

WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 140 No. 10

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com



Fifty women enjoyed a lady's tea party hosted by the Friends of the Ware Senior Center this past Monday. Shown sitting from left are Lynn Park, Maggie Sorel and Janet Harrison. Standing from left are Cathie Wheeler, Mary Harper, Judy Renaud, Martha Parker, Paulette Wojtowicz, Cheryl DeSantis and Betty Lussier.

Friends hosted afternoon event at Senior Center

WARE – The Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. hosted a lady's tea party at the Ware Senior Center this past Monday afternoon.

Fifty women signed up for the event, decked out in colorful and unique hats, and they enjoyed a variety of teas and pastries.

The tea was served in cups and saucers, generously on loan to the Friends from people in the community.

Sue LaBarge, president of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. said the tea party was open to the public

Please see **TEA PARTY**, page 7



Mother daughter duo, Alice Mlynarski and Cheryl DeSantis enjoyed afternoon tea together.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

SB voted to reduce STM/ATM quorum

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Selectboard discussed reducing the quorum just for the special and annual town meetings to be held Monday, June 8 at 6:30 p.m.

At the April 21 meeting, Selectboard Chair Josh Kusnierz, who is also the chair of the Charter Review Committee, said that committee has recommended reducing the quorum from 100 to 80.

Vice-Chair Ken Willette said it's critical to reach quorum for the town meeting, due to it being held later in the fiscal year than it normally is.

Moderator Kathleen Coulombe said while the last couple of town meetings have had over 100 attendees, this did not occur at the time the meeting was scheduled to open.

"We did not have even 80 at the time that the meeting was supposed to open," she said. "It also helps us to be able to launch the meeting with the preliminary house-keeping sorts of things."

Resident Cathy Cascio said she is "bummed" the Selectboard has to consider reducing the quorum.

"That doesn't say a lot for our town," she said.

Cascio said 80 would be the lowest quorum she would feel comfortable with.

The Selectboard voted in favor of temporarily reducing the quorum to 80 for the special and annual town meetings on June 8.

Open meeting violation

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the town's attorney filed a request for a hearing with the Attorney General's Office regarding the open meeting violation in relation to the vote by the board to write a statement of support for Baystate Health's Convenient Care proposal.

Resident Cindy Allen Bourcier asked if the town's attorney was challenging the Attorney General's determination that an open meeting violation had occurred.

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 3



8 04879 13181 6

Selectmen discussed Highway Surveyor salary

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen continued their discussion on the town's Chapter 90 reimbursement during the April 23 meeting.

Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson said there were some mistakes made

which involved missing some documents along with some filing issues. This resulted in the department having to resubmit their paperwork to Boston, and a couple of their departments.

Olson said they ran into a lot of delays from the state's system. There were some documents that were supposed to be sent to

Northampton, and it took a long time to finally get funds reimbursed.

The problem has been ultimately resolved, and Olson hopes not to encounter this issue again.

The second part of the discussion involved a request from the Highway Surveyor for a 5% salary increase for fiscal year 2027.

This also involved members of the Finance Committee.

Olson had presented a budget to the Finance Committee and after talking with them they seemed okay with what he presented. Later on, the Finance Committee changed and voted on a new budget

Please see **SALARY**, page 5

Hearing addressed protection of Muddy Brook

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Board of Health held a public hearing to review proposed regulations to protect the Muddy Brook aquifer and watershed.

Board of Health Chair Dr. John Mott said the public hearing was not a legal requirement in order to adopt the regulations, but the board felt it was important to get input from the public.

