WARE RIVER NEWS

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Hazard mitigation plan . discussed

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK - A public hearing was held for the town's hazard mitigation plan.

This sort of plan is carried out every five years to identify hazardous activities in the town of Hardwick and what impacts they entail. Providing a clear understanding of hazard mitigation is Jamie Caplan Consulting, LLC.

The presentation started with a question and answer segment to get a general idea of the audience in attendance during the public hearing and get an understanding of the town of Hardwick. Jamie Caplan Consulting is an emergency management service and provides and develops emergency management solutions for communities facing all forms of disaster.

Going over hazard mitigation, it is essential to help inform a town who may encounter different phases of disaster and provide resources to minimize the outcomes of those impactful disasters. Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risks to life and property from hazardous events. These actions are to minimize risk to people, property and the environment.

Part of the plan is to build a community profile, provide hazard information and risk assessments, identify community capabilities, find mitigation strategies and plan implementation and maintenance.

Please see **PLAN**, page 13

WREATHS across AMERICA



Bill Munsell salutes the veteran after placing the wreath.



Cyrus Glidden was joined by his daughter Piper to honor and remember the town's veterans during Wreaths Across America Day.

Ware holds inaugural Wreaths Across America event

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Veterans Park was filled with community members and volunteers this past Saturday, for the town's first ever Wreaths Across America Day ceremony, organized by resident Frank Bateman.

The town joined over 4,200 other locations nationwide that laid Balsam wreaths adorned with red ribbons at the gravestones and markers of our military veterans.

"Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate the mission to remember the fallen, honor those that serve and their families, and teach the next generation the value of freedom," Bateman said.

A moment of silence was held to remember the fallen, prisoners of war, and those missing in action, as well as to honor those who have served and continue to serve.

Wreaths Across America; to remember, honor endeavors they wish to pursue.

and teach. "We are all proud to be Americans that live in a free society made up of many people, from many walks of life," he said. "The freedoms we enjoy today have not come without a price. Lying here before us and in cemeteries throughout this nation are men and women who gave their lives so that we can live in freedom and without fear."

Because of their sacrifices, he said, people in the U.S. can worship as they want, raise their children in their beliefs and vote for leaders of their choosing. They also have Bateman talked about the mission of the right to succeed, and to fail, at whatever

Please see **WREATHS**, page 15

Braver Angels workshop hosted at **United Church** of Ware

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARE - Back in November, the United Church of Ware hosted a workshop provided by Braver

United Church Pastor Carole Bull found the workshop insightful not only for herself, but the numerous guests who attended the work-

Braver Angels is a citizens organization uniting red and blue Americans in a working alliance to depolarize America. In other words, for citizens who stand with different political views, Braver Angels bring people together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen positive relationships of citizens of different opinions.

Bull first witnessed a workshop at Look Park in Northampton. Bull was immediately intrigued because their mission is to minimize divi-

The congregation of United Church of Ware signed up for a faith-based workshop also known as Depolarizing Within. This workshop teaches participants to look within and develop strategies for engaging politics without demonizing, and how to constructively intervene in social conversations with like-minded peers.

The goals of the Depolarizing workshop include being more aware of your "inner polarizer." In addition, the workshop teaches citizens how to be critical without

Please see **WORKSHOP**, page 3

light the way, for Santa Claus



Santa Claus visited with children in all of Hardwick's villages, alongside members of Hardwick Fire Department.

Santa pays a visit to Hardwick

HARDWICK - Members of Hardwick Fire Department rolled out of the station with lights flashing, blasting "Jingle Bells" on Engine 1's horn this past Sunday, visiting children in all of the town's villages.

Families lined the streets waving to the jolly elf as he rode around the Common, through Wheelwright and Gilbertville, before jetting back to the North Pole to prepare for his busiest night of the year. With the help of the town's firefighters, Santa Claus passed out bags full of candy to the children.



Santa Claus greeted residents in Warren during his run.

Santa flies his sleigh through Warren

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARREN - The residents of Warren stepped outside to say hello to Santa Claus as he drove around town.

Escorting Santa Claus during his run was the Warren Fire Department. Beginning at the fire station in the center of town, Santa and his firefighter friends were escorted in a sleigh. Residents all over town were greeted by Santa Claus and the firefighters as they were on route to travel through Warren and West Warren.

During his route, Santa Claus was giving away candy to the families outside and wishing them a Merry Christmas. It was an early holiday celebration with treats being handed out.

The residents appreciate Santa going on his route and keeping a fun town tradition enduring. The Santa Run in Warren has been a town tradition for 51 years.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette Santa Claus arrived on Main Street with the help of the Ware Fire Department, on his way to deliver gifts to children across town.

Santa Claus is on his way

WARE - Ware Firefighters Local 1851 hosted its third annual Santa Run for residents this past Saturday.

Santa Claus and members of Local 1851 spent the morning and afternoon delivering gifts to children across the town, bringing smiles and excitement every where they went. Each child received a gift they had been waiting for, and a chance to thank the man in red himself and pose for a photo.

Proceeds from the Santa Run will benefit Ware Firefighters Local 1851.

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BUSINESS

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WareRiverNews

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Ware River News **OBITUARY** POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



Angels watch over the shepherds during last year's Nativity pageant performed by students at St. Aloysius Catholic School.

St. Aloysius Catholic School news

Matching grant of \$40,000 towards scholarship drive

HARDWICK - St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville has been blessed with a pledge of \$40,000 in matching funds toward the school's 2024/2025 scholarship drive.

The benefactor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has supported the school in this initiative since its inception in 2016. The Scholarship Drive will run from Dec. 15 through March

Last year, the scholarship drive raised a total of \$36,000 including the matching funds. The fund reduced the tuition for each of the school's 86 students by about

This year, the School Board is considering implementing a crisis fund with some of the proceeds, in addition to a fund for general assistance. Tuition rates

will be set for the 2024/2025

school year after the drive

ends in March. Father Richard A. Lembo, Pastor of St. Aloysius Parish, is happy that the benefactor is once again offering such a generous match.

"There are overwhelming demands on families today. Being able to give some assistance to those who wish to provide a Catholic education for their children is important. We thank those who gave generously to last year's scholarship drive, and we hope that they will consider giving again. Besides providing these children with a top notch education, you are helping to build a founda-

St. Aloysius Catholic School's unique mission includes operating in a family-centered environment that provides Faith Formation, innovative academics, and a commitment to the local community. The school

tion for their Catholic faith,

something that will grow

and sustain them during their

lifetime," Lembo said in a

press release.

through grade eight. For more information about St. Aloysius Catholic School or to make a tax deductible donation that will be matched dollar for dollar to the Scholarship Fund please visit www.staloy-

serves students in preschool

Donations can also be mailed to St. Aloysius Catholic School, P.O. Box 522, Gilbertville, MA 01031, noting "Scholarship Fund" on the memo line. Donations to the Scholarship Fund received prior to March 15 will help reduce tuition rates for the 2024/2025 school year.

For more information email Roberta McQuaid, at rmcquaid@staloysiuscatholicschool.com or call the school at 413-477-1268.

If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your **Krieger receives Public Health Nursing award**

BELCHERTOWN - During its November meeting, the Quabbin Health District awarded a Public Health Nursing Award to Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger.

Director Andrea Crete described Krieger's outstanding performance, especially during the pandemic, to maintain community health in the three member towns, Belchertown, Ware and Pelham.





Are You Old News?

River News digs into its submitted photo archives

your help to help identify

2013 showed Charleigh Podkowka of Wheelwright waiting to meet Santa Claus

identified Jane Dolan, Ursula Wright, selectman Donald

Nickerson and Kenneth Frazier who were featured in

the Dec. 7 edition's "Are You Old News?". "These were all outstandings citizens of Warren who have

donated many hours of their time to their town and

community," Clough said.

for the first time.

Phil Clough correctly

and selects a people photo to publish. We need

those pictured.

Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger, left, is shown with Quabbin Health District Director Andrew Crete during a recent awards ceremony.

At left: Quabbin Health District's Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger received an award for her outstanding performance serving the communities of Ware, Belchertown and Pelham.



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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Donations accepted for Christmas for Kids

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 Senior Center events

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Monday, Dec. 25 Closed Tuesday, Dec. 26

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking (\$3 per class; registration starts at 5

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5

Wednesday, Dec. 27

9 a.m. Tai-Chi 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club

10 a.m. Scat

10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse office hours

> 11:30 a.m. Lunch Thursday, Dec. 28

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

9 a.m. Walking Club

10 a.m. Line Dancing 10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch 1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

2:45 p.m. Art Class Friday, Dec. 29 9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Scat 11:30 a.m. Lunch 1 p.m. Chair Yoga

6 p.m. Pitch (Registration starts

LUNCHES DINE IN

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

Reservations required by calling 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.

Monday, Dec. 25

Tuesday, Dec. 26 Brunch

French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Dec. 27 Italian Chicken, Roasted

Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Dec. 28 Grilled Cheese with Cheese,

Lettuce and Tomato, Potato Salad/ Chips, Dessert of the Day Friday, Dec. 29

Sloppy Joe, Onion Rings, 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing Caesar Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friends of the Library host lotto calendar fundraiser

Library are hosting a lotto calendar fundraiser for the month of January, with proceeds to support programs and events at the Young

WARE - The Friends of the Men's Library Association, 37 Main St.

> Calendars are \$10 each and you have a chance at winning every day of the month. Prizes

range from \$25-300, and winners will be notified by phone.

Only 1,000 calendars will be sold. For more information, stop by the library.

WORKSHOP from page 1

demonizing, dismissing or stereotyping opposing views.

Depolarizing is all about how people regard and talk about large groups of ordinary people on the other side of the political aisle.

The most common question in the Braver Angels workshop is how often people find themselves thinking about people of different political views and then how to converse and reduce or avoid the divisiveness of political polarization. At that point the goal is to find common ground with others.

After a mindful experience during the workshop, members of the United Church of Ware find that repetition is needed and want more insight from Braver Angels. The 15 people who came to the workshop on Nov. 19 are willing to talk, listen, and reflect in a group.

Other workshops offered by Braver Angels include skills for bridging the divide. This workshop teaches citizens how to work through difficult political conversations with people in their life.

Learn how to talk across the divide in a constructive and empathetic way. Another available workshop is skills for social media. In this workshop, people are taught strategies to share and discuss political viewpoints online without contributing to polariza-

Hoping to have another workshop in a couple months, United Church hopes Braver Angels will return and further persuade more citizens to share political ideologies and a respectful and collaborative manner. More information about these workshops from Braver Angels is available on their website, braverangels.org.

Bull believes that this ence with Braver Angels, more people will reach out and connect more in the town of Ware and neighboring communities.

'See each other as people with different points of view," said Bull. "Humanize our experiences and carry over into our neighbor-

Yvette LeGrand, a member of the United Church of Ware, attended the workshop from Braver Angels and found it beneficial to focus on not only one's own opinions but listen to other opinions. Listening to other opinions brings up healthy conversations and work on formatting a more mutual opinion.

"Focusing on ourselves," said LeGrand, referring to taking all opinions into account.

LeGrand plans on attending another workshop and finds it to be a benefit for the Ware community. Being aware of Braver Angels and counting everyone's Recognizing depolarization,

having mutual criticisms and reading other points of view is what Braver Angels encourages. Across the country, thousands of volunteers have answered this calling and are bringing the Braver Angels mission to many local communities.

United Church of Ware is currently working on setting up another workshop with Braver Angels in the near future. These experiences help citizens get better at respecting each other as they are. It is ongoing work and there is always room for learning.

For more information about United Church of Ware or upcoming events, call 413-967-9981.

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Serving Ware for over a century

Mary Lane Hospital's history memorialized on T-shirts

> By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARE – Remembering a great location in the town of Ware, Mary Lane Hospital has served the community for over 100 years, from

Mary Lane Hospital was founded in 1909 by the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association. This association was formed by a group of women who were residents of Ware at the time.

