

Warwick Community Newsletter

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

All articles, ads and correspondence may be emailed to warwicknewsletter01378@gmail.com (or call Beth Gilgun at 544-3464) or dropped off in the black box in front of Town Hall **by the 20th of the month before the article will run.** Please note that we are no longer accepting 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 Beth 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 limitations. **ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIBERS WILL GET FULL SELECTBOARD MINUTES. ANOTHER REASON TO SUBSCRIBE ELECTRONICALLY AND HELP US SAVE MONEY!!**

THANK YOU for all the cards, phone calls and visits expressing your support for me and my family during Diana's illness and death. I am overwhelmed by the number of people who expressed their sorrow at her passing. I am greatly comforted by hearing, in one form or another, "Well done, good and faithful servant".

With gratitude,
Dana

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS AND ADVERTISERS!

Lisa Freitag, Steve & Janice Kurkoski,, Calvin & Fredericka Fellows,
Miguel Torres & Luz Alvarado, Richard & Sally Ballou, Brad Compton,
Craig & Elaine Barger, Gloria Varno, Nancy & Bruce Kilhart,
Richard & Margaret McGowan, Kelly Jones & James Erviti

\$432

Thank You!

PHONE DIRECTORY

Emergency	911
Selectboard	6315
Treasurer/Collector	3845
Highway	6349
Library	7866
Fire Station	3314
Animal Control	3402
Animal Contr.Pager	217-2681
Clerk/Assessors	8304
Bd of Health	6315
Community School	6310
Fire Dept Business	2277
Police Dept Business	2244
Building Inspector	2236
FAX all depts.	6499
Burn Permits	413-625-8200
Warwick Broadband Trouble	
413-676-9544	

Please consider donating to the Newsletter.

It is an outreach from the
Trinitarian Congregational Church
serving the greater community.

SEND THIS FORM TO:

Warwick Community Newsletter
c/o Beth Gilgun
29 Athol Road
Warwick, MA 01378

Subscription Mailed To:

I prefer to save paper and postage by having an E-subscription

Email Address

You may request an email only subscription by sending a note to
warwicknewsletter01378@gmail.com

B o a r d o f H e a l t h

The Board of Health is now back to their winter schedule of one meeting per month.

February 19

March 18

The BOH clerk is available in the office from 1-4 pm on the Mondays of the weeks of the Wednesday meetings.

Anyone with business with the BOH should call one of these numbers:

Helen Whipple 978-544-6838

Don Matthews 978-544-3595

Nancy Lyman 978-544-8229

www.warwickma.org is the Town's website. Along with things like *Permit Applications, Police Logs, Meeting Agendas, Town Hall Office Hours, News from the Library*, you can find this news-letter and lots of other very useful information! If you would like post something to the webpage, contact Ed Lemon, Webmaster at elemon@tiac.net.

The COA Foot Clinic Dates

February 14, 2020	May 8, 2020	August 14, 2020	November 13, 2020
March 13, 2020	June 12, 2020	September 11, 2020	December 11, 2020
April 10, 2020	July 12, 2020	October 9, 2020	

At the Metcalf Chapel at 8 a.m.



Warwick Council on Aging

The Tuesday exercise class at the Warwick Town Hall will begin at 9:45 AM. It will be followed by a Chair Yoga/Tai Chi class at 11:00 A.M. Chair yoga/Tai Chi will be offered by certified instructor Marcia Gobeil. One will get all the benefits of yoga without getting on the floor. All poses and exercises will be done while sitting. The second half of the class will be tai chi warm-up and poses. One can attend the 1st or 2nd half of the class or both sessions. The class is funded by Life Path at no cost to those attending, however a donation can is available and donations are gratefully accepted.

W o m e n ' s G u i l d

February 4, 2020 1:15 PM will be our regular monthly meeting followed by 'game' day. Bring three (3) \$1 lottery tickets to play LCR (Left, Center, Right), winner takes home the pot.

March 3, 2020 1:15 PM our guest speakers will be Jim Toth and Clyde Perkins, Jr. from our cemetery commission and they will discuss how to clean a cemetery marker.

Following the discussion, we will hold our regular monthly meeting.

Restaurant Review

Red Tomato Pizza & Restaurant
 11 Exchange St.
 Barre, MA 01005
 978-355-3536
<https://www.redtomatopizzarestaurant.com/>

A friend and I decided one Sunday afternoon to go for some seafood at High Tides in Barre. When we got to their door, there was a sign they were on vacation till mid-January. Decided to ride into Barre Center and see what we could find to grab a bite. We found on a Sunday afternoon, that not much was open until later. Spotted Red Tomato Pizza & Restaurant so decided to give it a shot.

We were surprised to find a very cozy place with a few booths and cordial Italian man who waited on us. We didn't get seafood even though they had some but since we were in an Italian restaurant, I figured I was going to have Italian food. They have a huge menu and all their Italian dinners, come with garlic bread, salad or soup. I opted for Veal Parmesan which indicated was fresh veal, thin and lightly breaded, served with spaghetti. My friend ordered the Chicken Parmesan and spaghetti. Both came out on platters. I could only eat half the serving. The salad was small but had a good variety of veggies and my friend said the Beef Barley soup was excellent.

We noticed that a lot of take-out occurred, so the pizzas must be good also. Need to try them sometime. The prices were very reasonable, Chicken Parmesan was \$13.95 and Veal was \$14.95. Both of us took half the meal home. Nice find on a Sunday afternoon.

Bon Appetite.

Gloria Varno

Annual Town Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2020 7:00 p.m.

Annual Town Election: Monday, May 18, 2020 Polls Open: 12 noon – 7 p.m.

Last Day to Obtain Nomination Papers: **Friday, March 27, 2020**

Last Day to Submit Nomination Papers for Certification: **Monday, March 30, 2020**

Last Day to Object or Withdraw: **Wednesday, April 15, 2020**

Last Day to Register Voters for ATM and AT Election: **Tuesday, April 14, 2020**

Number of Signatures Required on Nomination Papers: **20**

Office and Length of Term

Incumbent

SELECTMAN	3 years	James Erviti
ASSESSOR	3 years	Anne Kendall
BOARD of HEALTH	3 years	Helen Whipple
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER	3 years	
CONSTABLE	3 years	Brian Peters
LIBRARY TRUSTEE	3 years	Fredericka Fellows
LIBRARY TRUSTEE	3 years	Elaine Reardon
LIBRARY TRUSTEE	1 year to fill vacancy	Nadia Marti Woodson
MODERATOR	1 year	David Koester
TOWN CLERK	3 years	
TRANSFER STATION COMMISSIONER	3 years	David Koester
TREE WARDEN	1 year	Sharon Matthews

Library

Tuesdays at 6:30 - Scrabble: all welcome.

