penn State,” Kupla said. “I’m really hoping to score 92 goals during my collegiate career, so I can break her school record.”

Early in the second half, Mutiny forward Chandler Pedolzky stole the ball away from Abby McCarthy, who was the Sporting CT starting goalie, but her shot attempt sailed wide. She also

had a header, but it was saved by McCarthy.

The score remained 1-0 until Sporting CT scored three goals in a span of seven minutes late in the second half.

The duo of Kupla and Weimer combined for the second and third goals.

Weimer finished the match with three assists. She netted the final goal of the match in the 77th minute.

HIKING from page 4

walking and steep pitches, calm breezes and howling wind. Every morning brought excitement.

Every evening brought exhaustion. Every mile was new, yet somehow familiar.

It may have been our first time hiking through Georgia, but our days on the trail felt like coming home.

The days passed in a blur, until we were a mere hours from reaching the border. We hoped that our final night on the A.T would be just the two of us, primitive camping in the middle of the woods.

We wanted to be surrounded only by earth and trees and sky. No voices. No humanity. No structures.

We found an existing site in the woods less than a mile before the North Carolina border. After pitching our tent and unloading our sleeping bags, we continued north, arriving at the NC border a half an hour later.

“We did it!” I exclaimed. “One more state completed on the Appalachian Trail!”

Tom and I celebrated our achievement, headed back to our tent site to prepare dinner. We gathered wood, lit a fire in the small fire ring, then sat side by side on a fallen tree to enjoy freeze-dried Pad Thai in front of the fire.

The flames outshone the stars and took the chill from the air in our private, tree-covered oasis in the heart of the wilderness.

Shoulder to shoulder, we stared into the depths of blazing fire, saying nothing. Mesmerized by the dancing flames that stretched upward.

I broke the silence first.

“There’s one more thing we need to do to make the end of this journey official.” Tom looked at me with questioning eyes. “Do you remember how we fin-



Julie and Tom embrace at their campsite.

ished the New Hampshire 48 on Mount Carrigan? And how we finished the New England 67 on Katahdin?” I asked.

I stood up, took his hand in mine and guided him to a small patch of earth near the fire. With one hand behind his neck and one hand intertwined with his, I softly sang the words of our wedding song.

Our hearts touched and our bodies swayed and our feet moved softly on a dance floor of dirt and

crunching leaves. We were woven together in a language as old as time.

We danced. Oh how we danced...until the flames died and the burning wood became nothing but red-hot glowing embers.

Follow the rest of our hiking adventures on Instagram @more-thanthemountain

See you in the wild places, my friends!

Submitted Photo



DRUMMING from page 1

Drums and instruments resonating throughout the Town House and the audience has a cleansing effect on the spirit as you close your eyes and feel the beat. Tim made a powerful statement during the event, "Drumming is the most therapeutic instrument on the planet." How do drum circles encourage Summer Reading initiatives? Students on summer break could sign-up for their summer reading at these events. These hand drumming sessions are a fantastic way to encourage creativity, the arts, summer reading, and socialization during the summer. Residents and students throughout the surrounding community are invited to join the fun Aug. 1, 8, and 9 at 7 p.m. on the town Common.



Father and son, Tim and Chris Kane, guide the drum circle.

This wave drum was one of many alternative percussion instruments attendees could play at the event.

Turley Photos by Eric Troy
Kane Drums' Tim Kane leads the drum circle at the Hardwick Town House.

QRSD offers full-day preschool pilot program

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District will be piloting a full-day preschool program beginning this upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

This is an exciting opportunity to begin to expand the preschool programming for four-year-old students.

This pilot program will be housed at Hardwick Elementary School, but it will be open to residents of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree and Oakham. It aims to offer a full-day option from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. to enhance early childhood development and school readiness.

The main goals of the full-day preschool pilot are as follows:

Extended learning opportunities

By offering a full-day program, children have more time to engage in a wide range of activities and learning experiences. This includes a combination of structured lessons, free play, social interactions, creative play, and outdoor activities.

The extended time allows for a more holistic approach to early childhood education.

Enhanced school readiness

Research has shown that children who attend high-quality preschool programs are better prepared for kindergarten and have improved academic outcomes in the long term. The full-day preschool pilot aims to further enhance school readiness by providing additional time for early learners to gain skills in early literacy, numeracy, social-emotional development, and other essential areas.

Holistic development

Full-day preschool programs can support the overall development of children by incorporating opportunities for rest, healthy meals, and regular physical activity. These factors contribute to a child's well-being, fostering healthy habits and promoting balanced growth during their crucial early years.

Parental involvement and engagement

The full-day preschool pilot recognizes the importance of parental involvement in a child's education. It encourages parent-teacher communication and collaboration to foster a strong partnership in supporting a child's development.

Additionally, the program may offer opportunities for parents to participate in workshops or activities related to parenting and early childhood education.