The original facility located at 96 South St., accommodated 12 patients and living quarters for the nursing staff.

The name of Mary Lane was introduced in 1924 when a 25-bed unit was added to the now Wetherby portion of the hospital. A local manufacturer by the name of Lewis N. Gilbert has donated his home and grounds to the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association.

In accordance with his will, the hospital was named after Gilbert's wife, Mary Lane.

Over the course of its operation, three wings have been added to the original building that currently makes up the complex. The Storrs Wing was completed back in 1948. The Gilbert Wing was next and completed in 1961. The Davis Wing was introduced in 1972. A fourth floor was added to the Davis Wing in 1987.

Thanks to the donations of the Storrs, Wetherby, Gilbert, Schoonmaker, Davis and Siarkeiwicz families Mary Lane Hospital had progressed into its existing hospital campus, which is managed by Baystate Health. In 1995, the hospital underwent renovations on its first floor and then introduced an ambulatory care center, auxiliary gift shop and medical office building.

There was a moment of celebration in the hospital's history as Baystate Mary Lane Hospital celebrated their 100th anniversary throughout the year of 2009. This anniversary marked 100 years of dedicated service to the community.

At this point, Baystate Mary Lane Hospital was a 31-bed community-based hospital offering a wide spectrum of services including 24 hour emergency services, orthopedics, inpatient and outpatient surgical care, intensive care, pediatrics, women's health services and a digestive health program. The Ware hospital has served residents of Hampshire, Hampden and Worcester Counties. For employment, Baystate

Mary Lane Hospital had over 400



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Polli McCrystal, left and Julie Bullock, right, are providing the T-shirts. The cost is \$19 per T-shirt and sizes range from small to XXXL.

employees, including 94 nurses and volunteers. More than 200 active, consulting and courtesy medical/ dental staff including physician specialists in family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, anesthesiology, allergy, cardiology, emergency medicine, radiology, hospital medicine, orthopedic and general sur-

Building the Hospital

Lewis Gilbert passed away in 1919, but he donated his South Street home and property to the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association. In addition, Gilbert left \$500,000 in trust to endow the

In memory of his beloved wife, the hospital would forever be known as Mary Lane Hospital.

Gilbert's will stated that with his endowment he wished to allow the WVNHA to "suitably and more effectively care for the sick especially for the town of Ware and the village of Gilbertville."

The WVNHA would then provide hospital grounds and buildings where the sick may properly be cared for at a reasonable charge.

On March 31, 1920, the board of directors of the WVNHA accepted the legacies and benefits donated in Gilbert's will and authorized the association to take steps into carrying out Gilbert's wish to build Mary Lane Hospital on his property using the donated funds.

In 1922, Gilbert's home on

South Street was demolished and H.P. Cummings was engaged to construct a new state-of-the-art hospital. The new hospital building was completed in September of 1924.

One year later in 1925, the WVNHA board voted to change the name of the association to the Mary Lane Hospital Association in honor of Mary Lane Gilbert.

The future of Mary Lane Hospital

In January 2021, Baystate Health announced they will close the Mary Lane outpatient center by 2023. Mary Lane Hospital served the town of Ware and neighboring communities for over 100 years.

Its history and story began with the generosity of the Gilbert Family and the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association.

To remember this great institution, the Ware Historical Society made T-shirts with an image of Mary Lane Hospital displayed on the front. KM Graphics printed these excellent quality T-shirts and are symbols of remembering a unique piece of history of the town of Ware.

T-shirt orders can be recorded on the answering machine at 413-967-6882.

For those ordering a T-shirt please leave a name, address, telephone number, color and size choice. The cost is \$19 per t-shirt and sizes range from small to

Cupcake decorating workshop held Dec. 28 for teens and tweens

Shed, Pool &

Hot Tub Removals

WARE - The Young Men's Jana on Thursday, Dec. 28 at Library Association, 37 Main St., is hosting a cupcake decorating workshop for tweens and teens with Jana Hayden of Cupcakes & Confections by

4 p.m.

Registration is required. For more information, stop by the library, call 413-967-5491 or visit www.warelibrary.org.

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By Hank Houghton, Vietnam veteran

Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,

In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney with presents to give,

And to see just who in this home did live. I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stockings by mantle, just boots filled with sand.

And on the wall pictures of far distant lands. With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,

A sobering thought came to my mind. For this house was different, so dark and

The home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, Curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,

Not how I pictured a United States soldier. Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night, Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world, the children would

And grownups would celebrate a bright

Christmas day. They all enjoyed freedom each month of the

Because of the soldiers, like the one lying

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,

On a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home. The very thought brought a tear to my eye,

I dropped to my knees and started to cry. The solider awakened and I heard a rough

"Santa don't cry, this life if my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, My life is my God, my country, my corps." The solider rolled over and soon drifted to

I couldn't control it, I continued to weep. I kept watch for hours, so silent and still, And we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night,

This guardian of honor so willing to fight. Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure,

Whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas

day, all is secure." One look at my watch, and I knew he was

"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

Oliveria welcomes area residents to Beacon Hill

BOSTON - To close out October on Beacon Hill, Senator Jake Oliveira (Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester District) welcomed two area residents to the State House for the Senate's 86th Annual Citizens Legislative Seminar.

During the seminar, interested citizens had the opportunity to be educated by those working at the State House on the functions of the Massachusetts State Legislature and then apply what they learned in a simulated Senate Session held in the Senate Chamber.

The Citizens' Legislative Seminar is part of the Massachusetts Senate's ongoing effort to educate residents about Government in Massachusetts and to increase civic engagement. For this installment, Oliveira nominated the Director of Humanities at Springfield Public Schools, Tom Rachele, and an Elms College student from Ludlow who is also currently working in his office as an intern, Emma Sawtelle.

During the seminar, Oliveira spoke to all 41 of the nominated attendees about the history of the State House as part of the speaker series. Still, he said the highlight for him was seeing the engagement and excitement of those involved.

'Seeing this year's Citizens dive into the seminar and really give it their all was amazing. It was a joy to see their passion and commitment to playing the role of Senators for the day, and I think it was a very rewarding experience for everyone involved." Oliveira said. "We do this twice a year because it's a terrific opportunity for all of us to share in the excitement of the Legislature, experience the thrill of working in the Senate Chamber, and fight for what you believe in. Even if the fight is simulated. I'm already looking forward to the next

Please see **OLIVERIA**, page 5

Cookies made with a

This weekend was supposed to be the weekend when all four of us partook in a

Usually, we start baking right after Thanksgiving, but this year the kids were involved in a play, then a concert, and alas, there was no time. We started out strong yes-

By midafternoon I was definitely under the weather and that was it for my cookie-making. We got two batches in before I left the kitch-

One is an almond covered thumb print, and

I tried them for the first time at Old Sturbridge Village's Christmas by Candlelight some years back and making them has been a tradition in our house ever since. Why don't we take this opportunity to learn about a very

Most gardeners already know that Coriander (Coriandrum sativum) is one of the few herbs that goes by two different names

depending on the part of the plant used.

Its foliage, known as Cilantro, is used fresh in a number of culinary delights. When the plant goes to seed, known as Coriander, it can be used in that stage as well, eaten whole, crushed or powdered.

I liken cilantro to being the "marigold" of the herb world. Either you love the smell/taste of it or you hate it.

I, for one, immensely dislike it and if given the chance to pick it out of my salsa I will certainly do it! Even in a restaurant.

I found it interesting to learn that some people possess a genetically predisposed aversion to it, according to studies by Charles J. Wysocki of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. To me it has a bitter taste that I have a hard time describing beyond that. Dirty? Soil-like?

Most people that do dislike it have a similar lack of descriptive ability; they just can't put their finger on it, but they don't like the taste...or the smell of it. It's funny that when my oldest daughter received her Ancestry DNA results, she was shown not to possess the genetic aversion. Well, she didn't get that from me.

Cilantro is often used in salsa and other Mexican, Asian and Italian dishes including curries, sauces, salads and soups. If you prefer to grow the plant more for its greens and less for its seeds, manage it as you would spinach.

Sow seeds in the ground in the cool of the season and in succession every two weeks. It dislikes being transplanted but doesn't mind

Harvest greens rather aggressively – about one-third of the plant at a time. Just like spinach, there are slow-to-bolt varieties to choose from such as aptly named "Slow Bolt" and "Longstanding". Cilantro's flowers are edi-

ble, and they attract lots of beneficial insects such as lady beetles, parasitic wasps and syrphid flies.

Coriander seeds, on the other hand, have a pleasant (at least to me) fragrance once dried. The scent is easier to pin-point too; nutty and spicy (ever so slightly) come to mind.

Coriander seed is also well known in various ethnic cuisines and is a favorite in spice blends, curry being the most popular. It is also used in the making of a number of distilled spirits, herbal liqueurs and Christmas cookies as I have come to find out and favor!

The Herb Society noted that during World War II coriander seeds were coated in white or pink sugar and thrown from carnival wagons, earning the name "confections" or "confetti." When the seeds were replaced by balls of colored paper the name confetti stuck.

Take this one to your next game of Cruise Ship Trivia!

It is easy to harvest the seeds. Simply let the heads dry to brown right on the plant. Clip them and place inside a paper bag; as they dry further, they will open, and the seeds will pop out.

Even if you are only interested in harvesting the seeds, multiple plantings (or a big garden patch) are necessary to get a decent-sized harvest. Let a few drop their seeds and you will be blessed with a few self-sown plants next spring.

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.

Ware River News



EDITOR Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES Dan Flynn



SPORTS EDITOR Greg Scibell



STAFF WRITER Rvan Drago rdrago@turley.com

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PATRICK H. TURLEY

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DEANNA SLOAT



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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest col-umn 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.

But your current earnings from working full time will likely affect your eligibility to collect Social Security benefits at this time, so waiting until your full retirement age to claim may be your best choice. If you will only slightly exceed the annu-

al earnings limit you can consider claiming earlier, as long as you are comfortable with receiving a permanently reduced amount, and the prospect of not getting benefits for a number of months if you exceed the earnings limit, the number of months you will go without benefits depends on how much you exceed the

Whenever you decide to claim Social

Security, you will be automatically deemed to

be filing for benefits from your ex-husband as

well (you shouldn't need to apply separately).

You've already satisfied the basic criteria of at

least 10 years married to get benefits from an

ex-spouse and, if you satisfy the above criteria

as well, you will be entitled to a spousal boost

when you claim.

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

familiar herb

cookie-making marathon.

terday and then I began to feel a little funny.

the second is a coriander cookie – one of my all-time favorites. It must have been a favorite to a few other folks along the line because the recipe dates back to the early 19th century!

versatile plant.

LETTER Air traffic controller shortage & holiday travel... TO THE EDITOR

Resident appreciates Christmas tradition, acts of kindness

Dear Editor,

I wish to extend my appreciation, as a lifelong resident, to the many volunteers responsible for making sure that Santa visited the

This annual activity, at this time in my life, means more than they can possibly know. Just as they went back and forth in front of my home a neighbor was replenishing my woodpile, another act of kindness.

I also wish to acknowledge all that John Lizak did for his bus drivers and their families recently. I am remembering how his father, Ed and his uncle, Jimmy supported athletics and other community efforts over the years.

Seeing the Lizak school buses go by each day is something I look forward to. Season's

Margaret "Peg" Gorman





I'm 65 and working; can I collect ex-spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty:

I turned 65 earlier this year and I still work full time.

I was divorced four years ago after 38 years of marriage, but my ex-husband has been collecting Social Security for at least 10 years now. Can I start collecting Social Security and still work full time? And can I collect my ex-husband's amount if it is more than mine and what is the best way to achieve this? When I went to my local SSA office, they said they had no way of knowing that.

Signed: Working Divorcee

Dear Working Divorcee:

Although you are eligible to claim Social Security at age 65, because you are working full time you may wish to wait a bit longer to do so. That's because Social Security has an "earnings test" which applies to anyone who collects benefits before Full Retirement Age and you have not yet reached yours.