Sunday, Feb. 16th - Birch Tree Painting @ 1 pm with Kerry Stone: Back by popular demand, this class will repeat the January session, which was great fun and produced wonderful paintings. Using acrylic paints and canvas, local painter Kerry Stone will guide you with some simple painting techniques to create a birch tree landscape. You will have the chance to learn the basics of color mixing, create a composition and paint.

This class is open to beginners and experienced painters alike. Teens and Adults. Bring an idea or photo of the season you wish to represent. Enjoy a winter afternoon being creative! **Space is limited and registration is required, along with a \$10 fee payable at the Library no later than Feb. 13th.** Sign up at the library or email the library: warwick@cwmar.org --first come, first served.

Friday, Feb. 21st - "Planet of the Apes" film screening @ 7 pm (Library): The classic 1968 sci-fi adventure drama that launched four sequels, and was remade as a film trilogy last decade. Taylor and two other astronauts come out of deep hibernation to find that their ship has crashed on a planet where people are pre-lingual and uncivilized while apes have learned speech and technology. Taylor is captured and taken to the city of the apes after damaging his throat so that he is silent and cannot communicate with the apes. While "Planet of the Apes" received a "G" rating from the MPAA, it does include some swearing and violent sequences. Starring Charlton Heston, based on the 1963 novel *La Planete des singes* by Pierre Boulle, with a screenplay by Rod Serling; 1 hr 55 min. (We'll try to have popcorn available.)

Tuesday, Feb. 25th - Local author David Brule @ 7 pm: David lives on the Millers River in his ancestral home, and has written three books for his *West Along the River* series—a collection of essays, short stories and tales about the natural world, village characters, and the Native American presence in our valley. A fourth book, *Looking For Judah*, describes his adventures in genealogy and remembrance while researching an enigmatic grandfather and the deeply hidden stories of his mixed race family in denial. David will share a sampling of these stories and more. Light refreshments will be served.

The Library seeks someone to train to be an occasional paid substitute during day shifts—Mondays 10-4 and/or Tuesday's 1-8 (all or part). If interested, contact Ivan at the Library.

Amount of salt used on roads per American per year: 123 pounds (Source: It Doesn't Take Much Road Salt to Harm Aquatic Life 12-26-2019 ecoRI News)

Reminder: The Library offers free/discounted admission passes to several regional museums (and the State Parks).

How's that ebook revolution going? Messy, complicated. Ebooks aren't only selling less than everyone predicted they would at the beginning of the decade. They also cost more than everyone predicted they would — and consistently, they cost more than their print equivalents. If you want to know more about the state of ebooks—and the entire book market—see the **12-23-19 Vox article by Constance Grady** titled ("The 2010's were supposed to bring the ebook revolution: It never quite came" at <http://tinyurl.com/sqc8pns> or on the library web page under "Library News and resources.")

Recent additions to the Collection can be viewed on the Library web page.

Best - Ivan

Coordinator for February Newsletter—David Young

Remember this: Pioneer Valley Regional School District agreement has no provision for the School Committee to vote to close any town's elementary school or to take this type of vote. The agreement, in place since the 1950s says that four towns will share a regional grade 7-12 school. In the 90s we went K-12 and provided each town will provide the District its own elementary. If there is concern about elementary education, our regional agreement says a town will form an Advisory Committee (on Elementary Education) to advise.

Also, the Acts of 2018 whereby Pioneer Valley School District has a debtor arrangement with the state, did not change the regional agreement. The 2018 law was about loaning PVRSD money and, until the debt is repaid, the Commissioner of Education was given authority to "consolidate, reconfigure, or close schools." Please think what consolidate and reconfigure might mean.

And now this week's story:

A third attempt by the Florida-based business manager to urge the regional school committee to close WCS came out of the blue. It became an agenda item without the school committee itself asking that this be an agenda item or even knowing this would come up again. It was, to observers, a staged event with a known outcome. Materials for the meeting (37 pages of data) were not sent out by email and available to anyone, including Warwick, until 7 hours before the meeting was held.

After strictly controlling who could talk and how many minutes of public comment would be allowed, the SC vote was 7 to 5 to recommend closing WCS next year. Warwick elected officials have two committees in place to advise and consider traditional and innovative options. Warwick has offered to kick in some additional money if our per pupil cost, being a small school, was higher. That said, we Warwick looked at the numbers through a fair lens, and with Warwick taking back some facility costs, the per pupil cost was not higher. However, with so little time to review and respond to the business manager's numbers and the inability to show there were other ways to consider expense and cost, that vote was 7 to 5.

What does that mean, exactly, when the PVRSC has no authority to be making this decision? It's clear to anyone participating from Warwick, that the other three towns no longer want Warwick as a regional district partner and/or to have an agreement for elementary education in the four towns.

The State Education Commissioner has the authority under the Acts of 2018 to make a decision on reconfiguration, consolidation, or closure. And here the details for all of us become really important. We currently want to trust his judgment, assume no predetermined opinion, and let him hear from us through media and comments both written and phoned.

We had a deal in our school district that each town has its own elementary school. Bad management by the School District caused it to need a financial bail-out loan, resulting in state involvement. The commissioner's authority until the debt is paid back allows him to over-ride our long-standing agreement that we will always have a local elementary school.

If we were in the TV industry, Warwick's story would be a good daytime drama—As The School District Turns. A background theme is that we live in one the Massachusetts' largest economic innovation zones, and snuffing out schools from small towns here takes this region in the opposite direction from the state's goal of bringing in businesses.

Another theme in the background is a push for regionalization and bigger institutional models at the same time as the culture of America is for smaller, safer schools and for parent choice. The folly of the financials model distributed is that someone still thinks you can vote that all children attend a school and somehow think that means parents will comply. This is a school choice state—no parent has to go anywhere and any parent can leave and take our local funding with them. Which is why closing Warwick is such a poor strategy to pursue. It will cost far more is lost revenue than the amount purported to be saved.