Implementing the full-day preschool pilot aims to provide children a more comprehensive and supportive early childhood educational experience. This pilot program offers an opportunity for children to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, setting a strong foundation for their future educational journey.

How to apply

In order to ensure a fair and impartial selection process for four-year-old peer model students across the district, the Quabbin district will use a lottery system to determine students that will be accepted into the full-day program. Lotteries are often used when there are more applicants than available spots, and it helps to eliminate any biases or favoritism that might arise from other selection methods.

Within this program, there are 15 total slots for students.

Seven slots will be reserved for students with special needs and the determination for a full day will be based on their individual needs with the special education team. There will be eight additional slots available for peer model students.

In order to make it equitable, two peer model slots will be available from each sending school: two from Hardwick Elementary School, two from Hubbardston Center School, two from New Braintree Grade School and two from Ruggles Lane. If by chance there are no applicants from one of the particular schools, those open slots will be filled using the lottery system from the remaining three schools.

Transportation to and from preschool will be the responsibility of the parent.

A virtual informational night will be held to discuss our full-day preschool program and its components and answer any questions. This informational night will be held on Tuesday, July 11 at 6 p.m. The meeting link can be found by visiting the district website at QRSD.org.

If a child is a candidate as a peer model and parents or guardians would like to enter them into the lottery for the full-day preschool program at Hardwick Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year, please fill out the Google form, which is available by visiting the district website at QRSD.org.

Forms must be completed by Friday, July 21. The lottery for full-day preschool peer model slots will take place on Monday, July 24.

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Ware River News

24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of June 26-July 3, the Ware Police Department responded to 45 miscellaneous calls, 43 administrative calls, 15 traffic violations, 38 emergency 911 calls, seven animal calls, four harassments, four frauds/deceptions, one theft/larceny, three damage/vandalisms, seven motor vehicle accidents, two safety hazards, one trespass, one harassment/stalk, one breaking and entering/burglary, one structure fire, six assist other agencies and 22 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Monday, June 26
9 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Services Rendered
12:18 p.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Assist Given
1:30 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Advised
1:37 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Laurel Drive, Advised
2:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:23 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Belchertown Road, Investigated

Tuesday, June 27
2:49 a.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Fourth Avenue, Arrest Made
3:56 a.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Bank Street, Report Made
6:17 a.m. Warrant Service, Parker Street, Services Rendered
Arrest: Beth A. Makara, 36, Ware
WMS Warrant
9:23 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
9:26 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled
12:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
1:32 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
1:33 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fourth Avenue, Advised
2:46 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Appears Secure After Check
3:14 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, East Street, Investigated
4:56 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
5:28 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
5:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
10:44 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Belchertown Road, Services Rendered

Wednesday, June 28
2:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/

Crash, Kingsberry Lane, Could Not Locate
4:36 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Could Not Locate
5:50 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cherry Street, Services Rendered

Thursday, June 29
3:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Alex Alejandro, 19, Springfield
Stop for Police, Fail; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Marked Lanes Violation; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle; Drug, Possess Class B
5:10 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Dispatch Handled
9:32 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
12:26 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
1:54 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Wrin Street, Dispatch Handled
2:57 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Dispatch Handled
4:36 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled
4:42 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
5:31 p.m. Fraud/Deception, West Street, Services Rendered
6:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gilbertville Road, Investigated
7:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Friday, June 30
8:41 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
12:17 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Spring Street, Services Rendered
6:58 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick, Assist Given
7:03 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Hillside Village, Services Rendered
8:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Unfounded

Saturday, July 1
10:06 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
12:01 p.m. DUI/Impaired, West Street, Investigated
2:58 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
5:30 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Babcock Tavern Road, Investigated
6:54 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Main Street, Services Rendered
11:06 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, River Road, Vehicle Towed

Sunday, July 2
2:20 a.m. Assist Other Agency,

North Street, Services Rendered
2:41 a.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Services Rendered
10:22 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Wildflower Drive, Report Made
11:02 a.m. Fire Alarm, Bank Street, Investigated
12:03 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, North Street, Report Made
1:50 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled
3:13 p.m. Structure Fire, Monson Turnpike Road, Services Rendered
6:24 p.m. Safety Hazard, Old Belchertown Road, Services Rendered
6:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Luis A. Rodriguez, 38, Springfield
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open Container of; Marked Lanes Violation
6:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, East Street, Services Rendered
8:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Dispatch Handled
8:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Bondsville Road, Dispatch Handled
9:49 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered
10:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Gareau Avenue, Advised

Monday, July 3
1:48 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, King Circle, Investigated
2:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
6:40 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Warren Road, Removed Hazard
8:03 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Main Street, Could Not Locate
4:30 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
5:04 p.m. Assault in Progress, Gilbertville Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
10:22 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate

Tuesday, July 4
12:06 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pleasant Street, Services Rendered
Summons: Jessalyn Hughes-Ungerland, 30, Ware
Assault and Battery on Police Officer; Assault; Resist Arrest; Disorderly Conduct
4:36 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Bacon Road, Investigated
7:15 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Bacon Road, Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

