

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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## Voters approve 12 articles at STM

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Voters took action on 12 of the articles on the special town meeting warrant, dismissing three others.

### Free cash

At the Nov. 27 meeting, a quorum of just over 100 voters decided to use free cash to cover a number of expenses, including unpaid bills from a prior fiscal year, line item increases and other expenses.

Finance Committee Chair Ken Willette explained that free cash is really unexpended fund account balances from previous fiscal years, which are returned to the town to reappropriate. These unexpended funds can be the results of a project or item costing less than budgeted for, grant reimbursements or settlements.

Free cash, Willette said, can be held and used for a purpose, which can only be decided by town meeting vote.

Other free cash appropriations that voters approved at the special town meeting include transferring \$322,481 to Other Post-

Please see **STM**, page 5



See more photos on pages 6 & 7.

## Classic Christmas ON THE COMMON

Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette  
**Emmett Carlson, age 7 of Barre, tells Santa Claus what he wants for Christmas this year.**

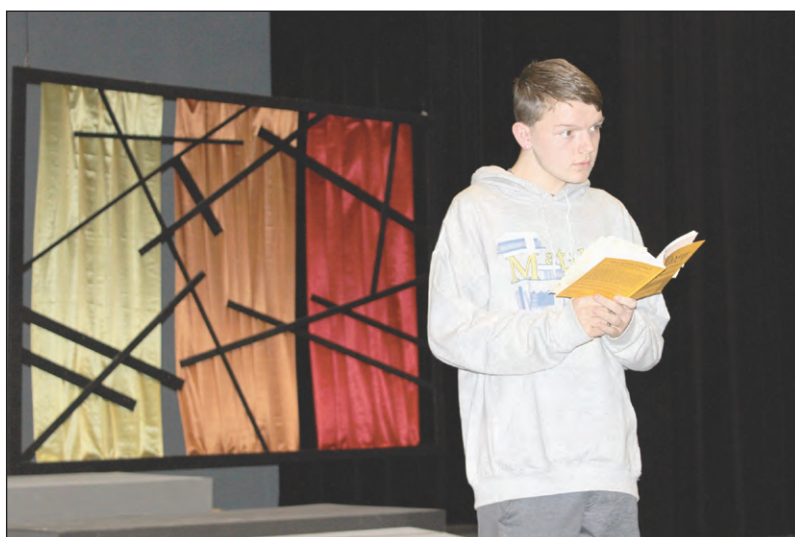
### Hardwick celebrates the holiday season with Santa and more

HARDWICK – Hardwick's Classic Christmas on the Common was held this past Sunday, starting with the arrival of Santa Claus and his North Pole friends by way of John Deere tractor.

Dozens of area vendors and businesses lined

the common, offering a variety of wares, services and treats – just in time for holiday shopping. A cookie walk was hosted by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library in the Town House.

Santa Claus welcomed visitors upstairs in the Town House, where he heard each child's Christmas wish. Gingerbread houses of all shapes and designs were entered into a contest, with many lucky winners taking home ribbons.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Aidan Mahoney, a sophomore at Quabbin Regional High School, rehearses for his roles in "The Laramie Project", to be performed at The Center at Eagle Hill, Dec. 8-10.

## High school students present 'The Laramie Project'

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – It's been 25 years since 21-year-old college student Matthew Shepard was brutally murdered in one of the most shocking anti-gay hate crimes, just outside of Laramie, Wyoming.

In recognition of this significant anniversary, Eagle Hill School has joined together with Quabbin Regional High School to present the moving stage performance of "The Laramie Project", and to continue to bring awareness to issues of equality, especially for members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

This is also the 10 year anniversary of Eagle Hill School's first performance of "The Laramie Project," Director and teacher William C. Gelinas said.

Even though Shepard's murder occurred long before any of his students were born, Gelinas said bigotry and hate are still prevalent today.

"I think it's unfortunate, but it's relatable to these students," he said of the "The Laramie Project".

"The ease in which hate language is utilized by high school-aged students is a problem," Gelinas said. "That language, I do believe, was the basis for this crime. How it was just accepted,

Please see **PROJECT**, page 11

## Townwide activities offered during annual Tree Lighting

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The annual tree lighting on the common is set to take place on Friday night, Dec. 1.

A series of townwide activities is part of the whole experience of bringing the community together for the holiday season. Many local businesses are offering their wares as the town common commences the main event of lighting

Warren's tree.

All activities during the tree lighting will begin at 4 p.m. and will go on until 7 p.m. The tree lighting will take place at 6 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Saturday, Dec. 2. Please check the Warren Parks Department's Facebook page or download the My Town Alerts app for notice of postponement.

Please see **TREE**, page 2

## The Nutcracker: A Classic Tale for Modern Times

### Barre Players and Next Step Studio team up for holiday performance

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – The Barre Players Theater and Next Step Studio of the Performing Arts have teamed up to present one of the most beloved and cherished traditions of the holiday season, with a weekend full of performances of "The Nutcracker".

"The Nutcracker: A Classic Tale for Modern Times" will be performed at the Barre Players Theater, 64 Common St., for four performances. Dates include Friday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m.

Both matinee performances are already sold out, so make sure to reserve your tickets for the evening performances by visiting barreplayerstheater.com. Tickets are \$17 each.

This is no ordinary performance of the classic Russian ballet; it features a modern and creative twist that is sure to entertain audience members of all ages.

Director and choreographer Hannah Hall said this is her fourth year leading the ballet, which features a mix of community members and dancers from her studio, Next Step Studio of the Performing Arts, which is located near the theater.

"It's been really nice," Hall said of directing and choreographing "The Nutcracker".

Hall has been a dancer since 2004 and began teaching in 2010, later opening her own dance studio in Barre.

Being able to combine performers from the community and her dance troupe in one production is something "kind of rare," Hall said, adding that it has been a wonderful experience.

Please see **NUTCRACKER**, page 6



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Anna Metcalf and Fred Schaaf dance as Clara and The Nutcracker Prince in a recent performance of "The Nutcracker" at Hardwick Elementary School. A troupe of dancers toured the Quabbin Regional School District, performing in four of the elementary schools.

## Remembering Shane Douglas

### Memorial dedicated to late football player and Quaboag alum

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Family, friends, athletes, school staff and members of the community gathered before the Thanksgiving eve football game between Quaboag Regional High School and Ware High School, to honor the life of a former Cougar.

Shane Douglas, a West Brookfield resident and 2021 graduate of Quaboag Regional High School, number 21 on the football team, was killed in a car accident on June 26, 2022, at just 18 years old.

Douglas was a fan favorite on the football team, and his three brothers are following in his footsteps, including his brother Bryce, who finished his last

Please see **SHANE**, page 8



Turley Photo by Derick Veliz

Varsity Football Coach David Shepherd thanked the Douglas family, saying he was "truly honored" to coach Shane.

### Inside this edition:

Viewpoints.....	4	Classifieds.....	14
Sports.....	9	Public Notices.....	15
Police/Fire.....	12		
Obituaries.....	13		



### ATTENTION

Due to a medical emergency, photos from last week's Ware Holiday Flair Committee's tree lighting with Santa Claus will appear in next week's Ware River News



### SPORTS

Indians claim win over Cougars

Page 9

### COMMUNITY

Open mic features local talent

Page 15

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**OBITUARY  
POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## Monson Savings Bank hosts toy drive

MONSON – Monson Savings Bank has once again partnered with Springfield non-profit I Found Light Against All Odds to make the holiday season brighter for local children.

“We are so excited to support I Found Light and Coach Claus in bringing joy to local kids this holiday season. Every child deserves to receive a gift this holiday season. Monson Savings Bank is happy to do our part to help make that possible,” said President and CEO of Monson Savings Bank Dan Moriarty. “The look on the children’s face when Coach Claus hands them their very own new toy is absolutely priceless, and that is what this season is all about- bringing happiness to others.”

From now until Dec. 7, new, unwrapped toys for children ages 0-12 can be dropped off at any Monson Savings Bank branch. The toys will be distributed to local families by IFLAAO at their annual Coach Claus event.

Donation sites include the Monson Branch, 146 Main St, Monson; the Hampden Branch, 15 Somers Road, Hampden; the



Wilbraham Branch, 100 Post Office Park, Wilbraham; the Ware Branch, 136 West St., Ware; and the East Longmeadow Branch, 61 North Main St., East Longmeadow.

To learn more about I Found Light Against All Odds, please visit: <https://www.ifoundlight.com/>

To learn more about Monson Savings Bank’s commitment to our community, please visit: <https://www.monsonsavings.bank/connect/our-community/our-community-commitment.html>.

# 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 1991 showed high school friends Mary Lussier and Shelley Madden. The students organized a walk-a-thon from Belchertown to Ware to support troops fighting in the Middle East. If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com).

## Orders accepted for Polish food sale starting Dec. 2

WARE – St. Mary’s Church will begin to take orders for its Polish food sale starting on Sunday, Nov. 26 through Saturday, Dec. 2, or until sold out.

Call between noon-7 p.m. for Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207 with questions and/or to order. Pickup will be on Saturday, Dec. 16 (snow date is Dec. 17) in St. Mary’s Church hall on South Street.

Curbside pickup will only be available to anyone with a handicap card.

You will be designated a pickup time when placing your order. Payment will be collected at time of pick up and should be exact amount, either check made out to St. Mary’s Church, or cash and placed in an envelope with your name, order number and payment amount.

Food items available include pierogi: cabbage, \$13/dozen or \$6.50/ ½ dozen. sweet cheese, \$15/dozen or \$7.50/ ½ dozen and savory cheese, \$15/dozen and \$7.50/ ½ dozen; golombki, \$13 for three; kapusta, \$9/quart; kielbasa from Bernat’s in Chicopee, whole \$10 and half, \$5; and rye bread from Countryside Bakery, whole \$5.50 and half, \$2.75.

Thank you for your support.

### TREE from page 1

#### Events and activities

Mason’s Grille will be offering free refreshments and some meals for purchase. The meals include beef stew and clam chowder.

Warren One Stop Market will be offering free coffee. The Warren Water Department will be offering free refreshments.

The Lost Arts will be hosting an open house with vendors, items for sale, and a free make and take craft activity. For games, Warren WIC will be also having an open house with Santa’s cookie toss game and incentive items.

At Glenda’s, a craft activity of ornament making will be going on. There will also be free face painting as well.

Another open house will be held at Warren Public Library with refreshments and free horse drawn carriage rides.

For entertainment, the Diva Dance School will have a dance performance going on at 6:20 p.m. after the 6 p.m. tree lighting. The dancers will perform near the Christmas tree as long as the weather permits.

#### On the Common

The main event of the tree lighting will have numerous features to get patrons into the holiday spirit. The musical entertainment is provided by the Quaboag Chorus playing some familiar holiday favorites.

Placed on the common will be Santa’s Letter Box. The children can get started on writing their letters to Santa Claus and put them in the Santa Mailbox.

Remember to include a return address on your letter to Santa. If kids don’t get their letters in the mailbox during the tree lighting, starting on Saturday, Dec. 2



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago  
Santa’s Mailbox will be placed to collect letters for Santa Claus during the Warren Tree Lighting.

the Warren and West Warren Post Offices will have Santa’s Mailboxes available.

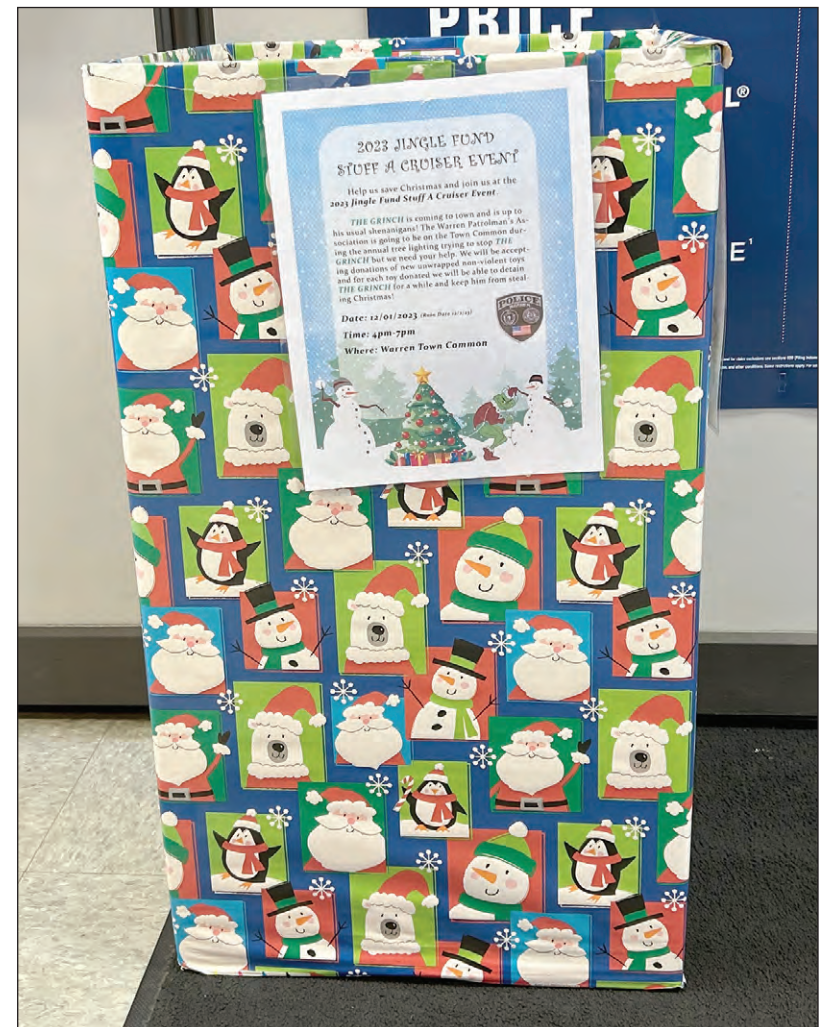
The United States Postal Service will make sure Santa Claus gets your Christmas letters.

