



QUABOAG CURRENT

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Newspaper

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Enter a world of pure imagination

Theater Guild presents 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory'

By Dallas Gagnon
Staff Writer
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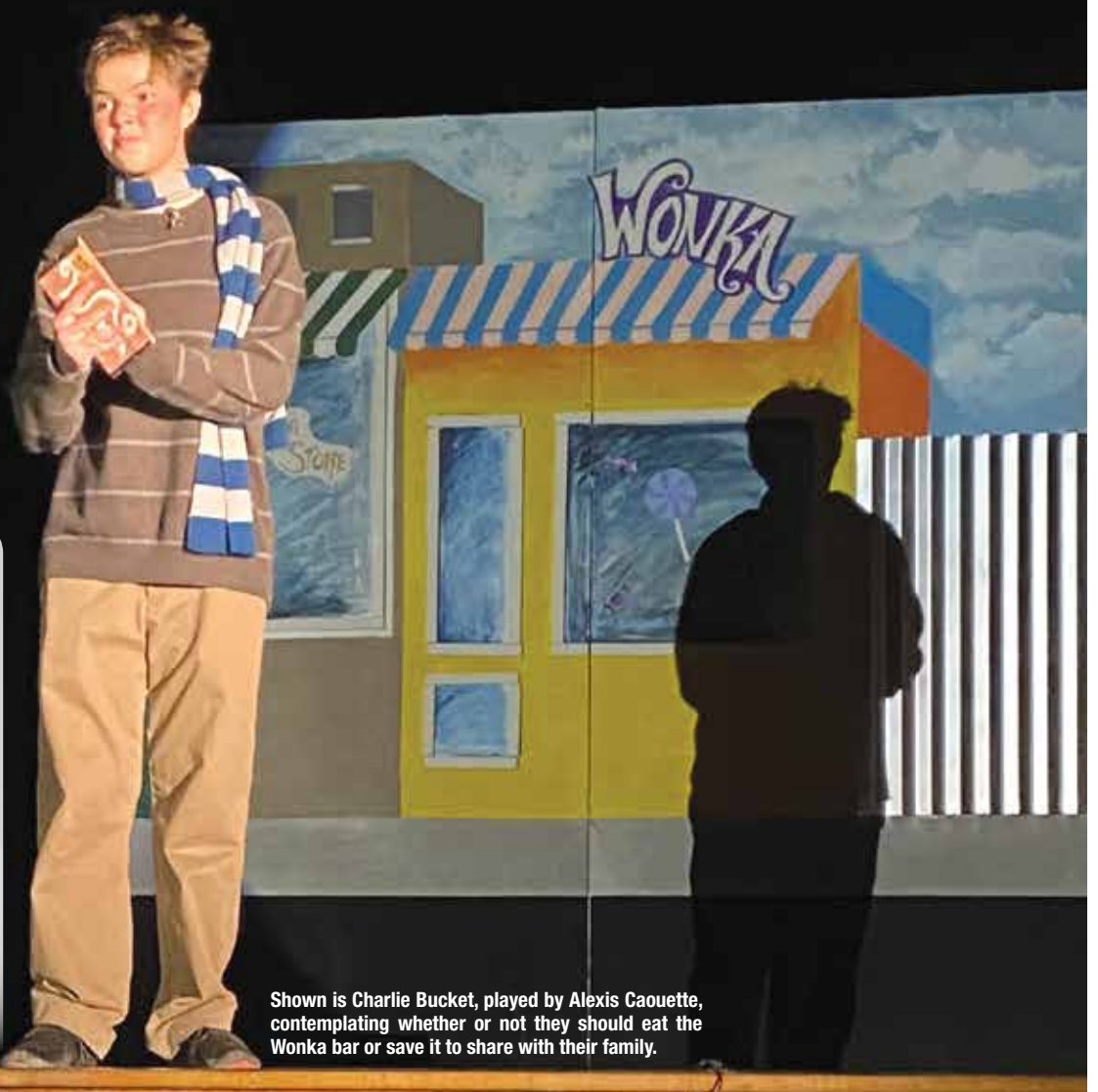
NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Theater Guild of North Brookfield will take you into a “world of pure imagination” with their performance of “Willy Wonka and Chocolate Factory”, based on Ronald Dahl’s classic children’s novel.

While three showings of the performance took place this past weekend, three more showtimes are scheduled for Friday, May 19, Saturday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 21 at 2 p.m.

Performances will take place at North Brookfield Elementary School, with a \$16 admission cost per adult and \$11 per child.

Although card payments are not an option, cash, Venmo and checks are accepted. Admission costs go towards the

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Shown is Charlie Bucket, played by Alexis Caouette, contemplating whether or not they should eat the Wonka bar or save it to share with their family.

West Brookfield’s oldest resident receives Boston Post Cane

By Dallas Gagnon
Staff Writer
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WEST BROOKFIELD/WARE – West Brookfield’s oldest resident, Camille Koss, 99, was honored in a presentation of the Boston Cane last Wednesday at Cedarbrook Village in Ware.

The presentation of the Boston Post Cane is a century-long tradition which honors a town’s oldest resident and has roots in Boston, dating back to the early 1900’s.

While the tradition originally honored recipients with the presentation of a cane made of ebony fixed with a 14 carat gold head, today, West Brook-

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Boston Post Cane recipient Camille Koss is shown smiling with her award certificate as presented by the town of West Brookfield. (COURTESY PHOTOS BY THE KOSS FAMILY)

Board discusses using ARPA to hire town administrator

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Board of Selectmen Chair Jason Petraitis said the American Rescue Plan Act Committee made two recommendations to use the money, including to help hire a town administrator.

At the May 9 meeting, Petraitis said the Committee recommended putting aside \$400,000 to fund this position, potentially starting in fiscal year 2024.

Vice-Chair John Tripp said he thinks they could use that money for other purposes.

“I personally don’t think that we need a town admin-

istrator at this time and that \$400,000, I believe, could be better used on projects in town,” he said.

Clerk Elizabeth “Brooke” Canada said it’s important to follow the master plan’s recommendation to hire a town administrator and she supports the request.

Petraitis said this has been discussed for years and he’s torn about it.

He said he’s talked to people in other towns that have decided to hire a town administrator, and heard both pros and cons.

ARPA Committee Chair Ethan Melad said Brookfield now has a town administrator and she has saved the town half

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Planning Board gives approval for housing community

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – Planning Board Chair Charles Blanchard opened the continuation of the public hearing on the site plan and special permit for Blueberry Hills Estates on Berry Farms Road.

Town Planner Jean Bubb said this age 55+ housing

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Plant sale benefits Pathfinder students

By Marcelo Gusmao
Staff Writer
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PALMER – Pathfinder Tech’s annual plant sale drew huge crowds recently, as the school’s Horticulture Department raised funds for an upcoming field trip.

As Pathfinder was going through its accreditation process, as it does every 10 years, the horticulture department was unable to hold the sale Wednesday through Friday as they usually do – which meant that Saturday was “crazy,” according to Horticulture Instructor Lynn Dupuis.

“The parking lot was full, people were waiting in line,” Dupuis said. “I’m thrilled everybody came out.”

The horticulture department is currently planning to take 14 students on an overnight trip to Pennsylvania, which Dupuis said was



Residents came out to support the school on Saturday.

partially funded by this weekend’s sale.

“We’re going to try and do that every year,” said Dupuis, “They’re going to be seeing gardens they might never see if they don’t leave Massachusetts.”

Growing for the plant sale began back as far December, so the plants can start flowering in time for the sale. The students then had to take care of the plants, pruning the buds throughout the year to build up to the sale.

“I think the kids did a great job, they worked really hard,” Dupuis said, “It was mostly freshmen and juniors that did most of the work this year, and they did a fantastic job. The kids have to water and fertilize the plants, they have to go in and take care of them and keep the greenhouse clean.”

Dupuis described introducing bugs into the greenhouses to eat pests that might harm the plants. “The students do all that, they put up the little hangers for them.”

Dupuis is one of two teachers in Pathfinder’s horticulture department, with each teaching two grades. Dupuis said that the school is currently in the process of hiring a new teacher in the fall, replacing a previous teacher who had retired.

“When we get ready for the sale, the kids do a lot of the advertising,” Dupuis said. “They get the signs made up and ready to go, so when people get here they’re ready to help them. The younger kids aren’t as knowledgeable about the plants as the older ones, so they work together, which is nice.”

The school often coordinates with local garden clubs so students can help them do flower arrangements.