During the week of June 18-25, the Warren Police Department responded to 162 building/property checks, 83 community policing, 12 traffic enforcements, 13 emergency 911 calls, one threat, one harassment, one fraud/forgery, one larceny/theft, one prowler/trespasser, nine animal calls and 37 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, June 18
3:10 p.m. Fire Alarm Activation, Maple Street, Investigated
3:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:15 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
5 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, Chapel Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, June 19
9:38 a.m. Officer Wanted, Coy Hill Road, Report Filed
3:17 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, South Street, Information Taken
3:31 p.m. Threats, Washburn Avenue, Report Filed
4:02 p.m. Harassment, South Street, Report Filed
5:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
8:45 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 20
10:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
10:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Chapel Street, Citation Issued

Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of June 19-July 3, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 75 building/property checks, 57 directed/area patrols, 14 traffic control, 23 emergency 911 calls, 11 radar assignments, six citizen assists, seven complaints, two scams, six assist other agencies, three safety hazards, three motor vehicle investigations, one motor vehicle accident, eight animal calls and 19 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, June 19
12:17 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Lower Road, Unknown Outcome
3:24 p.m. Safety Hazard, Lower Road, Services Rendered
4:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated
7:35 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital
9:04 p.m. 911 Fire/Structure, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, June 20
4:10 a.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Ruggles Hill Road, Arrest(s) Made
8:26 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
9:45 a.m. Safety Hazard, Bridge Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
3:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated
3:47 p.m. Complaint, Prospect Street, Unfounded

Wednesday, June 21
7:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
2:46 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Services Rendered
4:37 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
4:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued
11:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
12:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:32 p.m. Officer Wanted, Brimfield Road, Report Filed
5:22 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
8:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
Summons: Joseph A. Kendall Jr., 43, Warren
Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID (Attaching); Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No

Wednesday, June 21
1:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:56 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Unknown, Services Rendered
3:58 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Main Street, Report Filed
4:25 p.m. Welfare Check, O'Neil Road, Investigated
4:45 p.m. Officer Wanted, Crescent Street, Report Filed
5:29 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Quaboag Street, Information Taken
7:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
9:11 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Main Street, Call Transferred

Thursday, June 22
11:26 a.m. Falls, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, June 22
8:22 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Turley Street, Transported to Hospital
10:07 a.m. Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
11:44 a.m. 911 Misdial, Old Petersham Road, Dispatch Handled
12:39 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Main Street, Peace Restored
1:55 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Spoken To
1:57 p.m. Scam, Shore Road, Spoken To
5:57 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Officer Handled
6:46 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
7:53 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Broad Street, Services Rendered

Friday, June 23
9:12 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown, Officer Handled
10:09 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lyman Road, Spoken To
11:47 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
4:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
4:37 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Lower Road, Investigated
5:01 p.m. Safety Hazard, Creamery Road, Removed Hazard
11:08 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Services Rendered

Saturday, June 24
2:33 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Jackson Road, Transported to Hospital
1:44 p.m. 911 Lockout, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered
5:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
5:57 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Transported to Hospital
7:49 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered

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.

Friday, June 23
6:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road Extension, Report Filed
Summons: Mark A. Martinez, 47, Ware
License Revoked as HTO, Operate Motor Vehicle With
8:44 a.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle, Mechanic Street, Report Filed
9:12 a.m. Prowler/Trespasser, Mechanic Street, Party Departed Without Incident
1:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Citation Issued
2:45 p.m. Welfare Check, O'Neil Road, Investigated

Saturday, June 24
12:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
6:49 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Sunday, June 25
12:45 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
2:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
3:37 p.m. 911 Misdial, Short Road, Checked/Secured
4:41 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Mechanic Street, Services Rendered
5:37 p.m. Scam, Patrill Hollow Road, Investigated
9:39 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, High Street, Checked/Secured

Monday, June 26
5:38 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Maple Street, Spoken To

Thursday, June 29
5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
8:45 p.m. 911 Complaint, Broad Street, Negative Contact

Friday, June 30
10:53 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Road, Officer Handled
1:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Taken

Saturday, July 1
5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
6:17 p.m. 911 Gunshots, Lyman Road, Transferred Call to C7
7:33 p.m. Complaint, Prospect Street, Could Not Locate
9:23 p.m. 911 Complaint, River Run, Unfounded
9:29 p.m. Gunshots, Greenwich Road, Unfounded

Sunday, July 2
12:38 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Muddy Brook Road, Investigated
6:40 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Street, Services Rendered
1:18 p.m. Assist Citizen, Mechanic Street, Spoken To

Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a "hands on" energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
ekennedy@turley.com



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STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

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Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
ekennedy@turley.com

Financial Fitness Club begins October 2023

WARE – The Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club is a program of the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation.

The Financial Fitness Club helps build participants' financial capabilities while helping them to reach their goals.

