

QUABOAG CURRENT

WARREN

"The Lion King" opens

Page 2

STURBRIDGE

Hessians of the Revolution

Page 3

WEST BROOKFIELD

Ham radio club meeting

Page 3

Volume 19, Number 20

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Friday, April 17, 2026

Schools districts met with legislators about funding



TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE

State Reps. Todd Smola and Donnie Berthiaume met with school administrators and town officials during a "Conversation with our Legislators" meeting hosted by the Quabbin Regional School District.

By Paula Ouimette

Editor

pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District hosted a "Conversation with our Legislators" this past Monday, with representation from across the district's five towns, as well as from neighboring school districts and communities.

State Sen. Peter Durant, along with State Reps. Todd Smola, Donnie Berthiaume and John Marsi attended the meeting to hear concerns about Rural School Aid funding, Chapter 70 funding, declining enrollment and more.

Also attending were

See **RURAL SCHOOLS**
PAGE 5

Community Heart & Soul

A resident-driven process to engage the community

By Paula Ouimette

Editor

pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – More than a dozen people gathered at the Haston Free Public Library to learn about a resident-driven process that can help to encourage community activism and involvement.

This past Saturday, Community Heart & Soul Coach Catherine Ingraham-White explained how the nonprofit organization got started, and how it can help communities such as North Brookfield.

Founded by Lyman Orton (the proprietor of The Vermont Country Store), its mission is to establish a community development process that "engages all voices within a community in determining what matters most to the people who live there, and using their ideas and aspirations as the blueprint for future deci-



TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA OUIMETTE

Community Heart & Soul Coach Catherine Ingraham-White spoke about the positive impacts of the resident-driven process.

sion-making."

Over 130 small cities and towns across the nation have become Heart & Soul communities, including three towns in the commonwealth – Leicester, Winchendon and Pepperell. North Brookfield has been awarded grant funding to become the fourth through

the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

"This is an opportunity for North Brookfield," Ingraham-White said. "It takes planning from a grassroots approach."

Ingraham-White has been a Community Heart & Soul coach for about 10 years, and first became in-

involved when her hometown in Maine saw a positive change through it regarding the impact of a trash incinerator plant.

"They did Community Heart & Soul and started hearing from residents," she said.

See **HEART & SOUL**
PAGE 3

STM approved borrowing for fire truck

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis

Staff Writer

zachf@turley.com

EAST BROOKFIELD – Voters took action on seven articles at the special town meeting held on April 8.

Each article had the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and the meeting lasted less than 30 minutes.

Fire truck purchase

The most expensive article was article 3, which was to authorize the town to borrow \$1.1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck including any incidental costs.

According to the explanation on the memo given to voters, the approval of this article would allow the town to enter into a contract to buy a new fire truck, since one of their trucks is about 30 years old.

The explanation said the town intends to use stabilization accounts to fund the majority of the costs related to the truck at the time of delivery, which could be up to two years from purchase. The explanation said that the town currently has \$813,000 saved as of the date of the meeting, and the intent is to purchase without borrowing.

"By approving the borrowing authorization we can comply with state law that requires complete funding sources to be identified

See **E BROOKFIELD**
PAGE 12



TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

A family of beavers were spotted at the Joshua Hyde Public Library. Kids made their own beaver masks on International Beaver Day.

Young readers celebrated Beaver Day at library

By Ryan Drago

Staff Writer

rdrago@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Joshua Hyde Public Library had some fun activities happening this past week featuring beavers and peeps.

For the first time at the library, a Peeps Diorama

Contest was being held and was open to all ages; kids, teens, and adults. Those who entered the contest designed a peep diorama that could include a theme from either a book, movie, television show, favorite character, or whatever piques their interest. The main requirement is that the diorama must have a peep feature.

The children's library at the Joshua Hyde Public Library had 16 dioramas created and entered the contest. These dioramas are displayed on the bookshelves inside the children's library.

Children's Librarian

See **BEAVER DAY**
PAGE 8

Update given on infrastructure projects

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis

Staff Writer

zachf@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Jamie Gilman, vice-chair of the Board of Selectmen gave an update on infrastructure projects and grants at the April 7 selectmen's meeting. Gilman put together a slideshow presentation, and the first slide went over recent chapter 90 projects in the town, including the following: reclamation and resurfacing of the base coat on Brickyard Road, Donovan Hill Road, Fullham Hill Road and Town Farm Road, engineering for the Complete Streets grant for North Main Street, reclamation of Hines Bridge Road, Stoddard Road and Walker Road, and the resurfacing of the top coats on Smith Hanson Road and Tucker Road. According to Gilman, all of these

projects were completed in 2025 by the Massachusetts Broken Stone Company, whom the town awarded the paving contract to that year.

Gilman also went over a grant from the Massachusetts Municipal Pavement Program, which is planned to be used to pave from the North Brookfield town line on Route 67 to Spring Street, with work beginning this month. He said the project is going to begin with road milling, happening at night.

Gilman said another grant the town is working with is the Small Town Road Improvements to Enhance Public Safety, which is also known as the Strap grant. The grant is administered by the Massachusetts Rural Development Fund.

See **N BROOKFIELD**
PAGE 9

CMRPC presented 'Vision Zero' safety plan to boards

By Paula Ouimette

Editor

pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Select Board and Planning Board held a joint meeting with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission to hear a presentation about the Regional Vision Zero Action plan.

Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Executive Director of Transportation for CMRPC was joined by Sandy Amoakohene, Transportation Planner; and Jeff Holland, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer to pres-

ent crash data to the two boards.

"We want to introduce our work with the Regional Vision Zero Action Plan," Krishnan said. "Vision Zero is a vision toward zero fatalities and serious injuries in the region."

She said in 2020-2024, there were 131 fatal motor vehicle crashes and over 1,000 serious crashes in Worcester and its 39 surrounding communities. She said a serious injury is defined as being incapacitating, having a loss of a limb, a spinal injury or brain injury, etc.

"In Sturbridge particularly, there have been seven fatal crashes in that same period of time and 30 serious injuries as well," Krishnan said.

Route 20, Route 20 at Fiske Hill Road, Hall Road at Main Street, Haynes Street, Route 49 and Putnam Hill Road were identified as high-injury corridors. Krishnan said another fatal crash just occurred on Route 20 in the last week.

"This work is very important to us...it's not just a crash, it's a person, it's a family member," she said. "It's not an easy thing when

something like that happens. It's a major thing for the community, for the region, and for the state and the nation."

She explained that Vision Zero looks at traffic fatalities as being preventable with proper planning. She said the Safe System Approach looks at road safety as being a shared responsibility between drivers, road designers, first responders and more.

"It's creating safer vehicles, making sure there's safe speeds, the roadways are designed safely and also there's post-crash care,"

Krishnan said.

She said the first step to attaining Vision Zero's goals across the country is to create a regional safety action plan. She said they would also host planning and demonstration activities, including one to be held on Beacon Street in Worcester.

This demonstration will include the temporary installation of traffic slowing measures, to be observed over the course of an entire year.

See **STURBRIDGE**
PAGE 10

- community -

‘The Lion King Jr.’ hits the Quaboag stage this weekend

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The great circle of life takes the stage as the Quaboag Regional Theater and 21st CCLC presents “The Lion King Jr.”

This school production features a cast of talented Quaboag Regional Middle High School students who will be in the amazing story based off the Broadway production. “The Lion King Jr.” is directed by James Joinville, Christine Taylor, and by seniors of the high school.

Taking on the role of directors for this show are Lukas Nimtz, Madic Andreoli, Haylee Nash and Kayden Smart. This show is an all-senior directed production as Joinville and Taylor oversee their roles in addition to the rest of the cast and crew.

This was the first time these four students have taken on the role of director for a theatrical play. This is part of a Quaboag Theater tradition as theater students who have been involved in the school’s theater department throughout junior high and high school soon learn what it’s like to work as a director, producer, or choreographer for the show.

After the production of “Legally Blonde”, Nimtz,

Nash, Andreoli, and Smart were approached by Joinville to be the student directors for the next school production.

These four students have been involved in the theater program since middle school and show a great passion for the theater arts. Therefore, it showed that they were ready to take on a new role in the program. When Joinville approached them, he said they were going to do a production of “The Lion King Jr.”.

When asked about the experience of not being on stage and directing off stage these four directors shared various answers. Nimtz always wanted to direct and thought it was nice to take on the role of director for “The Lion King Jr.”

For Nimtz, the experience felt different by not being on stage and stepping back directing those who are on stage.

Andreoli described the directing experience as “next level,” and it has been a nice experience working with the younger students who are making their way into the theater department.

Nash shared that directing is a completely different atmosphere compared to performing on stage. It was overwhelming at first, but it gave a whole new way of

seeing a play. Nash said she’s more passionate about acting.

Joinville and Taylor assigned each director a scene to work on in the play. What takes the pressure off the responsibility of directing together is these four students know each other so well as they performed in various plays together at Quaboag. They feel they work as a united front.

Though all the directors agree each scene has a contrast in styles, they all feel the show will ultimately come out with a shared vision.

While working with the younger theater students, some of the directors saw what they did or didn’t like when they were younger theater students. The four have had student directors in the past and learned to gain that mutual respect that comes while they work together to put on a great show at their school.

With the shows coming this weekend, the four student directors feel they have a good working relationship with the students performing in “The Lion King Jr.”

As the high school chapter reaches its end for these four seniors, they reflected on their experiences at Quaboag and in the theater

department.

Andreoli said, “I am incredibly grateful for it. See the full picture of my theater career.”

Madic remembered all the shows he has performed in at Quaboag and will remember being a director for a show as part of a positive conclusion and part of all the hard work he put into theater.

“I can feel all the work I put into to get here,” Andreoli said.

Nash described this experience with “The Lion King Jr.” as a “bittersweet” moment. Knowing the seniors of the past who have directed shows at Quaboag, Nash knew “that’s going to be me at some point.”

For Nash, it doesn’t stop at high school when it comes to theater.

“Never stop being in theater,” Nash said. “I’m proud of me and the people I grew up with.”

The senior directors also reflected on the leadership of Joinville and Taylor. The knowledge they’ve gained is based off what these two teachers have taught them.

