

QUABOAG CURRENT

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Newspaper

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

Volume 17, Number 27

Friday, May 31, 2024

Revolutionary veterans remembered at the Old Burial Ground

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

STURBRIDGE – Bob Briere owes us. When folks gathered together on Veterans Day, 2023 the weather was hardly salubrious, but back then, he promised that the Memorial Day celebration would be warm and sunny.

Unfortunately, on May 23 at 10 a.m. the weather did not comply with Briere’s climate pledge. No matter, we can cut him some slack as the few raindrops were nothing compared to what the men who marched to join the Revolution endured and who we were assembled to commemorate.

On Thursday, Briere was stationed at the entrance to Sturbridge’s Old Burial Ground where Revolutionary soldiers rest. Dan Soper stood beside him.

Briere is a Korean War Air Force veteran. Soper served in the 82nd Airborne during Operation Desert Storm in Iraq, and will take over from Briere in leading the ceremonies in coming years.

To the left of the entrance



Dan Soper and Bob Briere begin the Memorial Day ceremony at the Old Burial Ground. TURLEY PHOTO BY RICHARD MURPHY

Brookfield celebrates Memorial Day with the community

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

BROOKFIELD – With flag at half staff, the town remembered the brave men and women who gave their lives for our country, and celebrated and honored these brave soldiers and their families.

See **BROOKFIELD** | PAGE 12



Amie Vogel ready to hand out poppies with a smile. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

See **VETERANS** | PAGE 7

Student receives award for Arson Watch Poster Contest

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional School District welcomed members of local fire and police departments to provide an assembly at the middle school regarding fire safety.

This special presentation on May 24 taught students the importance of making an emergency call, fire prevention, fire safe practices and how to recognize an emergency. Barre Firefighter and EMT Christina



Silas Flint was the winner of the 2024 Arson Watch Reward Poster Contest. Flint is shown alongside his parents and Christina Gustafson of the Barre Fire Department. TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

See **CONTEST** | PAGE 12

STM approves account transfers

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Voters took action on 27 articles at a special town meeting held on May 17, that lasted just under a half hour.

Motions on all of the articles passed, with voters choosing to take “no action” on article 26, which sought to transfer funds from the Sewer Operator 2 salary to Sewer Chemicals.

Town Beach funds

Article 18 asked voters to transfer \$5,000 from the Town

Beach Purchase and Services account to the Playground & Recreation Supplies account.

Board of Selectman Vice-Chair Elizabeth “Brooke” Canada said the town is no longer working with East Brookfield on the beach. She said residents are still welcome to use the beach.

“At this point, we don’t have any responsibility for it,” she said.

Parks & Recreation Committee Chair Brandon Avery said the committee has plans to

See **TRANSFERS** | PAGE 3



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- community -

Chip n' the Old Block

Father/son duo get ready for first gallery show together

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – Last fall, West Brookfield wood turner Frank White held his first gallery show at West Brookfield Art & Frame, and he was surprised by the outpouring of support he received for his craft.

On Friday, June 7 from 5-7 p.m., Frank will return to the gallery located at 10 East Main St., for an artists' reception honoring both him and his son, Eric White, who is joining him for their first ever joint show, "Chip n' the Old Block."

Gallery hours at West Brookfield Art & Frame are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Frank said he is glad to see his son coming into his own as an artist, adding that he doesn't take any responsibility for his success.

"I'm really excited," Eric said. "My father is the person that I really emulate in terms of his work."

Eric added that he is honored to be in this show alongside his father.

Like his father, Eric took a wood turning class at the Center for Crafts in Worcester, although he wasn't as immediately hooked on the craft as his father was.

Eric said wood turning didn't "click" for him until about eight or nine years ago.

"For some reason, the tools felt right, and I learned a lot," Eric said. "It was really funny to come back to it after 20 years having taken the class."

Eric has gone on to take more classes, including a box making class in North Carolina, which has allowed him to create intricately detailed containers

in all shapes and sizes which fit together seamlessly.

Frank said his son has a technique that as far as he knows, is unique to him. This technique includes using bits and burrs to carve and texturize the wood, then layering it with anywhere from five to 13 coats of paint using a dry brush process.

The end result seemingly transforms the wood into earthen, or gem-toned colored stone. But it is all the same piece of turned wood that he started with.

Eric also likes to add freehand designs to his wood turned items, before lightly carving them out to create a little bit of a relief.

Since his last show, Frank has created some new pieces, including a large vase with a wood-burned heron and cattails emblazoned on it. He's also revamped some of his previous pieces, adding pops of color to the flowers carved on them.

Frank said he is not as brave with color as Eric is, but was inspired by his work.

"Eric's bolder than I am," Frank said. "He plays with colors."

About the artists

Eric and his wife Melissa have recently moved to New Hampshire, but his studio is located in the Western Avenue Studio in Lowell, where he joins 350 other artists in an old mill. Eric grew up in West Brookfield and graduated with a degree in history from Denison University.

He worked for 25 years at Old Sturbridge Village, followed by 17 years at the Boston Society of Architects.

Frank and his wife Patty have lived in West Brookfield since 1971. He was a curator of Mechanical Arts at Old Sturbridge Village and before that he taught Latin at the Williston School.



West Brookfield wood turner Frank White is back with some new pieces at the upcoming show with his son, Eric.



Eric White crafted these uniquely colored and textured wood turned items, including a bowl and containers. He will be joining his father, Frank White, for their first combined gallery show, "Chip n' the Old Block" at West Brookfield Art & Frame, opening Friday, June 7 from 5-7 p.m. TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE

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QRSD receives One8 Foundation grant

From the desk of Colleen Mucha,
Superintendent QRSD

BARRE – Quabbin Regional School District announces they have received a grant from the One8 Foundation to fund the implementation of Project Lead the Way Launch curriculum for all students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade across the district.

Project Lead the Way is an applied learning curriculum, meaning that students learn by engaging in direct application of skills and use of tools to solve real world problems. Currently, students at Quabbin Regional Middle High School have opportunities to engage with the Project Lead the Way curriculum in grades 7-12.

The Project Lead the Way curriculum and courses are part of our Innovation Pathway programming. High school students may choose to take courses in CyberSecurity, Computer Science Principles, Principles of Engineering or Computer Integrated Manufacturing. These courses prepare students with career readiness skills such as developing as collaborators and thinkers while adopting a problem-solving mindset. High School PLTW courses may also be recognized for college credit.

With the addition of the PLTW curriculum at the elementary level, students will begin building essential skills as early as kindergarten. Their educators have selected the curriculum mod-

ules carefully to vertically align with the high school offerings and Innovation Pathway programs. Students will begin to work through the engineering design process now in elementary school.

They will work collaboratively and think critically as they design and innovate. Educators are confident that this will allow their students to achieve the Vision of the Graduate – They will be: Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and Innovative. Project Lead the Way will be taught during the elementary STEM classes with their teachers Mrs. Vincent and Miss Brown.