The Club meets every month beginning in October. The Financial Fitness Club helps participants to pick a sav-

ings goal and set up a savings account. Then staff can match their savings up to a capped amount.

At every monthly meeting participants will learn something new such as; how to reduce debt, smart borrowing, how to maximize income, improve your credit score and more.

For more information, please visit qvcdc.org or call Carol at 413-497-4407.

Anna Maria College announces Dean's List

PAXTON – Anna Maria College announces the Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester.

Local students making the Dean's List are: Erinna McCarthy of Ware and Olivia LaRocco of Warren.

Anna Maria College awards Dean's List recognition to students enrolled in a full-time undergraduate day program in good standing who have attained in the previous semester a GPA of 3.5 with no grade lower than "B" for a minimum of four courses.



The 1870 mansion at Elm Hill Farm in Brookfield is set as Wren and Mya's home in the fictional town of Coventry.

MOVIE from page 1

the pregnancy, and moving from the city and into an old house they inherited from Mya's aunt in Coventry.

Wren is played by Juani Feliz of New York, in her first lead role.

Feliz said she has played a number of strong supporting lead roles, appearing in "The Purge: Election Year and Canal Street" as well as various television series including "Blue Bloods", "Power", "Shades of Blue", "One Dollar" and more.

"Birthrite" is a psychological thriller, and the first of this genre that Feliz has acted in.

"It's my favorite genre," she said.

Playing Mya is Alice Kremelberg, also from New York, who has acted in a number of television series, including "The Sinner", "Orange is the New Black", and "The Ballad of Renegade Nell" to name a few.

"Being here every day is such a treat," Kremelberg said. "It's been such a group effort. Juani and I are having the best time."

"Birthrite" is directed by Ross Partridge of Los Angeles, California, a respected actor, director and producer.

Partridge has appeared in the hit series "Stranger Things" as Lonnie Byers, the estranged father of Jonathan and Will Byers.

While Ware and Brookfield may seem like unlikely places to film a movie, it feels like home for Partridge and his crew.

His wife, Jennifer Lafleur, who is also an actor, was born at Mary Lane Hospital, and grew up in Brookfield just a few doors down from the historic Elm Hill Farm owned by Bill McCreary.

The impressive 1870 mansion at Elm Hill Farm is surrounded by rolling fields and is still an active horse farm to this day.

In "Birthrite", Elm Hill Farm is transformed into the Coventry home that Wren and Mya move to, with the hope of starting their family in the serenity of the country.

"Bill has just been amazing," Production Manager Kelly Frazier said of farm owner McCreary. "He's just the best."

Frazier, an industry veteran of 25 years, said that when the production team scouted the location for "Birthrite" they knew it was perfect.

Lafleur said her parents built their house near Elm Hill Farm and that she, her husband and their 3-year-old daughter, Alma, spend a lot of time in the area.

"It's so nice to be working locally," she said.

Joining the cast is Lafleur's



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Shown from left are Dr. Roger Lafleur, nurses Michelle Kurilova and Marylynn Pratt and David Pratt.



Nurse Jean Comeau and Brookfield EMT Donna Lafleur get ready for the day's filming at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital.

father, Roger and mother, Donna.

"I spent a lot of time visiting my dad here," Lafleur said of the hospital. She also worked as an EMT in Brookfield with her mother.

Roger spent over 30 years in the medical field, starting as a physician's assistant under Dr. Grace for 10 years before becoming a physician in the emergency department. He then moved to the urgent care department until it closed.

"The best person for urgent care is an emergency room doctor," Roger said. "They know what to worry about."

Roger, along with many familiar faces from Mary Lane Hospital, is starring as an extra in the film; his second acting role under his son-in-law's direction.

Donna works as an EMT in Brookfield and remembers spending a lot of time at the hospital.

"It's sad, but it brings back a lot of good memories," she said of returning to the emergency room.

Jean Comeau worked in Mary Lane Hospital's emergency room for 35 of her 50 years as a nurse, retiring before it closed.

"Roger and I were like brother and sister," Comeau said. "All of us

worked well together."

Comeau said she and her fellow nurses still get together every six to eight weeks, hailing from Hardwick, Ware, Brookfield, West Brookfield and beyond.

"Some of my best memories were here," she said.

Nurse Michelle Kurilova works in the operating room at Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, but looked back fondly on her days spent at Mary Lane Hospital.

"It's wonderful to have the opportunity to see it again," Kurilova said.

Emergency room nurse Marylynn Pratt echoed Kurilova's words, adding that working in the hospital created a deep, lifelong connection between the staff.

"It's family," she said.

Most of the crew working on the film are based in Massachusetts, as are many of the extras.

Frazier thanked McCreary and Baystate Health Services for their hospitality and credited Dan Diaz of Westerman Props Warehouse in Worcester for his work.

The film is expected to be released in 2024 and will premiere locally for all to enjoy.



Submitted Photo

Dan Moriarty, Monson Savings Bank President and CEO, (far left) along with other members of the Springfield community at the World's Largest Pancake Breakfast Chairperson's Reception.