Santa’s Letter Box is a great way to embrace the spirit of Christmas in the community. It is a fun way for children to enjoy the time to write to Santa Claus and think about what they’d like for Christmas.

In addition to the holiday spirit, the Warren Police Department will be having their Jingle Fund. This activity of giving is a great way to help the police department stuff a cruiser full of unwrapped gifts, gift cards, and other donations.

The Jingle Fund helps give back to the youth and families of the Warren community.

Many Warren businesses and departments will be participating during the festivities.



Help the Warren Police Department stuff a cruiser this year during the Jingle Fund.

The Warren Fire Department will be selling wreaths. The Warren Parks and Recreation Department will be providing s’mores and a cozy fire during the tree lighting.

Breezeland Orchards has donated apple cider for the event. Boy Scout Troop #142 will have hot dogs available for purchase and crafts for sale.

Tam O’Shanter Farm and Wilbur

the Pig will be in attendance of the tree lighting. Hot chocolate will be for sale thanks to Dance Factory and items for sale thanks to the Quaboag Performing Arts Boosters.

The annual tree lighting in Warren is truly bringing the community together to kick off the holiday season.

Celebrate the spirit of the holidays on the common of Warren.

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## CORRECTION

A quote in last week’s Ware River News regarding a meeting of the Hospital Review Committee was misappropriated to Stephen Granlund.

Granlund was referencing a comment committee member Terry Smith had made at a previous meeting, regarding potential contamination at the site.

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St. Paul's of Palmer

# Holly Berry Bazaar!

December 9th

- Christmas Cafe Luncheon
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- Bake Sale
- Kids Corner with Santa!

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The Young Men's Library Association had a great turnout for their decorative birdhouse craft activity.

Kids of all ages enjoyed painting their birdhouses. One is going to be all green.

# Birdhouses for Kids

Ware Library's 'craft of the month' features birdhouses

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The craft of the month for young library patrons at the Young Men's Library Association featured decorative birdhouses.

The children's room at the Ware Library hosts a monthly craft activity for kids. This past Saturday, birdhouses were provided by the library as were supplies such as mod podge, glue, paint, glitter and stickers.

The library had a great turnout of dozens of kids with their parents to enjoy the craft activity.

The library got so busy that the decorating moved into the reading room one floor up from the children's room. Kids of all ages had fun painting their prebuilt birdhouses and took them home after they were done.

Upstairs in the reading room, a table was set up for a Girl Scout troop who called in to participate in decorating birdhouses. Birdhouses came in all shapes and sizes, but the creativity came from the children as they applied unique colors such as watercolors to their birdhouses.

Children's Librarian Cathy Goulet witnessed a lot of familiar faces appear during the monthly Saturday morning craft activity and a lot of new families.

Many of the new families shared that it was their first time visiting the Young Men's Library Association. New patrons at the library had a great time with their kids painting birdhouses.

Craft activities take place on Saturday mornings once a month. Other activities at the library include Storytime with Miss Cathy on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. followed



The children's library hosts a monthly craft activity for kids on Saturday mornings.



A Girl Scout troop came in and enjoyed painting birdhouses



The birdhouses were provided by the library as were the decorative supplies.

by a craft and Story Stars with Mrs. Desjardins on Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

For musical entertainment, the Young Men's Library Association

hosts Music with Caylin every first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. On Monday, Dec. 4 at 4:30 p.m. Juice and Jelly Fun Time Band will be appearing, and the show will

fun for the whole family.

For more information about activities at the library, visit warelibrary.org.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

## Tree & Wreath Festival returns Dec. 9 and 10

WARE – All are welcome to join the Proprietors of the Ware Center Meeting House for this year's Ware Tree & Wreath Festival on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main St.

They will be raffling off donated wreaths and trees as well as other decorative items to support the Ware Center Meeting House and Museum. The event also has a bake sale, 50/50 raffle and a table with Ware books, T-shirts, and memorabilia.

There will be free children's activities including decorating a cookie, making a craft, and Kids Karaoke.

Be sure to come to check out (and take a chance) on the Ware Historical Society's Noah's Ark

Tree.

It's decorated with pairs of ornaments to represent the animals on the Ark, which were the only toys children could play with on Sundays. The ornaments include giant cookies, over two inches round.

It's not too late to donate. Businesses and citizens interested in contributing decorated trees and wreaths should call Lynn Lak, co-chair of the Festival committee at 413-967-7223 or email her at llak310@comcast.net.

In-person drop off is Friday, Dec. 8 between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Great Hall in the Town Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Visit warecentermeetinghouse.org for more information or to make a donation online.

## Virtual hearings to be held for PVTA riders

Public hearings on Title VI Analysis and Route Enhancements on the P21E, G73E and Ware-Palmer Route of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 5-6 p.m. at the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer and Thursday, Dec. 7 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, Ware.

Virtual public hearings will also be held on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 10-10:30 a.m. and Monday, Dec. 11 from 6-6:30 p.m., via Zoom. The Zoom meeting ID is 882 8937 6754 and the passcode is 515967.

The public is invited to attend one of the public hearings in-person or virtually.

Proposed enhancements include reinstating the previous Ware and Palmer Circulators using two separate vehicles and providing more comprehensive service in each town.

Additional service to Wilbraham Big Y will be added

bringing the total number of connections to Springfield to six each day. These changes will take effect in December with the addition of weekend service planned for early spring.

People may also submit comments by mail to Director of Transit Operations, 2808 Main St., Springfield, MA, 01107, email at comments@pvta.com, phone by calling 413-732-6248 extension 2237 and leave up to a three-minute message or online by completing the comment form at pvta.com/contactUs.php.

All comments must be received by Dec. 20.

Spanish language translation provided. Signing and interpretation for hearing and visual disabilities is available.

Please contact Zoraida by phone at 413-732-6248 extension 2237 or email at Zbonet@pvta.com at least seven days before the hearing date to arrange.

For more information, visit www.pvta.com or 413-781-7882.



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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# viewpoints



I received an email from a Brimfield resident, who said he had a few song sparrows in his yard in late October along with white-throated sparrows.



**Song sparrow**

The song sparrow is six inches long and has a whitish breast with brown streaks. A distinguishing mark is a black, central spot on its chest.

The song sparrow's crown is reddish brown, and it has gray eyebrows. Its tail is long and rounded.

Song sparrows feed on the ground eating seeds, insects and some fruit.

This sparrow's song is a few repeated notes followed by a rich and varied warble. Its call includes a "tsp" and "tchump."

The female lays three to five greenish, white eggs with dark marks in a cup like nest of grasses and occasionally leaves. She places the nest on the ground, in a shrub or weeds.

The male song sparrow defines his territory by singing from prominent perches in about 1/2 to 1 1/2 acres. The male chases the female away when she first arrives and reduces the amount of his singing. Courtship includes male diving at the female and her making a trill like call.

Song sparrows inhabit dense shrubs at the edge of open areas such as fields, yards and streams. They inhabit this area year round.

### Other Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident said he had juncos and one golden crown and one ruby-crowned kinglet. He also saw four male Eastern bluebirds, a pair of house finches and juncos.

He said, "The 'best' sighting was a male American kestrel. It was perched on a wire, flew to a tree and then down into the grass where it caught what looked like a mouse or vole."

### Cedar waxwings

My daughter and family saw a flock of cedar waxwings eating berries in Granby near the Horse Caves.

### Pond birds

The Brimfield resident did a tour of some ponds in Brimfield, Sturbridge and Warren recently. He reported lots of Canada geese, but not a lot of ducks other than mallards.

He saw two-ringed necked ducks in Warren and a robin eating fruit from a mountain ash tree.

He compiled a list of birds seen Nov. 18 in Brimfield, Sturbridge and Warren. It included 33 mallards, 76 Canada geese, a pair of hooded mergansers (male and female), two great blue herons and two mourning doves.

### Feeders

I still have not put out my suet feeder until I am sure the black bears are hibernating.

I have lost too many suet feeders to black bears; they either destroy them or take off with them. There must be a pile of them in the woods somewhere.

I do put some bird seed out during the day, but I only put a small amount for the birds. I include shelled peanuts as the tufted titmice, woodpeckers and blue jays love them.

Yes, the squirrels do as well.

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



## Christmas-time questions for the Garden Lady

A reader from Palmer wrote in with this holiday question for the Garden Lady: "I enjoyed your wreath-making column last week. I thought it was interesting that you advised scouring the landscape for suitable greenery. Overgrown boxwood shrubs are plentiful at home. Can I harvest the tips for making my own holiday wreaths and swags? If so, how do I ensure that the shrubs look good come spring?"

Yes, you can certainly harvest boxwood, especially since your plants are considered "overgrown." A haircut doesn't sound as if it will do much harm, even though it's the off season.

Rather than snip just the tips, however, insert your clippers further into the plant where the growth has become woody. Cutting deeper in several random spots will make "windows" for new growth, at a reduced size!

The addition of boxwoods to your wreaths, planter boxes and swags will offer a nice variation in texture to coarser greenery.

Tabletop "trees" made almost entirely out

of boxwood make great Christmas centerpieces.

Here is how you do it, straight from the archives: Cut a piece of wet floral foam into an elongated triangle and secure it in your container of choice. I prefer to use a plastic centerpiece base available from the florist - the bottom of the foam fits in perfectly.

From your collection of boxwood or other greens, choose a nice, pointed piece for the top of the tree and place it into the foam an inch or so; three or four inches will be left sticking out the top. If leaves or other stems along the branch are in the way of insertion, remove them first so that the smallest hole possible will be made in the foam.

Now, gauge the size of the rest of your tree by inserting pieces of greenery at the halfway point as well as at the very bottom.

After that, fill in between the top and middle and middle and bottom, turning the foam as you go, so that a multidimensional tree results. Once greenery completely covers the foam, you can decorate it any way you like.

Tiny glass balls, battery-powered lights, dried cranberries or cinnamon sticks are just a few options. Don't forget to water the tree at the base - the foam will absorb moisture and keep the greens hydrated for weeks of enjoyment.

Marissa, who reads the Ware River News, posed this timely question concerning flowering gifts. "I purchased an amaryllis kit as a gift for my sister. Do you have any tips for to make sure it grows and flowers well?"

Sure! As long as the amaryllis bulb is dry and free of soft spots it should bloom just fine. Like other flowering bulbs, the amaryllis is a self-contained unit ready to do its thing!

Just follow these simple planting instructions: fill the container with moistened growing medium to about one-half to two-thirds full. Position the bulb on top and add the rest of the potting soil - the upper portion and the neck should rest just above the rim of the pot.

The bulb may rot if it stays too wet, so add water only when the soil dries out. Temperatures should be kept around 60 degrees.

Once the sprouting occurs, fertilizer can be added, but the amaryllis will likely bloom well without it. Stake heavy flower stalks as they form to prevent them from snapping.

Keep blooms looking their best for the greatest amount of time by pinching away anthers before they form pollen, and by housing the plant in a cool room of the house.

Pet owners be forewarned, toxic alkaloids present in these tennis ball-sized bulbs can cause vomiting and diarrhea in animals who have consumed them. Dogs, who are more likely to play with and chew objects this size, are at greater risk.

Purdue University states that the stomach upset will likely cure itself within a few hours, but that special medical attention should be given to weak, old, or otherwise in-firmed dogs who have come in contact with amaryllis bulbs.

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### St. Augustine's Mission has successful Bi-Annual Fair

It was an entertaining, fun-filled Saturday when St. Augustine Mission held their Bi-Annual Holiday Fair on Nov. 18.

Lucky raffle winners took home thoughtfully created theme baskets, a \$500 cash prize donated by parishioners, five \$50 scratch tickets with \$50 cash, 50 gallons of heating oil, a \$200 Photography by Suzanne gift certificate, a lottery cash gift tree and a Thanksgiving turkey basket complete with all the fixings.

A special thank you to the businesses and who kindly donated services and gift certificates: E.P Wine Inc., R. J. McDonald Inc., Eagle Hill School, Market Basket, Changes Salon, Mimi's, Hardwick Co-op, Hardwick Winery, Stillman's Vegetable Farm, The Whistle Stop, Rose 32 Bakery, J & J Restaurant, Fidelity Bank, June's Bakeshop, Country Auto, Regis's Repair, Hardwick Crossing, Hannaford's, Wholesome Farmer's Market, Country Gourmet, Gagne's Garage, as well as the many items donated by the generous friends of St. Augustine.

Skillfully created crafts and the homemade bake table are always a big hit while a yummy lunch selection capped off the successful event.

**St. Augustine Fair Committee**  
Wheelwright

### Hardwick has already done its part

Often, when discussing the Hardwick Regional Landfill proposal, folks will say "well, we all produce trash. It's gotta go somewhere" to justify increasing the landfill from eight acres to 48 acres and doubling the height.

What the pro-dump folks don't realize is that Hardwick has already taken in 750,000 tons of outside trash between 1995-2005. That is more than 100 years of trash produced by Hardwick going forward!

We have already taken toxic trash, heavy metals, cancer causing compounds, pesticides from places like Lawrence, Boston and Springfield. We already have begun to poison our ground water and when it was open, our air with 1,1,2,2 tetrachloroethane.

