

# QUABOAG CURRENT

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Quaboag Current  
Newspaper

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Volume 17, Number 52

Friday, November 22, 2024

## Quaboag students honor veterans at induction ceremony



Quaboag Regional Middle High School students and staff recognized and honored veterans. Two new veterans were inducted to the Alumni Wall; Andrew Michalski, a 2010 graduate and Michael Deremien, a 1969 graduate. TURLEY PHOTOS BY ABBY MCCOY

By Abby McCoy  
Correspondent

WARREN – On Nov. 8, Quaboag Regional Middle High School community gathered in the auditorium for a heartfelt Veterans Day ceremony, organized by the eighth grade honors English class.

The event featured a series of moving performances and

reflections, paying tribute to the men and women who have served in the U.S. military.

The ceremony began with a warm welcome from Olivia McAnuff, followed by Abigail Landine leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Max Sturges offered a history of the National Anthem, which was then performed by Madison Schrier, delivering a rendition that was

described as both “beautifully haunting” and “solemn.”

A highlight of the ceremony was a brief history of Armistice Day, which officially became Veterans Day in 1944 after its establishment in 1938. Attendees also learned about Francis Scott Key, the War of 1812, and how his poem, “The Defense of Fort McHenry”,

See VETERANS | PAGE 12

## Voters took quick action on STM articles

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Voters passed all 17 articles on the warrant of the special town meeting held on Nov. 15.

Moderator James Caldwell held a moment of silence to remember recently passed resident Lisa Morgan. Morgan worked at the town’s landfill and was known for the funny hats she wore.

“She was always a bright sun down there,” he said. “She always made us laugh.”

Rescinded votes

Articles 1 and 17 both rescinded previous votes taken at town meetings.

With Article 1, voters rescinded the vote of the June 16, 2024, annual town meeting that transferred \$300,000 from Stabilization to Group Health. After rescinding, voters then voted to transfer \$233,436

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## Select Board continued pole hearing with National Grid

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Select Board continued a public hearing regarding the installation of new joint ownership utility poles by National Grid.

At the Nov. 4 meeting, National Grid representatives requested approval to install four JO utility poles on Podunk

Road in addition to laying and maintaining underground laterals, cables and wires in the same area.

Select Board Chair Jamie Goodwin said the board has had a lot of discussion about this project.

Jeremy Sherman, project manager for National Grid, said the customer for this project is NextEra Energy, a five

See BOARD | PAGE 6

### Finding William Lewis

## Journals chronicle the life of 19th century Barre man

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – At a recent program hosted by the Sturbridge Historical Society at the Publick House, Christie Higginbottom and Bruce Craven explored the life of a 19th century man, as told through his extensive journals.

Higginbottom said she and Craven were at an antique show in Tolland, Connecticut in 2012 when they found a

wooden trunk filled with pass book journals. All of the journals were written by the same person, William Lewis.

“Each journal listed the town he lived in at the time, including Barre and Hubbardston,” Higginbottom said. “Bruce convinced me that we needed to buy them...there were 99 pass book journals.”

Higginbottom said the antique dealer had bought the journals from a woman’s estate in Barre, which was being di-

See JOURNALS | PAGE 8

## Accounting students enjoy visit from auditor

WARREN – On Nov. 12, Mia McDonald, a 2022 graduate of Westfield State University and currently a Senior Auditor at Meyers Brothers Kalicka, P.C., visited Quaboag Regional High School teacher Jean DiRico’s accounting class.

Her presentation was an incredible opportunity for students to learn directly from a professional in the field, gaining valuable insights into the world of accounting and auditing. The students found her visit engaging and inspiring—truly a memorable experience that deepened their appreciation and understanding of accounting in the real world.



Auditor Mia McDonald visited Jean DiRico’s accounting class at Quaboag Regional High School earlier this month. SUBMITTED PHOTO



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# - community -

The Centered Place hosts food drive

## Fundraiser to help those facing food insecurity

WARREN – The Centered Place yoga studio in Warren is hosting a food drive and fundraiser to support The Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry in West Brookfield as well as two Massachusetts food banks.

Many individuals and families in the area are experiencing food insecurity. With recent discontinuation of several government support programs that were implemented during the pandemic, their needs have increased.

The Centered Place hopes that the food drive and fundraiser can give a boost to those facing food insecurity and help them make it through the holidays with good food to eat and more to celebrate.

Donations of food and household items for The Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry can be brought to The Centered Place at 286 Bridge St.

The most needed food items include non-perishable food such as regular sized canned proteins (meats or beans), dried beans, grains, peanut butter or other nut butters, cookies, crackers, breakfast cereals, coffee or decaf, and canned or packaged soups. Household items that are most needed in-

clude paper towels and toilet paper, soap and other cleaning supplies.

Alternatively, food and donations can be brought directly to the Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry on Wednesday mornings between 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursday evenings between 7-8 p.m.

Note that on the week of Thanksgiving, the pantry will be open Tuesday morning instead of Wednesday morning, and will be closed on Thanksgiving. The Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry is located at 36 North Main St., in the back of the First Congregational Church in West Brookfield.

Donations can also be mailed to: The Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry, 36 North Main St., West Brookfield, MA 01585.

Each month The Centered Place hosts a fundraiser for a different charitable organization. The fundraiser for both November and December supports the Worcester County Food Bank, a non-profit organization that provides donated food to those who need it. Last year, the WCFB and its network of 115 community meal programs and local food pantries (including The Sharing Cupboard

Food Pantry) helped distribute nearly 6.1 million pounds of donated food (enough for 5.1 million meals) to 75,000 people from all 60 cities and towns in Worcester County.

The Centered Place has a Facebook fundraiser where you can donate to the WCFB: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/1116376256580110/>.

Donations can also be made directly to the Worcester County Food Bank website at <https://foodbank.org/>.

Another food bank that you can support is the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, which serves Hampshire, Hampden, Franklin and Berkshire counties. You can donate to this food bank online at <https://www.foodbankwma.org/>.

The Centered Place yoga studio has served the local area since 1988. It was founded by Nancy A Nowak, who co-directs and teaches along with her husband, Phil Milgrom. The studio was voted Best in Yoga by readers of the former Sturbridge Times.

The physical address of the studio is 286 Bridge St. in Warren. The web address is [www.thecenteredplace.com](http://www.thecenteredplace.com).

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**EMAIL**  
*Advertising Sales*  
Dan Flynn  
dfflynn@turley.com  
  
Tim Mara  
tmara@turley.com  
  
*Editor*  
Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

**WEB**  
[www.quaboagcurrent.turley.com](http://www.quaboagcurrent.turley.com)  
  
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## Quabbin Regional High School list honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional High School lists the first quarter honor roll for grades nine through 12.

### Grade 9, High Honors

Brent Benoit, Abraham Brown, Nicholas Carroll, Michael Condry, Maya Edouard, Chloe Howarth, Ellie Poulin and Erin Trottier.

### Grade 9, Honors

Nicholas Antonio, Mary Asiedu, Anyiah Bergeron, Josephine Buck, Carlmorisia Campbell, Eleanor Carroll, Brian Colleton, Aiden Crane, Kayla Curran, Adrien Cyr, Oliver Davis, Aliyah Edouard, Andrew Erickson, Audrey Faucher, Samuel Feldman, Alaina Flynn, Maya Fontaine, Daniela Gaudreault, Callahan Hardy, Jadin Harnois, Samuel Jamieson, Matthew Labrousse, Alison LaRoche, Emma Lindsey, Kingston McKenzie, Lynn Di-

arrah Michel, Niki Nikakhlagh, John Orsini, Aubrie Phelps, Moira Powers, Juliet Priestley, Lealani Prunesti-Thomas, Veanna Salvadore, Kristen Schur, Ava Sobol, Haley Stoll, Silas Stukuls Barrieau, Benjamin Thompson and Catherine Tucker.

### Grade 10, High Honors

Jacob Bassett, Madeleine Boisselle, Tess Dunphy, Kathryn Ford, Ella Reeves and Ellary White.

### Grade 10, Honors

Klavdiya Antonian, Skyler Bard, Halo Bissonnette, Samantha Breault, Makenzie Casey, Benjamin Darcey, Kherington Deschenes, Oliver Doane, Isabel Doty, Leah Doucette, Brody Faucher, Grace Flamand, Lilian Hinckley, Kaylie Howland, Kirk Kaelin II, Emma Keddy, Violet Kelley, Sadie Kennan, Nathaniel Korandanis, Sierra Lambert,

Audrey Laursen, Ailey Majoy, Anna Metcalf, Mia Miville, Jesse Newton, Samantha O'Connor, Sadie Ouimette, Maya Putnam, Julia Quintal, Camren Robertson, Abigail Rogowski, Emma Ryan, Sienna Shaw, Aubrey Thorpe, Owen Twarog, Grace Vanoudenhove, Brendan Welch, Carlo Zolla and Leanna Zou.

### Grade 11, Honors

Owura Ankoma-Mensah, Aaron Bodine, Owen Breuer, Micah Cerezo, Annabella DiMartino, Mia Ducos, Kalina Dyer, Garrett Erickson, Ava Gilman, Adelaide Harmon, Emma Kahlau, Anthony Landry, Logan Loomer, Grace Manna, Elizabeth Matheson, Hunter McQuestion, Jayne O'Brien, Madelyn Stauder, Andrew Warfield, Farrah Wojcik and Jin Xi Zou.

### Grade 12, High Honors

Ava Conlee, Teaghan Earle, Matthew Erickson, Quinn Geary, Samuel Guertin, Isabel LaBelle, Julia Smith and Jaxon Warburton.

### Grade 12, Honors

Shimie Ankoma-Mensah, Eamon Arnold, Haley Ayer, Jordan Blanchard, Kevin Boles, Alisyn Bruso, Kyle Clark, Abigail Crawford, Christiana Dunn, Adam Faulha, Ruby Gatulis, Rachel Harrington, Rylee-Anne Harty, Hunter LaBier, Travis LaRoche, Kun Liu, Veronika Mendrek, Adelynn Prochnow, Ethan Salvadore, Amanda Samaha, Ezequiel Santoro, Sadie Sheldon, Hannah Shepard, Sydney Slattery, Isabella Smith, Irene Stolgitis, Kevin Thompson, Richard Tucker, Abigail Ure and Ryan Wreschinsky.

