

# Warwick Community Newsletter

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

Please note: Articles, ads and correspondence should be emailed to [warwicknewsletter01378@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.warwickma.org) due to space limitations.

### 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 978.633.9087  
 Animal Control 3402  
 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](http://www.fcburnpermits.com)

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS AND ADVERTISERS

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

**Louise Doud, David Koester, Petrain Construction**

**Total: \$190.00**

### ASSESSOR CLERK OFFICE HOURS

Office hours: Tues. 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. and Thurs. 2:00-6:00 p.m. or by appointment. (978) 544-8304

Thank you, Tracy Styles, Assessor Clerk

### TOWN CLERK NEWS

**Annual Town Election will take place on Monday, May 19th, from 12-8pm.**

Monday, May 26th, Town Hall will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Otherwise the Town Clerk's Office will be open regular hours: Mon 1-4pm, Wed 10-1pm.

Foot Clinics

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

May 9th

Sept 5th

June 6th

Oct 3rd

July 11th\*

Nov 7th

Aug 8th

Dec 5th



Please note:

(\* July is a different date because of July 4th.)

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Warwick has a few great classes that have been enjoyed for over seven years! *Newcomers are always welcome.* **Please note the different start time for yoga: 9:00 a.m.**

**Zumba** Tuesdays and Saturdays: 8:00 a.m.

The first two classes are free! The suggested donation is \$5. Zumba has many benefits: it's a great way to stretch, strengthen, increase balance, and lift your mood ! These classes are taught by Susan Krieger.

**Yoga** Saturdays: start time: 9:00 a.m.

This is an all-level Hatha yoga class to meet students' needs. There is 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. Yoga classes are taught by Kalliope Kalombratsos.

Leanne, Warwick Recreation Committee leannelimoges@gmail.com or (978) 544-5553

**Warwick Women's Guild**

**May 7, 2025**

The Women's Guild will travel to the New Salem Museum and Academy of Fine Arts on Wednesday, May 7th. (NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME, DAY, AND DATE.) We will meet at the Town Hall at 11:00 am to travel to New Salem. There is a \$12.00 admission charge. Bring your lunch and drink, as we will enjoy a picnic on the grounds of the museum.

**June 3, 2025**

The Women's Guild will meet at 1:00 pm at the Warwick Fire Station. Chief Larson will give us a tour of the station and show us the new truck. The tour will be followed with refreshments and business meeting at the Town Hall.

## MOORE'S POND BEACH COMMITTEE

It's hard to believe that Spring has sprung. Old Man Winter has tried so hard to hang on. The last couple of weeks of March with its lovely temperatures gave us hope that it wouldn't be long before life would come back to Moore's Pond. Then, the first of April swept in with cold, rain, wind and snow that lasted a couple of weeks. The Beach Committee met mid-April to review winter activities and plan for the summer.

As many of you may have noticed, the large pine tree on the beach has been removed. **The Board of Health has given the Certificate of Approval for the Beach to operate in the 2025 and 2026 seasons. Now we can forge ahead with preparing for a clean, safe summer of activities. On Saturday, May 10th**, at 9 AM there will be a beach clean-up work-bee to clear away winter debris, rake the grounds, refresh the sand, and replace the posts that were removed to allow the tree removal equipment and personnel access to work. Anyone is welcome to come and help with the clean-up.

Other summer potential activities were discussed; mainly, Old Home Days and what events we should pursue. Many suggestions were offered which we'll continue to work on. Watch future newsletters for progress reports on what to expect.

We are looking for another Committee Member. If you are interested, there will be a Committee meeting following the beach clean-up Saturday, May 10th, so come and check us out or contact any Committee Member.

Submitted by Kathy Tuttle-Connelly

## SAVE THE DATE

### Regional Repair Event May 31<sup>st</sup> 9 am – 1 pm

The Franklin County Solid Waste District is working in conjunction with the Franklin County Tech School to host a repair event on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm at the Franklin County Tech School, 82 Industrial Blvd. in Turners Falls.