“They’re learning to talk to people and to use their trade, and teaching people who come in that don’t know plants. Some people come in and absolutely have no idea, but the kids do, so they explain it to them and tell



Horticulture students (from left) Jack Mahan, Bryant Bressette, Nicholas Pfister, Anthony Clark, and Jacob Longo, pictured in the greenhouse.

them how they should be taking care of the plants.”

Pathfinder students will often do horticulture projects around town as well, said Dupuis.

“We pick jobs according to what they’re being taught, so we’ll do jobs for community members as they put them through. We can’t do a whole bunch of lawn cleanups, but we’ll do different types of pruning,” said Dupuis.

“I’m just really proud of them, they did an excellent job this year,” said Dupuis. “They worked really hard.”

“Next year we’ll do things a little differently,” Dupuis said, saying that the school plans to have two registers inside to speed up traffic.

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North Brookfield lists Memorial Day events

NORTH BROOKFIELD – In 2023 the town is presenting a full array of events to celebrate the sacrifices and patriotism of veterans who have given distinguished service to their country over the years.

These events start at 8 a.m. at the Walnut Grove cemetery and conclude at the St. Joseph cemetery. A ceremony will take place consisting of a military color guard, a prayer invocation, a firing squad volley, and the playing of Taps (near and echo) to render appropriate gratitude to deceased veterans.

At 9:15 a.m., the reincarnation of the long tradition for a town parade honoring veterans will depart from the firehouse and proceed north on Grove Street to the intersection of North Main Street. It will then move south on North Main Street to the intersection of Main, Summer and School Streets.

It will then disperse to participate in activities at the Haston Library.

In the event there be inclement weather a condensed Memorial Day program will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the North Brookfield Congregational Church.

Starting at 10:30 a.m. in the center of town (North Main and School streets) a veteran's color guard and firing squad will march to the Haston Free Public Library where they will be posted. They will be accompanied by members of the North Brookfield Jr./Sr. High School band.

According to Eric Blumenthal, bandmaster, the band's status is like that of the New England Patriots in that they are in a "rebuilding mode".

Ceremonies will begin at 10:35 a.m. with opening comments and an invocation given by Frank Potter, the chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. This will be followed by the long-time tradition of reading Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Historically this has been accomplished by the junior class president. Jake Standrowicz will be fulfilling that honor.

The bells of the Congregational Church will then be rung by Steve Ottman, to symbolize the joyful homecoming of veterans who are returning from battle.

Continuing the ceremony at 10:50 a.m. in front of the town war memorials (Haston Library) includes speeches by honored guests: the Pastor Nate Hayman, of the North Brookfield Pilgrim Baptist Church, will start and be followed by Jason Petraitis representing the Board of Selectmen.

At 11:05 a.m., the Jr./Sr. School band ensemble, under the direction of Blumenthal, will play the hymns of the various military branches in order of founding (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force) plus "America the Beautiful".

At 11:25 a.m., the most solemn part of the program begins with the reading of deceased veterans of North Brookfield starting from the Civil War to the present conflict in the war against terrorism.

As each name is read a poppy flower (by poppy girls: Maddy Boucher, Makailin Chauysse, Macy Kilbourn, Sophia Lamansky, Ambre Roy and Caitlyn Toomy) will be attached to a wreath supplied by Linda McGourty from the Woman's Auxiliary of the American Legion Post.

A drum roll is also rendered after each name is read.

After the readings the military firing squad will render a three-volley salute in honor of these deceased veterans. Following the rifle salute, Mark McGrail and a student from the band will render the playing of Taps with an echo.

The ceremony is concluded by the lowering and raising of the American flag by the commanders of the American Legion (Ray Dupel) and VFW (Joseph Jablonski) detachments.

Simultaneously, the community will be led in the singing of the National Anthem by Emily Sampson. All are encouraged to participate in singing our National Anthem.

Cultural Council lists 350th celebration events

BROOKFIELD – The Cultural Council continues its yearlong celebration of the town's 350th anniversary.

Upcoming events include an ice cream social on the Common, Sunday, May 21 at 1 p.m. Music will be provided by the Brookfield Elementary School chorus and Lindsey and Reagan Paras.

The rain date for this event is May 28.

Theater & Art in the Park will be held on June 9. Student artwork will be on display beginning at 4:30 p.m., followed by a performance of the play "Little Orphan Samantha" at 5 p.m.

This event is open to the community - bring a blanket or chairs and a picnic supper. After the play, Maggie the Clown will perform.

In case of rain, the event will be held at the BES cafeteria.

The Fire Department will have a Father's Day chicken BBQ on Sunday, June 18.

On June 24, the 350th Anniversary Car Show will be held from 10 a.m.-

3 p.m. at Quaboag Valley Church. There will be a food truck and DJ.

Concerts on the Common start July 7 from 6-8 p.m. with Bad News Jazz, followed July 14, Sunshine & Blue Skies Band with Henry the Jugger (starting at 5 p.m.); July 21, Cold Train with food truck Roadside Delights; July 28, Karaoke on the Common; Aug. 4, The Great Escape (Journey tribute band) and Black Sheep BBQ food truck and Batch ice cream; Aug. 11, 4 Ever Fab (The Beatles tribute band) and Aug. 18, country band CobbleStone Road.

A ski show is tentatively planned for Sept. 9 at South Pond.

Other events include the 350th parade which will begin at noon on Sept. 17; 50's Dance at the Rod & Gun on Sept. 29; Pumpkinfest (with more categories and prizes, scarecrow contest and games) on Oct. 21; a tree lighting with Crazy Christmas Hat parade (with singing, dancing and of course, Santa) on Dec. 3; and a house decorating contest on Dev. 17. November events are still being planned.

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- opinion -



Flowering problems you may encounter this spring

My mom called up last night, disappointed that there is only one bud in her entire clump of Bearded Iris.

I am always one to turn a question into a column, so why don't we get to the bottom of my mother's sparse irises and also delve into why some flowers haven't given us the wow factor this spring.

If once upon a time your irises bloomed strong and now there is barely a blossom to be seen, chances are they are overcrowded. It's time to divide them and replenish their soil.

In our climate, this should be accomplished every three or four years.

Surprisingly, and unlike most other perennials, division of irises should take place in July or August. This will give them ample time to take hold in their new location prior to the ground freezing.

If you have no blooms, feel free to get the job done now!

At first glance the act of dividing irises may appear to be difficult. An overgrown iris patch does look like a maze of thick roots, but take heart, the rhizomes are shallow rooted and come out of the ground with relative ease.

Start digging at the outer edge of the clump, lifting as you go. Once the entire clump is removed, rhizomes can be pried apart by hand.

The healthiest "fans" of foliage are those the furthest from the center. Leave about 2 inches of rhizome attached to each fan for replanting.

If you are changing your site altogether, keep in mind that irises need at least six hours of full sun a day for optimal flowering. They despise "wet feet," so plant where drainage is good.

If your soil is lean, compost can be added to enrich it up. While you're at it, add a sprinkling of lime as well; irises prefer a soil near neutral.

Dig a shallow hole wide enough to fit the rhizome. Make a ridge of soil in the hole for it to sit on so that its fibrous roots can hang down.

The top of the rhizome should be level with the soil surface and exposed, not buried. This goes for bark mulch as well; keep it clear or blooms may be sacrificed.

If your irises hardly flower but aren't overcrowded and are planted where they receive enough sun, assess your planting depth and adjust if necessary.

Many gardeners remarked that their Forsythia didn't usher in spring last month as usual. Very few blossoms but lots of green foliage.

Presently, my Japanese Rose (*Kerria japonica*), usually a showstopper, looks just about the same and I hear so do some types of Azaleas.

Why? I am guessing that the buds were killed by the one really cold, minus 17 night. Sometimes, if we have a few inches of snow when temperatures dip, you will see blossoms on the forsythia down low, where the snow insulated the buds on those low branches.

Lots of folks are sad when a tulip patch that bloomed prolifically the year before, doesn't do so well the year after. Why is that?

Tulips are bred more for their flowers and less for longevity in the garden. Some species are more apt to return than others, namely Darwin Hybrids, Emperor, and the more diminutive wildflower tulips, Greigii and Kaufmanniana among other, less known species.

Planting at the proper depth (for tulips usually 3 times the height of the bulb) in a sunny location with good drainage will get you off to a good start, and then we leave it up to Mother



Ovenbird

The ovenbird gets its name from the type of nest it builds, which looks like a Dutch oven.

They place the nest on the ground and it has a domed roof over the nest of grasses and rootlets. The entrance is a small slit.

The female lays three to six white eggs with brown and gray marks. They inhabit mature deciduous or mixed forests.

They eat insects, worms and spiders and they walk on the ground and fallen branches and poke under leaves looking for food.