The earnings test imposes a limit on how much you can earn before SS takes away some of your benefits. If you exceed the annual earnings limit (\$22,320 for 2024), Social Security will want back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit and you will

need to repay that, usually by having future benefits withheld. If you significantly exceed the limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 8 months.

So, if your earnings from working will significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, which changes yearly, it's likely that your wisest move would be to wait longer to claim your Social Security. As a bonus for doing so, your monthly payment will have grown and will be higher when you claim later. The earnings test no longer applies after you reach

Regarding benefits from your ex-husband, you cannot collect his instead of yours. What you may be able to do, when you claim your own benefit, is to get an additional amount, which brings your monthly payment up to 50% of his. In order for that to happen, you would need to satisfy the following criteria: You are not currently married.

The personal benefit you are entitled to at your FRA must be less than 50% of your ex-husband's FRA entitlement.

If the above are true, when you claim your own SS retirement benefit you will also get a "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to what you're entitled to as an ex-spouse. The amount of the spousal boost, if you claim Social Security at your FRA, will be the difference between half of his FRA entitlement and your FRA entitlement. If you claim your benefit before your FRA, not only will your own benefit be reduced for claiming early, but the amount of your spousal boost will also be reduced. Benefits claimed before FRA are always reduced.

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.







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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.

Young Men's Library **Association lists** ongoing programs

WARE - The Young Men's Library Association, 37 Main St., offers regular weekly and monthly programs.

For more information, stop by the library, call 413-967-5491 or visit www.warelibrary.org. Weekly Programs

Drop by Story Stars with Mrs. Desjardins on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. or Story Time and Craft with Miss Cathy on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Take & Make Craft Bags featuring a new craft each week are available in the Children's Room

Monthly Programs

Lego Club is held every Wednesday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Lego Anytime with bags of assorted Legos is available to use in the library anytime.

Kids Bingo is held the last Thursday of the month from 4:30-5:30 p.m., first come, first serve. Music with Caylin is held the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. for ages birth-5.

Saturday Morning Craft is held once per month and dates vary.

St. Aloysius Catholic School lists honor roll

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

Honors

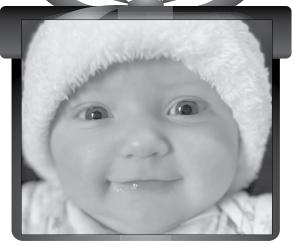
Hannah LaRochelle, Sophia Adams and Christopher Rice.



Raelynn Brown

July 20, 2023

Parents: Ryan & Ashley Brown, Hampden Grandparents: Art & Lynn Anderson, Wilbraham Rick & Joanne Brown, Monson

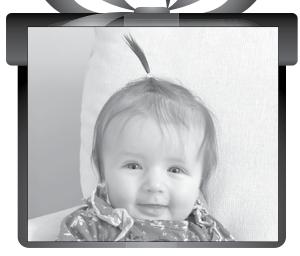


Baby's First Christmas
2023

Avaree Marie Goudreau

September 28, 2023

Parents: Kellyann Kaiser and Ian Goudreau, Ware **Grandparents:** Keith & Kim Goudreau, Ware Donna Dansereau, Spencer **Great Grandparents:** Paul Young, Ware & Terese Grogan, Spencer



Ava Lucille Begin

August 2, 2023

Parents: Mark & Monica Begin, Ware **Grandparents:** Mike & Kristine Dougan, Hardwick Cheryl (Begin) & Gary Posson, East Brookfield Mark & Mandy Begin, Punta Gorda, FL **Great Grandparents:** Elmer & Nancy Grant, Ware Patricia Fuller, Ware Larry & Lucille Begin, Punta Gorda, FL

Ware Junior/Senior High School lists honor roll

High Schol announced the first quarter honor roll for the 2023-2024 school year

Grade 12, High Honors

Ailanni Aponte, Nicholas Bousquet, Kaley Campbell, Madisyn Davis, Mathew Desrosiers, Mia DiRienzo, Haidyn Dyer, Noah Fales, Ethan Hart, Jack McKeever, Joruan Mukiibi, Jacob Richter and Kyle Safford.

Grade 12, Honors

Zoey Bain, Tyler Bonilla, Derek Bouchard, Remy Cahalan, Emily Chagnon, Octavio Cotaj, Kyle Gordon, Brooke Grushey, Dominic Guardino, Jocelyn Guimond, Ava Jeffery, Gavin Kanozek, Ashley LaCoste, Isabella Lee, Jason Malin, Emily McGrail, Kameron Miner, Savannah Mitchell, Talan Molina, John Mumper, Nore Riley, Avaya Sanchez, Tryston Squiers, KayLee St. Cyr, Dylan Sutkaitis, Luke Walker, Angeline Wilcox, Jacob Witt and Ayden Young.

Grade 11, High Honors Mason Beaumier, Michael

Devlin, Joshua Dulak, Chelsea Foley, Kaylee Gardner-Carreau, Justin Grout, Makayla Hernandez Crehan, Taylor Janson, Nathan Kaczuwka, Lillian Knight, Dakota Kularski, Hannah Lang, Nathan Luxon, Owen McKeever, Leah O'Connell, Kayla Obrzut, Philip Orszulak, Olivia Owsiak, Kylee Slattery and Jenna Tucker.

Grade 11, Honors

Lily Bissonnette, Kyla Campbell, Destiny Chemero, Kenyce Crump, William Diaz, Brady Dyer, Skyla Eaton, Nevaeh Fielding, Tory Finocchio, Michael Fountain, Matthew Gambino, Jackson Ghidinelli, Lahnai Giles, Tyson Gordon, Nathan Harmon, Shelby Hogan, Jacob Jalbert, Jayden Kern, Chloe LaGrant, Ami LaPointe, Seaira Maragh, Finn McFaul, Abigale McQuaid, Dominic Montalban,

WARE – Ware Junior/Senior Mia Montalban, Jason Mumper, Messiah Richardson, Caroline Santiago-Cruz, Gavin Sawabi, Alexis Seymour, Godlive Simo Foko and Karysa Smith.

Grade 10, High Honors

Olivia DiRienzo, Troy Dufresne, Jack Gaudreau, Brady Guimond, Maia Lamothe and Sophia Rheaume.

Grade 10, Honors

Isaiah Ancona, Autumn Beauregard, Sean Bernier, Jadrien Berthiaume, Damian Brace, Ryder Cahalan, Emily Clark, Brayden Compton, Ethan Corder, Isabella Cotaj, Sofia Diaz, Philip Dupell, Kyle Kaczuwka, Kaleb Kanozek, Brodie Koczur, Marek Luongo, Shaymus O'Conner, Alex Orszulak, Edrik Ortiz-Cordero, Ella Przypek, Daniel Ramirez, Janasia Roman, Destiny Routhier, Madisyn Slattery, Maeve Stevens and Jonathan Thornton and Aliegha Trombley.

Grade Nine, High Honors

Aaron Bateman, Olivia Beaumier, Andrew Bonilla, Cam Grushey, Emily Jones, Troy Jurczyk, Mila Markham, Reese McKeever, Jacob McNamee, Edgue John Michael Owsiak, and Ohana Haylee Tortora

Grade Nine, Honors

Andrea Albano, Carly Brown, Kahmari Crump, Lillian DeBettencourt, Tru Edwards, Andrew Fox, Tanya Gaskins, Reaghan Jacobs, Charles Knight, Kazmiryr Lagimoniere, Dalton Marquis, Heric Morales, Lucas Schilling, Anabelle Spano and King Stallings

Grade Eight, High Honors

Alyssa Adorno, Sophie Blais, Jadyn-Amy Boulrice, Destiny Diaz, Caeleb DuBois, Carlea Foley, Jackson Haddad, Kaylie Kane, Rosalie Kane, Aaliyah Kemp, Laura Landgren, Ian LaPete, Mason Lee, Kayne Malick Vandale, Alexandra Marceau, Molly McGrail, Catherine Mickna, Logan Millet,

Amelia Orszulak, Adalia Rivera Rolon, Jayden Rodrigues, Alexis Russell, Matthew Skutnik, Deven Stockenberg, Adin Taylor and Landon Williams.

Grade Eight, Honors

Parker Allen, Abigayle Bateman, Phyllis Baxter-Churchill, Chris Angel Berlus, Demitri Bonilla, Aleysha Conde Martinez, Leland Cote, Callie Cygan, Anna Dulak, Gage Elliott, Kenneth Etheridge, Ashelyne Fortin, Aralyn Garcia, Sienna Harper, Ian Hogan, Brennan Johnson, Emanuel Lugo , Jack Mason, Brianna Morales, Jaleea Morales, Colin Pennington, Gage Rasys, Alaina Richter, Devin Roberts, Sofia Roman, Zachary Safford, Brady Sasseville, Ryder Scott, Talon St. George, Nevaeh Tefft, Emma Thibeault, Taylor

Grade Seven, High Honors

Lana Bennington, Gloria Cotaj, Dane Dulak, Madelyn Fandrey, Natalie Ford, Josephine Galeckas, Iris Griffith, Crystal Hong, Gabrielle Kaczuwka, Mason Kalafarski, Edmund Klee, Madison Mitchell, Chloe Moody, Jackson Musnicki, Andrew Rheaume, Andrew Shaw and Roman Viess.

Grade Seven, Honors

Austin Barry, Braiden Bedore , Jason Bessette, Alexa Brefort, Zion Calkins, Michael Caron. Thanishka Cordero. Macie Cournoyer, Frankee Crehan, Joseph Cygan, Finnegan DeMarco, Raiden Drouin

, Austin Hatch, Lucy Hebert, Jennavesia Josephson, Alan Kaser, Abigail Klee, Jackson Krukowski, Raymond Kularski, Jackson Kusnierz, Daisy Laverdiere, Alexandria Mickna, Whyatt Moquin, Claire Murphy, Bentley Parker, Laila Perron, Kamila Santiago, Zoey Wattu, Quentin Wilkins and Adrian Zapata.

OLIVERIA from page 4

seminar in the spring."

Organized by the Senate Office of Education and Civic Engagement, which aims to better educate the public on the functions of the Massachusetts State Legislature. The Citizens Legislative Seminar was initially established in 1976 through a joint effort of the Massachusetts State Senate and the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

The highlight of the two-day program was the simulated legislative hearing and simulated Senate Session held in the Senate Chamber, where participants use what they have learned to actively experience the legislative process.

During the legislative hearing, Senator Brandon Crighton served as the mock chair, and participants debated S2104: An Act to Expand the Bottle, followed by a simulated Senate Session to deliberate the same bill with Senate President

Karen Spilka as the chair.

The simulated legislative debates were spirited but lighthearted. It featured many more smiles and laughs than you would see in an official formal session in the Massachusetts State Senate, but that's the point.

Those interested in participating in the next Citizens Legislative Seminar are encouraged to contact their Senators to apply.

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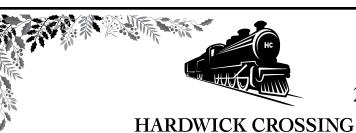


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Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas Emily Jasmin and Lynn Krantz standing together in front of their shop on

The Lost Arts

Friends open art shop to share their passion

> By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer

WARREN - Looking for a gift for a birthday, Christmas, or just a special occasion, look no further than the newest small business to the town, The Lost Arts, LLC.

The small business opened just this past October by friends Lynn Krantz and Emily Jasmin, who found one another through their love of art and a desire to share that passion with the community.

At the front of the business is an adorable little shop of beautiful creations of different local artists that the friends purchase wholesale from. They want to make sure that the local artists can have a platform to show off their beautiful talents to the community.

But they aren't just any old art piec-

"We want to resurrect the 'old' arts- the lost arts, if you will," Krantz explained. "The art of our grandparents."

"We wanted a shop where we both sell things, with room for vendors." Jasmin said about the contents of the store, which contains their own art pieces alongside seven local vendors.