This event is free and open to all residents residing in solid waste district member towns. Those towns are Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell, and Whately.

A combination of Tech School students and instructors plus other "fixers" will help residents with small electrical repairs, such as rewiring lamps. The Tech School will also offer a sharpening service for knives, scissors, tools, chainsaws, and lawn mower blades. Fixers are being sought to provide small repairs to furniture, such as gluing and clamping broken chairs and other small wooden items.

There is no registration for this event. More information will be available in the coming weeks at: [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org) or by calling 413-772-2438.

## **Imagine Peace Gallery will be opening for the warm season on May 3, 2025**

If you are looking for a gift or card and don't want to do the 30-minute drive to Greenfield, Amherst or Brattleboro, stop into the gallery!

The gallery is located in the entry room at the home of Kerry and Gregg Stone, 724 Wendell Road in Warwick.

When you step in the front door you are there!

The Gallery is self-service, open each day 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Venmo, cash, or checks are all good.

Kerry Stone is painter and collage artist and works with natural material.

There are cards of her original paintings, one-of-a kind collaged flower cards, peace wreaths, birch owls, paper mobiles, original collages, and paintings.

## Ned Green Scholarship Hike

The 24th Annual Pioneer Valley Regional School District Ned Green Scholarship Fundraiser up Mt. Grace will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. We will meet at Oscar Ohlson Field Parking Lot across from Highway Garage Road on Rt.78 in Warwick.

Families are welcomed. Contributions may be made but are not required; made payable to PVRSD Ned Green Fund on the day of the event or mailed directly to PVRSD Treasurer, 97 F. Sumner Turner Road, Northfield, MA, 01360.

Come enjoy this hike with friends and family. Bring water, snacks, sturdy footwear, bug repellent and adventuresome spirit. Springtime flowers are often in bloom and various birds and nature sightings occur. Storms or pouring rain cancels this event. Contact Clare Green 978 544-7421 with any questions. Thank you. Graduating seniors of PVRSD may apply for a scholarship by filing an application at the Guidance Office.

"The many essences of May enlighten my outlook on life," Ned Green, age 10.

Gratefully,  
Clare Green

## “Technology Help Days” Every Thursday

Learn about podcasts. Getting "books on tape" on your phone or how to respond directly to someone on the Warwick "L" instead of posting to the whole group. Get more info about Windows 10 being discontinued and how it affects you.

Tech help is available every Thursday 9:00 a.m. to noon. Downtown Warwick.



## TD Bank Fraud Prevention Program

Topics to be covered include identity theft, malware, account takeovers, phishing, and online scams targeting elders. What do these terms mean and what steps do you take to protect yourself?

\*\*\*WEDNESDAY, MAY 14TH at 10:00 am, Downtown Warwick \*\*\*

Technology Help Day will still be on Thursday - regular schedule.

## LIBRARY NEWS - MAY

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

**NEW! Museum Pass to New Salem Museum:** The Library is pleased to announce the availability a free museum pass to the new Salem Museum & Academy of Fine Arts (NSMA), which opened in June of 2024. The Museum fashions itself as “a stronghold for contemporary realist art.” The pass allows free admission for 2 adults and 2 children. The NSMA is open Wednesday - Sunday from 10am - 5 pm, and is wheelchair accessible. Find their website at [www.newsalemmuseum.com](http://www.newsalemmuseum.com).

**Shiatsu With Friends - Saturday, May 3rd 1-4 pm:** Shell Hines will guide participants to explore the subtle realms of Qi (life force) through exercises (Qi Gong, visualization) and mindfulness. “We will tap on acu-points, “changing our minds” on a subconscious level, and learn to bring comfort to dis-ease, while finding equilibrium. Working with the meridians (energy pathways), folks will leave with tools to assist their own wellbeing and to help those they love. **Space is limited: please register in advance.**

**Sourdough Baking - Tuesday, May 6 at 7 pm:** Join Nicholas from the Hearthstone Bakery in Shutesbury for an informational (not hands-on) program on how to maintain a sourdough starter at home. This program will describe in detail what a sourdough culture is, some different types of sourdough starters, the tools and process required for maintaining a healthy sourdough culture in a home kitchen, the common errors people make, and how a starter is used in your favorite recipe.