Recently, the team attended the first of several professional development offerings at the Worcester DCU sponsored by the One8 Foundation. Here they had the opportunity to participate in one of the learning challenges that they will teach to the third grade students next year.

Their challenge was to create a machine using wheels and axles that would transport a small speaker. Quabbin educators began by discussing possibilities of design and then they drew their ideas in an engineering notebook. They then collaborated again and determined, which design they wanted to try. The team got to work quickly and found success, but then one of the instructors challenged them to build the design using fewer wheels. Again they went to work to solve that challenge.

While the challenge was designed



The Quabbin PLTW champions are pictured during their recent professional development session sponsored by the One8 Foundation. Shown from left are Tricia Worthington, Cassidy Bulger, Rebecca Vincent, Julie Brown, Andrea Collette and Ashley Cranston. SUBMITTED PHOTO

for early learners, it was still very engaging for the adults that were working through it for the first time. Educators were observed trying different iterations and making modifications until they felt the challenge was met. This involved communication between team members, critical thinking, redesign and a feeling of accomplishment when they met their goal.

What was interesting was that they also were not fully satisfied with their

work and pushed themselves to try to make the design stronger and more supportive. While the team was given a time constraint, they completed three different designs – way to go QRSD.

A huge shout out to all of the educators of the Quabbin Regional School District. Thank you for all you do. Happy Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.

TRANSFERS | FROM PAGE 1

use the funds for the upkeep and repairs to town playgrounds.

Opioid settlement

Article 27 asked voters to rescind a vote approved at town meeting on May 5, 2023 (article 17), to establish an Opioid Stabilization account and see if voters will transfer that fund's balance to an Opioid Special Revenue account.

The town is participating in the commonwealth's financial settlement from

several opioid companies as a way to reduce the impact of the opioid epidemic. The money received can be used for substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery support.

When the town joined the settlement, a stabilization account was required to accept the funds.

Administrative Assistant Ashley Barre said it was difficult to utilize the funds in this type of account, requiring special town meeting approval each time. She said legislation has now

changed the requirement to a special revenue account, which will make the money more accessible.

Announcement

Moderator James Cadwell said he will not be seeking reelection at the next

annual town election, after serving in that capacity for 12 years.

He made the announcement to give the residents time to find a suitable replacement.

"I've enjoyed it immensely," Cadwell said of his time as Moderator.

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- opinion -



There's still time to sow Morning Glory seeds

It's amazing how quickly some seeds can germinate. I was worried that I was late in sowing my Morning Glory seeds when I planted them on the 17th of May. Lo and behold, two days later they are sprouted, and here we are a week plus more and they are nearly ready to be planted in the garden!

My first experience with Morning Glories was with a childhood friend. Her dad used to grow them so that they climbed up his fancy, road-side mailbox.

That memory has to be over four decades old at this point, but I still remember how well he grew those morning glories.

Are you interested in enhancing a lamp post or trellis with summer color? This annual flowering vine can put on upwards of ten feet of growth in just two months!

Although the trumpet-shaped flowers bloom from just dawn to late morning, most gardeners are enamored by them and their lovely heart-shaped leaves.

Here are some tips to get them off and running:

Morning glories have hard seed coats. To speed up germination, nick the seeds lightly with a file and soak them overnight in luke-warm water.

If you are nervous about the nicking part, even just soaking will help. Sow them one-half inch deep directly in the ground in a spot in your yard that receives full sun or light shade.

It is not necessary to fertilize the soil heavily prior to planting. In fact, soil that is too rich will produce abundant foliage at the expense of flowers.

Once the plants are up and growing, thin morning glories to at least three inches apart. It is important to provide them with some sort of support immediately.

Therefore, install your trellis before planting and provide enough twiggy low branches up against lamp posts or fences for twining stems to reach for until they get established. Wire fencing and twine "cages" will also do the trick.

Morning glories require little care other than water during droughty periods.

The hardest part about growing these climbers is deciding which variety to grow! Choose the deep purple, red-throated heirloom "Grandpa Ott's."

It climbs to a remarkable 15 feet with support and will self-sow abundantly each year. Another old favorite and readily available morning glory is "Heavenly Blue."

This variety has five-inch sky blue flowers with creamy white throats. It will top off at six to eight feet.

How about the 1939 All American Selections award winner "Scarlett O'Hara?" Her rosy red flowers are three to four inches wide, borne on vines eight to ten feet tall.

A new and most interesting morning glory goes by the name "Cotton Candy." Its flowers are double and ruffled, with a shape similar to that of a nasturtium.

With a height of just six feet, this variety is useful on shorter trellises. Another double variety goes by the name of "Sunrise Serenade."

This one boasts three inch flowers with ruby red, frilly petals. Although its height tops off at 15 feet, "Sunrise Serenade" will



I received an email from a Brimfield couple, who spotted a male and female rose-breasted grosbeak a their feeder. They also had an indigo bunting and reported their hummingbirds were back.

The female rose-breasted grosbeak like many female bird species lacks the brilliant colors of the male. The female has a white eyebrow, brown in color with heavy streaking and two white wing bars. She shows yellow "armpits" in flight.

The male has a black head and back with a red triangle on its white breast. In flight it shows white patches and rose-red "armpits." Grosbeaks are eight inches long. Their song is a rapid series of whistles often called a "robin in a hurry." Their call is a distinct squeak like a "sneaker on a gym floor."

The female lays three to six pale blue eggs with irregular brown spots in a nest of coarse and fine twigs lined with horsehair, rootlets and grasses placed in the branch of a tree 5 to 25 feet above the ground.

Belchertown birds

A Belchertown resident sent this email, "We saw our first Northern oriole this year on Thursday, May 9. He was scolding my husband as he changed the bird bath water. We usually have a pair nesting in the shagbark hickory in front of our house. Hopefully, they will do so again this year."

She also said she had not seen any chickadees and usually has many in her yard. She wonders why. She also has redwings, goldfinches, house finches, mockingbirds, cat birds, robins, bluebirds, swallows and house wrens.

Birds at Warren ponds

A Brimfield resident often reports on the

birds he sees. He visited a pond on South Street in Warren on May 9 and saw an osprey and six great blue heron. There were two new nests at the pond making a total of four nest there.

Other birds were a red-tailed hawk, turkey vulture, two mourning doves, one crow, three three swallows, one barn swallow, six common grackles and six red-winged blackbirds.

On the same day, he visited a pond on New Reed Street in Warren and saw two spotted sandpipers, two

double-crested cormorants, two turkey vultures, three Eastern kingbirds, five tree swallows, four red-winged blackbirds, six common grackles and on yellow warbler.

He said, "This week in the yard we have four catbirds, and a pair has started a nest in the quince bush near the house. I've see two female ruby-throated hummingbirds and one male. A male was seen April 29 a little earlier than usual."