MSB celebrates the world's largest pancake breakfast chairperson

MONSON – Monson Savings Bank has been a longtime supporter of the communities and the residents of Western Massachusetts.

As a continued sponsor of the cherished Pancake Breakfast, Monson Savings Bank attended the world's largest pancake breakfast chairperson announcement.

Dan Moriarty, president and CEO of Monson Savings Bank, was in attendance at the pancake breakfast when the announcement

was made that Springfield Police Superintendent Cheryl Clapprod would be this year's chairperson.

"Cheryl has made countless contributions to the Springfield community, and it is certainly a better place because of her," said Moriarty. "It was an exciting moment when it was announced that she would be the chairperson."

The world's largest pancake breakfast, presented by the Spirit of Springfield, took place on Saturday,

May 13. Monson Savings Bank made a \$3,500 contribution to support this annual tradition.

"This is the second year in a row that the Bank has been a part of the world's largest pancake breakfast," said Moriarty. "We are honored to have the opportunity to not only be a sponsor of this event but also attend and interact with the community at the breakfast."

STATE POLICE from page 1

ing service provides all meals to recruits in the training program.

"They're ready to feed an army three times a day," Provost.

Farmer Matt will also be there serving up some of his signature dishes at no cost. Farmer Matt is located just down the road from the State Police Academy, at 860 West Brookfield Road.

Located on the grounds of the former Pioneer Valley Academy, the State Police Academy covers just under 780 acres in the rural town.

Pioneer Valley Academy was a co-ed boarding school operated by the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists that provided high school education to hundreds of students from 1965-1983.

After the school closed and was unused for a number of years, construction began in the late 1980s to turn it into a state prison. Facing fierce opposition from residents and people from surrounding towns, the plan was eventually abandoned.

The State Police relocated their training academy to the site, and in 1992 graduated their first class of recruits, the 70th RTT.

Provost was a member of the second class to graduate from the New Braintree campus, the 71st RTT, and stepped into his role as Commandant last year.

Since he arrived in New Braintree, he has talked with Deputy Division Commander of Training Major Steven McCarthy about hosting a Community Day to engage the public.

Not much has changed since it's days as a school, with the buildings repurposed to suit the State Police's training needs.

The B building of the former school is now the main building of the State Police Academy, and A and C, the former men's and

women's dormitories, still serve the same purpose.

Both A and C had chapels when it was a school, and they have since been converted into large classrooms capable of seating 100 recruits.

The State Police Academy campus is also home to the State Police Regional Dispatch center, which provides services to close to a dozen towns, including New Braintree, Hardwick, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Holland, Petersham and Wales.

The cafeteria is still that, but now has a wall lined with navy blue hats, or covers.

"It's our version of 'ringing the bell,'" Provost said, referring to when candidates "volunteer out" of Navy SEAL training.

Each hat represents a recruit that has left the State Police Academy before finishing training. The 88th RTT started with 249 recruits and there are now 167 remaining.

Only about one out of every three recruits make it to the end and graduates.

Training at the State Police Academy is intense, with 16-hour days Monday through Friday for about 23 weeks.

As a paramilitary organization, training at the State Police Academy is both physically and mentally demanding, and broken into three phases. It ranges from classroom training to hands-on, giving recruits confidence in the field.

The first phase demonstrates and teaches the necessary skills and techniques needed by recruits, and in the final phase, the recruits are trained to be autonomous.

"They are working to be independent," McCarthy said.

The grounds of the State Police Academy are also home to a fire-arms range, a ropes confidence course, a gym and more. The State Police Academy works with

municipal police departments from across the state, offering the use of its state-of-the-art training facility.

The State Police Academy's wells also provide water to the town's grade school and Town Hall.

Local farmers lease the fields for haying, and hunters utilize the grounds during hunting seasons, Provost said. The gym is also open for public use, available around training schedules.

Sunsets and sunrises up on the hill are the most breathtaking he's ever seen, Provost said.

The Community Day event is really just that; a celebration of the community and its role in supporting the State Police Academy.

"We appreciate New Braintree very much," Provost said.

People are also encouraged to join in the ongoing food drive at the State Police Academy during Community Day, to benefit the Worcester County Food Bank.

Requested donations include nonperishable gluten-free food, spices and condiments, healthy snacks (such as nuts, granola bars, canned and dried fruits), cereals, rice, pasta, canned pasta sauce, dry beans (all varieties), low-sodium broths/soups/stews/chili and 100% fruit and vegetable juices.

All items must have a clear expiration date and ingredient list. Try to avoid sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda and non-fruit juice, candy products and energy drinks.

Menstrual care products and hygiene items are also needed.

Please do not donate alcohol or mixers intended to be used with alcohol, over the counter oral medications, flammable products (such as lighter, matches or charcoal), products in glass containers, perishable products, opened products or expired products.



The cast and crew get ready to shoot in the emergency room.