A building of trust was made between these theater students and their teachers. Nash shared that Taylor is “the mom of theater” and works hard for all students. These aspiring directors ap-

preciate the leadership of Joinville and Taylor who entrusted them to take on these directing rolls.

Playing the role of Scar in “The Lion King Jr.” is eighth grader, Kai Menard. The audition process consisted of readings, segments of songs, including the familiar Lion King song “Can You Feel the Love Tonight”. Menard said everyone was singing that song during the auditions.

There was also a dancing segment during auditions, including a segment from “I Just Can’t Wait to Be King”. Menard got to read lines for Scar, a role she was interested in getting.

When Menard heard the news that she got to be Scar, she said “I thought I was going to fall out of my chair at lunch.”

Hearing this news made Menard feel extremely proud.

To prepare, Menard focused on understanding the backstory of Scar and what leads to him being evil. Menard wanted to try and embody the character as Scar is described as an entirely “different side of mean.”

Menard plans to “be prepared” as Scar in “The Lion King Jr.”

Natalia Veliz-Baldizon

is a sophomore at the high school and will be playing Rafiki in “The Lion King Jr.” Veliz-Baldizon describes Rafiki as a mature role in the story, with various entrances and exits.

There are also two songs that come with the role, but Natalia feels ready to take on this mature character. She also auditioned for the role of Scar.

While practicing, Veliz-Baldizon was trying to get into what her character is doing in the story. Rafiki appears as the storyteller or “watcher” of the story. As she puts it, “acting without really saying anything.”

Watching the movie “The Lion King (1994)” helped Veliz-Baldizon better understand the role of Rafiki, who also carries a stick throughout the play. When asked about working in a show with student directors, Veliz-Baldizon says they get along great with the cast and teach the students to importance of having fun and enjoy the experience.

Performances of the “The Lion King Jr.” will be on Friday, April 17 at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 18 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m. For tickets and information, visit <https://quaboagperformingarts.ludus.com/200521144>.

Library hosts ‘Meet the Candidates’ night April 27

EAST BROOKFIELD – Candidates seeking election or write-in candidates seeking election for the town office on Tuesday, May 12 are welcome to attend a Meet the Candidates night on Monday, April 27 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the East Brookfield Public Library, 122 Connie Mack Drive.

Each candidate will have 5 minutes to talk and answer questions. Please contact Carolann with any questions.

Operation Clean Sweep to be held April 25

BROOKFIELD – The Brookfield Community Club is excited to announce the 10th annual John T. O’Leary Memorial Operation Clean Sweep will be held in Brookfield on Saturday, April 25.

O’Leary single-handedly organized the town wide cleanup for many years until his death. Pausing only during the pandemic, this is the 10th year since the event was named in his memory.

As part of Operation Clean Sweep, community members will celebrate Earth Day during the month of April. Earth Day’s theme this year is “Our Power, Our Planet.”

Brookfield residents can once again participate in Operation Clean Sweep to help rid local streets and roads of the litter and trash thrown out of passing cars. Volunteers can sign up individually, as a family or with a group, to tackle a specific street on a day that works with their schedule on or around Saturday, April 25.

Operation Clean Sweep is coordinated by the Brookfield Community Club. Partners include the Brookfield Board of Health, the Town of Brookfield Highway Department, and Quaboag & Quacumquasit Lake Association.

Orange bags can be

picked up at Tip Top Cop, Merrick Public Library or the Transfer Station on Tuesdays or Saturdays in April.

Bags will also be available on the Brookfield Town Common on Saturday, April 25 from 8-9 a.m.

When the bags are full, they can be dropped off at the Transfer Station before 3 p.m., or left on the side of the road the volunteer has been cleaning. Orange bags that are left roadside will be picked up by the Highway Department on Monday, April 27.

To sign up, visit <https://applecountryfair.com/events.html>.

KofC sponsors spaghetti dinner on April 18

WEST BROOKFIELD – Knights of Columbus Council 11080 is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 18 in Dugan Hall, Sacred Heart Church, 10 Milk St.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally (S.O.N.G.). Dinner includes pasta fagioli, garden salad meatballs and sausage, spaghetti and sauce, Italian bread, dessert, water, soda, and coffee.

Cost is a \$15 donation and \$10 for children under

12 years old. Take-out is available at 6 p.m. and sit-down dinner is served at 6:30 p.m.

Admission tickets are also good for entry for a special door prize. Raffle tickets for a 50/50 Raffle and more will be available.

Advance ticket purchase is encouraged and appreciated. Tickets are available from any Knight or by calling 413-813-8100 or by emailing wallyconnor122@gmail.com.

Tickets will only be available at the door while they last.



Wednesday, April 22
7pm-?

Musical Bingo

PRIZES!

948 Main Street, Warren
413-436-8491

Kelly Bado, O.D.
Doctor of Optometry

Eye Exams

Barre Opticians
395 Main St., Barre
978-355-2191

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
Most Insurances Accepted



ROOF REJUVENATION

Before you spend \$20,000+ on a full roof replacement, discover the soy-based treatment that can **SAVE** homeowners thousands.

Protect & maintain your biggest asset

Our eco-friendly rejuvenation treatment:

- ROOF CLEANING & ROOF REJUVENATION
- HOUSE WASHING, DECKS & FENCES
- CONCRETE, POOL PATIOS
- GUTTER WHITENING
- CONDOS, APARTMENTS AND HOAS
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

• Extends roof life by up to 15 years (with applications every 5 years).

• Restores flexibility to old, brittle shingles.

• Locks in granules and adds a fresh waterproof seal.

• Costs 90% less than a roof replacement.

508-308-2041 CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE



Operating Since 1965

1130 S Main Street
Palmer, MA 01069
(413) 267-4555

Sat., April 4th
CLOSED

Sat., April 11th ~ 9am-1pm
WORK DAY & KIDS ON TRACK

Sat., April 11th ~ 9am-noon
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE
West Hartford, CT

Sat., April 18th & 25th ~ 9am-1pm
WORK DAYS

Interested in more information
amherstrail.org

ATTENTION NORTH BROOKFIELD
Water Users

HYDRANT FLUSHING

MAY 4TH, 2026 – MAY 30TH, 2026

The North Brookfield Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout town beginning Monday, May 4th through Saturday, May 30th, 2026. Flushing is performed between the hours of 7:30AM and 3:30PM.

The purpose of the flushing is to remove sediment buildup in the mains. The flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water, caused by small particles dislodged during the flushing. This discoloration might stain your laundry, especially white materials.

If you would like additional information, please call the Water Department at (508) 867-0207.

Messages Edit

JOB ALERT



NOW HIRING
Writers/
Journalists

- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines
- Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo

• Produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

PAULA OUIMETTE
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

or email directly to pouimette@turley.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

- community -

Historical Society presents program by Dennis Picard April 23

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Historical Society presents “Dragoon, Musketeer, Prisoner: The Hessians of the Revolutionary War in Western Massachusetts,” by Dennis Picard on Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at the Publick House.

Were the Hessian soldiers of the Revolutionary War period bloodthirsty mercenaries purchased by King George III to fight in the rebellious colonies? Or were they draftees and recruits in a foreign land?

Join Picard to learn more about this poorly understood chapter in the American Revolution. Even though there were no battles during the Rev-

olution in Western Massachusetts, there were, in fact, Hessians here. Many of these troops passed through the area after their surrender at Saratoga and several worked as POWs on area farms. Hear how these men got to our area, why they were here, who they really were, and in the end, why some stayed.

Picard has been a museum professional in the “Living History” field for over 40 years. He began his career at Old Sturbridge Village and worked there for 12 years filling various positions including “lead interpreter” where he researched and designed many public programs that are still of-

fered by that institution today.

He was the director of Storowton Village from 1990-2017. He also is the recipient of various grants that allowed him to serve as project coordinator for research and implementation of programs and events at different sites.

Since his retirement he has enjoyed his role as consultant historian/independent scholar. Picard has presented various programs to the Sturbridge Historical Society, and is always a popular speaker.

This program, graciously hosted by the Publick House, is free and open to the public.

LWPA organizes Lake Wickaboag area cleanup set for April 25

WEST BROOKFIELD – In conjunction with Earth Day, the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association is once again hosting its annual cleanup effort around Lake Wickaboag shorelines and roadsides on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m.-noon, rain or shine.

All are welcome. Please meet at the town beach at 12 Lakeview Avenue at 9 a.m. Light refreshments will be provided as will trash bags and clean up location assignments.

Cash prizes will be awarded.

There will be an information table with lake and LWPA-related brochures and flyers. A member of the LWPA Board will be on hand for anyone who wants to “Ask the Expert” about Lake Wickaboag’s water quality, weeds, treatments, etc.

A wide selection of LWPA merchandise will also be available for sale. The LWPA will sponsor its first-ever “Reduce.

Reuse. Recycle! Lake Gear Swap.” Bring paddle boards, water skis, tow ropes, kayaks, life vests, etc. in good condition that you no longer need or use and swap it for something else, if you’d like. Corn hole will also be set up at the beach.

Bring your gloves and bring your energy to help bring back the spring sparkle to the area.

For additional information, please email lwpa01585@gmail.com.

New Braintree celebrates its 275th anniversary and U.S.’s 250th

NEW BRAINTREE – The 275th Anniversary Committee is hard at work planning a spectacular 2026 to celebrate New Braintree’s 275th Anniversary and America’s 250th Anniversary.

The committee is planning to have three major events to celebrate throughout 2026, and they want you – neighbors, friends, and family – to be a part of every one.

The first event is on July 5 from 3-5 p.m.: Kick off the summer with the U.S. Air Force Heritage of America Band. This free community concert

will be held under the newly constructed pavilion.

Grab your lawn chairs, blankets, and favorite snacks for an unforgettable afternoon of music. There may even be an Air Force fly over.

The second event will be on Oct. 3: Old Home Day Our classic town celebration will kick off with a parade at 1 p.m., farmer’s market, kids’ games, live music, and a bonfire in the evening.

Enjoy the beer and wine tent and plenty of local food. The committee is seeking volunteers and sponsors to make

this day a success. Have an idea or want to lend a hand? Email us at newbraintree275@gmail.com.

The third and capstone event will be on Dec. 31: The 275th Anniversary Gala from 6 p.m.-1 a.m. - Dust off your dancing shoes and get your fancy clothes ready.