More birds

The same Brimfield resident saw two female Baltimore orioles and one male at the orange and jelly feeder. A common yellowthroat and an American redstart, both males, were in the yard recently as was a house wren. The wrens have nested in nesting

boxes the last several years.

He also said a Cooper's hawk has been patrolling the area the past week or so, but hasn't seen any piles of feather.

Another visit to Warren ponds

At the South Street pond in Warren, he said, "The ospreys are continuing to tend their nest

and there are now four for sure, maybe five great blue heron nests. One of the heron nests has three chicks as of a few days ago."

On New Reed Street in Warren, there were two double-crested cormorants for about a week until yesterday and I saw a blue-headed vireo there."

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.



Female rose-breasted grosbeak

bloom earlier and stay open longer than most other varieties.

Consult your favorite seed catalog for other neat morning glories, including a pure white, a rosy "chocolate" and numerous bicolors. The sky is literally the limit, and these plants will sure reach for it!

If you want to get a head start next year, sow the seeds indoors two weeks prior to setting out. You will be delighted with flowers earlier in the summer.

Be careful when transplanting, howev-

er, or the vines will be set back. Also, use caution when handling the seeds around children and pets; they are considered poisonous.

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.

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

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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.

QUABOAG CURRENT
 THE QUABOAG CURRENT (USPS# 10860) is published weekly (every Friday) by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Telephone at 413-283-8393 or fax at 413-289-1977. Periodical Postage Prices are Paid at Palmer, MA.
 POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to: Quaboag Current, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

- community -

Fisher Museum welcomed community at open house

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PETERSHAM – Fisher Museum Harvard Forest welcomed the public for a free open house recently.

This was a great time for the public to visit and get to know Harvard Forest and what it has to offer from education, history and nature walks that expose the beauty of nature.

Director of Education and Outreach, Clarisse Hart was excited to be a part of this open house for the Fisher Museum and get the community involved in a public return to the building.

The open house was a way to “invite people in an informal way,” Hart said.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the museum staff wanted to welcome the public back to the building. One of the education specialists behind the the works of the open house was Maricela Escobar.

With the weather warming up and spring feeling like spring, Escobar thought this past weekend was the perfect time to have an open house for the museum.

“This is good to do in April,” Escobar said. “Making community connections.”

The museum was first opened in 1941 and have highlighted information on forest ecology, landscape history, and land conservation and management.

The Fisher Museum’s primary exhibit is 23 internationally acclaimed models (dioramas), the first seven of which depict 230 years of landscape change in central New England, beginning with European colonization in 1700. The remaining dioramas portray 20th-century forest management techniques and a se-



The Fisher Museum Harvard Forest hosted an open house to welcome the public to learn about what the have to offer. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

ries of conservation challenges including erosion and fire.

The museum has over 40 staff members consisting of researchers, woods crew and an education team. There are also about 30-40 volunteers that are community members who want to help out their community in any way, including putting in time to assist with museum operations.

The Fisher Museum has a museum volunteer program on the first weekend of each month from May to November.

The afternoon began with a series of guessing games in the Fisher Museum followed by a welcoming introduction for the public and a meeting of all the educators and tour guides. For kids there were coloring books, and the guessing games involved an acorn count and a tree identification display indoors through the museum halls.

The first tour was led by Greta Vanscoy, Education Coordinator and Field

Technician and Jackie Hatala Matthes, PhD, senior scientist at Harvard Forest. A shorter tour was held later on and led by Hart.

The tours explored the forests and delved into research carried out at Harvard Forest.

The lawn was filled with games and art projects. The day concluded with a tree planting in honor of Earth Day.

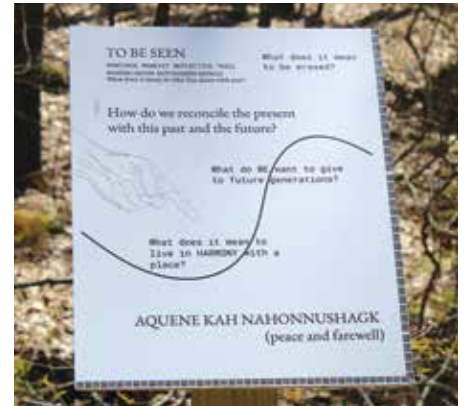
The Harvard Forest, founded in 1907 and located at 324 North Main St., is Harvard University’s outdoor laboratory and classroom for ecology and conservation, and a Long-Term Ecological Research site funded by the National Science Foundation.

Its 4,000-acre property, located on unceded Nipmuc land, is one of the oldest and most intensively studied research forests in the U.S. and is open to the public year-round.

The location includes educational and research facilities, the Fisher Mu-

seum and miles of recreational trails. Harvard Forest scientists and educators host educational programs for thousands of K-12 students and university students each year and work closely with the Nipmuc people to ensure that this land and its benefits are accessible and sustaining.

People may learn more by visiting <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu>. For more information, call 978-724-3302 or email hfvisit@fas.harvard.edu.



Exploring nature outdoors is an experience you’ll get to enjoy when visiting the Fisher Museum Harvard Forest.



Manchage Manexit is a new trail approximately two miles long and is behind the museum.

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- community -

Quaboag students honored those who served

WEST BROOKFIELD – Every spring in small towns throughout America, prior to Memorial Day, it has become a custom to place an American flag on the graves of those who served in the armed services.

The flags honor those who served and create a colorful display in the cemeteries throughout the summer and are usually taken down after Veterans Day in November.

Many people may not give much thought to how and who places those flags and take them down again. The flags just don't magically show up but are placed with care and attention by volunteers.

In the town of West Brookfield, the

flags are placed on the veterans' graves by members of the American Legion Post 244 and students from Quaboag Regional School District. Eighth grade students from Joe Salvadore's civics class again carried on the 28-year tradition of Quaboag students helping place the flags.

Post Commander, David Tebo spoke to the students in a group before the task to thank them. Tebo and also gave a brief lesson on the sacrifice of veterans and why we observe and honor veterans on Memorial Day.

Tebo told the students, "If you enjoy having your cell phone, your lifestyle, safety, and freedoms we have as Americans, then you can thank a veteran."



Quaboag Regional Middle High School students joined members of American Legion Post 244 to place American flags on veterans' graves. Shown bottom row from left are Tyler Machado, Robert Menard, Caiden Brier, Connor Snay and Jonas Rossi. Shown back row from left are Alex Davison, Post 244 Commander David Tebo, Vice Commander Rene Berthiune Jr., Sr. Vice Commander Jeff Nickerson and Member Dan Santos. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fairies return to Enchanted Gardens on June 15

SPENCER – Create your own Enchanted Garden at home and display it at Powder Mill Park in Spencer on Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Rain date is Saturday, June 22.

Diane Johnson and her granddaughter Haley, the creators of a multitude of colorful fairies themselves, attended a Fairy Walk last year where 50 imaginative gardens were displayed and they decided to bring this magical idea to our community.