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By virtue of the Power of the Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Terrah L. Brown to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Prospect Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated September 26, 2016 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds at Book 12425, Page 104 as affected by a Loan Modification recorded on February 6, 2019 in Said Registry of Deeds at Book 13195, Page 200, subsequently assigned to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Prospect Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Hampshire County Registry of Deeds at Book 12900, Page 154 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on July 13, 2023 at 44 South Street, Ware, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit: The land in Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin set in the sidewalk on the easterly side of South Street, the same being at the northerly corner of South and Charles Streets;

THENCE easterly on the northerly line of Charles Street to land now or formerly of one Platt;

THENCE along the line of a stonewall and fence on Platt's westerly line to land formerly of one Murphy;

THENCE westerly on line of land formerly of said Murphy to the east line of South Street;

THENCE southerly on the easterly line of South Street to the place of beginning, containing more or less.

Subject to the use of that portion of the above-described premises, now used as a driveway is located on the northerly line of said described premises, together with the use of nine (9) feet and two (2) inches of land lying northerly of said premises and now occupied as a driveway; meaning hereby that there shall be kept open for a driveway for the use of persons having rights therein what is now occupied as said driveway forever, the whole of said driveway being 18 feet and 4 inches in width on said South Street. For deed reference see document immediately prior hereto. The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
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Warren Planning Board Derick R. Veliz, Chairman 06/29, 07/06/2023

WARREN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Special Permit No. 310 Site Plan Approval No. 68
Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, Notice is hereby given that the Warren Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:15 PM** on the application of Gilbert Road. The Hearing will take place in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Shepard Municipal Building located at 48 High Street in Warren and via digital platform Zoom Meeting.

The Applicant, Cal Rolling Hills, LLC, is requesting a Special Permit to allow an Earth Removal operation under Sections 3.25, 5.32 and Section 8.4 of the zoning by-laws in the Town of Warren in the Rural district at Gilbert Road (Map 05, Lots 22-25).

A complete copy of the application may be inspected in the Office of the Planning Board or the Town Clerk during normal business hours. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated. All interested parties are invited to attend with any comments or concerns.
Meeting ID: 869 2706 4530
Passcode: 784772
Phone # 646-558-8656

Town of Ware PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 7:05 p.m.**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear a dangerous dog complaint in regard to one dog owned by a resident of 19 Berkshire Circle. **This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (http://masspublicnotices.org).**
All interested parties are invited to attend.
Caitlin McCarthy
Chair
Selectboard
June 28, 2023
07/06/2023



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

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Athletes compete in first ever local IRONMAN triathlon

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

SPRINGFIELD – In its first western Massachusetts event, the IRONMAN 70.3 saw 1,141 athletes from around the world compete in the sports of swimming, biking and running.

The middle distance triathlon started with 1.2 miles of swimming in the Connecticut River, followed by 56 miles of biking, and ended with 13.1 miles of running.

This event held on June 11 was a first for the city, and it was also a first for Stamford, Connecticut resident Andrew Les. In fact, it's the first race he's ever competed in.

"I've actually done zero; never even done a 5K road race before," Les said.

Coming in 318th overall, Les completed the swimming in 36:23, biking in 2:50:45 and the running in 1:57:41.

When asked if he would compete in the IRONMAN 70.3 again, Les said he'd consider it if it came back to Springfield.

"If you asked me right after the race, I was a very positive 'no,'" Les said with a laugh.

Les, who grew up in Palmer and has family living in Holland, said an event like the IRONMAN 70.3 is good for the city, but it takes many months of preparation to train for.

"It's a big time commitment... the training is intense," he said.

Preparation for the triathlon began in mid-December for Les, who was asked to be a training partner for a friend.

"I just so happened to be the lucky one that was drafted," Les

said.

Using a training program they found online, Les and his friend spent almost half a year preparing for the race. Unfortunately, Les was injured less than four months into training and was sidelined for a month and half.

Training consisted of swimming in the pool at 5:30 a.m. twice a week before work, as well as twice a week on the bike and twice a week running.

Les said for many competing in triathlons, the biggest challenge is the swimming. He has done survival swimming before, but didn't swim in high school and college and was "starting from scratch" for this event.

"That was the biggest mental battle for me, I was nervous about it. But in the actual event, the swim was the easiest," Les said. "The bike and the run are the two more challenging of the events."

Les said he really hopes the race returns to Springfield and he was grateful for the crowd of people along the route that cheered him and other athletes on.

He was also impressed with the diversity of the athletes, who ranged in age from 18-79.

"It's just amazing how many people do it from all ages... It's pretty incredible," Les said. "I know what it took just to get there... it is not an easy race."

Although this wasn't Daniel Moriarty's first IRONMAN, the Springfield race saw Monson Savings Bank's President and Chief Executive Officer coming in 86th in his age division and 884th overall.

His times were 36:34 for swimming, 3:19:54 for biking and

2:50:44 for running.