The committee will close out the anniversary year with a New Year’s Eve Gala in the Town Hall. It’s the ultimate way to ring in 2027 and celebrate the legacy of the special town and people who call it home.

HEART & SOUL FROM PAGE 1

After the two-year process, the town’s council voted to buy and close the plant. This has improved the town’s business community, which is now thriving.

“Main Street is now vibrant,” Ingraham-White said of her hometown. “It’s an incredibly different place from where I grew up.”

Ingraham-White said there are three steps to the Community Heart & Soul process and that’s “Involve Everyone,” “Focus on What Matters Most” and “Play the Long Game.”

Right now, North Brookfield is still in the “getting started” phase of the four-phase process.

In phase one, Ingraham-White will work with the team to build leadership amongst volunteers, and an awareness of the process. The team will develop its core message and interact with the local government.

The second phase of the project will focus on story gathering from residents, and forming listening groups to summarize data from the stories and strengthen community relationships. This gives residents an opportunity to reflect on what they love about their town.

“We focus on stories rather than sending out surveys with generic questions,” Ingraham-White said.

Phase three is all about planning and starting to draft a Community Action Plan, with help from municipal and community leaders, as well as other stakeholders.

“What you end up with is basically an action plan of ideas,” she said.

In phase four, the Community Heart & Soul statement is officially adopted by the town, and promoted throughout the community. The Community Action Plan is also finalized and made available.

This is also the time to develop an implementation strategy for the plan.

Ingraham-White said the Community Heart & Soul team is typically not a town board or committee, but rather a group of residents partnering with a local nonprofit organization. North Brookfield’s team, the Heart of North Brookfield, will work with the Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield.

Ingraham-White spoke about the projects completed by other Community Heart & Soul towns, including the development of a transportation program funded through a \$500,000 Department of Transportation grant, the creation of

a community forest and implementation of a moratorium on big box stores. Each of these towns identified a different need through the Community Heart & Soul process and took action to reach a desired outcome.

“The process is really intended to get people sitting around the same table,” she said.

She said being involved in the process often motivates people to serve on a town board or committee, especially for younger residents.

“It’s a good way to introduce civics,” she said. “It’s an easier and friendlier way to get involved.”

Feedback from residents
Ingraham-White had people in attendance introduce themselves, and share what it is they love about North Brookfield.

Several residents spoke about the support their families received from the community when they were facing medical issues, from helping with rides to and from doctor’s appointments, to babysitting children, to putting on fundraiser dinners.

“The town stepped up,” Tara Hayes said. “I want to get back to that.”

Sue Lewandowski echoed Hayes’ statement, and spoke about how her neighbors helped her family through a difficult time, and how it motivated her to get more involved with the town she lived in and serve on the parent teacher organization. Now, Lewandowski serves in many community organizations in North Brookfield and regionally.

Residents spoke about negativity on social media, and how many people are reluctant to serve on a board or committee out of fear of the backlash.

Ingraham-White said other towns have hosted “kindness nights” where people can share their stories, and learn about each other. She said while this process will bring out negativity from some people initially, the positivity will always outweigh it.

Nancy Waldron said, “We definitely want to continue to show that face, and keep going forward with the positive message.”

Residents spoke about existing outreach efforts in town that have been well received, including Hayes sending out welcome letters to new residents in her role as Town Clerk, which provides them with vital information about the town. Another positive effort has been the Artist of the Month spotlight hosted by the Friends of the North

Brookfield Town House. Residents spoke about the need to take action instead of just talking about issues that are important to them, from littering to the creation of mountain bike trails.

Jamie Gilman said his love for the outdoors and having access to open space spurred him to go before Board of Selectmen years ago.

“I just wanted to do something,” he said.

It was there that he spoke with Brandon Avery, and soon became involved with the Town Forest and Parks & Recreation. He is now serving his first term on the Board of Selectmen.

“I got involved because I wanted trails,” he said. “Through this process I realized, ‘wow, this town I live in has some good people.’”

Trish Miller said she would also like to see more togetherness and action, especially amongst existing town organizations.

Lewandowski said this is just the beginning of a more positive and united town.

“Community Heart & Soul will be able to uplift more people in the community and we need it now,” she said. “We can get things done.”

About Community Heart & Soul

Community Heart & Soul, a nonprofit organization, builds stronger, healthier, and more economically vibrant small cities and towns across the United States through the Community Heart & Soul model, a resident-driven process that engages the entire population of a town in identifying what they love most about their community, what future they want for it, and how to achieve it.

For more information, visit communityheartandsoul.org.

Amateur radio club to meet on April 28

WEST BROOKFIELD – Local amateur radio operators and the public are invited to the next Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club meeting, Tuesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central St.

This month’s program features Greg, WA1JXR on the topic of Antenna Tuners; what they are, how they work, why you might need

one, and how to use them. Greg Algieri, WA1JXR, began his ham radio journey at the age of 15 in 1967 by asking his dad for a Gillette Blue Razor Blade to make this first receiver, leading to amateur radio licenses, higher electronics education, and an entire career with Raytheon, where he worked in radio and antenna design. WA1JXR is active in his amateur radio

community as a teacher of new and existing hams, restoring boat anchor vintage radios, getting on the air, and as the Trustee of the WIBIM repeater in Paxton.

All are welcome to attend. For more information about the club, upcoming events, or licensing opportunities, visit www.QVARC.com.

Towns host voter registration day

WARREN/WEST BROOKFIELD – Town Clerks of Warren (Laura J. Stockley) and West Brookfield (Klarrisa Rose) announce that a Voter Registration will be held in their offices, on Friday, April 24, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for the Annual Town Elections, which will be held on Tuesday, May 5.

FOR RENT

Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for wait list.

The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and “Barrier Free” accessible units. Rent is \$810/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is lower. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
413-477-6496
TDD (800)439-2379

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!

INFLATION

PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST **\$2.88** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC..... **\$1.39** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN LOIN END or RIB END ROAST **\$1.99** lb

SLICED IN OUR DELI

USDA INSP. WUNDERBAR BOLOGNA **\$3.33** lb

USDA INSP. SWISS CHEESE..... **\$3.99** lb

SOUP'S ON!

USDA INSP. FRESH BEEF NECK BONES **\$3.99** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK STOMACH **\$3.49** lb

PRICE BUSTERS

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBE EYE STEAKS **\$9.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAK **\$6.59** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG **\$5.29** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB BAG **75¢** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG **\$2.17** lb

USDA INSP. PEPPERIDGE FARMS CHOCOLATE FUDGE LAYER CAKE 19.6 OZ..... **\$3.99** ea

USDA INSP. CHICKEN PARMASEAN MINI EMPANADA 9 OZ **\$3.99** ea

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 21/25 COUNT 2 LB BAG **\$16.99** ea

90 Meat Outlet

90 Avocado St. Springfield

413-737-1288

www.90meat.com

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

SALE DATES: 4/16/26-4/22/26

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

- opinion -

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



What I did last weekend

I was so looking forward to last Saturday, a day in which I did not have to drive anywhere. I could simply stay put and work on getting the yard in shape.

Boy, was it a long winter, and there was proof of that no matter where I turned.

Read on to learn which outdoor and indoor gardening activities kept me busy.

First I decided to tackle the perennial and shrub borders that I walk by the most often. Half of the reason we garden is because we like to stand back in admiration, so I figured if I cleaned those up I'd have something to feel good about on my way to the car or the chicken coop.

I leave many perennials standing through the winter, especially those with seed heads the birds might like to dine on.

So, before I got out the rake, I went plant by plant with my hedge clippers, cutting the dead and brown stalks to about "fist" height from the ground. Hedge clippers make fast work of this task. After that came the rake, with which I carefully cleaned the bed of matted leaves and the plant parts I just cut back. As I was working, I weeded out clover, and some perennial grasses that appeared within the bed, and although I am nowhere near ready to apply bark mulch, I got out the spade and did my best to put a crisp edge on the border with the lawn. Looking good.

While I was putting tools away I found (gasp) some hyacinth and daffodil bulbs that never got planted in the fall. I cannot even believe that there were green tips on these bulbs that sat in an empty pot in my unheated subarctic garden shed over the winter months.

I figured that after that torture they deserved to be planted. I sunk them twice their height deep and watered them in. Say a prayer.

My "Redbud garden" shares a stone wall with some thornless blackberry bushes. It may not have been smart on my account to have an ornamental garden opposite plants that like to sucker like crazy but such is life when you want to squeeze in as many plants as you can into the space you've got... Anyway, ten foot long canes

jumped the wall into the bed where I have a few bulbs and biennials at the base of the Redbud.

I was able to give the canes a strong yank and lo and behold I have three new blackberry bushes free for the taking. I separated them from the mother plant, potted them up and will delight a friend with them, just as my friend Kelly's husband had done for me some years back.

These berries are so wonderful. Even with a small patch I am always able to freeze a couple of quarts for use in the off-season. Yum!

With stems cut back, leaves raked, weeds and suckers removed and the beds given a crisp edge, I felt good enough about leaving outlying gardens for another day. It was time to turn my attention to tomato seedlings that had long since outgrown the seed packs the seeds were sown in the third week of March.

Typically we transplant when the first true leaves form. I am maybe a week late.

Carefully I lifted out the clumps of seedlings and gently pried the roots apart. Tomato seedlings can be sunk deeply, almost up to their leaves; new roots will form on the stems.

After a gentle watering they will go back under the grow lights they until they are big enough to be moved from the six packs to a four inch pot. Probably by May 1.

What is next on the agenda? Next weekend I have to assess my potato patch. I'll probably pull up old red raspberry canes nearby to expand the bed.

Blueberry bushes need some fertilizer. Asparagus could use lime and compost, probably some weeding as well.

There is never a dull moment this time of year, and I am not sure I'd want it any other way.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 34 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.



Nature is our cathedral

By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

I belong to two churches. One is brick and mortar-built by human hands. There is a large sign out front. A foundation. Walls. A ceiling. Padded chairs are lined up in rows. Carpeting covers the floor.

A worship team plays music. Guitars, a keyboard and drums. A harmony of voices blend with my own, ringing out in praise. The lyrics speak to me. Words which stir my emotions and feel more like a spiritual encounter than mere singing.

My other church is a cathedral. There is no sign out



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

front. No doors or windows. No foundation. No floor or walls or ceiling. At least not in the manmade sense.

