

Warwick Community Newsletter

A D M I N I S T R A T I V E D E T A I L S



VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES: All articles, ads and correspondence should be emailed if possible to warwicknewsletter01378@gmail.com . If you cannot email, drop off clearly printed articles in the METCALF CHAPEL MAILBOX AT 32 ATHOL ROAD **by the 20th of the month before the article will run.** Please note

that we do not accept FULL PAGE inserts at all for commercial ads, and are asking every organization in Town to keep their event flyers to 1/2 page or less. If a full page event flyer is desired, the organization may print the flyer themselves for insertion (call Mary Humphries 544-0126 for the number of copies required) if the information cannot be fit to 1/2 page and a waiver is desired. Business card size ads are \$7/month or \$70/year. All material may be edited for length, ink intensiveness, or content and may not be anonymous. Some logs and minutes provided may only be available on the Warwick Website at www.warwickma.org due to space limita-

Phone Directory

Emergency 911
 Selectboard /Town Coordinator
 978-729-3224
 Warwick Broadband
 413-676-9544
978-544-
 Selectboard voice mail
 6315
 Treasurer/Collector 3845
 Highway 6349
 Library 7866
 Fire Station 3314
 Animal Control 3402 Animal
 Contr.Pager 978-217-2681
 Clerk/Assessors 8304
 Bd of Health 6315
 Community School 6310
 Police Dept Business
 2244
 Building Inspector 2236
 FAX all depts. 6499
 Burn Permits:
www.fcburnpermits.com

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS AND ADVERTISERS

Ann Miner, Robert & Asako Day, Rod & Helen Whipple,
 Jean Haskell & Claire Michaels, Elaine Brown & Nan Hunt.

\$325.00

All Donations and Ad Payments should be sent to
 WCN/Metcalf Chapel, 32 Athol Road, Warwick, MA 01378

Foot Clinic

All clinics are at 8:00 a.m. at Metcalf Chapel.

December 9th

See you in the New Year!



TOWN CLERK HOURS:

Mondays: 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 and 12/26
 from 1:00- 4:00 p.m.

LIBRARY NEWS – December 2022**Ivan Ussach, Library Director**

Library hours: Monday 10-4, Tuesday 1-8, Thursday 5-8, and Saturdays 10-12:30 (during school year). Contact: warwick@cwmares.org; 978-544-7866; Ivan Ussach, director

Covid operations update: Masks are not currently required for entry; however, they are still strongly encouraged. Thanks, and stay healthy!

Just the Fax: Do you need to send a fax? Visit the Library during regular hours.

Wowbrary e-newsletter: Contact the Library if you'd like to receive weekly notices of new items available for borrowing, with graphics and full description.

Museum Passes: The Library has free admission passes to the Magic Wings Butterfly Museum, Massachusetts State Parks (DCR), the Brattleboro Museum of Arts & Culture, Historic Deerfield, the Clark Museum, MassMOCA and the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art.

Scrabble Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm - It's happening! Come on down—all welcome!

Monthly Short Story Hour: Thursday, December 15th - 7:30 pm @ Library: We'll be reading selections from *The Best American Short Stories of 2006*. You all remember 2006, right? Let's see —ummm... Oh, yes! The United States Armed Forces withdrew its forces from Iceland; the Human Genome Project published the final complete sequence of human chromosomes; and the Pulitzer Prize for Best Fiction Book went to *March* by Geraldine Brooks.

Who invented the World Wide Web?: "A British scientist named Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web (WWW) in 1989, while he was working at CERN. The Web was originally created to facilitate automated information-sharing between scientists working at different universities and institutes around the world. Berners-Lee wrote the first proposal for the project in 1989 and the second in 1990. He worked with a Belgian systems engineer named Robert Cailliau to formalize a management proposal in late 1990, which described a "hypertext project" called "WorldWideWeb" that allowed a "web" of "hypertext documents" to be viewed by "browsers." By the end of 1990, Berners-Lee had the first Web server and browser running at CERN. The first Web page address was <http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html>; it primarily contained links to information about the project. On April 30, 1992, CERN made the source code of the WorldWideWeb available for free and by the end of 1994, the Web had 10,000 servers and 10 million users." (backthenhistory.com)

Other miscellany: "Taylor Swift has taken over the entire Top 10 of the Billboard Hot 100 chart, becoming the first-ever artist to do so. All 10 songs atop this week's Hot 100 come from Swift's album *Midnights*, which was released on **Oct. 21**. With the news, Swift surpasses Drake's feat last year, when he captured nine of the Top 10 spots on the Hot 100 chart." (NPR, 10-31-22)

Got a book you'd like to review? Contact the Library.



