

WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 138 No. 20 USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com



Lafayette arrived in a horse carriage and was escorted to the spot of the "Lafayette Elm Tree" that was planted in front of Ware High School.

Lafayette returns to Ware, 200 YEARS LATER



By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – June 14, 2025, marked the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Major General Gilbert du Montier, Marquis de Lafayette.

This was a special day in Ware's history as the last surviving General of the

A memorial placed in front of the Valley Forge American Elm that was planted by the Ware Historical Commission back in 2016. The original elm tree Lafayette rested on was lost during a severe storm back in 1923.

Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War made his way to town during his farewell tour. Lafayette gave a speech to the citizens of Ware at a local tavern on June 14, 1825.

During his visit, Lafayette was visited by residents under the shade of a large elm tree in the southwest area of Ware. In 1923, the elm tree was lost during a severe storm. Nine years ago, the Ware Historical Commission planted a new elm tree, which was placed in front of Ware High School.

This tree is known as the Lafayette Elm Tree and was

Please see **LAFAYETTE**, page 8

Time capsule brings back memories

By Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com

HARDWICK – A small box sat on a shelf in the town safe for 50 years, waiting to be opened the first week of June as instructed by the sixth grades students attending the Myron Richardson School (now the Municipal Building) in 1975.

As per the students' instructions, Select Board Chairman Eric Volheim had the honor of opening the tightly sealed box. Members of that class and more recent Hardwick Elementary School students waited in anticipation.

Penny Ouimette, a fifth grader at the present day Hardwick Elementary School attended along

with her sisters, Sadie and Quinn Ouimette, graduates of Hardwick Elementary School. They dressed in clothes of the 1970s era.

Volheim handed each item to the school principal at the time Charles LeMaitre, who came for the event.

Former principal LeMaitre gave the background on many of the items. His daughter Michele included some of her embroidery work. Russell Prouty included some of his math work in the capsule. On a non-school related theme, Rodney Witkos placed a collection of bottle caps secured to a piece of cardboard.

Please see **CAPSULE**, page 2



Turley Photos by Ellenor Downer

Some Hardwick Elementary student from 1975 to the present gather around the table containing the time capsule. Wearing clothing in style for the era as suggested, Penny Ouimette, a fifth grader at the school now and her sisters Quinn, left and Sadie are behind her. Fifth graders are now the highest grade attending the school today.

Wilton's Children's Store to close after 47 years

Submitted Article

WARE – After serving the community for more than four decades, Wilton's Children's Store will be closing its doors.

The decision comes in the wake of an electrical fire on May 14 that ignited on the second floor of the Old Otis Mill building where the business is located.

Founded in 1891 by

Charles Maxwell, Wilton's originally manufactured knitted athletic uniforms for sports teams. The business was passed down through generations until Robert "Bob" McLean, who began working at the store in 1965, purchased it from Maxwell's grandson in 1978.

Please see **WILTONS**, page 3



Turley Staff Photo

Wilton's Children's Store has closed after serving the community for almost 50 years.

AMVETS members attend annual state convention

Staff Report

NATICK – Over Father's Day weekend, AMVETS Post 79 of Natick hosted the annual Massachusetts State AMVETS convention.

The two day convention consisted of breakout sessions, meetings, dinner and annual election of state commanders of the AMVETS, Sons of the AMVETS and Ladies Auxiliary. There are 40 AMVETS posts in the commonwealth, comprised of over 4,000 members.

Delegates from each post attend the convention to cast votes to elect the state commanders.

This year, Robert Brusio of Ware AMVETS Post 2577 was elected AMVETS State Commander.

"I am honored to be elected by my fellow AMVETS to serve as state commander" said Brusio.

Brusio succeeds Edward Wyzik of Post 2577 of Ware as state commander. Post 2577 started in 2008 and currently has a membership of 30 members.



Turley Staff Photo

Dan Flynn is presented with the Massachusetts Department of AMVETS 2025 Pilgrim Award by State Commander Ed Wyzik.

Brusio joined Post 2577 in 2018. "I joined the AMVETS after running into Phil Hamel at many community and veteran events. He kept encouraging me to get involved. Once I joined, Ed Wyzik had me running at full speed with responsibilities" said Brusio.

Brusio began his military career as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

"I joined the Air Force

because at that time in my life I was looking for direction. I was going from major to major and college to college, still not knowing what I really wanted to do with my life. I had a friend that was a pilot in the USAF and after talking with him, I decided to join the USAF and serve my country" said

Please see **AMVETS**, page 7

Warren held annual and special town meetings

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – Voters attended the Special and Annual Town meetings last week on June 12.

Special Town Meeting

During the Special Town Meeting, article 2 was brought up to see if the town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,336.10 to pay for a prior fiscal year bill.

The bill is from the van pool for transportation costs associated with an out-of-district student.

Article 2 failed to pass, and Selectmen Chair

Please see **WARREN**, page 6



ware



Submitted Photo

Ware Middle School students won awards at the statewide PACE Exhibition led by Education Development Center.

Ware students earn awards at computer science exhibition

WARE – On June 3, middle school students from Hatfield and Ware won awards for their outstanding computer science education work at the statewide PACE Exhibition led by Education Development Center, a Massachusetts-based non-profit, in collaboration with Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Hatfield students received the Real World Impact Award and Problem Solvers

Award. Ware students received the Creative Team Award and Bright Ideas Award.

Held at the Northeastern University Innovation Campus in Burlington, the Exhibition was a culminating event for the students, who have been studying computer science all year. Students demonstrated their projects for computer science industry reps, event judges, and peers from four other school districts.

Across the Commonwealth, the PACE initiative is working to increase student achievement and interest in computer science to meet employers' needs for a workforce with foundational computer science skills and knowledge. PACE is funded by The U.S. Department of Education, as part of the agency's work to ensure youth are ready to enter the workforce.

Summer Reading begins at Ware Library

WARE – Summer Reading for ages birth through 12 is now underway at the Ware Library, 37 Main St., with registration available in-person at the library or online.