Gravel, granite and earth are the floor. The vast canvas of blue sky is the ceiling. The sentinel of trees lining the path form the walls. The foundation is made from mountains rather than poured cement, but they hold me up and give me far more strength than concrete ever could.

In my church, I listen to our pastor preach words of truth, faith and hope. Inspiring me. Redirecting me. Providing spiritual nourishment. Leading me along the path to a life of purpose.

In my cathedral, I listen to nature preach a homily in a language all its own. No words are needed, but it speaks to me nonetheless. Giving my life meaning and purpose. Deepening my faith. Restoring my soul.

The melody here is different. The music does not reach my ears from a speaker in the corner of the room, but through a tapestry woven from rustling leaves, cascading streams and roaring waterfalls. The sounds blend together, proclaiming God's glory not through spoken words, but through something equally powerful.

This place is no less sacred than the church where I worship every Sunday. It is a sanctuary created by the hands of God himself. Built out of unfailing love. When I am standing in the quiet stillness and immense grandeur of Creation, I bear witness to God's profound greatness.

There is a sacredness in this cathedral of earth and trees and sky which transcends human understanding. A peace which contradicts life circumstance. A gratefulness in spite of the many trials and challenges.

Out here, I experience deeply personal moments of connection. As though there is a thread joining heaven to earth. A yarn woven of reverent awe and immeasurable joy linking my human heart to the Divine.

My worship is not restricted to the confines of a building. It flows from me in equal measure out here in the wild places... where the wind dances and the water flows and the heavens themselves declare glory.

My soul is fed at both my church and my cathedral. But some days, I can hear God speaking to me louder in the church that was *no* built by human hands.



©DAVE GRANLUND.COM
POLITICAL CARTOONS.COM

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR
Paula Quimette
pouimette@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

THE QUABOAG CURRENT (USPS# 10860) is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. Periodical Postage Prices are Paid at Palmer, MA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.

WEB
quaboagcurrent.turley.com

PHONE
(413) 283-8393

ADDRESS
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

OPINION PAGE/LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500 and 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 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: Letters to the Editor, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 OR e-mail to pouimette@turley.com. Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week's edition.

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.

Find your MARKET IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com
24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware



- community -

EQLT holds geocache outdoor scavenger hunt

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust, 120 Ridge Road, will hold an outdoor geocache scavenger hunt between Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, May 3. Participants search for five geocaches (boxes) on EQLT properties using GPS coordinates on their phones. Players collect one item from each geocache, one item per

registration. On May 3, players bring their items to the reveal party and play a game, competing against other scavenger hunt participants. Each registration is \$20. Youth under 14 are free. To register for the event, people should visit <https://crm.non-profit-easy.com/8133/Pages/Events/Details/14855/>.

At the reveal party on Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m. at the EQLT office participants will open their geocache envelopes and play a scrabble game to crown winner. There is a prize for the winner. For more information, people may visit <https://eqlt.org/geocache-scavenger-hunt/>.

Solo/Duet poetry and music series starts in April

WEST BROOKFIELD – Solo/Duet, a poetry and music series at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library will be held on Tuesday evenings in April starting at 6 p.m. Each evening will feature poetry readings that will book-end a set of chamber jazz music. This program

is made possible by the West Brookfield Cultural Council as supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. In celebration of National Poetry and National Jazz Month Performances are as follows: April 21, bassist Jerry Wilfong, guitarist Rich Falco and trombonist

Rich Ardizzone, trombone with poets Judith Ferrarra and Jonathan Blake; and April 28, solo bass recital by Jerry Wilfong with poets Beth Sweeney and Stephen Campiglio. Free and open to all. Please stop by or call the library at 508-867-1410 to reserve your seat.

RURAL SCHOOLS FROM PAGE 1

Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools President Paul Haughey, who is also the superintendent of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District; North Brookfield Public Schools Superintendent Tim McCormick; Quaboag Regional School District Superintendent Stephen Duff; and Tantasqua Regional School District Superintendent Deborah Boyd.

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha said this was an opportunity to speak directly to the area's legislators, and share their concerns. "The goal of today is we really wanted to have a united front," she said. "We are trying to work together." Haughey spoke on behalf of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, and said there are a "lot of common threads" between all of the schools districts, including the rising costs of being a people-driven field. "We're human resources heavy and as a result, there's a lot of expense in that," he said.

Haughey said the per pupil funding in Minimum Aid needs to be increased to at least \$150, but that a more accurate number would be much higher.

"It's still not enough," he said. "We need \$200-250 to make this run right."

Haughey said the cost of transportation for both general education and special education is "quite concerning." He said many school districts only receive one or two quotes for transportation to choose from when they go out to bid, which backs them in a corner financially.

Transportation costs should be fully reimbursed to regional school districts by the state, he said. As of right now, the reimbursement rate is projected to be between 80-90%.

He said a glitch in the Chapter 70 funding formula is hurting rural schools across the commonwealth.

"The rural factor is not built into 70 at this point and it's a major concern," he said.

Haughey said school administrators are all pushing to have Rural School Aid increased to \$60 million, and



TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE
North Brookfield Public Schools Superintendent Tim McCormick spoke about the need for consistent funding for rural schools.



Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha spoke about having a unified voice to advocate for funding and aid.



Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools President and Superintendent of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, Paul Haughey, presented recommendations for changes to funding.

to create a "pothole" fund for school districts with declining enrollment, as well as an increase in charter school reimbursements and covering the expenses of new, state-mandated graduation requirements.

"We need to do better," Haughey said. "If graduation requirements are to change...there needs to be funding to support that as well."

Haughey said the work administrators and legislators have ahead of them is important and needs to be a priority.

"These are our children," he said. "We need people working together to get this done."

Efforts at efficiency

Mucha invited the superintendents and town officials to share efforts they have taken to gain efficiencies when faced with the uncertainty of state funding.

She said the Quabbin Regional School District used COVID funding to purchase vans, which are used for student and athletic transportation.

"That has saved us a tremendous amount of funding," she said.

Boyd said the Tantasqua Regional School District purchased its own fleet of 45 vehicles to provide all transportation, include special education transportation, in house. While this has helped to regulate the increasing cost of transportation, the school district is still impacted by the labor force, and the cost of fuel.

Boyd said being designated "Hold Harmless" isn't enough for rural school districts anymore.

"That fact that so many

of us are in Hold Harmless...means something's wrong with the formula," she said.

Boyd added that, "something feels broken on the state level, not just Chapter 70, but local aid."

"The pittance of money going to the towns is truly putting the burden on the towns," she said.

West Brookfield Town Administrator Theresa Cofsky said that health insurance is a major cost driver in the town's budget, and that they are in the process of enacting an "opt out" program.

"It's a process, but we're hoping it will be helpful," she said.

Mucha said the way that Rural School Aid is administered poses a challenge to school districts when they are trying to build and present their budgets to towns. She said it is awarded like a grant, and school districts don't know when they'll receive it, and that this year the aid was late.

"It's really hard to plan on that aid," she said.

Retired Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent and Barre Select Board Chair, Dr. Maureen Marshall, said Rural School Aid should be awarded the same way that transportation reimbursements are – up front – so that school districts can plan more effectively.

"We're really concerned about something that's really a simple fix," she said.

Boyd agreed and said that Rural School Aid has become a "financial cliff" for school districts.

McCormick said rural school districts "really need a consistent number to plan with every year."

ments. He said that unfortunately, the process can't be completed any sooner than it is.

Smola said himself and the other legislators present at the meeting were all on board with the recommendations put forward by the various town officials and administrators.

Smola said he has been pushing for the Chapter 70 formula to be fixed for some time.

"We should have been prepping for this two years ago," he said. "We should already be here with a solution. We should already have a fix to the Chapter 70 formula."

He said the formula needs to be wiped out and rebuilt, in order for it to be beneficial to the school districts and the towns.

Smola also raised concerns about the financial cliff created by the Student Opportunity Act, which is set to run out in fiscal year 2027. He also talked about the "unprecedented" number of communities seeking overrides.

"Education is the big one," he said in terms of costs in the budget. "It has the biggest impact on municipalities."

Smola said school districts are facing declining enrollment across the commonwealth, and they are now fighting over the same people. He said many school districts are also holding on to brick and mortar infrastructure that should not be in service.

"That's not pragmatic

and it's not practical," he said. "We've got to look at this through a different set of eyes."

Berthiaume said pressure from school administrators and town officials on State House leadership would have more of an impact than just from him and the other legislators.

Smola said they should ask legislators to take roll call votes before an amendment, and "get them on the record."

"If you want this short-term fix, that would be my recommendation," Smola said. "Your voice is going to be important to this process."

Marsi said it's the words and actions of citizens that "turns the wheel" of change at the State House.

Durant said legislators face an uphill battle on Beacon Hill, and he also advocated for the need for roll call votes.

"Because that's where people publicly announce their priorities," he said.

A unified voice

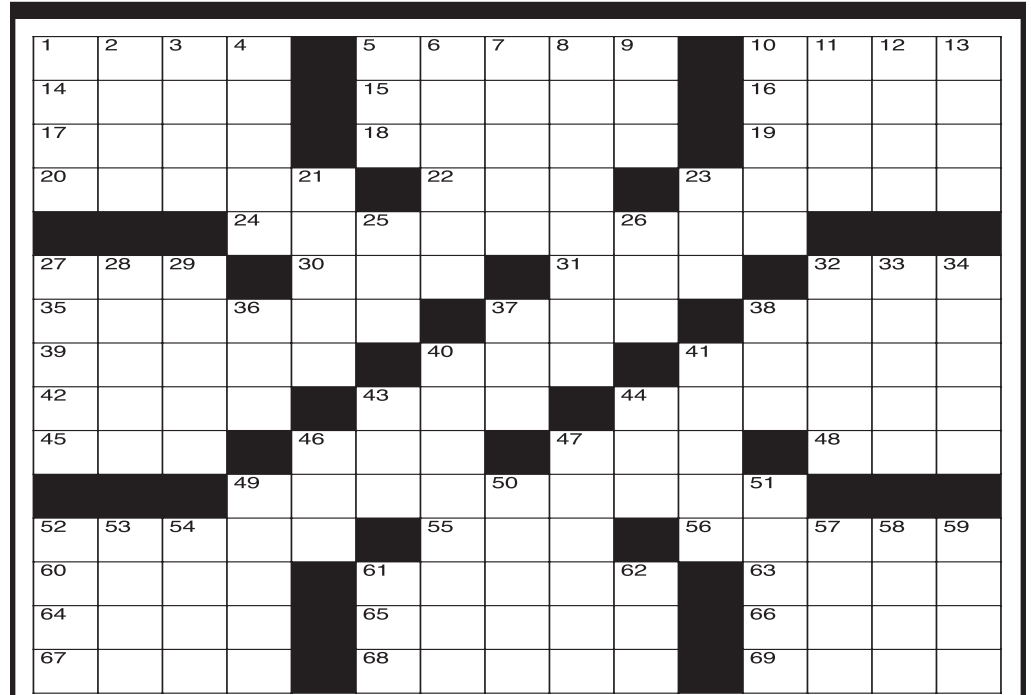
Mucha passed around a letter for administrators and town officials to sign, showing their unified commitment to advocate for funding changes for rural schools.