This class is best suited for those with previous bread baking experience who are new to sourdough or seeking to perfect their sourdough skills. Nicholas will bring some starter samples that participants can see and smell, and take-home sourdough starters will be available with instructions (\$0 - \$30 suggested donation. No one turned away for lack of funds.) Please bring your own container.

**Library Plant Swap - Saturday, May 10 from 10am to 1pm:** Join us on the front lawn to swap your thinned or divided perennials like lilacs, irises, lilies, and more—plus propagated houseplants like spider plants, pothos, and ivy! This event is free, with an optional donation jar to support the Library. It's also a great chance to find a living gift for Mother's Day the next day. Bring plants in labeled containers; care tips are appreciated by beginners. Early drop-offs are welcome the evening before or morning of — just leave them under the crabapple tree.

New to gardening? Check out the Library's great selection of books to get started! Come share, visit, and enjoy the beauty of spring! Questions? Email or call Library Trustee Andrea at [jarket99@yahoo.com](mailto:jarket99@yahoo.com) or 978-544-6844 or volunteer Kady at [kady.woods95@gmail.com](mailto:kady.woods95@gmail.com).

**Lego Club for Kids! (NEW) - Tuesdays, May 13 and 27 at 3:30 pm:** The Lego Club meets twice a month after school on Tuesday afternoons, and is a place for kids to socialize and build. Open to children of any age and their caregivers. All children must be supervised. Email [hjeanberlin@gmail.com](mailto:hjeanberlin@gmail.com) or [warwick@cwmars.org](mailto:warwick@cwmars.org) with questions or if you'd like to participate.

**Non-Fiction Discussion Group - Thursday, May 15 @ 7 pm:** This discussion group is wide open: Could be something you're reading now or from long ago; science, history, memoirs, biographies; articles, books, newsletters, journals. It's all up for discussion at the new non-fiction discussion group. Designed for independent, asynchronous reading, we'll get together to share our favorite non-fiction reads and make recommendations. Come to share/discuss or just to listen and build your reading list.

**Mobile MakerSpace workshop (#5) - 3D Printing: Saturday, May 17 @ 1 pm - for age 13 and up:** No experience is required, but a basic knowledge of computers is needed for this Introduction to Inkscape and 3D Print Design. Attendees will explore the design software Inkscape to learn how artists turn images into vectors and create original graphics for 3D printing. Patrons will learn to design a fidget toy and have it printed at LaunchSpace. **Space is limited—please register in advance.** Programs will run approx. 90 minutes.

**Monthly Short Story Hour - Katherine Anne Porter, Thursday, May 22 @ 7:30 pm.** We'll read selections from *The Collected Stories of Katherine Anne Porter* (1965). While her novel *Ship of Fools* (1962) was an enormous popular and critical success, it is for her short stories that she is chiefly known and was admired as one of America's most distinguished writers. “She is an important writer in the genre because she solves the essential problem: how to satisfy exhaustively in writing briefly.” (V.S. Pritchett). Come to read or just to listen.

# WARWICK LIBRARY

# PLANT SWAP



**MAY 10, 10AM-1PM**

Join us on the Library front lawn to swap your thinned or divided perennials like lilacs, irises, lilies, and more – plus propagated houseplants like spider plants, pothos, and ivy! New to gardening? Check out the Library's great selection of books to get started!

The event is free, with an optional donation jar to support the Library. It's also a great chance to find a living gift for Mother's Day the next day.

Bring plants in labeled containers, and care tips are appreciated by beginners. Early drop-offs are welcome the evening before or morning of – just leave them under the crabapple tree.

Come share, visit, and enjoy the beauty of spring!