We closed the landfill in 2005 for these reasons (and many more) but not after having been dumped on by 750,000 tons of outsiders trash and toxins. Yes, our little town of Hardwick has already done its part of taking in way more trash than we have or will produce in the next century.

Enough is enough. Say no to a regional landfill!

**Rick Romano**  
Hardwick



### For bringing ageism, I apologize

To my fellow citizens of Ware: I am sorry for bringing my bigoted ageism to the past town meeting.

I need to explain what I am talking about to make reparations for a fair account of my error.

When Article 7 came up, I realized much about Ware. We had gatekept employment of safety officers - police and firefighters - based upon their age, a type of age discrimination.

Next, there were older groups of people interested in being safety officers. And I did not act in that moment, why anyone would consider keeping an age barricade could be ignored or dismissed.

How wrong I was became apparent to me after I stood to speak against Article 7 as-is (or if my amendment had passed).

First, the officer after mentioned difficulty to find candidates. I had no idea.

The second, I would not consider myself (at 39) or my birth family as safety officers. I realized I was flippant in recalling our virtues.

Finally, I was being ageist - I thought a younger safety officers could bring more virtues, untaxed emotional capacity, and infor-

mation. This was utterly ignorant. I am sorry.

If Article 7 had failed, or passed with my amendment, I now think this would have endangered Ware. I voted "no" on my amendment, as well as voting "yes" for the Article as amended.

I'm grateful a majority of Ware's constituency understood my shortcomings. Continuing to limit our city based on age would cause quality candidates to self-reject.

Ware would lack a diverse police force, employ candidates who we thought we did not value diversity, or lack new recruits at all.

In this town, whose history I'm still starting to learn, I value so much that economics can't take. I celebrate Ware as the town that can't be licked, the land of the Nipmuc people, and part of an international nation practicing democracy in the hopes we might bring both justice and honor to all the people who call this land home.

**Filene Bedrick**  
Ware



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## OPINION POLICY

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

Send opinions to:  
Ware River News  
Letter to the Editor  
80 Main Street  
Ware, MA 01082  
or via email to:  
pouimette@turley.com

**The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.**

## Turley Election Policy

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

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



## About the fairness of WEP and GPO

### Dear Rusty:

I was married to my ex-husband for 30 years.

For 14 of those years, I was an unemployed mom and community volunteer. After my sons were grown, I began teaching in California and earned a teacher pension.

That teacher pension eliminates all the spousal benefits my husband paid for. How

can that be justified? I, like a number of my retired friends, rent out rooms in my house to be able to live on a small teacher's pension and get none of my earned spousal benefits.

Signed: Frustrated Teacher

### Dear Frustrated Teacher

I can only say that your frustration is shared by many retirees from public service in States, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program, that is, neither the employee nor the State contribute to the federal Social Security program.

There are about 26 states including California, which exempt at least some of their employees and themselves from paying Social Security payroll taxes, but those states are

obligated to provide retirement benefits robust enough to offset the loss of Social Security benefits, which will occur later in life after the employee retires.

As controversial as these laws - the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset are, they have withstood legal challenges since they were enacted four decades ago. Because you have a "non-covered" pension from your state employment, WEP reduces any personal Social Security retirement benefit you may have earned elsewhere and, to your specific point, the GPO has eliminated the spousal benefit you might otherwise have been entitled to from your ex-husband.

Like you, many who are affected believe

this to be unfair, but Congress has steadfastly failed to enact legislation to repeal these provisions or even to soften their impact. The likely reason is that Congress has evaluated the fundamental premise of the provisions and concluded they appropriately equalize the way benefits are paid to all Social Security beneficiaries.

It might help to think of it this way: in normal circumstances, if one spouse has a personally earned Social Security retirement benefit, which is more than 50% of their partner's Full Retirement Age amount, no spousal benefit is paid (the spouse benefit is offset by the recipient's own SS retirement benefit).

Please see **SSI**, page 5

# viewpoints

## STATE AUDITOR'S MONTHLY UPDATE

# Reforms sorely needed at the Sex Offender Registry Board

**By Diana DiZoglio,**  
Massachusetts State Auditor

Serving as Massachusetts State Auditor doesn't just mean reviewing finances.

A big part of my role, as I often speak about with folks across the state, is reviewing the performance and efficacy of the Commonwealth's agencies and entities. A great example of the responsibility to look beyond number crunching is our office's recently released audit of the Sex Offender Registry Board.

People are familiar with the concept that Massachusetts registers convicted sex offenders, maintaining a database of where such people live and work in an effort to maintain public safety. This system of public safety is maintained by SORB, a seven-member board appointed by the Governor and staffed by more than 70 individuals.

Our recent audit looked at SORB's operations from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021. Covering that two-year period, my team honed in on whether SORB classified sex offenders at least 10 days before they were released from custody, thus ensuring they were assigned an appropriate level.

Further, we looked at whether SORB used all the resources at their disposal to accurately identify sex offenders who were in violation of maintaining their registration.

I was disappointed to find that SORB underperformed in a way

that could have a negative impact upon the public.

While incarcerated sex offenders are supposed to be assigned a classification at least 10 days prior to their release, per state law, SORB failed to do so with approximately 1/3 of those released during our two-year review window. More concerning, 77 offenders didn't receive their classification until after they were released.

This lax approach to the law meant those sex offenders' names, addresses, offenses, and registration statuses were not appropriately posted to SORB's website for level 2 and 3 sex offenders and were not otherwise available to the public.

Our audit team also identified other vulnerabilities regarding how SORB tracked offenders who have been released from incarceration. Namely, SORB's database was not kept up to date in all situations, with approximately one out of five offenders showing incorrect addresses when compared against records maintained by other state departments (such as the addresses the Department of Transitional Assistance records).

Part of the benefit of SORB is that it tracks the location of high level offenders. By not ensuring that it has the current addresses of sex offenders considered in violation, SORB is not able to consistently communicate information about sex offenders' whereabouts, their offenses, and their classifications to local law enforcement agencies and the general public.



What's disturbing is that some of these issues were identified the last time my predecessor audited SORB. These issues must be immediately addressed.

Our office has recommended that SORB increase their collaboration with correctional facilities to establish more reliable procedures for providing anticipated release dates for incarcerated offenders. We've also recommended the implementation of a tracking process that identifies any delays or issues that may arise, to ensure that all sex offenders are assigned final classifications prior to each offender's release.

For ensuring residential address accuracy, SORB needs to not only work more closely with other state agencies to verify addresses – SORB must also make a point of updating those addresses in their system when they are found.

We will continue to work with SORB and encourage their adoption of practices that maximize public safety.

As always, please feel free to contact my office at any time for more information at [auditor@sao.state.ma.us](mailto:auditor@sao.state.ma.us) and 617-727-2075.

*The Office of State Auditor Diana DiZoglio conducts audits, investigations, and studies to promote accountability and transparency, improve performance, and make government work better. DiZoglio is the 26th Auditor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sworn into her first term on Jan. 18, 2023. She is committed to help move Massachusetts forward by working to increase transparency and accountability in state government.*



## Comments on CONGRESS

By Lee Hamilton

### Hamilton on Foreign Policy

#### We can fix our Broken politics

Americans are fed up with politics.

That's the obvious conclusion of a recent survey by the Pew Research Center, which found many of us have "unrelentingly negative" views of politics and elected officials.

It's understandable that people are discouraged. There are plenty of reasons to feel that way.

I'm not especially alarmed at the findings of the survey, however. The key thing is that we maintain an interest in improving our broken politics.

That's critically important.

If the American people were to get so turned off by politics that they refuse to participate, that would be a real problem for our democracy. Fortunately, there's evidence that we haven't reached that point.

Americans have long had a healthy skepticism about political power and those who wield it, but the Pew survey suggests distrust has reached new heights. Some 65% of those questioned said thinking about politics left them exhausted.

More than half said it made them angry. Only a few said it made them hopeful or excited.

Asked to describe U.S. politics

in one word, many came up with "divisive," "corrupt" or "chaotic." Asked to identify the strong points of our politics, more than half couldn't come up with anything.

It's obvious that our politics are going through a difficult time.

Congress seems dysfunctional, struggling to pass spending bills to keep the government operating. A single senator has blocked promotions for hundreds of military officers.

Election campaigns are filled with personal attacks. Divisions threaten our support for allies, including Ukraine, a rejection of the adage that politics stops at the water's edge.

Partisanship has reached new heights, with Democrats and Republicans seeming to inhabit separate worlds. The one thing both sides agree on is that our politics aren't working.

Dissatisfaction with politics crosses political, social and demographic lines, according to the Pew survey. It is shared by White, Black, Asian and Hispanic adults. It affects old people as well as young people.

Nearly nine out of 10 Americans say politicians are more focused on fighting each other than on solving problems. Some 28% distrust both major parties, the highest figure in nearly 30 years.

It's common to hear people say that neither party cares about ordinary people. Americans distrust the executive and legislative branches of government, and a majority have a dim view of the Supreme Court.

Americans are rightly suspicious of the growing role that money plays in politics. About 85% said

that the cost of election campaigns keeps good candidates from running and that special interests have too much influence on politicians.

Only about a quarter of the people rate the quality of political candidates as very or somewhat good, down 20 percentage points in the past five years.

You might expect this distrust and discouragement would cause Americans to disengage from politics. Fortunately, that doesn't seem to be happening.

The elections of 2018, 2020 and 2022 featured some of the highest voter turnout rates in decades. About two-thirds of eligible adults voted in 2020, the highest rate for a national election since 1900.

Those are very encouraging signs.

The public has ideas for improving our politics. In the Pew survey, majorities favored limits on campaign contributions and spending.

The survey found broad support for term limits on members of Congress and for age limits on elected and appointed officials, including Supreme Court justices. Elections this month in Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia drew strong interest and participation.

In another hopeful sign, more young people have been running for office – and often winning.

We Americans have always been an optimistic and forward-looking people, confident in our ability to solve problems and make progress. We're right to be unhappy with the condition of our politics, but we have the power and the ability to make our politics better.

*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.*

### STM from page 1

Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, and \$107,493 (each) to the Stabilization Fund and the Capital Stabilization Fund.

#### Maximum age

Article 7 asked voters to increase the maximum age allowed for police officer applicants from 32 to 45.

Police Chief Shawn Crevier said he added the article to the warrant, because the town is always having to seek waivers from the state to hire police officers that are over the maximum age. He said the age of 45 was suggested by legal counsel.

"Right now, we're having hiring problems," Crevier said. The extended maximum age would allow him to hire from a larger pool of qualified candidates.

An amendment was made from the floor to include firefighters in this article, which passed by a vote of 82-8. A second amendment was made to exclude police officers from the article, leaving just firefighters, but this amendment failed to pass.

Voters increased the maximum age for both police officers and firefighters to 45 by a vote of 92-3.

#### Park accessibility

Voters also transferred \$140,000 from free cash by a two-thirds majority vote for the purpose of

planning, designing, improving, renovating and/or equipping (including but not limited to) accessibility improvements including walkways, parking, playground equipment and a pavilion at Grenville Park.

Of this amount, the town will be reimbursed \$97,000, or 70%, through the acceptance of Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant Program funding.

Previous town meeting votes and grant funding allowed the town to install a new playground at Grenville Park, which was completed this summer.

A voter asked if the funds could also be used to address the condition of Beaugard Memorial Park, located behind the Reed Municipal Pool.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said this particular article had specific language that the state requires for grant funding, and that amending the motion to include the other park, could impact that funding.

Another voter brought up concerns about the cleanliness of Grenville Park, making a motion to "improve the park's hygiene," which wasn't seconded.

Willette suggested that voters share their concerns during the annual budget process, in order to adjust funding for any additional park services, if needed. Others at

the special town meeting encouraged voters to attend a Parks and Recreation meeting or speak with Beckley or a member of the Selectboard about their concerns.

Selectboard member Jack Cascio offered to walk through Grenville Park with the voter to see her concerns regarding cleanliness, adding that the Parks Department and Parks and Recreation Commission are "one of the finest."

"They take great pride in keeping facilities clean," Cascio said.

#### Zoning overlay

Voters approved article 6 by two-thirds majority vote, 74-25, to amend the Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map to create the Rural Residential Business Overlay District along the Route 9 corridor.

Alex Bergeron of Canadian Tree Expert, located in the corridor, said the overlay district would be located where his sawmill is.

The purpose of the overlay district is to preserve the scenic, rural character of the Route 9 corridor, while allowing for commercial development that is in keeping with adjoining uses and in harmony with the natural environment.

#### HVAC chiller

Voters also approved the transfer of \$250,000 from free cash to purchase and install a new HVAC chiller at Ware High School, which

includes design and engineering costs and other incidentals.

#### DPW mower

Voters transferred \$23,000 from free cash to purchase and equip a riding mower and a walk-behind mower for the Department of Public Works by a vote of 90-5.

These mowers will replace the current mower at the cemetery, that is no longer usable.

#### Cemetery barn

The transfer of \$14,000 from free cash to demolish and remove the barn at Aspen Grove Cemetery was approved by a vote of 77-5. The barn is no longer safe for occupancy or storage.

Funds to replace the barn will be sought at a future town meeting. The bell from a former North Street firehouse that is located in the tower of the barn will be preserved prior to demolition.

#### King George Drive

With a vote of 93-4, the town accepted the private way known as King George Drive (located off of Greenwich Plains Road) into a public way.

Planning Board member Chris Dimarzio said if the road was built in compliance and is in good shape, the town is obligated to accept it as a public way. He said a recent site visit determined King George Drive fit the criteria.