Last night fifty community members met in response to this recommendation to close us. The consensus in the room was in support of what we have been doing to date to keep local elementary in town. The sense was also that the process, especially in the past year, has been so unfair that the Town should leave the Pioneer district and pursue another management model for a local elementary: a Supervisory Union. That would require a School Committee be established here in Warwick and would keep control of our school here in our community.

We are not closed and can't be unless the Commissioner agrees. And we will clarify if we can appeal the commissioner's decision to the State Board of Education, the Governor, or the Legislature that made the provision. Both our state senator and representative wrote SC members cautioning them of Warwick concerns. Warwick representatives including the Selectboard Chair will be meeting with the DESE Commissioner in March. In the meantime, we need to stay on the education and news radar. We can do this by publishing facts and opinions, holding events, and by writing and calling the decision makers.

The meetings we hold that are carried in any newspaper are clipped and sent out to school committee members statewide in a daily education briefing.

We have options. They include folding our show, trying for another year within the Pioneer district (an unpleasant thought), or seek some arrangement with the Commissioner. A question before us is when to pursue legal action—by whom and on what basis. In addition to a vote apparently stimulated by the business manager and taken without authority, we see unequal treatment of children in terms of administrative policy. We have families from Orange who by choicing to Warwick are allowed to stay here through 12 grade—were they even consulted? If the Commissioner does not support a reasonable outcome for Warwick and our children being educated in Warwick, we will take our concerns to the next intervention level.

The window to leave the District may be open. For some it is the junk numbers, too late analysis, and endless opposition. If leaving is desirable, we should act before a newly proposed District Agreement makes it impossible. If staying open as a "Pioneer Valley Regional District" public school is affected by a decision of the Commissioner, we have options in addition to challenging the decision to the State Board of Education.

We have several options for continuing elementary education in Warwick and we are clarifying these now to share in more depth next month. Our counter plans include supported home schooling and support for choicing out of the district including to expanded on-line options. If we are closed an operating agreement (IMA) with Orange Elementary, a district with need for classroom space, will be explored. To support independent elementary schools, we are meeting with other interested towns. That does not address the needs of parents intimately affected. You going to have to make decisions. We understand that your child's best interest is your standard.

What Warwick residents can be sure of is that your Warwick leadership support elementary education in Warwick and believe it keeps our community vital and enriched, for children and adults. At least in Warwick, we truly care about every person's thoughts and ideas. We welcome your letters to us. Not continuing the elementary education option in Warwick is not an option for most of us—particularly with such trumped-up details, sent at the last second so they could not be reviewed or refuted.

While this recommendation was not unanticipated, and made by the slimmest margin, it has changed our reality by making matters urgent. The day after this important community meeting, we know the community supports keeping WCS open and educating elementary students locally.

The Commissioner's name is Mr. Jeffry Riley and his deputy is Mr. Jeff Wulfson whose phone is 781-338-6500. Write to them at DESE 75 Pleasant St. Malden, MA 02148. Their emails are: JRiley@doe.mass.edu and jwulfson@doe.mass.edu. And please copy the Selectboard and Warwick School Committee members.

Lastly, we want to share some research that shows the negative consequence to children and families for this recommendation and want otherwise to keep you informed. To keep up with news and correspondence, send an email to: coordinator@town.warwick.ma.us

PLANNING BOARD TO PROPOSE COMMON DRIVEWAY ZONING BYLAW AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Ted Cady

Currently Warwick Zoning requires each house to have its own driveway on its own land. If a lot has the required 300 feet of frontage and the required two acres it is a building lot if it has practical access to a public way, but if a driveway can not be put in for whatever reason it is not a building lot. A typical example of this is where the lot frontage is cliff face where there is no way to put a driveway to the house. The Planning Board does not want to change this aspect of our zoning.

What the Planning Board wants Town Meeting to consider is the case where all the proposed house lots have adequate acreage, frontage and practical access to the property, but a common driveway serving up to four homes would mean that there would be only one driveway entrance along a scenic stretch of road because one common driveway would serve them all, or one long common driveway would improve the economic feasibility of the houses on several adjacent lots being built much farther back from the road. As for any driveway, the Highway Superintendent must approve the curb cut. In addition, the Fire Chief must approve the common driveway proposal/plan as providing adequate access for fire trucks and emergency vehicles. The bylaw provides that the driveway can be two lane or one lane with paved pull-offs that allow oncoming vehicles to pass each other. The lots served by the driveway must have a statement in each deed that the lot owners are jointly and severally responsible for maintaining the common driveway and individually responsible for the spur from the common driveway to their home. The deed statement must also say that the common driveway can not become a town road unless it is upgraded at the landowners' expense to meet town subdivision standards for a public way and receives an affirmative vote at Town Meeting. As a final guard against inappropriate use of this zoning bylaw, the Planning Board will have the right to disapprove the common driveway if it does not satisfy the goals of the Warwick Zoning Bylaws.

R E C R E A T I O N C O M M I T T E E

YOGA with Kalliope Kalombratsos, Wednesdays 5:00 pm Saturdays 9:15am Town Hall

An all level Hatha Yoga class to meet student's needs, with an emphasis on proper alignment, Pranayama - breathing techniques deep relaxation and meditation. A dynamic, yet harmonious approach to cultivate strength, physical awareness and inner balance.

ZUMBA with Susan Krieger, Tuesday 6 pm Town Hall

A Latin inspired fitness program designed to get your heart rate up and put a smile on your face. Everyone can join the party. Designed for fun, not perfection. \$5

ZUMBA with Christine Rouleau, Sunday 8am Boiler Room Tully

Dance fitness performed to energetic music; hip hop, samba, salsa, mambo, Brazilian funk and country! \$5

BASKETBALL at the school gymnasium on Friday nights from 7-9

Open to all, could be just shooting some hoops or a game. At the request of the school to help protect the floor; Please bring water only, and a clean pair of indoor shoes to change into. Children must be supervised.

WALKING the school gymnasium is available to any one needing a dry warm space to walk.