Haughey said school districts cannot continue to meet state mandates without a change in funding.

"We can only work with what we're given. We're going backwards, nor forward, with resources...the Band-Aids are done," he said.

Response from legislators

Berthiaume said the commonwealth's budget will be released this week, and legislators will have a brief opportunity to file amend-



CLUES ACROSS

1. Greek goddess of marriage
5. Tropical American blue jay-like bird
10. Abba __, Israeli politician
14. Dark olive black
15. Light, crinkled fabric
16. Notre Dame has a golden one
17. Leaked blood
18. Confronted
19. Negligible amount
20. Facilitated
22. Hill or rocky peak
23. Minneapolis suburb
24. Songs to one's beloved
27. Brake horsepower
30. Angry
31. Children's game
32. Spelling is a type of one
35. Obtained in return for labor
37. Indicates center
38. Chinese dynasty
39. Old World buffaloes
40. Slang for time off

CLUES DOWN

41. Fabric
42. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
43. Defunct regional economic organization
44. Philly footballers
45. Female sibling
46. Peter Griffin's daughter
47. Digital audiotape
48. Insecticide
49. Scientific instrument
52. Pages may be dog-__
55. Israeli city __ Aviv
56. Type of sword
60. Middle Eastern military title
61. Wise individuals
63. French Polynesian island
64. Popular shoe type
65. One of 50
66. Divulge a secret
67. Dish of cooked meat mixed with potatoes
68. Actress Zellweger
69. Romanian city

1. Greek cupbearer of the Gods
2. Ancient Syrian city
3. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
4. Range of mountains
5. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
6. Spoke
7. City in Georgia
8. Theatrical
9. CNN's founder
10. Icelandic poems
11. Bjorn __, tennis player
12. Bowfin genus
13. One point north of northeast
21. Political divisions in ancient Greece
23. Electroencephalograph
25. Cool!
26. Male parent
27. Where some gymnasts work
28. Capital of Vietnam
29. Sailboats
32. Shelter (Scottish)
33. Completed

34. Discharge
36. Arrest
37. Partner to cheese
38. Coffee receptacle
40. Stagnate
41. Satisfies
43. Snake-like fish
44. Consume food
46. Type of school
47. Erase
49. Inform
50. Girl's given name
51. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
52. Every one of two or more things
53. Northern India city
54. Seventeenth stars in a constellation
57. Weapon
58. Amounts of time
59. Isodor __, American Nobel physicist
61. Soviet Socialist Republic
62. Witness

Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

All Major Credit Cards Accepted
100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net
www.robinsontreeservice.net

- community -

Annual plant, bake, craft and tag sale is May 16-17

HARDWICK – The Tri-Parish Community Church is pleased to announce they will be holding their 20th Annual Plant, Bake Sale, Craft & Tag Sale on the Hardwick Common Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each day.

This popular East Quabbin area event will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs in time for spring planting.

There is a wonderful variety in plants offered through several local vendors including Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm and Garden of New Brain-

tree, Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, and "home-grown lovelies" from private gardens.

A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold.

The event is held rain or shine. All are welcome.

The Church is also seeking vendors for their annual Tag and Craft sale to

coincide with the Plant and Bake Sale.

Please reserve your space on the Hardwick Common early. Spaces will be offered for \$35 each.

Applications may be obtained by contacting Marguerite at: mcrevier1.mc@gmail.com or 413-477-6942.

Art show opens on April 17

WEST BROOKFIELD – Ware artist John Collins will have his debut show "People, Pets, and Prized Possessions" at West Brookfield Art & Frame Gallery, 10 East Main St., this month,

with an opening reception on Friday, April 17 from 5-7 p.m.

The reception will include wine, cheese, and friendly fellowship. All are welcome to attend.

Asparagus chowder returns to First Congregational Church

WEST BROOKFIELD – On Saturday, May 16 during the town of West Brookfield's Asparagus, Heritage and Flower Festival on the town common, (10 a.m.-3 p.m.), the First Congregational Church, UCC, 36 North Main St., will offer their famous asparagus chowder from their Chowder Tent



located on the church lawn.

Hot chowder by the cup, cold chowder by the quart to take home, yummy brownies and cold drinks will be available from 10 a.m. until it runs out.

Inside and outside dining is available.

Call the church for more information at 508-867-7078.

St. Michael's benefit turkey dinner to be held May 18

STURBRIDGE – The Publick House Historic Inn and Restaurant will host another of its community dinners on Monday, May 18, this time benefiting St. Michael Romanian Orthodox Church in Southbridge.

These dinners are part of the Publick House's ongoing effort to support local organizations. A por-

tion of each ticket sold will go directly to the church.

"We're grateful to be included in this program," said event organizer Spiro Thomo. "It's a simple way for people to come together, enjoy a good meal, and support the church at the same time."

Two seatings are available: 4:30-6 p.m. and 6:30-8

p.m. The buffet menu includes oven-roasted turkey, cornbread-sausage stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, and cranberry sauce.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$5 for children ages 4-11. All tickets must be purchased in advance-no sales at the door. The deadline is Friday, May 15.

For tickets or information, contact Spiro Thomo at 774-200-8043, or by email: spirothomo@gmail.com. Payment is by cash or check made payable to The Publick House.

The mission of St. Michael Romanian Orthodox Church is to experience the grace of God and to share it with others.



YOUR LOCAL TRUSTED DEPENDABLE **HOMIE PROs**

LOGGING

Park Saw Shop

LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY
Shipping Can Be Arranged • Rentals Available
413-544-9027 • 1-800-232-6132
1292 Park Street, Palmer, MA 01069
Mon.-Fri. 6:30am-4pm • Sat. 7am-Noon

STIHL **Husqvarna**

PAINTING & PAPERING

SABLACK

PAINTING & PAPERING
Professional Workmanship

Interior & Exterior • Residential & Commercial
PAPER HANGING • DRYWALL SERVICE • CERAMIC TILE
FREE ESTIMATES • FULLY INSURED

Warren, MA (508) 868-7312

HOME • YARD • GARDEN

ESTABLISHED 1914
HARDWICK FARMERS CO-OP

Rt. 32, 444 Lower Road, Gilbertville, MA 01031
413-477-6913 • www.hardwickfarmers.net
Open: Mon-Fri 8AM-5PM; Sat 8AM-4PM, Sun 9AM-3PM
**For All Your Yard, Garden & Garage Needs
Become A Member & Save Money!**

TREE SERVICE

H&H Tree Service

Ware, MA FULLY INSURED
Tree Care & Removal
David Hamlin 413.668.6560

HEATING OIL & A/C

SHERMAN OIL

Ensuring Comfort and Service Since 1962

• FUEL • SERVICE 24/7
• INSTALLATION • AIR CONDITIONING
508.867.7447 • ShermanOil.com
CHECK YOUR A/C TODAY & BEAT THE HEAT!

Build Your Business HERE

Special Advertising Rates for Local Small Businesses
- Ad Design Included!

CALL: 413.283.8393
EMAIL: dflynn@turley.com

Reach local households, in print and online!

SWIMMING POOLS

J.C. POOLS INC.

108 Main St. (Rt. 32), South Barre
508-882-3913 • 978-355-6465
VACATION IN YOUR BACKYARD
Two Types of In-Ground/Above Ground Pools
In-Ground Liner Replacements • Heaters
Service • Chemicals & Supplies • Water Testing

PLUMBING & HEATING

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

B.E.C.I.
Plumbing and Heating, Inc.

**FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING & HEATING NEEDS
SIZEABLE REBATES MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU
CALL US TO DISCUSS HEATING EQUIPMENT UPGRADES
www.becplumbing.com**
Warren, MA 413-436-0076 Ware, MA 413-967-0076

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

Warriors softball grabs huge win over Hampshire

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE— Seven of the 15 players listed on the Tantasqua varsity softball roster are freshmen. Two of the Lady Warriors first-year varsity players are starting catcher Brynn Boucher and starting third baseman Natalie Carson.

The freshman duo, along with sophomore starting pitcher Keira McCord, played key roles in Tantasqua's first ever meeting on the softball diamond against Hampshire Regional.

The score was tied 1-1 with one-out in the bottom of the seventh inning when Carson blasted a laser shot over the centerfield fence

giving her team an exciting 2-1 walk-off victory, last Friday afternoon.

"It was the first time that I hit a home run in a varsity game," Carson said. "I've been struggling at the plate during the past couple of games, but to be able to support my teammates really means a lot to me. Hopefully, this victory will give us

some momentum for the rest of the season."

The walk off homer by Carson improved Tantasqua's overall season record to a perfect 5-0. The Lady Warriors have also won 27 of their last 28 games since the beginning of last season. Their only setback during that span was a 3-0 home loss to Nipmuc Regional in

last year's Division 3 state tournament.

The Raiders (3-1) made the trip to Fiskdale from Westhampton on their luxury bus having outscored their first three opponents, 50-13.

After beginning her high school athletic career by playing for the Lady Warriors junior varsity volley-

ball and basketball teams, Carson was hoping to make the varsity softball team.

"One of my goals was to make the varsity softball team," she said. "I worked very hard and it was an amazing feeling when I found out that I had actually

See **WARRIORS**
PAGE 8

Quaboag girls tennis eeks out win

WARREN – Last Friday afternoon, Quaboag Regional girls tennis grabbed a big win over visiting Sutton 3-2. Quaboag relied on its doubles teams to grab this win as both scored victories in their individual matches.