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### High Hawk Farm Dispensary to Host Job Fair

High Hawk Farm Dispensary is excited to announce a job fair for those interested in joining our Rutland team as we prepare to open our doors. We are seeking motivated, organized, and hardworking individuals to fill several key positions, including Budtenders, Inventory Specialists, and Security Attendants.

Event Details:

- Date:** November 26, 2024
- Time:** 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- Location:** Higgins Powersports Building, 140 Worcester Road, Barre, MA, 01005
- Positions Available:** Full-time and part-time roles, including Budtender, Inventory Specialist, and Security Attendant.
- Requirements:** Applicants must be 21+ and pass a CORI background check. Experience in the cannabis industry is preferred but not required. A passion for customer service, attention to detail, and the ability to work in a fast-paced environment are essential. Please bring a cover letter and resume.

The event will provide an opportunity to ask questions and submit resumes

Contact Information:

For more information, please contact:  
Meghan Peddle  
meg@highhawkfarm.com  
978-257-3586

# - community -

## Christmas decorating and holiday events listed

**NORTH BROOKFIELD** – On Saturday, Nov. 30, volunteers from North Brookfield Decorate Our Town Committee will be gathered at the Town House at 9 a.m. to start the task of decorating the town for the Christmas holiday.

Wreaths and sprays will be hung on the windows and doors of all the buildings on Main Street, and the Town Park will be adorned with lights, wooden soldiers, a sleigh, Santa and much more.

On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 1, Santa will be sitting in his favorite chair to welcome those who wish to sit on his knee and whisper in his ear the present they hope Santa will bring on Christmas morning.

At the same time, the Haston Free Public Library will be hosting a series of festivities. A Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place at 6 p.m., followed by Christmas Caroling at the Congregational Church.

Tabby LeBlanc will be leading all in the caroling, and it is hoped that the Theatre Guild will sing a favorite Christmas song or two.

## Quabbin Regional Middle Schools lists honor roll

**BARRE** – Quabbin Regional Middle School announced the first quarter honor roll.

### Grade 7, High Honors

Saylor Bissonnette, Julia Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Joyce Brown, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Nolan Herrick, Pele Johnson, Chiara Manna, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Madeleine Proulx, Katy Twarog and Elizabeth Welch.

### Grade 7, Honors

Albert Afonso, Harrison Ashton, Addyson Barringer, Owen Black, Amelia Breault, Cameron Bruley, Ashlynn Casey, Jack Castell, Henry Corbett, Christopher Dallair, Sophia Dittami, Lane Fagnoli, Addison Ford, Lucas Gaspar, Meaghan Glidden, Gabriel Houle, Aimee Ickler, Evelyn Johnson, Noah Kelter, Amy Landrin, Theodore Langer, Mathieu LeBlanc, Jack Leclair, Mackenzie Levesque, Ava Maxim, Bree May, Cameron McDonald, Valerie Metterville, Brayden Nadeau, Caleb Oliveira, Ashton Pride, Evelyn Priestley, Autumn Rector, Lily Ryan, Thomas Schoonmaker, Andrew Scott, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Bella Spring, Emma Stauder, Fiona Stevens, Arina Timofeev, Kailyn Traynham, Maggie Ward, Charlie White, Lila Wilson, Skylar Wisniewski and Raegyn Wnek.

### Grade 8, High Honors

Kalina Bassett, Hazel Carter, Lauren Colleton, Caleb Conway-Dias, Adalyn

Cranston, Madison Cyr, Kalypso DeCologero, Jeremy DeMoranville, Fiona Derr, Brynn Dunphy, Xavier Fjeld, Silas Flint, Nathan Gringras, Olivia Gregory, Hayston Hay, Madisyn Hill, Reese Jamieson, Sarah Jean-Francois, Gemma Mullins, Greyson Mullins, Olivia O'Connor, Whitney Reeves, Chloe Richardson, Ava Rogowski, Jacob Rosario, Zoey Salvadore, Dimas Santos Jr., Madisyn Shotwell, Annabelle Silver, Addison Surprenant, Michael Tabares, Robert Tobin, Launa Tran, John Tyler, Robyn Waltz and Jack Wynne.

### Grade 8, Honors

Oliva Abbas-Peck, Emma Ackert, Adeelya Andrade, Alison Baptiste, Joseph Cook, Natalia Cordero-Martel, Gabriel DeGiudice, Landon Devine, Aryanna Donofrio, Eli Doolittle, Jasmine Ewing, Maya Faucher, Finian Fauteux, Lindsay Fors, Tsadiku Fox, Juliana Guilderson, Madison Haley, Sawyer Harmon, Jace Jones, Aubrey Lawson, Weston Letendre, Allie Lipiec, Sage McQueston, Annalyce Miller, Morgan Montague, Lunabelle Moore, Layla Nally, Sarah Neal, William O'Neill, Dante Orcutt, Quinn Ouimette, Joseph Perrone, Nathaniel Perry, Lukas Potter, Kimberly Riendeau, Sophia Rogers, Connor Roohan, Alexis Savary, Madison Scanlon, Deven Skinner, Rosalie Stark, Tucker Talbot, Mackenzie Toupin, Halee Vasquez, Maxwell Wade, Isabelle Wentworth, Gareth White and Sarai Zhindon.

## More artifacts return to Lakota tribe

By Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com

**BARRE** – The Barre Library Association returned two 19th century headdresses from their collection donated to the library by Frank Root on Nov. 11.

Several years ago, the BLA returned a large number of artifacts in the Frank Root collection to Pine Ridge Lakota tribe as part of their reparation decision. A large ceremony involving many members of the Lakota tribe and the public participated in or attended that reparation ceremony held at Ruggles Lane School in Barre.

This ceremony was much smaller with Justin Pourier and only a handful of people and members of the press.

Both headdresses were from the 19th century. One was 60 inches long with a felt head piece and eagle feathers. The second headdress was 50 inches long and made of felted wool, eagle talons,

porcupine quills, deer hair and horse hair.

Pourier, head of the tribal historic preservation office and the Fifth Member of the Tribal Executive Council from the Pine Ridge Lakota tribe, said when his tribe started talking with members of the Barre Library Association about the artifacts in Barre, he hoped it “would open doors.”

He said this would “impact our youth as they don’t have access to stuff like this back home.” He said they will preserve these headdresses or war bonnets as he called them in a building of their own where school children can come and view them.

Pourier sang a litany in his native tongue while standing over the boxed headdresses. He also talked about his ancestors history as well. Following the ceremony, Pourier returned with the two headdresses to Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.



Justin Pourier, head of the tribal historic preservation office and the Fifth Member of the Tribal Executive Council from the Pine Ridge Lakota tribe, speaks to the group during a brief ceremony at the Woods Memorial Library on Nov. 11 to return two headdresses to the Lakota people.



Justin Pourier lifts up one of the headdresses, which he will be taking back to Pine Ridge following the brief reparation ceremony. The artifacts were in the Barre Library Association museum collection, which was housed in the museum on the second floor of the Woods Memorial Library.



Elizabeth Martin, a Woods Memorial Library Trustee and member of the BLA, finishes uncovering one of the Lakota headdresses.



Another view of the headdresses returned to the Lakota tribe on Nov. 11. TURLEY PHOTOS BY ELLENOR DOWNER

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## Wrap it up!

I spent this past weekend trying to wrap things up. Before we know it the holidays will be upon us and there will be little time to spend in the garden.

I had, and sadly still have, areas yet to clean up, last minute bulbs to plant and statuary and tools to put into storage. One major concern is how dry it is.

Read on to learn about some chores that should be tackled before the ground freezes.

Honestly, in all my years of gardening I have never felt the need to water spring bulbs after planting them. This year is the exception.

What about our newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs? Just to be safe, get out the hose and give them a good soaking.

If weather permits, move a slow running hose from shrub to shrub over the course of a few hours. This is especially critical for our broad leaf evergreens such as rhododendrons, azaleas, and Pieris.

Remember the damage on older rhododendrons a few winters back? Some large specimens lost a third or more of their overall size!

Much of that was caused by excessive cold and winter winds that desiccated (removed moisture from) the foliage and left it susceptible to injury. Antidesiccant sprays are available from nurseries and garden centers. These products leave a waxy layer of film over the leaf, locking in its moisture.

Did you purchase any shrubs, roses or otherwise that were so beautiful you couldn't resist, even though they were only marginally hardy in our area (zones 6 or higher)? These need special attention.

Pound some stakes into the ground just outside the drip line of the plant. Wrap the stakes with burlap and stuff it full of straw, salt marsh hay, or shredded leaves, anything that will insulate yet not pack down and cause rot.

Never use plastic; this material creates a greenhouse of fluctuating temperatures that will surely kill the plant. Climbing plants such as roses or clematis can be removed from their trellises, tied in loose bundles and wrapped in a similar fashion as above.

Many of our evergreen shrubs suffer under the weight of ice and snow. Smaller specimens can be protected by making "A-frame" tents out of plywood and placing them over the susceptible plant. Use hinges rather than nails to construct them; storage during the off-season will be a breeze.

These types of enclosures also provide a great deal of wind protection. Paint them to blend in with the landscape.

Other articles have covered the importance of winter mulch to protect strawberries, fall mums, garlic, and spring flowering bulbs among others. Large evergreen branches do well to cover bigger areas. I have used them successfully to weigh down other light mulches such as straw or chopped leaves for twice the protection.

Remember, this task is best accomplished after the ground freezes, with our goal being to keep it frozen, thereby avoiding thawing spells that heave plants from the ground.

During the winter voles and field mice can wreak havoc on young fruit trees by tunneling through the snow to the bark in search of food. Their gnawing will girdle the tree and if excessive enough will eventually kill it.