### SSI from page 4

The provision which affects SS spousal and survivor benefits) applies that same logic for a spouse who has a "non-covered" pension earned outside of the Social Security program, their spousal benefit is offset by the amount of the person's own "non-covered" retirement pension. The one difference is that the GPO offset is actually a bit smaller (2/3rds of the non-covered pension vs. 100% offset for a spouse with their own SS retirement benefit).

Both WEP, which reduces SS retirement benefits and the GPO, which reduces spousal or survivor benefits, are consequences of working for a State which has chosen to not participate in the federal Social Security program, and those states are obligated to inform their employees of those consequences. I know that doesn't make your situation any less frustrating, but Congress "justifies" these provisions as being necessary to equalize how benefits are paid to all Social Security beneficiaries.

There are about two million

beneficiaries affected by WEP and over 700,000 affected by the GPO, most of whom share your displeasure. Nevertheless, Congress has so far maintained both these provisions as originally enacted. If you wish to add your voice to those who believe WEP and GPO are unfair, you may wish to contact your federal Congressional Representatives to express that point.

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

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**NUTCRACKER** from page 1

"The dance company has worked very hard on their techniques," Hall said. "The ballet leads have been studying ballet for years. It takes a ton of time and effort to get en pointe."

Performing "The Nutcracker" can be a challenge, Hall said, as it doesn't have a script, and she's had to read the story and talk the dancers through the plot to help them bring their characters to life on stage.

Taking on the lead role of Clara is Anna Metcalf of New Braintree. A freshman at Quabbin Regional High School, Metcalf has been dancing at Next Step Studio of the Performing Arts since the studio first opened 10 years ago.

Metcalf's interest in dance was piqued after taking a class at the Listening Wellness Center, and now she takes classes with Hall four days a week, covering almost all genres. Metcalf is also in her fourth year on Next Step's competition team.

This is Metcalf's second time performing in "The Nutcracker" and she is "really excited" to play the role of Clara.

"To be able to do such a big role feels really amazing," Metcalf said. "It's a lot more acting than I've been doing in past dances."

Joining Metcalf as a lead is Fred Schaaf of Wheelwright as The Nutcracker Prince. A junior at Quabbin Regional High School, Schaaf has been dancing since he was 8 years old, starting at Next Step the first year the studio opened.

Schaaf said he likes to "try everything once," and that applies to dance technique.

"Hip hop is my favorite type of dance," Schaaf said.

This isn't Schaaf's first major role in a performance of "The Nutcracker", having previously played the role of Fritz, Clara's troublesome brother.

In playing the role of The Nutcracker Prince, Schaaf has discovered a new-found love for ballet, a genre of dance that he once considered to be a little boring.

"It's a good way to express my new skills," Schaaf said of his role. "I get to interact with a lot of characters."

Playing the role of The Nutcracker Prince is a departure for many of Schaaf's roles as a dancer, and he's enjoyed exploring his character's development.

"It's a strong male character, which I don't really have a lot of in dance. It's also very militant," Schaaf said. "I'm in ROTC and I get to do some of the steps on stage."



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette  
The Nutcracker Prince prepares to battle an army of mice.



Ballerinas dance across the gymnasium at Hardwick Elementary School.

Metcalf and Schaaf both bring their theater experience to their roles in "The Nutcracker", having performed in a number of stage productions.

Schaaf has been acting since he was 6 years old and has been in quite a few shows, and Metcalf had her start acting in The Gilbert Players production of "Matilda" as well as Quabbin's productions of "Cinderella" and "The Wizard of Oz".

Prior to the Thanksgiving break, 20 dancers from the cast of "The Nutcracker" toured four elementary schools across the Quabbin Regional School District, giving students an exclusive glimpse of some of the highlights of the ballet.

"It was really fun," Metcalf said. "All of the children were so excited and that was probably my favorite part."

Hall said bringing "The Nutcracker" to the students was a way to show them what the performing arts have to offer. Dance,

theater and music all help children to work together collaboratively to solve problems, and it's also a break from our technology driven world.

Metcalf said the arts also give children a safe environment just to be themselves.

"It's finding a community beyond their home...its their second family," Metcalf said. "It's also a great way to express yourself and it just builds character in general."

Schaaf said performing ballets such as "The Nutcracker" is a way to preserve history, and keep the stories alive.

"A lot of the arts have evolved and descended through history," he said.

Schaaf and Metcalf encouraged everyone to come and see "The Nutcracker", and enjoy the high level of talent the area has to offer at an affordable, community theater price.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Mark Korzec used his tractor to bring Santa Claus to the common, and offer free wagon rides.



Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer hands out red noses to brothers Grant and Sawyer Verham of Hardwick.



Claudine and Caitlin Lang of Ware sold Hardwick apparel and the town's calendar, featuring photo submissions from community members. Proceeds from the sales benefit Hardwick's Christmas for Kids.



ABOVE: Oak and Cider Co.'s Brianna and Ross Ducharme of Holden offered scroll saw art and hand turned wooden bowls.



ABOVE: Douglas Swanson of Dragonfly Wood Arts in Hardwick, shows some of his woodworking, including this cutting board.

# CAREER and Education

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The 2023 Career & Education edition publishes **the week of January 10th-12th**  
Space reservation deadline is January 3rd.

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## Salmon Brook Dam Removal Public Informational Meeting

MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) is inviting the public to an informational meeting on **December 5, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM** at the Brookfield Town Hall at 6 Central Street in Brookfield, MA. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed Salmon Brook Dam Removal project in the Quaboag Wildlife Management Area.

The Project Team will be available to answer questions and to seek input on the project.

Please contact **Todd Olanyk** [todd.olanyk@mass.gov](mailto:todd.olanyk@mass.gov) with questions or requests for accommodations.

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# Country Roads

of North Central Massachusetts

Photograph by Norm Eggert: <https://normeggert.photoshelter.com>

It's amazing what hidden treasures are just outside our back doors

**17th Annual Country Roads Christmas Tour**

**Month Long**

**Nov. 10th - Dec. 10th, 2023**

Check individual store for hours

[www.countryroadschristmas.com](http://www.countryroadschristmas.com)



Families enjoyed wagon rides around the common.



Thea Richard, age 4 and Dean Richard, age 2 of Hardwick wore hats to match the jolly elf.



This John Deere tractor was festively lit.



Pamela Howell and Sara Howell of New Braintree make up Moms Craft Joint, offering custom tumblers, clothing and more.

# Classic Christmas



Miles Rosario, age 5, and Lillian Rosario, age 4, of Paxton were eager to meet with Santa Claus.



Tori's Tasty Treat's from Hardwick had something to satisfy any sweet tooth.



Kelly Kemp offered doTERRA essential oils and information about Reiki.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Hardwick's own allseasonssweets had a variety of sweet treats.



Lisa Condit, vice president of Communications at Hanover Theatre & Conservatory, had free give-aways to promote upcoming shows at the venue.



Samantha from The Crystal Lotus sold handmade jewelry.



Leanne Zecco represented BZ Bakers of Oakham and Rutland which she co-owns with Sarah Boutotte.



Emily of Cedar & Sage Photography in Barre also makes unique and whimsical crafts.



Abigail Carlson, age 3, enjoyed visiting with Santa Claus from afar. Hardwick Christmas 3



MJ and Nico Diaz worked together to win first place in "Most Festive" and the "People's Choice Award."



The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library hosted a cookie walk in the Town House.

**Turley Publications, Inc.**

**BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS**

**Marcus Kosnicki**  
June 5, 2022  
Parents: Jonathan & Marcie Kosnicki  
Grandparents: Marc Davignon & Lisa Dube, Chicopee  
John & Pamela Kosnicki, Palmer

**Turley Publications would like to help you show off the newest member of your family this Christmas, FOR FREE!**

Mail to:  
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Include a self addressed/stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: **BABY'S FIRST.**  
This offer is available to all babies born in 2023. Pictures will be published the week of December 18-22, 2023.

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.*

<input type="checkbox"/> Agawam Advertiser News	<input type="checkbox"/> Quaboag Current
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<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Register	<input type="checkbox"/> The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

**Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 6, 2023**

# WARE CHRISTMAS STROLL

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 2023  
10AM - 2PM**

Maps of the day's festivities will be available at participating businesses

**In-Store Sales Specials!**

**Drawings!**

**Treats!**

**Gift Wrapping at Ware River News**

**Artsy Elves will be at Workshop 13**

**Tree and Wreath Festival**

will be held at the Ware Town Hall

**Cookie Decorating**

**Kids Karaoke**

**Santa!**

**AND MORE!**

## Hardwick Town Clerk, Ryan Witkos, recognized by peers

HARDWICK – Ryan J. Witkos, Town Clerk of Hardwick recently qualified for the Massachusetts Town Clerks' Association's prestigious Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk designation and will receive his commemorative pin and certificate at the MTCA Winter Conference in Devens on Feb. 1, 2024.

Currently, only 113 of the Commonwealth's 301 active town clerks hold this designation.

The CMMC designation is achieved by attending MTCA-sponsored educational courses and passing a 250-question aptitude test measuring the municipal clerk's knowledge of Massachusetts

General Laws in categories such as elections and election procedures, vital records, campaign and political finance, town meetings, Chapter 40A (planning), Chapter 41 (zoning), ethics and public records.

Witkos has served as Hardwick's elected Town Clerk for over three years. Prior to that, he served as a

Selectman from 1992 to 1997.

He has also been Hardwick's Moderator for 22 years and a Constable for four years.

In addition, he continues his professional development through courses sponsored by the MTCA and the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Elections Division.

## Ware High School craft fair is Dec. 2

WARE – The Ware High School craft fair will be held Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the gymnasium.

The fair benefits the freshman through senior classes at Ware High School.

There will be a 50/50 raffle and a lottery tree and a raffle

table. A concession stand will be run by the Student Council.

Crafters will have an assortment of wood crafts, jewelry, holiday items, pottery, chocolate, paintings, ornaments, candles, maple products, signs, jams and jellies, crochet items and much more.

### SHANE from page 1

football game as a senior later that night.

"This family is synonymous with football," Coach Jason Morgan said. "They really put the culture of family in that program."

Morgan remembered the junior varsity team's first home game against Easthampton.

"When we got here, we saw varsity...led by Shane," Morgan said, acknowledging the support Douglas always showed to the football program.

Douglas' family unveiled a six-foot-tall stone memorial near the entrance of the football field, bearing a photo of him in his uniform and an inspiring message to all who stop to read it.

"We're a family, a football family and that's the way it will be. The memorial will be part of our family as well," Morgan said.

Players will high-five the memorial as they pass by, on their way to face off against their rivals on the field.

Superintendent Stephen Duff said he had the privilege of knowing Douglas from his time in elementary school, all the way past his high school graduation. He remembered the character Douglas embodied.

"About three weeks before Shane's tragic loss, I saw him at Charlie's in Spencer. He said, 'Hey Mr. Duff, it's good to see you,'" Duff said. "It's that kind of kid that leaves a lasting impression."

Duff said he always tells students to make every day the best day they can, because they will never get it back.

"We ought to be thankful for the time we had with Shane," Duff said.

Varsity Football Coach David Shepherd said Douglas was an "amazing kid" both on and off the field and that he was truly honored to coach him for six seasons.

"He will always be part of the Quaboag family," Shepherd said.



The family of Shane Douglas stands on the field before Quaboag Regional High School faced Ware High School in a Thanksgiving eve football game. Prior to the game, a memorial in Douglas' honor was unveiled at the entrance of the field.



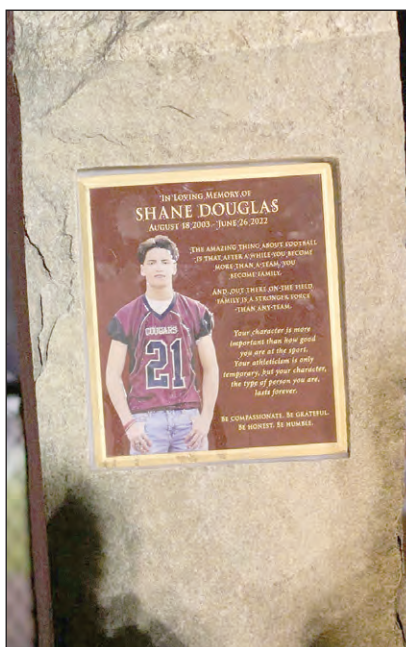
Shane Douglas' parents and brothers prepared to place flowers on the memorial.

Ware's Varsity Football Coach Michael Fazio presented Douglas' family with their team jersey, marked with his number.

"On behalf of our football team, we'd like you to have a special number 21 jersey from us," Fazio said.

Douglas' family has established a scholarship in his name, and they were able to award three recipients last year, helping them to offset their schooling and future plans.

All proceeds from the Thanksgiving eve game went to the memorial fund.



On Nov. 22, the family and friends of Shane Douglas, a 2021 graduate of Quaboag Regional High School, unveiled a memorial dedicated to the late football star.



Quaboag's football team and coaches shared memories of Shane Douglas.



Quaboag football players remember Shane Douglas before their game.



Ware football players stand in support of the Douglas family.

## Eclectic vintage shop, artists studio opens

By Dallas Gagnon  
Staff Writer  
dgagnon@turley.com

PALMER – An eclectic, vintage shop and artists gallery opened their doors at 1500 N. Main St.

"The Victorian" will provide locals a convenient shop close to home, offering quality painter's products, painted furniture, unique gifts, candles home decor, and more.

The shop features a wide variety of Fusion Mineral Paint products, including materials to re-purpose, refurbish and re-imagine furniture.

