



FOLK MUSIC

Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul and Mary fame will be gracing the stage at the Peterborough Players theater this weekend. Page 18



RIVALRY GAME

Conant and Mascenic face off tonight in Jaffrey in the second round of the NHIAA basketball playoffs.

Page 19



ON DISPLAY

Artists show photography and art of multiple mediums at the Jaffrey Civic Center's annual Spring Show through the month of March. Page 13



ORACLE

The MacDowell Colony's First Friday series kicks off this year with "The Beverly Oracle" at the Monadnock Center. Page 14



TAKE THE MIC

Instrumentalist Richard Backes will be featured on the Parish Hall Open Stage in Peterborough on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Page 17

MONADNOCK

ger-Iranscript Peterborough. NH Thursday, March 6, 2014

VOTING 2014: Across the region, preparations made for the polls, Town Meeting



Dublin's Pre-Town meeting on Tuesday invited residents to discuss ballot issues and ask the Board of Selectman and petitioners about issues directly.

\$375K fire tanker on the docket

By Hayden James Monadnock Ledger-Transcript

DUBLIN - Dublin residents and the Select Board packed into the lower level of the Town Hall on Tuesday evening for their Pre-Town Meeting to discuss the warrant and upcoming ballot issues.

Town Moderator Tim Clark read each article, before inviting the board and resident attendees to pose questions and/ or comments. The same process was fol-lowed for petition articles, and petitioners discussed the issues, while vying for support from the community.

The controversial zoning ordinance amendment in Article 6, potentially allowing drive-throughs in Dublin, was not dis-

cussed at the meeting.

Thomas Vanderbilt, Dublin's fire chief, commented on Article 11, which calls for \$375,000 for a new tanker to replace the department's current 25-year-old model. Selectman Sturdy Thomas, also a member of the Fire Department, said he has driven the tanker and it has had issues. He add-See DUBLIN - 3

Voting 2014 coverage: Top issues, see pages 4-5; opinions, see pages 7-10; candidate profiles, see 11-12 and 20-21



Staff photo by Ashley Saari

Kermit Williams has joined the Wilton Select Board race as a write-in candidate. Other candidates for the position include Sandra Fischer, Eric Carl Parsons and Doug Whitney.

Williams joins **Select Board race**

By Ashley Saari Monadnock Ledger-Transcript

WILTON — Candidates for the Sewer Commission, Water Commission and Select Board gathered together on Tuesday's Candidate's Night — including a fourth candidate who will be conducting a writein campaign for the Select Board seat that will be left vacant by Chair Dan Donovan this year.

Kermit Williams announced his intent to run a write-in campaign for the seat to a crowded, standing-room-only crowd in the Town Hall Court room, and he was allowed to participate in the question-and-answer session with his fellow candidates Sandra Fischer, Eric Parsons and Doug Whitney. Williams explained that he does not have any local board experience, but is currently the District 4 State Representative. Williams said that he decided to join the race at the last minute, after he was approached by multiple residents requesting that he make a bid for the seat. Since he currently is only bound by his committments as a

<mark>a shorts program - as well as all of our pane</mark>ls and educational programming.

See WILTON - 6

PETERBOROUGH

Town pursues parking at GAR

\$80,000 to be sought for feasibility study

By Dave Anderson

Monadnock Ledger-Transcript

PETERBOROUGH — After weighing input from a public hearing on parking options in downtown Peterborough, the Select Board decided Tuesday to push ahead with a plan that could lead to a parking lot behind the GAR Hall on Grove Street.

The board plans to ask voters in May to approve up to \$80,000 for an assessment of the land behind the GAR Hall where a lot would be located. The area is close to the Contoocook River, and Public Works Director Rodney Bartlett told the board the first step in an evaluation, if voters approve the money, would be to determine if any environmental or flood-plain issues would prevent a lot from being built there. He said that part of the assessment would probably cost about \$10,000 and, if the land was found to be unsuitable, the rest of the appropriation would not be spent.

The town has an agreement to sell the GAR Hall, which has been vacant in recent years, for \$172,000 to Peterborough businessmen Cy Gregg and Stan Fry. Gregg and Fry hope to renovate the building for use as a function hall, but

See PARKING - 6

NEW IPSWICH

Alleged bank robber held on \$200K bail

By Ashley Saari Monadnock Ledger-Transcript

JAFFREY — A New Ipswich man is being held in lieu of \$200,000 cash bail after being arraigned on charges related to an alleged robbery at the New Ipswich TD Bank North

Eric Lord, 43, of New Ipswich allegedly told prosecutors in the case that his robbery of the bank, which occurred only one day after his release from state prison, was a cry for help for issues related both to mental health issues and drug addiction.