Events include Music & Movement with Julie Stepanek on Tuesday, June 24 and Wednesday, July 30 at 10:30 a.m.; Juice & Jelly Funtime Band on Saturday, June 28 at 11 a.m.; Nutrition & Cooking Demo with the Food Bank of Western MA (for ages 7-12) on Tuesday, July 1 at 3 p.m.; Bath Bomb Workshop in the Library Courtyard on Tuesday, July 8 from 3-4:30 p.m. (drop-in event); Ants on a Log funded in memory of Peggy Trombly on Thursday, July 10 at 3 p.m.; Sharpie Tie Dye at Grenville Park on Tuesday, July 15 from 3-4:30 p.m. (drop-in event);

Financial Literacy with Country Bank for ages 5-12 on Wednesday, July 16 at 3 p.m. (registration required); Author Emily Franke Book reading & Signing with Cupcakes Courtesy of Cupcakes & Confections by Jana on Thursday, July 17 at 3 p.m.; Magician Mike Bent on Monday, July 21 at 4 p.m.; Jungle Jim on Thursday, July 29 at 4 p.m. (this program is funded in part by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency); Hitchcock Center: Insects & Reptiles on Thursday, Aug. 5 at 4 p.m.; Pop Up Art School: and Mask Making for ages 8-12 on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 3 p.m. (registration opens July 21 and is required by calling 413-967-9691 or emailing gouletc@

cwmars.org).

There will also be ongoing weekly programs, including Monday Crafternoon from 3-5 p.m., Storytime with Miss Cathy on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Imagination Station on Tuesdays from 4-6 p.m., Lego Club on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m., Kids' Bingo on the last Thursday of the month from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Take & Make Craft Bags every week in the Children's lobby.

Stop by the library Aug. 11-29 to get a lollipop and a Summer Reading Certificate.

The Massachusetts Statewide Summer Library Program is funded by the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Brins and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Are You Old News?



Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.



File Photo
Last week's photo from 1989 showed Tracey Ruggles of Hardwick waving from the Kardas Market float during the town's 250th celebration parade.

If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

CAPSULE from page 1

There was a cassette tape and a 45 rpm record by Stevie Wonder. Some wondered if Margaret Reidy was the student, who included one or both of those items. A French horn player, she became a school music teacher and presently directs the Quabbin Community Band.

Back in 1975, several members of the class attended a Selectmen's meeting to get permission to make a time capsule, store it in the town safe and request it be opened 50 years later the first week in June 2025.

One student wrote about going bowling with the class. She read her essay. It said Margaret Reidy who had the best bowling score among the girls.

Other items included a GI Marine doll, a Barbie doll, a smiley face, a blank unsigned check from the Ware Trust Co., a list of first aid facts, a crochet pattern, a letter from Principal LeMaitre dated June 9, 1975, a study guide on American history, a motorcycle license, several newspapers including a June 1, 1975 copy of the Ware River News, a J.C. Whitney catalog, drawings by Richard Perry and Krystal Minor, car keys, a drawing from a classmate and much more.



Town Clerk and Moderator Ryan Witkos places items on several tables for all to see. Former Myron Richardson School Principal Charles LeMaitre came for the capsule opening and gave some background about each item pulled out of the capsule. Items included a 45 rpm record by Stevie Wonder, a cassette tape, playing cards, school assignments, photos and a GI Marine to name a few.



Turley Photos by Ellenor Downer

One of the items in the time capsule was a copy of the June 1, 1975 Ware River News, which is still published today. The capsule also contained a copy of the Evening Gazette, a newspaper no longer printed.



After the Annual Town Meeting adjourned, Select Board Chairman Eric Volheim opened this time capsule filled with items selected by Hardwick elementary school students in 1975.

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LEGAL NOTICE
The 2024 Water Quality Reports for Wheelwright Water District will be available June 14, 2025. Copies of the reports are available to the public and can be picked up at the Hardwick Municipal building, Wheelwright Post Office or the Wheelwright Housing or by calling 413-477-6646.

LEGAL NOTICE
The 2024 Water Quality Reports for Gilbertville Water District will be available June 14, 2025. Copies of the reports are available to the public and can be picked up at the Hardwick Municipal building, Gilbertville Post Office or the Gilbertville Library or by calling 413-477-6413.

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Mom

Love,
Jacob & Tori

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Police and Fire held bike safety event



Brynn took her bike for a spin on the Ware High School track.



UMass Police Officers Liana Varosky, Thomas Hudock and David Leuschner joined Ware Firefighter/Paramedic Laura Fandrey and Ware Police Officer Jeannine Bonnayer were on hand to teach bike safety to the town's youth.



Ryan had her dad adjust her new helmet.



Kailah and Ariana rode a lap around the track after completing the bike safety course.



Ware Police Officer Jeannine Bonnayer helped Emma pedal up and over an obstacle.



UMass Police Officer Thomas Hudock rode his bike alongside Willow during a bike safety event hosted by the Ware Police and Fire departments this past Saturday.



Colton gets ready to take his bike onto the course.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

WARE – Despite a light rain, there was an impressive turnout for the annual bike safety event hosted by the Ware Police and Fire departments on the Ware High School track, with help from the UMass Police Department. Thanks to a generous donation by Walmart, each participant was eligible to receive a free bike helmet, and add accessories to the wheel spokes of their bikes. Once safely fitted with a helmet, each child went over bike safety rules with the police officers and firefighters, and took turns navigating an obstacle course complete with traffic signs and travel lanes. Children of all ages enjoyed putting their skills to the test.



Walmart employees Pappelie, Brian and Jasmin gave away free bike helmets and accessories.



Riley rode her bike around the track

WILTONS from page 1

Under McLean's leadership, Wilton's evolved into a beloved children's retail store and became a local fixture in Ware and the surrounding towns.

McLean managed the business for over 40 years before passing away in May, 2024.

His family chose to continue the store's legacy, entrusting the daily operations to long-time store manager Theresa Robert. Under her guidance – and with the dedication of long-term employees Jane Siuda, Tina Curylo, Sue Finocchio, and Nancy Guimond – Wilton's continued to thrive.

McLean once remarked in a 2020 Ware River News article, "I just can't stress enough how important the employees are to the success of the business."

For the team at Wilton's,



Turley Staff Photo

Wilton's Children's Store has closed permanently after an electrical fire occurred in the building.

it was more than just a workplace – it was family. The

employees also noted what a great leader McLean was,

"I just can't stress enough how important the employees are to the success of the business."