To prepare fairy garden enthusiasts for participation in the Enchanted Garden Walk on June 15, Diane and Haley held workshops at the Richard Sugden Library earlier in May.

At each workshop people were offered a basic kit to get started on their gardens with instructions from the workshop leaders. The participants took home their gardens to finish, along with an invitation to display them at Powder Mill Park on June 15.

The workshop attendees may have had a head start, but everyone is invited to create and display their own garden whether they attended the workshop or not. Garden size is to be no larger than 15 inches x 24 inches. Set up will be by 9:30 a.m.



Fairy gardens will decorate the Enchanted Garden Walk at Powder Mill Park in Spencer on Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. SUBMITTED PHOTO

To save a place for your garden be sure to register with Diane Johnson well in advance of the set-up time. Email crusiergirl1952@gmail.com to register your garden and save your spot, or for any other information you may need about the walk.

The public is encouraged to stroll along "Enchanted Garden Lane" to view the Fairy Gardens from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

This program is brought to the community by a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, local affiliate of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Senior Center seeks volunteers and donations

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Council on Aging and the Friends of the COA are seeking new members to join them.

Any age adult can join either group; you do not have to be a senior.

The annual meeting will be held on Monday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m. Currently the Friends are looking for volunteers to fill the positions of secretary and treasurer.

Both the Friends of the COA and the COA are looking for new members. To inquire about the COA, you must fill out a request form at the Town Offices. To serve on the Friends, please call Mary Dolan at 508-867-7647.

The COA is also seeking volunteers including Med Drivers since they are trying to get their ride program up and running again. Volunteer drivers must pass a CORI and will receive a stipend for their time.

Anyone interested in volunteering can call Courtenay at 508-867-0220.

The COA is also in need of wheelchairs, as the few they own have not been returned. If anyone has a wheelchair they are no longer using, or borrowed one from the COA and did not return it, please drop it off Monday through Thursday between 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Aaron's Race Event returns on June 15

BELCHERTOWN – The third annual Aaron's Race Event will be held on Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., on the Belchertown Common.

This event is to help raise awareness around teen suicide. Teen suicide is currently the second leading cause of death of youth ages 10-24.

This event includes a pinewood derby car race, where all ages can pre-register to make a pinewood derby car to race the day of the event. Families can also sign up and bring a pinewood derby car they may have made in the past.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the several free family activities: a bounce house, UMass motorcycles and horses, touch a truck from the Fire Department, K-9 demonstrations, a car show, face painting, balloon animals, a magic show, henna tattoos, popcorn, cotton candy, and even snow cones. There is also the Super Raffle where everyone can choose to buy tickets to try their luck toward many generously donated baskets and prizes.

Food and ice cream will be available for purchase as well. All proceeds go towards teen suicide prevention and education.

For more information, please join the Facebook page: Aaron's Race 01007.



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The Burgess students prepare to honor veterans of the Revolution at Old Burial Ground. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RICHARD MURPHY

VETERANS | FROM PAGE 1

are fifth grade students of the town's Burgess Elementary School. The pupils will be part of the ceremony.

Welcoming remarks, singing of the National Anthem and recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance start the event.

There was a bit of problem with the sound, but that would not stop the ceremony. Rather than listen to the anthem, we would sing it. Briere would, as an aside, speak to the origin of the tune as a drinking song.

Next, Town Administrator Robin Grimm will speak of the day and what it means and how could we not honor it.

After Grimm, it would be the turn of state Rep. Todd Smola who represents Sturbridge in the General Court. On this day, which is celebrated annually thanks to Briere, Smola had an announcement that was truly special.

The Massachusetts History Alliance was recognizing Briere with the Bay State Legacy Award.

This is truly deserved as Briere probably knows more of the history and lore of the region than just about anyone.

Need we repeat, that it is due to Briere that the day's ceremony was resurrected. He is generous with his time for anyone with a question.

State Sen. Ryan Fattman was unable to be present as budget matters on Beacon Hill had to be attended to. His aide Amanda, however was on hand to pass on the Senator's greetings and speak about his support for veterans' mental health.

On hand, as usual were members

of the Massachusetts State Sons of the American Revolution. The men of the General Henry Knox Regimental Color Guard were resplendent in their Revolutionary uniforms and were ably led by their commander, Christopher Tourtellot.

As he does every year, Tourtellot recited a rousing toast to the American flag.

The Massachusetts Daughters of the American Revolution were present as well and State Daughters of the American Revolution Regent Carolyn Nutt would speak.

She would be followed by Past Regent Ann Marie Safaee and Regent Noveline Beltram who would present the DAR Community Award to The Publick House and to Michael Glick, who has long been the Innkeeper.

Glick, with associate Michael Harrington, generously provide the geraniums for the graves of the 65 veterans of the revolution in the cemetery.

The Burgess students then distributed the flowers to the graves.

After that the color guard would present arms, load and fire the muskets. Beside them were a few members of the Sturbridge Militia. They were not as formally dressed as the guardsmen, but more as "minutemen."

Near the stone wall, "Taps" was played by a bugler and a second time by a horn much farther away.

The notes faded and the ceremony was over and people drifted apart as the weather became wetter.



State Daughters of the American Revolution recognized the contribution of Michael Glick and the Publick House.



"Taps" was performed near the wall.



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Quaboag's Art Show

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School hosted its annual art show on May 23.

Students of grades seven through 12 got to share all their artwork that they have been working on throughout this school year. Friends, family and community members got to witness the great artwork in all mediums and some of the talented art students behind them.

The National Art Honor Society welcomed guests with snacks and drinks as they entered the hallways filled with art.

One of the students, Falon Rice had a display of 3D artwork inspired by habitats and species of the oceans. Rice got the inspiration of trying out 3D artwork by taking an Advanced Placement 3D art course.

Rice is a junior at Quaboag and wanted to focus entirely on the depths of the oceans.

One of Rice's 3D art sculptures was a sculpture of a lemon shark, an endangered species of shark that Rice believes a lot of people in the world don't know.

Rice at first was hesitant to take this AP 3D art class, but admitted during the art show that it was a great class to pursue.

"It caught my eye," Rice said. "Definitely happy I ended up taking the class."

Rice had a total of five 3D sculptures and five individual artworks on paper. Rice's medium choices were acrylic paints and HVAC tape.

Another eye-catching theme at the art show was birds. Focusing on birds was Skylar Cook.

The bird theme has been a very common theme used in Cook's artwork throughout the school year.

Cook enjoys drawing birds and wanted to capture the representation of birds. Mediums include mostly charcoal, chalk, graphite and black ink.



Persephone Piermarini alongside her artwork. One of her favorite projects to make was the Shark Fin. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

Cook had thought about applying watercolor but thought the watercolor form of a bird art piece would take longer.

Persephone Piermarini is a freshman at Quaboag who shared her artwork in the form of first drafts and final drafts. Piermarini focuses more on acrylic paint and charcoal.