SPECIAL THANKS to Red Apple Farm for donating apples for the meals we provided to the Orange Meal Site this fall and also to Chase Hill Farm for its continued generosity in helping TCCW welcome new residents to Warwick. We're grateful for your community-minded support.

Warwick Women's Guild Events

December 6, 2022 Warwick Women's Guild will be meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at the Town Hall kitchen (different than last month's posting) where we will be assembling the Christmas fruit baskets for seniors 80+ years of age. Nancy Kilhart distributed the schedules at our November luncheon. On that list Nancy assigned you a job, the people who will be receiving the baskets, and the times. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Kilhart.

January 3, 2023 Warwick Women's Guild will be meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at the Town Hall kitchen area where Suzanne Renna will provide us with a workshop titled "Listening to Ourselves and Others with Respect and Compassion." Suzanne was a counselor and Associate Director of Harvard University's Bureau of Study Counsel where she worked with students and faculty for 32 years. She is also a certified mediator who is trained in spiritual psychology, and she has traveled the world extensively. Join us for an enlightening event.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Terrazza at the Greenfield Country Club
344 Country Club Road
Greenfield, MA 01301

Ph. (413) 772-0970
Terrazzagreenfield.com
Hours: Daily 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Recently the Women's Guild had their holiday luncheon at Terrazza in Greenfield, and everyone loved their meals. Three of us had the special lunch of the day and it was fabulous: sliced prime rib with onions and melted cheese in a grinder roll with a side of French onion soup for 'dipping' and French fries. It was one of the tastiest sandwiches I have ever had. The cost was \$18 but worth every penny. The service was excellent; even the bartender got into the act and took pictures of our group so we could all be seated. Their evening meal prices go up quite a bit, but of course you get more for the money. Prices at night range from \$12.99 for plain pasta to \$26.99 for lobster ravioli. Chicken and veal dinners range from \$22.99 to \$27.99, seafood ranges \$29.99 to \$35.99, and their steaks are between \$33.99 and \$35.99.

Lunch is definitely more reasonable, but the menu isn't as big. Salads run \$9.99 to \$13.99, and you can add seafood, steak or chicken for \$6 to \$15. Subs, wraps, clubs and burgers range \$10.99 to \$16.99, and pastas range from \$12.99 to \$19.99. Everything the Guild had was great, and every time I have ever been there the food has been delicious. Service has always been good, and of course, during the day you get a beautiful view of the golf course and the Berkshires in the distance. You miss the views at night.

For a reasonably close drive you get beautiful views, great service, and great food. Hope you can make a trip real soon.

Bon Appetit!
Gloria Varno

Warwick, Massachusetts

TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of WARWICK

DECEMBER 2022

Dear Friends,

“My first fragment of memory is of my mother. We are standing together...(with) the sun setting behind us...our shadows cast before us...My mother and I are holding hands, and in our silhouettes there is no distinction between where she ends and I begin.”

Author Chelsea Steinauer-Scudder remembered this image after giving birth to her daughter, and from that image she weaves a compelling essay on the need for humanity to evolve from a mindset of separation, domination and extraction to one of “Mothering”, applicable to all of our relationships, from interpersonal to universal. *“...it is our separation from the Earth herself that lies at the heart of our crisis, and thus...the work of healing must primarily be the work of spirit...The cure, the healing, is that which will bring us back into a deep, loving, entwined relationship with the living world. And this...is the work of “mothering”. By “mothering” I do not mean the noun that refers to females with a uterus and children... I mean everyone – of any gender, any age, any species... I mean “mother” as a verb, and “mothering” as the good work of being in service to ‘all of life’s beings’.*

We humans have developed a Western capitalist culture that sees itself as the center of all things, and we have developed a language that rests on that assumption; the earth and all that is in it is there for our benefit, and we can continue to exploit it without limit. Inconveniently, there are limits to a non-reciprocal lifestyle within a finite system.