Questions? Email or call Library Trustee Andrea at [jarket99@yahoo.com](mailto:jarket99@yahoo.com) or 978-544-6844 or volunteer Kady at [kady.woods95@gmail.com](mailto:kady.woods95@gmail.com).

-The Warwick Free Public Library Trustees

### FOR ROD WHIPPLE

A tree will be planted in honor of Rod Whipple on the April 30th Community Earth Celebration Event at WCS.

The following words will be read:

“We thank you, Rod, for your years of service, and for your dedication to sharing your passion of nature with students!”

Each student will hang a handmade prayer/wish flag, styled after the Tibetan prayer flags which are touched by the air, water, and earth as they blow in the breeze and rain.

Rod Whipple was Tree Warden in Warwick for over 20 years. While he enjoyed every aspect of the job, he added an additional task. He enjoyed talking with the schoolchildren and gave each child a tree to plant. He encouraged the tree planting because he believes that to plant a tree is to give body and life to a better world. One of his greatest joys was walking in the woods and feeling at peace with the world. By meeting with the school children, he hoped to pass this joy along. He truly believes that planting a tree gives peace to our souls.

Old Home Days is Aug 23th and 24th this year. Please contact Colleen Paul at 978 790 4459 or [Colly043@gmail.com](mailto:Colly043@gmail.com) if you want to have something included in the flyer or have any questions. Thank you!!

### The Green Corner: Styrofoam Collection Results

Thanks to all those who brought clean, white styrofoam to the collection site at the Transfer Station in April. By the time you read this, it will likely be on its way to GoldCircuit Recycling in Agawam Mass.

Northfield and Montague have been doing this for a few years, so they collected a sizeable amount more than we did on our first try. That said, every little bit we can keep out of landfills or incinerators (the air we breathe) helps.

If you think this would be a good thing to do next year, please speak up and start saving your own foam now (in a clean dry place.)

Thank you!

~ Mary Humphries

# Dan Thomas Trio

## May 10, 7PM

*Warwick Town Hall*



Dan Thomas is an internationally touring, multi-genre guitarist, composer and bandleader based in the Pioneer Valley. The Dan Thomas Trio explores a repertoire of music unbound by genre or style; from classic jazz standards to modern pop hits, afro-latin grooves or west African polyrhythms, all with a nuanced and dynamic approach focused on groove and improvisation and inspired by the great American Jazz tradition. Dan will be joined by bassist Chris Ball and drummer Dave Noonan for an unforgettable night of jazz, funk and world rhythms.

Refreshments available during performance!

**Donations gratefully accepted to support future events.**

Piano concert with

# ROMAN RUDNYTSKY

**SUNDAY MAY 18, 2PM • TOWN HALL**

Roman Rudnytsky is an American concert pianist of Ukrainian background. Born in New York and a graduate of the Juilliard School in that city, he has been playing recitals for many years and has now played in 100 countries and on over 70 cruises of Cunard and P&O ships. He has been soloist with many orchestras around the world, played in 50 countries through US Embassies as a kind of "cultural ambassador"; and, when younger, was a prizewinner in ten international and national piano competitions.

Roman Rudnytsky was a university professor of piano and music for many years, mostly at Youngstown OH State University (Dana School of Music), where he got a "Distinguished Professor Award". Upon retirement in 2011, he was awarded the title "Professor Emeritus".

**Donations gratefully accepted to support future events**





## Warwick Community School News

Happy May,

Thank you to those who attended our first-annual Earth Day Celebration on April 30th. This event, our newest WCS tradition, gave us the opportunity to honor Rod Whipple whose legacy inspires us to care for our planet. Throughout the afternoon, children in grades junior kindergarten–sixth—and the young at heart- dove into hands-on, nature-centered activities with local environmentalists. Thanks to Clare Green, Anne Kilroy and Heather Berlin who helped to coordinate the event with WCS staff.