– The late Robert McLean in 2020 interview

and how he was like a dad to everyone who was employed there.

Theresa Robert's said, "The pride I take in working for Mr. McLean will be with me always. I'm thankful for him and his wonderful family. I would like to give a huge thank you to the town of Ware and surrounding towns for their loyal support through the years, including the Ware Police Department and Darlene Gildert for their support of Christmas for Kids."

Sue Finocchio said, "It was a joy to work at the store-Wilton's was our fam-

ily. We'll miss all of our customers, especially our favorites!"

Jane Siuda said, "I started at Wilton's in 1964, and began my 61st year in January.

So I was actually there one more year than Mr. McLean! After he passed, I continued working, doing the books, and paying the bills at home and would go in once a week to do the payroll and collect the mail. All the girls became great friends and got to know each other and their families. Good times, happy times and sad times. I'm sure we will still be in touch with each other in the future. Thank you to all the McLean family who let us go forward until the fire, which closed us down."

Tina Curylo said, "I loved Mr. McLean and I miss him

so much. I also loved the flexibility of this job, which has allowed me to be home for my family as needed through the years."

Nancy Guimond said, "Wilton's has been a wonderful place to work and I will miss it. Mr. McLean taught us so much and we met a lot of great people over the years."

Like many small businesses, Wilton's faced tremendous challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to a loyal customer base, the store was able to reopen in late spring of that year.

McLean captured the moment in a voicemail to his daughter, Abby (McLean) Wood, saying, "It was a fantastic day, the busiest of the year. There were lots of comments about people waiting for us to reopen and it's really gratifying to hear how much they care about us. This is a great day."

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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Can my husband work part time and collect Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I am writing to you on behalf of my husband. His intentions are to go part time as of Jan. 1, 2026, working 30 hours a week and take Social Security benefits as supplemental income. How can we determine what his Social Security benefit would be with him still working part time? He will be 63 and 7 months old next January and has not yet applied for benefits. We look forward to hearing from someone very soon.

Signed: Anxious for Information

Dear Anxious:

If he claims Social Security at age 63 and 7 months, your husband's benefit will be about 78% of what it would be if he waited until age 67 to claim.

And, since your husband will not yet have reached his SS Full Retirement Age, he will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earning Test, which limits how much he can earn while working and collecting early Social Security retirement benefits. The amount he can earn without paying a penalty changes yearly but, for reference, the earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 per year.

If his work earnings exceed the annual limit, Social Security will take away some of his benefits. Using the 2025 limit as an example, if your husband's annual 2025 earnings were \$40,000, then he would owe about \$8,300 (half of the amount he exceeded the limit by). Social Security would withhold his monthly benefits for enough months to recover what he owes for exceeding the earnings limit. How many months they withhold would be determined by his monthly SS benefit amount.

FYI, the earnings test lasts until your husband reaches his Full Retirement Age (his FRA is age 67), but in the year he attains his FRA the penalty for exceeding the limit is less, \$1 for every \$3 over the limit and the limit is much higher. The annual earnings test no longer applies once your husband reaches his FRA.

When your husband applies for his SS retirement benefit, Social Security will ask about his work plans and how much he expects to earn each year. Based upon that information, if he expects to exceed the annual limit they will pay his benefits for some months of the year depending on his projected earnings and

withhold his benefits for the remaining months. They will also monitor his annual earnings as reported to the IRS and make any appropriate benefit adjustment afterwards.

If SS benefits are withheld because your husband exceeded the annual earnings limit, when he reaches his full retirement age (67), Social Security will give him time-credit for all month's that benefits were withheld. Essentially, they will advance his actual claim date by the number of months benefits were withheld, which will make his monthly benefit higher at his FRA. The higher amount he receives after reaching his FRA will help him recover some of the money withheld as a result of exceeding the earnings limit before his FRA.

Please note that it is always best to inform Social Security up front if your husband plans to work and earn even part time prior to reaching his FRA. The IRS will provide the SSA with your husband's earnings information and SSA will (if his projected earnings weren't disclosed when he applied) issue an Overpayment Notice if he earns more than allowed. He will then be required to repay SS everything owed or have his benefits withheld until Social Security recovers what he owes.

One final point: by claiming his benefits in January 2026, your husband's monthly amount will be reduced by about 22% from the amount he would get at his FRA of 67. Claiming early before FRA always results in a benefit reduction, whereas waiting longer than FRA to claim always results in a higher monthly amount (maximum benefit is reached at age 70).

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

What not do this last week of spring

By avoiding these common mistakes you'll be well on your way to a wonderful landscape this summer.

en victim to the "I've got to have that plant syndrome." This condition causes even smart gardeners to buy plants

start, but only if incorporated correctly.

Peat moss must be moistened before use, otherwise it will wick water away from the plant it is intending to help. Once thoroughly wet, peat moss will aid in moisture retention!

Forgetting to "butterfly" root balls at planting time

Did you ever purchase a tree or shrub, perennial or annual whose root ball was so thick with roots you could barely see the soil in which it was planted? Plants that match this description are "root bound."

If this situation isn't remedied at planting time the roots may never know they have room to sprawl; ultimately, growth may be affected! Let the roots run free by taking both hands and splitting open or "butterflying" the root ball. Root balls of larger specimens can be scored in several places with a knife.

Pruning summer blooming shrubs now

Don't prune your Rose of Sharon or Hydrangea now or you'll take the flowers with your clippings. On the flip side, you have until July 1 to prune your lilacs. Rhododendrons and Azaleas can be deadheaded now for even more flowers next spring.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Sowing grass seed at the wrong time

Did you know that the end of August/ beginning of September is the best time to get a new lawn off to a good start? It is, first and foremost because crab grass (the arch enemy of real grass!) can't gain a foot hold late in the growing season. Slightly cooler temperatures and adequate rainfall prevalent during that time of year help too.

Scalping the lawn

Healthy turf isn't mown as low, or as often as you might think. Mowing to a height of about three inches will encourage a strong stand of deep-rooted grass that is capable of shading out developing weeds and sustaining itself during periods of drought.

Removing grass clippings

Take the bagger attachment off of your mower and let the clippings fall back onto the lawn! Grass clippings are a valuable source of nitrogen, the nutrient responsible for giving grass its green color. It's silly to remove it, only then to provide it in the form of granular fertilizer.