Her most popular artwork enjoyed by guests was her charcoal piece of a shark fin hovering above water.

Piermarini plans on pursuing more artwork opportunities and future classes. The class she took this school year was foundations in art. The next mediums she plans on trying out next are oil paints and oil pastels.

In Quaboag's Media Center guests got to witness the projects made by more than 60 students who have taken woodshop classes. Mr. Howard spoke highly of his woodshop students have taken interest in advancing their craftsmanship.

Projects such as chairs, tables, shelves, furniture, and boxes were all made by talented students in all grades. One student who has been involved in

woodshop in all his high school years is Owen Stevens.

Stevens is a senior at Quaboag and has picked up an interesting hobby during his time in school. Howard has Stevens as his intern and has watched him get more involved in wood crafts. The effort and hard work has definitely paid off for Stevens and his teacher of four year and four different classes has taken notice.

"He takes his time working on certain projects," Howard said.

For Stevens, woodworking is a mix of a hobby and a future career. His work displayed in the media center consists of a coffee table, a jewelry box, a cutting board and a chess board with all the pieces.

Stevens' woodshop classes throughout high school consist of introduction to woodshop, custom furniture making, and advanced woodshop. It is an activity that Stevens plans on doing on the side after finishing high school.

"I definitely plan on doing it for a long time," Stevens said. "I'm very proud of it."

Stevens plans on becoming an environmental police officer but still make time to continue working on his wood crafts. He's planning on taking the next step and focusing more on grain patterns and wall pieces.

The details Stevens adds to his small box projects can only be described as incredible. For wall pieces, Stevens wants to try adding certain brands to them.

Other mediums featured throughout the Quaboag Art Show were ceramics, digital photography, self-portraits, watercolors, markers, sharpie, collaging and colored pencils.

The show highlighted all the hard work done by Quaboag's students. Each student had written a paragraph to talk a little bit about their artwork and the inspiration behind their art.



Media center displayed the art of wood crafts. This table features the craftsmanship of Quaboag Senior Owen Stevens.



Birds were a theme behind the artwork of Skylar Cook.



Ceramics created by Asya Osei-Opoku.



Dancing in the Puddles by Bella Grove is made entirely out of melted crayon.



Artwork by Alina Taro who used mediums such as paint, marker and pencil.

SPORTS

Cougars likely to make tournament

WARREN – Last week, Quaboag Regional baseball finished up the regular season with a pair of losses. The Cougars lost to Leicester 6-4 at home. The pair of defeats results in Quaboag finishing the season with 6-12 record.

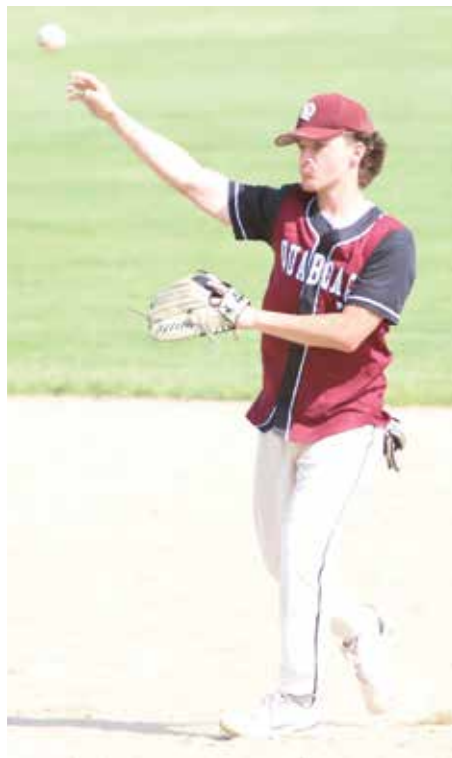
However, Quaboag is ranked No. 18 in the top 32 in Division 5, meaning the Cougars are nearly a lock for state tournament. Seeds were set to be released at the end of the week.



Liam McGrath delivers a pitch to the plate for the Cougars. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Matt Tiberii hustles down the first base line.



Jacob Cacace makes a throw to first.

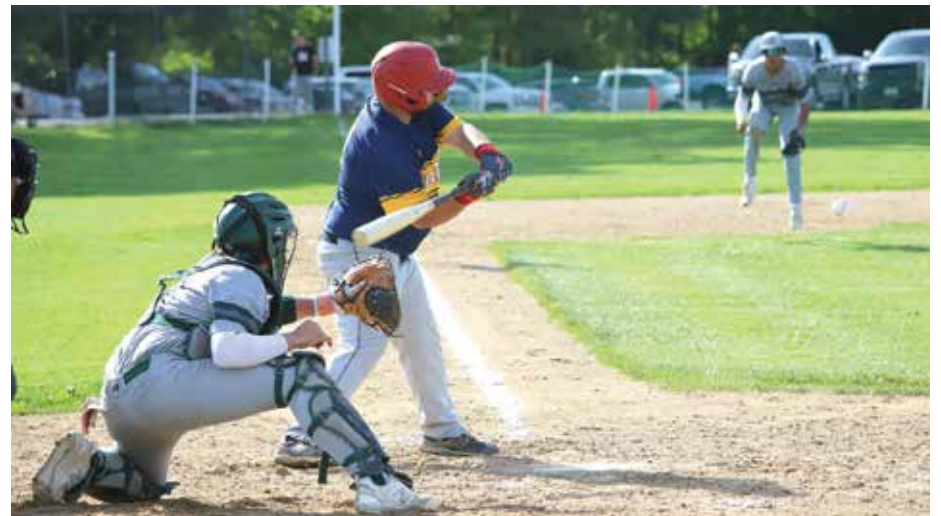


Brasen Sauriol swings and fouls off a pitch.

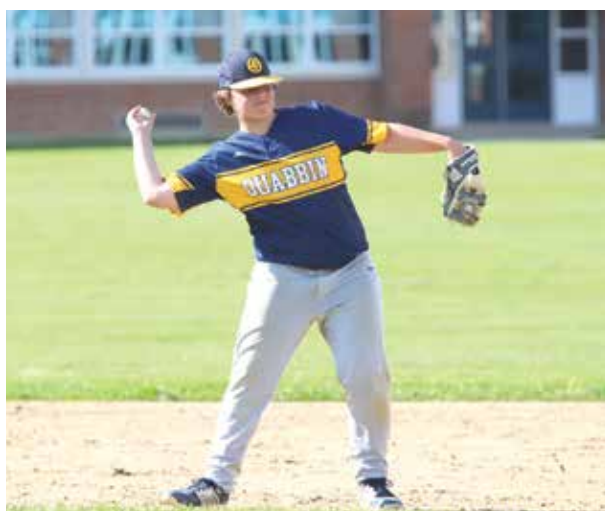
Quabbin baseball falls at home



Wes Sanderson is hit by a pitch. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Sean LaPointe swings and connects.



Andrew Warfield makes the throw to first.