Monday, Thursday and Fridays 10am -11:15

Please park in lower lot. (first on left) Press button at main entrance and office staff will open door.

To protect floor please bring clean walking shoes to change into, drinking water only.

Wooden Fender Winter Concert Series

Well, we apparently brought tears to the eyes of a few Warwickians during The Gaslight Tinkers' performance on January 11th and for that Wooden Fender sincerely apologi.....WAIT A MINUTE! We're not apologizing! Those weren't tears of sorrow! Those were tears of JOY! According to one attendee, it was "a stellar night at Town Hall!" Another shared that she tearfully gazed around the dance floor and thought, "what an amazing town we live in." You already knew that, but it doesn't hurt to rub it in now and then. We send a big Wooden Fender thank you to The Gaslight Tinkers' for bringing danceable music, great joy, and warmth to a cool Warwick night, and to the Arts Council and their talented chefs and bakers who fueled a packed hall full of energetic dancers. Guess what, folks? We're about to do it again.

Blues Night Dinner and Concert – Saturday February 15, Warwick Town Hall

At 6:00 PM the Trinitarian Congregational Church will be serving their famous **Pizzapalooza**. Please come and have some GREAT HOMEMADE PIZZA before the music starts! There will be lots of delicious toppings to choose from: mushrooms, pepperoni, homemade pesto, and roasted red peppers to name just a few, along with a variety of delectable cheeses. Gluten Free crust is available, as well. The **Meal Deal** can't be beat - two slices with toppings, side salad, drink, and dessert for \$10. All pizza dinner proceeds support the Mission projects of the Trinitarian Congregational Church of Warwick. Every dollar is donated to local and worldwide charities. These folks do great work. Head to Town Hall to support a good cause and eat great pizza.

At 7:00 pm Wooden Fender is thrilled to welcome **The Barrett Anderson Band**. Maybe you know Barrie Anderson as the really sweet kid who worked for many years at the Petersham Country Store. Or maybe you know him as the supremely capable Administrative Director of NOFA, the Northeast Organic Farming Association. But Wooden Fender wants you to know him as the phenomenal blues guitarist and winner of the **2013 Boston Music Awards' Blues Artist of the Year**, who Ronnie Earl calls, "a wizard on the guitar." During a 20-plus year tenure on the Boston music scene, Anderson played with **Pinetop Perkins** and "**Steady Rollin**" **Bob Margolin**, musicians who backed blues greats **Muddy Waters** and **Johnny Winter**, and spent a combined six years performing with the internationally acclaimed bands **Ronnie Earl and The Broadcasters** and **The Monster Mike Welch Band**.

Barrett is bringing an incredibly talented group of musicians to share the Town Hall stage: **Charlie Mallett**, formerly of Warwick favorite **Melanie and The Blue Shots** on guitar, **Doug MacLeod**, "the man who keeps the rhythm moving and the beat grooving" on drums, and **Jamie "Black Cat Bone" Hatch**, the bassist who "brings the low-end to the forefront" and maintains the band's "Hypno-Boogie sound". Check them out at <https://barrettandersonband.com/> then groove on down to Town Hall on the 15th and dance away your blues *with* the blues. How does that work? Trust us....it just does. Donations (\$5 suggested) are gratefully accepted at the door to support Wooden Fender's ongoing endeavor - in memory of Jeff Wallace - to keep live music happening in Warwick. Wooden Fender is a project of the Warwick Arts Council.

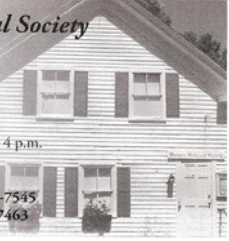
Mark your calendars:

February 15: **Blues Night with The Barrett Anderson Band**, Trinitarian Church Pizza Dinner
 March 21: **The Green Sisters**, Trinitarian Church St. Patrick's Day Dinner
 April 18: **No Lens**, Moore's Pond Beach Committee Lasagna Dinner

Memories of the Past

Warwick Historical Society
8 Athol Road
Warwick, MA 01378
whs.steamkite.com

Open Sundays, July & Aug. 2 - 4 p.m.
[or by appointment]
For more info call
President Larry Carey 978-544-7535
Curator Ed Lemon 978-544-7463



Warwick Honey Bees

When we lived on Mt. Grace Ave., our neighbors were the Melvin Mathews family. Melvin kept bees and we learned early on that it was wise not to disturb them. One day when I was playing there, we saw a cloud of bees fly by and start to gather in a ball on the limb of an old apple tree. It was an amazing sight and we stood watching the ball of bees grow bigger and bigger. The children ran to tell their mother, who joined us. She said, "This happens when there is an egg that hatches a new queen bee. The bees either chase out the old queen or she leaves on her own. Many of the worker bees and drones follow the queen that leaves. Dad will take care of it when he comes home from work."

I rushed back there about the time Melvin usually got home to see how it was handled. With his hat, net and gloves and a little smoke puffer he always used when working the bees, he carefully cut the branch and carried the bees to a new hive he had set up. He split the ball of bees until he could find the queen and carefully cut her wings so she couldn't leave the hive. I asked him if that was always the way he got his new bees. He told me he often hunts for wild hives to get a new hives going. He invited me along with him next time so I could see.

A few months later Melvin was going bee hunting on Saturday. I was told to be there by 9 a.m. We hiked in the woods to clearing where there were a lot of wild flower bushes. Melvin had a little wooden box about the size of a match box, it had two compartments with a sliding screen cover and honey in one of the compartments. He would catch a bee, let it fill up with honey, mark it with some powdered chalk, and checking the time, would let it go and watch which direction it took. He did this with three or four bees with different chalk colors, timing each one, and marking its course when it flew off. Shortly after when he caught one of the powdered bees, he noted that it was one from someone else's beehive. He told us he could tell by the direction it flew and how long it was gone. This happened to most of the first bees he caught.

He finally caught one that wasn't from someone else's beehive. He caught a few more that flew in the same direction and then he said, "I think we found a wild hive of bees." We went back to his house to get some tools and his car and drove to the other side of town to an old woods road. We walked down the road, often stopping, looking, and listening every few minutes. At about a quarter of a mile in, we began seeing bees and soon found their hive in an old tree about fifteen feet up. He went back to the car, got a crosscut saw, and we cut the tree down.