Sophia Palucci and Lacey Beauregard as well as Cadence Cieslak and Leah Thomasian had the doubles wins for the Cougars. Third singles player Brea Sauriol got the third win for the Cougars. She lost her first set, but came back to with 6-1, 6-0 in the final two sets to get the win.

T-Birds suffer tough loss against rival Hartford Wolf Pack

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-30-6-2) unleashed 37 attempts at the net of the Hartford Wolf Pack (25-35-5-3) but were kept in check in a 3-1 defeat at the hands of their Braman I-91 Rivalry Series opponents in front of a sellout crowd of 6,793 inside the MassMutual Center on Saturday night.

The T-Birds were sluggish out of the gates, and despite a seven-game losing streak coming into the game, the Wolf Pack took advantage of early mistakes, beginning with an Anton Blidh goal off a cross-crease setup by Bryce McConnell-Barker at 7:58 of the first.

A Springfield penalty set the stage for Hartford's first and only power play of the game, and just 1:03 after Blidh's goal, Brendan Brisson made a highlight-reel play, putting the puck between his legs and chipping a forehand past Vadim Zherenko at 9:01 to make it a 2-0 score.

Thunderbirds head coach Steve Ott called a timeout to try to quell Hartford's momentum, but even that proved futile as Scott Morrow blasted a slapper that squeezed through Zherenko 39 seconds later to make it a 3-0 score.

The T-Birds finally got one back at 13:28 when Zach Dean saucered a perfect 2-on-1 pass to Hugh McGing, who elevated a shot through Callum Tung to cut the lead to 3-1.

From that point, Zherenko's night was relatively quiet, with Hartford only registering 13 shots for the remainder of the game af-

See **T-BIRDS** PAGE 8

Pioneers score early, but fall to Comp

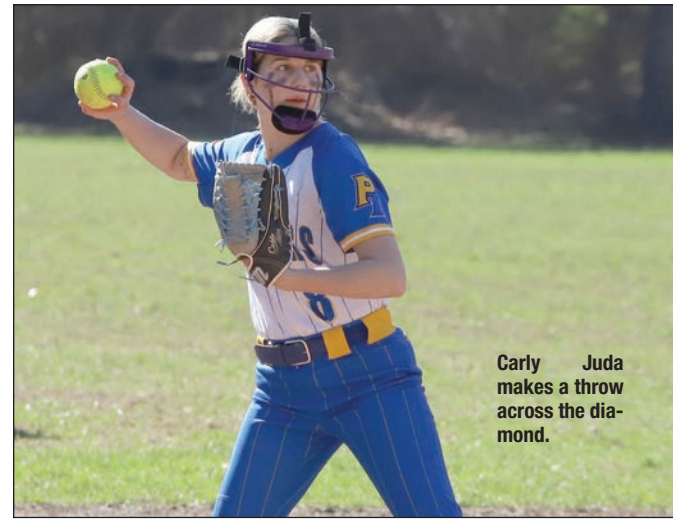


Addison Doktor swings and connects on a base hit.

PALMER – Pathfinder softball was able to push across a couple of runs early, but Chicopee Comprehensive came roaring back and ended up turning the game around, defeating Path-

finder 25-9 last Thursday at Pathfinder Tech.

The Pioneers fell to 0-4 on the season while Chicopee Comprehensive rose above .500 to 3-2.



Carly Juda makes a throw across the diamond.



Julieta Tweedell hustles home on a hit.



Emily Forcier squares up some contact.



Ellisyn Gelinis sends an easy throw to first.



Pitcher Taylor Thornton sends a pitch to the plate.



Parker Libiszewski leaps to fire a shot on net

Lacrosse co-op gets second win

MONSON – Last Friday afternoon on a sun-splashed back field at Monson High School, Monson boys lacrosse defeated Belchertown. The Mustangs, which has a co-op program with Pathfinder Tech, defeated the Orioles 7-5 to improve to 2-1 on the season. The Mustangs also defeated Pittsfield 12-6 and also record a loss against Wahconah 10-9. Monson's co-op is back in action at Lenox on Thursday, Apr. 9 at 4:30 p.m.



Jared Perry carries the ball upfield while a defender pressures him.



Brady Rodeman slings a pass to his teammate.



Noah Latulippe takes contact while advancing with the ball.



Brennan Peterson reaches for a ground ball as an opponent closes in.

- community -



A peep diorama called "Harry Peeper and the Sorcerer's Stone" was created by Savannah. This diorama was an entry into the Peeps Diorama Contest the Joshua Hyde Public Library was holding.



A peep disco party in the woods was created by Kennedy.

BEAVER DAY
FROM PAGE 1

Meredith Fournier said the kids "did such a good job" at creating these dioramas.

Visitors to the library could vote for which diorama was the most creative, best use of peeps, best theme, best looking and best overall.

The library will tally up the votes, and four of the five winners will receive a golden egg. The diorama that has the most votes for "best overall" will receive a peeps fanny pack.

The creativity behind these peep dioramas was exciting to view.

One diorama was called "Harry Peeper and the Sorcerer's Stone", inspired by the Harry Potter book series. This diorama was created by 10-year-old Savannah. Instead of the Lorax, there was the "Peepax" made by 13-year-old Ella Mason, inspired by the popular Dr. Seuss story.

Some dioramas had a sports theme to it, including the Mighty Peeps, created by Greyson who is 6 years old. The peeps were the stars



Miracle on Peeps was made by 10-year-old Riley. This diorama is inspired by the 1980 U.S. Hockey Team.

on the ice during a hockey game. There was also the Miracle on Peeps hockey diorama created by 10-year-old Riley.

If you like games hows, there was also a Jeopardy game happening, the "Tournament of Peeps".

There were a lot of well-thought designs put into these peep dioramas. These dioramas have become a popular activity at libraries throughout the United States.

While the children were voting for their favorite peep dioramas, there was a fun craft to do to celebrate

International Beaver Day. Tuesday, April 7 was International Beaver Day and to celebrate this occasion, the Joshua Hyde Public Library offered a craft where kids can decorate their own beaver masks.

Fournier got into the celebration and designed a beaver mask as well. After finishing the kids put their beaver masks on and the parents thought they did an excellent job.

A peeps-themed Jeopardy game called "The Tournament of Peeps" was happening in the children's library at Joshua Hyde Public Library.



WARRIORS
FROM PAGE 7

made team."

Boucher, who was a perfect 3-for-3 in last Friday's contest, also hit her first varsity home run over the right field fence leading off the fourth inning.

"It was very exciting hitting my first home run in today's game," said Boucher, who also contributed offensively with a single and a double. "It just gave us a lot of energy."

Boucher, who was a

member of the Lady Warriors swim team this past winter, also performed very well behind the plate.

"Brynn is an amazing catcher," McCord said. "This is the first time we've been teammates and we work very well together."

McCord allowed one run on just three hits. She issued three walks and recorded 13 strikeouts.

Things didn't start out very well, as McCord walked junior centerfielder Rachael Hickox leading off the first inning. After Hickox stole

second base, eighth grade shortstop Lucy Trombley also drew a walk.

McCord got out of the jam by striking out the next three batters. She then retired 12 of the next 13 batters. The only blemish was a bunt hit by Hickox with one-out in the third.

"I became more focused after walking the first two batters of the game," McCord said. "This was one of my better pitching performances so far this season. I just love being a member of this team."

The Lady Warriors threatened to take the lead in the second inning against junior righty RYANNE DUBAY.

Boucher lined a single off the shortstop's glove leading

off the frame. She was replaced at first base by freshman courtesy runner Kendall Boivin, who promptly stole second base. Then sophomore DP Olivia Fiske walked. Dubay got out of the jam by striking out the next three batters.

With two outs in the following inning, Tantasqua senior second baseman JulieAnne Petersen smacked a ground rule double over the rightfield fence. The next batter flied out to right ending the threat.

The only other senior listed on Tantasqua's varsity softball roster is Kiara Gonzalez, who's the starting centerfielder.

The Lady Warriors took a 1-0 lead following Boucher's leadoff home run in the fourth.

er's leadoff home run in the fourth.

With one-out in the sixth inning, Trombley grounded a single into left field. After McCord struck out the next batter, Dubay hit a pop-up, which was dropped by the third baseman for an error. Eighth grade third baseman Mariah Pacinella walked, which loaded the bases. The next batter hit a hard ground ball back to McCord. She tossed the ball to Boucher who stepped on the plate to record the final out of the inning.

Hampshire eighth grade designated player Reygan Horstmann doubled to right field leading off the top of the seventh inning. Senior third baseman Chelsea Va-

nasse followed with a bunt hit just out of the reach of freshman first baseman Kaelyn Pellicane, who made a diving attempt to catch the ball. Then a sacrifice bunt by sophomore second baseman Kalin Dubay moved both runners into scoring position. The game tying run crossed the plate when Hickox hit into a fielder's choice play hit. The Lady Warriors managed to keep the game tied with the help of an inning ending double play.

Carson then ended the fast paced game with one swing of the bat with one-out in the bottom half of the seventh inning.

H	E	R	A		M	O	M	O	T		E	B	A	N		
E	B	O	N		C	R	A	P	E		D	O	M	E		
B	L	E	D		F	A	C	E	D		D	R	I	B		
E	A	S	E	D		T	O	R	E		E	A	G	A	N	
					S	E	R	E	N		A	D	E	S		
B	H	P			M	A	D		T		A	G		B	E	E
E	A	R	N	E	D		M	I	D		S	M	I	N	G	
A	N	O	A	S		V	A	C			S	U	E	D	E	
M	O	A	B		E	E	C		E		A	G	L	E	S	
S	I	S			M	E	G		D		A	T		D	D	T
					T	E	L	E	M	E	T	E	R			
E	A	R	E	D		T	E	L			S	A	B	E	R	
A	G	H	A		S	A	G	E	S		S	B	O	R	A	
C	R	O	C		S	T	A	T	E		B	L	A	B		
H	A	S	H		R	E	N	E	E		I	A	S	I		

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

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.