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School baseball team suffered a 6-1 loss at home against Oakmont. The Panthers followed that with a 6-5 win over Leicester before finishing the regular season with a 6-4 loss against Montachusett. The Panthers regular season finishes with a 5-12 record. As of press time, the Panthers were on the outside of the top 32 in the Division 4 rankings.



Martin Stoddard sends a pitch home.

- sports -

Panthers edge Oakmont

BARRE – Some key plays helped lead Quabbin High School softball to a win over Oakmont 8-7. The Panthers would also defeat Leicester 7-0 last week before falling in their regular season finale to South High Community School. The Panthers head into the tournament season at 4-14 and are unlikely to reach the state tournament.



Juliana Guilderson corral a pitch. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Meg Doyle comes up throwing from center.



Jordan Blanchard comes up throwing to first.



Mady Breault sends a pitch to the plate.

Pathfinder softball headed for tournament



Emma Chavalier makes a catch on a pop-up to short.

PALMER – The Pathfinder Regional softball team had a strong finish to its season with a 14-4 record. The Pioneers did fall in their season finale, but won eight straight games leading up to that for a 13-4 regular season. The Pioneers were awaiting their seeding for the Division 5 tournament this week. Preliminary round games were scheduled to begin May 30 or 31.



Isabella Nempleggi rounds second and heads for third.



Megan Bly catches the out at first.



Kendra Burke sends a pitch to the plate.



Lianna Carrasquillo makes a throw to first for the out. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Quaboag hosts first PLTW STEM Fair

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – It is a moment of exposing innovation and imagination using science as students take part in Project Lead the Way.

Junior high and high school students of Quaboag Regional Middle High School have been working diligently for over a month to come up with a group project that is innovative and introduces students to real-world problem solving solutions.

This is the first year Quaboag has hosted a Project Lead the Way STEM Fair and features their innovative students exploring projects that may impact the future.

Project Lead the Way is a nonprofit organization that develops STEM curriculum for use by U.S. elementary, middle and high schools. PLTW helps students develop in-demand, transportable skills, such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, collaboration, and communication that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives.

One of the educators for Project Lead the Way is James DePace. A teacher of PLTW for 10 years, DePace has witnessed a lot of talented work behind his students during his first year teaching at Quaboag.

DePace believes PLTW is a great program for students to experience and lead them to seek future career paths.

“It is a nationwide organization that has proven itself to provide students with real-world problem-solving projects,” DePace said.

The PLTW STEM Fair showcased about 60 students who worked in groups.

DePace’s students, mostly in eighth grade, had a choice between three projects. First design a model spaceship that



Emily Ford and Katharina Joyce with their prosthetic arm model. TURLEY PHOTOS BY RYAN DRAGO

can travel to Mars. Next, create a Mars colony that would function to sustain human life on the planet.

The other project was a Mars lander; a flight to Mars with a parachute included.

No matter the project, each group had to provide data, research, notes and a summary about how they approached their project. One unique project done by a group was a virtual reality presentation of exploring Mars on a rover.

DePace looks forward to seeing the students present their work to the school community, parents and judges and hopes to make this PLTW fair an annual event.

Another Quaboag teacher involved with the PLTW STEM Fair is Michelle Zawalski and her students of biomedical science.

Zawalski’s students had projects focusing more on medical interventions. In other words, medical approaches that help make life easier.

Zawalski’s students worked on designing their own prosthetic arms. Ju-

niors and seniors worked in groups and Zawalski witnessed her students benefit from not only self-independence but also innovation as they explored real world dilemmas.

“Take on the world,” Zawalski said. “Get them excited about their future pursuits.”

All students reported to the high school cafeteria where they presented their group projects to other students, teachers, parents and judges.

The three school judges were Joseph Salvatore, Rina Maynard and Jackson Grudzien. These three teachers at Quaboag went around the cafeteria to observe each project.

The two guest judges are scientists Kaitlyn Laabs and Phillip Woodford.

Laabs has worked in science for 10 years and is excited to see what the students will be presenting during the fair. According to Laabs, science goes far beyond what is studied in a laboratory.

“Science doesn’t necessarily mean in the lab,” Laabs said.

Project Lead the Way covers many

sciences including computer science, medical science and engineering. Woodford is looking forward to seeing the innovative thinking behind each group’s project.

“I’m excited to see what the kids have done,” Woodford said.

As the judges observed each project, they reviewed each group’s summary and see if they hit all the key points to their project. Also, judges looked for each group’s research. As always, the judges look forward to hearing the students’ presentations.

At the end of the PLTW STEM Fair, six groups will be selected to go to Boston and compete against over 200 similar projects from Project Lead the Way.

The groups going to Boston are the group of Lili McIsaac, Bella Santos, Emily Tobiaz and Cadence Ciesak. The next group was the group of Maeve Smith, Victoria Paradis and Patience Vaughn. The third group going to Boston is the group of Isabelle Manzano, Violet Atwood, Bryann Lussier and Alyssa Lussier. These groups are from DePace’s PLTW classes.

The winners from Zawalski’s Medical Interventions Classes were Cameron Giroux, Alexander Russo and Laura Orne. The next group is Richard Tracy, Parker Tunley and Allison Duszak. The third group selected is Emily Ford and Katharina Joyce.

These students will go to Boston and present their projects along with over 200 more students of Project Lead The Way.

The event at Quaboag was so much fun for the students, parents and educators. Quaboag has every intention to bring the STEM fair back next year.

To learn more about PLTW, visit their website at www.pltw.org.



Michelle Zawalski alongside one of her students, Laura Orne and her prosthetic arm model.



Kaitlyn Laabs and Phillip Woodford were visiting scientists who served as judges during the Project Lead the Way STEM Fair.



Riley Corder stands next to her group’s project of a Mars lander.



Gabe Ortiz, Connoe Snay and Travis Bigda with their spaceship to Mars project.



Ayden Laird, Austin Letourneau, Jontae Todd and Mason Lakota presented a model of Mars lander, which includes a parachute.

- community -

BROOKFIELD | FROM PAGE 1

The Cultural Council, with Amie Vogel at the head, organized this year's parade with people from all over the area to come together for the parade.

"We are in the process of reintroducing ourselves to the community, and showing the community what we do and who we are," she said.

"It's a longstanding tradition," Vogel said of the impact of the parade here in town. "Everyone has worked so hard."

Many people and groups marched in the parade, including McGann's Marching Band, Brookfield Cub Scout Pack 159, Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church, and members of the Quaboag Church congregation.

Trail Life USA, Wicked Jeeps of New England, Brookfield Recreation Commission Sports Teams, Diva Dance School, the Catnip Junkies, and the Fire Department also marched.

Honored veterans Steve Mandel-

la, Charlie Bryer, and Jan Bryer also marched in the parade, alongside Grand Marshal Beth Coughlin of the Brookfield Selectboard.

"I am the daughter of a veteran, and the granddaughter and niece of veterans and it meant a lot to me to partake in this day as we remember those who gave everything," she said.