After waiting for the bees to settle back down, Melvin again put on his hat and gloves and with his little smoker, he went searching in the bee hive until he found the queen. He clipped her wings and placed her and some of the hive's honey in a box. He said, "That's it! We'll come back in the morning and finish up." When we came back the next morning, all the bees were in the box with their queen. He sealed the box and took all the honey out of the tree. Then we took the new bees back home and put the bees in a new hive that he had all set up. I still remember the honey he gave us out of that wild hive as the best honey I ever tasted!

Larry Carey
President WHS

Green Corner

Mount Grace and Quabbin Harvest Receiving Gift of Renewable Energy

In 2014, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust purchased the old Worker's Credit Union building at 12 N Main St in Orange to begin a partnership with the Quabbin Harvest Food Co-op. For 6 years now, Mount Grace and Quabbin Harvest have contributed to the sustainability of Franklin County and beyond by providing community members with fresh food and supporting local farms with a robust local market for their produce.

As of December 2019, the two organizations took another step towards sustainability with a generous donation of a solar array to harvest the sun's energy. The 40 solar panels mounted on the roof of the building are now contributing to lowering energy costs and overall carbon footprint of the food market. This incredible gift of sustainability was made possible by PhippenAdams Solar (the donors), Northeast Solar (the installers), and Janice & Steve Kurkoski, through a serendipitous introduction initiated by the late Peter Talmage. Morey Phippen and Brian Adams are committed to addressing climate change, the redistribution of wealth, creating and fostering local jobs, and solarizing local non-profit organizations. Northeast Solar has also installed several of the PV arrays in Warwick.

On February 6th at 4:30 pm, the many partners and players will come together to officially "flip the switch" to renewable energy at the building in downtown Orange. **The public is invited to the celebration.**

Notably, the solar array will be dedicated to the memory of Peter Talmage of Greenfield Community College. Peter was a remarkable engineer, a tireless teacher, and an inspiration to all who came within his aura. Although Peter and his wife Chris lived in Northfield for many years, and recently moved to Amherst, he left his mark in the North Quabbin area through the countless talks he gave at the North Quabbin Garlic & Arts Festival - on E-bikes, wind & solar power, building science, and "winserts". A very practical person, with his eyes also on the heavens (he would schlep his telescope to the Northfield Creamy on starry nights!), Peter's generous spirit lives on through this rooftop solar array and the many other projects that Peter inspired in his students, friends and colleagues.

TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
of WARWICK

FEBRUARY 2020

Dear Friends,

God is unchanging, but our *understanding* of God has evolved over the history of humankind. It is that evolving understanding, or at least the attempt at understanding of the infinite by the finite that is presented in the Bible. Did God write the Bible? No. Did God inspire the writers of the Bible? Yes. Does the Bible have magical powers to heal and protect people or groups? No. Does it have the power to inspire? Yes.

The apostle Paul said that we must “test the Spirits”. Episcopal priest, teacher and author Cynthia Bourgeault says a similar thing: *“If reading scripture leads you to experience any of the gifts of the Spirit; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control... these come from the Spirit, from the deeper stream of wisdom. If the reading gives you a sense of superiority, self-satisfaction, arrogant certitude, desire for revenge, need for a victory, dismissal or exclusion it is most likely inspired by your ego.”*

That definition would make it difficult for the “Western Church”, or any religious entity really, to continue as it has, claiming a lock on God. How can anything finite fully know anything infinite? And yet we struggle mightily to cling to a false narrative of superiority and exceptionalism that is causing great harm and disruption physically, socially and spiritually.

Rev. Cameron Trimble writes; *I believe we are living in a time of great cultural awakening. We are living in a time of institutional breakdowns and breakthroughs... We also see the rising of our shadow gods; the old tribal gods in their dictatorial posturing. We see the rising of populism and fundamentalism that offers a false sense of security in the face of...global awakening.”*

And it’s not just the “old tribal gods” of religion; we see it in the rise of racial tribalism and financial tribalism. From white supremacists in the US, Australia and New Zealand to Hindu supremacists in India and Muslim and Jewish supremacists in the Middle East, the world is engulfed in violent hatred. In the US and Australia, there is a growing awareness of the destructive nature of carbon extraction and accelerated global climate change and of the reluctance of governing bodies to face their responsibilities to facilitate the transition away from carbon within the economic and ecological domains.

There is also a growing awareness of the social justice issues. “Run for the hills if your church starts talking about social justice” is what some pundits preach. Don’t listen when issues are raised of where toxic waste is deposited. Don’t listen when issues are mentioned of where toxic industries are sited. Don’t listen when issues of growing financial inequality and the inequities in health services and educational opportunities are cited. “God helps those who help themselves.” If those people would only help themselves, they wouldn’t be suffering.

The Tribal Gods that protect one group of people and destroys another is a small god that was not claimed by Jesus even though that appears to be what is in the Bible. Jesus was in constant conflict with the leaders of his faith tradition for the shrinking of God’s love and presence to a privileged few. He healed those whom the righteous dismissed as impure. He welcomed women into his company in defiance of patriarchal norms. He chastised his own followers for claiming God’s hand in the death of others.

In regards to the fires in Australia Rev. Trimble writes: *I am struck...by the number of people I’ve heard crediting God for causing the fires and saving them...Let’s finally be honest: WE have done this, not God... I take great comfort in knowing that the God that we have come to know through Jesus was there on the day of (Jesus’) crucifixion AND On the day of his resurrection. God never abandons us – nor does God dictate our actions. We are free beings, endowed by God with the capacity to create our own heaven or hell on earth. All the while, God hopes we choose wisely.”*

In hopeful faith, *Dan*

In faith, *Dan*

UP COMING EVENTS

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY FEB 2 We will again be collecting donations for the Orange Food Pantry and the Western MA Food Bank, both monetary donations and food and personal care items. If you would like to make a donation, you may drop it off at the Chapel and we will send it on to those two organizations. Checks may be made out to TCCW with “Souper Bowl” on the message line. Now that the Patriots aren’t playing in the Super Bowl, maybe what you would have spent on a party could be donated to the “Souper Bowl”.