An Oakham resident has ovenbirds in her yard. She hears them making a sharp "chip" call.

The ovenbird is six inches long and has an olive-brown back. Its breast and belly with white with heavy dark stripes. The ovenbird crown is orange bordered by two dark brown stripes.

Barred owl

An Oakham resident saw a barred owl in her yard on April 28.

She said in an email, "I had a surprise visitor this evening, a beautiful barred owl sat on my deck railing for quite a while. He looked all around before flying up to a maple tree. He sat in the tree for several minutes before going into the woods at the edge of my yard. I finally saw what he was after. He was tracking a squirrel."

The owl and squirrel went tree to tree.

Other birds

The same resident sent me an email on May 3 to say she got her first hummingbird on May 2. A friend in Barre told her that

her neighbors already had hummingbirds so the Oakham resident put out feeders.

She was glad she already had her feeder up when the first hummingbird appeared.

She said, "For the first time in 31 years of living here, I got my first bluebirds. I bought mealworms and set up my first tray feeder ever. I cannot get over all the birds who have gone to the tray feeder who have been ground eaters, morning doves, juncos and even a robin.

Leucistic rose breasted grosbeak

A Palmer resident sent a photo of a Leucistic rose breasted grosbeak at her feeder. The grosbeak, a male had a lot of white feathers, but it did have the rose-colored splash on its breast.

This phenomenon causes the partial loss of all types of pigmentation and causes white coloration, white patches, spots or splotches.

Baltimore orioles

An Oakham couple had Baltimore orioles at their suet feeder this week. They were going to get some oranges to put out for the orioles as well. I put out an orange this week.

The next morning I found one half of the orange on the ground and another on a rock about ten feet from the holder where I put the orange halves. I think it was the work of a grey squirrel or squirrels as I have lots of them.

Wood stork

I received a note in the mail from a Palmer resident, who saw a wood stork.

She wrote, "Two mornings in a row, I saw a wood stork fly and land in some bushes on the cove at Lake Thompson in Palmer. Imagine my surprise - white bird with black wing tips - wood stock is from Florida." She said she opened her "Journal" to she who the bird person was and there was a picture of a heron and my address.

Other birds

The Oakham resident, who has the oven birds, saw two hooded mergansers on Long Pond a few weeks ago.

Originally, I planned to put out my hummingbird feeder the weekend of April 29 and 30, but it was so cold I decided to wait. Instead, I put the feeder out this past Saturday and I spotted hummingbirds on Sunday.

This Monday I saw a catbird. I also have not seen any dark-eyed juncos lately. I think they have all headed north to their nesting grounds.

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

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

CANE | FROM PAGE 1

field's original cane is kept in the display case in the Town Hall.

Koss was surrounded by second and third generation family members including her two children, Kevin and Nadine, their spouses and several grandchildren.

Koss was emotional as she accepted certificates from the town of West Brookfield and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts honoring her as West Brookfield's oldest resident, where she has lived for 53 years.

West Brookfield Selectmen Ronald Sickenberger presented Koss with a pin made of pink roses and baby's breath, wrapped delicately in white, mesh ribbon.

Koss could be seen admiring and smelling the roses after the ceremony.

Donna Framer presented Koss with her certificate from the Commonwealth on behalf of state Rep. Donald Berthiaume and state Sen. Anne Gobi, recognizing Koss as West Brookfield's oldest resident.

Koss was born in Ware on Aug. 19, 1923, to Peter and Sophie Imbier.

While she grew up on Pulaski Street in Ware, Koss went to New York City after graduating high school to



Camille Koss is surrounded by second and third generation families who attended her Boston Post Cane presentation ceremony. Shown are Koss's children and their spouses, alongside her grandchildren. (COURTESY PHOTOS BY THE KOSS FAMILY)



Camille Koss smiles as she accepts a certificate from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts extending congratulations as signed by state Rep. Donald R. Berthiaume and speaker of the house Ronald Mariano.

study photography.

Although she worked at the Ware Cooperative Bank for nearly two decades, Koss's main hobby was photography.

She was a member of the Ware Camera Club for years and is credited for taking photographs of many events in Ware and of neighborhood children.

Koss had several other hobbies, including polka dancing, ceramics and crocheting. Over the years, she has crocheted countless blankets and afghans for family members and "new additions."

Her family also credits her for her "famous" chocolate chip cookies, which they say friends, family and coworkers often ask for.

In 1949, Camille Koss married John Koss, with whom she shares two children.

While Camille and John built a summer home on Lake Wickaboag in West Brookfield in 1968, the couple bought a permanent residence on Lakeshore Drive

in 1992 where they'd host family gatherings and enjoy lake life.

Though Koss is still a resident of West Brookfield, she has been staying at Cedarbrook Village since late 2021.

Koss has two children, five grandchildren, Jessica, Angela, Jonathan, Daniel, and Michael and seven great-grandchildren.

The ceremony was organized by the West Brookfield Historical Commission, with secretary Anne-Marie Nolan credited for contacting Koss and her family, scheduling meetings, dates and collaborating with other Historical Commission members reaching out to town and state officials.

Co-chair of the Commission, Louise Garwood, read the history of the Boston Post Cane ceremony while Nolan shared Koss's biography.

Koss will be 100 years old this August.

HOUSING | FROM PAGE 1

community project has been going on for over a year. Originally, the project included 71 units, but has been reduced to 67 to meet conservation requirements.

At the May 9 meeting, she said applicant Justin Stelmok has been working with the Conservation Commission to address vernal pools on the property.

"The applicant's been working to move the development and the proposed homes out of the buffer zones," she said.

Bubon since the Board will have a turnover of members, it's necessary for them to vote on this now. She said she doesn't expect any changes to be made to the roadway layout.

"I'm recommending approval of the project with conditions," she said.

Engineer Peter Engle gave a slide presentation showing changes they made to Unit 70, in order to remove it from the 200-foot vernal pool buffer zone. He said they shifted it forward so it would be out of the buffer zone.

He said they reversed the orientation of Unit 65, moving the garage to the lefthand side to reduce the amount of structure within the vernal pool buffer.

Units 65 and 64 were also reduced by four feet to

pull them out of the 100-foot wetlands buffer zone. Unit 57 was also reduced in size.

Unit 56 was removed, and the rain garden has been shifted in its place.

Units 55 and 53 were reduced, including the removal of a garage from Unit 55.

Engle said the Conservation Commission didn't want them placing retaining walls around the vernal pools, and the updated site plan includes re-grading to eliminate the need for retaining walls.

He said the loss of garages could impact marketing for the development, but he won't know until they start building.

The Board approved the site plan and special permit with conditions and waivers.

29-31 Brookfield Road

Bubon said the property at 29-31 Brookfield Road was previously approved to be a pizza restaurant and office space, with apartment upstairs.

She said last year that was amended to allow the downstairs to be occupied by Premier Restorations.

Bubon said she noticed a fence was being erected and Colonial Restorations was renting a small office space on the first floor with Premier. She said the fence

is being built to enclose the large beams Colonial Restorations uses for their restoration work.

"There is a revised site plan and a revised floor plan," Bubon said.

The town's Conservation Agent Rebecca Gendreau asked that boulders be placed to protect wetlands that border the parking area.

The Board approved the revised site plan.

River Road property

Bubon said the building on Hall Road that houses the Chamber of Central Mass South is set to be demolished.

The Chamber is looking at a small cabin on the 1 River Road property.

"They're planning to go in there and if they are able to lease this space, they would also reactivate the Visitor Center," she said. The Center would have brochures to promote town attractions in a weatherproof rack.

Bubon said all of the parking is sufficient.

"It seems like a good use, a good way to preserve that building," she said, which has been vacant for some time.

"It will be nice to see it cleaned up and painted," she said.

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- sturbridge -

Credit for Life made finances fun for students

By Matty Anderson
Staff Writer
manderson@gmail.com

STURBRIDGE – Tantasqua Regional High School and Country Bank collaborated to host Credit for Life, a financial literacy exercise, welcoming students from Quaboag Regional and North Brookfield high schools as well.

“Credit for Life is a great opportunity for students to learn real life financial skills that will follow them into the future,” said Jodie Gerulaitis, the Vice President of Community Relations at Country Bank.

On May 12, participating seniors were asked to make decisions on how to budget and spend their money, however much like real life there were fiscal traps at every corner.

Credit For Life’s goal was for students to better grasp their future financial responsibilities and understand how impactful each decision can be on their lives.

To start the exercise, students chose an occupation which would be their foundation moving forward, they had the option of taking up a side hustle to create more revenue. Once students made their decisions, they visited the Reality Check Booth where they received a blessing or a curse.