Remember, the layer of tissue just below

## - opinion -



### Letter-to-The-Editor

## Resident weighs in on winning and losing

Congratulations in order?

Here is where we find out who the "winners" and "losers" are. Because we won't truly know for a while.

It is true that there are some very clear winners from the get-go. The folks with money and influence in the Republican Party definitely won. That is clear, at least the ones who helped pull the strings, and the ones who avoided any real choice and simply sat back and watched.

The folks who committed crimes on his behalf are the winners, in the superficial, game-board sense of the word. The ones who fought back? They lost, in that superficial sense of the word.

Now comes the revenge scenario he talked about for the losers. Here's where we get to see what he does with his power. Here's where we all get to see if all that he promised for America is good for the Americans who supported him.

We may get to see just how many of us actually really lost. Although it will be painful to admit.

Here's the thing though, losers and winners are always defined by perspective.

As a father and former educator, my perspective is, and will always be, reflected in the lessons given to my children and my students. Most educators I knew felt a responsibility, whenever possible, to try to filter life lessons through a lens of what they could help their students become. Most parents I know certainly feel that way about shaping their own children, to help them become

more deeply profound version of "winners."

This election has some losers and winners whom we all need to understand clearly.

Those good parents and educators are the immediate clear losers in the game-board sense of the word. However, when their student's/child's world celebrates lying, cheating, abuse of women and minorities, and physical violence toward innocent protestors; when words like honesty, empathy, and integrity are scoffed at; when honor and service is replaced by loyalty to a man; and when revenge replaces kindness and forgiveness, the children could very likely be the losers, in a more deeply profound sense of the word.

At that point, we all lose, in that more profound sense of the word.

There is hope. There are winners, in that deeply profound sense. These winners will continue to stand up to fear and hatred. The winners will be the ones who fight hard against all the disinformation to continue to teach honesty and integrity, who respect and honor all who fought, and continue to fight for freedom from tyranny.

The winners will always be the ones who, in the face of threats of abuse, continue to protect the innocent, stand up for women and minorities, and call out prejudice and injustice wherever it occurs.

Be a winner. Be THAT kind of winner!

Eric von Bleicken  
West Brookfield



## Will IRA withdrawals affect my Medicare premiums?

Dear Rusty:

I am a member of AMAC and learn so much from the Ask Rusty column.

I hope you can give me some information about a question that has come up in my family. My husband is retired and has reached Full Retirement Age.

He is considering withdrawing money from an IRA to pay off our mortgage. We are wondering what, if any, penalties may be incurred on Social Security, Medicare and income tax. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Signed: Concerned Taxpayer

Dear Concerned:

Thank you for contacting the AMAC Foundation Social Security Advisory Service.

Regarding your question on the impact of withdrawing IRA funds, there is no impact to your husband's gross Social Security benefit. The amount withdrawn, of course, is considered ordinary income for federal income tax purposes and will need to be included as such on your federal income tax return and will therefore affect your federal income tax liability when you file the return.

Depending on the amount withdrawn, there could be an impact to the Medicare premium due to the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount provision. Assuming you file jointly, you will pay a higher Medicare Part B premium if your modified adjusted gross income is above certain thresholds, i.e., more than \$103,000 for an individual and \$206,000 for a married couple.

Please note that Medicare's procedures will not note this income change for two

## OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

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

Send opinions to:

Letters to the Editor, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 OR e-mail to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com). Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week's edition.

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**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President

**EDITOR**  
Paula Quimette  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Dan Flynn  
Tim Mara

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)

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## - community -

# Christmas by Candlelight returns to Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village is pleased to announce the return of Christmas by Candlelight, a cherished holiday celebration of New England's festive traditions.

Tickets are now on sale to the public for select dates in November and December.

The Village will transform into a stunning winter wonderland beginning Nov. 29, featuring over 85 beautifully

decorated trees on the Christmas Tree Trail, over 80 wreaths, hundreds of candles illuminating the pathways, and 5,625 feet of garland adorning historic buildings. Each evening of the program will kick off at 4:30 p.m. with a magical lighting ceremony.

Visitors can experience a variety of activities, including knitting Christmas stockings and baking traditional holiday treats. Guests can stroll through

the picturesque village and cross the enchanting Christmas Wish Bridge, a scenic path lined with trees along the Quinebaug River. Children will have the chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus in their new cabin, where they can share their holiday wishes.

Visitors are also encouraged to participate in the annual Gingerbread House contest, where creative entries will be displayed for public voting.

"Christmas by Candlelight is a celebration of the cherished traditions that make the season truly special," said Rhys Simmons, Director of Interpretation at Old Sturbridge Village in a press release. "Our goal is to transport you back in time with an experience that delights all the senses. Picture twinkling lights adorning the trees, the enticing aromas and flavors of mulled cider and freshly baked gingerbread, and the familiar sounds of holiday carols echoing all around."

This year's Christmas by Candlelight will feature an array of live entertainment, including historical performances and readings of Christmas tales for children. New this year is "Upon a Midnight Clear – An Acoustic New England Christmas," a musical journey

showcasing local artists reinterpreting classic carols.

In addition to the festivities, guests can explore the origins of classic traditions such as nutcrackers and gingerbread, along with a remarkable miniature nativity scene featuring over 600 pieces. The Richardson House will showcase Italian Christmas customs.

There will also be plenty of opportunities for holiday shopping at the Miner Grant Store and the Ox & Yoke Mercantile.

"This event has become a tradition for so many guests year after year, and many families look forward to it as the highlight of their holiday season," continued Simmons. "We invite everyone to experience the joy of the season, relish in classic traditions, and create new memories with loved ones this winter at Christmas by Candlelight."

Christmas by Candlelight is made possible by our generous sponsors: Cornerstone Bank, Country Bank, G&F Precision Molding, and Southbridge Credit Union.

For more information on tickets and full event details, visit the Old Sturbridge Village website.

### SOCIAL SECURITY | FROM PAGE 4

years, so if you make the withdrawal in 2024 it will not trigger the increases until your 2026 Medicare premiums. A change to your Medicare premium might also result in a change to your net Social Security payment at that time since Medicare is automatically deducted from your Social Security payment.

Also depending on the amount withdrawn, you may have to pay an additional amount on top of your Medicare Part D premium. The Part D adjustment amount is calculated based on a percentage of the Part D national base beneficiary premium, not on a percentage of the plan premium.

The Social Security Administration mails letters to beneficiaries, who currently pay a Part B Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount and, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, are in a Part D

plan. The letter explains the additional Part D amount and how exactly Social Security will collect it. You can contact SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or your local SSA agency if you have any further questions about your Part D IRMAA premium.

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

### GARDEN | FROM PAGE 4

the bark is the tree's "plumbing"! Protect the trunk by wrapping it with one-quarter inch hardware cloth or commercially made trunk protectors. Remove the protectors in the spring.

Unfortunately, I neglected to protect young trees one fall and that was all it took. A poor tree was gnawed almost completely around the trunk. I was surprised it had enough energy to leaf out the following spring, but less surprised to see it wither and die not a month later.

In case you were wondering, yes, my bulbs for Old Sturbridge Village did finally come in. I wish they could talk. What a story they would tell.

I think they have honestly traveled more in the last six weeks than I have in my entire life. Holland to New York to Alabama to the Bahamas to

New Jersey and then to a shoe store in New York City. Yes, a shoe store.

A good Samaritan saw my name on the packing slip and called to say she received them. Regardless, I am happy they finally arrived in Sturbridge. I am hopeful that they will all be planted (and watered in) within the next couple of days!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

## New Braintree Library to hold Story Time

NEW BRAINTREE – The New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering a Story Time program for preschoolers on Monday, Dec. 2 beginning at 9 a.m.

The program's focus is on the coming winter season with readings from Eric Carle. The readings will include "The

Very Hungry Caterpillar's First Winter" and "Dream Snow."

This reading and crafts program is held at the library. Parental supervision is required.

People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business hours for more information.

## 'A Country Christmas' fair will be held Nov. 23

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church will host its annual Church Fair "A Country Christmas" on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 33 West Main St.

Featured will be a bake sale, knit and handcrafted items, a Christmas shop of gifts and décor, fudge, jams and jellies, Gramma's Attic Thrift Store and lunch room. Come kick off the holiday season with the church.

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**BOARD | FROM PAGE 1**

megawatt solar facility in Charlton. This facility will provide electrical services to about 150 homes per megawatt.

“Most of the linework is in Sturbridge,” he said. “Out of approximately 646 people on the circuit, only 23 of them are in Charlton.”

Sherman said upgrades need to be made to pole distribution lines as the project moves forward.

“We are replacing 84 poles on Podunk Road and 17 new installs,” he said.

This project includes 2.75 miles of Hendrix cable, which is stronger than traditional cable. This type of cable is more resilient to tree fall.

There are approximately 400-600 trees (both public and private), that could be impacted by the project and removed. Most of these are located on the Podunk accessway, property owned by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the town.

Sherman said the town defines a tree as anything with a trunk diameter over two inches.

“There’s a lot of small, second-growth stuff,” he said.

Sherman said most of the current utility poles are over 25 years old, and more likely to snap if a tree falls on the power lines. The current poles are also spaced further apart than National Grid’s limit of 150 feet apart.

“It is good to have this new infrastructure,” he said.

Sherman said National Grid will also add automated sectionalizing switches, which will reduce the total number of people experiencing outages in the event power lines go down.

Town Administrator Robin Grimm said National Grid has not filed with the Planning Board yet, and after they do, a legal notice will be posted, abutters will be notified, and trees will be tagged. She said all of the information will be posted on the town’s website, www.sturbridge.gov.

Grimm said she expects this to occur either in December or January.

She said the Conservation Commission has an order of conditions regarding a debris pile along the road, and this has been appealed by National Grid through the Department of Environmental Protection. A site visit with DEP was scheduled to occur Nov. 13.