Watering during the heat of the day

Most gardeners know that early in the day is the optimal time for watering the lawn as well as other plants. Less water is lost to evaporation, and fungal diseases are kept to a minimum since foliage has a chance to dry before darkness sets in.

Choosing the wrong plant for the location

Almost everyone has fall-



that don't fit their particular situation. Heed the advice provided on the plant's tag.

If it requires shade, plant it in a shady location. If it demands a well-drained soil and yours is clayey, amend the soil first! Etc. etc.

Applying mulch too thinly

Topdressing our shrub beds with a layer of mulch each season can be an expensive endeavor. Frugal gardeners may skimp in order to save money. Do so and you may be sorry, as weeds will no doubt pop through less than adequate coverage.

Make sure that bark mulch is three to four inches thick; hay or straw used in veggie gardens should be even thicker, to the tune of eight to 12 inches.

Mulching too close to the base of a tree

Never mound up bark mulch against the base of a tree. It can result in bark decay. This condition can bring about a disruption of the translocation process of food from the leaves of the tree to its roots, weakening it severely. The tree will also become more vulnerable to attacks by insects and fungi.

Not moistening peat moss before use

Most experts recommend adding peat moss to the planting hole when installing trees, roses or other shrubs. Rich in organic matter, it will get your plants off to a great

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The Ware River News (USPS 666100) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

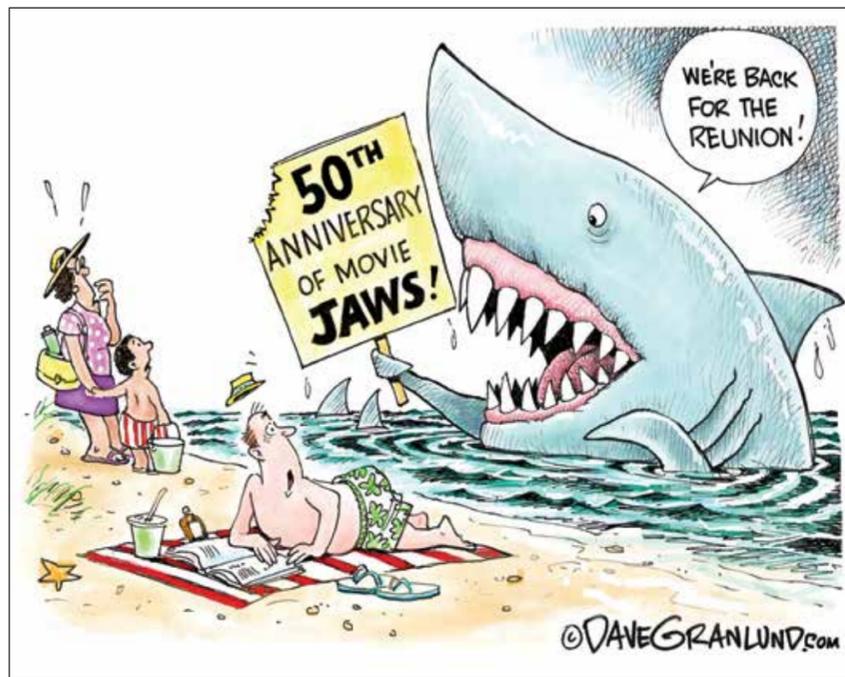
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Letter to the Editor
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Ware, MA 01082
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pouimette@turley.com

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Business owner thanks community for continued support

Before I start, I just want to say we're not closing or going out of business, but as we all know, we never know what tomorrow's going to bring so it's never good to leave things unsaid.

I've had many blessings in my life, but one of the greatest has been working at my store "Nat Falk" for the last 42 years. It has given me the opportunity to meet thousands of really awesome people over the years.

We've helped out many in times of great stress and sorrow in their lives, and helped people celebrate some of the greatest moments of their

lives and I feel blessed to have been able to do so.

Many people have to deal with not so nice people in their jobs and everyday life but I've got to say that 99.9% of the people that come in my store have always treated us with respect and in turn that's how we treat all our customers.

Another blessing has been to have Judy Fair as my rock at the business for 25 years. It's not easy to find someone you would trust with your life and that your customers love too. Thank you Judy.

In closing I just want to say thank you to all our

wonderful customers from Ware and all the surrounding communities. Without you, we wouldn't still be here 89 years after Nat Falk started the business in 1936.

There was a time when this Main Street was filled with dozens of great stores and now there's just a few of us left and I'm very grateful for that. We must be doing something right.

So from the bottom of my heart, thank you for letting us play a small part in your lives for all these years.

Sincerely,

Charlie Lask
Ware

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Ware River News, please email warivernews@turley.com.

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Committee announces supt.'s leave of absence

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – School Committee Chair Brian Winslow announced that Superintendent Dr. Michael Lovato had taken an immediate leave of absence, and he would be finalizing the necessary documents required under the Family and Medical Leave Act.

“During this time, the district’s leadership team will ensure continuity of operations and will provide updates as appropriate and appreciate the community’s support and understanding,” Winslow said at the June 4 meeting.

Budget increase for investigation

The School Committee approved a motion to increase the independent investigation budget by an additional \$5,000. Committee members Aaron Sawabi and Julie Slattery abstained from voting.

Winslow said when the investigation started, the committee set a \$15,000 cap on the amount spent, which has been depleted. The length of the investigation was extended at a previous meeting, and the final report is now being written.

“Because of the additional time we need to increase the cap by \$5,000 to meet the foreseen expenses,” he said.

Non-discrimination policy

Winslow reviewed the school district’s existing policy against discrimination (including harassment and retaliation) known as Policy AC. The policy can be read on the school district’s website, www.wareps.org under “Policy Manual.”

The policy states: “The Ware School Committee and Ware Public Schools are committed to maintaining an education and work environment for all school community members that is free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation. The members of the school community include the School Committee, employees, administration, faculty, staff, students, volunteers in the schools, and parties contracted to perform work for the Ware Public Schools.”

The Ware Public Schools requires all members of the school community to conduct themselves in accordance with this policy.

The policy states: “It shall be a violation of this policy for any member of the school community to engage in

any form of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, or to violate any other civil right of any member of the school community. We recognize that discrimination can take a range of forms and can be targeted or unintentional; however, discrimination in any form, including harassment and retaliation, will not be tolerated.”