A blessing would be a life advantage based on luck such as coming from a rich family, and as you may have guessed, receiving a curse meant the opposite.

Much like real life, people can make a comeback despite a rocky start and a blessed person could easily squander their good fortune and end up in financial ruins.

The exercise was part luck and part good life choices, which made for a more realistic experience. Students were warned to think carefully and understand the difference between needs and wants.

Another great piece of advice was to “pay yourself first” by including a payment to their savings account every month to save for the unexpected or something fun.

Speaking of fun, the “Fun Fun Fun Booth” was set up to entice students into some frivolous spending such as a cruise or buying tickets to a basketball game.

This booth was run by Sam Pursey, Country Bank’s



Jodie Gerulaitis posing with Quaboag Regional students, Elizabeth Czaja and Chase Potvin (Turley Publications Staff Photos)

Commercial Loan Relationship Officer and Rebecca Chaffee, Country Bank’s Charge Bank Specialist.

Pursey said, “It’s my first time doing this event, I’ve enjoyed playing out these real-life experiences, Country Bank loves getting involved with events like this, it’s been really fun.”

Chaffee said, “This is my second time volunteering. I love guiding students and helping them learn to make good decisions, but honestly, it’s pretty fun to try and trick them into purchasing something unnecessary too.”

Quaboag Regional students, Elizabeth Czaja and Chase Potvin enjoyed visiting the “Fun Fun Fun Booth,” Czaja caved in and bought a puppy while Potvin splurged on Celtics tickets.

Potvin said, “This has been really eye opening, especially the coupons at the Food and Nutrition Booth, good coupons can be really powerful!”

Tantasqua High’s very own Claire Godek said, “it was really fun and helpful to learn how finances work especially in an engaging activity, I actually feel more prepared for the future.” Julia Faugno, another Tantasqua High student said, “it was really interesting to get to know financing a little more, having a roommate made the experience a lot more fun and saved me a lot financially.”

Dave Delano, a volunteer from Charlton, said, “I think this event is great, financial literacy is a skill that has been neglected by the education system for far too long, you may never do an algebraic equation after graduating but you’ll definitely balance a checkbook and work on your credit score.”

He added “Unless you have parents who are educated in these things, you may struggle in life and learn by making mistakes which is the wrong way to learn.”

At the end of the afternoon, Gerulaitis announced the winners of the social media challenge, on platforms such as Instagram, TikTok and Facebook.

“I usually only do one gift card for the Social Media Challenge, but you guys were so creative that I’m gonna be handing out three today,” she said.

Blair Swistak-Robidoux, from the Retail Banking office in Ware said, “This has been a really rewarding experience for the students and myself, as a parent I hope that my kids have the opportunity to do something like this one day.”



Tantasqua High students, Claire Godek and Julia Faugno posing with Sam Pursey and Rebecca Chaffee at the Fun Fun Fun Booth

Dennis Picard tells the story of the Civilian Conservation Corps

STURBRIDGE- On Thursday May 25, at 7 p.m. at the Publik House Historic Inn, 277 Main St., Dennis Picard will tell the story of this controversial, but successful conservation program that took young men from the ages of 18 to 25 (as well as veterans from World War I), placed them in military style camps, and put them to work on projects as diverse as flood control, reforestation, and gypsy moth eradication.

Dennis Picard has been a volunteer at the Camp Connor CCC museum in Stafford Springs, CT, for several years, sharing tales of the men who once labored to create our State and National Forests that we know today - including those in the Sturbridge area.

Dennis is a well-known historian and museum professional in the living history field. He began his career at Old Sturbridge Village in 1978. He also served on the staff of Hancock Shaker Village as a historic trade craftsman and site interpreter. From 1990 to 2017 he was the Director of Storrowton Village Museum in West Springfield. Dennis, with his background and museum experience, has authored many articles and provides programs on the lifestyles and folkways of New England, and has also served as a consultant for many Historical Societies and Museums. He has edited film scripts and reviewed historic novels for accuracy of content. The Sturbridge Historical Society’s programs are generously hosted by the Publik House.

For more information check out the Sturbridge Historical Society Facebook page.

Library starts movie discussion group

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Haston Free Publica Library, 161 North Main St., is starting a movie discussion group on Monday, May 22 at 6 p.m.

The featured movie is “Dead Poet’s Society” (1989, rated PG) and is available to check out with your library card two weeks before the discussion. Watch it from the comfort of your home anytime before the group meets.

To register, people call the library at 508-867-0208 or email hastonfreepubliclibrary@gmail.com.

GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

Nature to to ensure adequate moisture in late winter/early spring, followed by a dry summer.

Fingers crossed for repeat blooming in year two and beyond. Hoping early flower woes will give way to a summer’s worth of flowers.

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

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THEATER | FROM PAGE 1

costs of the production including props, screenplay fees and other materials necessary to make the performance possible.

The performance opens with Willy Wonka, a chocolatier, entering the auditorium with a purple spotlight accentuating his bedazzled red vest and matching bow tie.

Wonka, played by actor Joey Valencourt, sets the tone by inviting the audience to join him in entering a world sweetened with chocolate, candy, and interesting characters galore.

Theater Guild Vice President and Director Jay Valencourt said watching the performance allows the audience to “jump into a different world.”

In a message provided by the Theater Guild of North Brookfield, it is said “audience and performers agree to suspend their disbelief and journey somewhere together. It is a temporary kind of community we don’t have enough of in our everyday life.”

Between the shimmering effect of Wonka’s attire and his inviting song tone, guests enter the reality of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory effortlessly.

Guild President Joe Chenevert said guests “can expect to be very well entertained,” adding some attendees have already watched the play twice.

The performance is the first musical the guild has performed in nearly five years, as they were unable to perform throughout COVID.

During COVID, performances were limited to mostly dinner theaters due to safety regulations and restrictions.

Chenevert said the decision to perform “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory” was determined before COVID and was chosen for several reasons.

One reason was that “everybody knows it,” and another reason is the cast size.

“About 40 or more cast members in and around North Brookfield are in [the play] ... It’s a large cast - more people are involved,” said Chenevert.

Valencourt said the Guild is “very focused on community,” and inclusion.

Chenevert added “we give everyone a shot to try it out... It is very rare we turn someone away. We find a place for everybody.”

While characters break into song in several scenes, the audience can be heard breaking into a hearty laughter in



Shown is actor Joey Valencourt acting as Willy Wonka/Candy Man and Alexis Cauette acting as Charlie Bucket.



Shown are Amber King as Mrs. Teavee, Ducati Sedler as Mike Teavee, Derek Ingalls as Grandpa Joe, Sophia Voloshinov as Violet, Alexis Cauette as Charlie, Dante Giangrande as Augustus Gloop and Josie Gaumond as Chelsea.

others.

One of the main characters, Charlie Bucket, is a poor school boy whose dreams are filled with chocolate and candy, living with his parents and their parents.

An audience favorite appeared to be his Grandpa George, played by Greg Afton.

The character gains popularity as an elder who experiences frequent misunderstandings that often result in inappropriate or out-of-context responses.

Adults and children alike could be heard in the theater with a full-belly chuckle.

Chenevert established the Guild 37 years ago alongside a former high school teacher of his, Hunter Sacco.

Chenevert said the goal was to “gain funds for the school’s chorus.”

“I said, ‘we could put on a show’ and it just continued and became what it is today,” said Chenevert.

He added he believed everyone had a great time and wanted to continue providing the theater experience for artists and audiences alike.

The Guild is a non-profit, local organization “committed to bringing the arts to this community.”

The Guild “prides itself in creating a welcoming, inclusive, creative environment for both young and not so young, like-minded artists.”

To support the performers and treat yourself to a performance as sweet as candy, swing by the North Brookfield Elementary School this Friday, Saturday or Sunday to see “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory”.



Shown is the Bucket family waiting for Charlie to open his birthday candy bar in hopes he will find the fifth and final golden ticket.

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Dancing the night away

Pathfinder seniors enjoy star-studded prom
Students at Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School celebrated their senior prom in true Hollywood fashion at Zukas Hilltop Barn in Spencer, Friday, May 12.

While the event's theme was "Starry Night," many students brought sparkle with them - some wearing floor length sequined gowns with others opted for classic silk attire.