Goodwin thanked the representatives for their communication regarding the project and said the removal of the trees is a “huge quality of life issue” for the town and its residents. He requested having the information sooner to help make the process smoother and provide answers for both the town and residents.

The board voted in favor of approving the installation of the new poles, subject to the approval of both the Planning Board and Conservation Commission.

National Grid will hold an open house-style informational session about the project on Jan. 14 from 3-6 p.m. at the Town Hall.

**Water and sewer report**

Shane Moody, Veolia’s Project Manager, presented his department’s monthly reports for August and September.

He said the drought is affecting the flow into the wastewater treatment plant, which make it more difficult to treat and can cause odors. He said despite this, there haven’t been any complaints, and they check the level of the wells daily.

“We still have plenty of room before we have any major problems,” he said adding that rain would be beneficial.

Moody said the Water Department conducted another round of lead and copper testing and everything came back fine. He said a public notification will be sent to about 1,100 customers.

“It’s not bad, it’s just stuff that’s mandated by DEP and EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] that we have to put out,” he said.

Moody said the town’s corrosion control program which has been in place since 1982, is “very good” at preventing lead and copper from leaching into the water.

He said one house had a very small lead level detected. He said this house was still well under the limit.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and lithium testing was also completed, Moody said, and the water system continues to come up negative for both.

He said testing on the wastewater treatment plant had “substantial hits” of PFAS and they will continue to sample and report to DEP and EPA as required by law.

“We’re not seeing it in the drinking

water, which is a great thing, but we are seeing it at the wastewater plant,” Moody said.

Moody said they have been testing the facilities to determine the source of the PFAS, but he said it is not from the drinking water. He said it could take years to compile the data and determine the source.

Hydrant flushing and winterizing has also been completed, Moody said.

He said the DEP came in and inspected the water tanks and a report should be received soon. Moody said he will share the findings once he receives it.

Moody said the department’s interim program with Tantasqua Regional High School has been going well and has been generating interest with the students.

“Hopefully this will be a continuing thing every year. We’ll bring a new student in and get them in the field if we can,” Moody said.

**DPW report**

Department of Public Works Director Heather Blakeley said the department has been able to catch up on a lot of projects with the lack of rain, including line painting, additional street sweeping and leaf removal.

Blakeley said the department worked with a grant-funded consultant to take a lead service line inventory.

“They took all the information together of all of our service customers,” she said. “They were able to classify them into three different classifications.”

She said these classification are “no lead,” “unknown, but not lead” and “unknown, possibly lead.”

“So far we have not found any lead surfaces, in any of our records,” Blakeley said.

She said the EPA requires that the town issue letters to water users who fall under the “unknown” category. The intent of the letter is to have residents set up inspections with Moody, or to conduct the inspections themselves.

Blakeley said residents can research their property’s lead status on the town’s website under “Lead Service Line Inventory” by inputting their address. Additional information about scheduling an inspection is also on the website.

Blakeley encouraged residents to avoid putting leaves into roadside drainage ditches, into streets or into wetlands.

“That’s actually very unhealthy for the ecosystem, for our rivers, for the streams,” she said.

The leaves also clog the town’s storm-water drainage system and can create clogs.

Blakeley said residents who cannot safely dispose of leaves can bring them to the town’s recycling center and utilize the compost area. Small branches are also accepted.

She said leaves can be beneficial if they are composted or mulched and spread onto lawns.

**Accessibility concerns**

Resident Katie Dennis raised her concerns about the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance of buildings in town.

“I’m here today to raise awareness and express my concern about the lack of accessibility in the built environment here in Sturbridge, particularly in new and recent construction projects,” she said.

Dennis said many newly constructed buildings do not meet the building code or civil rights law for accessibility. She asked the town officials to review this more carefully.

“Not only is it the law, but it’s also our moral obligation of the town to ensure all our residents and visitors can access all of our facilities and places of business,” she said.

She said she is aware that the town is currently updating its ADA self-evaluation and transition plan, but current and recent projects still need to comply with accessibility requirements.

Dennis referenced the recent HVAC project at the Joshua Hyde Public Library, which cost more than 30% of the full and fair cash value of the building, and triggered full compliance with the state’s accessibility code.

“As the building stands today, it does not meet the accessibility code,” she said.

She said this includes the kitchen and the basement level egress.

Dennis said she is sharing her concerns to spread awareness about accessibility needs. She offered to volunteer as a free accessibility resource to the town.

**Call firefighters**

Fire Chief John A. Grasso Jr. said he

See BOARD | PAGE 7



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# - community -

## Federated Church announces holiday service schedule

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale will host this year’s annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, Nov. 26, at 7 p.m.

All members of the community, regardless of faith, are invited to attend this special service, according to Federated Church Pastor Rev. David Cote.

This year’s participating churches include Holy Trinity Church, Southbridge; Elm Street Congregational Church UCC, Southbridge; Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sturbridge; First United Methodist Church, Southbridge; and St. Anne/St. Patrick Catholic Church, Fiskdale. Together, they will join in a collaborative service to give

thanks for the blessings of the past year and to encourage a sense of community through shared worship.

According to Cote, pastor of the Federated Church, “The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service gives us a chance to reflect on the blessings we share and to celebrate the unity that ties us all together. This service is a great example of how faith can go beyond individual churches, bringing us together as one grateful and grace-filled community.”

For more information about the event, please visit the church website at sturfed.org or contact the church office by calling 774-304-1021 or by emailing churchoffice@sturfed.org.

## 40th Annual Limited Edition Quabbin History Calendar available

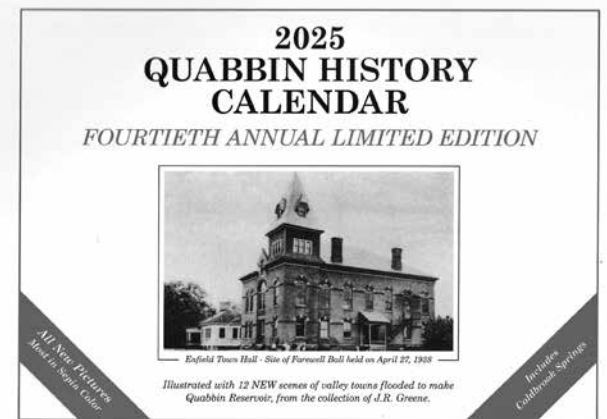
Local author and historian J. R. Greene has announced the availability of his 40th Annual Limited Edition Quabbin History Calendar.

Greene will be at the Ware Library, 37 Main St., Ware on Thursday, Dec. 5 to sell and sign his calendars and give a short presentation about the photographs in his calendar at 6 p.m. In addition to the calendars, he will have a selection of his other local history books for sale before and after the presentation.

The library also has calendars and a small selection of books available for sale for those unable to attend the program. A portion of the proceeds of all books and calendars sold at the library will be donated to the Friends of the Library.

Please contact the library by calling 413-967-5491 for more details.

The 40th Annual Limited Edition



The 40th Annual Limited Edition Quabbin History Calendar is now available at local businesses and the Ware Library, 37 Main St., Ware. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Quabbin History Calendar will also be available at the following local businesses: The Country Gourmet, Barre; Old Furnace General Store, Hardwick; The Country Trail, Hubbardston; Petersham Craft Center and Quabbin Woods, Petersham; Junction Variety, Thorndike; and Quaboag Books and Plantation Store, West Brookfield.

People more information or to purchase a book or calendar, email Greene at jrg01331@webtv.net.

## Hardwick Co-Op hosts food and sock drives

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Farmers Co-Op, 444 Lower Road, will be collection food donations for the Tri-Parish Food Pantry and new socks to benefit veterans through HomeFront Strong, now through Dec. 15.

People who bring in five nonperishable food items during this time will re-

ceive 5% off their purchase that day.

For every two pairs of socks that you buy from Hardwick Farmers Co-Op, the Co-Op will donate a pair to HomeFront Strong. People may also bring in new men’s, women’s and children’s sized socks to be donated to HomeFront Strong.

### BOARD | FROM PAGE 6

has been working with the Firefighters’ union to find ways to supplement the workforce without having a major impact on the department’s budget.

He said with the success of the fire academy program at Tantasqua Regional High School, they were hoping to re-establish come call firefighter positions.

“We’re hoping that by adding four new positions as call firefighters only... we think that for the time being, this will be kind of a finger in the dike so to speak, to help us until the town can get to a financial standpoint where we can add more full-time staff,” Grasso said.

Grimm said the department currently has part-time firefighters, who are also trained as medics. Call firefighters would only require firefighter training.

She said the department is also seeking to make one of the existing part-

time positions into a medic-only position. She said this, in addition to the call firefighter positions, would cost less than \$10,000 to train personnel.

“It’s just under \$2,500 a position,” she said.

Grasso said he should be able to reduce his overtime expenses by the same amount.

Grimm said these new positions do not replace the need to potentially hire another full-time firefighter in the future.

“This does not supplant that,” she said. The board approved the request.

### Fire Department report

Grasso submitted his monthly reports for September and October. He said there have been almost daily red flag warnings due to the drought and the department has responded to numerous brush fires in neighboring communities.

“The littlest of spark will take off,” he said.

Grasso said the brush fires burn subterranean and can travel a great distance underground without being detected.

He reminded residents that the open burning season runs from Jan. 15 through May 1 by permit, and it is limited to brush only. Open burning does not allow for the burning of leaves, stumps, grass, hay, tires, trash, construction debris or furniture.

### Library elevator

Grimm said the elevator at the Joshua Hyde Public Library needed emergency repairs after it broke down. The short term fix will cost about \$24,000.

She recommended hiring an independent consultant to analyze the type of upgrade needed for the elevator and determine the best course of action. Grimm said the consultant will be paid

for from her special account for services.

The board authorized a contract with consultant Syska Hennessy

### Cedar Street sidewalks

Grimm said the project to design sidewalks near the recreational area on Cedar Street came in about \$17,000 more than was previously allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act Committee. She said the committee voted to increase the amount allocated to cover the cost of the contract.