The Christian story of Christmas is the story of a Divine Love that is always “Mothering,” always reaching out to re-connect, to re-birth a collective center of being that is “in service to all of life’s beings.” That is the heart of the Jesus Story and it begins, appropriately enough, with two women who accept the role of “Mothering” even while their male counterparts resist that role. Both Zechariah and Joseph eventually relent and God, Divine Love, proceeds to work for the next 33 years in the life of one who also willingly accepted his role in the process of “mothering” the world; of returning all creation to a place of non distinction between its constituent elements; human, animal, plant and mineral. Jesus was working on reconciling humanity with the divine as a first step in the “mothering” process and then reconciling humanity to itself; first, love God with every part of your existence and second, love your neighbor as yourself; no separation.

The imagery of the conjoined shadows Steinauer-Scudder uses is such a powerful and appropriate one for Christmas, *“no distinction between where (one) ends and (the other) begins.”* That is the central metaphor contained within the story of the Christ being born within the bowels of the human condition: no distinction between where God, Divine Love, ends and creation begins. The Christ, the human embodiment of Divine Love, is born in a stable, among the animals and witnessed and welcomed by the least within society while the empire is celebrating itself, oblivious to anything but itself. When this self-absorption is pierced, the reaction is one of self-preservation at any cost. Herod, made aware that this seemingly insignificant birth may have some adverse consequences for him, reacts with stereotypical imperial egoism; eliminate the threat through denial and violent repression. (Matt 2: 16)

Empire, throughout written history, follows this scenario. Defense of the status quo is paramount. Oppositional division, greed, fear, denial and violence are the adhesive that keeps it all together. But the adhesive must be maintained, and at great cost to the structure. Eventually, the façade begins to crack and the top-heavy structure begins to tremble and topple. This is when the “mothers” are most needed; to bring new life out of the chaos. As Steinauer-Scudder puts it, *“I don’t pretend to know what the future will look like. But I believe that, more than anything, the apocalypse will need mothers.”*

The word “apocalypse” comes from the ancient Greek word meaning “revelation”, “disclosure”. In the apocalypse, Divine Love is revealed as always Mothering (Isa 54:4, 10 – Hosea 2:23) and inviting us to participate in the healing work.

In faith, Dan

UP COMING EVENTS

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN to raise \$40,000 for building improvements to the Metcalf Chapel. Renaissance Builders of Gill have replaced siding, added a layer of rigid insulation and foam sealed around windows. We are hoping to be able to replace some doors and making other improvements that will add energy efficiency and comfort for those who use the building. A donation to the Trinitarian Congregational Church of Warwick (or just **TCCW**) would be greatly appreciated. On the memo line put "Capital Campaign." And thank you.



ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

ADVENT WORKSHOP SUN. DEC. 4 beginning at 5 pm This year, we will be starting with a light soup and bread supper followed by making simple decorations and ending with putting some decorations on the tree under the bell. We will sing a few carols as we light the tree. All are welcome, especially the young at heart.

ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP WED.s (11/30, 12/7, 14, 21) 7 PM

This will be a meditation/discussion format with music and art from various sources.

COMMUNITY CAROLING SUN. DEC 18 We will gather at the Chapel at 4PM

CHRISTMAS EVE SAT. DEC 24 5 PM A family friendly service of readings, songs and celebration of the Birth of the Christ child. We will end with candle lighting and prayers for the season.

EPIPHANY BONFIRE (weather permitting) SUN. JAN 8. We will begin with a light supper at 5 PM and light the pile of Christmas trees (stripped of decorations) about 7 PM. (Please call before bringing your tree in case we can't burn that day.)

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AT THE METCALF CHAPEL

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS *Nonperishable food, personal hygiene items and household cleaning supplies are collected in the front hall of the Chapel. The personal & household cleaning items are needed as they cannot be purchased with "food stamps."*

BLANKETS/SHEETS/PILLOW CASES/ ETC *Bring clean, useful sheets (the shelters only have twin beds and mattresses) blankets, pillowcases, towels and washcloths to the Chapel and we will get them to the shelters.*

MEDICAL SUPPLY LIBRARY *We have crutches, wheelchairs, walkers and many other medical supplies for free loan at the Chapel. Check us out before buying new.*

FREE FOOD FRIDAYS 9 AM @ the Chapel Thanks to Clyde Perkins Sr., Zac Marti and many others, we have free food to give to those in the surrounding community who could use help stretching their food budget. Come check us out.