The pair and their love for art has melted into their store, and anyone who enters can feel their passion and excitement for art like a warm hug. Krantz makes the most beautiful cards, and Jasmin's passion is to create beautiful décor pieces and wreaths. Her current favorite is an adorable candy-can shaped wreath that she held a class teaching a group of lovely people how to create it.

"Teaching other people how to cre-



Lynn Krantz proudly held her beautifully done handmade cards.

ate brings me joy," Jasmin said. "We can relax and teach others what we enjoy and seeing their joy makes it worthwhile. We share the same pas-

The shop has a workshop in the back fit with all you need to know and all you'll need to create beautiful pieces of art for your home. They have already had several classes and have even more planned.

Other than the candy cane wreath, they have also done a craft night teaching how to create tiered tray perfect for Christmas décor or elevating any space in your home. Another craft featured tiny ornaments for your tree. The ornaments consisted of little Christmas countdown calendars and many more.

But the friends do not want to stop there with their craft lessons. They have many plans for future craft lessons, and are working on a wood burning class, teaching techniques and designs for wooden spoons, coasters, and more.

Please see **LOST ARTS**, page 11



This house on Crouch Road had a classic Christmas look with red and green lights.



Grade six at Quaboag Regional Middle High School had a creative display of Christmas tree-shaped lights using milk crates, tomato cages and other items for the Warren Parks & Recreation Department's annual Light the Night holiday decorating contest.



INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000



Quaboag Regional Middle High School's grade nine had a

Charlie Brown-themed light display, complete with a "Charlie

Parks and Rec. host annual

holiday decorating contest

set up an individual display for each grade level.

contest entries throughout the town.

WARREN - The Parks and Recreation Department

Students at Quaboag Regional Middle High School

People were able to use the map to visit each decorated house, then vote for their top choices. Light the

Night winners will be listed in next week's Ware River

hosted their annual Light the Night holiday decorating contest this past weekend, with a map highlighting

Grade 10 had winter fun in mind with their s'mores station, tent, skis and hockey stick.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette This light display featured the Grinch and Whoville.

SEE MORE WARREN NEWS ON PAGE 11.

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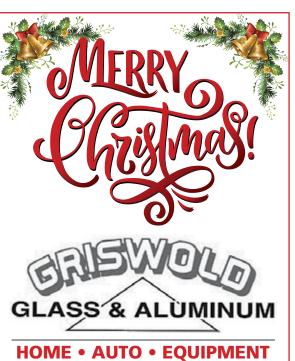


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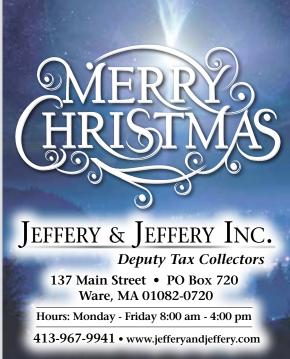


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Deputy Chief and incoming interim Fire Chief Joshua Pease drives the tanker behind Santa Claus



Santa Claus waves to the crowd.

Members of the Ware Fire Department pose with Santa Claus this past Saturday.



Ware Fire Department members acted as Santa's helpers this past Saturday.



Santa Claus waves from the top of Engine 1.



The Grinch waves to children as he passes through



Santa Claus waves goodbye as he continues on his way.



The Ware Fire Department helped Santa deliver gifts to dozens and dozens of children all over the town.



Jax eagerly waits to see the firetrucks roll by.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette Santa Claus receives a hug from a fan.



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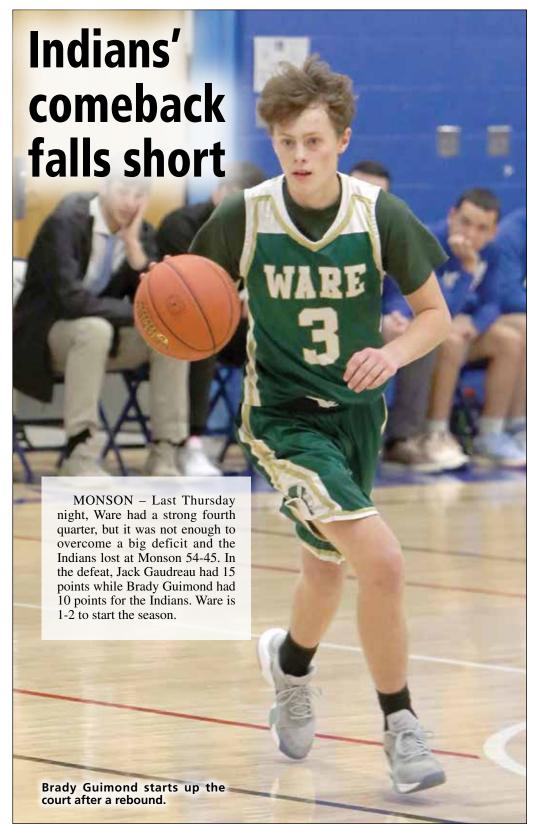
www.sports.turley.com



Benjamin Torres extends and goes for a shot.



Justin Grout shoots with an opponent trying to block.





Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com John Mumper takes a shot.



Gavin Kanozek eyes the offensive end of the court looking to make a pass.

Pioneers offense too much for Lions

PALMER - Last Friday night, Pathfinder boys basketball prevailed over visiting Ludlow 70-48. One of the big keys was a big second quarter for Pathfinder as well as great defense by the Pioneers in the final frame holding the Lions to just four points. Pathfinder was led by Hunter Griswold with 22 points followed by Richie Gula with 20 points. Seth Mitchell added 10 points for the Pioneers. While Ludlow got points from eight different players, it was not enough to combat Pathfinder's high scorers. Stephen Goodreau had 13 points to lead the Lions.



Hunter Griswold takes a shot under pressure.



Adrien Moskowvitz pushes a





Turley photos by David Henry Seth Mitchell goes for a midrange shot.

Panthers' offense coasts to second straight win

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

BARRE—The Quabbin girls' varsity basketball team won the first two games of the regular season at home. They also held each opponent to fewer than ten points, which is something that doesn't happen very often at the varsity level.

Quabbin began the 2023-24 season with a 59-8 non-league home win against Worcester Tech on December 11. Two nights later, the Lady Panthers coasted to a 51-9 victory over the Narragansett Warriors in another non-league home contest.

Evan Barringer, who's the Lady Panthers head coach, was very happy with his team performance in the two home games, but he knows his team will be playing some very challenging games down the road.



Turley photo by Ray Duffy Hannah Baxter grabs the rebound.

"We do play in one of the toughest girls' basketball leagues in Central Mass and we're going to be playing some challenging games," Barringer said. "We lost our season opening game on the road the past two years, so it feels nice to win our first two home games of this season. We just need to keep improving in every game that we play."

The Lady Panthers, who have qualified for the Division 3 state tournament the past two years, are members of the Mid-Wach C League. They were scheduled to play their first league game at Hudson High School, who are the defending Central Mass. Athletic Directors Association's (CMADA) Class B champions, last Friday night.

"We're going to have a massive test at Hudson on Friday night," Barringer said. "They're the defending Central Mass. Class B champions and they're also the team to beat in our division this year. We're looking forward to playing them. Facing the quality teams in our league will also help improve our power rankings for the state tournament."

While the Lady Panthers scored more than 50 points in their first two games, they also played very well defensively.

"This is by far the best defensive team that we've had since I've been coaching here," Barringer added. "We made it very difficult on a very good Narragansett team in tonight's game. We put a lot of pressure on them, especially during the first quarter. We raced out to an early 9-0 lead, and we never stopped after that.'

One of the Lady Panthers key defensive players is junior Brooke Austin.

"Brooke Austin is the first player off the bench and she's

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 11



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com Tory Finoccio drives towards the paint as she brushes off the defense.

evening to stop its win streak. The Indians were scheduled to face Granby earlier this week and host Pioneer Valley on Friday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m.



Shelby Hogan focuses in on the Finn McFaul throws in a bank board as she delivers this shot.



WARE - Last Tuesday night, Ware girls basketball

season opener, but would lose to Southwick last Friday

Emily McGrail is unfazed with this defensive canopy as she zeroes in on the net.



William Burke goes quickly for a pin at 138 pounds.

Pioneers place sixth in tournament

HOLYOKE - Last Saturday, Pathfinder wrestling had an excellent day at the Knight-Hawk Classic at Holyoke High School. The Pioneers had and individual champion as well as three runners-up in the event. The Pioneers finished sixth overall with 120 points. William Burke won his bracket at 138 pounds and Taran Prak (113), Bruno Medionero (144), and Dominic Jarry (165) all placed second in the tournament.



Dominic Jarry tries to get creative and grab a pin.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Aiden Santiago goes for a takedown.



Francis Meade goes for a leg takedown in a 175-

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department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our weekly basis. Please follow and account by searching "tur- share with your friends and loved

Turley Publications sports ture samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a leysports." We will regularly fea- ones. We will be featuring photos

from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

T-Birds suffer 1-0 shutout against Bears

Springfield Thunderbirds (14-9-2-0) could not solve the top-ranked defense in the AHL, as the Hershey Bears (22-6-0-0) skated off with a

narrow 1-0 triumph on Sunday inside Giant Center. The battle

of the Eastern Conference's two best defensive teams lived up

to that billing in the opening 20 minutes, as neither Springfield's Malcolm Subban nor Hershey's Hunter Shepard showed nerves in their goal crease. Subban had a trio of high-danger denials off odd-man rushes, including a right-pad kick out on a Jimmy Huntington breakaway. Shepard had his own sterling saves, including a point-blank snapper from Keean Washkurak.

The biggest fireworks of the

HERSHEY, PA - The period came in the form of mitts dropping between former T-Bird Dylan McIlrath and Sam Bitten

less than four minutes into the action. The early scrap between two of the toughest customers in the AHL added a big boost to both

benches but ulti-

mately did not

lead to either team cracking into the scoresheet in the first 20 minutes.

As difficult as it was for the teams to establish in the first, it became even more difficult in a second period that saw only seven combined shots between the two teams, with Subban stopping four Hershey attempts and Shepard blocking three Springfield offerings, forcing the scoreless draw into a final period.

The game gave every indica-

tion that the first goal would be pivotal, and at 5:31 of the third, Pierrick Dube finally got on the board for the Bears, blasting a slapper that glanced off Subban's left shoulder and squeaked across the line just moments before a T-Birds defender could get to the goal line to save it.

The winger's 14th of the season proved to be the only tally, as Springfield could not dent Shepard the rest of the way. Former Bear Jakub Vrana had perhaps the best chance to tie the game on a one-timer from the right circle, but Shepard slid from right to left to deny the chance, and Springfield succumbed to their first shutout defeat of the season.

The two teams will have a grudge match on Friday night inside the MassMutual Center as the T-Birds begin a seven-game homestand. Puck drop on Friday is set for 7:05 p.m. for another Deuces Wild Friday.

Shenette declares for modifieds tour

WORCESTER - Driving the finished 12th. He also compet-No. 8, John-Michael Shenette will chase the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Rookie of the Year honors in 2024. When the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour begins a 16-race schedule in February at New Smyrna Speedway in Florida, Shenette plans to be in attendance. It will be the first race in his quest to compete in a majority of the races on the schedule to chase the prestigious award.