The board voted to authorize the contract for design services using ARPA funding.

### Donation

The board accepted a donation from Hearthstone Market of 100 place settings and silverware to be used for the food service at the Senior Center. The donation is worth approximately \$4,000.

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

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# - community -

## Nativities From Around the World displayed Dec. 5-8

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The 15th annual Nativities From Around the World held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road (Route 67) will be displayed for four days, Dec. 5-8.

Dates and times include Thursday, Dec. 5 from 4-8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6 from 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8 from noon-2 p.m.

There will be over 500 nativities displayed this year and all will be in settings of various Christmas themes. Some are old, some are new, some are classic and others modern.

It is always amazing how many ways the human spirit and artistry can portray the central theme of Christmas, the birth of Christ.

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

The Church is located 2.2 miles north of the North Brookfield town center.



The 15th annual Nativities From Around the World will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in North Brookfield, Dec. 5-8.



This is just one of hundreds of nativity scenes displayed at Nativities From Around the World. SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY DERICK VELIZ



Over 500 nativities will be on display at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

## Quaboag wins third place in Junior Achievement Stock Market Competition

WARREN – On Nov. 7, Quaboag Regional High School Business Teacher Jean DiRico took 50 students from her Personal Finance classes on a field trip to participate in the Junior Achievement of Springfield's annual Stock Market Competition.

This marked the 19th annual Stock Market Competition hosted by the Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts which took place at the Cedars Banquet Facility in Springfield.

The event began with each team having a fictitious one million dollars to invest in an artificial market that simulated the New York Stock Exchange. There were a total of 60 rounds which were labeled as days that lasted exactly one minute each.

Out of the 14 schools and 66 teams that participated in the event.

One of Quaboag's teams, "The Stock Stars" from Quaboag won third place. The students in this team were: Isabelle Aberle, Chloe Smith, Toby Chaplin and Erin McGrath.

The team finished the game with an impressive net worth of \$1,614,103.38 and an outstanding ROI of 61.41%-achievements that earned them both a trophy and well-deserved recognition.



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Quaboag Current  
NEWSPAPER

### JOURNALS | FROM PAGE 1

vided by her son, Frank Patterson.

"We had assumed it was where Lewis lived, but it wasn't," Higginbottom said.

After getting in contact with Patterson, Higginbottom and Craven were invited to visit the Barre house where the journals had been discovered, and try to learn more about Lewis. When they arrived, Patterson had found another 44 journals.

"We now had a collection of 143 passbook journals," Higginbottom said.

Upon a second visit to the Patterson house, Higginbottom and Craven were surprised with the discovery of over 200 receipt books, which also belonged to Lewis – now bringing the total documents compiled by the tradesman and farmer to over 300.

Using their decades of experience working at Old Sturbridge Village, Higginbottom and Craven set to work to transcribe all of the documents and learn more about Lewis, and what life was like in the 1830s and beyond.

"What his records show us is how he found himself," Higginbottom said.

Lewis made his first journal entry on March 11, 1836, when he was 17 years old. Born in Vermont on Feb. 14, 1819, Lewis became an orphan by the time he was 14.

He apprenticed with his uncle, Charles Mixer, in Rindge, New Hampshire, learning the skills of tanning and currying from age 13 until 17.

Lewis wrote about his trade, noting, "It is true that it is a wet and dirty business tanning hides."

Higginbottom said almost any town with a wet, marshy area had a tannery and they were known for their noxious odors. Hides were soaked in manure from chickens, dogs and other animals over the winter.

"He tanned for a good part of his life," Higginbottom said of Lewis. "Tanning was a business that put a great deal of physical stress on him."

Lewis endured a lot of challenges throughout his life, including a tough economy and the Panic of 1837.

"He kept trying to work to become independent," Higginbottom said.

Lewis attended district school until he was 18, and he wrote in his journal that he missed being a student. He started keeping a journal as a way to improve his handwriting and composition, and also as a way to battle loneliness.

"He used his journal as his confidante," Higginbottom said.

When Lewis turned 21, he began keeping his own accounting books to keep track of money coming in and going out.

In 1838, Lewis made his way to the commonwealth, after spending the first part of his life travelling between Vermont and New Hampshire. He worked in Northborough and Dorchester, before returning to Vermont.

In the spring of 1840, Lewis moved to Templeton, where he earned \$15 a month tanning and currying for Daniel Swan. Lewis also worked for Albert A. Payne in Leicester (where Higginbottom and Craven live) at a tannery located near the Spencer line.

"It was not one of Lewis' favorite places to live," Higginbottom said of Leicester, due to the fact that it didn't have a Methodist church, which was of great importance to Lewis.

"I think this provided William with the closest thing to family, since he left his uncle's home in Rindge," she said.

Lewis wrote in his journal about walking a distance of 21 miles to attend worship.

While living in Leicester, Lewis attended his first Methodist camp meeting for six days in Southbridge, hearing the words of prominent black preachers, John Newton Mars and Samuel Snowden in crowds of thousands of people.

"He continued to attend camp meetings and the church continued to be an important aspect of his life," Higginbottom said.

Lewis also attended a lecture by abolitionist and civil rights leader Frederick Douglass, which was a moving experience for him. Douglass was exactly one year older than Lewis, each sharing a Feb. 14 birthdate.

By the early 1840s, Lewis' health went on a great decline and he sought the help of his uncle, Jabez Smith, who

was a farmer in Wilmington, Vermont. Lewis lived there while he recovered and helped with the farmwork.

"Working on his uncle and cousin's farm reintroduced him to farming," Higginbottom said. "Farming was something he really wanted to do."

As his health returned, so did Lewis to the tanning business; living and working in Hubbardston from 1843-1851.

"It was stressful for his health, and he developed migraines, which he had for the rest of his life," Higginbottom said.

It was here that Lewis faced conflict with his church's minister, who was very strict.

"The conflict with the minister led to psychological conflict and he sunk to a low point, where he may have considered suicide," Higginbottom said.

Lewis recorded his marriage to Abby Louisa Kemp on Aug. 14, 1845 with an entry in his journal that stated, "I am now a married man and I am placed under new obligation," a week after the two were wedded.

In 1848 the couple welcomed their only child, a son, Collins Winslow Lewis. Higginbottom said it is likely that Collins was born with a cleft palate.

She said Collins left home when he was in his 20s and neither of his parents ever had contact with him again.

Lewis gave up tanning in 1851 and moved to Barre. It was around this time that the Lewis family took in Abby's niece (also named Abby), after her parents died when she was 7 years old.

In 1855, Lewis started a book lending business, carting novels throughout the towns of Barre, Petersham, New Braintree and Hardwick. Books were lent out for 10 cents each.

Lewis' detailed journals helped Higginbottom and Craven collect valuable data about what books were popular at the time, and who was reading them.

One of the most in demand novels was "12 Years a Slave" by Solomon Northup.

"We discovered most of his customers were women," Higginbottom said.

Lewis and his family relied heavily on supplemental income, with Lewis seating chairs, haying and farming, and Abby sewing bed ticks. The couple also

took in peddlers as boarders.

In 1857 Lewis bought his first cows and started a milk route, logging in his journal, "Went to an auction and bought a cow. The first I ever owned."

"He had a five mile milk route in Barre year-round using a wheelbarrow," Higginbottom said.

In 1860 Lewis bought his first farm on West Street, located on land that is now part of Stone Cow Brewery. His farm was about half of the average size of a farm in the town at 34 acres and cost \$1,650.

"What he did with it was astonishing," Higginbottom said of the farm.

Lewis continued to keep detailed records of his life, noting how much milk each cow produced, including the cow's names.

"There were many Lucy's," Higginbottom said, which was the name of Lewis' sister.

Lewis also kept a journal to record his pear tree orchard, complete with a map of all 174 trees.

In 1871, C.H. Osgood built the first of two "glass house" greenhouses on the Lewis farm, and the couple added the sale of plants and flowers, as well as eggs and poultry, to the farm's offerings.

Lewis' wife Abby was incredibly fond of flowers, Higginbottom said, and had won many awards at the town's agricultural fair. She died on Feb. 6, 1894, followed by her husband on Feb. 5, 1897.

"William was 77 when he died," Higginbottom said.

After his wife's death, Lewis was cared for by his best friend, James N. Patterson and his wife. When he died, his personal effects were entrusted to his friends, which is how they ended up in Frank Patterson's possession.

The couple is buried in Glen Valley Cemetery on Valley Road in Barre.

Lewis' obituary, which was printed in the Barre Gazette on Feb. 12, 1897, paid homage to his journal writing: "It was his custom to keep a written account of his daily life and actions, and after his death his executor found a small trunk in which was nearly one hundred pass books each closely written, and covering the every-day life of this singular man for nearly fifty years."