WCS NEWS

Greetings Warwick Families and Community Members,

We had a very exciting month at the Warwick Community Elementary School! On Friday, November 11th, we had our first *Arts in Nature* gathering at our beautiful school. Nine children (ages 1.5 to 14!), their families and lots of volunteers came together to learn about regional birds and the types of birdhouses they enjoy. Students then sketched their bird house plans in their nature journals, chose a birdhouse gourd, measured the correct diameter hole for their bird of choice and - with an adult helper - drilled the appropriate size hole. Students then painted their houses based on their designs. Here are some photos from our time together.



Arts in Nature gatherings will take place monthly during the 2022-2023 school year as a way for Warwick families to come together, build community and experience the types of nature-centered project-based learning that will take place at the school when it opens next fall. Our next *Arts in Nature* gathering will take place on Wednesday, December 14th from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Students will create pinecone birdhouses and enjoy some cider and cider donuts. Please RSVP via our emails below if you would like to attend. Thank you!

Our new founding administrative assistant, Jess Marshall, and I also traveled to New York City to the New Schools Venture Fund Community of Practice from November 14th - 17th, where we learned alongside some of the nation's most innovative school founders. We also visited a school in the city which also has a focus on place and project based learning. We look forward to sharing all of the new ideas we learned with the Warwick community.

Please reach out via email if you have any questions about our programming or if you would like to attend one of our upcoming *Arts in Nature* events.

Warmly,
Carole

Carole Learned-Miller, EdLD
Founding Superintendent

superintendent@town.warwick.ma.us

CHL975@mail.harvard.edu (In case the Warwick email bounces, please use our home addresses.)

Happy Holidays

'Tis the season! Come join the celebration...

ADVENT WORKSHOP ~ Gather with us on Dec. 4th at 5 pm for soup, bread and dessert in the chapel basement, then move upstairs for workshop activities including gingerbread houses, pine cone decorations for the birds, and wreath-making. We'll light the Christmas tree at 7 pm.



ADVENT DISCUSSIONS ~ On Nov. 30th, Dec. 7th, 14th and 21st come be a part of a meditation and discussion. We'll meet in the chapel at 7 pm.

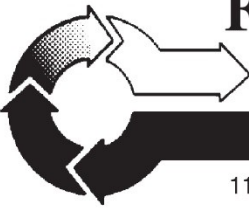
COMMUNITY CAROLING ~ We're meeting at the chapel on Sunday, Dec. 18th at 4 p.m.



CHRISTMAS EVE ~ Bring family and friends to the chapel at 5 p.m. for a special service of readings, songs and celebration of the Birth of the Christ child. We will end with candle lighting and prayers for the season.



REDUCTION
RECYCLING
COMPOSTING
DISPOSAL



Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

117 Main Street., 2nd Floor, Greenfield, MA 01301 • (413) 772-2438 • Fax: (413) 772-3786
www.franklincountywastedistrict.org • info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

Clothing and Textiles Banned from Trash

State Waste Ban begins November 1st

As of November 1, 2022, clothing and other textiles will no longer be allowed in the trash in Massachusetts. New state “waste ban” rules require textiles be kept out of the trash so they can be reused or recycled.

Residents should place clean, dry clothing, textiles and footwear in a plastic bag and bring to a textiles drop-off location. Never place textiles in a recycling bin.

What is banned from the trash and accepted in textile drop-off locations? Textiles are defined as anything from clothing (shirts, sweaters, pants) to footwear (sneakers, sandals, cleats) to accessories (bags, belts, hats) to linens (sheets, towels, fabric, and more). These items can be torn, stained, out of style or missing a mate, but they must be CLEAN and DRY. Items that cannot be reused or sold in thrift stores are sorted, baled and sold to recyclers who make insulation, padding, and wiping cloths. To see a longer list of accepted items, please visit: franklincountywastedistrict.org/p/68/Textiles

To retain their reuse value and avoid mildew contamination, all textile donations must be clean and dry. Keep them dry by placing in a plastic bag and tying it up. Textiles that are contaminated with mold, bodily fluids, insects, oil, or hazardous substances may go in the trash.

There are many local drop-off locations. Textile drop boxes accept the widest range of items; smaller, independent resale shops may be more restrictive in what they want. Some organizations will even pick up from your home.

Every municipal transfer station in Franklin County hosts a textiles drop box for their residents or permit holders. Some transfer stations might require access fees or annual permits. These 19 transfer stations are in: Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Greenfield, Heath, Leverett, Montague (Turners Falls), New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Warwick, Wendell, and Whately. In addition, textile recycling is now accepted at local Salvation Army Thrift Stores.