### Upcoming Events

**1. Town Meeting** - This coming Monday, May 5th, is Town Meeting. We are asking for your support of our fiscal year 2026 budget. We have stayed within our 2024-2025 budget due to careful planning and an enormous amount of grant writing. We will continue to fundraise and write grants next year and in future years. The school committee and district leaders are seeking an increase in our budget and hope that the town will support this increase. The increase we are seeking is primarily so that we can:

- Offer a 2.5% salary increase to returning educators in alignment with the town's increases and to ensure our staff all have a living wage that allows them to support their families.
- Mitigate any loss of funding we may realize due to shifts in the federal administration's priorities.

Our budget is available on our website at <https://warwick-k12.us/> or in hard copy at the library and the school. If you have questions about the budget, please feel free to reach out to Vice-Chair, Diana Noble at [dnoble@warwick-k12.us](mailto:dnoble@warwick-k12.us) or Superintendent, Carole Learned-Miller at [superintendent@warwick-k12.us](mailto:superintendent@warwick-k12.us).

**2. Mountain Day** - Please join us on June 6th for our spring Mountain Day. The entire community will hike Mount Grace, learning about the flora and fauna along the route followed by singing and a picnic at the top of the mountain. If you would like to join, please email Stephen at [sstroud@warwick-k12.us](mailto:sstroud@warwick-k12.us).

**3. Community Exhibition of Learning** - Each fall and spring we invite all members of the community to hear from students about their learning and to view artifacts from their project-based learning units. Community members are invited to ask students questions to inspire further research. Please join us for the Spring 2025 Community Exhibition of Learning on June 11th (time to be announced soon).

Warmly,

*Carole, Stephen & Jess*

Dr. Carole Learned-Miller, Superintendent

Stephen Stroud, Principal

Jess Marshall, Director of Operations

# Updates from the Warwick Community School Foundation



## Fundraising Successes

We are well over half of the way to our \$14,000 fundraising goal, supported by more than 40 donors! Reaching this milestone will help us enable a student to attend a full year of the nature-based PreK and to support the school in its professional development partnership with Antioch University. We are so deeply grateful to all of our generous donors and for everyone who lends their support by spreading the word! Visit [givebutter.com/WCSFoundation](https://givebutter.com/WCSFoundation) to help us reach our goal this year! If you have ideas about grants or potential partners who would align with our mission, please let us know, too!

## Nature-Centered Project-Based Learning -

On Friday April 4th, we had our 2nd annual sugar snap pea all-school planting event. Students worked in small groups, across grades, to erect bamboo tent structures, prepare the soil and plant sugar snap peas.



- Events Coming up:**
- Beautification Day - TBD Saturday in May
  - Mountain Day - June 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Community Exhibition of Learning - June 11<sup>th</sup>
  - WCS Graduation - June 13<sup>th</sup>

Visit [givebutter.com/WCSFoundation](https://givebutter.com/WCSFoundation) to donate. Email [warwickcsfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:warwickcsfoundation@gmail.com) to sign up for our newsletter or to get involved in supporting WCS.

## WCSF Board Members

*Meghan Fitzgerald, President*  
*Clare Green, Secretary*  
*Shannon Reilly, Treasurer*  
*Mel Schillemat*  
*Heather Berlin*  
*David Wells*  
*Suzanne Newby-Estes*  
*Carole Learned-Miller, Ex*  
*Officio*

## Town Coordinator Report May 2025 - David Young

Warwick's Annual Town Meeting, our community's open legislative session in which every registered voter has a direct voice and vote, will take place Monday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Warwick Community School. The meeting sets the course for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2025 (FY26), and this year's budget reflects the town's effort to meet growing needs while being mindful of taxpayers' capacity.

The total town budget is rising by seven percent, driven by increasing costs in insurance, retiree costs, and employee compensation. One major factor is a significant increase in health insurance premiums—up 18%—due in part to the cost of new weight-loss drugs. Other insurance lines, such as property and liability coverage, are also more expensive this year, mirroring broader trends across the insurance market driven by severe weather losses.