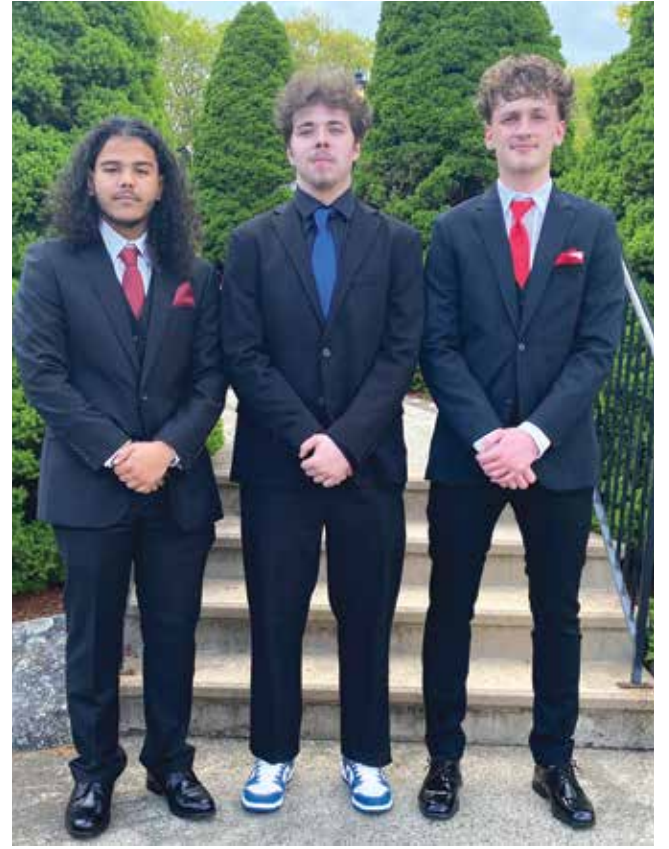
The event was hosted outside under an elegant banquet tent, draped with string lights to give the evening the "starry night" effect.



Shown is friend group Lauren Chaples, Jacquelyn Aldrich, Anthony Peck and Nathan Patrick. (TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DALLAS GAGNON)



Jemalex Moskovitz and friend Giana pose for photos before prom.



Friends Sean Moon, Alec Thompson and Cody Ostiguy are shown gathered together before prom.



Hunter Skowrya and Catalina Mudgett wear matching teal attire for the event.



Morgan Austin and Jake Luukko are shown smiling and in color coordinated attire.



Miranda Pratt and Nathan Bigda pose in red formalwear for the night's event.

Church celebrates 200th anniversary of sanctuary

NORTH BROOKFIELD – On Memorial Day, May 29, the First Congregational Church of North Brookfield will celebrate the day 200 years ago that they started building the sanctuary in which they still worship today.

The celebration starts about 11:30 a.m. and includes food, a concert and a variety of activities for everyone.

Following the town ceremonies in the morning, there is a chicken barbecue, a concert, the premier of a video on the church in the community, a photo booth, historical items and picture displays, and games for kids of all ages.

The Church members are hoping that area residents join them in celebrating Memorial Day as well as this special day in the Church's history. With videos and displays in the church as well as food, music, a photo booth, and games outside on the green, there will be

something for everyone that day.

Tickets for the chicken barbecue or a kid's hot dog meal must be purchased in advance. Call the church office at 508-867-8428 for more information.

All other activities during the day are free.

The whole church is invested in planning this day as well as the re-dedication of the sanctuary on Dec. 31. All ages are taking part in learning the history and planning the events.

Church members will be echoing the original day of building by serving gingerbread and lemonade, just as they did in 1823 when only 60 young men (age 30 or younger) were chosen to start construction of the sanctuary. It had taken 14 months to find the land in the middle of North Brookfield, to source the materials needed locally, and to haul timbered logs via oxen from what was to become Lake Lashaway in East

Brookfield.

When considering the Church's lasting these past 200 years, Pastor Joe Shea thought of what Jesus said in John 15, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last."

Shea continued, "In 1823, a community of believers began the construction of our church building. I can't help but think and marvel at how those seeds of faith planted then produced fruit that produced new seeds in a cycle that continues even now 200 years later here on this historic green -- a community still worshipping God and serving the community. By God's grace may the seeds planted today continue to bear fruit - fruit that will last."

For more information, people may visit the event website at firstchurchnb200years.org.

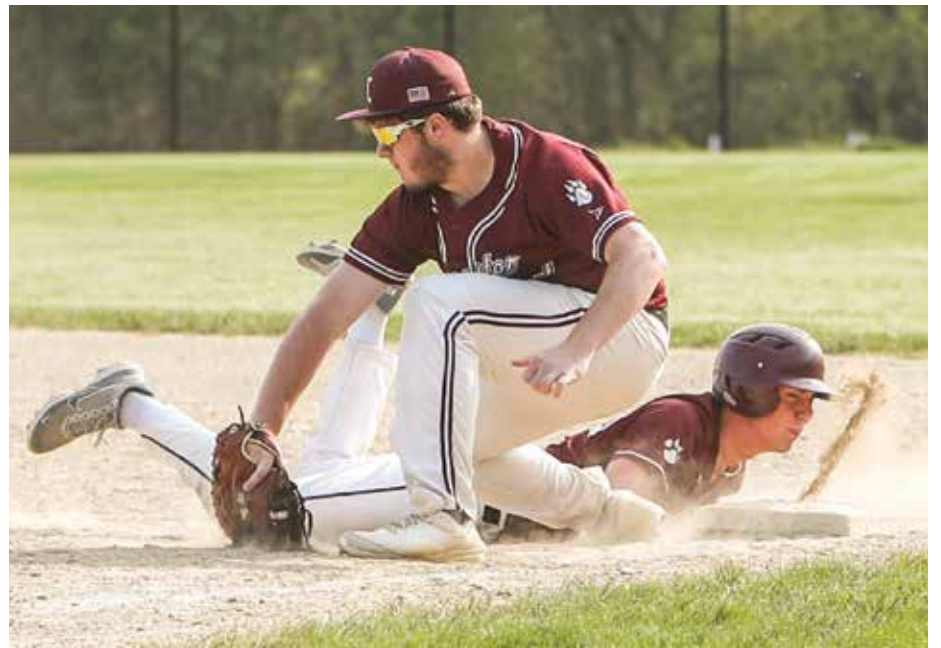


SPORTS

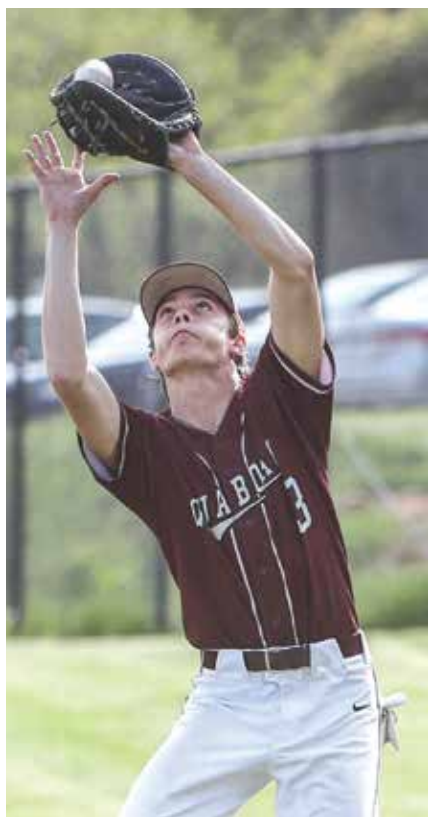
Quaboag evens record with win

WARREN – Last Wednesday afternoon, Quaboag baseball evens its record at 6-6 with a 6-5 win against Leicester. In the win, Drew Martinez pitched into the fifth inning before giving way

to Ryan Fernandez. Quaboag scored in each of the final three innings to come from behind for the win. Nate Church had three hits and three runs batted in for the Cougars.



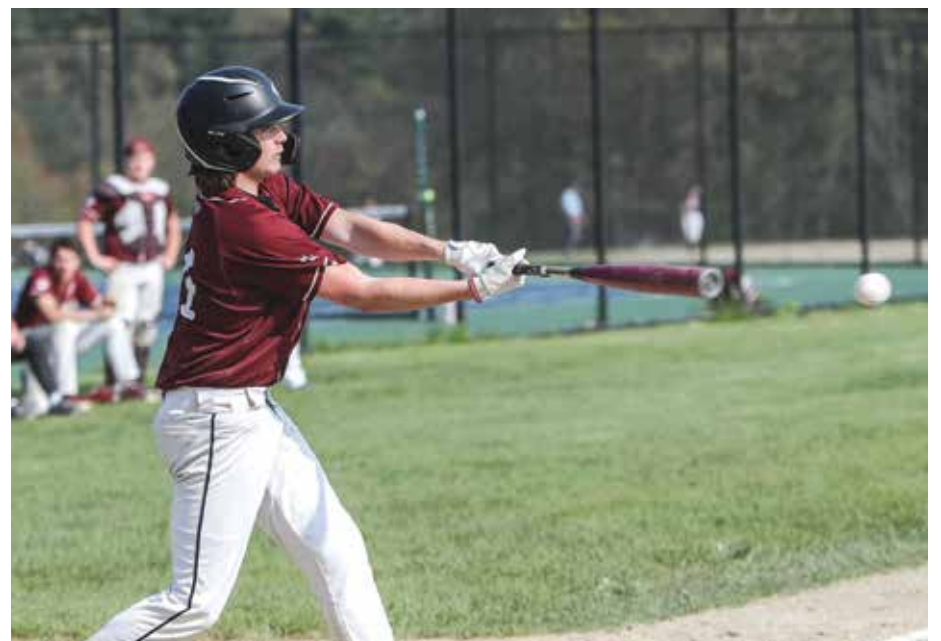
Matt Tiberii dives back safely on this pick-off attempt at first. PHOTOS BY JACK CASCIO NEAP.SMUGMUG.COM



Ryan Fernandez keeps his eyes glued to the ball as he puts away this ball in short right.