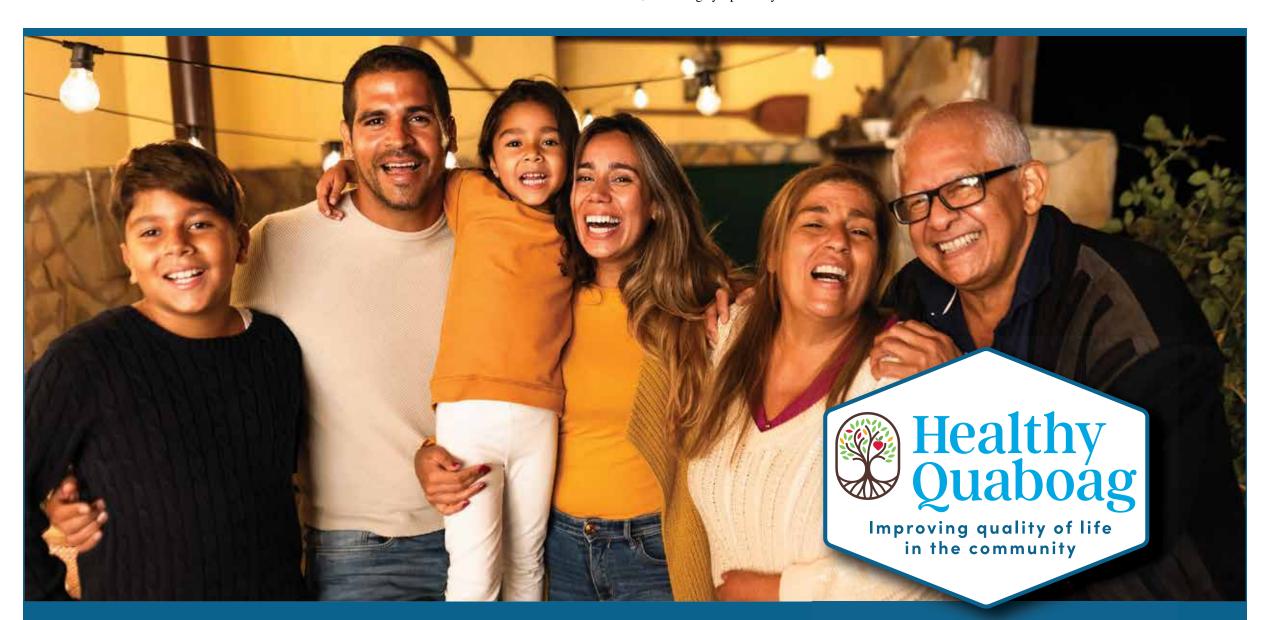
Formerly based in Thompson, Connecticut, Shenette is the CEO of Eighty-Two Services, a General Contractor located in Concord, North Carolina. The team, Eighty-Two Autosport, will also contest additional SMART Modified Tour and Open Modified events when available in 2024.

Shenette made his debut on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Langley Speedway in 2023 and ed in events at North-Wilkesboro Speedway and Martinsville Speedway prior to the end of the

"We're excited for 2024," John-Michael Shenette said. "Last year was about putting a car on the track. We struggled with a mechanical issue that plagued us at all three events and prevented us from logging laps. All-in-all, it was a good year - we were able to build a great group, add a second car and square away all the bits and pieces that it takes to run. The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is the best of the best in modified racing, if not NASCAR as a whole. Our team is ready for the challenge. Chasing the prestigious Rookie of the Year award is on our bucket list, but we're also looking for consistency and to chase our first career win in Modified in 2024."

Shenette was born in Worcester, and started racing at 7-years-old at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park's 'Little T" track in Connecticut. He's raced on and off his entire life - running in the Pro Stocks, Thompson Modifieds, PASS Super Late Models, ARTS Trucks, Karts and now Tour-Type Modifieds 30 years later.

Shenette and his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour team, led by crew chief Scott Morin and car chief Stephen Robinson, will open the 2024 season at New Smyrna Speedway on Saturday, February 10, as NASCAR opens their 76th season of racing. For more information on the team, fans are encouraged to follow the team on Facebook on their new page, Eighty-Two Autosport, for the latest news and information, including race day updates.



This holiday season, protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID & the FLU!

Holiday gatherings are starting up, which means it's time to prevent the spread of germs by getting vaccinated!

The Flu and Covid vaccines are safe and effective for ages six months and older, and can help protect you from serious illness. Healthy Quaboag is here to remind you to take care of yourself and those around you by getting vaccinated ahead of the holiday season, because YOU MATTER! Find vaccines near you at www.healthyquaboag.org/rural-vaccine-equality-initiative-rvei/

Go to $\underline{WWW.healthyquaboag.org} \ \text{to find vaccines near you.}$

TOWNS SERVED BY HEALTHY QUABOAG:

Barre | Belchertown | Brimfield | Brookfield | East Brookfield | Hardwick | Holland | Ludlow | Monson New Braintree | North Brookfield | Palmer | Spencer | Wales | Warre | Warren | West Brookfield | Wilbraham





Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER - The Commercial Elks League had another week of bowling before their holiday party.

The standings as of Dec. 5, Life is Good still leads in the #1 spot with nine wins, two losses and one tie. Tied for second place is The Champs R Here and Acres with each time carrying a 9-3 record.

Team BK has a record of 6-6. Last in Line has a record of 5-6 and 1 tie. The winner of round 1 Compression is 5-7. Blue B's has a record of 3-9.

The two teams tied for second place Acres and Champs R Here bowled each other on Dec. 12. In game one, The Champs won against Acres by a score 413-384. John Colkos of Champs R Here started off strong with a 114 game. Taylor Colkos started off with 109 and Steve Manolakis bowled 101.

In game two, Acres won the game 386-372. Paul Tereso and Dave Cobleigh of Acres were over their average and scored 103 and 100 in game two. In game three, Acres won 436-379. Kenny Trudel of Acres finished the night with a 109 game. Matt Bertelli had a strong finish by bowling a 117. Topping his own teammate's score, Dave Cobleigh finished with a 121 game.

Acres won total pinfall with a final score of 1206-1164.

The number one seed Life is Good bowled against Compression. In game one, Life is Good won by a score of 358-327. In game two, Life is Good and Compression tied at 341. In game three, Compression won over Life is Good 373-329.

Compression won total pinfall by a final score of 1041-1028.

Last in Line bowled against Team BK for the night. In game one, BK was victorious over Last in Line 384-352. Pulling for the team was Jeff Whyte and Paul Nothe by scoring 112 and 107. In game two, BK remained strong and won 388-358. Nothe stayed consistent by remaining in the 100s with a 108 in game two.

In game three, Team BK won the last game 369-360. Team BK won all three games and total pinfall with a final score of 1141-

The Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League will be hosting a holiday party and banquet the following Tuesday night. The league will have a fun night of bowling by hosting a random draw doubles tournament.

Thursday Night Mixed League

The Thursday Night Mixed League at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes continued with the holidays right around the corner.

Team Five bowled against Team Three on lanes four and five. In game one, Team Three won by a score of 382-370. In game two, Team Three won again by a score of 419-384.

In game three, Team Five won the last game by a score of 419-382. Team Three won total pinfall by a final score of 1183-1173.

On lanes six and seven, Team Six bowled against Team Two. In game one, Team Two won a close game against Team Six 383-380. In game two, Team Six defeated Team Two 440-403. In game three, Team Two won the last game 401-389.

Team Six won total pinfall with a final score of 1209-1187.

On lanes two and three was a match between Team One and Team Four. In game one, Team One was victorious over Team Four 385-371. Kris Rickson of Team One started off the night with a 108 game. In game two, it was close all game but Team One wins another by a score of 427-425. Rickson bowled 120 in game two.

In game three, Team Four won the last game 437-401. Nick Maslon of Team Four finished with a 102. Rickson finished the night with a 115 and three game series of 343.

Teams Four, with a big win in the third game won total pinfall by a final score of 1233-1213.

Visit Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes at 1446 N. Main St. The Alley can be reached by calling 413-289-0013.

Glen P. Moulton, 73

WARE - Glen Peter Moulton passed away at his home on Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, surrounded by his loving family, at the age of 73.

Glen was born in Ware on Sept. 19,

1950, son of the late Charles A. Moulton Jr. and Bella T. (Morin) Moulton. He was raised in Ware and graduated from Ware High School in 1968.

Glen enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1969 and was stationed at Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee. He was a well-known and well respected real estate broker for Century 21.

Glen was known for his ever present smile, quick wit and infectious laugh. He was the life of the party.

Glen loved the game of golf and was a longtime member of Dunroamin Golf Course and Ludlow Country Club and was employed at both golf courses. He was a jack of all trades, from electrical to plumbing to carpentry. He loved tinkering in his garage and working in his yard.

Glen looked forward to his annual family hunting trips to the Moulton Camp in Maine. He loved his annual trips to Ogunquit with Kay and watching the classic westerns.

Glen loved and followed the Boston sports teams, especially the Bruins. He was a member of the Ware Knights of Columbus, Weir River Club, Aspen Street Rod & Gun Club and the former Gabe's Club.

Glen leaves behind his devoted wife, Mary Kathleen "Kay" (Lawrence) Moulton, sons; Garrett Moulton and his wife Amanda, Jonathan Moulton and

Death notice

Moulton, Glen Peter Died Dec. 15, 2023 Services Dec. 23, 2023

his wife Olivia, and his daughter Erica Moulton. Glen also leaves behind his stepchildren, Anthony Shimansky who was Glen's caregiver, Amy Veneman and her husband Joseph, Nathan Shimansky and his wife Claire, and Sean Shimansky and his wife Emily.

Glen will be remembered by his grandchildren who called him "Tito" and "Pepere": Scarlett, Grayson, Isabella, Genevieve and Vivian Moulton. His step-grandchildren: Grant and his wife Bethany and Megan Veneman, Kevin, Kathleen, Charlotte and William Shimansky.

Glen leaves behind his siblings; Gary Moulton and his wife Lorna, Jeff Moulton and his wife Carol, Eric Moulton and his wife Alice, Robbie Moulton, Cheryl Dowell and Cynthia St. George and her husband Roy.

Glen's family would like to thank the wonderful and caring nurses and staff of Baystate Hospice, especially Darlene, Donna and Peter.

Calling Hours for Glen will take place on Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, from 5-8 p.m. in the Cebula Funeral Home Chapel, 66 South St., Ware. A Funeral Mass will be offered for Glen on Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023, at 11 a.m. in All Saints Church, 17 North St., Ware, everyone will meet directly at the church. Burial will follow in Mount Carmel Cemetery in Ware.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to T 2 T and Kidney Cancer Research at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www. cebulafuneralhome.com.

Ware River News **OBITUARY** POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



Planning Board OKs withdrawal of special permit

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WARREN - The Warren Planning Board met on Dec. 11 for their final meeting in the year of 2023.

On the agenda was a review to request a withdrawal without prejudice from Architectural Insights special permit. The board made a motion to approve the withdrawal and the motion passed.

The planning board had to schedule a site visit to Agilitas and their worksite on Bemis Road in Warren near the town line of West Brookfield. After going over a series of dates, the planning board agreed to a site visit on Friday, Dec. 22.

During their public comments and concerns discussion, the Planning Board went over maps and blueprints of approval not required projects currently going on in Warren and West Warren. The Planning Board had an in-person visitor during their meeting with maps and additional notes for an ANR plan on Dean Street in West Warren.

The Planning Board accepted the ANR for Jonathan Burke for 51 and 57 Dean St. in West Warren. An ANR is the division of land into lots with frontage on existing roads, public or private.

The next Warren Planning Board meeting will take place on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

STURBRIDGE - The Piché family entered their gingerbread house "Hangar 7 - Westover ARB" in the family/group category (entry number 15) at Old Sturbridge Village during Christmas by Candlelight.

LOST ARTS from page 6

They also hope to create more opportunities for makeand-take crafts for the community, as well as opening up to other art teachers coming to teach classes in the classroom.

Jasmin and Krantz also hope to introduce children's classes in the near future and are looking to send out surveys for interest on their Facebook and website (www.thelostartsma.com). Keep a look out on their pages and calendars for the many upcoming craft workshops and more.

"I'm really hoping we can inspire the community," Krantz said. "The community has been amazing to us."

It is important to both Krantz and Jasmin that they can reach the community. Their love for the town of Warren is prominent in all they do and what they want to share with their studio. "A lot of people want

to support local, and we are close, so people can get something beautiful and unique," Jasmin said. The Lost Arts, LLC is

a place where creativity can bloom, and people can discover their artistic talents.

"Anyone can be an artist," Jasmin said.

"I'm living my dream," Krantz said.

The friends are open and ready for more customers and eager people learning to unleash their inner artist and flourish in creativity as they meet these two women and

feel their warmth and passion

for their crafts.