The **2030 Solid Waste Master Plan** by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) **aims to reduce** solid waste disposal statewide by 30 percent over the next decade, from 5.7 million tons in 2018 to 4 million tons in 2030. MassDEP is expanding the state’s current [waste disposal bans](#) by adding **textiles** to the list of materials banned from disposal or transport for disposal in Massachusetts. See the list of banned materials here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/fact-sheet-what-are-the-massachusetts-waste-bans/download>

Clothing and textile products amount to 6% of all material going into U.S. landfills and incinerators...that’s 230,000 tons annually in Massachusetts alone! 95% of all used clothing, footwear, and other household textile products can be reused or recycled, yet only 15% of reusable textiles are currently recovered from the waste stream.

Trash disposal capacity is extremely limited in Massachusetts. Diverting recyclable (and compostable) materials from the trash conserves our limited landfill space and saves money. The few remaining landfills in the state are scheduled to fill up and permanently close within a few years. Most of the “waste-to-energy” trash incinerators in Massachusetts are operating at full capacity. Earlier this year, the two waste incinerators in western Mass went bankrupt and closed; that trash is now being sent to landfills in faraway states such as Pennsylvania and the Carolinas. Trash disposal is expensive for municipalities and waste haulers, and due to longer travel distances, trash costs are rising.

Close the loop: the next time you are planning to purchase of a new item of clothing, please consider visiting local or online secondhand clothing stores before buying new.

For more information, visit franklincountywastedistrict.org, email info@franklincountywastedistrict.org or call 413-772-2438. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD).

Green Corner

State Giving \$10,000 rebates on Mini-Split Heating and Cooling Systems

Mini-splits (or air-source heat pumps) are de-centralized heating and cooling systems that extract heat from the outdoor air to heat a building, even at temperatures well below zero. The same unit can dump heat outside the building to provide cooling or dehumidification, depending on the season.

Mini-splits have two main components -- an outdoor compressor/condenser and one or more indoor air-handling units. A conduit, which houses the power cable, refrigerant tubing, suction tubing, and a condensate drain, links the outdoor and indoor units. While a traditional heating and cooling system can be turned on or off, each indoor unit of a mini-split can be set to a different temperature. And each indoor unit only requires a few smaller lines run to it, rather than large ducts. The mini splits of today are different from the old heat pumps. People in New England are using them as sole heat sources. However, highly technical equipment tends to not last as long as older, simpler devices. The tradeoff is that while the newer stuff works, it should save enough energy to be worth using.

In addition to having more control over the temperature throughout your home, mini-splits are more efficient than traditional air conditioners. And when turned to heating mode, they are between 2-4 times more efficient than a furnace, baseboard or a boiler. As a fuel source, electricity produces far less carbon pollution than oil or gas. It's hard to figure the cost of heating with a mini-split versus heating with oil or gas. The air-sourced heat pumps are more efficient at different temperatures. The cost of all fuel fluctuates. The true cost to society of dumping carbon dioxide into the air is hard to quantify.

The State of Massachusetts is encouraging people to switch from burning gas, oil, and coal to using electric mini-splits. For a 1,800 square foot house, a system will cost around \$17,000. The State is offering \$10,000 rebates for approved systems. Basically, you can get a new heating and cooling system for about \$7000 and stop burning fossil fuel. Installing a mini-split will help you to do something about climate change, right now. Combined with solar panels and/or a renewable energy supplier on your electric bill, you can stop heating and cooling your house with carbon polluting oil and gas.

For more information, contact a local mini-split dealer or talk to the members of the WBEC. Wishing you all a very warm winter!

Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee.

Planning Board News:

The Planning Board and Tree Warden are reviewing our Scenic Roads policy in light of the experience last summer with microbursts. The intent is to make it easier for residents to remove white pine trees which threaten their dwellings. We believe concerns over white pines within striking distance of dwellings is completely reasonable given the climate change we are experiencing.

The procedure for cutting scenic roads trees in the public way will still require a tree hearing. The homeowner should contact either the Tree Warden or the Planning Board to set up a hearing, however, going forward white pines located in the public way within striking distance of dwellings will be approved for cutting. The town will not generally cut healthy (non-hazard) pines--those approved for cutting will have to be done at landowners' expense.

The Planning Board "tree cleanup day" hearing in December to defray some of the \$100 cost of a tree hearing will be held on December 10th at 1 pm. To clarify: the cost is to run a notice in the Athol Daily news, as required by law. A notice can cover any number of trees. The more properties we can do at one time the lower each homeowners' hearing fee.