During his arraignment at the 8th Circuit Court in Jaffrey on Wednesday afternoon, police prosecutor Michael Beausoleil told the court that Lord had an extensive criminal record dating back to 1989, continuing through 2012, which included felony charges including burglary and felony possession. Beausoleil

See ROBBERY - 6

BUY

Coming Tuesday **WLC consolidation** put to the vote at **District Meeting**







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Candidates weighing in

state representative, he now has the time to devote to a town board, he said.

Along with the Select Board representatives, Water Commissioner candidate Frank Edelblut, and Sewer Commissioner candidates Tom Schultz and Tom Herlihy were also present to answer the crowd's questions. Steve Elliot, who is on the ballot running against Edelblut for the Water Commission and Schultz for the Sewer Commission, did not

Select Board race

When asked their position of Warrant Article 13, which asks the town to contribute \$80,000 to purchase a conservation easement on Abbott Hill, the candidates were split in their answers.

 Williams and Whitney, said they were for the

project.
"I think it's a small amount
"Think it's a small amount of money to preserve a lot of open space," said Williams. When asked what benefits the easement provided other than the preservation of open space, Williams pointed to the protection of wellheads and access to recreational space for the town. Whitney agreed, noting that preserving the beauty and rural nature of the

town is important to him. Parsons took the opposite view, saying that the easement didn't provide concrete benefits, and that the \$80,000 would be better served in other areas of the town, such as going toward paying for the town's needed rescue truck or for the town's infrastructure projects, such as water or sewer improvements. Fischer did not take a stance, saying that she planned to attend an informational meeting on the subject scheduled on Wednesday night, and research the pros and cons before she made her decision at the polls.

All of the candidates noted that they were not in favor of making the Director of Public Works an elected position, speaking of the advantages of having a person invested in a career without being distracted by yearly politics, having a continuous leadership in the department, and ensuring a qualified individual fills the position.

When questioned about what they would do to lower the tax rate, Fischer said she would look at doing more infrastructure projects such

as the proposed Frye Mill Bridge repair on the warrant this year. It's a smart move to repair the bridge now, with \$80,000 of town money from capital reserves, rather than wait multiple years for state assistance. Even with the state picking up 80 percent of the cost, it would be more expensive for the town to fix the bridge through the state than to do it internally. Whitney said he would like to see the town continue to smooth out impacts of large purchases by contributing yearly to capital reserves. Parsons suggested looking into a user tax for those who rent property but have children in the school system. Williams said that much of the tax rate is determined by the state and school taxes, and is not affected by the town.

Water and Sewer Commissioner

Herlihy, who is running unopposed for the one-year term for the Sewer Commission, said that if he's re-elected, he's like to see a capital reserve established for the Sewer Commission for unanticipated costs. He pointed to a recent pump replacement that cost \$35,000 as an example. If the Sewer Commission had funds available, they could pull from it without needing to access the user rate and possibly raise it to pay for those costs, he said. He would also like to have a GIS map of the sewer system, and refurbish the pump stations, he said.

Both Herlihy and Schultz said that they would like to see the sewer system upgrade, and if elected would be looking at a five year program to begin those upgrades to spread out the cost. Schultz noted that it was a long-term goal of his to look at the impact of switching Wilton from a flat rate to a rate based on usage.

Ballot voting in Wilton is Tuesday at the Wilton Town Hall from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Town Meeting is on Thursday at the Florence Rideout Elementary School at 7 p.m. Due to the severe allergies of a student at Florence Rideout Elementary School, no products containing nuts may be brought into the elementary school.

Ashley Saari can be reached at 924-7172 ex. 244, or asaari@ledgertranscript. com. She's on Twitter @AshleySaari.

Suspect: Bank robbery was a cry for help with addiction

recommended that Lord be held without bail, or in lieu of that, be held on very high cash

When asked his opinion on the matter of his bail, Lord, who waived representation at his arraignment, replied, "I don't need no bail. You don't need me on the street."