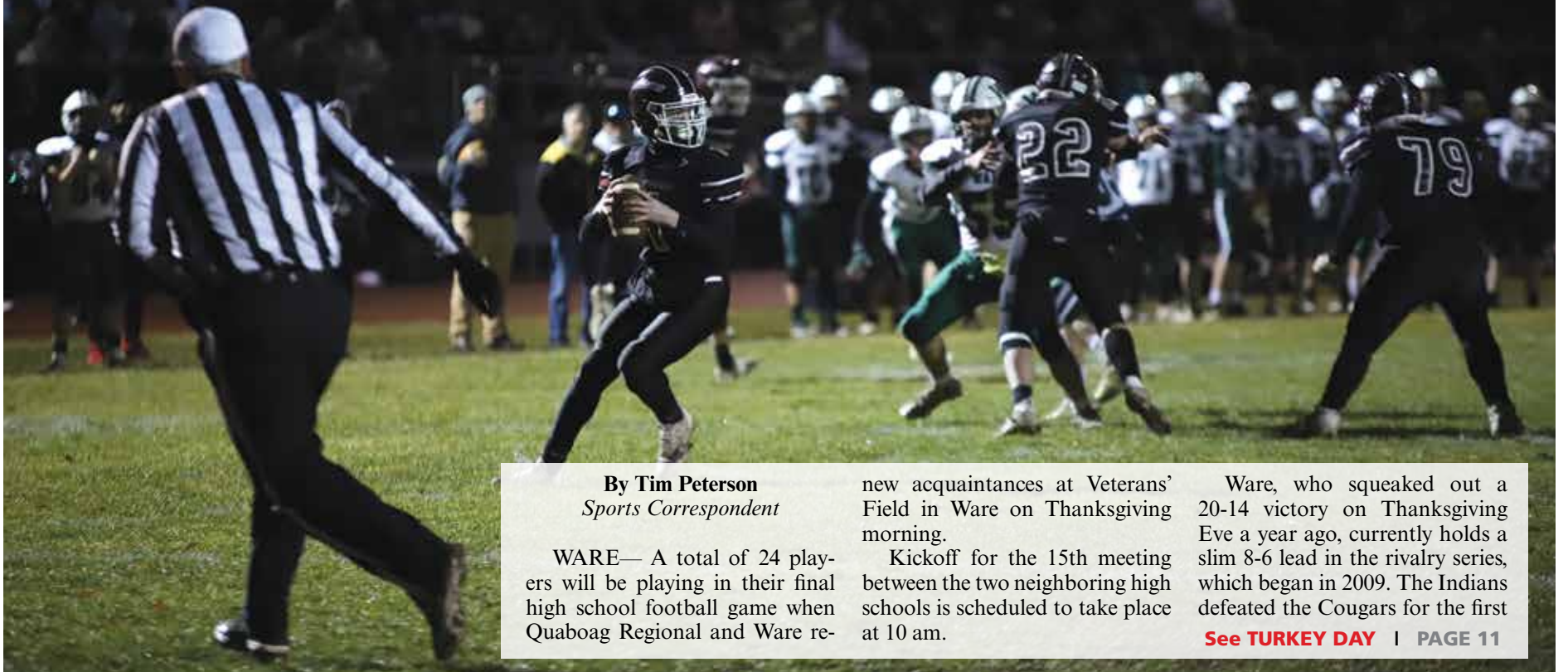
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# SPORTS

## Cougars, Indians set for Turkey Day tilt



By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARE— A total of 24 players will be playing in their final high school football game when Quaboag Regional and Ware re-

new acquaintances at Veterans' Field in Ware on Thanksgiving morning.

Kickoff for the 15th meeting between the two neighboring high schools is scheduled to take place at 10 a.m.

Ware, who squeaked out a 20-14 victory on Thanksgiving Eve a year ago, currently holds a slim 8-6 lead in the rivalry series, which began in 2009. The Indians defeated the Cougars for the first

See **TURKEY DAY** | PAGE 11

Quarterback Jacob Cacace makes a screen pass to the right side during last year's matchup. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Pathfinder looks to rebound from last Turkey Day

PALMER – Once again, the Pathfinder and Belchertown football teams will participate in a Thanksgiving morning football game. The unique part of this matchup is the teams begin play earlier than others, with kick off set for 9 a.m. instead of the traditional 10 a.m. other games start at on the holiday. The game time was changed a few years ago. Last year, Belchertown raised its Turkey Day record to 13-9 against Pathfinder with a 61-14 blowout. But it's not a winning streak yet as Pathfinder got a win in 2022 47-22. Both teams have had a tough 2024 with Belchertown going 1-8 while Pathfinder went just 2-8.

See **PATHFINDER** | PAGE 10



Nicholas Pfister looks to make a handoff. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Dustyn Cook fields a kickoff for the Pioneers.

## Panthers fall in holiday matchup

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—As a member the Quabbin football team from 2012-2015, Dan Salvadore broke the school record for single-game and single-season rushing yards. The most games that the Panthers won in a season during those four years was five.

Dan's younger brother, Luke, is one of the seniors on this year's Panthers football team, which has had a very memorable season.

The Panthers will be looking to break the school record for wins in a season when they travel to Gardner High School on Thanksgiving morning.

See **PANTHERS** | PAGE 10



Chase Talbot snatches a pass. FILE PHOTO

### BELCHERTOWN VS. PATHFINDER Belchertown leads series 13-9

2023: Belchertown 61-14	2015: Pathfinder 16-0	2007: Pathfinder 34-8
2022: Pathfinder 47-22	2014: Pathfinder 3-0	2006: Belchertown 8-6
2021: Belchertown 44-8	2013: Pathfinder 30-6	2005: Belchertown 25-0
2020: No game - COVID	2012: Pathfinder 30-8	2004: Pathfinder 28-0
2019: Belchertown 44-7	2011: Belchertown 29-0	2003: Belchertown 27-6
2018: Belchertown 46-6	2010: Belchertown 9-7	2002: Belchertown 9-6
2017: Belchertown 39-0	2009: Belchertown 41-6	2001: Pathfinder 48-24
2016: Belchertown 30-0	2008: Pathfinder 15-13	

# - sports -



Nicholas Pfister attempts to stiff-arm a Belchertown defender.

**PATHFINDER | FROM PAGE 9**

**Belchertown Football (1-8)**

Friday, Sept. 13 – Northampton 16, Belchertown 13  
 Thursday, Sept. 19 – Pittsfield 42, Belchertown 14  
 Friday, Sept. 27 – Ludlow 40, Belchertown 18  
 Friday, Oct. 4 – Hoosac 43, Belchertown 8  
 Thursday, Oct. 10 – Easthampton 20, Belchertown 19  
 Friday, Oct. 18 – Lee 46, Belchertown 0  
 Friday, Oct. 25 – Frontier 20, Belchertown 0  
 Friday, Nov. 1 – Commerce 28, Belchertown 6  
 Friday, Nov. 8 – Belchertown 46, Greenfield 13  
 Thursday, Nov. 14 – Bye  
 Thanksgiving Game  
 Thursday, Nov. 28 – at Pathfinder 9 a.m.

**Pathfinder Football (2-8)**

Friday, Sept. 13 – Palmer 40, Pathfinder 7  
 Friday, Sept. 20 – Athol 40, Pathfinder 0  
 Friday, Sept. 27 – Franklin Tech 46, Pathfinder 6  
 Saturday, Oct. 5 – SICS 40, Pathfinder 30  
 Friday, Oct. 11 – Monument Mountain 40, Pathfinder 34  
 Saturday, Oct. 19 – Pathfinder 28, Drury 12  
 Saturday, Oct. 26 – Pathfinder 42, McCann Tech 12  
 Friday, Nov. 1 – Smith Vocational 40, Pathfinder 8  
 Friday, Nov. 8 – Frontier 38, Pathfinder 12  
 Friday, Nov. 15 – South Hadley 27, Pathfinder 9  
 Thanksgiving Game  
 Thursday, Nov. 28 – vs. Belchertown 9 a.m.



The Pathfinder defense stops a Belchertown rusher during last year's matchup in Belchertown



Branden Hnitecki goes for a tackle. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

**PANTHERS | FROM PAGE 9**

It'll be the second meeting of the season between the Panthers and the Wildcats.

Back on Sept. 12, the Wildcats defeated the Panthers, 26-14, in the season opener at Alumni Field.

The Panthers did win their final four home games.

In the final game of the season played at Alumni Field, Luke Salvatore scored two rushing touchdowns and senior quarterback Jaxon Warburton also scored a pair of rushing touchdowns leading Quabbin to a 48-20 non-playoff victory over the North Middlesex Patriots, last Thursday night.

It was the Panthers seventh win of the season, which ties them with the 2016 squad for the most victories in the program's history.

"When I was driving to school this morning, it hit me that this would be my final home football game," Salvatore said. "My older brother was also a running back and he's the main reason why I began playing football. I'm very grateful for the career that I've had here and the great moments that we've made as a team on this field."

Luke Salvatore is hoping to continue playing football at the collegiate level next year just like his older brother, who played football at Stonehill College.

When the seniors listed on this year's football roster were freshmen, the Panthers only won four games.

"Everything has come full circle," Salvatore said. "When I was a freshman, we struggled to win games, but we've worked very hard during the past couple of years. All our hard work has paid off for us this season. We really to want to beat Gardner on Thanksgiving and break the school record for wins in a season. We don't want to share it."

The other Panthers seniors are Ryan Wreschinsky, Bryce Venne, Jake Thao, Cole Wilson, Adam Faulha, Zach Zajak, Zeke Santoro, Travis Wells, and Jack Fors.

"The majority of the seniors have



Offensive MVP Luke Salvatore and Defensive MVP Jaxon Kelley with the team behind them.

been playing football together since we were in the fifth grade," Salvatore added. "A lot of us played different positions at the youth level. I've always been an outside linebacker, but I didn't play offense back then."

Salvatore is a senior captain, along with Warburton, Venne, Faulha, Wilson, and Wells.

"I became the head coach when the seniors were freshmen," said Quabbin head coach Wayne Page. "It hasn't hit me yet that the football season is almost over, but I do care about the seniors and all the other players on the football team a lot. These guys have worked very hard to turn this program around during the past couple of years. All of them are great kids."

The Panthers, who have scored 40 or more points in four games this season, will enter the final game of the season with a 7-3 overall record.

One of the reasons why the home football game against North Middlesex was held last Thursday night was be-

cause the members of the Quabbin performing arts performed Disney's Beauty and the Beast inside the school's auditorium last Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Salvatore became a member of the

Quabbin performing arts for the first time at the beginning of the school year.

"I decided to join the performing arts club because it was my se-

See **PANTHERS** | PAGE 11



Luke Salvatore works his way around Gardner defenders during last year's Thanksgiving Eve matchup. FILE PHOTOS

# - sports -

**TURKEY DAY | FROM PAGE 9**

time since they posted an 8-0 shutout victory in 2019. That game also marked the first time that the two rivals played each other on Thanksgiving morning.

Ware, who's guided by head coach Mike Fazio, didn't qualify for the Division 8 state tournament this fall despite finishing the regular season with a 6-2 record. The Indians lost a non-league home game to Narragansett Regional, 41-7, on September 20 with a couple of key starters sidelined with injuries. They also lost to Athol, 40-24 on the road.