"Fusion Mineral Paint is primarily a furniture paint," said owner Julia Dias. However, she said the paint works well on a variety of materials, such as wood, metal, glass and fabrics.

In addition to the mineral paint, The Victorian will also offer milk paint, stains, antiquing glazes, a variety of decorating waxes and both natural and synthetic paint brushes.

The shop caters to artists seeking to add a splash of color to their homes and get creative with refinishing their furniture.

"I always wanted to open my own shop," said Dias.

She holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts with a focus on interior design from UMASS Amherst.

Dias' experience allows her to provide guests with expertise and a wealth of knowledge in design as well as the Fusion Mineral Paint product line.

"I live for making what is old new again," said Dias. "It's exciting."

She added the Victorian age has always been her favorite period in time, prompting her to scout out the perfect location for her shop.

"It has always been a dream of mine to have a Victorian. The



Submitted Photos

The Victorian is located at 1500 Main St., in Palmer, in the former Moulton Insurance building.



The Victorian carries Fusion Mineral Paint for furniture re-purposing and re-finishing.



For sale are 100% soy candles made in the USA.



Shown is the shopping area in the building, with items in display cases, which are for sale.



The building is a Queen Anne Victorian, decorated to accentuate the charm and authenticity of the building's architecture.

The Superior Dry Good Vintage Stick matches are a perfect compliment to those interested in gifting a locally sourced, 100% soy, 1803 candle.

Dias said the shop is Victorian themed to add an element of creativity and charm to the guests' experience.

"After the first of the year, we will offer Fusion Mineral Paint workshops" said Dias.

She added services and

products available at the shop will expand within the upcoming year, including the introduction of a parlor styled tea room.

While the room is not yet ready for renting, guests will eventually have the option of renting a Victorian-themed space equipped with art, comfortable vintage furniture, tea table near a decorative fireplace and a large, antique Victrola player.

Guests interested in adding a Victorian touch to their home also have the option of purchasing from a collection of vintage glassware.

Dias thanked and credited her husband, Joao Dias, for all he has done to make her dream come true.

Dias is inviting all to stop by today for all of your unique holiday shopping needs.

Shop is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11 am to 5 pm and Saturdays 11 am to 2 pm.

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Work Days  
Dec. 2nd, 16th, 30th ~ 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Surplus Equipment Sale  
Dec. 9th ~ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Interested in more information  
amherstrail.org



# SPORTS

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## Indians bust Turkey Day streak with win over Cougars

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARREN—While Ware has won the previous seven meetings on the gridiron with archrival Palmer, none of the current Indians football players had defeated rival Quaboag prior to this year's contest.

With the Thanksgiving Eve game tied early in the fourth quarter, Ware senior fullback Kyle Safford scored the go-ahead touchdown, and the Indians celebrated a 20-14 victory before a large crowd on a damp night at the Quaboag Regional.

"We haven't won against Quaboag since I've been a member of the football team, so winning tonight's game just feels amazing," said Safford, who was selected as the Indians M.V.P. following the game. "It feels very nice to bring home the trophy for the first time. We also finished the season with a 10-1 record, which is our best record in a while.

The last time that Ware won at least ten games was in 2017. It was also their first win against Quaboag since an 8-0 victory in 2019.

The Cougars (6-5) squeaked out a 26-21 victory at Veteran's Field a year ago. They also posted a 22-7 home win in 2021.

The Indians hold a slim 8-6 lead in the Thanksgiving series, which began in 2009.

The other seniors listed on the 2023 Ware football roster are Talan Molina, Noah Fales, Dominic Guardino, Ayden Young, Kyle Gordon, and Jacob Witt.

"Our football team is very special and we're like one big family," Safford said. "Everyone supports each other and we're going to be lifelong friends."

During an emotional pregame ceremony, the Shane Michael Douglas Memorial Monument, which is located near the concession stand, was unveiled.

Douglas, who graduated from Quaboag Regional in 2021, died on June 26, 2022. During his high school football career, Douglas wore #21. That number has been retired by the Quaboag varsity football team, the Cougars j.v. team, and at the youth level.

"Shane passed away way too soon," said Quaboag head coach Dave Shepherd. "The pregame ceremony was a nice way of honoring him. It was also nice to see the members of the community supporting his family."

Molina, Fales, Young, Gordon, and Safford, who are the Indians captains, presented the Douglas family with an Indians home #21 jersey.

"Obviously, we wanted to win tonight's game, but we also want-



Quarterback Jacob Cacace makes a screen pass to the right side.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Benjamin Torres is tackled near the sideline just after making a reception.



Talan Molina works through a couple of crowded areas.



The offensive line does their blocking on a play.



Gavin Sawabi and Kyle Gordon work together on a tackle.

ed to honor Shane and his family," Safford said. "Even though we really didn't know him very well, it was an emotional ceremony."

Two of Shane's younger brothers were members of this year's Quaboag football team. Bryce was a senior captain, and Riley is a freshman. His other brother, Davin, played football for the Warren/West Brookfield youth team this fall.

"I'm best friends with Bryce," said Quaboag junior Brason Sauriol, who was selected as the Cougars M.V.P. "We really wanted to win tonight's game for him and the other seniors on the football team."

Bryce Douglas, along with his classmates-Chucky Smith, Jaden Ositguy, Aidan Pontbriand, and Tyler Withers-- were honored in

another ceremony held before the start of last Wednesday night's game.

"All five of our seniors are very hard workers," Shepherd said. "Tyler Withers is a heck of an athlete, and he led us offensively. Bryce is also a great athlete, and he

Please see **INDIANS**, page 10



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

The Pathfinder defense stops a Belchertown rusher.

## Orioles blow out Pioneers on Turkey Day

BELCHERTOWN – Last Thursday morning, Belchertown scored early and often, and used turnovers to score even more points in a 61-14 rout of Pathfinder on Thanksgiving morning. The Orioles led 32-0 late in the second quarter after taking advantage of an onside kick and a fumble for a turnover. Belchertown finished the season 8-3 while Pathfinder finishes 4-7.



Dustyn Cook fields a kickoff for the Pioneers.



Branden Hnitecki goes for a tackle.



Nicholas Pfister looks to make a handoff.

## Panthers fall in holiday matchup

BARRE – Last Wednesday night, Quabbin Regional High School football fell in their Thanksgiving Eve matchup with

rival Gardner 31-16. With the defeat, Quabbin finishes the season 5-6. The Panthers, unfortunately, trailed throughout the game, falling behind 23-0 before Adam Adams finished off a drive a five-yard run for a touchdown. The Panthers made it eight points with a pass to Jake Leazott for the conversion. Luke Salvatore would score Quabbin's other touchdown with a five-yard run. Jaxon Kelley had the conversion on that score. Adams went 6-for-11 passing for 91 yards. Salvatore ran for 76 yards on 16 carries while Chase Talbot had 38 yards on the ground. Wes Sanderson had two catches for 31 yards for the Panthers.



Turley photo by Ray Duffy

Luke Salvatore works his way around Gardner defenders.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10.



Victoria Stevens was Pathfinder's representative at the game.



Ware was represented by Mia DiRenzo and Emily McGrail.



Mia DiRenzo plays the ball during the all-star game.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

## Ware, Pathfinder take part in soccer all-star game

SPRINGFIELD – Last Monday evening at Pope Francis High School, the Senior All-Star Games were held.

Two games took place, with Class C and D playing in one game and Class A and B playing in another.

The games featured the best senior players from all Western Mass. High School girls soccer programs.

# sports



Amy Stauder makes a pass near the middle of the field.



Quabbin makes an attack up the middle of the field.

## Girls soccer concludes against Quaboag

WARREN – Although it did not result in a playoff appearance, the Quabbin Regional High School girls soccer team did finish its season on a high note. After going winless in 13 games, including four ties, the Panthers finished the season with four straight wins, including their final game, a 2-1 win at Quaboag Regional. The Panthers finished the 2023 fall season 4-9-4.



The Quabbin girls soccer team played their final game of the season against Quaboag.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Ailey Majoy heads up the field.



Sydney Gagne looks to overcome an opponent.

## Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

### Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The second round of the 2023-2024 league season began for the Commercial Elks at Diamond Junction.

As of Nov. 14, Compression is the first-round winner and is still the #1 seed with the best season record of 27-13. By winning the first round, Compression receives a playoff spot at the end of the season.

With two rounds left, six other teams are seeking to join Compression in the playoffs.

In one match, Team BK bowled against the Champs R Here. In game one, BK was victorious over the Champs by a score of 402-392. Mark Fitzpatrick of BK was the anchor of the team finishing up with a 118 game. John Colkos of the Champs started off the night with a 113.

In game two, BK won again by a score of 382-366. Paul Nothe of BK lead the team by scoring 104.

In game three, the Champs R Here turned it around with a dominant finish. The father and son duo of Taylor and John Colkos pulled for the team with Taylor finishing

with a 124, 32 pins over his current league average (92).

John Colkos finished strong by scoring 116 and had a three-game series of 326.

The team's scores for game three was Champs R Here at 415, BK with 382. The Champs R Here won total pinfall by a final score of 1173-1166.

Another match during league night was Compression bowling against the Blue B's. In game one, Compression started off with a win by a score of 359-355. In game two, Compression won again by a score of 398-385.

Please see **BOWLING**, page 11

### INDIANS from page 9

led us defensively."

The Ware defense helped set-up their first two touchdowns.

A little more than a minute into the first quarter, Ware junior Ben Torres intercepted a pass, which gave the Indians offense the ball for the first time at the Cougars 26.

Molina rushed for a total of 18 yards on the first three plays before sophomore Jadrien Berthiaume capped off the quick scoring drive with an eight yard TD run.

Berthiaume, who scored three rushing touchdowns in the Indians 49-7 home victory against Palmer also scored on the two-point conversion play.

Both teams exchanged turnovers on back-to-back plays at the end of the first quarter.

After junior Cam Evans recovered a fumble for the home team, another fumble recovered by Gordon gave the ball back to the Indians offense at midfield.

Molina, who played with an acl injury this fall, scored the final touchdown of his varsity football career on a two yard scamper into the endzone with 11:08 left in the second quarter.

The extra point attempt sailed wide right.

After Quaboag was forced to punt, Evans recovered his second fumble. It led to a seven yard touchdown run by Sauriol with 5:26 remaining in the first half.



Turley photo by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Jadrien Berthiaume tries to follow the blocks while on a carry.

Withers made the extra point.

The home team scored their second touchdown with 1:25 left in the third quarter when sophomore quarterback Jacob Caace completed an eight yard pass to junior Jack Morgan.

The PAT by Withers tied the score at 14-14.

The Indians responded with an eight play scoring drive.

With 8:23 left in regulation, Safford took a hand off from junior quarterback Brady Dyer and found a hole in the line before sprinting 43 yards up the middle into the endzone.

"Kyle is a stud," said Ware head

coach Mike Fazio. "He's one of the best leaders that I've coached, and he's done a great job for our football program. I just loved coaching all the players on this year's football team. They've done everything we asked them to do and that's why we've been so successful."

The Cougars had one final chance to tie the game again, but they failed to convert on a fourth down play. The Indians offense was able to keep the ball for the final five minutes and their losing streak against Quaboag came to an end.

## Team effort results in big shutout of Utica

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (10-8-1-0) put together a total team effort and dominated the Utica Comets (6-6-3-0) in a 7-0 shutout win inside the MassMutual Center on Saturday night in the team's Hockey Fights Cancer game.

Vadim Zherenko got the start in the net for the T-Birds and had a perfect performance, stopping all 33 saves he faced on the night for his first career AHL shutout. In the opposite crease, Utica goaltender Isaac Poulter surrendered seven goals on 29 T-Birds shots in the loss.

It was a special night for the Bitten family, as the team donned lavender jerseys for the game to support Will and Sam Bitten and the Bitsy's Army cause. Bitsy's Army was created by the brothers to raise awareness for those battling cancer and to honor their late cousin Martin Piche. Piche tragically passed away from brain cancer back in 2021.

Springfield had several prime scoring opportunities in the opening minutes. Nathan Walker saw linemate Adam Gaudette sneak behind the Utica defense on the left side, threatening the team's top scorer a perfect breakaway pass. Unfortunately, Gaudette's shot was stopped by the left pad of Poulter.

The work of the Springfield penalty killers got their team on the board first. While creating pressure in Utica's zone, Walker found Matthew Peca for a one-timer in the high slot after stripping a Utica skater of

the puck in the left-wing corner. The captain fired home a perfect one-timer for a shorthanded goal, his fifth goal of the year, which gave the T-Birds a 1-0 lead at 13:16. The score would remain 1-0 as the teams entered their dressing rooms for the first intermission.

Exactly halfway through the second period, the T-Birds struck once again. Defenseman Matthew Kessel controlled the puck at the blue line before firing a low shot toward Poulter. Although Poulter made the initial stop, MacKenzie MacEachern was there to backhand the rebound home for his fourth goal of the season to make it 2-0 Springfield. The scoring did not stop after MacEachern's goal. On a power play, Will Bitten snapped a shot on goal from the hash marks. Poulter made the initial stop, but T-Birds forward Mikhail Abramov was there to clean up the rebound with a snapper from the left side. Abramov's goal made it 3-0 with 6:32 to go in the period.

As the period drew to a close, defenseman Dylan Coghlan was taken down from behind by Comets forward Kyle Criscuolo. In response, Wyatt Kalynuk stood up for his teammate and engaged in a fight with Criscuolo. Kalynuk's fight fired up his teammates and the crowd, but there would be mayhem that would follow. After a scrum ensued with multiple players going at it, Gaudette and Utica defenseman Cal Foote were given fighting majors with just 13 seconds left in

the period. The T-Birds held on to the 3-0 lead, setting the stage for a third period out of the movies.