PIZZA & BLUES NIGHT Sat, Feb 15 6 PM Town Hall Come eat some awesome, homemade pizza with fresh toppings and indulge in some homemade cookies and brownies, then dance off those calories to some home grown music. The proceeds will help fund the mission work of our church.

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 especially needed as they cannot be purchased with “food stamps”.

BLANKETS/SHEETS/PILLOW CASES/ ETC

SINGLE & TWIN SIZE sheets (the shelters only have twin beds and mattresses) blankets and pillowcases, towels and washcloths are collected and taken to the area shelters. Bring clean and useful items 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 loan at the Chapel. Check us out before buying new.



The Barrett Anderson Band

7:00 pm Saturday February 15th, 2020 at the Warwick Town Hall

The award-winning Barrett Anderson Band packs a mesmerizing, backbeat-heavy, hypno-boogie punch, with Barrett Anderson on guitar, Charlie Mallett on guitar, Doug MacLeod on drums, and Jamie "Black Cat Bone"

Hatch on bass.

Winner of Boston Music Awards' 2013 Blues Artist of the Year

Groove on down to Warwick Town Hall and let us play the blues for you!
 Wooden Fender's concerts are funded by your donations (\$5 minimum suggested).

The Trinitarian Congregational Church of Warwick's

Pizza Supper— February 15 6pm-Warwick Town Hall



Homemade Cheese Pizza

\$3 per slice

Pizza with toppings

\$5 per slice

Side Salad

\$1

Desserts & Drinks

\$1 each

Special-2 slices w/toppings, salad, drink, dessert \$10

Gluten free pizza available!

All pizza dinner proceeds support the Mission projects of the Trinitarian Congregational Church of Warwick. We donate every dollar to local and worldwide charities.



Improv Club: Begins January 31 for Grades 3-6, runs Fridays thru March 13

Lego Club: Begins January 31 for Grades 1-4, runs Fridays thru March 13

PTO Meeting: Monday, Feb.3 at 3:15pm

October Storm Make-Up Days: Feb.18 (8:40-3:00pm), Feb.19 (8:40-12:00pm), March 13 (8:40-1:45pm)

Feb. Vacation: Feb.15-17, Feb.20-23

Literacy Night and Book Fair: March 25 5:00-6:30pm

Notes from the Principal's Office

I am struggling with how to begin this note, how to put into words the enormous loss that I am feeling and that I know we all share. The PVRSD School Committee decided last night to close the doors of Warwick Community School at the end of this school year and merge our students with the students at Northfield Elementary. There are many factors that went into this decision including declining enrollment, stagnant funding, and disproportionate class sizes and resources in our three elementary schools. The Warwick Educational Committee continues to actively pursue options to keep the school functioning and is dedicated to finding a solution to this problem.

At this time, my energies and efforts will go into making this the best ending for our children and families. All of our beloved traditions will continue. We will have our Literacy Night, Winterfest, Field Day, after school clubs, field trips, etc. and we will do these events up bigger than they have ever been. The staff will also be discussing and planning our transition to NES to make this move as easy as possible on our students. Principal Desmaires and I will be working closely together to transition both students and staff in a way that supports the unique needs of each of our student populations.

I recognize how truly heartbreaking this situation is and how concerned each of you are for your children. Please know that I will do my very best to ensure that they are well taken care of both here and at NES. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions and concerns, my door is always open.

Classroom Happenings

First and Second Grade ~ Ms. Heather Willey

We have welcomed the New Year in grades 1/2 and have begun using our wonder cubes to help us draw connections between fiction and non-fiction, dreams and realities, hopes and intentions. When we roll this cube together we share our answers to "I wonder why...", "I wonder how...", "I wonder where...", "I wonder what", and "I wonder who...". We will be trying something a little different with our bulletin boards over the next two months as the students work with their hopes and ideas to create their own individual inspiration boards to help them discover more about their natural curiosities.

First and Second graders are also being rejuvenated in the classroom in January as we *finally* get to enjoy flexible seating choices (wobble stools, weighted yoga balls, rocking chairs...) and along with this enjoyment comes responsibility! There is the responsibility of completing jobs first and using the honor system to make different choices each time. We have also begun to use *Epic* on iPads in our classroom which is a great program for our first and second grade students. Not only does it help to improve their reading skills, but it also allows students to safely explore ideas they are curious about while bringing more technology into the classroom. We will progress with other programs to aid our learning adventures over the rest of the school year.

In Science we recently enjoyed thinking about whether or not animals can laugh. There are some pretty funny videos out there documenting this research. As we consider the lives of animals, we also have been learning about the water cycle and the differences between rain, snow, and hail. Our most recent STEM challenge involved the students thinking about the cold winter temperatures in the Northeast and the sometimes wild winter weather and how this climate demands shelter for domesticated animals (unless they are of the Scottish Highlander descent). Students were given cardboard, glue, tape, paper, playdough, and then access to our creation station to create and decorate these animal shelters that must be able to withstand "a strong wind". In previous weeks we have looked at how wild animals in the Northeast deal with our unpredictable and wild climate on their own in nature.

Upon returning to the classroom, we watched "The Lorax" (previously read together out loud) to catch up on some key Social Studies ideas. We have been thinking about resources and culture. We talked about the word "unless" and the intentions Dr. Seuss had when concluding this story by pondering this one word. We talked about "bad" business and how hopes and ideas put into reality need to be checked and questioned as they progress.

While we are "in the process" of transitioning from fiction to non-fiction, First and Second Grade students voted to work two or three more weeks in Writers Workshop to truly finalize their marvelous pieces of fiction that they have been generating ideas for and are now in the final writing and editing stages. I am so impressed by their perseverance and imaginative abilities! They are excited to "publish" and share.

In our Reading Workshop, we have read (and sing most days) together the beginning lyrics to "A Million Dreams" from the soundtrack of *The Greatest Showman* and have discussed certain essential questions. How do dreams in real-life bring us to new discoveries and new knowledge? Is it possible to turn a dream into a reality? Can a dream be turned into a reality with the efforts of only one individual or must it be eventually a collaborative effort? This song has become "stuck" in the minds' of some but I am grateful for this stickiness as we also learn about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the meaning of the upcoming holiday. Students have also been having big thoughts about January's quote in the 1/2 classroom, "Fairness is everyone having what they need to succeed."...