It shall also be a violation of this policy for any school community member to subject any other member of the school community to any form of retaliation, including, but not limited to, coercion, intimidation, interference, punishment, discrimination, or harassment, for reporting or filing a complaint of discrimination, cooperating in an investigation, aiding or encouraging another member of the school community to report such conduct or file a complaint, or opposing any act or practice reasonably believed to be prohibited by this policy.

Comments and concerns

The father of a student enrolled at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School gave an update on their child’s experience to receive special education services.

At the last School Committee meeting, the stu-

dent’s mother said their student was removed from his IEP, and it was determined by Director of Student Services Dr. Ginger Coleman and Lovato that this was in error and would be rectified.

“He [Lovato] stated that because my son was taken off improperly, that is IEP was going to be reinstated right now,” the father said.

The father said an IEP meeting was scheduled for that following Tuesday, but that meeting didn’t occur. He said he called and left a message, but did not hear a response.

“My son’s been at SMK for six years...I’ve never seen a staff more dedicated than the teachers and staff at SMK to their students and the parents,” he said.

The father said he was manipulated and lied to regarding his student’s services by the administration.

A mother of a graduating senior spoke about how the school district’s special education program failed her child. She said her child’s struggles became apparent in middle school, and his grades declined.

“By the time he got to seventh grade, I started realizing he was going to need help. So, I reached out to the school to get help, and it took

over a year to get anybody to listen to me,” she said.

The mother said once they got help, her child was diagnosed with ADHD and received an IEP. Last year, she was notified that her child no longer would have his IEP and would instead have a 504 plan.

“The beginning of this year, he started out with what he was supposed to have, a 504 plan, nothing was done for him,” she said.

She said by the midpoint of this year, her student was in danger of failing. She said he was then placed in Edgenuity and was able to earn credits and graduate.

“I just want to thank the people here that have put that forward as a possibility,” she said. “Not everybody is going to sit in a classroom and learn the same way...we have to think outside the box for these kids.”

Another parent said her daughter’s 504 plan was removed, which was detrimental to her learning experience. Her daughter was in danger of failing a class for the first time, despite being on track to graduate early.

“Why did this happen? How did the 504 get dropped to this point? How is this legal?” the parent asked the committee.

Lions Club kicks off Concerts in the Park this Thursday

WARE – The Ware Lions presents Concerts in the Park on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Grenville Park, 73 Church St.

Admission to concerts is free and concerts are weather dependent.

The series kicks off this Thursday, June 19, with Stealing Frequencies. Other dates and performances include June 26, Torie Jock & Damage Control; July 10, The Willies; July 17, Bed by Ten; July 24, The Legends Show featuring A Neil Diamond Tribute “Forever Diamond” and A Tribute to Dolly Parton and A Tribute to Barry White & Lionel Richie; July 31, Bigelow; and Aug. 7, Cobblestone Road.

During each concert, the Ware Lions will have a concession stand selling hot dogs, chips, popcorn and beverages. Raffle tickets for prizes will also be available.

Funding for the concerts is provided with support from Brad Matthew Jewelers, Westfield Bank, St. Germain Insurance Inc., B’leaf Wellness Centre, Monson Savings Bank, North Brookfield Savings Bank, Country Bank, Nat Falk Men’s Clothing, L. Sidur & Son Inc., Rolla Motor Parts NAPA, Cluett’s, Quabbin Wire & Cable Co., Jeffery & Jeffery Inc., Moulton Insurance and It’s Wine O’clock.

Town Clerk posts Special Town Election information

WARE – The Selectboard has scheduled a Special Town Election on Tuesday, Aug. 12 with voting from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. to fill the vacancy on the board.

Nomination papers are available for the unexpired term of two years in the Town Clerk’s Office, during normal business hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday normally from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The last date to obtain and return Nomination Papers will be Tuesday, June 24 at 5 p.m. The last date to object or withdraw Nomination Papers will be Thursday July 10 at 5 p.m. The last date to register to vote for the Special Election will be Friday, Aug. 1 at 5 p.m.

Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot at by calling 413-967-9648 extension 103.

Ware Senior Center news

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The thrift store is open each of those days from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations to the store are only accepted by Sue LaBarge, who can be reached by calling 413-544-1574.

ACTIVITIES

Monday, June 23

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch Birthday Party
- Music by Chet Kurr, A Touch of Class. Call the front desk by Friday, June 20 to be placed on the list.

Tuesday, June 24

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Cornhole
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, June 25

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger Quabbin Region DPH Nurse office hours
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
- 2:30 p.m. Knitting – Crochet Laugh

Thursday, June 26

- 9 a.m. Senior Spring Walk. Participants should meet at the Senior Center.
- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
- 10 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Cornhole
- 2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, June 27

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES

DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.

Monday, June 23

Birthday Party

Chicken Marsala, Baked Potato, Veggie of the Day, Dessert & Entertainment by Chet Kurr – A Touch of Class provided by the Friends of the Ware Seniors Inc., Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, June 24

Brunch: French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, June 25

Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Coleslaw, Chips, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, June 26

Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, June 27

Fish Sticks, Scalloped Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

‘Level Up’ your reading with the Paige library

HARDWICK – Meet young-adult novelist Dennis Wise at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Saturday, June 21, at noon to hear an absorbing presentation, “The Theft of Dignity,” that draws on examples from popular culture, movies, TV shows, and novels, including his own book, “On Your Side,” to encourage a respectful community and offer solutions.

This presentation raises awareness of peer bullying and is open to teens, educators, parents, and any others to understand the challenges teens face in their everyday lives and to suggest practical tools for positive change. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Hardwick New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

“LevelUp!” this summer at the Paige Memorial Library with Summer Reading starting on June 24. Sign up for Summer

Reading organized by Nancy Lamb, offering special programs and activities, prizes, and lots of good books to borrow.

Play is one of the ways we learn to relate to others, to think in new ways, and to foster friendships, new and old. Level Up at Your Library was developed around puzzles and games. It reminds us that libraries are not just a space for knowledge, they are a space for fun, too.