The T-Birds added to their 3-0 lead in the third, as Zach Dean ripped a shot home for his first professional goal of his career to make it 4-0 at 4:09 off a 2-on-1 rush. The scoring party would continue after Dean's goal, as Bolduc capitalized for Springfield's second power play marker of the night at 9:54, beating Poulter on his stick side with a perfectly placed wrist.

It was a poetic night for the Bitten family. With 7:02 to go in the game, Will took the puck and raced up ice before dancing around a Utica defender to go in alone on Poulter. Bitten faked a slapper before slipping a five-hole shot into the twine before pointing skyward in celebration. The poetic script got better just a few minutes later when Will tipped in a Coghlan shot for his second of the night. Sam also recorded a milestone on his brother's second tally, as he notched his first AHL point on the secondary assist.

After having just three points in his first 14 games of the season, Will tallied two goals and two assists on this night alone. It was one of five multi-point performances by Springfield skaters on the evening.

The T-Birds return home next Friday, December 1 for another Deuces Wild Friday to take on Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

## PANTHERS FALL IN HOLIDAY MATCHUP



Turley photos by Ray Duffy  
Offensive MVP Luke Salvadore and Defensive MVP Jaxon Kelley with the team behind them.



Jaxon Kelley scores the two-point conversion on a center sneak.



Chase Talbot snatches a pass.

## Worcester Railers sweep Adirondack Thunder

GLENS FALLS, NY – The Worcester Railers HC (7-6-2-1, 17pts) took down the Adirondack Thunder (7-4-2-0, 16pts) on Saturday night by the final score of 4-2 in front of a crowd of 4,297 at Cool Insuring Arena. The Railers are back at home against the Kansas City Mavericks this Wednesday, November 29th at 10:05 a.m. ET.

Neither team scored in the first period as Tristan Lennox was excellent in net for Worcester in the first. He made 15 saves on 15 shots to open the game. Scoring opened in the second as Worcester's Anthony Callin (1-0-1) put Worcester ahead 1-0. Adirondack responded with two straight goals from Travis Broughman (1-0-1) and Yushiroh Hirano (1-0-1) to give the Thunder the 2-1 lead heading into the third. Worcester scored three unanswered in the third from Ashton Calder (1-0-1), Jake Pivonka (1-1-2), and

Zach White (1-0-1) to seal the win and the weekend sweep, 4-2.

Both goalies were solid in the first period for Worcester and Adirondack as Tristan Lennox turned away 15 shots for the Railers, while Jeremy Brodeur made 7 saves for the Thunder. Two of Lennox's saves came in the dying seconds of the first as the Thunder headed down ice on an odd-man rush. Lennox sprawled across the ice and denied Travis Broughman with an outstretched right leg to keep the game level going into the second.

Anthony Callin (4th) unleashed a perfect wrist shot from atop the right circle on a spinning feed from Todd Goehring to give the Railers the first goal of the game. Both Callin and Goehring now have points in four straight games. The Thunder struck back with two straight goals to wrap up the second. Travis Broughman (2nd) picked up a Grant Jozefek rebound

and deked around Lennox to tie the game 1-1. Four minutes later, Yushiroh Hirano (6th) scored on the power play in his third straight game, putting the Thunder ahead 2-1 going into the third.

Ashton Calder (8th) extended his team lead in goals thanks to a great forecheck from Worcester. Keeghan Howdeshell and Jake Pivonka forced the Thunder defense to turn over the puck. As Howdeshell found it beneath the goal line, he passed it to Calder in front who beat Brodeur five-hole to tie the game 2-2. Jake Pivonka (7th) found the puck alone in the slot about a minute later and beat Brodeur clean glove side to make it a 3-2 Railers lead. Zach White would finish things off with an empty-net goal with just 6.9 seconds left to give Worcester the 4-2 win, picking up all four points this weekend and sweeping the Thunder in Glens Falls.



Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas Brothers Jaxon and Tucker love going to Lowe's for crafts - they have 11 patches on their aprons. Their parents, Christina and Eric Pelissier love to encourage their drive for creativity.

### FAMILIES ENJOY THANKSGIVING CRAFT AT LOWE'S

Emma Brown and her mom, Meghan, worked together to create the best turkey ever.



## Bogey's bowling family

Youth bowlers have successful at International Championships

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – The youth candlepin bowlers of Bogey Lanes returned from the 2023 Youth International Candlepin Championships.

The nine bowlers representing the lanes had a lot of fun and were part of a big competition that featured over 90 bowlers from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and Canada. The tournament took place at Bowl-O-Rama Family Fun Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire and was a fantastic host to the youth of candlepin bowling.

The youth bowlers representing Bogey Lanes were Regan Murphy, Austin Akley, Avery Kolb, Grace Kolb, Cadie Miner, Dakotah Majka, Emily Black, Sam Ruggles and Wyatt Decelle.

Many of the youth bowlers at Bogey Lanes experienced their first-time bowling in the Youth International tournament.

Cadie Miner was in her first international tournament and 10-year-old Austin Akley was in his first international bowling tournament. Some of the youth bowlers were repeating visitors to the youth internationals and many achieved great success this year.

Thirteen-year-old Grace Kolb finished in second place in her division for all events (singles, doubles, teams, etc.) and bowled her personal best high single game of 130.



Submitted Photo The youth bowlers of Bogey Lanes are shown alongside coaches Sophia Hearnlaye and Trevor Kennison.

Kolb won in girls division III doubles with Emily Black. Scoring 507 for five games with her 130 game and a 110 game in the fifth.

Austin Akley partnered up with 9-year-old Regan Murphy and they were victorious in boys division I doubles. Akley, during his first year in the international tournament scored 100 in one of his games while bowling with Murphy in the doubles tournament.

Murphy enjoyed his third year bowling the internationals and enjoyed witnessing a lot of new bowlers who participated. He was also thrilled to see his friend Akley compete in his first international tournament.

In addition to the kids having a great time during the tournament, Bogey Lanes' youth coaches had a great experience.

Sophia Hearnlaye is an international youth champion and is

one of the youth league coaches at Bogey Lanes. This was Hearnlaye's first year coaching the youth internationals and coached with former youth champion and bogey lane bowler, Trevor Kennison.

For Hearnlaye, coaching is a thrilling experience and being with the kids during the tournament was nothing but fun.

"I love cheering the kids on," said Hearnlaye. "We're close like family and I still love going up with the kids even though I'm not bowling."

Hearnlaye currently bowls in an adult mixed league at Bogey Lanes and has every intention to continue bowling and coaching the youth bowlers. Hearnlaye will be coaching state tournaments in the spring of 2024.

### PROJECT from page 1

I think, made it easier for the two young men to target Matthew and carry out their hate crime."

Growing up in Barre but going to school out of town, Gelinas remembered how accepted and welcomed he felt when he was able to join Quabbin Regional High School students in their production of "Fiddler on the Roof" in which he played Tevye.

"I'll never forget that," Gelinas said. "It was a great experience."

Gelinas has always wanted to bring that same partnership between the regional school and Eagle Hill School.

"It's a great opportunity for both high schools to work with each other and collaborate," Gelinas said. "They can learn from each other."

Joining the cast from Quabbin Regional High School, is Oakham sophomore Aidan Mahoney in one of his first big theatrical roles.

Mahoney had his first "real" experience in theater when he played Prince Charming in Oakham Center School's production of "Cinderella". He's also performed in "The Wizard of Oz" at Quabbin, and most recently in the school's musical, "Matilda".

It was during tech week for "Matilda" that Mahoney learned about Eagle Hill School's production of "The Laramie Project" when Gelinas joined Quabbin teacher Julia Tuttle in asking if any of the students wanted to work together.

"I thought to myself, 'this is huge,'" Mahoney said, and he introduced himself to Gelinas, and asked to join the cast of "The Laramie Project".

"I introduced myself and shook his hand very firmly," Mahoney said. "We talked for a few minutes about it and I'm here now."

Mahoney is playing Philip Dubois, Moisés Kaufman, Jon Peacock, Phil Labrie, Murdock Cooper and Harry Woods.

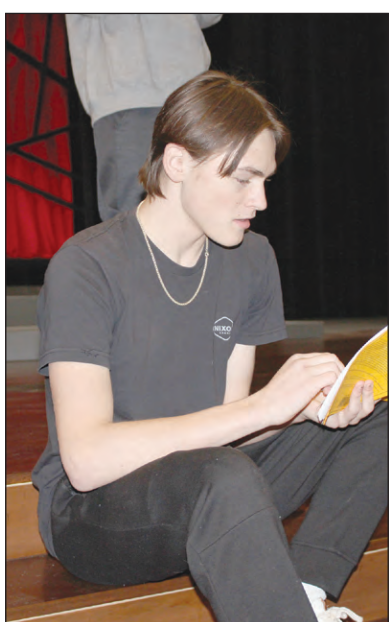
Mahoney said he supports the LGBTQIA+ community and is an advocate for equality.

"Knowing the story behind Matthew Shepard and 'The Laramie Project', it was a crime against gays," Mahoney said. "There's a lot of people that support and other people don't and give people who aren't straight a hard time."

Mahoney said he feels like since Shepard's death, some things have gotten better in terms of acceptance, but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette Director and Eagle Hill School teacher William Gelinas provides feedback to actors in "The Laramie Project".



Joachim Tucker, a junior at Eagle Hill School, reads through the script during a recent rehearsal.

"I" at just 7 years old, Tucker has acted in at least two plays a year from that point on.

Tucker plays three characters in "The Laramie Project", that of Doug Laws, Andy Paris and Jedediah Schultz.

Tucker said he saw "The Laramie Project" for this first time this year and that it was "very, very intense."

"Lately in history, LGBTQIA+ and trans youth have been having their rights taken away at an alarming rate. People don't realize," Tucker said. "This [the play] brings attention."

He said he hopes this performance will also help bring change.

Gelinas said the actors will perform "The Laramie Project" as it's written, and that audiences should expect strong language and mature content.

"The Laramie Project" will be performed at The Center at Eagle Hill, 242 Old Petersham Road, on Friday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each.

For more information or to order tickets, visit thecenterateaglehill.org or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

"There are still people that retaliate against other people; their thoughts, their opinions," he said.

Eagle Hill School junior Joachim Tucker is in his first year at the school, hailing from California, and he is no stranger to the stage.

Landing a role in "The King and

### BOWLING from page 10

In game three, Blue B's won the last game of the night by a score of 404-375.

Blue B's managed to take total pinfall over Compression by a final score of 1144-1132. Each team started off the new round

with two points each.

Acres bowled against Last in Line to start off round two. Acres finished off the first round in second place and was just one point behind Compression.

In game one, Acres defeated Last in Line by a score of 384-351. In game two, Last in Line bounced back by taking the sec-

ond game 407-367. Jermy Laduke of Last in Line came out firing with a double strike in his 116 second game.

In game three, Last in Line won over Acres by a score of 375-336. Last in Line took total pinfall by a final score of 1133-1087.

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# public safety

## Chicopee man sentenced to prison for Ware shooting case

NORTHAMPTON — On Nov. 21, Kent Mitchell, 35, of Chicopee, was sentenced to seven-to-nine years in state prison for several crimes in connection to a shooting that took place in Ware on Oct. 30, 2021.

According to a press release from the office of Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan, during a change of plea hearing in court, Mitchell admitted that, on Oct. 30, inside the 17 Cherry St. apartment complex in Ware, he engaged in a verbal argument with two adult victims, a male and female couple.

During the argument, Mitchell retrieved a firearm and fired two shots, one upwards in the ceiling and one in the direction of both victims. One of the rounds landed in a wall, and behind the wall was

a room where a 1-year old child was staying at the time.

Mitchell did not have a license to carry a firearm. No one was struck by any of the rounds.

Mitchell was sentenced by Hampshire Superior Court Judge James Manitsas to serve seven-to-nine years in state prison after he pleaded guilty to two counts of unlawful possession of a firearm, with one prior conviction for a violent crime, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, and one count each of unlawful possession of ammunition, with one prior conviction for a violent crime, intimidation of a witness, reckless endangerment of a child, and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a dwelling.

The sentence was jointly recommended by Northwestern

Assistant District Attorney Andrew Covington and defense attorney Lisa Lippiello of Northampton.

"The defendant's actions here were incredibly dangerous. Luckily, no one was struck by a round," said Covington.

He credited the Ware Police Department, the State Police Detective Unit attached to the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, as well as the State Police Crime Lab for their efforts on the case.

"Initially, there was a lack of cooperation from many of the witnesses during the investigation and the detectives involved did an excellent job following leads and solving this case," said Covington.

## Warren Police Log

During the week of Nov. 5-11, the Warren Police Department responded to 231 building/property checks, 58 community policing, 16 traffic enforcements, 17 emergency 911 calls, one larceny/theft, four complaints, four motor vehicle accidents, five animal calls and 30 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Brimfield Road, Written Warning 10:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning 10:52 a.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, North Street, Report Filed 6:12 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Nov. 8**  
6:43 a.m. Complaint, Reed Street, Vehicle Removed  
7:12 a.m. Right Side Pain, North Street, Transported to Hospital  
8:21 a.m. Complaint, Southbridge Road, Officer Advised  
8:51 a.m. Complaint, Reed Street, Officer Advised  
10:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Citation Issued  
11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning  
2:19 p.m. Seizures, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

**Thursday, Nov. 9**  
6:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Street, Written Warning  
7:09 a.m. Falls, Winthrop Terrace, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
8:44 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking, Albany Street, Report Filed  
2:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
2:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
3:39 p.m. Arm Pain, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
5:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Quaboag Street, Written Warning  
8:33 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

**Friday, Nov. 10**  
10:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Citation Issued

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.

11:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Southbridge Road, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Tammy J. Peterson, 45, Warren  
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Leave Scene of Property Damage  
5:19 p.m. Fire/Smoke Investigation, High Street, Investigated  
7:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

**Saturday, Nov. 11**  
7:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, Mechanic Street, Report Filed  
8:51 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital  
1:26 p.m. Complaint, Comins Pond Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
4:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning  
10:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Mass Pike, Mutual Aid Transport

## Christmas for Kids begins, donations requested

WARE — The Ware Police Department and the Ware Fire Department have started their 20th annual Ware Christmas For Kids program for the 2023 holiday season.

They are requesting financial assistance to help them fulfill the needs of the children of Ware, and all assistance is greatly appreciated. The program is for infants through children aged 12.

The program recognizes all holiday observances.

Monetary donations may be dropped off at the Ware Police Department at 22 North St., or may be sent to Ware Christmas For Kids, c/o Ware Police Department, 22 North St., Ware, MA 01082.

Darlene Gildert is the program coordinator, and she can be reached at 413-967-3571, extension 327.

Ware Firefighters Local 1851 is hosting its third annual Santa Run on Saturday, Dec. 16 for Ware residents.

Deadline to sign up is Dec. 8 and Santa's route will be determined on Dec. 11. Local 1851 is asking for a donation of \$10 per child receiving a gift and one wrapped gift per child. Residents can drop wrapped gifts at the Fire Station, 200 West St. with donation.

## Ware Firefighters host Santa Run on Dec. 16

Ware Firefighters Local 1851 is hosting its third annual Santa Run on Saturday, Dec. 16 for Ware residents.

Deadline to sign up is Dec. 8 and Santa's route will be determined on Dec. 11. Local 1851 is asking for a donation of \$10 per child receiving a gift and one wrapped gift per child. Residents can drop wrapped gifts at the Fire Station, 200 West St. with donation.

You will be required to fill out a form with the name of the recipient and address the gift is going to. Please make checks payable to Ware Firefighters Local 1851.

One the date of the event, the gifts will be delivered by Santa and members of Local 1851. Delivery times will be announced once the route is finalized after the deadline.

## Ware Christmas Stroll comes to Main Street Dec. 9

WARE — The Ware Christmas Stroll will be hosted by the Ware Business & Civic Association, featuring numerous local businesses and organizations on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Free rides on the Quaboag Connector will bring shoppers to several locations in the downtown area to shop during the Stroll, including the Tree and Wreath Festival (featur-

ing cookie decorating, Kids Karaoke, Santa and more) in the Town Hall, Artsy Elves at Workshop13, games and gift wrapping at Ware River News and other fun activities. Merchants will feature sales and treats for shoppers.

Routes and times for the Quaboag Connector will be announced in the coming week. Visit [www.warebca.com](http://www.warebca.com) for routes and times.

## Family Pride Support group

WARE — Family Pride Support Group is held Tuesdays evenings from 6-7 p.m. at Behavioral Health Network's Family Resource Center, 82 Main St.

The group welcomes parents, caregivers, and adult family members of LGBTQIA+ youth to join

them in a judgement free group where they ask, explore, and find answers to questions as they bridge gaps in the community.

For more information or to register contact the Family Resource Center by calling 413-277-6601 or emailing [bhncrc@bhncinc.org](mailto:bhncrc@bhncinc.org).

## Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Nov. 13-20, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 63 building/property checks, 19 directed/area patrols, eight traffic controls, 13 emergency 911 calls, 14 radar assignments, two complaints, one motor vehicle investigation, two investigations, one assist other agency, eight citizen assists, one scam, one vandalism, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, three animal calls and 23 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Hardwick Road, Citation Issued 9:52 a.m. Assist Other Agency, River Run, Spoken To  
2:08 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Lower Road, Report Taken  
5:01 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Main Street, Services Rendered

**Wednesday, Nov. 15**  
10:55 a.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled  
1:07 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Street, Transported to Hospital  
8:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

**Thursday, Nov. 16**  
6:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
6:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
7:21 a.m. Vandalism, Maple Street, Report Taken  
10:20 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Services Rendered  
11:29 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital

**Friday, Nov. 17**  
12:05 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Petersham Road, Spoken To  
1:46 p.m. Assist Citizen, Town of Hardwick, Officer Handled  
3:27 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Negative Contact  
3:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Summons Issued  
4:50 p.m. Assist Citizens, Main Street, Officer Handled

5:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated

**Saturday, Nov. 18**  
6:07 a.m. 911 Complaint, Church Lane, Officer Handled  
7:56 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
12:42 p.m. 911 Misdial, Main Street, Officer Handled  
1:38 p.m. Investigation, Church Lane, Officer Handled  
1:45 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
4:49 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, School Street, Transported to Hospital

**Sunday, Nov. 19**  
8:56 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital  
10:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning  
12:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning  
12:41 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
4:38 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
5:03 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered  
9:28 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Upper Church Street, Transported to Hospital

**Monday, Nov. 20**  
6:43 a.m. Assist Citizen, Grove Street, Services Rendered

## Firefighters host raffle for Bruins hockey tickets

WARE — Ware Firefighters Local 1851 is hosting a raffle of four tickets to see the Boston Bruins on Jan. 22, 2024 at TD Garden, plus a free parking pass.

The prize is valued at \$990. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on Christmas day.

Raffle tickets are a \$10 donation each with proceeds to support the Ware Firefighters Local 1851.

All members of Ware Fire Department have tickets, or people may call 413-967-9630.

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## Active Parenting class offers help to parents

WARE — Active Parenting 4th Edition will be held at Behavioral Health Network's Family Resource Center, 82 Main St.

This class is based on sound principles of child development, and provides parents of children ages 5-12 with indispensable parenting help including how to raise responsible, cooperative children, use effective communication skills, understand why children misbehave, hold family meetings and much

more.

Being a great parent doesn't have to be stressful. In this class you will receive advice and parenting techniques from a highly qualified leader that will give you the tools to become a successful parent.

For more information or to register contact the Family Resource Center by calling 41-3277-6601 or emailing [bhncrc@bhncinc.org](mailto:bhncrc@bhncinc.org).

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# obituary

## Wings of Song presents 'Celtic Noëls' concerts



Wings of Song Music Director Nym Cooke leads the 40-member community chorus at a rehearsal for "Celtic Noëls".

### Community chorus sings songs of Brittany and beyond

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

As the chill of winter begins to creep in the air, and people prepare for the holiday season, the 40-member Wings of Song community chorus is busy rehearsing "Celtic Noëls", featuring Christmas music from Brittany and elsewhere in France.

Music Director Nym Cooke was first introduced to "Celtic Noëls" after receiving a recording of it as a gift from his wife, Daphne.

"The whole family fell in love with that music, and it became the number one Christmas disc for some years," Cooke said.

In the summer of 2004, Cooke and his daughter Thalia, set to work to make English singing versions of the Breton text, making it rhymed and metered.

Cooke said this is the only version of "Celtic Noëls" in English that he knows of, and it has quickly become a favorite of the chorus members.

"These pieces are going to stick around for a long time," he said.

This group of pieces was first recorded by the community chorus Ensemble Choral du Bout du Monde (Choral Ensemble from the Edge of the Earth) partly in a studio and partly in the Abbaye (Abbey) Saint-Guénolé de Landévennec in far western Brittany, France, in 1997. They were released on the CD "Noëls Celtiques" (Green Linnet Records) in 1998 and the disc has since won several awards.

Wings of Song, formerly the Quinebaug Valley Singers, will be performing "Celtic Noëls" for the fourth time, having first performed it alongside the Band of Voice, a Barre-based chorus in 2004 and 2008 and with the Quaboag Choral Society in 2015.

There are nine pieces featured in "Celtic Noëls", with the first part of the program having music from the rest of France and the second part from Brittany.

"Celtic Noëls" is comprised of both newly composed music and older hymns, Cooke said.

"It's got a primeval, primitive feel. One of those great classic sounds," he said, complete with drum, flute, gong and organ. "My version is a lot fiercer and louder than the original...but some of the



Guitar and recorder are just some of the instruments that accompany the chorus.



Brooks Milgate accompanies the chorus on the organ.

pieces in this set are beautifully gentle. There's quite a range."

The "Celtic Noëls" are not only a celebration of Christmas from a Christian perspective; they are an affirmation of Brittany's own culture, and of Celtic culture in general. The particular flavor of Celtic music comes across strongly here: sometimes a little wild, often with a feeling of closeness to large, untamable, natural forces.

"The far western margin of Europe is largely Celtic," Cooke said. "It's shared by quite a wide north-south range."

Cooke said there is kind of a wild nature to Celtic music and in the opening piece, when the recorder first comes in, it's like a bird call.

"It's elemental and it's outdoors...some of it is in the cathedral and very human and devotional. It's both. That gives it that richness," Cooke said.

"Celtic Noëls" has also inspired Cooke and others to become more involved with the Breton culture.

"The Bretons are very, very proud of their country," he said, and deeply connected to their language.

In recognition of Brittany's

own language, which is much closer to other Celtic tongues such as Welsh than it is to French, and which is also a badge of cultural identity for the Breton people, the chorus will sing verses of several songs in Breton.

Performances of "Celtic Noëls" will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joachim Chapel, part of St. Anne/St. Patrick Parish, 16 Church St., Fiskdale and on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 18 East Main St., Webster. Both venues are handicapped accessible.

Wings of Song concerts are always free, with a freewill offering collected at intermission. Complimentary refreshments are served in a jolly social hour after each performance.

About Wings of Song  
For more information about Wings of Song or the "Celtic Noëls" concerts, email Cooke at nymcooke@gmail.com, or President Carol Curtin at carolcurtin77@gmail.com. People may also visit www.wingsofsong.org.

The chorus's spring 2024 concerts will feature music of the ocean, in a program titled "Rough Seas, Safe Harbor."

## Dolores A. Shea, 96

WARE/WEST BROOKFIELD – Dolores A. (Hogan) Shea died on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023, at Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center surrounded by her loving family, at the age of 96.

Born on Feb. 4, 1927, in Ansonia, Connecticut, she was the daughter of the late Howard and Agnes Hogan and was a life-long resident of Ware.

She was an active member of All Saint's Church for many years, and credits her long life to her faith and her family. She was also a member and Treasurer of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center.

Dolores worked at the former New England Telephone Company, and then the Ware Shoe Company until its closing. Later, she worked as a teller for the former Ware Savings Bank. She enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling, and playing bingo.

She leaves her daughter, Sharon LaGrant and her husband Phil of Ware; her stepdaughters, Jennifer Mott and her husband John of Hardwick, Hilarie Shea of West Brookfield, Cassandra Shea and her husband John of Anchorage, Alaska, and Claudia Kadra and her husband James of Ware; two grandchild-

## Death notice

**Shea, Dolores A. (Hogan)**  
Died Nov. 24, 2023

dren, Timothy LaGrant of Ware, and Gregory LaGrant and his wife Leigh of Belchertown; four great-grandchildren, Sophia, Chloe, Theodore, and Maxwell; and two special nieces, Deborah Britten and Kathleen Soltys.

Dolores was predeceased by her first husband of 44 years, Robert Fitzgerald, and her second husband of 10 years, James Shea, as well as her sister and traveling companion, Catherine Welsh, her sister-in-law Maureen Hogan, her brothers, Michael, Howard, Edward, Richard and Francis Hogan, and her stepson, Christopher Shea.

Her family would like to thank all the dedicated doctors, nurses, and staff of Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skill Care Center as well as Compassus Hospice for their tireless and compassionate care of Dolores.

Per her wishes, a private graveside service will be held at a later date in New Saint William Cemetery, Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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

## 'Nativities Around the World' displayed through Dec. 2

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road (Route 67) is presenting its Nativities Around the World program for its 13th year.

This year, the Nativities Around the World program will be displayed on Thursday, Nov. 30 from 4-8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 1 from 4-7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

There will be over 400 nativities displayed this year and all will be in settings of various

Christmas themes. In addition to the nativities, there will be a Sing-Along to help boost the Christmas spirit even more on Friday, Dec. 1 starting at 7 p.m. and followed by a yummy dessert bar accompanied by a warm and welcoming spirit.

There is never a charge of any kind, nor any donation solicitation, for any event at the Church, including the Nativities display and the Sing Along and dessert bar. All are warmly welcomed.

## Quabbin History Calendar available for holiday shopping

WARE – Local author and historian J. R. Greene has released his 39th annual Quabbin History Calendar.

Greene's calendars are available at the Young Men's Library Association in Ware, Junction

Variety in Thorndike, Quaboag Books in West Brookfield and Mimi's Coffeehouse in Hardwick. He will host a program at the Palmer Public Library on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

## Pancake breakfast with Santa to be held Dec. 10

WARE – Join the 2023 Western Mass Champions Ware Varsity Baseball Team for a pancake breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 10 from 8-11 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, South Street.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. The meal includes pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee, all served by the varsity baseball players.

Also available for cash purchase are chances for raffle baskets, a 50/50 Raffle and a hot cocoa station.

All proceeds will help fund a once-in-a-lifetime experience to play at the minor league Yard Goats Stadium this spring.