The parade marched through the historic district of Brookfield, and ended at the common, where a ceremony was held and poems and prayers were recited for the fallen.

"We have a great support from the community, and I would really like to see more and be able to create opportunities to cultivate and grow empathy and learn for one another," Vogel said. "This was an incredible opportunity to create something that felt multigenerational and inclusive. This was a really great event."



The McGann Marching Band ready to play some classic patriotic music. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Cub Scout Pack 159 of Brookfield was ready to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the ceremony after the parade.



Trail Life members were ready to march in the parade wearing their green uniforms and badges.



The Brookfield Fire Department carried the flags for the ceremony in remembrance of the fallen.

CONTEST | FROM PAGE 1

Gustafson spoke during the assembly and explained to students how important it is to report an emergency to the police or fire department.

"Let fire and police know what you know", Gustafson said.

For fire safety, Gustafson would go on explaining the importance of fire safe habits and encouraged students to not misuse fire or flammable tools. Fire is a tool and should only be used for its intended purpose when required, and it is always encouraged to use them with permission and under supervision.

Fire must be used safely, otherwise situations can get bad very quickly. According to a study, flames can spread and double in size every 30 seconds.

The fire department staff encouraged youth and adults to always report when an incident occurs.

"See something, say something," Gustafson said. "Do not wait."

Gustafson said in Massachusetts alone, there were 86 reported fire incidents that were caused by juvenile misuse. It was shared during the assembly that every fire is investigated in order to determine the cause.

The annual Arson Watch Reward Program Poster Contest is sponsored by the Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Association and the Rhode Island Joint Reinsurance Association, on behalf of all property and casualty insurance companies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The poster theme is "Fire Prevention - Everyone/Everyday".

Fire safety education is important at any age level, but especially for children.

Many children who play with fire do not realize the dangers and injuries their play can cause. T

The Arson Watch Reward Program was established in 1981 and was one of the first programs sponsored by any group to advocate for an active public response to the senseless incidence of arson related fires on behalf of the insurance industry.

Every year, a countywide poster contest is held for students in grades sixth through eighth. First and second place county winners are chosen by an impartial panel of judges.

All First-place County winners are entered into the Massachusetts Statewide Contest and are soon selected.

Last year, the winner of the contest was Ella Reeves who was first place in Worcester County.

This year, seventh grade student Silas Flint was the winner of the Poster Contest. Flint was the first place winner in Worcester County and second place in the whole Commonwealth.

The school and the departments congratulated Flint as he received a trophy at the assembly and held a framed copy of the poster he created. Joining Gustafson in the presentation was Taylor Wilkinson of the Hubbardston Fire Department and New Braintree Fire Chief Dennis Letendre, Jr.

After the award, the departments took questions from the students at the assembly. It was a great way for the departments to connect with the youth of the community and help them understand real life emergency situations.



Silas Flint is shown with Barre Firefighter and EMT Christina Gustafson. TURLEY PHOTO BY RYAN DRAGO

- community -

New dance studio opening soon in Palmer

By **Ryan Drago**
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PALMER – A new dance studio in Palmer is preparing for its grand opening on Sunday, June 9 from 2-5 p.m.

The public will get a chance to experience the Destined to Dance Academy, LLC at their new home at 1016 Central St. The vision behind the new dance studio are owners Doreen Piechota and Lisa Girard.

Destined to Dance Academy is home to a former dance studio known as Jo-Anne’s School of Dance that operated in Palmer for 40 years.

The owners are excited and look forward to seeing their dancing students and staff along with guests and dance the afternoon away at their grand opening.

The grand opening will feature music, food and lots of fun for kids. Free face painting, hair beading, temporary tattoos for kids and glitter eyes are all the activities to enjoy at Destined to Dance Academy’s grand opening.

Both Piechota and Girard live in West Brookfield and both have families full of dancers. Their granddaughters are all into dance and gymnastics.

As they witnessed their grandkids blossom into dancing, Piechota and Girard had the idea to open their own studio.

The two newly formed business partners began searching for a space that had the potential of being a dance studio. They came across a building that was formerly a dance studio (Jo-Anne’s School of Dance) and discovered the space still had a setup of a dance studio.

After cleaning, repairs, and repainting both Girard and Piechota were ready to present their new dance studio to the public and aspiring dancers in the area.

The two grandmothers and business partners found the space back in March but had many express interest in dancing prior to getting their own dance studio.

“We had a huge interest in the dance studio. Already hired two teachers who have already worked with our grandchildren,” Piechota said.

The teachers of Destined to Dance Academy are Torie Jock and Libby Murphy. The kids and parents will get to meet these talented dance instructors who bring a lot of experience to Destined to Dance Academy.

“Both teachers have come together as a wonderful team,” Piechota said.

Future competitions are in the works at the studio as are summer dance classes and auditions. At the dance studio there will be classes for kids and adults.

At Destined to Dance Academy you will learn about team building, compassion, respect, commitment and community.

There will be tryouts during future events at the dance studio and will be tryouts for the dance team. The instructors will be meeting with the kids and parents during the grand opening.

Registry for favorite dance styles and classes will be happening as well.

About 15 kids currently participate under Destined to Dance Academy, but more have expressed interest as they’re dancing toward the studio’s grand opening.

Classes will be in two separate groups; recreational dance group and a competitive dance group. There will be both recreation and competitive groups for adults as well.

Both teachers are dancers and choreographers and have been involved with dancing since they were children. From Piechota’s point of view, many kids who have danced are motivated to continue dancing as adults.

“We get a lot of kids who want to dance after high school,” Piechota said.

According to Piechota, the goal is to run the studio and have the teachers run the classes and give them the creative opportunities to work with kids.

“Provide a structured dance environment with a lot of fun,” Piechota said. “Shine and grow.”

Piechota believes dance is a great activity for kids to experience the world around them and be a part of a community. Dancing can help inspire the kids

to be respectful, responsible and have a good character.

“Dance is good to teach kids how to be committed and be a part of the team,” Piechota said. “We want to build a happy studio for kids to have fun and gather and learn skills that they can take into their adult lives.”

Doreen’s granddaughter Madisyn Perez will be a student teacher at the studio as will her granddaughter Hannah Henry. Her other granddaughter Genevieve Henry is also a participant in dance.

Lisa Girard’s daughter Sarah Girard and granddaughter Shayla Orodi are involved in dancing as well.


These kids have all participated in helping out with the remodel of the studio. They also have been helping with spreading the word and talking about the new studio to their classmates and friends.

Both Piechota and Girard share a passion for pursuing a healthy dance experience for their children and grandchildren. With years of dedication to supporting their love for dance and gymnastics.