Drew Martinez fires this one to the plate.



Brasen Sauriol cracks this shot towards short.

Clinton defeats Quabbin softball



Jordan Blanchard makes a quick out.

BARRE – Last Thursday afternoon, Clinton put up eight runs in the first inning, and Quabbin softball could not overcome the early deficit in a

19-6 loss in six innings. Quabbin had a bit of a comeback in the third inning with four runs, but Clinton countered with five runs in the top of the fourth.

Meaghan Doyle had two hits and drove in a run for the Panthers. Sydney Giorgi had a big game with a pair of home runs and three RBI.



Meaghan Doyle races a throw home. Photos by Ray Duffy

Offense shines for Warriors

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE-- The Tantasqua boys varsity lacrosse team entered last Thursday's senior night home match having scored 10 or more goals in their first 11 victories.

The Warriors kept that streak alive following an exciting 12-8 non-league win over Wachusett Regional of Holden.

"This is a very big win for us, especially for our six seniors," said Tantasqua junior Liam Hubacz. "We've been playing very well all season long. Our only two losses were to Grafton."

Tantasqua, who are a Division 2 team, squeaked out a 12-10 victory at Wachusett a year ago.

- sports -

Mutiny offense shines in opener

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The United Women's Soccer National semifinal and final matches were held at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow last July. This year's U.W.S. championship weekend is scheduled to take place 3,000 miles west in Los Angeles, California.

The New England Mutiny players didn't get to compete for the championship trophy on their home turf last summer. They're hoping to make the six-hour plane ride to the west coast in July.

The Mutiny didn't have very much trouble dispatching Worcester Fuel FC, 7-1, in the season opening match before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium, last Saturday night.

"All of the players worked very hard, and we got the result that we wanted," said Hope Santaniello, who graduated from Agawam High School in 2021. "Our hope for the future is to win the championship title this year. We really want to bring home the trophy for Joe (Ferrara)."

Ferrara, who's the Mutiny General Manager, has put together a roster full of talented soccer players. Santaniello is one of 13 players from Western Massachusetts.

Other players from the region include Julia Robak (Chicopee), Brianna Romaniak (Belchertown), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown), Brooke Samborski (Chicopee), Calleigh Foley (Ludlow), and Sophia Syocurka (Ludlow).

Foley and Syocurka will be juniors on the Ludlow girls varsity soccer team in the fall. The duo normally play for the academy team, but they were called up to the U.W.S. team for the season opener.

Laura Gouvin of Monson is also listed on the Mutiny roster. She did not play against Worcester.

Before the start of the regular season, Ferrara named Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra as the Mutiny head coach.

"Everyone is a little bit nervous before the first game of regular season, but we got off to a great start tonight," said Coimbra, who's a former member of the Western Mass. Pioneers. "I've coached at the youth level, but it's very special to win my first game at this level. I think it's going to be a very exciting season."

Coimbra took over the coaching duties from Brian Linnehan, who was hired as an assistant women's soccer coach at Bryant University.

Coimbra is aided by assistant coaches Jill Kochanek, Ciro Viviano, and Federico Molinari, who's also the head coach of the Western Mass. Pioneers.

Santaniello, who's a forward, scored a pair of goals during the first half, which gave her team a 2-0 halftime



Agawam's Hope Santaniello controls the ball. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

lead.

During the 24th minute, Santaniello lined a shot over the head of Worcester Fuel goalie Lilliana Mantoni into the back of the net.

About 15 minutes later, Cat Berry sent a forward pass into the box and Santaniello finished off the play by shooting the ball into the left corner.

"I'm very happy for Hope," Coimbra said. "I think she's a great soccer player, and she has a very bright future. She shoots the ball mainly with her right foot, but she scored one of her goals in tonight's match with her left foot."

After playing soccer for two seasons at the University of Rhode Island, Santaniello has decided to enter the NCAA transfer portal. The portal allows Division 1 athletes the opportunity to transfer to another school without having to sit out a year.

"I decided to leave U.R.I. for personal reasons," Santaniello said. "I just want to keep growing as a soccer player. In order for me to do that, I felt like the best thing was transfer to another school. I just want

to find the right school, which will help me get to the next level."

Berry, who's from Hingham, will be a senior on the University of South Carolina women's soccer team in September. She'll be heading back to Columbia, South Carolina in the middle of June to train with her college soccer team.

"Cat is a great soccer player and she's going to have a successful career in the future," Coimbra said. "We're very lucky to have her on our team. We enjoyed watching her play in tonight's match."

Ferrara is hoping that Berry will be able to return to Ludlow if the Mutiny do make the playoffs.

"The atmosphere at the stadium is always great," Berry said. "I just love playing soccer with this group of girls. It was a great way to start our season."

Berry, who's the fifth all-time leading goal scorer at the University of South Carolina with 24 career goals, took over the spotlight at the second half. She finished last Saturday's match with a total of four goals. A couple of her goals came on amazing shots that not very many goalies would be able to stop.

"We definitely could've scored a few more goals in the first half," Berry added. "We just wanted to come out at the start of the second half and put the game away. I took advantage of my opportunities. Hearing the roar of the crowd here at Lusitano is very special."

Berry, who has two more years of eligibility remaining at South Carolina, will most likely be drafted by a N.W.S.L. team after she graduates.

"Playing at that level is something that I've dreamed about my whole life," Berry said. "It would be awesome to play for a professional soccer team in the future."

Chandler Pedolzky also scored a second half goal for the Mutiny. Jenna Kalwa, who's the women's soccer coach at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, Connecticut, was credited with the assist.

Down at the other end of the field, Kopec, who was the Mutiny starting goalie, only had to make three saves. She was replaced in goal by Robak with ten minutes remaining in regulation.

The members of the Mutiny defensive unit are Sofia Weber, Laci Lewis, Megan Cunningham, and Kinsman.

"This is just an awesome environment to play a soccer match," said Cunningham, who's the Mutiny captain. "We also have a lot of returning players this year, which is a great thing."

The Mutiny will be playing a couple of road matches before returning home to face the Albany Rush on June 10. Their other two home matches during the regular season will be against Sporting CT (June 24) and CT Rush (July 8).



Jenna Kalwa sends a pass forward.



Avery Klingensmith of Belchertown gets set to pass.



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, goes after the bouncing ball.

Memorial Day parade returns in West Brookfield

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Friends of the West Brookfield Veterans would like to announce that there will be a Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29 starting at 9 a.m.

The parade will begin at the West Brookfield Elementary School, travel to Pine Grove Cemetery, the West Brookfield Common, Sacred Heart Cemetery and disband at the American Legion Post 244, located at 5 Ware St.

This will be the town's first full parade prior to COVID in 2019.

In 2020 the community remembered and honored its fallen heroes by pulling together a "car" parade, to help 99-year-old World War II POW, Everett Allen, pay tribute to his fallen brothers.

The Friends are excited to have the William Diamond Junior Fife and Drum Corps from Lexington back to march this year. They are always one of the favorite features of the parade.

The American Legion, the West Brookfield Fire Department, the West Brookfield Rescue Squad, and Quaboag Youth Baseball will also be joining veterans

as they march together, honoring and remembering our fallen.

A special thank you to all the members of the community who volunteered convertibles and jeeps to help veterans who are unable to walk the entire length of the parade.

The Friends said it has been an amazing experience to watch the support financially from local businesses and from the community in the planning and revival of the parade.

WARRIORS | FROM PAGE 9

"We've played a couple of competitive games against Wachusett during the past two years," said Tantasqua head coach James Putney. "They played very hard against us in tonight's game. I was very impressed with them. This win will also help us in the power rankings. We just need to keep winning and keep improving."