Wages for town and school employees are increasing by 2.5%, the same as the Social Security cost-of-living adjustment, but both trail behind actual inflation. There are some exceptions. We propose a 10% raise for the police so we can retain them better. The Treasurer is getting a \$5k bump he has requested to put him in line with other towns. This budget does not begin repayment on the new fire truck, though a \$200,000 down payment was made. It also does not add to our stabilization (savings) fund; instead, it draws \$60,000 from that fund to pay off the electric school bus. All remaining free cash is being applied to reduce the tax levy. Free cash is unrestricted funds we have and results from spending less than we budgeted and/or receiving more than our revenue budget anticipated. This gets calculated each year.

Most of the town's revenue comes from real and personal property taxes. Other revenue includes unrestricted local aid and state payment to the town in lieu of the state paying taxes on their public land in town. These revenues are combined on the "cherry sheet," some good news that used to arrive on red paper, the reason for the name. Our grant revenue supporting our school district has at the same time declined. And state aid to schools is lower in part due to the structure / schedule of charter school reimbursements to the town.

While the tax levy, the portion of the revenue budget coming from property taxes is increasing, the tax rate may not. Fiscal Year 2026 is a state-mandated revaluation year for Warwick, and property must be assessed at 100% of market value. Last year, the Department of Revenue found Warwick's assessments to be about 3% below full market value. As a result, many property values will rise, but the tax rate will decline to balance the new values with the amount raised by the levy. The result is that most taxpayers should anticipate a 5% increase in their bill. A straightforward way to estimate this is to multiply your current tax bill by 1.05. A revaluation does not create new taxes; it redistributes the tax burden based on updated property values. Some property types may see larger increases than others, depending on market trends. The total assessed value of property in town is approaching \$120 million, and it will increase.

Residents have expressed concern about the acoustics in the community school gym. The Selectboard nevertheless chose to keep the meeting at the school because it has more space to spread out, modern air handlers and negative ionization injection. It is a healthier space. To that end, we need to make a concerted effort to use microphones effectively and respond promptly if attendees cannot hear the discussion. Please do not hesitate to speak up so we can ensure everyone is included in the process.

To summarize, the total town budget is increasing by seven percent, due to rising insurance costs, school assessments, and employee wages, with health insurance premiums seeing an 18% increase. The tax levy is increasing, the tax rate may decline due to revaluation. Expect a 5% increase in tax bills for most residents. Finally, residents have raised issues regarding acoustics in the community school gym. We are committed to improving communication during the meeting. See you at Town Meeting.

## **TCC UP-COMING EVENTS**

**Movies in the Chapel:** May's film selection is "Island on Bird Street," chosen in honor of Jewish-American Heritage Month. This movie was adapted on the book of the same title, "a 1981 semi-autobiographical children's book by Israeli author Uri Orlev, which tells the story of a young boy and his struggle to survive alone in a ghetto during WWII." Showtime is on Wednesday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m.

### **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 and household cleaning items are especially needed, as they cannot be purchased with "food stamps."

**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. ***Please bring only "durable equipment" (wheelchairs, walkers, "potty chairs" & similar items).*** We've added a clipboard on the door of the medical supply room. Please just fill out your name and item borrowed and cross off the line when the equipment is returned.

**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.

**Good News:** Five immigrant families are moving into apartments soon!  
**Important News:** They all need furniture, especially living room furniture and bureaus because storage has been limited for furniture.  
**Less Than Good News:** It's a bit of a scramble, as they really need help in getting furniture together soon!

- cooking pots, pans, small kitchen appliances. non perishable food items for cooking
- can openers, knives, potato peelers, cutting boards
- plates, cups, eating utensils, paper towels, napkins,
- cleaning supplies.(brooms, mops and mop buckets)
- cleaning sprays, dishes sponges, dish soap, dish drying racks
- twin, full and queen size bed sheets and comforters
- curtains (kitchen, bathroom, living room, and bedrooms)
- lamps, bureaus, living room pieces

*Please bring your items to donate to the Chapel, and they will be delivered to Gardner.*

## Another Opinion on the Mass Specialized Opt-in Stretch Code

The Warwick Building and Energy committee has given you their opinion on the new **Massachusetts Specialized Opt-in Stretch Code**. I, Brian Gale, would like the opportunity to share mine.