Visit the website destinedtodanceacademy.com or follow them on Facebook and Instagram to learn more about Destined to Dance Academy, LLC.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Fashion accessory
- Engine additive
- Small, faint constellation
- Gives a job
- Self-righteous person
- Caucasian language
- Surinam toad
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Former French coin
- Levels the score
- What stage performers do
- Egyptian Sun god
- Localities
- Spherical body

- Licensed for Wall Street
- Perfect
- It’s on many people’s heads
- Boxing’s GOAT
- Photo
- Popular HBO show
- Popular music awards show
- Pouch
- Lake in Botswana
- Unruly group
- One-fourth
- Very eager
- Edward _____, author and writer
- Flying insect
- Dragged forcibly
- Thus far
- Not just “play”
- Commercials

CLUES DOWN

- Occur
- Show up
- Capital of Taiwan
- Brother or sister
- Secret get-togethers
- Type of tea
- Where the action is
- Cast out
- Crime group
- Type of vessel (abbr.)
- Accept and handle
- Sacrifice hit
- One who buys and sells securities simultaneously
- Month
- Most thin
- Naturally occurring
- material
- Luke’s mentor _____-Wan
- Postmodernist Austrian “House”
- Aquatic salamander
- Baseball stat
- Beginning military rank
- Talk rapidly and unintelligibly
- Paddle
- Caregiver (abbr.)
- Old Irish alphabet
- Japanese city
- In a way, acted
- Things to see
- Nursemaid
- Type of tooth
- To be demonstrated
- Defunct European group

Classifieds

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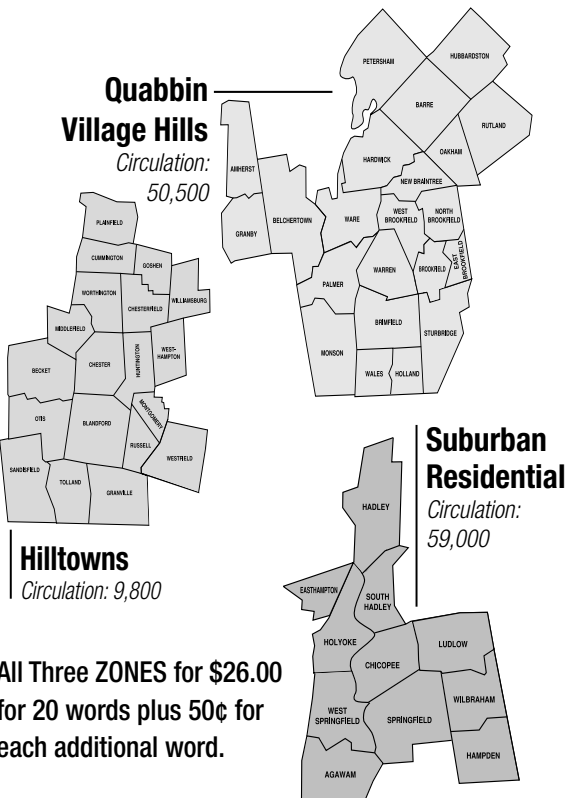
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HELP WANTED

CLEANING SERVICE WANTED - Town of Huntington is seeking quotations to clean 3 town buildings. Interested parties may submit quotations for the individual buildings, or as a group. Quotations are due by 3:00 p.m. on June 13. Specifications are available at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Mail proposals to **Selectboard Office, PO Box 430, Huntington, MA 01050** or email to admin@huntingtonma.us.

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HELP WANTED

Oakham Highway Dept. is hiring a **FULL-TIME EQUIPMENT OPERATOR / MECHANIC / LABORER.**

Applicants must have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License Class B (CDL) with DOT Medical Examination Certification and a Hoisting Engineer License Class 4A, 2G with DOT Medical Examination Certification. Hourly rate of \$24.72. For a full job description visit www.oakham-ma.gov. Interested applicants should submit their resume and an employment application to **Town of Oakham Attn: Maribel LaRange 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham Ma. 01068** or email it to admin@oakham-ma.gov

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

HELP WANTED

The Town of Huntington is seeking a **TOWN CLERK.**

This is a salaried position for approximately 18 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Applications are due by June 13, 2024.

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18th annual Tri-Parish Community Church event June 1 and 2

HARDWICK – The Tri Parish Community Church welcomes the public to their 18th annual plant, bake, tag and craft sale Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the beautiful Hardwick common.

The sale will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs. There is a wonderful variety of plants offered through Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm & Garden, both of New Braintree, Tracie's Greenhouse of Ware, and "homegrown lovelies" from private gardens.

A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold. The proceeds from the plant and bake sale support the operational expenses of the church.

The church will be holding a drawing featuring the "best" of the plant sale. No purchase is necessary to win.

Live music will be provided on Sunday though a grant to the Paige Memorial Library from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Several activities will be available for children as well.

A number of tag and craft vendors have rented space on the common for the event. They will be offering a selection of home crafted goods, artwork, jewelry, maple syrup products, tag sale treasures and collectables, including Annalee dolls.

The Tri Parish Community Church's Pastor, Nathan Pederson, will lead a brief prayer service Sunday morning on the common in lieu of the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service.

Come spend the day enjoying all that Hardwick has to offer while supporting the fundraising efforts of the church.

Browse the plants and vendor booths, connect with old friends, visit the Hardwick Historical Society that will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. both days, and the 1906 Paige Memorial library which will be open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. The library is holding an on-going book sale on their lower level.

Both buildings are located near the common, a short walk from the plant sale venue. Bring your bicycle and tour some of the great riding routes in the east Quabbin area and scenic vistas preserved through the East Quabbin Land Trust such as the Mandell Hill property located just one mile east of the Hardwick common (the church members will hold your plants for you), and top it all off with a bite to eat at Mimi's Coffee House overlooking the common.

All are welcome. This is a rain or shine event.



Friends and neighbors enjoy connecting at the Tri-Parish Community Church's annual plant sale. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



The plant sale held on June 1 and 2, rain or shine, has a colorful variety of flowers.

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New Braintree Police Log

During the week of May 20-27, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to six building/property checks, 24 directed/area patrols, one radar assignment, one assist other agency, one motor vehicle accident, one scam, two fire/illegal burns, one complaint, three animal calls and three motor vehicle stops in the town of New Braintree.

Friday, May 24

- 11:58 a.m. Scam, West Brookfield Road, Officer Handled
- 1:31 p.m. Welfare Check, Barre Cut Off Road, Transported to Hospital
- 3:42 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Negative Contact

Saturday, May 25

- 12:01 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Gilbertville Road, Officer Handled
- 1:05 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Gardner, Officer Handled
- 1:36 p.m. Medical Emergency, Utley Road, Transported to Hospital
- 6:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, West Road, Report Taken

Sunday, May 26

- 10:08 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Gilbertville Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

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QUABOAG CURRENT

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COA seeks volunteers
p6

WEST BROOKFIELD
Quaboag students place
flags p6

REGION
Quabbin district gets
grant p3

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Volume 17, Number 27

Friday, May 31, 2024

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Upcoming BBB dates

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Thursday, June 20	Thursday, Sept. 19
Thursday, July 25	Thursday, October 31

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