PANTHERS from page 9

becoming a defensive force for us," Barringer said. "Her defense has been inspiring and it's been awesome to see. We also want her to rebound the ball. She's a very good athlete."

Austin, who's one of the six returning varsity basketball players, was the first-year goalkeeper for the Lady Panthers soccer team this past fall.

Four Quabbin players reached double figures in the season opening victory against Worcester Tech.

Senior Briana Whitelaw, who's a three-point threat, led the way with 15 points. Freshman Abigail Rogowski, who's a three-sport varsity athlete, and sophomore Mia Ducos each scored 11 points, while senior Meg Doyle checked in with 10 points.

Ducos, who joined the varsity squad as an eighth grader, is the point guard and she runs the show offensively.

"Mia is a very good passer and she's been making very good decisions as our point guard so far this season," Barringer said. "None of the players really care how many points they score in a game. They just want to keep winning."

Ducos scored five of her seven points against

Narragansett during the first half. The only two Lady Panthers players to score ten or more points against the Warriors were senior Hannah Baxter and Doyle, who's a fourth year varsity basketball player. The duo each finished with a game-high of 13 points.

Baxter, who's a center, scored a career-high 18 points



Leanna Leger drives the baseline on her way to the hoop.

at Clinton last year. She made five inside field goals against Narragansett (0-2).

"Hannah was the most improved player on our basketball team last year," Barringer said. "She's continuing this season where she left off. It's been a lot of fun to watch her improve as a basketball player."

Doyle, who's a guard, is another fun player to watch play for Quabbin. She scored most of her points on fastbreak lay-ups following steals.

"Meg is one of the best athletes that I've seen in the 23 years that I've been teaching and

coaching at Quabbin," Barringer said. "She's also a very good softball player."

The trio of Rogowski, Whitelaw, and senior Riley Bassett scored five points apiece in the Lady Panthers second home victory of the regular sea-

All four of the Quabbin seniors are captains.

Rounding out the varsity roster are junior's Maykayla Kingsbury, Ana Dunn, and Leanne Leger, who did an outstanding job of singing the National Anthem.

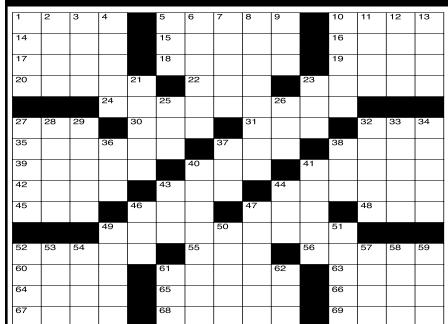
"Leanne has sung the



Turley photos by Ray Duffy Mag Doyle gets the layup after a steal.

National Anthem at our two home games, and she just did a spectacular job," Barringer said. "It's what high school sports is all about. We're a fun team to watch play and it should be a very exciting season. I just love coaching this year's team."

The Lady Panthers were scheduled to host league rival Clinton on Tuesday night. Their next home game will be against Oakmont Regional on December 27.



1. Droops 5. Subatomic particle 44. Cotton fabric woven 10. Not in danger 14. Nursemaid 15. Black band worn in

mourning 16. Long song in opera 17. Edible seed of a Philippine tree 18. Chicago political

CLUES ACROSS

family 19. Pursues pleasure from one place to another 20. Appetizer

22. Hill (Celtic) 23. Simple shoe 24. Songs to one you love 27. Secret activities 30. Upset 31. Popular hot drink

32. Body art (slang) 35. Fired 37. Blood relation 38. Identical 39. Porticos

40. Partner to cheese 41. Type of sword

42. Enough (archaic) 43. Surface layer of ground

like satin 45. Choose for a post 46. Father 47. Tell on 48. Indian title of respect 49. Fonts

> 55. Mock 56. Vaccine developer 60. Atmosphere surrounding a person 61. Marten with a short

52. Fencing sword

63. Chinese temple 64. Invests in little enterprises 65. Popular cut of meat 66. Charity

67. Iron-containing compound 68. River in Northern Europe

69. One point east of

southeast

CLUES DOWN 1. Exhausts 2. Genus of fish related

to gars 3. Impudent behavior 4. Adherents to Islam 5. They come after A Spoke 7. Room to receive

guests 8. About opera 9. End-blown flute 10. Heroic tales 11. Member of a Semitic

people 12. Dog's name 13. Opposite of west 21. Political divisions in ancient Greece

23. Ocean 25. Cool! 26. Young woman about to enter society

cream

27. One from central Caucasus 28. Indian city 29. A way to serve ice

of pens 51. Semitic Sun god 52. Grads wear one 53. French river 54. Part of a cap 57. Digestive fluid 58. Metrical foot

32. Emaciation

34. Italian city

Kansas

37. Unhappy

41. Satisfies

47. Shirt type

49. Discover by

investigation

50. -Castell, makers

33. Escort aircraft carrier

36. Mythical settler of

38. High schoolers' test

40. Measured in pace

43. Gullible person

44. Enclosed space

46. Substance used to

color something

59. Body part 62. Supplement with

61. Very fast airplane difficulty

public safety

Police identify deceased male pulled from river

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Ware Police officers responded to a report of a deceased person in the Ware River off East Main Street Monday morning, around 7 a.m.

According to Police Chief Shawn Crevier, the deceased person was identified as Stephen A. Milanovich, age 45. Milanovich's last known address was 28 Burton St., Chicopee and his next of kin have been notified.

Crevier said the Medical Examiner's Office is conducting an autopsy, and at this point in the investigation, drowning is suspected to be the cause of death.

Crevier said no foul play is sus-

Milanovich's death remains under investigation by the Ware Police Department's detective unit, Massachusetts State Police and Northwestern District Attorney's Office.

According to the Ware Police Department's call logs, officers responded to a motor vehicle accident call at 3:29 a.m. that same morning, in the area where Milanovich's body was later recovered.

Crevier said a damaged vehicle was located in the mill yard, but there were no occupants in it when officers responded. He credited the Holyoke Police Department with helping to identify the vehicle's owner.

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-

Saturday, Dec. 16

Crash, Palmer Road, Patient

Crash, West Street, Services

Sunday, Dec. 17

Belchertown Road, Advised

3:34 p.m. Miscellaneous, Old

Summons: Jodi L. Dufresne,

Summons: Kendrick J. Rozicer,

5 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash,

8:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle

Summons: Yadira Forbes, 37,

Number Plate Violation to

Conceal ID; Unlicensed Operation

of Motor Vehicle; Registration

Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle

With; Uninsured Motor Vehicle;

Stop, Church Street, Criminal

1:52 p.m. Traffic Incident/

3:17 p.m. Traffic Incident/

'The Old Woman's Cat'

Author publishes children's book about adventurous cat

By Paula Ouimette

pouimette@turley.com

BARRE - Ever since she was a child, Alice Lesak has had a love for animals, and from the day she was born, her house has always had at least a dog or cat in it.

She has also always had a love for writing and storytelling, often joining together with her best friend in grade school to pen a number of tales.

"I have written stories since I was a little girl," Lesak said.

Lesak has recently published her book, "The Old Woman's Cat", a children's book based on the adventures of her cat, Jake, and his animals friends.

Lesak got Jake and his brother Jet as kittens after the passing of her 20 year old cat. The nearly identical brothers will be turning 7 years old on New Year's Day.

"They were going to be housecats," Lesak said of Jake and Jet. "But they were probably 3 months old when they figured out the dog

One day, Lesak was informed by her neighbor that her large black cat, Jake, was outside playing with a baby fox. She wrote to one of her friends about the strange budding friendship between Jake and the fox, and her friend encouraged her to make this the subject of a book.

"I took an afternoon to write it," Lesak said of the book, which was then illustrated by Stephanie Koller. Lesak is already thinking about writing her next book.

Jake and Jet are joined by Lesak's dogs, Katie and Max. Together, the group enjoys walks around Lesak's quiet neighbor-

"These cats have been walking with us for four or five years,' Lesak said It was during one of these

walks this past spring that Lesak witnessed firsthand Jake's interactions with the fox. "Jake ran into the woods one

day, I heard yowling," she said. "Jake came out after the fox all fluffed up, chasing the fox." Lesak said a lot of "The Old

Woman's Cat" is fictional, but a few of the events that transpire in the book were inspired by things Jake actually did.

While this is her first published book, it is the second book she's

looking outside from the comfort of his warm home.

written, with the first still in the process of being illustrated. That book was inspired by her friend who lives on a nearby farm and has a house cat and a barn cat.

"I wondered if they ever talked," Lesak said of her friend's cats. "Would they ever want to trade plac-

Lesak herself thought about what it would be like to live a different life from the one she was living, and she has never shied away from taking chances and trying something new.

By the time she was 26, Lesak had become a minister, but she

at their peak and Lesak decided she would follow in filmmaker George Lucas' footsteps and attend the University of Southern California. There she earned her master's degree in professional writing.

Having mostly worked on her home state of Pennsylvania.

"I wanted to move back here," Lesak said of the east coast. She sent letter after letter seeking work, but never got a response

At this time, she was working for the Los Angeles County Bar Association, handling complaints filed against attorneys. In the heart of south central during the Rodney King riots, Lesak remembers seeing helicopters flying around while people in the community struggled with the violence and chaos of the time.

'The morning when it started, I looked out the window and saw a boy holding pieces of ashes in his hand...my mother went out and hugged him," Lesak said. "At that point, we decided to move.'

Having just officiated a funeral service for her colleague's life partner, Lesak realized a cross-country move would be ier through the church.

"By then I'm 36, still ordained," Lesak said,

> Lesak began applying to churches located within a circle on map she drew between Worcester and Springfield. A church located within that circle received her application and reached

"I got a call from t h e Tri-Parish Community

Church, right there, dead center in my circle I drew," Lesak said.

Lesak started her 12-year journey with Tri-Parish Community Church on Veterans Day of 1992.

"Massachusetts is home," Lesak said. "Being here in the woods, the Swift River is just a mile down the road...I'm done, I'm happy.'

While leading the congregation at Tri-Parish Community Church, Lesak also worked on her therapy degree, eventually working for Valley Human Services, where she enjoyed connecting with people in the community until her retirement.

Now, when she isn't writing books, Lesak is enjoying her time with Jake, Jet, Katie and Max, and traveling with them by camper to her home state to visit with her brother.