In their final regular season game, the Indians pulled out an exciting 7-6 victory against archrival Palmer at historic Legion Field.

Ware also defeated the Springfield International Charter School, 21-14, in a non-playoff game at AIC before losing to Amherst, 40-0 in another non-playoff home game.

The twelve Ware seniors who'll be putting on the football uniform at the high school level for the final time are Thomas Richter, Brady Dyer, Julis Marquis, Jayden Kern, Gavin Sawabi, Ayden Mulcalhy, Nathan Luxon, Matt Gambino, Edric Oriz, Nathon Harmon, Dominic Montalbon, and Ben Torres.

Dyer, who's the Indians starting quarterback, started in the rivalry game for the first time a year ago. He took over the starting duties from Jack Autcher, who's currently a sophomore member of the W.P.I. football team.

One of Autcher's teammates at WPI

is Brendan Burke, who finished his outstanding high school football career as the Cougars all-time leading rusher.

Even though they finished the 2024 regular season with a 4-4 record, Quaboag still qualified for the Division 8 state tournament as the 16th seed. The tournament seedings in most high schoolsports are determined by a power ranking system.

The Cougars suffered a 67-6 loss at top-seeded Randolph High School in the round of 16 on Nov.8. They also lost a non-playoff game, 36-14, at Littleton High School the following week.

The Cougars four victories were against Ludlow (37-6), Worcester North (30-18), Southbridge (20-0) and David Prouty (54-42). The combined record of those four teams is 9-28.

Prior to beginning the football program at Quaboag Regional, Dave Shepherd was the varsity football coach at Ware High School.

The twelve seniors listed on the Quaboag football roster are Evan Pollier, Giovanni Twomey, Jack Morgan, Reilly Comptois, Cameron Evans, Jarrett Dupre, Manuel Flores, Brasen Sauriol, Trenton Benson, Izaiah Flores, Logan Corder, and Samuel Carrasco.

Junior Jacob Cacace is the Cougars quarterback. He was the starter in last year's game against the Indians.

The 15th meeting on the gridiron between the two rivals should be a very interesting affair.



Quarterback Jacob Cacace holds onto the ball after not being able to find an open receiver.



Tyler Withers tries to fight through a Ware tackler. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

**Quaboag Football (4-6)**

- Friday, Sept. 13 – Quaboag 37, Ludlow 6
- Friday, Sept. 20 – Palmer 27, Quaboag 26
- Friday, Sept. 27 – Quabbin 34, Quaboag 0
- Friday, Oct. 4 – Quaboag 30, North 18
- Saturday, Oct. 12 – Oxford 20, Quaboag 18
- Friday, Oct. 18 – Quaboag 20, Southbridge 0
- Saturday, Oct. 26 – Quaboag 54, David Prouty 42
- Friday, Nov. 1 – Bartlett 28, Quaboag 0
- Friday, Nov. 8 – D8 Round of 16 –
- No. 1 Randolph 67, No. 16 Quaboag 6
- Friday, Nov. 15 – Littleton 38, Quaboag 14
- Thanksgiving Game
- Thursday, Nov. 28 – at Ware 10 a.m.

**Ware Football (7-3)**

- Friday, Sept. 13 – Ware 14, Easthampton 12
- Friday, Sept. 20 – Narragansett 41, Ware 7
- Friday, Sept. 27 – Ware 28, Drury 0
- Friday, Oct. 4 – Ware 21, Greenfield 14
- Friday, Oct. 11 – Athol 40, Ware 24
- Friday, Oct. 18 – Ware 12, Mahar 6
- Friday, Oct. 25 – Ware 20, Franklin Tech 6
- Saturday, Nov. 2 – Ware 7, Palmer 6
- Thursday, Nov. 7 – Ware 21, SICS 14
- Friday, Nov. 15 – Amherst 40, Ware 0
- Thanksgiving Game
- Thursday, Nov. 28 – vs. Quaboag 10 a.m.

WARE VS. QUABOAG	
Ware leads series 8-6	
2023: Ware 20-14	2015: Quaboag 33-28
2022: Quaboag 26-21	2014: Quaboag 36-12
2021: Quaboag 22-7	2013: Quaboag 34-6
2020: No game – COVID	2012: Ware 46-8
2019: Ware 8-0	2011: Ware 31-8
2018: Ware 20-16	2010: Quaboag 48-13
2017: Ware 56-6	2009: Ware 38-14
2016: Ware 34-7	

**PANTHERS | FROM PAGE 10**

nior year," he said. "I do like movies, and I always thought I would like to become an actor someday. I'm Gaston in the Beauty and the Beast play. It's a perfect role for me. I'll be singing five songs. Being on the stage is very similar to being on a football field. It takes a lot of hard work to be successful." The play rehearsals took place at the high school from 6-9 pm every Monday and Wednesday night since August.

"It has really been a lot of fun doing something new in my life. It's a very welcoming community," Salvadore said. "My older brother, Ben, was a member of the theater group when he was in high school. I'm also following in his footsteps."

Page and his coaching staff were looking forward to watching Salvadore perform in the play on opening night.

"I can't wait to go watch Luke perform in the play tomorrow night," said Page following the win against North Middlesex. "Luke is an outstanding young man, and he does a lot of different things. The whole team will be there supporting him."

In a couple of weeks, Salvadore, who's also a member of the NJROTC, will be beginning his final season as a member of the boys' basketball team. Long-time Quabbin boys' varsity coach Dennis Dextradeur doesn't remember any of his former players ever having a leading role in a school play before.

Luke Salvadore might not have broken any of his older brother's rushing records, but he and his teammates are hoping to celebrate one more victory on the gridiron before the curtains close at around noontime at Watkins Field in Gardner on Thanksgiving.



The offensive line does their blocking on a play.

	T	W	A		C	A	N		A	C	E				
	H	I	N		O	N	E		B	O	Y				
S	P	E	L	T		M	A	M		D	O	R	S	A	
A	I	R	L	I	N	E			E	L	U	T	I	O	N
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A	R	A	M	A	I	C			S	E	S	S	I	O	N
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C	E	R	E	D			A	B	M		A	I	K	E	N
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VETERANS | FROM PAGE 1

became the National Anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner”.

The audience was then treated to an emotional poem, read from the perspective of the American flag. The poem read in part:

“I have been silent witness to all of America’s finest hours. But my finest hour comes when I am torn in strips to be used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle – when I fly at half mast to honor my Soldiers, my Airman, my Sailors, my Marines, and – when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother, at the graveside of her fallen son or daughter. I am proud. My name is ‘Old Glory.’ Long may I wave, dear God, long may I wave.”

Each student who participated in the flag folding ceremony spoke a line about what the colors and symbols of the flag represent. The ceremony included a skit demonstrating how to properly fold the flag into its signature triangular shape, signifying respect and reverence.

Veteran Agent Michelle Durkee, who served 25 years in the military, 10 years with the U.S. Navy and 15 years with the Army Reserves, took the stage to accept the retired flag. Tearfully, she spoke about the flag’s significance, saying it represents “courage, respect, and sacrifice for all people.”

Durkee also expressed gratitude toward both those who share their stories of service and those who keep their experiences private due to the pain they still carry.

“It’s not just honoring the people who serve, but the people who wait behind for them,” she said before stepping off the stage.

Derick Veliz, Warren Selectman and supporter of veterans, gave a heartfelt thank you to all military members and their families.

“Saying ‘thank you’ goes a long way,” he said, adding that appreciation is a universal language. “All we have here is because of them.”

The Quaboag High School Marching Band then performed a stirring piece in tribute to John F. Kennedy, accompanied by a speech recounting the life and legacy of the late president. The speaker, whose calm and steady voice narrated Kennedy’s life and death, spoke of his military service in the Navy and his Purple Heart, while music from the band highlighted different chapters of Kennedy’s presidency.

The speech concluded with the famous quote, “God’s work must truly be our own.”

A powerful section of the ceremony also detailed the sacrifice of American soldiers throughout history, with a sobering list of wars and their casualties.

As “Taps” played, the audience stood in quiet reflection, mourning the fallen soldiers who gave their lives for the nation’s freedom.

Following the moment of silence, two new names were added to the Quaboag Veterans Alumni Wall.

Andrew Michalski, a 2010 graduate, served in the U.S. Navy as part of a Naval Construction battalion and completed two tours, one in Afghanistan and another in Romania. The second honoree, Michael Deremien, a 1969 graduate, was the first class to graduate from Quaboag Regional High School.

His grandson, who currently attends



James Joinville leads the Quaboag High School Marching Band in a song. TURLEY PHOTOS BY ABBY MCCOY

the school, shared the story of his service as a door gunner in Vietnam, where he was shot down twice without sustaining lasting injuries.