T-BIRDS FROM PAGE 7

ter their three-goal blitz in the opening period. The Springfield power play had a half-dozen chances to try to cut into the deficit, but the Hartford penalty killing in front of Tung held the fort, and the rookie backstop finished his night with 36 stops for his sixth win of the season and second in three starts against Springfield.

Parents, Grandparents & Friends **SPECIAL!**
Congratulate YOUR Graduate
 Class of **2026** We are offering a great deal for you to **CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE** in your community graduation issue. Submit a photo and a brief message.
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MAY 15th
EMAIL YOUR AD TO: dflynn@turley.com
SPECIAL! \$55.00
MAIL YOUR AD WITH PAYMENT TO: Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
 Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to Turley Publications, Credit Cards be sure to include: Paper, Name, Address, Phone, Credit Card Number, Exp. Date & CVV

2x3 Black & White Grad Ad
 Congratulations Karly Smith! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!
 Love, Mom & Dad

- community -

**N BROOKFIELD
FROM PAGE 1**

Gilman said the scope of this project includes sidewalks, curbs, and ramps, but it is a grant match situation. He said the whole grant is just under a million dollars, but the town has to appropriate about \$160,000-\$170,000 in matching.

Gilman said the sidewalk project will go from Spring Street to Summer Street on the east side, and Central Street to Route 148 on the west side.

Gilman said the town received a Complete Streets grant for \$400,000, but were granted an additional \$100,000 to raise the total to half a million dollars. Gilman said there is now \$100,000 left on that grant, which was administered for North Main Street improve-

ment.

He said there was difficulty with this grant, with the last contractor raising the price for the scope of work shortly before it was to be started, and the town is now working with Howard Stein Hudson, which is a planning and engineering firm.

Another grant highlighted by Gilman was the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant, which was \$200,000, used toward improving the School Street intersection with North Main Street. Gilman said Vibram paid for the engineering.

He said the goal of this project was to tear down a wall and guardrail, and bring the sidewalk to street level.

Finally, Gilman said there is a possibility of using chapter 90 money to extend

paving to Gilbert Street.

"If all goes well, by the end of the year we will see a brand new Main Street in North Brookfield," Gilman said.

New hire

The board appointed Zachary Ramaska as a lead water operator for the water department. Water Superintendent Jamie Flamand said Ramaska previously worked for the town and is certified, and requires little training.

Color run request

The North Brookfield Parent Teacher Organization requested to have a 5K color run on a specified route throughout town. A representative from the organization said they held a color run for the past two years at the school but wanted to make it bigger.

Gilman suggested the

PTO reach out to the police department to verify the route, and the representative said the PTO is willing to pay for a police detail.

She said they plan on having the route end at the common and having a DJ and vendors as well, and that the parks commission is aware. The representative also said the PTO is insured.

Gilman requested they come back after the route is verified with the Police Department and they follow through with the Board of Health.

Fire Department structure

The Fire Department said they are considering changing from a board of engineers structure to a weak fire chief structure. The Selectmen noted that the board of engineers is like any other board in town, and has to

follow open meeting laws and have a quorum, noting that it could make it difficult for the Fire Department to get business finished.

The department said making this change would result in improved day to day operations, make decision making more efficient and clarify lines of authority. Gilman said the discussion is just getting started, and the town is consulting legal counsel, and it could potentially be an article at town meeting.

Time carryover request

Town Collector Kimberly Bent requested that her vacation time from last year be carried over to this year since she had no clerk and had to train a new hire, resulting in no vacation. The board approved the request.

TA job posting

Gilman read a letter from Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis, who was not present for the meeting, asking the board to discuss how Town Administrator jobs are posted. In the letter, he said external postings were unsuccessful and suggested posting internally instead to give town employees the opportunity to apply.

Other business

The board approved various warrants, including payroll, school, fire/highway and general. The board approved the minutes of their March 17 and March 24 meetings. The board signed the warrant for the municipal election, to be held May 4 at the Senior Center, with polling hours from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.



Quaboag Hills

CHIP GENERAL BODY MEETING

Open to the General Public!

Join us to review progress, hear updates, and discuss next steps for the CHIP initiative.

FOOD AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED!

MAY 1, 2026

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**E2E Center,
79 Main St.,
Ware, MA 01082**

**RSVP BY
APRIL 24**

Scan QR Code or Use Link:
<https://forms.gle/Bq8VtsUvLs2yan8V6> to Register



CONTACT US

413-807-0901

sblake@townofware.com



- community -

East Brookfield Police Log

During the week of Feb. 16-22, the East Brookfield Police Department responded to 147 building/property checks, 68 directed area patrols, 12 radar assignments, eight traffic controls, five emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one assist other agency, two safety hazards, one utility issue, one motor vehicle accident, one trespass, five complaints, five investigations, one threat, one harassment and 72 motor vehicle stops in the town of East Brookfield.

Monday, Feb. 16

2:53 a.m. Mutual Aid Ambulance, Out of Town, Merge
 7:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 7:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Ci-

tation Issued
 9:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 10:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 11:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation Issued
 11:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 12:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 1 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
 1:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 1:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 2:23 p.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Report Taken
 3:14 p.m. Trespass, Podunk Road, Officer Handled
 3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued

3:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
Tuesday, Feb. 17
 2:09 a.m. Parking Complaint, East Main Street, Written Warning
 5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 6:29 p.m. Trespass, Podunk Road, Negative Contact
 8:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
Wednesday, Feb. 18
 4:34 a.m. Parking Complaint, East Main Street, Written Warning
 12:04 p.m. Complaint, Connie Mack Drive, Spoken To
 1:49 p.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Officer Handled
 2 p.m. Assist Citizen, West Sturbridge Road, Services Rendered
 2:07 p.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Officer Handled
 3:50 p.m. Investigation, West Sturbridge Road, Officer Handled
 8:51 p.m. Radar, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:13 p.m. Safety Hazard, Rice Road, Investigated
Thursday, Feb. 19
 6:50 a.m. Medial Emergency, Podunk Road, Patient Refusal
 9:24 a.m. Assist Citizen, West Sturbridge Road, Officer Handled
 12:24 p.m. Complaint, North Street, Officer Handled
 12:55 p.m. Threat, Connie Mack Drive, Report Taken
 3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Harrington Street, Citation Issued
 5:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:26 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Flagg Road,

Transported to Hospital
Friday, Feb. 20
 4:30 a.m. Parking Complaint, East Main Street, Written Warning
 9:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Citation Issued
 9:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Citation Issued
 1:06 p.m. Medical Emergency, East Main Street, Patient Refusal
Saturday, Feb. 21
 7:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, East Main Street, Officer Handled
 2:55 p.m. Threat, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
 7:52 p.m. Harassment, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
 11:16 p.m. Safety Hazard, Town Secondary Roads, Services Rendered
Sunday, Feb. 22
 12:42 a.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Pleasant Street, Negative Contact
 8:02 a.m. Radar, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:47 a.m. Investigation, East Main Street, Officer Handled
 12:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 3 p.m. Radar, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 3:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 4:46 p.m. Assist Other Agency, East Main Street, Officer Handled
 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 5:16 p.m. Utility Issues, North Brookfield Road, Referred to Other Agency
 5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
 8 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation Issued
 8:07 p.m. Building/Property Check, West Main Street, Citation Issued

STURBRIDGE FROM PAGE 1

“We’re hoping to learn lessons as part of it,” she said. “We’re hoping to have implementation of this demonstration project in the next three to six months.”

Krishnan said the third step is to seek implementation grants to rebuild roadways and make them safer.

She said the Vision Zero Advisory Committee is made up of different stakeholders, ranging from the Department of Transportation, planners, the regional transit authority, the Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission, people with disabilities and more. She said the committee is still open to new members from Sturbridge.

Krishnan said a survey is also available for people to fill out regarding roadways that seem unsafe. This survey is listed under “News” on the town’s website, sturbridge.gov.

Krishnan said the draft action plan would be available in the fall in order to be adopted by January 2027.

DPW update

Department of Public Works Director Heather Blakeley presented four monthly reports to the Select Board.

Blakeley said the department responded to 17 snow events this winter over last year’s 11. The town received over 67 inches of snow this winter.

“That’s over 20-25 inches more than the last three years,” she said.

Blakeley said there were over 460 hours of contractor response to winter events alone.

“To say that this was a challenging winter, it would be an understatement,” she said. “For most of the winter we were short-staffed internally, we had multiple contractors come and go based on available of their own equipment...we had our own equipment break down on various occasions.”

Blakeley thanked the school district’s bus drivers who also came in to help clear snow during the major storms.

“We had multiple storms that we were here

for over 24 hours straight, some cases close to 36,” she said.

Blakeley asked that people remove winter items from the town’s cemeteries now, and wait to place Memorial Day items until the middle of May. This is so the department can complete cemetery cleanups.

250th events

Town Administrator Robin Grimm said the 250th celebration committee would host a Family Fun Day to be held on May 16 and the parade on June 27. She said the 250th banners and Hometown Heroes banners would be placed soon.

Appointments

Police Chief Earl Dessert presented Kevin Marderosian to be appointed to the Police Department full-time.

“Kevin brings 18 years of law enforcement experience and a well-rounded professional background,” Dessert said. “He is also a resident of the town of Sturbridge, demonstrating his commitment to the community he would serve.”

Marderosian began his career with the Oakham Police Department and has also served on the Fitchburg State University Police Department. He is the father of current Sturbridge Police Officer Zachary Marderosian.

The board voted to appoint Marderosian to the full-time position.

The board appointed Claire Campbell to the Cultural Council for a term to expire April 6, 2029. Grimm said Campbell has a background in theater and music and would be a great addition to the Cultural Council.

The board also voted Michael Gionfriddo to the Sturbridge Lake Association – Big Alum Lake for a term to expire April 6, 2029.

Sewer abatement

The board voted to approve Blakeley’s recommendation to grant a sewer abatement for a residence at Newton Place. A water pipe had broken outside of the building, resulting in the loss of water, which did not enter the sewer system.

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Highway Dept. Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver

The Town of New Braintree Highway Dept. is seeking qualified applicants for the immediate full-time position of Skilled Laborer / Truck Driver. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver’s License, Class B (CDL) with DOT Medical Examination Certification and a Hoisting Engineer License Class 2B with DOT Medical Examination Certification. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and an employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

Highway Dept. Seasonal Laborer

The Town of New Braintree is seeking a qualified candidate to perform seasonal work in the maintenance of town commons, roadways, grounds and cemeteries. Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver’s License (Class D). This is a seasonal position for 20 hours per week with a flexible schedule, May through October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and employment application to: Highway Department, 110 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree MA 01531.