If you have questions or want to sign up please contact the Tree Warden, Sharon Matthews, at 1.978.544.3595.



Coordinator for December 2022 Newsletter – David Young

Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 12, at 7 pm at the Warwick Community School in the gym. This meeting is needed to get authorization from Town Meeting (legislature) for the Selectboard to enter a long-term contract on behalf of the Town (more than three years) with the Pioneer Valley Regional School District to annually meet Warwick's pro-rata share of future obligations to retirees who worked at Pioneer when Warwick was a member of the district. (Note: we are still regional district members until granted permission from the state and will have this obligation until the last retiree at the school district that worked here while Warwick was a member, or their spouse has died. That is many decades in the future.)

Since we will be meeting as a Town Meeting and there is a long lead time to order a new police cruiser, the draft town meeting warrant has an article about a replacement police car. The Town just got a good deal from neighboring Gill, MA, where we bought their retired 2013 Explorer police cruiser for \$2,000. We are selling two tired vehicles, the Crown Victoria (from New Salem) and the 2012 Explorer (bought new and not a police interceptor), and we're keeping the Charger we recently got from Erving. That makes two vehicles and four police officers. Our remaining police cars are both about ten years old and have some years of reliable service in them. Repairs tend to get more costly and more frequent over time. Replacements take more and more time and planning. If we want to get a hybrid police cruiser and order it now, it will take at least two years to receive. It takes a Town Meeting vote to order it, so we have the funding authorization. We could appropriate from our Stabilization Fund or vote to borrow. I think our next move should be to establish some electric car-charging stations while we wait for creditable all-electric police cruisers to come to market (in about four or five years) along with all the gear to outfit into a cruiser.

If you have any interest in contract plowing (using your rig) for the town, or are qualified and willing to drive our plow truck as an employee, reach out to Larry at 544-6349 or highway@town.warwick.ma.us.

Last month we re-started the Senior Meals Tuesdays congregate gathering. It happens at noon at the Warwick School. This is part of our modeling how we will provide school breakfast and lunch in our tiny school. There's no charge for the meal, but we will gladly accept your donations which support the project. If you want to arrive early, there is a pot of coffee on.

In the winter, electric supply cost (generation) goes up, and our community aggregation rate offer is saving us money versus NGrid's "standard supply." One resident calculates they will save \$400 or more this winter if the deal does not expire. So I checked. The current contract was for three years and four months and will be in force all winter. My Texas wind is \$0.09433 / kWh. Every three years we must rebid.

Sometime today, as I write this, the election results in MA get certified. I am not writing to thank the ten folks who wrote me in for school committee. I have served eight years. Warwick is getting a divorce from the regional school district. My loyalty is with Warwick. Still, I may say yes and accept election while I hunt for my replacement. I would be a longest serving and some value my accumulated knowledge. Since I am your town coordinator, I can't be appointed, only elected to a second position. You could be appointed in my place. It is only a year.

If you drive our winding, hilly, and narrow back roads consider the weather, your tires, and road conditions. Give the car going uphill the right of way. You can more easily restart from a stop heading downhill. If there is more than one way to get there, consider some up roads and other roads down roads.

Stay tuned for more detail on the planning work of the Six Town Planning Commission looking at merging Gill-Montague with Pioneer. How would that affect the independent Warwick District? That combined District with its greater offerings could be our tuition destination. We don't plan to run a tiny high school.

Northfield Elementary School News

Introducing our Administrative Assistant

I am proud to announce that Cheryl George has been appointed to the position of Administrative Assistant at NES. Cheryl takes over the position that had been held by Bridget Hammond for the past 15 years. Whenever you contact the school by phone, email, note, or drop by the office, Cheryl is the person who will be your first point of contact. Cheryl brings years of community service and educational experience to her role. She has been working at NES for the past few years as our Librarian and is well loved by our students and staff. I am sure that you have met or chatted with Cheryl, as she is also the Chair of our NES PTO, and she can be found running many of their events. We wish Cheryl many years of happiness and success in her new position.

Librarian

Continuing on with announcements, I am proud to announce that Jill Leger has been appointed to the position of Librarian at NES. Jill has worked for many years at NES as an Instructional Assistant. Staff and students were excited to learn that Jill would be filling Cheryl's shoes. Jill knows our school and all of the children. She loves her work and wanted to take on this new and exciting challenge. Hopefully you will be able to meet up with Jill at a future school library event or Book Fair.