"You are not alone when you're with animals," Lesak said. This is the happiest time of my

"The Old Woman's Cat" can be purchased through Amazon or Barnes and Noble. Make sure to

search for both the title and "By Alice Lesak," or "Illustrated by

Ware Police Log

During the week of Dec. 11-19, the Ware Police Department responded to 17 miscellaneous calls, 26 administrative calls, 21 traffic violations, 14 emergency 911 calls, three animal calls, three harassments, three thefts/larcenies, two structure fires, 16 motor vehicle accidents, one fraud/ deception and 33 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Monday, Dec. 11

10:35 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Juniper Hill Road, Report

11:22 a.m. Structure Fire, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered

12:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Storrs Street, Dispatch

4:43 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Fisherdick Road, Assist

8:32 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Church Street, Services Rendered 9:14 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Babcock Tavern Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Dec. 12

2:44 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Mattson Boulevard, Citation/ Warning Issued

3:53 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Oak Ridge Circle, Citation/Warning

4:10 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Eddy Street, Citation/Warning

7:48 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Babcock Tavern Road, Services Rendered

11:46 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Gould Road, Advised 4:11 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Investigated

7:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning

8:52 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Dec. 13

8:20 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Report Made 10:58 a.m. Traffic Incident/

Crash, Robbins Road, Services Rendered 12:41 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/

Threat, Hillside Village, Advised 7:23 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, Oak Ridge Circle, Services Rendered

Thursday, Dec. 14

Crash, North Street, Services Rendered

12:27 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Main Street, Services

5:21 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Main Street, Services

5:52 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Patient Refusal 6:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Friday, Dec. 15

10:30 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, Monson Turnpike Road, Services Rendered

2:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Refusal

Rendered

53, Belchertown

46, Chicopee

Trash, Litter

Trash, Litter

Complaint Request

Bloomfield, Connecticut

Number Plate Violation

Main Street, Report Made

12:25 p.m. Traffic Incident/

Rendered

5:26 p.m. Structure Fire, Cummings Road, Investigated

Monday, Dec. 18 3:29 a.m. Traffic Incident/

Crash, East Main Street, Services Rendered 6:46 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Otis

Avenue, Services Rendered 6:59 a.m. Deceased Person. East Main Street, Report Made 4:44 p.m. Theft/Larceny, We

Street, Report Made 6:10 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

During the week of Nov. 26-Dec. 2, the Warren Police Department responded to 262 building/property checks, 68 community policing, 18 traffic enforcements, seven radar assignments, 15 emergencv 911 calls, one threat, one vandalism, one illegal dumping, one property damage, one complaint, one larceny/theft, one motor vehicle accident, one motor vehicle pursuit, one brush/wildland fire, two animal calls and 34 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Nov. 26

7:14 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Monday, Nov. 27

8:29 a.m. Threats, Chapel Street, Officer Took Call 12:29 p.m. Property Damage,

Moore Avenue, Report Filed 4:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Summons: Ediberto Ortiz, 26, Springfield Unlicensed Operation of Motor

7:43 p.m. Suspicious Activity,

Reed Street, Report Filed 8:59 p.m. Infection, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Nov. 28

12:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

12:57 a.m. Bylaw Violation, Moore Avenue, Written Warning 12:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Prisoner Bailed

Arrest; James W. Hasselman Jr.,

35, Palmer License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense; Marked Lanes Violation;

Stop for Police, Fail

8:54 am. Vandalism, School Street, Report Filed 9:08 a.m. Traffic Safety,

Southbridge Road, Report Filed

1:55 p.m. Pandemic, Brimfield Road, Mutual Aid 3:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 6:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Pursuit, Old West Warren Road, Arrest(s)

Arrest: Bismark J. Abban, 26, License Suspended, Operate

Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent

Offense; Stop for Police, Fail;

Number Plate Violation

Wednesday, Nov. 29

6:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

6:50 a.m. Vomiting, Spring Street, Transported to Hospital 9:07 a.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to

1:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

1:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Written Warning 2:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

5:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued 7:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 9:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

11:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning Thursday, Nov. 30

1:19 a.m. Bylaw Violation, North Street, Citation Issued 7:54 a.m. Falls, Cottage Street,

Transported to Hospital 10 a.m. Brush and Wildland

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.

Fires, Main Street, Fire

Extinguished 11:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Southbridge Road,

Report Filed 1:03 p.m. Illegal Dumping, East Road, Investigated

2:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

4:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning 4:56 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Brimfield Road, Officer Spoke to

Reed Street, Written Warning

Friday, Dec. 1

12:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brook Road, Report Filed

5:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning 7:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Written

8:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning 10:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Coy Hill Road, Criminal Complaint

Summons: Bobby M. Grant, 48,

West Warren Uninsured Motor Vehicle

Saturday, Dec. 2 7:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

BOOK REVIEW:

'Of Time and Turtles: Mending the World Shell by Shattered Shell' by Sy Montgomery

By Richard Murphy

Correspondent On Sep. 30, the Southbridge Community Center hosted an evening event of the Turtle Rescue League with featured speaker,

author Sy Montgomery. Montgomery spoke passionately about turtles and their place in the world as well as the role of organizations such as Turtle Rescue

League. It is a subject she knows about as evidenced by the book she wrote that was on sale that evening, "Of Time and Turtles: Mending the World Shell by Shattered Shell". Included in the book were illustra-

tions by artist Matt Patterson. For children, there is "The Book of Turtles" by Montgomery and

also with Patterson's illustrations. Montgomery is a prolific author with titles that suggest an interest in subjects related to the natural world. She may be most known for her book, "The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness". The author was able to connect with this surprisingly intelligent cephalopod.

The cover of "Of Time and Turtles" has a Patterson illustration that speaks to the subtitle of the book, "Mending the World Shell by Shattered Shell". It's a handsome turtle that has what looks like tape holding together its wounded shell.

It is a fair introduction to what is coming in the book, but it is not all that the book is about. The modern world is a diffi-

cult environment for turtles. Doing what they have been doing for millennia in the age of the automobile means crossing roads where even conscientious motorists might crush a terrapin.

There are other environmental

threats to turtles, some evidencing human cruelty. That is a tragedy of the world we live in, but it is not the whole story. Montgomery was in Southbridge on the last day of September and not somewhere else because two town residents have taken on the task of rescuing turtles and have educated themselves and others and have made their town in western central Massachusetts a

regional center of rescue and rehabilitation. Montgomery has even equated it

to a religious shrine. "Last year, we attended a turtle summit, a symposium for turtle rehabilitators, here at the league. We came away stunned as if we'd visited Lourdes," she said.

The description of Turtle Rescue League prior to the quote above read a bit more utilitarian as the author described a headquarters where security measures such as closed-circuit TV are necessary as even sick or injured turtles are valuable on the black market and are subject to abduction.

Compassion is serious business. "Of Time and Turtles" is about many facets of turtles and their existence today, but the story cannot be told without the people who seem to have put heart and soul

into saving and rehabilitating these

animals.

The two women behind the Turtle Rescue League, Alexxia Bell and Natasha Nowick are most featured in the book, though there are others elsewhere.

Montgomery relates how Nowick and Bell became turtle rescuers. On a spring day, headed for a hike, they came across a crushed, mortally wounded turtle. Obviously suffering, it was euthanized by run-

ning over it. Soon, hiking was out and rescu-

ing turtles was in. The two sought to learn from institutions and individuals with knowledge to impart. One of them was Kathy Mitchell of the New York Center for Turtle

Rehabilitation. "Mitchell had herself survived cancer, multiple sclerosis, and then a cancer relapse With a survival prognosis of six months-which turned into a year, and then two, and then five years and counting. She imparted tenacity," Nowick said. "She taught us not to give up."

is a Turtle Rescue League motto. Bell and Nowick are not the whole show when it comes to Turtle Rescue League, but there are others who have found their way

And "Never give up on a Turtle"

such as Michaela Conder. Conder is from far away Kansas and moved to Rhode Island, living with her grandmother and commuting to Turtle Rescue League. Her devotion is evidenced by the quote, "When I look into the eyes of a turtle...It almost feels to me as if the entire universe is held within them. They have so much under-

standing and knowledge." There are others, and Montgomery and Patterson should not be left out as throughout the book they are, heart and hand, part of the team.

Please see **TURTLES**, page 13



The Old Woman's Cat



recently published "The Old Woman's Cat", a delightful children's book detailing the adventures of Jake the cat and friends.

found herself wanting a change. The "Star Wars" films were

screenplays, Lesak always wanted to write books. She also felt a deep longing to leave the city, and return to the countryside, just like

Barre author Alice Lesak has

public notices

Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SPR-2023-02

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Site Plan Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on THURSDAY, January 18, 2023 at 7:05 PM on the application of Palm Coast Capital LLC, for a Major Site Plan 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

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.

PLANNING BOARD Ed Murphy, Chairman 12/21, 12/28/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Hampshire Probate and** Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS23D0138DR Tracvlee S Banks vs. **Domingo Banks-Burgos DIVORCE SUMMONS** BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

Automatic A n Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE

All Papers

Will Deadline

Thursday, Dec. 21

at Noon for

Publication

Notice of Public Hearing Supplemental Probate on for storage, towing Court Rule 411.

> You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Krista Ellis, Esq.

Community Legal Aid **One Monarch Place** Suite 400 Springfield, MA 01144

your answer, if any, on or before 01/22/2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court

WITNESS, Hon. Diana S. Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 12, 2023 Michael J. Carey

Register of Probate 12/21/2023

NOTICE OF CABLE TELEVISION PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that

the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Warren, Massachusetts, as Issuing Authority for a cable television license under M.G.L. c.166A, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 4, 2023, at 6:00p.m. The public hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at 48 High Street, the Shepard Building. The purpose of the public hearing will be to determine whether to issue a cable television license to Comcast. All applications, reports, statements, and license drafts to be considered at the hearing that constitute public records under state law are available for public inspection during regular business hours and for reproduction at a reasonable fee. Members of the public are invited to attend and be heard on the topic: (a) whether the current cable operator is in full compliance with its currently existing cable license; and (b) what are the Town's future community cable-related needs. 12/21, 12/28/2023

TOWN OF WARREN **OPEN ELECTED POSTION**

Town of Warren is accepting letters of interest for a Warren Resident to fill an open elected position on the Warren Housing Authority due to the passing of a board member. This appointment will be valid until the May 2025 Town Election. Letters of interest may be sent to Selectmen@warren-ma.gov or mail it to Selectmen PO Box 609 Warren, MA 01083.

12/14, 12/21/2023

Notice of Sale of **Motor Vehicle** under G.L. c. 255., Section 39A

Notice is here-

by given by REGIN'S REPAIR 19 CHURCH ST GILBERTVILLE, MA 01031. Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on 1/8/2024 at 10:00AM at: Regin's Repair 19 Church St Gilbertville, MA 01031 by private sale, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keeper's lien there-

charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle. Vehicle description: 2016 Nissan Versa

Registration#/State: 4WWG59/MA V_{IN}:

3N1CE2CP8GL391000 Name and address of owner: Sarah J Aiken 97 Summer St. North Brookfield MA

1997 Homemade Trailer Registration#/State: NONE/MA VIN: MATR268040352 Name and address of owner: Scott Mallozzi 470 Main St. Fitchburg MA 01420

By: James M. Regin Dated: 12/15/2023 12/21, 12/28/2023, 01/04/2024

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Darin M. Snow, Sr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Embrace Home Loans, Inc. dated November 1. 2018, recorded at the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13118, Page 103; said mortgage was then assigned to Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency by virtue of an assignment dated January 11, 2023, and recorded in Book 14785, Page 225, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION at 10:00 AM on January 11, 2024, on the mortgaged premises. This property has the address of 123 Glendale Circle, Ware, MA 01082. The entire mortgaged premises, all and singular, the premises as described in said mortgage:

The land together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in Ware, Hampshire, County, Massachusetts shown as Lot 21 on a plan entitled "Subdivision plan for Earl Roy," dated November 28, 1972, made by recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 84, Page 10. Containing (according to the Plan) 15,000 square feet of land, more or less. Together with the right to use all streets and ways shown on the Plan in common with all others having the right to use the same. SUBJECT TO utility easement as set forth in instrument recorded with said Registry in Book 2673, Page 329. SUBJECT TO restrictions as set forth in instrument recorded with said Registry in Book 3082, Page 258. Please see DEED recorded in Book

13118, Page 100. Subject to and with the benefit of easements, reservation, restrictions, and taking of record, if any, insofar as the same are now in force and applicable. In the event of any typographical error set forth herein in the legal description of the premises, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property and all easements, rights, appurtenances, rents, royalties, mineral, oil and gas rights and profits, water rights and stock and all fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this

sale.

Terms of Sale: Said premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, tax sales, tax titles and other municipal liens and water or sewer liens and State or County transfer fees, if any there are, and TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in cashier's or certified check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of the sale as a deposit and the balance in cashier's or certified check will be due in thirty (30) days, at the offices of Doonan, Graves & Longoria, LLC ("DG&L"), time being of the essence. Other terms, if any, to be announced at

the sale. Dated: October 24, 2023 Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency

By its Attorney DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC, 100 Cummings Center, Suite 303C, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 921-2670 www.dgandl.com 57134 (SNOW, SR.) 12/07, 12/14, 12/21/2023

(SEAL) **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS** LAND COURT **DEPARTMENT OF** THE TRIAL COURT **Docket Number:** 23 SM 003439 ORDER OF NOTICE

Sherry A Starrett And to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):

AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, numbered 38 W Main Street, given by Sherry A Starrett to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC., dated February 1, 2019, and recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13193, Page 137, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before **January 15, 2024** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on December 11, 2023. Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 12/21/2023

Hardwick **Planning Board**

Notice of Public Hearing Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board, acting as Special Permit Granting Authority for the Town of Hardwick, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:45PM at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01301.