For further information, please contact Richard Ayer, Highway Superintendent, at 508-867-2451, or via email at Highway@newbraintree.gov.

A.A./E.O.E.

School Nutrition Team Member Openings

IN MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

Part time, multiple shifts available, Monday-Friday
 Great schedule & benefits
 \$18-\$20/hr

Contact info:

schoolmeals@qrsd.org
 can apply via email inquiry
978-355-4668x8512

Accepting paper applications at
872 South St. Barre, MA 01005

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER



STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!

Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.

12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

413.283.8393

www.turley.com
 24 Water Street
 Palmer, MA 01069

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$225.00
Seasoned cut & split \$325.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MISCELLANEOUS

ST. JUDE THANK YOU FOR answering my prayers. P.F.

WANTED

WANTED! CASH for:

- Machinist tools, power tools & Snap on.
- Electronics & Audio Equipment.
- Sports Cards.
- 70s/80s/90s Toys.
- Antiques & Collectibles.

Much, much more!
Call/Text Sam
413-531-5381

WANTED TO BUY

ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.

Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:

Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

Call Paul 413-206-8688

OPPORTUNITY

BUSINESS FOR SALE

BIOLINKS OF NEW ENGLAND

Grease trap pumping business. Ninety customers, two pump trucks.
Call Les 413-297-1513

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

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

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL

Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service

2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******

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

DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

ELECTRICIAN

I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured.
Master Elec. #20773A.
Text/call Luis 413-218-3301.

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC

Fully licensed and insured, Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.

Call John at (413)206-6509
Every customer gets a free gem stone.

Handyman Services

Walker Home Improvement

Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!
(413) 687-5552

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor.
Tim 413-563-2229. Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

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

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Remodeling & Deck Specialists

Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

LANDSCAPING

A. ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

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

DAVE MAZ LANDSCAPING

Lawn mowing, Spring thru Fall clean-ups, mulching, pruning. Serving parts of Hampden and Hampshire counties. Call 413-536-3697.

SERVICES

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING

Landscape Design and Installation
Paver Patios, Walkways
For more services visit mattguertinlandscaping.com
Call or text 413-266-9975
Insured - Commercial - Residential

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

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

PAINTING

PRO PAINTING

Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry. 413-310-5099.

PLUMBING

GREG LAFONTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374.

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING

Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

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

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

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

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

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING

Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

TUNE-UPS

LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

A&M TUNE-UPS

Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.

FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

AUTO CAMPERS

2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD LENGTH 33'; 2 SLIDE-OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4, LOTS OF STORAGE. \$8000. BRIMFIELD (413)374-1880

PETS

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS. Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines. 30 years experience. 3M, 2F, Ready, w/ shots. Now \$1,200. 413-218-2321

HELP WANTED

CANNABIS CULTIVATION AND PRODUCT MANUFACTURING FACILITY (HOLYOKE)

Holyoke Wilds, a licensed cannabis cultivation facility in Holyoke, MA, is seeking reliable individuals for general cultivation and product manufacturing positions. Duties include assisting with plant care, trimming, cleaning, product manufacturing and other general tasks within the facility.
Start Date: Within the next few weeks to months
Pay: Varies based on experience. Ranges from \$16 to \$20 per hour.
Requirements: Applicants must be 21 or older and eligible to work in the United States. Background checks are required under state cannabis regulations.

Interested candidates should email holyokewilds@gmail.com with their contact information and brief work history.

Holyoke Wilds is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or veteran status.

HELP WANTED

SEASONAL FACILITIES CREW wanted at Norcross Wildlife Foundation. For a full job description, please visit www.norcrosswildlife.org or email info@norcrosswildlife.org

The Town of North Brookfield is looking for a **part-time Program Assistant** for the Council on Aging. Please submit a resume with a letter of interest to the **Selectmen's Office, 215 Main St., North Brookfield, MA 01535**; or by email to selectmen@northbrookfield.net.

WANT TO WORK THIS SUMMER part or full-time? Help wanted for assisting in landscape maintenance and installation projects. Liberty Orchards Landscape, 413-283-6408.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

AGAWAM APT. FOR RENT. 2 bed, 2 bath, gas heat, private basement washer/dryer hookup. \$1600 mo. No utilities. No pets. Call 413-789-6206.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

- community -

E BROOKFIELD
FROM PAGE 1

before placing an order," the explanation read.

Members of the Finance Committee said they hope to make up the difference between the current savings and the cost of the truck over the next two years with free cash.

Fire Chief David Messier explained that there are three primary manufacturers of fire trucks, and large groups are buying out the manufacturers, driving up prices. He said the same

fire truck was \$800,000 last year.

He said there are a limited number of grants, such as homeland security and Federal Emergency Management Agency grants, but the latter usually is awarded to towns that are larger than, or have a higher population than East Brookfield.

A resident asked Messier if there would be any incidental costs for changing the station to fit the new vehicle, or turning the old truck into a parade truck. Messier said neither of those possibilities

would happen, as the new truck is the same size, and the department will trade in or sell the old truck.

After discussion, voters approved the article by majority.

Insurance premiums

Article 1 recommended the transfer of \$5,152 from free cash to the property and liability insurance account. According to the explanation, this is to cover "additional premiums required for new water infrastructure as well as addition of Work Comp premiums."

The article was adopted by voters.

Prior year's invoices

Article 2 recommended the transfer of \$561 from free cash for fiscal year 2025 unemployment service fees. According to the explanation, this was a prior year invoice from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association. The article was adopted.

Article 7 recommended the transfer of \$1,575 from Ambulance Fees Reserved for Appropriation to the ambulance billing company

to pay a prior year's invoice. According to the explanation, "this amount was initially disputed however after considerable due diligence it appears to be owed." The article was adopted.

Part-time clerk wages

Article 4 recommended the transfer of \$3,000 from Water Department Retained Earnings to Water Department in-house clerk wages. According to the explanation, this is for the hiring of a part-time clerk. The article was adopted.

Revaluation costs

Article 5 recommended the transfer of \$1,000 from free cash for costs associated with the Assessor's revaluation requirements for FY 26. The article was adopted.

Utilities shortfall

Article 6 recommended the transfer from available funds of \$4,500 to fund a shortfall in the utilities budget. According to the explanation, the shortfall is a result of the past winter causing higher than budgeted costs. The article was adopted.

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!!!!
PRE-SEASON A/C SALE!!!
GIANT APPLIANCE REBATES!!!
MATTRESS SALE!!!
BIKES, E-BIKES!!!
WE REPAIR BIKES!!!

12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING
WHITCO
140 Main St., Spencer
www.whitcosales.com
508-885-9343
Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

POST ROAD REALTY
BUYING OR SELLING... WE HAVE THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!
www.PostRoadRealty.com

PRICE IMPROVEMENT!
21-22 BEACH DRIVE
WEST BROOKFIELD, MA
\$659,900

PRICE IMPROVEMENT!
95 TOWN FARM ROAD
WARREN, MA
\$539,900

Cassie Paolucci
774-200-3523

Accepting New Patients
KELLY & VELÁZQUEZ EYE CENTER

PETER J. KELLY, M.D., P.C.
LEONARDO J. VELÁZQUEZ, M.D.
DENNIS M. DORANS, O.D.
KELLY N. POULIOT, O.D.

1504 North Main St. Palmer, MA 01069 (413) 283-3511
362 Sewall St. Ludlow, MA 01056 (413) 589-7308

PALMER HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
LUDLOW HOURS: Hours vary, please call

WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!
LANDSCAPE STONE
White • Blue • Purple • Red
Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand
Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

Bond
98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer
bondsandandgravel.com
508-885-6100
508-885-2480

SAVE 10% OFF
Select Lawn & Garden And Marine Batteries

NAPA AUTO PARTS WARE • WEST BROOKFIELD

175 West St., Ware 413-967-5121 • 967-3184
116 Federal St. (Rt. 9) Belchertown 413-323-7661 • 323-9296
117 West Main St., W. Brookfield • 508-867-9947
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9-7, Sat. 9-3, Sun. 9-2

Country Canine KENNELS

Boarding, Grooming, Daycare

Boarding starting at \$40 a night
Daycare starting at \$26 a day

84 Greenwich Plains Road
Ware, MA 01082
(413) 277-0334 Office Phone
countrycaninekennels@gmail.com

Adventure tours of Warren
Share the Adventure with us!

Boothbay Harbor Vacation

June 9-12 4-Day Boothbay Harbor Vacation\$899
June 27....Lake George Cruise & Lunch\$185
July 11.....Provincetown by Fast Ferry.....\$220
July 19.....8-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruise.....from \$1699
Aug 30.....8-Day Nova Scotia Cruisefrom \$1699

Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

Flint Signs
149 Broad St., Barre, MA
Tel. 978-355-3080
www.FlintSigns.com

Quality Handcrafted Signs Since 1973

JARS Café & Bakery

23 Summer Street North Brookfield MA 01535

❖ COFFEE
❖ GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS
❖ BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
❖ SOUPS
❖ COOKIES
❖ MUFFINS
❖ PASTRIES
❖ MAC'N CHEESE
❖ LUNCH & BREAKFAST MEALS

BRING IN ENTIRE AD FOR \$5 OFF
with \$10 minimum purchase.

508-637-1577
OPEN NOW 7 DAY A WEEK!
8am-2pm Mon-Fri
8am-3pm Sat. & Sun.

Ladd's RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

WE KEEP IT SIMPLE.
Great Food, Great Drinks,
Great Service & Great People!

64 Barre-Paxton Road, Route 122, Rutland

Daily \$14.99 Home Cooked Specials!

6 Big Screen TVs To Watch!
508-886-4771 **KENO**

CATERING & EVENT AVAILABLE
BOOK YOUR PARTY NOW!!!
Check Out Our Specials at
www.laddsrestaurant.net

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE HOURS:
WED & THURS 4:00-9:00 PM; FRI 2:00-9:00 PM; SAT 11:30 AM-9:30 PM; SUN 11:30 AM-9:00 PM