The Marching Band played service songs for each branch of the military, with veterans in the audience invited to stand as their respective branches were announced: Navy, Army, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

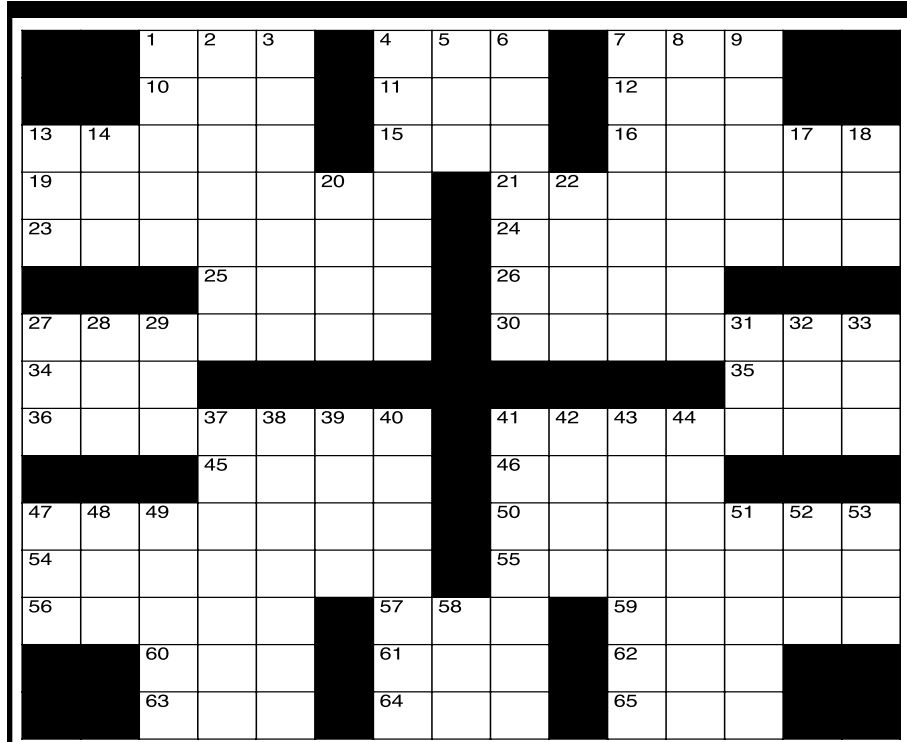
Harry Pearson, a Quaboag substitute teacher and veteran, then took the stage to offer advice on how to support the veterans community. He highlighted small but impactful gestures, such as donating winter coats to veterans and sign-

ing cards for veterans in local hospitals.

“Look for opportunities to help, they are out there,” Pearson said before the assembly concluded with remarks from fellow veteran and teacher, Joseph Salvatore.

The ceremony closed with a profound reminder of the sacrifices made by those who served, as well as a collective commitment to support and honor veterans both on Veterans Day and every day.

This heartfelt tribute underscored the importance of remembering the past and showing gratitude to those who protect and defend the freedoms we enjoy.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Defunct airline
- 4. Beverage container
- 7. A team’s best pitcher
- 10. Unit of liquid capacity
- 11. It comes before two
- 12. Male child
- 13. Type of wheat
- 15. One’s mother
- 16. Upper side of an organism
- 19. United is one
- 21. Extraction process
- 23. A being with lesser divine status
- 24. People living together in a community
- 25. Luxury automaker
- 26. This (Spanish)
- 27. Semitic language
- 30. Period for a defined purpose
- 34. Wander aimlessly in search of pleasure
- 35. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 36. American marsupial
- 41. Decadent dessert
- 45. Aquatic plant
- 46. About aviation
- 47. Summer footwear
- 50. Rugged mountain ranges
- 54. With tin
- 55. Cut on the surface of a hard object
- 56. Wrapped in cloth
- 57. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 59. “American Idol” contestant Clay
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Court decision “\_\_\_ v. Wade”
- 62. Born of
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. Actress \_\_\_-Margaret
- 65. Not even

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Heat unit
- 2. \_\_\_ Faulkner, American writer
- 3. Guatemalan town
- 4. Of funny things
- 5. Actress \_\_\_ de Armas
- 6. Agents of one’s downfall
- 7. Takes forcibly
- 8. Body lice
- 9. Large nest of a bird of prey
- 13. Unhappy
- 14. Popular holiday dessert
- 17. Habitual drunkard
- 18. Used of a number or amount not specified
- 20. Complications
- 22. Fail to win
- 27. Before the present
- 28. Musical genre
- 29. Flurry
- 31. 007’s creator
- 32. Indiana Pacer Toppin
- 33. Midway between north and northeast
- 37. Feeling
- 38. Damage another’s reputation
- 39. Mottled citrus fruit
- 40. Beauty product
- 41. They man first, second and third
- 42. Harness
- 43. Herb
- 44. Expressed concern
- 47. Mississippi scientific area (abbr.)
- 48. Consumed
- 49. Nostrils
- 51. Gathered fallen leaves
- 52. Express good wishes
- 53. Monetary unit of Brunei
- 58. Japanese Buddhist festival



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January 25, 2023  
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Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware  
Thomas & Sharon Legasey, Spencer

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
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<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Register	<input type="checkbox"/> The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

**Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024**

**VOTERS | FROM PAGE 1**

from Free Cash to Group Health and to raise and appropriate \$66,564 to Group Health.

For Article 17, voters rescinded a vote from the July 31, 2024, special town meeting that transferred \$50,000 from Sewer retained earnings to Sewer stabilization and passed a motion to transfer \$50,000 from Sewer retained earnings to Sewer stabilization.

Caldwell said the Department of Revenue asked the town to reopen this article due to the fiscal year timeframe.

"It's just administrative," he said. "It's the same article, same motions, everything...we're just revoting it."

**Previous year's bills**

Articles 8, 15 and 16 addressed un-

paid bills from the prior fiscal year, all of which passed by nine-tenths majority vote.

With Article 8, voters approved the transfer of \$15,750.93 from Free Cash to prior year's bills to cover the cost of engineering for the downtown sidewalk project; Article 15 approved the transfer of \$3,706.85 from Water retained earnings to Water unpaid bills; and Article 16 approved the transfer of \$2,565.33 from Library electricity to prior year's bills.

**Salary line items**

Five articles transferred funds from both Free Cash and other line items to cover salaries and overtime expenses.

Article 3 approved the transfer of \$90,000 from Free Cash to Town Ad-

ministrator's salary; Article 6 approved the transfer of \$2,500 from Free Cash to Collector's salary; Article 12 approved the transfer of \$9,000 from Police salary to Police overtime and Article 13 approved the transfer of \$15,000 from Sewer assistant to Sewer operator II.

Article 11 approved the transfer of \$3,761.42 from Council on Aging receptionist payroll to Council on Aging janitor payroll. Council on Aging Director Courtenay Rivera said they are not replacing the receptionist position at the Senior Center, and the remainder of the payroll will be used to give the janitor more hours.

**Stabilization and reserve funds**

Voters passed articles that trans-

ferred \$376,298.84 from Free Cash into the town's Stabilization account and \$20,000 from Free Cash into the Finance Committee's reserve fund.

**Other transfers**

Voters approved the following transfers: Article 2, \$300,000 from Free Cash to Group Health; Article 4, \$800 from Free Cash to Board of Selectmen supplies; Article 5, \$2,700 from Free Cash to Board of Selectmen dues and memberships; Article 10, \$420 from the Board of Health recycling contracts to prior year's bills and Article 14, \$506 from Sewer natural gas to Sewer facilities/planning/capital project.

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# - public safety -

## East Brookfield fatal fire under investigation

EAST BROOKFIELD – A house fire on West Main Street claimed the life of a resident early Oct. 31 morning, said East Brookfield Fire Chief David Messier, East Brookfield Police Chief Joseph Lazarick, State Fire Marshal Jon Davine, and Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr.

“On behalf of the East Brookfield Fire Department, I want to offer our condolences to the man’s family,” said Messier in a press release. “This is a very sad day for them and the community.”

The East Brookfield Fire Department and East Brookfield Police were dispatched to 234 West Main St. at about 3:35 that morning after 9-1-1 calls reporting a structure fire with flames through the roof. Firefighters observed smoke and flames on arrival and struck a second alarm. The first company on scene immediately made entry to attack the fire and locate a resident they believed to be inside. That resident, an adult who used a wheelchair, was located and removed from the home; sadly, he had suffered fatal injuries. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the cause and manner of his death and conduct

a formal identification process.

The fire grew quickly, and the single-family home was soon fully involved. Firefighters knocked down the bulk of the fire in about 20 minutes, but the structure will be a total loss.

The origin and cause of the fire remain under investigation by the East Brookfield Fire Department, East Brookfield Police Department, District 7 fire investigators, State Police fire investigators assigned to the Worcester County District Attorney’s office. They are supported by the Department of Fire Services’ Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit.

“The exact cause of the fire is still under investigation, but we didn’t find any working smoke alarms at the scene,” said Davine. “Please, take a few minutes today to be sure you and your loved ones are protected by working smoke alarms on every level of your home.”

The fire departments of Spencer, North Brookfield, Brookfield, and West Brookfield provided mutual aid at the scene. The Charlton Fire Department provided station coverage.



An Oct. 31 house fire that claimed the life of an East Brookfield resident is under investigation. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## New Braintree Police Log

During the week of Nov. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to four building/property checks, 22 directed/area patrols, two radar assignments, five emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, three complaints, one scam, one safety hazard, three motor vehicle accidents, one motor vehicle investigation, three animal calls and one motor vehicle stop in the town of New Braintree.

Pierce Road, Dispatch Handled

### Friday, Nov. 15

11:44 a.m. Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital  
 2:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Gilbertville Road, Services Rendered  
 8:20 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Merge  
 10:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Wine Road, Services Rendered  
 11:46 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Gilbertville Road, Services Rendered

### Saturday, Nov. 17

2:59 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Gilbertville Road, Unfounded  
 4:05 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, West Brookfield, Citation Issued  
 11:25 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
 1:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
 5:54 p.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled

### Monday, Nov. 11

5:43 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Negative Contact

### Tuesday, Nov. 12

8:17 a.m. Assist Citizen, Memorial Drive, Officer Handled  
 3 p.m. Scam, Dennis Whitney Road, Officer Handled  
 6:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Hardwick Road, Report Taken

### Wednesday, Nov. 13

7:38 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Moore Road, Transported to Hospital  
 10:52 a.m. Animal Call/Complaint,

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**Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue**

• Agawam Advertiser News • Sentinel • The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times

**Thursday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue**

• Barre Gazette • Country Journal  
 • The Journal Register • Quaboag Current • Ware River News

**Friday, November 22 at 2 PM for November 29 Issue**

• Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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# QUABOAG CURRENT

<b>WEST BROOKFIELD</b> Country Christmas fair Nov. 23 p5	<b>STURBRIDGE</b> Christmas by Candlelight p5	<b>WARREN</b> Quaboag students win award p8	Editorial/Opinion Sports Classifieds Police Logs	<b>4</b> <b>9</b> <b>14</b> <b>15</b>
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Volume 17, Number 52

Friday, November 22, 2024

## Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

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