The Warriors entered the final week of the 2023 regular season with a 12-2 overall record. They were also ranked 18th in the latest MIAA Division 2 state power rankings. The top 32 ranked teams in each division automatically qualify for the state tournament. The Warriors also should be one of the eight teams competing in the Central Mass. Athletic Director's tournament, which begins next week.

"We finished last season with a 14-6 record, but we didn't qualify for the Central Mass. tournament," Hubacz said. "Playing in the Central Mass. tournament for the first time was one of our goals this year."

The six Tantasqua seniors, who were honored in a ceremony held prior to the start of the match, are Luke Boisvert, Griffin Smith, Gabe Laprade, Jack Ricci, Braylon Casinghino, and Paddy McGrath.

"Luke, Griffin, and Gabe are returning starting defensemen. Jack also has a lot of experience as our faceoff guy. Those four guys have a lot of experience playing for the varsity team," Putney said. "Braylon and Paddy are both first-year lacrosse players. All of the seniors are very good team leaders."

Ricci is the only member of the senior class who's planning to play lacrosse at the collegiate level. He'll

be a member of the Keene State College men's lacrosse team next spring.

"Jack is the first lacrosse player that I've coached who'll be playing college lacrosse," Putney added. "Keene State has a strong lacrosse program. I'm very happy that Jack will be going to a place where he'll have a lot of success. It's a good fit for him."

Casinghino, who's a defenseman, is an outstanding soccer player. He'll be joining the men's soccer team at Western New England University in the fall.

Braylon is a very good athlete," Putney added. "It's not very easy to pick up the stick for the first time as a senior, but he and Paddy have made contributions for us this year."

It was also a special evening for Hubacz, who scored a pair of goals and had four assists against the Mountaineers (4-10), who are a Division 1 team.

"I really didn't want to take anything away from the six seniors, but tonight's game was almost like a senior night for me as well," Hubacz said. "I'm going to be attending Tabor Academy in the fall where I'll be playing football and lacrosse. I've been playing sports with these guys since the second grade and I'm really going to miss them a lot. We're like one big family and playing sports with my teammates is something that I'm going to remember for the rest of my life. This was a very special night."

Following the senior night ceremony, the Warriors put a lot of pressure on Wachusett senior goalie Casey Dmochowski (19 saves).

The home team, who never trailed in the match, took a 1-0 lead following an unassisted goal from ju-

nior Aidan Way two minutes into the opening period.

A couple of minutes later, Hubacz scored his first goal of the match, which was also unassisted.

He added a man-up goal, which was assisted by Way, with 1:32 remaining in the opening period.

It gave the Warriors a slim 3-2 lead entering the second period.

The home team held a 7-3 halftime lead with the help of three unanswered goals by Ricci, junior Landon Rice, and junior Patrick Dunn, who was credited with the assist on Rice's goal.

Less than three minutes into the second half, Tantasqua junior Avery Michilak added his name to the scoring column by scoring a goal, which gave his team an 8-3 advantage. It was also the Warriors largest lead of the match.

The Mountaineers outscored the Warriors during the final nine minutes of the third period.

The Warriors, who entered the final twelve minutes holding a slim 9-6 advantage, reached double digits for the 12th time this season following a goal by freshman Zach Godek. That goal was assisted by Hubacz.

Wachusett responded with goals by freshman Dan Greaney and junior Matt Dickenson, which sliced the deficit to 10-8 with 7:55 remaining in regulation.

Tantasqua managed to hold onto the two goal lead for the next four minutes.

A pair of goals by Dunn and Michilak during the final three minutes of the match sealed the deal for the Warriors.

Tantasqua junior goalie Samuel Panek made eight saves in the senior night victory.

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Exciting programs at Old Sturbridge Village this month

STURBRIDGE- Old Sturbridge Village is full of exciting programs and activities in May. Come see the new re-curated exhibit, For the Purpose of Illumination, opening in the Country-side Gallery on May 19. Learn how New Englanders needed, used, and created artificial lighting methods in the 1830s and see first-hand artifacts from the era. The Early Lighting exhibit is a

newly curated collection.

This summer's Blue Star Museum season begins on Saturday, May 20, Armed Forces Day, and runs through to Labor Day. To gain free admission, military family members will show their military or dependent identification card.

The weekend of May 20-21 will see the long-awaited opening of the newest

restaurant, the Ox & Yoke Café. Come try the new offerings available from salads, soups, and sandwiches to cookies, baked goods, and pies. Diners do not need to pay admission to enjoy all the restaurant has to offer!

Wool Days are May 27-29. Watch the sheep being sheared, feel the wool, and watch and learn about the spinning and dyeing processes. OSV is open on

Memorial Day, May 29.

Learn more about what's happening at the Village at www.osv.org/events-experiences/calendar/

Hours are 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Wednesday-Sundays. Ticket information is available at www.osv.org/plan-your-visit/



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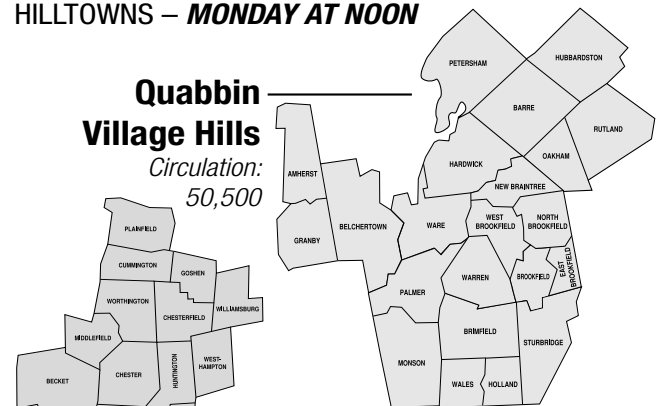
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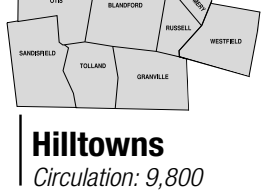
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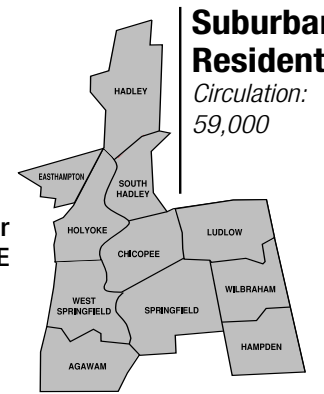
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INVITATION TO BID TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

The Town of Brookfield invites bids to make repairs to and expand the usable area of the upper fields through proper leveling, drainage and grading, allowing for greater utilization of the current soccer field at Lewis Field. Lewis Field, 4 Main Street, Brookfield, MA. Design documents and specifications can be found in COMMBUYS or obtained by emailing Cathy LaRocca at clarocca@brookfieldma.us. Bids are to be submitted addressed to the office of the Board of Selectmen, 6 Central St., Brookfield, MA 01506. Bids will be received in the Board of Selectmen's Office until 2:00 PM, Thursday, June 8, 2023 when they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Town of Brookfield reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in the best interest of the Town. Contractors are required to comply with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries Prevailing Wage Rates in accordance with MGL, Chapter 139, Sections 26 and 27D. The Town of Brookfield is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

All bids for this project are subject to the provisions and minimum wage rates required by M.G.L. c.30, §39M as amended, and M.G.L. c.149, §§26 to 27H, inclusive, or by

the federal Davis-Bacon wage rates, whichever hourly rate is higher. The project is also governed by HUD's Section 3 of 24 CFR Part 75, whereas efforts occur to ensure that economic opportunities, most importantly employment, generated by this CDBG program shall be directed to low- and very low-income persons. Bidders on the work shall also make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder.

A bid bond with an acceptable surety, or a certified or bank check in the amount of 5% of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100% Performance Bond, and a 100% Labor and Material Payment Bond.

The lowest qualified responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract subject to availability of funds under the PARC Grant program. The Town of Brookfield, the Awarding and Contracting Authority, may cancel this Invitation for Bid (IFB), in whole or in part, at any time that such an act is deemed in its best interest, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town,

and will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB.

A pre-bid conference will not be held for this project. 05/19, 05/26/2023

TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

The Town of West Brookfield is proposing to rehabilitate and expand the roadway surface along Route 9/West Main Street from the Ware/West Brookfield Town Line east to Pierce Road in West Brookfield, Massachusetts.

The objective of this approximately 2.1-mile project is to upgrade the existing roadway infrastructure, which includes widening up to 10 +/- feet cumulatively for both sides of road, to extend the service life and improve traffic flow as well as increase safety for all roadway users. Minor impacts to streams and wetlands are proposed. No other special resources occur within the project area. Information for this project will be posted on the Highway Department website at: Highway Department - West Brookfield Massachusetts (wbrookfield.com).