He joked that his aim was to take first place in the bank CEO and presidents class.

Moriarty said he's done a couple of local triathlons prior to this, and has even competed in a full IRONMAN 140.6 in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, Canada in 2015.

Moriarty knows the importance of fitness and health, and helped Monson Savings Bank distribute \$20,000 worth of new bicycles and helmets to area youth through the 150 Build-a-Bike campaign in celebration of the Bank's 150th anniversary last year.

When asked what his favorite event of the triathlon was, Moriarty agreed with Les and said it was "100% the swim."

"After learning how to swim, I just think it's one of the best exercises anybody can do," he said.

Moriarty was also injured during his training, as a result of playing pickleball for the first time and straining his calf. Because of this, he was only able to get out and run a few times before the race.

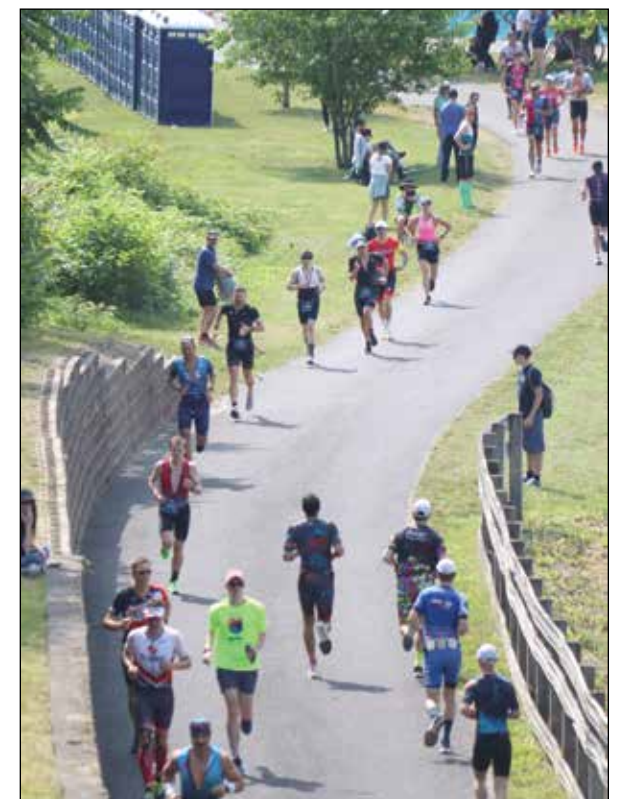
Moriarty competed in the IRONMAN 70.3 as part of his regular work day, decked out in Monson Savings Bank gear to promote the local bank.

He said he trains all year long and stays active to help cope with the stresses of his day.

While no date has been set for the 2024 IRONMAN 70.3 Western Massachusetts triathlon, registration is set open Sept. 6. For more information, visit www.ironman.com/im703-western-massachusetts-registry.



During the biking portion of the IRONMAN, the participants biked over the Memorial Bridge.



Runners run along the Springfield River Walk.



Dan Moriarty runs the along the trail that was setup in Riverfront Park.



Andrew Les makes a lap through the running course of the triathlon.

CAMPUS NOTES

STCC students named to spring 2023 Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College celebrates the accomplishment of the 764 students who were named to the spring 2023 Dean's List.

Ware residents earning the distinction include Leyna Boucher, Jennifer Czupryna, Allison Grigas and Megan Morrison.

The Dean's List is published each semester to recognize excellence in academic performance. To be considered, degree-seeking students must earn 12 or more college level credits in the current semester, or a total of 12 or more combined college-level credits earned during the fall and spring semesters, and achieve a 3.3 or above grade point average.

Springfield College announces Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College announces the Dean's List for academic excellence for the 2023 spring semester.

Local students making the Dean's list are: Chadwyck Hayden of Ware, a computer and information sciences major and Andrew Soltys of Ware, a mathematics major.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades, not have any incomplete or missing grades in the designated term and must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

Emily Marrone named to Siena College Dean's List

LOUDONVILLE, NY – Emily Marrone of Hardwick has been named to the Siena College Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student's grade point average for the semester must be between 3.5 and 3.89.

Tell Us What You Think

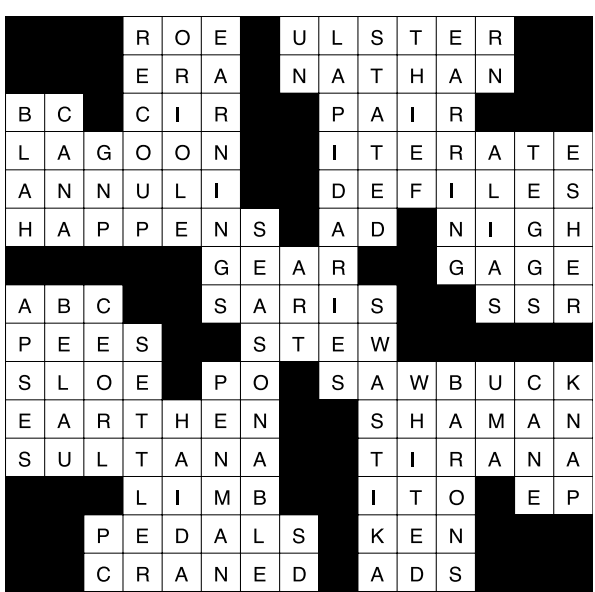


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Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event FREE OF CHARGE in our Autumn Fest Supplement which will be published September 13, 2023.