At the April 22 hearing held at Hardwick Elementary School, Mott

Please see **HEARING**, page 7

Be a part of local history

Ad space available in Historical Society's newsletter

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – As the country prepares to mark 250 years of independence, the Hardwick Historical Society is offering the opportunity to be a part of history, with the publication of a com-

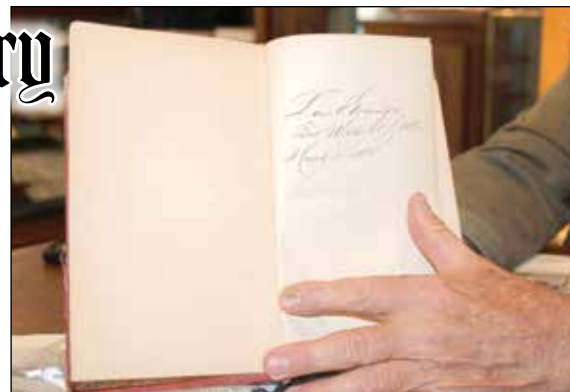
memorative newsletter.

This newsletter will showcase the town's history, according to Randall Noble, the society's president. There are still advertising spaces available, with a firm deadline of May 1.

"We're trying to take the newsletter to the next level," Noble said. "And highlight the town and what was going on in 1776."

Ad spaces are available for \$50 (one inch by four inch), \$100

Please see **HISTORY**, page 15



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

The signature of Louis Edwin Granger is on this copy of the Military Dictionary by H.L. Scott. Granger donated the Civil War memorial located on the town's common, and he is buried in the upper cemetery. This book is a recent addition to the Hardwick Historical Society museum's collection.

CELEBRITY BARTENDER AND SERVICE NIGHT AT HANNA'S ON MAIN

Tuesday, May 12th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. ~ Open to the Public

COME DRESSED UP AS YOUR FAVORITE 80'S TV-SHOW CHARACTER ~ PRIZES

All tips will go towards the Town of Ware Fireworks Display. Please attend and show your support!

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

Ware falls to playoff rival Hopkins Academy

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE—Three years ago, the Ware varsity baseball team were shutout by Belchertown, 13-0, in a non-league road game.

No other baseball team had celebrated a shutout victory against the Indians until last Saturday night.

Hopkins Academy senior righthander Chace Earle tossed a one-hitter, as the Golden Hawks posted a 12-0 victory over the Indians at St. Joseph's Park in Thorndike. The non-league game ended after six innings due to the

10-run mercy rule. "This was our third game in the past five games, and our pitching was a little bit depleted," said Ware interim head coach Shawn Clark. "We also faced their ace, and we couldn't get anything going against him tonight's game."

The Indians, who squeaked out a 4-3 win at Monument Mountain the previous day, entered this week's action with a 6-5 overall record. They also had a 3-3 record at St. Joe's Park, which is their home field