Birds of prey and Indigenous American artifacts are coming on Saturday, June 28 at 1 p.m. to the Town House. WINGMASTERS is a partnership between Julie Anne Collier and Jim Parks, licensed raptor rehabilitators and educators. This program is supported by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

For more information or to register for any presentation, call 413-477-6704 or email Director.paigellibrary@gmail.com.

Malley graduates from College of Charleston

CHARLESTON, SC – Christopher Malley of Hardwick, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina.

Malley also earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. He was among more than 1,700 bachelor’s

degree and master’s degree candidates who participated in the 2025 College of Charleston Spring Commencement ceremony.



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Sewer Commission discuss connection permits

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – During their May 13 meeting, the Sewer Commissioners discussed looking over the sewer connection permit process.

The topic was brought up after one of the agenda items was about a sewer connection permit for a house on South Street. The homeowner is selling the house and wants to get the sewer connection completed. The septic system was starting to fail, and the homeowner contacted the Sewer Commission back in February.

According to Sewer Commission Secretary Lisa Digris, the contractor had the work done. However, there is explicit information that is required when a sewer connection permit is granted.

approve the permit. There has to be a date in place for doing the work on the sewer connection.

One of the issues is the date on the insurance certificate. According to the rules of the permit, a sewer connection has to be made between April 1 and Nov. 1. When it comes to the insurance certificate, the dates may not match with the time of when the sewer connection work is being done.

The Sewer Commission plans to pay better attention when reviewing the date on the insurance certificate and see if it runs through the same time frame as the months of sewer connections.

“Make sure that permit is good until Nov. 2,” Baker stated.

After reviewing the sewer connection permit paperwork, Baker thinks the board should consider updating the permit.

Chief Operator’s report

The Sewer Commissioners heard the report from Sewer Chief Operator Ralph

Zebrowski. The Chief Operator was looking to use funds from retained earnings to help pay for one of the projects.

According to Zebrowski, the top priority projects to have done are the scum pump replacement and the primary pump replacement.

Town Administrator James Ferrera attended the Sewer Commission meeting and talked about how the Special Town Meeting warrant is still open for articles. If the Commission wanted to add another article or two, they would have to put it on the Special Town Meeting warrant. According to Ferrera, Zebrowski is proposing to transfer money from another article for another project.

Baker suggested to Zebrowski that he should get exact figures first before the Board writes and submits the article(s). The Chief Operator also talked about concrete work nearly complete. The CCTV inspections have been completed. For copper reduc-

tion, the Board is working with Tighe & Bond.

Zebrowski briefly discussed operations at the wastewater treatment plant. There has been some work that the operator felt had to be done and any replacements and installments were paid out of the current budget. Baker wants the board to look ahead and figure out what are the next projects the commission wants to look at for the future. Baker did agree that scum and primary pump replacements are a first priority.

A motion was made to write an article for the Special Town Meeting for replacement of the scum pumps and have the project paid out of retained earnings.

The Special Town Meeting for Warren will take place on Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m. inside the Quaboag Regional Middle High School Auditorium, 284 Old West Brookfield Road in Warren. The Annual Town Meeting will take place after the STM at 7 p.m.

Highway Surveyor meets with Cemetery Commission

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Cemetery Commission met on June 16 and had a discussion with Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson.

The commission wanted input from Olson about several projects its looking to complete in the future. The first part of the discussion was finding projects for encumbrance consideration.

Steve Cristol of the Cemetery Commission mentioned perpetual care in a previous meeting to possibly be used to help fund some of the projects they want to complete. This care is a fund established to ensure long-term maintenance and upkeep of cemeteries.

Cristol wanted to know if the commission could put extra money into perpetual care. Olson said he believes seeding is on top of the list

for the cemetery. Olson also mentioned Rusty’s Tree Service could prepare an invoice for tree work to be done later on.

The Cemetery Commission planned to have another meeting as they wait to see if they can or can’t use perpetual care. The main focus is to take care of the cemetery no matter the course the commission takes.

“We need to take care of the cemetery,” said Cindy Baxter, Cemetery Commission Clerk.

The Commission scheduled another meeting on June 24 to possibly talk about the encumbrance project.

Other business

The commission moved on to other possible projects as Olson shared his input on some of them. One was

Please see **SURVEYOR**, page 13

WARREN from page 1

Richard Eichacker asked the Moderator, Dario Nardi, if the town would reconsider the vote.

Town Administrator James Ferrera explained that this is an important bill that needs to be paid. With this being a prior year bill, it requires a nine-tenths vote to pass.

The bill was sent to the wrong email account at some point last year and didn’t get paid.

Article 2 was voted on a second time, but still did not reach the required nine-tenths majority needed to pass.

The past year

Ferrera came up to speak before the start of the Annual Town Meeting and reflect on the past year.

“Fiscal Year 25 was a busy but productive year,” Ferrera stated.

Ferrera talked about the success the town has had including receiving state and federal grants, receiving new computers for administration offices and improvements to town buildings. Ferrera gave special thanks to state Rep. Todd Smola for his support in helping Warren this past fiscal year.

There were also improvements done at the Senior Center this past year and the town also has a Green Communities grant. The town is continuing to improve town buildings and Ferrera believes

Warren is in its “strongest financial position,” referring to it as a “level services budget.”

Ferrera also said “increases will become challenging in the future.” The plan is to assemble a task force for budget busters as budget increases are likely in the future.

Highway Department articles

Article 4 asked voters to create a new Highway Department payroll line for part-time/on call employees and to see if the town will hire these part-time employees at a Grade C on the wage scale to assist with new construction projects.

The amount for this article is the sum of \$18,833 for compensation for fiscal year 2026. Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson said there are a lot of upcoming projects, and the Highway Department will need extra help only during short periods of time. Olson also stated that these are not benefit positions.

Article 4 passed by a vote of 102-27.

Article 23 asked voters to transfer the amount of \$30,000 from Free Cash to establish a Special Stabilization account for the replacement of the town’s current street sweeper for the Highway Department.

Olson explained that the current street sweeper is from 1994 and needs to be



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

A Transparency Award was given to the crew of Warren Community Access Television. Travis Baker and his crew are shown alongside the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator James Ferrera.

replaced relatively soon. This article by the Highway Surveyor passed as well.