Third and Fourth Grade ~Ms. Christine Mullen

The 3rd and 4th graders have begun their social studies unit on the Southeast region of the United States and are excited to virtually visit the Everglades, New Orleans, a southern plantation, Jamestown, and Cape Canaveral. During this unit we will discuss the natural resources of the region as

Students have just wrapped up a unit on sound and completed several experiments where they learned about pitch, volume, and wave length. Our next unit is Energizing Everything. We will be exploring energy, motion, and electricity. This also ties into our next activities in MakerSpace which will include using all kinds of different electronics.

During reading we are busy writing about our reading, walking in our character's shoes and questioning their decisions. We will be wrapping up this fiction unit at the end of the month and will then be spending our time on non-fiction and beginning our Genius Hour research projects. Our writing lessons will also be non-fiction based during this time.

Finally, we are plugging away at our winter assessments. Every student is showing growth in their reading and math at this time!

Fifth and Sixth Grade ~ Ms. Lynn Hansell

January is a month of formal mid-year assessments. Students have completed online Track My Progress tests in math and reading and are showing good advances. I am also meeting with students individually to administer the Benchmark Reading Assessment (BAS) which allows us to see which independent and instructional Guided Reading Level is the right fit for them. It is very exciting to see students jump one or even two reading levels since September! For many of them, this is their Hope and Dream for the year.

Meanwhile, we are also forging ahead in all of our curricular areas. Students are completing their book group reading and discussions. We have three book groups going at this time. When we are finished with this fiction unit, we will begin exploring nonfiction texts.

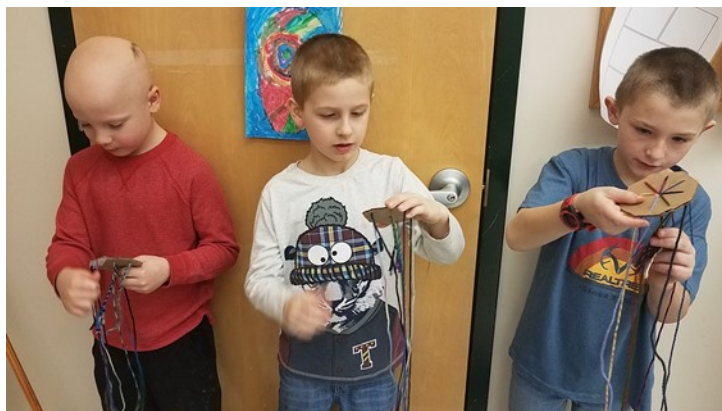
The fifth graders are working hard on learning multiplying and dividing fractions and mixed numbers and the associated word problems that exemplify how and when to use these operations. The sixth graders are in an accelerated review period with these same skills in preparation for use in the 3-dimensional geometry unit that is coming up.

The whole class is learning how to use the beautiful microscopes that we are blessed to have here at WCS. We are exploring parts and functions of plant and animal cells. This will lead us into cell differentiation and the purposes of the different human body systems and how they work together to keep us alive.

Students are finishing up their World Religions Treasure Boxes which will be on display in the foyer before the end of the month. People who practice different faiths around the world have so much in common which is the focus of this project. Please enjoy seeing what the students have learned about these faiths and where in the world the majority of people practice them. Students will begin to learn about individual countries in different regions of the world starting in February.

January Art Studio News ~ Ms. Hillary Wilbur-Ferro

The last two weeks **first and second graders** learned how to braid rope on a cardboard loom. Prior to our braiding, we painted landscapes inspired by the artist Jenn Aranyi. We used pens and lines to create shadows on the mountains and salt on watercolor to create white flecks in the sky.



Third and fourth graders are weaving beautiful circle weavings on their hand painted cardboard looms.

Our **fifth and sixth grade** artists completed silhouettes and Wycinanki paper cuts. Wycinanki is a polish art form made by cutting intricate symmetrical pictures out of paper. This past week we began an art and technology integration lesson. Ms. Garanin and I have been working together to develop an exciting art and technology project. Students viewed art works by artists Andy Goldsworthy and Christo and Jeanne-Claude. These artists create environmental works of art that are often impermanent and are eventually dismantled by nature. We also looked at collections of alphabets made from both natural and man-made objects. Students are using the cameras on ipads to capture letters found in nature or created by students. You could call it an alphabet scavenger hunt. Students will learn editing techniques and manage storing and saving their photos to write their own word art.

P.E. ~ Mrs. Sue Scott

The new year is off to a wonderful start! Students played a new cooperative game last week called The Pin Game. They were challenged with throwing, catching, aiming and working together as a team to knock pins down on the opposite team as well as shoot into the basketball hoop to earn back points lost. They seemed to enjoy the multi sport aspect of this game. We will adventure into bowling,

create a game, basketball and hockey skills during the next month. Thank you for reminding your student to wear sneakers on Thursday for PE class.

Technology ~ Ms. Genni Garanin

Everyone is coding! Grades 3 and up are working on Scratch. On Scratch they can create their own animations and games. Grades 1 and 2 are on code.org learning the basics of how to code. Grade 5 and 6 will be starting a Digital Art project that is a collaboration of technology and art with Ms. Wilbur-Ferro. It will be exciting to work in a different area of technology!

If your student is mentioning an activity from technology, check out the learning links from the WCS website.

Library ~ Ms. Erika Nygard

Our new books have arrived and ready for students to borrow! For younger students we have some exciting new early reader chapter books: Kate DiCamillo's 'Tales from Deckawoo Drive' series (a must for Mercy Watson fans), a selection of Annie Barrows's 'Ivy & Bean' books, and Megan McDonald's Judy Moody series. For older students, we have the first three books from the popular 'Track' series by Jason Reynolds, the first three books in the fabulous 'Sisters Grimm' series by Michael Buckley (we only had the sixth!), and we now have the complete series of 'Percy Jackson and the Olympians' and 'Heroes of Olympus' by Rick Riordan. Another notable new title in our collection is the acclaimed novel 'The Next Great Paulie Fink' by Ali Benjamin.