Title 1 Position

Northfield Elementary School has been granted federal funding to support a second Title 1 teacher. This is wonderful news for our district, as the Title 1 position will increase the level of direct instructional support for our students in literacy and math. Following interviews, we appointed Meghan Kratz to this new position. Meghan has worked at NES for many years and is a certified teacher. She began her teaching role at New Bedford School District and is excited to get back into the role of preparing lessons and teaching our students.

Dismissal Time for Half Days - Dec 22

Preschool dismissal is at 11:50 a.m. All other grades at 12:00 noon.

* Parents/guardians picking up preschool children in the bus lane should plan on arriving at or slightly before 11:45am, which will help us to get the buses into the lane at 11:55am.

Youth Basketball and Cheerleading

The Northfield Recreation Commission has opened up registration for both basketball and cheerleading. Please click on the links below to get to the registration papers. You can also follow the Recreation Commission on their NEW [Website](#)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/148W5GiS22colx0nIRA0lhkar03QOWMEC/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106082444894902872873&rtpof=true&sd=true>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M8iydk6bJ2prXM00s05M5pAxZoxoqbsT/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106082444894902872873&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Winter Concert - Thursday, December 15 at 2:15 p.m.

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting our Winter Concert this year. This will be a wonderful time for families to join us at NES. Come along and enjoy listening to our chorus and band members. All details can be found by clicking on this [notice](#). We hope to see a packed house. Thank you!



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 Library 5:00-8:00 pm	2 Free Food Friday 9:00 am	3 T Station 8-3 pm Library 10:00-12:30 pm Climate Vigil 11:30-12:30 pm
4 Worship Service 10:00 am Advent Workshop 5:00 pm & tree lighting 7:00 pm	5 Library 10:00-4:00 pm Town Clerk 1:00-4:00 pm	6 Women's Guild 1:00 pm T. Hall Library 1:00-8:00 pm Scrabble 6:30-8:00 pm	7 Advent discussion group 7:00 pm	8 Library 5:00-8:00 pm	9 Foot Clinic 8:00 am Metcalf Chapel Free Food Friday 9:00 am	10 Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm Library 10:00-12:30 pm Climate Vigil 11:30-12:30 pm Planning Board Hearing 1:00 pm
11 Worship Service 10:00 am	12 Library 10:00-4:00 pm Town Clerk 1:00-4:00 pm	13 Town Clerk 1:00-4:00 pm Library 1:00-8:00 pm Scrabble 6:30-8:00 pm	14 Book Club at Library 10:00 am WCS Arts in Nature 4:30-6:00 pm Advent discussion group 7:00 pm	15 Library 5:00-8:00 pm; Short Story Hour 7:30 pm	16 Free Food Friday 9:00 am	17 Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm Library 10:00-12:30 pm Climate Vigil 11:30-12:30 pm
18 Worship Service 10:00 am Community Caroling 4:00 pm	19 Library 10:00-4:00 pm Town Clerk 1:00-4:00 pm Hanukkah begins	20 Library 1:00-8:00 pm Scrabble 6:30-8:00 pm	21 Advent discussion group 7:00 pm Winter Solstice	22 Library 5:00-8:00 pm Short Story Hour 7:30 at Library (hybrid)	23 Free Food Friday 9:00 am	24 Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm Library 10:00 -12:30 pm Climate Vigil 11:30-12:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 pm
25 Christmas Day	26 Library 10:00-4:00 pm; Town Clerk 1:00-4:00 pm Kwanza begins	27 Library 1:00-8:00 pm; Scrabble 6:30-8:00 pm	28 Meditation 5:30-6:30 pm Metcalf Chapel	29 Library 5:00-8:00 pm &	30 Free Food Friday 9:00 am	31 Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm Library 10:00-12:30 pm Climate Vigil 11:30-12:30 pm New Year's Eve

WARWICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
32 ATHOL ROAD
WARWICK, MA 01378

PRESORTED
US POSTAGE PAID
ATHOL, MA 01331
PERMIT #202

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

DATES TO REMEMBER:

ADVENT WORKSHOP: Dec 4th, 5 pm

FOOT CLINIC: Dec. 9th, 8 am

ADVENT DISCUSSIONS: Dec. 7th, 14th & 21st. 7 pm

COMMUNITY CAROLING: Dec. 18th, 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: Dec 24th, 5 pm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