Please see **RIVAL**, page 10

Ware volleyball now 9-1

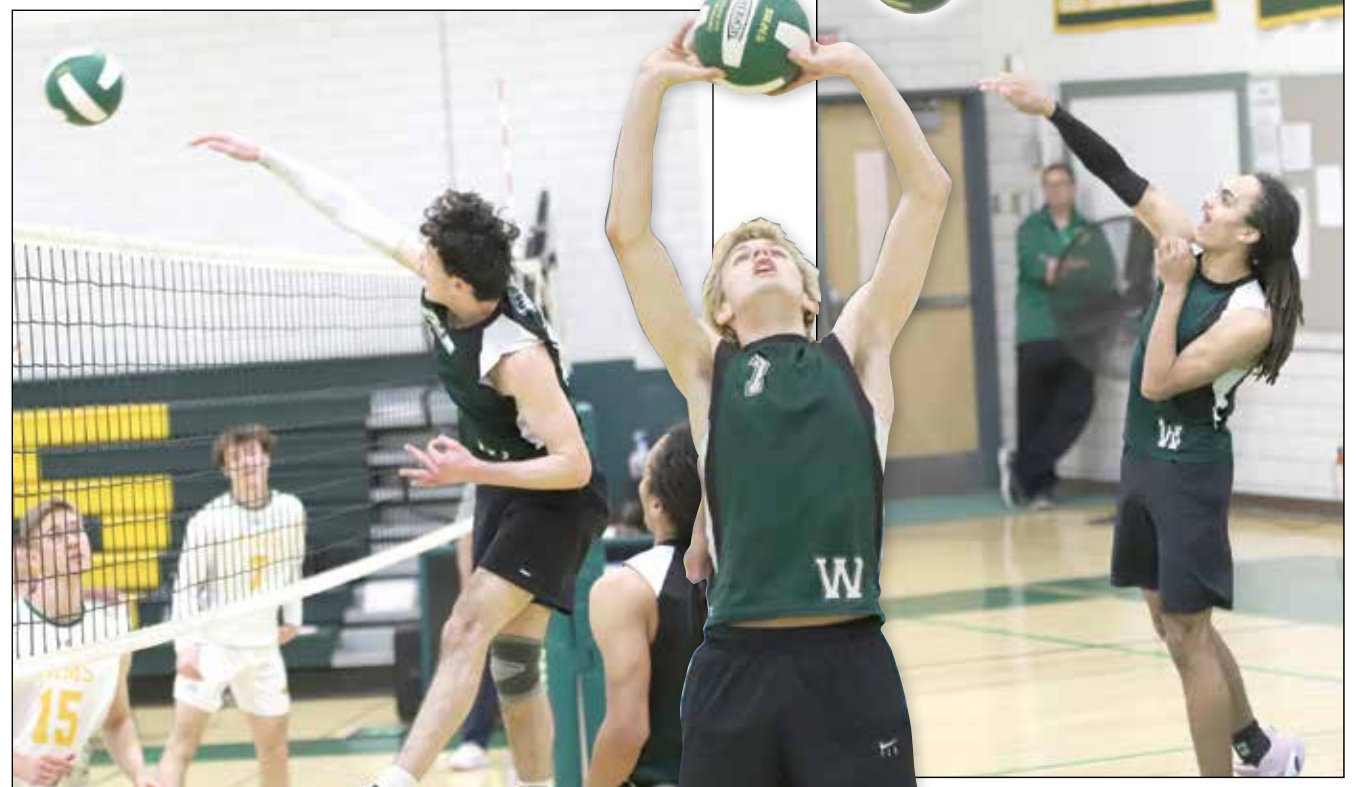
SOUTHWICK – Last week, Ware High School boys volleyball continued to mow down the competition, sweeping Southwick Regional 3-0, then scoring a 3-0 win over Frontier Regional. With the exception of an early season defeat at Granby, Ware has not been defeated since the end of March and are now 9-1 for the regular season. Ware next faces Springfield International Charter School on Thursday, Apr. 30 at 5:15 p.m.



Jonathon Adkins tries to keep the ball in play.

Sean Bernier sets in the middle of the court.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
A pair of Indians make a block.



Ryder Cahalan sends the spike attempt away.

Brayden Compton gets a set near the net.

Dalton Marquis gets the serve.



SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10

Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes

Andrew Warfield reaches for the bag as he dives into third base.

Quabbin baseball returns to action this week



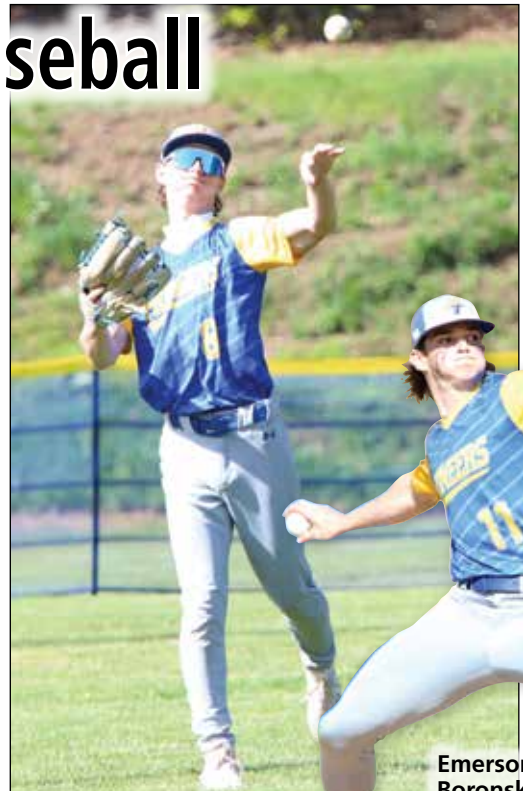
Abe Brown connects for a hit.