School budget related articles

When the fiscal year 2026 school budget was brought up during one section of article 5, School Committee member Jason Morgan asked if the town would consider taking article 31 out of order. Article 31 was to have the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$88,485 as an additional above minimum contribution to the Quaboag Regional School District.

Superintendent Stephen Duff came up to explain the reasoning behind excusing this article. The budget pro-

cess for the school district starts in December and runs until June. Duff mentioned some of the increases in their budget but believes the school budget does not need the additional money article 31 is proposing.

“We work really hard to get our budget to what we need,” Duff said.

Duff thanked the town for its continued support and feels the school district did a good job providing a level service budget. The voters went to a vote to take article 31 out of order and passed.

Exemption for veterans

There was a discussion regarding article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting. This

was an article by the Board of Assessors and Board of Selectmen. The article asked voters to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22J, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted to eligible veterans.

Ray Kopacko of the Finance Committee asked how much the cost would be to the town and where does the money come from in the budget. The Selectmen said this was proposed by the Board of Assessors and was supported at the time they made the article. The amount given is \$7,580.

Kopacko believes there should be more information

and maybe the boards should contact the Veteran’s Agent for more information.

Ferrera mentioned the Hero’s Act, which is a local adoption and a local exemption for disabled veterans and veterans who are homeowners. Ferrera believes this is a benefit to this article and is to see later what the impact is.

In the article packet, it is written that the Finance Committee does not recommend this article. When it went to a vote, the motion was defeated due to a 46-82 vote.

Special award

Prior to the Annual Town Meeting, Ferrera came up with a special announcement. A Transparency Award was presented to members of Warren Community Access Television. Ferrera wanted to acknowledge Travis Baker and his film crew for their continuous support and coverage of community events.

Baker accepted the award and was congratulated by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator.

Other announcements

At the end of the Annual Town Meeting, Eichacker mentioned the next informational meeting for the Public Safety Complex. The meeting will be held at the QRMHS auditorium on Thursday, June 26 at 6 p.m.

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Shown are Maryann Prescott, Dave Prescott, Wayne Schofield, Jr., Paul Graveline and LeeAnne Connolly of AMVETS Post 74 of Three Rivers.



AMVETS State Commander Robert Brusco delivers his opening remarks as outgoing State Commander Edward Wyzik looks on.



Shown are Ethan Brusco, Robert Brusco, Edward Wyzik, David Nicoson and John Pajak of Ware AMVETS Post 2577.

Turley Staff Photos



The 2025-2026 Sons of AMVETS State officers.



The 2025-2026 State Ladies Auxiliary officers are sworn in.

AMVETS from page 1

Brusco. "I served in the USAF from August 1999 to August 2003. Serving gave me a sense of purpose and pride. A feeling of responsibility and working for a greater good to protect our country and the people within its borders."

Brusco has been on an active path of responsibilities on the local and state level with the AMVETS.

"After I had become a member of the Post, I was snatched up by Mr. Ed Wyzik, the immediate past State Commander, and we were off and running. He had me going to the bi-monthly state meetings (SEC) and our District 3 meetings. Next thing I know I was voted in as Finance Officer for the post" said Brusco.

"Then, Commander Wyzik sent me for pizza at a district meeting and when I came back, I was voted in as District 3 Commander. By then, I was becoming more involved on the state level. Since I work in Cambridge, it was easy for me to meet up with the State Honor Guard. Mr. Arty Marchetta got me into that. At a SEC meeting, I met a member who first thing told me that he was going to 'run me up the chairs'. That same year, I was elected State Provost Marshal and was awarded the AMVET of the Year Award. It was a lot of work and I had followed the then State Commander Mr. Wayne Anthony to every event across the state. From North Adams to Gloucester and down to Bourne and Falmouth. Wherever there was an event, we were there."

The following year, Brusco had started going up the Vice Commander positions.

"Learning what each position was responsible for and doing my best to carry out my duties were my goals" said Brusco.

Though only being involved for a few years, Brusco has had many rewarding experiences.

"I have made a lot of memories over the years. From performing State Honor Guard details for the Red Sox and Celtics with my fellow Honor Guard members, to going to ceremonies and parades and marching, usually carrying the American flag. I will admit that there is a great feeling of pride holding up the stars and stripes at all these events. My favorite memory though was going to Washington DC and participating in the March on Washington, where as a National organization we, along with the Sons of AMVETS and Lady's Auxiliary went to petition our Senators and Congressmen to help pass several bills that would help Veterans. I can't wait to do it again next year" said Brusco.

When asked about his

goals for the upcoming year, Brusco said, "My goals for the term is to do everything I can to support my fellow veterans and attend every function asked of me. I'm already planning on visiting a couple of VAs and helping with summer cookouts and events with our veterans. I will be going to the National Convention in Greensboro NC in August with Past Cmdr. Ed Wyzik to represent the Ware AMVETS Post 2577. I would like to visit all of our posts throughout

the state and try to do at least one event with each of them. After my term is up, I will continue to do my State Honor Guard duties and post jobs. But who knows, maybe I'll try my luck at a National position or two. You never know until you try!"

Brusco has been married to his wife, Brandy since December 2021 and have two adult children, Ethan and Alisyn. Brusco has lived in Ware since 2008.



Incoming AMVETS State Commander Robert Brusco receives his Commanders pin from his son, Ethan Brusco.



Incoming AMVETS State Commander Robert Brusco takes the oath of office.




PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS:

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WHAT IS IT?

Palmer has received funding in a settlement between Massachusetts and pharmaceutical companies, placing them at blame for the current opioid crisis.

Now we must decide how to best use the money to support our community, and we want to hear from YOU!

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Lafayette returns to Ware, 200 YEARS LATER



The Weir River Concert Band provided the music during the 200th anniversary of Lafayette's visit to Ware.



Major General Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette arrived in Ware 200 years ago on June 14, and now a reenactment took place to highlight this moment in Ware's history.

LAFAYETTE from page 1

the spot used to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the General's visit.

Visiting Ware was part of Lafayette's farewell tour of the United States. He was invited by President James Monroe to tour the entire country as the Nation's Guest.

To celebrate this special event in history, the American Friends of Lafayette sponsored this event for the Ware Historical Commission to host the reenactment of General Lafayette's visit on the very day he visited the town 200 years ago.