I sat on the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) for 10 years. I learned quickly, most new code change proposals were to sell a product or service via the building code. The State Building Code is a **public safety** document giving Government the authority to **force** citizens to comply with certain requirements to create a safe built environment. It must **NEVER** become a marketing tool to **force** us to purchase a product or service the vender cannot sell based on its merit. I could speak for hours on this subject; I will not be available for the Town Meeting, so not to worry, this is it from me.

Why am I opposed to Warwick embracing this **Opt-in Stretch Code**?

The BBRS chose not to adopt this code, they are not willing to take responsibility for this, they want you to. Why? It is not about public safety; they are not going to be used to market these products.

The proponents tell us this will not affect you, you're safe, you already have a home, it only affects young folks or retirees trying to build a new home. A first home or to downsize for our retirement years. However, what could happen when you need to replace an energy system in your "safe" home?

This code requires us to spend money on many products and services venders cannot sell. The HERS report is expensive by itself, and the requirements produced will substantially increase the energy compliance cost of your home with **NO** savings in energy cost. Why do I say this?

My experience with the Energy Committees recommendations has been with the new Fire Station. They recommended an "approved" contractor to insulate the apparatus bays to their standards, well above the code requirements. The contractor was hired & paid, no follow up to determine if they got what they paid for. The work was horrible, it did not even meet the minimum code requirements, the contractor is out of business. They found another contractor to come back, more money, and completed the work the first did not do. The Energy Committee took over the replacement of the propane boiler and spent considerably more to install an electric heat pump system. These projects were all done with financial assistance from "grant and rebate programs". Grants and rebates are not dollars from heaven, we pay for these programs with higher taxes and energy bills. Only a portion of the money we pay in inflated taxes and energy costs comes back in these programs, a lot of it is spent administering them, so we pay dearly for these programs. The cost of heating the apparatus bay, with very little insulation and the old inefficient propane boiler, was around \$2,600 a year. The current cost, with the new ELECTRIC heat pump and SUPER insulation, is around \$8,000 a year, for exactly the same space, or more than triple, these costs are **VERIFIED**. A new MORE EFFICIENT propane boiler would be much less expensive to operate.

With the current energy code, homes are extremely energy efficient. Extra requirements have even resulted in "sick buildings", that have been deemed uninhabitable because they can't breathe and have poor air quality. We have come a long way from the days when curtains blow in the wind, even when the window is closed. Those changes in construction would have happened without the energy codes, they are market driven and cost effective. Nothing in the current code prohibits using any of the products or services required by the **Opt-in Stretch Code**, it is simply your choice, not the Governments.

If a proponent needs to dangle a \$60 Million grant or rebate carrot in front of you to get your approval, a huge red flag should pop up. Why do I need the government to force me to do this if it is such a great idea. Make them market these products and services based on their merit, THEY CAN NOT.

\*\*\* "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Recycling Day: Saturday, May 17, 9:00 am - Noon \*\*\*

For info and pricing call (413) 772-2438 or [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org)