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 16.

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LG LARGE CAPACITY 26 CU FT SINGLE DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER REFRIGERATOR MODEL# LRDCS2603S



REG \$2099
\$1499
SAVE \$600

Whirlpool

WHIRLPOOL 21 CU FT COUNTER-DEPTH SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR WITH IN-DOOR ICE STORAGE MODEL# WRSS71CHZ



REG \$2399
\$1499
SAVE 37%

GE APPLIANCES

GE 27 CU FT ENERGY STAR FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH INTERIOR WATER DISPENSER MODEL# GNEZ7JYMF5



REG \$2999
\$2499
SAVE \$500

BOSCH

BOSCH 500 SERIES 26 CU FT FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH QUICK-ICE PRO AND HOME CONNECT MODEL# B36FD50SN5

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REBATE**

**HUGE
STORE-
WIDE
SAVINGS
OF UP TO
38%**



REG \$649
\$479

AMANA

AMANA LARGE CAPACITY TOP LOAD WASHER WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY AGITATOR MODEL# NTW4519JW
AMANA 6.5 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH WRINKLE PREVENT OPTION MODEL# NED4655EW



REG \$799
\$549

MAYTAG

MAYTAG 4.5 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH POWER AGITATOR AND EXTRA POWER CYCLE MODEL# MYW4505MW
MAYTAG 7.0 ELECTRIC DRYER WITH ADVANCED MOISTURE SENSOR TO PREVENT OVER DRYING MODEL# MED4500MW



REG \$999
\$729

Profile

GE PROFILE 5.3 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH SMARTER WASH TECHNOLOGY AND FLEX DISPENSE MODEL# PTW705BSTWS
GE PROFILE 7.4 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND SENSOR DRY MODEL# PTD70EBSTWS



REG \$1049
\$799

Electrolux

ELECTROLUX 4.5 CU FT FRONT LOAD WASHER WITH LUX CARE WASH SYSTEM WITH 18 MINUTE FAST WASH MODEL# ELFW7437AW
ELECTROLUX 8.0 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH INSTANT REFRESH AND INSTANT REFRESH CYCLE MODEL# ELFE7437AW

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LG FRIEDRICH**

**HUGE
STORE-
WIDE
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OF UP TO
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REG \$949
\$679
SAVE 28%

GE APPLIANCES

GE 5.3 CU FT SELF-CLEANING ELECTRIC OVEN WITH DUAL ELEMENT BAKE MODEL# JB645RKSS



REG \$1249
\$849
SAVE \$400

MAYTAG

MAYTAG 5.3 CU FT ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY AND BASKET MODEL# MER770DLZ



REG \$2099
\$1599
SAVE \$500

**FRIGIDAIRE
GALLERY**

FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY FRONT CONTROL INDUCTION RANGE WITH TRUE CONVECTION AND AIR-FRY MODEL# FGIH3047VF



REG \$1199
\$799
SAVE \$400

GE APPLIANCES

GE 5 CU FT FREE STANDING GAS CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JGB735SPSS



REG \$1749
\$1199
SAVE 31%

LG

LG 5.8 CU FT SMART WI-FI ENABLED CONVECTION GAS SLIDE-IN RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# LSGLS833F

**SAVE
UP TO
\$500
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DELIVERY
REBATE**

**HUGE
STORE-
WIDE
SAVINGS
OF UP TO
38%**



REG \$729
\$499
SAVE \$230

**FRIGIDAIRE
GALLERY**

FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY POCKET HANDLE DISHWASHER WITH ORBIT CLEAN WASH SYSTEM MODEL# GDPP4515AF



REG \$379
\$549
SAVE \$330

MAYTAG

MAYTAG FRONT CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS TUB AND DUAL POWER FILTRATION MODEL# MDB4949SKZ



REG \$1149
\$799
SAVE 30%

Profile

GE PROFILE TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR AND SANITIZE AND DRY BOOST OPTIONS MODEL# PDT715SYNFS



REG \$1149
\$779
SAVE \$370

KitchenAid

KITCHENAID SILENT 39 DECIBEL DISHWASHER WITH THIRD LEVEL UTENSIL RACK AND PRO WASH MODEL# KDTZ04KPS



REG \$399
\$809

BOSCH

BOSCH 100 SERIES 3 RACK 48 DECIBEL DISHWASHER AND PRECISION WASH SYSTEM MODEL# SHXM4AY55N

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SALE DATES 7/6-7/12

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860-693-6337