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School baseball team enjoyed almost a full week off, but did return to action during the vacation week, traveling to Bromfield High School last Friday afternoon. The Panthers defeated the hosts 4-0 to improve to 3-3 on the regular season. It will be full steam ahead for the Panthers going forward with many more games to play in the next few weeks. Coming up, the Panthers travel to Tahanto High School for a 4 p.m. start. The Panthers are back home on Monday, May 4 at 3:30 p.m. against Narragansett.

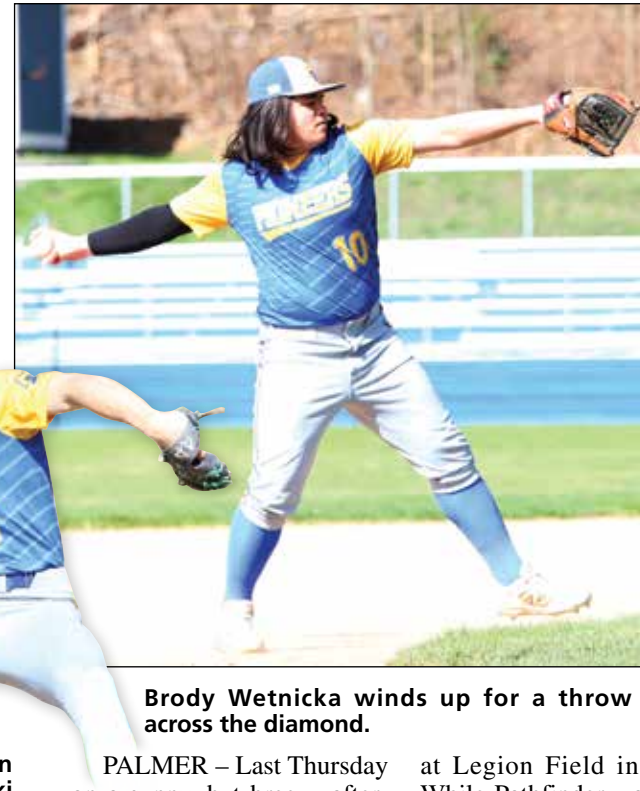
Pathfinder baseball falls to SICS



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Zachary Latourelle sends a throw to first.

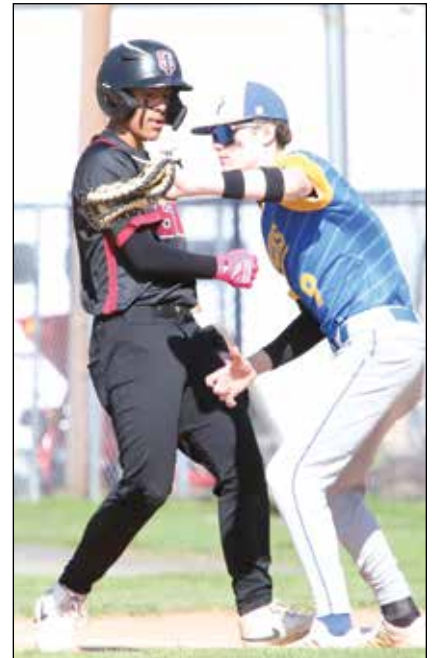


Anthony Elliott sends a long throw to third.



Emerson Boronski delivers a pitch.

Brody Wetnicka winds up for a throw across the diamond.



Dayne Shanley takes the pickoff throw at first.

PALMER – Last Thursday on a sunny, but breezy afternoon, Pathfinder baseball was defeated 14-4 by SICS

at Legion Field in Palmer. While Pathfinder was able to get on the scoreboard, SICS was able to score some early

runs to get ahead, and the Pioneers could not match the offense. Pathfinder fell to 0-8 on the regular season.