In an interview following his arraignment, Beausoleil commented that Lord had been very straightforward in his statements to the prosecution, saying multiple times that he was attempting to get help and rehabilitation for issues of mental health and addiction. During his arraignment, Lord echoed that sentiment, telling the judge, "I want help, that's all, your

Lord is being charged with robbery after allegedly approaching a teller at TD Bank and handing her a handwritten note which said, "I have a gun, count \$4,000 in \$100 bills to me in 30 seconds or someone gets hurt." Lord did not show a gun at the time of the robbery and is being charged unarmed robbery. Charges against Lord accuse him of purposely putting the TD Bank teller in fear of immediate use of physical force in the course of committing

According to an affidavit on file at the Jaffrey court, a New Ipswich Police officer recognized Lord from security footage provided by the bank and was able to identify him. The note Lord allegedly passed



Accompanied by Lt. Sean Cavanaugh, Eric Lord, left, was arraigned Wednesday afternoon in the Jaffrey Circuit Court on charges related to the alleged robbery of TD Bank in New Ipswich.

to the teller was written on a check stub, according to the affidavit. The name on the check stub was Lord's, and was for an amount issued to Lord upon his closing his account at the state prison.

"That was the icing on the cake," commented New Ipswich Lt. Sean Cavanaugh in an interview Wednesday.

"He knew he was going to be caught. It's kind of sad that people can be institutionalized like that, but he would be the first to admit he needs help, and he has nowhere else to

As part of his bail conditions, if Lord is able to make cash bail, he must be bailed before the court, and would have to refrain from any contact with the teller he allegedly threatened, and refrain from any use of drug or alcohol. He would also have to agree to re-

main in New Hampshire. Lord is scheduled to appear next on Wednesday for a probable cause hearing at 11 a.m. at the 8th Circuit Court,

Voters to be asked to pay for study of GAR parking plan

From PARKING - 1

that would require additional parking, so the sale is contingent on the town building a parking lot on the land behind the building. It is also contingent on the town building a footbridge over the Nubanusit River to link the lot to the Depot Square area, where Gregg and Fry own several buildings.

At the Feb. 24 public hearing on parking options, town officials said the footbridge would cost \$100,000. Estimates of the cost of building a lot were \$340,000 for a 20-space lot, \$630,000 for a 40-space lot, and \$920,000 for a 60-space lot. The size of the lot might be determined by how much of the land, which includes a parcel that Gregg and Fry have an

agreement to buy from The Petersons, Inc., the real-estate firm located next door to the GAR Hal, is suitable for build-

At Tuesday's meeting, Select Board Chair Joe Byk said feedback from the public hearing showed "overwhelming support" of the option to build a lot behind the GAR Hall. Other options, including building a parking garage either at the municipal lot on Depot Street, on the Guernsey Green behind the Town House, or behind the buildings at 35/45 Main Street, were seen as very expensive on a cost-per-space basis, and Byk said they drew far less

Town officials have said the lot could be used by both peo-

ple who work downtown during the week and by shoppers visiting downtown businesses. Having more long-term parking might free space in the municipal lot on Depot Street that is heavily used by people who park all day during the week. Changes in time limits and ways to encourage all-day parking at the underutilized town lots on Summer Street by the Fire Station or at the library were also discussed at the public hearing on parking. Byk said the concept of reusing existing space was the second most-favored option, after the GAR Hall lot, of those who filled out response forms at or after the hearing on Feb. 24. But the board has not announced plans to consider changing any of the downtown parking time limits for existing

At Tuesday's Select Board meeting, resident Debby Kaiser asked if flood plain issues or other environmental concerns could prevent a lot from being built behind the GAR

"I don't want to spend \$80,000 of taxpayers money if com. He's on Twitter at @Dav-[the Department of Environ- eAndersonMLT.

mental Services] would throw huge obstacles in our way," Kaiser said. "Let's see first if this is really feasible."

Bartlett said those questions could be addressed as the first stage of the assessment.

Other issues to be studied would include how to provide access to the site, which is considerably lower in elevation than Grove Street, which is where cars would enter the lot.

The board will determine at an upcoming meeting whether the funding request will be a separate warrant article at Town Meeting or if the money will be included in the proposed operating budget. Bartlett said the money is expected to come from revenues generated by the Downtown Tax Increment Finance District, which collects additional tax revenue generated by upgrades to downtown buildings and can be used, with voter approval, to fund infrastructure improvements the neighborhood.

Dave Anderson can be reached at 924-7172, ext. 233 or danderson@ledgertranscript.

Welcoming Our New CEO



MCH welcomes new President and CEO Cyndee McGuire.

Monadnock Community Hospital is pleased to welcome Cyndee McGuire as its new President and CEO.

Cyndee brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the health care industry. Prior to joining MCH, she was Chief Operating Officer at Adirondack Medical Center from 2009 to 2014. She is a graduate of The Sage Colleges Graduate School, and holds a master's degree in health services administration. Cyndee is also a Fellow with the American College of Health Care Executives (FACHE).

Cyndee and her husband Harry look forward to making the Monadnock Region their new home.



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