Pursuant to Hardwick Zoning Bylaw Sections 1.5.2.3 and 4.0, this Hearing is regarding the application by the Whistle Stop for a Special Permit to add an addition to extend kitchen and storage area at 248 Main Street, Gilbertville. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties can also view this Legal Notice at http://masspublicnotices.org

Hardwick Planning Board Jenna Garvey, Chair 12/21, 12/28/2023

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.

TURTLE from page12

Turtle Rescue League in Massachusetts is hugely significant in conserving turtles, but there are other places and entities involved in the struggle, such as the aforementioned New York Center for Turtle Rehabilitation, and New England Aquarium among others, but down south, the Turtle Survival Alliance outside of Charleston, South Carolina, is home to one of the "largest and most important breeding colonies for the world's most critically endangered turtles."

Cris Hagen is in charge of animal management at the South Carolina organization, and his bio seems evidence that he was born for the job. After a problem filled childhood and youth, he reformed himself and found his métier.

Hagen manages the center's collection, but has 500 turtles at home. Kind of says it all.

In "Of Time And Turtles", you go with Bell and Nowick and Montgomery and Patterson and others to find, care for and interact with turtles. All the turtles have names associated with how they came to Turtle Rescue League, such as Fire Chief, a subject with an interesting

Fire Chief inhabited a pond next to a fire house in summer and was well known to the firemen. He would hibernate in a different pond in winter, but to get there he had to pass over a road and a truck caught him in one crossing. The Chief was left with a wounded shell and broken spine.

Thus, after a water rescue by Bell, the huge snapper came to Turtle Rescue

There was hope for his recovery. It would take tenacity, but that is a quality turtles seem to have and the team at Turtle Rescue League has it as well.

Fire Chief would have a long rehabilitation and as his getting around was a problem, the team developed a wheelchair, to aid mobility.

After the long recovery, he would be able to move out, sans wheelchair, but where? Certainly not to an environment where he could be injured as before.

A pond was dug with a backhoe at the new home of Matt and his wife Erin in New Hampshire and Fire Chief will be in residence, with friends, and one might even suggest, family. It's a lovely

"Of Time and Turtles" is many things, an adventure, a story, and even almost an introductory text book for us uninitiated. It would be difficult to read this book and not come away with a sense of wonder about the world of tur-

PLAN from page1

There are many benefits to hazard mitigation planning. The plan can provide cost effective actions, build partnerships, increase awareness of hazardous risks, communication and more importantly save lives and money.

The planning process begins around September and ends around April of the following year and must be submitted to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for approval. During the public hearing, there was a lot of community engagement to help Jamie Caplan Consulting to look back and gather information and review other plans currently in place for the town of Hardwick.

Other plans to bring into consideration include a state hazard plan, municipal vulnerability preparedness plan, economic development plan, a housing plan, and a master plan.

When asked, attendees of the public hearing addressed current concerns in the community of Hardwick. The most concerned risks in Hardwick are storms, power outages, windstorms, flooding, fallen trees, winter storms and water contamination.

Jamie Caplan Consulting mentioned other hazardous risks that are very common throughout the year. Extreme temperatures, drought, earthquakes, tropical storms, invasive species, landslides, tornadoes, wildfires and brush

To protect the community and res-

idents of these risks, the emergency service asked residents of Hardwick what some of their critical facilities are. These are structures of communities to respond and recover in emergency situations.

These critical facilities include fire stations, police stations, schools, utilities departments and water treatment plants. For Hardwick, the residents rely on their municipal office building, fire station, police station and elementary school as an emergency shelter.

According to the public, there are greater impacts to worry about when it comes to risk and how to resolve them.

Residents of Hardwick addressed flooding as a hazard with great impact. Floods cause damage to buildings, roads, and property. Mitigation actions are essential to have and reduce current and future vulnerabilities.

Discussing how to mitigate risk, the Hardwick residents shared some opinions on how to handle certain risks. Tree removal was one mitigation mentioned for any potential tree damage that may cause destruction to residencies with high population of surround-

Run off systems were mentioned to avoid any mass flooding that can cause damage to residencies, roads and other buildings.

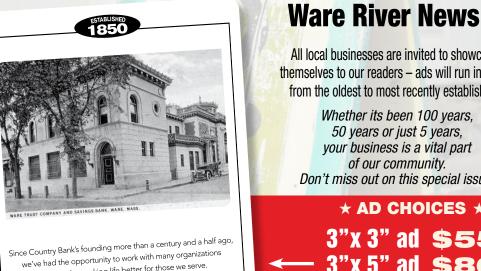
A public meeting will be held sometime in March of 2024 and will address more about the hazard mitigation plan. The plan will then be reviewed for approval in April.

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Will Deadline at Noon for

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Thursday, Dec. 28

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The Town of Warren is actively seeking a qualified professional to fill the position of Town Accountant. The Town Accountant oversees the proper expenditure of all Town funds and the proper recording and maintenance of financial records, approves all financial payments and audits financial records and transactions. The Town Accountant is responsible for maintaining and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of all areas under his/her direction and control. A complete job description can be found on the Town's website www.warren-ma.gov.

Recommended minimum qualifications include graduate of a four-year college with a bachelor's degree in finance or accounting with three years of related work experience; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge of the position. Preferred experience with Vadar accounting module and municipal accounting. The anticipated salary range for this position is between \$56,000.00 to \$66,000.00 based on relative education and professional work experience. Resumes and Cover Letters will be accepted until January 16, 2024. Please email your resume and cover letter to Town Administrator, Jim Ferrera, townadministrator@warren-ma.gov.



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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.





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WREATHS across AMERIC



Paul Bousquet reads the name of a veteran before laying a wreath on Wreaths Across America Day held last Saturday throughout cemeteries

WARE from page 9

"The United States of America was founded on the ideals of freedom, justice, and equality. Our Nation stands as a shining beacon of liberty and freedom to the world," Bateman said. "We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free, and we shall not forget you. We shall remember."

Bateman said the U.S. has always been the first to stand up.

"For this, we thank you," he said. Bateman said many attending the service that day, came from all branches of the military, and some were represented by their families, including John Arthur Boronski, a Sergeant First Class in the U.S. Army, who served in Vietnam.

Boronski was assigned to the Military Assistance Command Vietnam Studies and Operations Group of the 5th Special Forces Group. The MAC-V was one of the most elite military units operating in Vietnam.

Boronski and his unit had been in Vietnam since Oct. 25, 1969, operating 40 miles north of Pleiku out of Kontum.

"It was an elite team that operated on their own behind enemy lines, his group specifically had daily operations into Laos and Cambodia. The group staged out of Dak To," Bateman said.

On March 24, 1970, helicopters from the 170th Assault Helicopter company were sent to extract a long-range reconnaissance patrol from 14 miles inside Cambodia. The team members were 1st Lt. Jerry L. Pool, Boronski, Sgt. Gary A. Harned and five Montagnard

tribesmen. "The team had been in contact with the Vietcong all night and could not continue. No landing zone was nearby; the team could not be extracted until it could move to a more suitable location," Bateman said.

After the two extraction attempts, the helicopters returned from refueling, and Pool radioed that the team was running out of time.

Capt. Michael O'Donnell was the commander of one of the two "cover" aircraft. His crew members were Warrant Officer John C. Hoskins, pilot; Specialist 4 Rudy M. Beccera, crew chief; and Specialist 4 Berman Ganoe, gunner.

O'Donnell decided to try and pick the team up. The helicopter was on the ground for four minutes, and then transmitted that the entire eight member team was onboard.

"As it was ascending, the helicopter was hit by enemy fire. An explosion was witnessed. It continued flying for approximately 300 meters before another explosion was witnessed and it crashed into the jungle," Bateman said. "Aerial search and rescue operations began immediately. Although no signs of life were detected, search teams

could not land due to enemy activ-

Bateman said search and rescue efforts were discontinued on April 18, 1970.

In 1994, a joint search team interviewed a local Cambodian resident, who reported finding a crash site in the area. A 1995 search was unsuccessful.

In January 1998, another search team located the aircraft and the remains with dog tags and personal effects. In April 1998 the remains were returned to the U.S, but positive identification took until June 2001.

Bateman said Boronski has a memorial at the Ware Center Meeting House that was placed there while he was missing in action and his remains were laid to rest in the Arlington National Cemetery.

Boronski's family attended the Wreaths Across America Day service, and laid the wreath to remember all prisoners of war or missing in action.

Laying the wreaths for the U.S. Army was Superintendent of Ware Public Schools Michael Lovato; U.S. Marine Corps, Fire Chief Jim Martinez; U.S. Navy, Donnie Berthiaume; U.S. Air Force, the Witt family; U.S. Coast Guard, Jeannie Odiorne; and the Bonilla family, U.S. Merchant Marines.

"Each wreath is a gift of appreciation," Bateman said, and a reminder that the freedoms we enjoy today, have not been free.

Bateman said it's important to say each name of the veterans in the cemeteries, and thank them for their service and sacrifice.

"A soldier dies twice: once when he takes his last breath, and once again when they are forgotten," he

After the wreaths were in place to honor the military branches at Veterans Park, David Deslauriers played "Taps".

Bateman thanked those whose donations made the town's first year with Wreaths Across America successful, including all of those that sponsored a wreath and generous benefactors such as Country Bank, B'Leaf Wellness Centre and Cluett's Furniture and Appliance.

Bateman also thanked the community, Parks and Recreation, the Police, Fire and Highway departments, Scouts BSA Troop 281, Ware Middle School PTO, Ware Lions Club, Ware Junior/Senior High School cheerleaders, Knights of Columbus, numerous veterans

organizations, and more. "This year we had enough wreaths to cover 532 graves at the four Ware municipal cemeteries with the donations made, and with a last minute additional delivery we could add Holy Cross and Quabbin cemeteries," Bateman said. "We could not have done it without each and every one of you and we are so grateful."



Volunteers from Country Bank helped place wreaths throughout the town's cemeteries.



Jeannie Odiorne prepares to lay a wreath to honor all members of the U.S. Coast Guard.





Kristin Bateman explains how to prepare the wreaths for place-



The Witt family prepares to lay a wreath to honor U.S. Air Force veterans.



Steve Kutt carries a box of wreaths through Aspen Grove Cemetery.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette



The Boronski family laid a wreath to honor all missing in action/prison-



and service for Wreaths Across America Day.



The Skutnik family worked together to honor the town's veterans.



Fire Chief Jim Martinez lays a wreath for U.S. Marine Corps veterans.



Community members joined together to place wreaths at four cemeteries



Marretje Chartier and Marjolijn VanDijk carry



and Alex prepare to lay a wreath for the Merchant Marines.



Coordinator Frank Bateman talks about the importance of teaching the next generation about the cost of freedom.

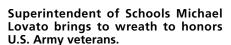


Volunteers bring

wreaths through

the cemetery.

Aubrey Bateman helps to place a wreath.



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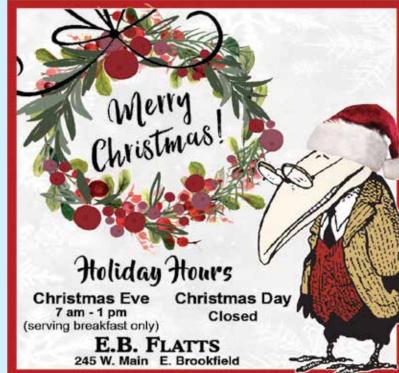


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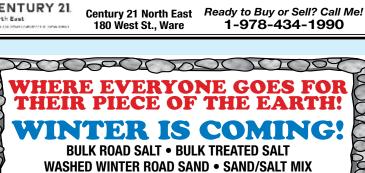






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