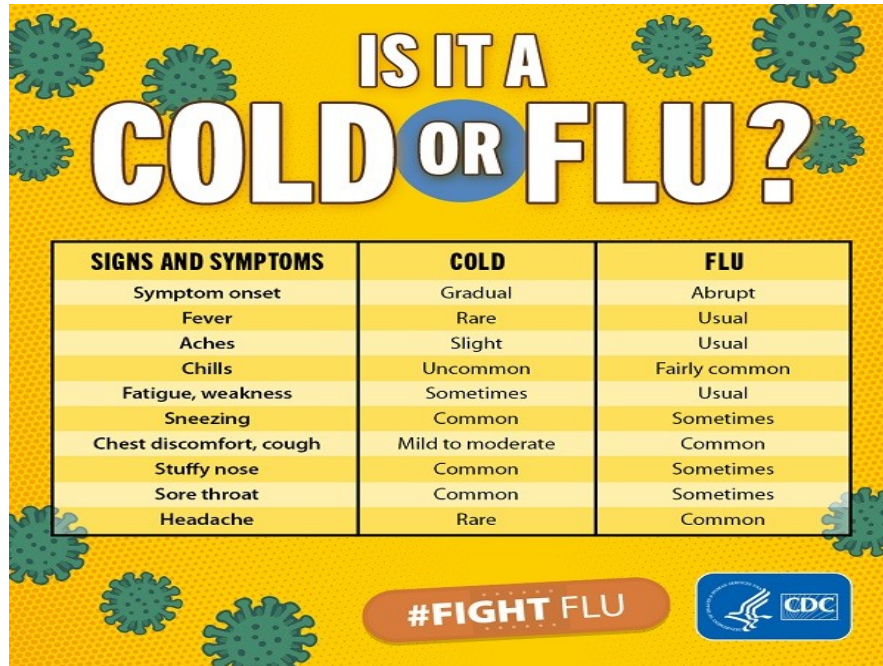
I would like to remind families that although students are responsible for looking after and returning their books, they may need some help and support: helping to find a spot to keep books safe, and way to remember to return them on library days, teaches children to learn strategies to organize themselves and take responsibility. Students may also leave their books in the classroom or in their cubbies/locker if that is a preference. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Erika Nygard (nygarde@pvrsdk12.org)

<https://sites.google.com/a/pvrsdk12.org/wcs-library/home>

Music ~ Ms. Alison Manion

As many of you know, our music teacher, Greg Williams resigned in December. We were lucky enough to find a new music teacher, Ms. Alison Manion, who joins us from Brookline, MA where she has been teaching at a performing arts school. Ms. Manion recently moved to the area and is excited to bring her passion for music education to our students. She brings with her a vast array of experience and expertise as well as many years of experience teaching music, musical theater, vocal music, and beginner band. We are excited to welcome her to WCS beginning on Tuesday, January 21.



Recently some WCS students have been out sick with colds and flu. The following are some suggestions to help prevent the spread of illness:

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Instruct your child to cover his or her nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.

Remind your child to wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing.

Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects that may be contaminated with germs.

Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

Contact your healthcare provider with any concerns about your child's health.

Keep your child home when he or she is sick for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone. Also be sure your child is feeling well enough to be able to participate in classroom activities before returning to school.

Notify the school when your child will be out.

I hope that you and your family have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

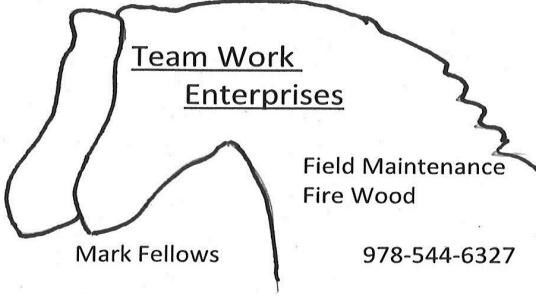
For more information refer to the chart above and the CDC website.

Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/coldflu.htm>

PTO Updates

The PTO will be hosting a free movie night at WCS on Friday, Feb. 7 at 6:30 . There will be refreshments served. Families are encouraged to come in their pjs and bring their blankets or cozy seats.

We will also be hosting a community swim at the Athol YMCA in March. Details to follow!



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Transfer Station 8-3 Yoga 9:15 Library Open 10-12:30
2 Worship Service 10:00 Zumba 8:00 in Tully Souper Bowl for food pantry	3 Library Open 10-4 Stoy Hour 10:00	4 Sr. Mealsite 11:45 Library Open 1-8pm Guild 1:15 pm Scrabble 6:30 Zumba 6pm	5 Yoga 5 pm	6 Library Open 5-8pm Drop in Knitting 6:30- 7:30 Library	7	8 Transfer Station 8-3 Yoga 9:15 Library 10-12:30
9 Worship Service 10:00 Zumba 8:00 in Tully	10 Library Open 10-4	11 Sr. Mealsite 11:45 Library Open 1-8pm Scrabble 6:30 Zumba 6pm	12 Yoga 5 pm	13 Library Open 5-8pm Drop in Knitting 6:30- 7:30 Library	14 FOOT CLINIC Metcalf Chapel 8am	15 Transfer Station 8-3 Yoga 9:15 Library 10-12:30 Pizza Supper 6 The Barret Ander- son Band 7pm
16 Worship Service 10:00 Zumba 8:00 in Tully Painting Class Library 1:00	17 Presidents' Day	18 Sr. Mealsite 11:45 Library Open 1-8pm Scrabble 6:30 Zumba 6pm	19 Yoga 5 pm	20 Library Open 5-8pm Drop in Knitting 6:30- 7:30 Library	21 Planet of the Apes Library, 7 pm	22 Transfer Station 8-3 Yoga 9:15 Library 10-12:30
23 Worship Service 10:00 Zumba 8:00 in Tully	24 Library Open 10-4	25 Sr. Mealsite 11:45 Library Open 1-8pm Scrabble 6:30 David Brule 7 Zumba 6pm	26 Yoga 5 pm	27 Library Open 5-8pm Drop in Knitting 6:30- 7:30 Library	28	29

FEBRUARY, 2020

WARWICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Don't Miss these FEBRUARY events

SOUPE BOWL SUNDAY—February 2

GUILD MEETING—February 4

FOOT CLINIC—February 14

PIZZA SUPPER and WOODEN FENDER CONCERT—February 15

PAINTING CLASS—February 16

PLANET OF THE APES—February 21

DAVID BRULE—February 25