A general project information meeting will be held at West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 E Main Street, on May 24th, 2023, at 6:00 pm. 5/19/2023

New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of May 1-15, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 21 building/property checks, 68 directed/area patrols, six traffic controls, 14 radar assignments, one fire, eight citizen assists, two complaints, one scam, one identity theft, 10 emergency 911 calls, one motor vehicle investigation, one safety hazard, three animal calls and three motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

- Sunday, May 7**
12:28 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Barre Road, Transferred Call to C3
6:28 p.m. Assist Citizen, Dennis Whitney Road, Services Rendered
- Monday, May 8**
10:08 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
- Tuesday, May 9**
6:59 p.m. Assist Citizen, Cemetery Road, Spoken To
- Thursday, May 11**
12:22 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Oakham Road, Transported to Hospital
7:18 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Wine Road, Transported to Hospital
9:44 p.m. Gunshots, Worcester Road, Negative Contact
- Friday, May 12**
4:13 p.m. 911 Misdiagnosed, Barre Road, Negative Contact
4:36 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Hardwick Road, No Action Required
8:35 p.m. 911 Gunshots, Prouty Road, Officer Handled
- Saturday, May 13**
10:22 a.m. Assist Citizen, Worcester Road, Spoken To
10:46 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Gilbertville Road, Report Taken
2:28 p.m. 911 Misdiagnosed, Barre Road, Officer Handled
9:40 p.m. Safety Hazard, Gilbertville Road, Removed Hazard
- Monday, May 15**
7:57 a.m. 911 Misdiagnosed, West Brookfield Road, Spoken To
- Monday, May 1**
1:44 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Spoken To
4:33 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled
- Tuesday, May 2**
9:21 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered
- Wednesday, May 3**
10:56 a.m. Scam, Charles Lane Road, Report Taken
4:10 p.m. 911 Fire/Other, Barre Road, Services Rendered
- Friday, May 5**
10:33 a.m. Identity Theft, Ware Road, Report Taken
11:56 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown, Dispatch Handled
- Saturday, May 6**
5:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Turnpike Road, Written Warning
6:48 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Services Rendered
1:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, West Brookfield Road, Investigated
6:48 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, West Brookfield Road, Officer Handled

Annual plant, bake, tag and craft sale May 20 and 21

HARDWICK – Tri-Parish Community Church is hosting its annual plant, bake, tag, and craft sale on Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Common.

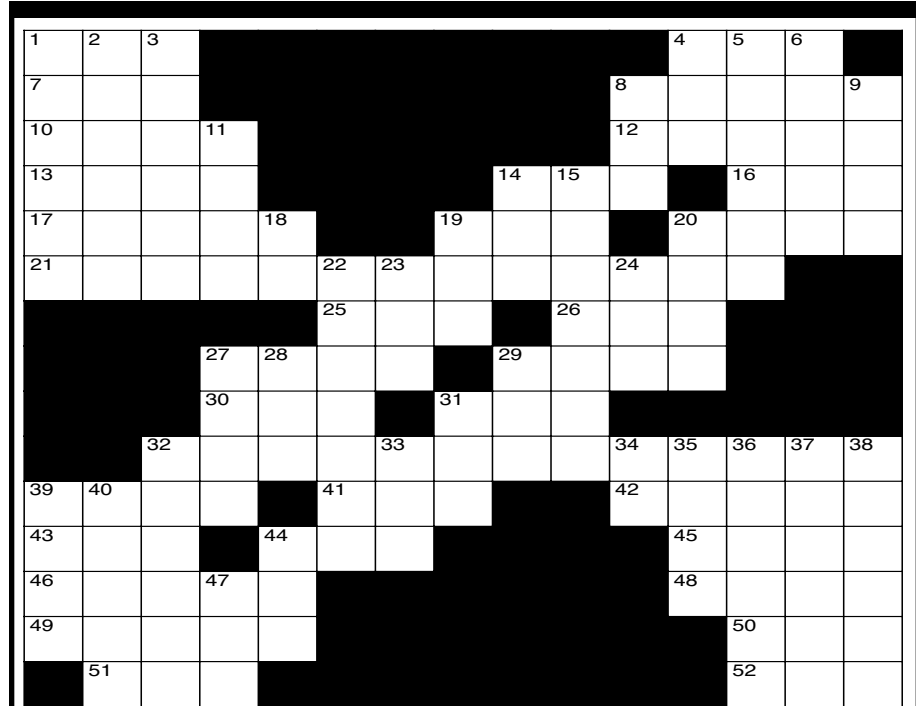
There will be flowering plants, vegetable plants, homemade baked goods, home crafted goods, and tag sale treasures. Plants include perennials and annuals from a variety of vendors including Inishowen Farm, Chicken Feather Farm, Howe's Farm & Garden, Tracie's Greenhouse, and the

Hardwick Farmers Co-Op, along with the ever-popular "home grown lovelies," and vegetable plants from Stillman's Farm.

Homemade cookies, cakes, breads and a baked potato bar will also be available both days.

There will be a brief prayer service Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on the Common in lieu of the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service at the Gilbertville Stone Church. All are welcome.

This is a rain or shine event.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 4. Chinese philosophical principle
- 7. Branch
- 8. Jewish spiritual leader
- 10. Slang for requests
- 12. "So Human An Animal" author
- 13. Rocker Billy
- 14. British Air Aces
- 16. Type of tree
- 17. "Tough Little Boys" singer Gary
- 19. State attorneys
- 20. Goddess of fertility
- 21. Localities
- 25. Beloved singer Charles
- 26. Clue

- 27. Ridge of jagged rock below sea surface
- 29. Helsinki neighborhood
- 30. Farm resident
- 31. Ocean
- 32. Where ballplayers work
- 39. Unable to hear
- 41. Cool!
- 42. Cape Verde capital
- 43. One point north of due east
- 44. Kilo yard (abbr.)
- 45. Middle Eastern nation
- 46. It yields Manila hemp
- 48. People operate it (abbr.)
- 49. Regenerate
- 50. Not healthy
- 51. Chinese sword
- 52. Mild expression of surprise

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Unit of angle
- 2. Headgear to control a horse
- 3. Clots
- 4. Follows sigma
- 5. A woman who is the superior of a group of nuns
- 6. Greek units of weight
- 8. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
- 9. Systems, doctrines, theories
- 11. Stony waste matter
- 14. Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. Hostile to others
- 18. U.S. State
- 19. Not wet
- 20. Something one thinks up
- 22. Where beer is made

- 23. Clumsy person
- 24. Belonging to us
- 27. Canadian flyers
- 28. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 29. Snakelike fish
- 31. Unhappy
- 32. Fruit
- 33. Not good
- 34. Zero degrees Celsius
- 35. Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- 36. Crawls into the head (folklore)
- 37. Legally responsible
- 38. Move in a playful way
- 39. Regarded with deep affection
- 40. Partner to flowed
- 44. Native American tribe
- 47. Head honcho

Job Connection

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TOWN OF WARREN POLICE DEPARTMENT JOB OPPORTUNITY

Full Time Police Officer and Part Time Police Officer

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time and part time Police Officer. Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights, and holidays.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services. It is preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferences include an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, serve in the US military, or experience as a Police Officer.

The Patrolmen's contract provides an education incentive and a candidate with prior experience may also be considered to start at a higher step rate of pay.

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than Friday June 2nd, 2023, to the attention of Lt. James Early, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or early@warren-ma.gov.

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BROOKFIELD 350th anniversary events listed p3	STURBRIDGE Students get 'Credit for Life' p6	REGION Pathfinder holds Starry Night prom p8	Editorial/Opinion Sports Classifieds Police Logs	4 9 14 15
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Volume 16, Number 27

Friday, May 19, 2023

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SPECIAL MEMORIAL DAY EDITION
May 29, 2023

Honor those who served our country

All businesses, civic groups and individuals all welcome to place an remembrance ad today! Special ad rates for this edition.
Ad deadline is May 22, 2023

Contact Dan Flynn at:
dfflynn@turley.com

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Hours may change
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July 8, 2023
\$125

June 10....U.S.S. Slater plus Lunch..... \$125
July 22.....Escape to Rockport..... \$89
Sept. 9.....Hampton Beach Seafood Fest..... \$99
Sept. 16...Funny Girl at PPAC..... \$120
Sept. 23...Johnny Mathis in Concert..... \$130

Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
or email adventuretours@att.net
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FarmerMatt.com or call (508) 980-7085