Please contact Marilou Kaczuwka by calling 413-668-5604 to purchase a ticket or for more information.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Old English letters
- 5. Sculpture
- 11. Showing up again
- 14. Tie the knot again
- 15. Washington city
- 18. Stiff structures in invertebrates
- 19. Mark over a vowel
- 21. Explosive
- 23. Popular race: \_\_\_ 500
- 24. Pile up
- 28. Mint
- 29. Commercial
- 30. A minute amount (Scottish)
- 32. Small Eurasian deer
- 33. Baseball stat
- 35. Numbers cruncher
- 36. Japanese masked drama
- 39. Gasteyer and de

**Armas are two**

- 41. Blood group
- 42. Assist in wrongdoing
- 44. Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad
- 46. Grayish-white
- 47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- 49. Microorganism
- 52. Place under prohibition
- 56. Calm, dependable
- 58. Congressman
- 60. Force
- 62. As a result of this document
- 63. One of two main branches of Islam

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Make a mistake
- 2. Gordon and Snider are two
- 3. Geographical region of Finland
- 4. Ejected saliva
- 5. A way of performing
- 6. Scotland's longest river
- 7. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- 8. Body art
- 9. Two-toed sloth
- 10. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 12. Foolish person (Brit.)
- 13. Of the wind
- 16. Grand home
- 17. Sound
- 20. English river
- 22. Symbol indicating ownership
- 25. Exclamation of surprise
- 26. Pouch
- 27. Apart from
- 29. Satisfaction
- 31. The bill in a restaurant
- 34. Sea bream
- 36. Port in southern Japan
- 37. Double-reed instruments
- 38. Center
- 40. South Dakota
- 43. An orderly crowd
- 45. Indicates position
- 48. \_\_\_-pedi
- 50. Nonsense (slang)
- 51. Republic of Ireland
- 53. Nocturnal flyers
- 54. American state
- 55. Clusters in fern fronds
- 57. Patriotic women
- 58. A person's brother or sister
- 59. Breed of sheep
- 61. Popular film "Despicable \_\_\_"

## The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

*We are celebrating our 20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.*

Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

**HOURS:**  
 Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm  
 Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am - 4pm • Sat. 10am - 2pm

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE**

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

**Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library**

# Classifieds

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Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

**ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED BUYING** Bottles, Cocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

## JUNK REMOVAL

**A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL**  
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.  
We load it & take it.  
**413-531-1936**  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.  
**Call Pete 413-433-0356.**

## SERVICES

**A B Hauling and Removal Service**

**2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\***  
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.** Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

## SERVICES

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing** - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS, RE-MODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

## LANDSCAPING

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

## MASONRY

### STOP WET BASEMENTS ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

## PAINTING

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING** Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508)867-2550

**FORBES & SONS PAINTING & STAINING** Interior, residential, commercial and new construction, wall-paper removal, sheetrock and plaster repairs. Quality products. Since 1985. Free estimates. Fully Insured. Call Brad Forbes at B>413-887-1987.

**RETIRED GUY WILL** paint an average size room for \$200. Quality work. References available. Dave 413-323-6858.

**WE DO LLC** Painting interior, exterior and drywall repair. Resident epoxy flooring. We treat your home like our own homes. Fully licensed and insured. Call WE DO today for a free estimate ask for Mac (413)344-6883

## TREE WORK

**DL & G TREE SERVICE.** Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

**H & H TREE SERVICE** All phases of tree care. Call Dave 413-668-6560 day/night.

## SERVICES

### STUMP GRINDING

**DL & G STUMP GRINDING** Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

## HELP WANTED

The Town of Wilbraham is now hiring **P/T & FT EMERGENCY DISPATCHERS.**

For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). EOE. Open until filled.

Find archives of this local newspaper at [www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

## HELP WANTED

### PAID ON-THE-JOB HOME HEALTH AIDE TRAINING.

Earn \$2000 once you complete our Certified Home Health Aide 115-hour Training Program. \$300 Sign on Bonus also available! Call **Excel Nursing Services 413-583-8900**. EOE. [www.excelnursing.com](http://www.excelnursing.com)

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

**QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON**  
**HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON**

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



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

**WE'RE ALL EARS**  
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Your opinion is something we always want to hear.  
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413-283-8393 • 413-967-3505

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

**MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069**     **DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – FRIDAY AT NOON**  
or call: 413-283-8393     **HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
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21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Includes additional words

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
 Quabbin  
 Suburban  
 Hilltowns

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**

# Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

**Job Opening**  
**Town of Warren, MA**  
**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**  
**Full-Time Operator/Mechanic Position**

The Town of Warren, Board of Sewer Commissioners is accepting Resumes and Cover Letters for its Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/ Mechanic position. The pay scale ranges from \$22.83 to \$30.68/hour based on relative work experience, educational background, and professional licenses currently held. A generous benefit package is available including health insurance in which the Town pays 75% of the premium.

High School Graduate, preferably from a technical school; preferably 3 years' experience as an operator and mechanic at a wastewater treatment plant or any equivalent combination of education and mechanical experience will be considered. Be able to obtain a Massachusetts Wastewater Treatment Plant License, Grade 4 or higher, within six months of hire. A Massachusetts Class D Driver's License with a clean driving history is required.

Please visit the Town's website, [www.warren-ma.gov](http://www.warren-ma.gov) for a complete position description. Resumes and Cover Letters will be accepted until the position is filled. Please send your resume and cover letter to the Town Administrator, Jim Ferrera, [townadministrator@warren-ma.gov](mailto:townadministrator@warren-ma.gov).

*Town of Warren is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

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Great for Retirees Looking to Supplement Their Income.

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## 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](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge. Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.

birth  
announcements

engagement  
announcements

wedding  
announcements

[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

# Open mic at Workshop13 goes original



Solos were performed during the open mic, including ones on acoustic guitar.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – Earlier this month, the stage at Workshop13 was set for an open mic featuring local artists.

The venue is known for hosting a variety of artistic events, with live music being a fun attraction to the local community.

Dozens of guests arrived to support local artists on Nov. 17. Many artists performed as a solo, duet, or trio. Open mics at Workshop13 take place every third Friday of the month and feature a host band for every event.

This past open mic featured host Mary Elizabeth Remington of West Brookfield. Remington is a singer-songwriter who has been performing more of her music as of late in the local areas.

Her first open mic was performing a cappella in November of 2022. Her appearance at Workshop13 was her second open mic.

The host band opens the evening, then the open mic begins with the various artists signed up. Each performer gets three songs or approximately 15 minutes on stage.

Remington started off the night playing all original songs, including from her recently released album "In Embudo". Alongside Remington was guitarist, Zack Harris.

Performing as a duet, the guests at Workshop13 were amazed by the soothing melodies.

Remington is a folk artist who enjoys singing her songs out of the joy of sharing. She also loves joining friends along the way.



A trio performs during Workshop13's recent open mic.



Eight artists along with guest host musician Mary Elizabeth Remington performed at the open mic held on Nov. 17.

"I'm singing most honest," said Remington. "The songs I sing sound just like the way I would sing to myself."

Remington's music is inspired by stories of her childhood, growing up and features references of life. She is currently working on

new music for her next album. After Remington's opening performance, eight other artists showed up to the open mic to share their voice, music, and creativity. Several artists performed solos with pianos, acoustics, drums, and vocals.

The guests not only got to enjoy the live music but refreshments at Workshop13. These refreshments included beer, wine and soft drinks, and complimentary popcorn.

Remington's next music performance will be on Sunday, Dec. 10 at a location to be determined. Open mics at Workshop13 take place every third Friday of the month and will be featured next on Friday, Dec. 15 from 7-10 p.m.

Workshop13 is located at 13 Church St. Upcoming events at Workshop13 can be found by visiting [www.workshop13.org/upcoming-events](http://www.workshop13.org/upcoming-events).

## public notices

### The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Town of Warren Kerry Schmidt, Collector of Taxes Office of the Collector of Taxes Notice of Tax Taking

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

You are hereby notified that on Friday the 15th day of December, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. at the Tax Collector's Office, 48 High Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Warren the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

#### Assessed To HEBERT CYNTHIA

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.739 Acres located and known as 1021 EAST RD shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 07-0-12 and being part of the premises recorded in book 20171 on page 169 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$2,144.15
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#### Assessed To KONDRAT JESSICA L.

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.76 Acres located and known as 1374 BRIMFIELD RD shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 11-0-22 and being part of the premises recorded in book 55159 on page 285 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$499.78
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#### Assessed To MAH JOHN C.

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 3.831 Acres located and known as 200 O'NEIL RD shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 03-0-32 and being part of the premises recorded in book 56343 on page 48 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$1,082.63
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Assessed To MARCILLE RICHARD J. & BARBARA A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.776 Acres located and known as TOWN FARM DR shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 03-0-80 and being part of the premises recorded in book 15733 on page 4 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$67.02
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Assessed To MARCILLE RICHARD J. & BARBARA A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 6.7 Acres located and known as TOWN FARM DR shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 03-0-77 and being part of the premises recorded in book 15733 on page 4 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$178.74
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Assessed to THE BURNIAS FAMILY TRUST AND BURNIAS MANUEL C. TRUSTEE A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.28 Acres located and known as 29 LIBERTY ST shown on the Town of Warren Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 24-0-104 and being part of the premises recorded in book 56267 on page 358 in the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

2021	Tax	\$3,018.36
2021	Water Ln	\$45.71

11/30/2023

### Town of Ware Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a Notice of Intent (NOI) by Palm Coast Capital, LLC, for the proposed Tractor Supply Company (TSC) at 256 West Street (Parcel ID: 10-0-129) in Ware, MA. The project consists of a new 21,930± square-foot retail store with seventy-five (75) parking spaces, outdoor permanent sidewalk display areas, a fenced outdoor display area, a trailer display area, and an associated live goods center. Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413.967.9648. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>. 11/30/2023

### LEGAL NOTICE Town of Warren Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing

The town of Warren, through the Board of Selectmen, will conduct a performance hearing regarding their ongoing Community Development Block Grant Programs (CDBG). The town's current FY 2021 CDF program is the primary topic for discussion. Future projects under consideration as well as a brief overview of the town's recently awarded FY22/23 CDBG will also be discussed. The hearing will be held on **Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Shepard Building, 48 High Street, Warren. Please see the town's web site or call the Town Clerk's Office

for a digital link to attend remotely.

The FY 2021 CDBG program provided funding for School Street improvements. Additional funding was provided through the state's One Stop for Growth program for Prospect Street. The two streets were combined as one construction project. Other contributing sources of assistance were provided by the town and the Warren Water District. The FY21 CDBG funds were primarily directed towards improved potable water service and a large retaining wall on School Street. Surface improvements to both streets are currently being planned through the town's recently awarded FY22/23 CDBG and with local resources.

Any person or organization having questions or comments concerning Warren's CDBG program and ongoing activities will have an opportunity to be heard. The Town of Warren is responsible for administration of the grant program with assistance from the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC). Those unable to attend the hearing may mail written comments to the Warren Board of Selectmen, 48 High Street, P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083, or email to [townadministrator@warren-ma.gov](mailto:townadministrator@warren-ma.gov). Comments will be received through December 6, 2023. Persons who require a special accommodation should contact the Town prior to the meeting date at (413) 436-5701. These activities and programs are funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Massachusetts CDBG program. 11/30/2023

### STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS ORDER OF NOTICE

### Notice to Derrick Albert, father of child born on 07/26/2010 to Tammy K. of parts unknown

#### A petition has been filed seeking:

Commitment of minor child(ren) of the above named or vesting of custody and care of said child(ren) of the above named in a lawful, private agency or a suitable and worthy person.

The petition, whereby the court's decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard on **12/26/23 @ 11:45 AM** at Superior Court, Juvenile Matter, **920 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06106**

Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the **Ware River News**, a newspaper having circulation in the town/city of: **Ware, MA**

**Judge: Hon. Tammy Nguyen O'Dowd**  
**Signed: Alex Izzarary - Clerk**  
**Date Signed: 11/27/23**

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure that an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.

11/30/2023

### Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2023-07

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, December 7, 2023 at 7:05 PM** on the application of Stephanie Benmahidi, for a Special Permit for the operation of a towing truck business with vehicle storage for an impound yard under section 4.1.1, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant

to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

**SITE LOCATION: 51 West St., Ware, MA.** Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 12189, Page 274. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 56-0-31 and 56-0-27. Zoned: Highway Commercial (HC).

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

**WARE PLANNING BOARD**  
Ed Murphy, Chairman  
11/23, 11/30/2023

### TOWN OF WARREN, MA Tax Classification Hearing

The Warren Selectboard will conduct the tax classification hearing on **Monday December 4, 2023 at 7:15 PM** in the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street. At the hearing the Selectboard will consider tax policy option including (1) Whether to have a single or split tax rate, (2) Whether to adopt of an open space discount, (3) whether to take no action relative to the adoption of a residential exemption and (4) to adopt a residential factor of 1. The Selectboard will receive

comments from interested taxpayers at the hearing or taxpayers may provide written comments sent to PO Box 609, Warren MA 01083. 11/30/2023

### Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2023-08

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, December 7, 2023 at 7:05 PM** on the application of Palm Coast Capital LLC, for a Special Permit for the construction of a commercial business, Tractor Supply Co., under section 4.1.1, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-

205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

**SITE LOCATION: 256 West St., Ware, MA.** Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 13093, Page 124 & 125. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 10-0-129. Zoned: Residential Business (RB) and Suburban Residential (SR).

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

**WARE PLANNING BOARD**  
Ed Murphy, Chairman  
11/23, 11/30/2023

**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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