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 Warwick Inn Tech Help 9:00 am-Noon  Library 5:00- 8:00 pm	2  Free Food Friday 9:00 am @ Metcalf Chapel  Warwick Family Playgroup TCC 10:00-11:30 am	3 Zumba 8:00 am; Yoga 9:00-10:30 am; Imagine Peace Gallery Opens 10 am; Lib. 10:00 am-12:30 pm; C. bells 11:00 am; Climate Vigil 11:30 -12:30 pm; T. St 8:00-3:00 pm; Shiatsu 1-4:00 pm Library
4  Worship Svc 10:00 am	5  Library 10:00 am -4:00 pm;  Annual Town Meeting 7:00 pm	6  Zumba; Bone & Balance; Tai-Chi; Sr. Meal Noon Town Hall; Li- brary 1:00-8:00 pm with sour- dough baking 7 pm	7  Women's Guild 11:00 am;  Transfer Station 3:00- 6:00 pm	8 Warwick Inn Tech Help 9:00 am-Noon  Library 5:00- 8:00 pm;	9 Foot Clinic 8:00 am  Free Food Friday 9:00 am @ Metcalf Chapel  Warwick Family Playgroup TCC 10:00-11:30 am	10 Zumba 8:00 am; Library Plant Swap 10 am-1:00 pm; Yoga 9:00-10:30 am; Ned Green Sch. Hike 10 am- Noon; T. Station 8:00-3:00; Library 10:00 am-12:30 pm; Climate Vigil 11:30 -12:30 pm; Beach Cleanup 9:00 am/mtg to follow; Dan Thomas Trio 7:00 pm TH
11  Worship Svc 10:00 am  Mother's Day	12  Library 10:00 am -4:00 pm	13  Zumba 8:00 am; Bone & Balance; Tai-Chi; Sr. Meal Noon Town Hall;  Library 1:00-8:00 pm; Lego Club 3:30 pm Library	14  Book Club 10:00 am at Library; TD Bank Fraud Alert Pro- gram 10:00 am; Transfer Station 3:00- 6:00 pm	15  Warwick Inn Tech Help 9:00 am-Noon; Li- brary 5:00-8:00 pm; Non-Fiction Discussion Group 7:00 pm	16  Free Food Friday 9:00 am @ Metcalf Chapel;  Warwick Family Playgroup TCC 10:00-11:30 am	17 Zumba 8:00 am; Yoga 9:00-10:30 am; Transfer Station 8:00--3:00 pm; Library 10:00 am-12:30 pm; Climate Vigil 11:30 -12:30 pm; Mobile MakerSpace 1:00 pm; Bulky Waste Recy- cling 9:00 am -Noon
18  Worship Svc. 10:00 am; Piano Concert Town Hall 2:00 pm	19  Library 10:00 am -4:00 pm  Annual Town Election 12:00- 8:00 pm	20 Zumba 8:00 am; Bone & Bal- ance; Tai-Chi; Sr. Meal Noon; Li- brary 1:00-8:00 pm;	21  Transfer Station 3:00- 6:00 pm  Movie in the Chapel 7:00 pm	22  Warwick Inn Tech Help 9:00 am-Noon  Library 5:00- 8:00; Monthly Short Story Hour 7:30 pm	23  Free Food Friday 9:00 am @ Metcalf Chapel  Warwick Family Playgroup TCC 10:00-11:30 am	24 Zumba 8:00 am; Yoga 9:00-10:30 am;  Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm; Climate Vigil 11:30- 12:30 pm
25  Worship Svc. 10:00 am	26  Memorial Day (Library closed)	27 Zumba 8:00 am; Bone & Bal- ance; Tai-Chi; Sr. Meal Noon; Library 1:00-8:00 pm; Lego Club 3:30 pm Library	28  Transfer Station 3:00- 6:00 pm	29  Warwick Inn Tech Help 9:00 am-Noon  Library 5:00- 8:00;	30  Free Food Friday 9:00 am @ Metcalf Chapel;  Warwick Family Playgroup TCC 10:00-11:30 am	31 Zumba 8:00 am; Yoga 9:00-10:30 am;  Transfer Station 8:00-3:00 pm; Climate Vigil 11:30- 12:30 pm; Regional Repair Event 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

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NEWSLETTER

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

***Don't miss these great events***

***and***

***Happy***

***Mother's Day!***



Imagine Peace Gallery Opens - May 3

Annual Town Meeting - May 5

Sourdough Baking/Library - May 6

Warwick Inn Tech Help - May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Beach Cleanup - May 10

Library Plant Swap- May 10

Ned Green Hike - May 10

Dan Thomas Trio - May 10

Fraud Prevention - May 14

Nonfiction Discussion Group - May 15

Mobile MakerSpace - May 17

Piano Concert - May 18

Short Story Hour - May 22

Regional Repair Event - May 31