Members of the Ware Historical Commission dressed up for the occasion to bring back the year 1825. The seating area was set up by the Lafayette Elm Tree in front of Ware High School. The tree has grown beautifully and was hoisting the American Flag.

"A unique thing about coming to Ware," said commission member Kathleen Galford, talking about the elm tree and its historic ties to this historical event. "We celebrate at this location today."

The Weir River Concert Band provided the music during the event as guests awaited the reenacted arrival of General Lafayette. Galford spoke during the introduction and shared some history about Lafayette and his journey leading up to his historical farewell tour of the United States.

Lafayette was a young French aristocrat who left his homeland to join the American Revolution to fight for its independence. During his involvement with the American Revolution, Lafayette would build many friendships, including a friendship with General George Washington.

Galford paraphrased a quote Washington once said about Marquis de Lafayette and truly symbolizes their friendship and admiration for each other.

"Lafayette was like a son to me," Washington once said.

Lafayette was described as an advocate for American liberty.

Over 40 years after the Revolutionary War ended, Lafayette, who was an elder man in his 60s, would soon return to the United States as a "Guest of the Nation". During his tour in the 1820s,



Members of the Ware Historical Commission dressed for the time period of when Lafayette visited Ware during his farewell tour of the United States.

Lafayette visited 24 states of the United States of America.

Lafayette made his way to the area of the Lafayette Elm Tree in a horse carriage, alongside several costumed historians. The actor portraying Marquis de Lafayette spoke well of the town of Ware and reflected on his experiences touring the

United States. As Lafayette, the actor made an amusing remark on visiting the 24 United States and believes the country will one day expand to maybe as many as 50 states.

The American Friends of Lafayette have been recreating the General's exact tour route, and Ware is a part

of that route. In 2026, the United States will be celebrating its 250th anniversary. This event of reenacting Lafayette's visit to Ware is a great way to celebrate Ware's rich history and the Revolutionary past that helped this nation be born.

A special thanks goes out to the Weir River

Concert Band, the Ware Historical Commission and the American Friends of Lafayette. After the reenacted speech by General Lafayette, members of the Ware Historical Commission presented flowers to the General, who is forever a friend and beloved guest of the United States.

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Nora Pennington-Russell looks to keep the ball in play.

Turley photos by Sofia DiGrande

Cougars make it to next round of tournament

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARREN—The Quaboag girls' tennis team began the Division 4 state tournament with a home victory for the third consecutive year.

Led by seniors, Isabelle Aberle, Erin McGrath, and Norah Pennington-Russell, the 15th-seeded Lady Cougars defeated the 18th-seeded Quabbin Lady Panthers, 4-1, in a round of 32 match held at the Quaboag Regional tennis courts on May 28.

"We've won a home match in the state tournament during the past couple of years, and it feels very good to do it again this year," said Quaboag head coach Norm St. Denis. "I was a little bit worried before the start of today's match, but our three singles players had convincing victories, which was good to see."

The other Lady Cougars seniors are Norah Schwenker, Lila Broadley, and Skylar Cook.

"All six of our seniors are starters and are very important play for us," Denis said.

"They've been outstanding leaders to the underclassmen. They'll be very hard to replace next year."

Two years ago, the Lady Cougars defeated Millis in a round of 32 home match. They beat Sturgis East Charter in last year's round of 32 contest.

Quaboag (16-2) was scheduled to face the second-seeded Bromfield Trojans in a round of 16 road match on Tuesday afternoon. It was the third meeting between the two teams

Please see **TENNIS**, page 10

Ware baseball defeated in Elite Eight game

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

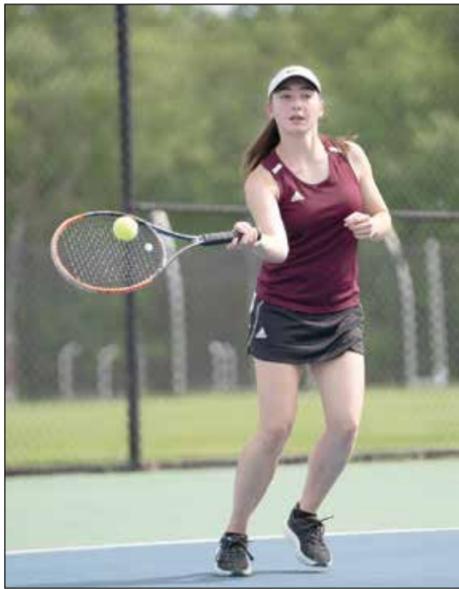
MILFORD—Hopedale senior shortstop Brayden Lewis was recently named as the Dual Valley Conference Player of the Year. His double play partner was the MVP of the Division 5 Elite Eight game against Ware.

Sophomore second baseman Noah Smith went 4-for-4 with five RBIs which helped the fourth-seeded Blue Raiders celebrate a 6-1 victory over the fifth-seeded Indians at Fino Field in Milford on June 8.

"We knew about both the Hopedale shortstop and second baseman. The shortstop really didn't hurt us very much, but the second baseman did," said Ware head coach Scott Slattery. "They also executed a little bit better than we did. I think we're two evenly matched teams, but the breaks just didn't go our way for one of the few times this season."

Ware, who finished their outstanding season with a 20-3 overall record, advanced into the Elite Eight for the

Please see **WARE**, page 10



Lila Broadley returns a hit.



Maddy Stauder returns a hit across the court.



Isabelle Aberle socks a return hit.

Pioneers battle to draw with Black Rock

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—While the Western Mass. Pioneers haven't lost a home match this season, their faithful supporters have celebrated just one victory at historic Lusitano Stadium.

The only meeting of the regular season between Black Rock FC and the Pioneers ended in a 1-1 draw before a large crowd, last Friday night.

"We do have a lot of quality players, and we always try to strive for excellence," said Pioneers defender Aidan Kelly, who's also the team's first year captain. "It's always disappointing whenever we drop points, especially at home. Hopefully, we can get a result in our next match at Vermont. We just need to keep working hard."

The soccer teams in the USL League Two earn three points for a victory and one point for a tie.

The Pioneers (5-0-2) had a total of 17 points after their first seven matches. They're battling Vermont Green FC (5-0-1, 16 points) for first place in the Northeast Division standings.

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 13



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Matthew Santos from Palmer High School picks up a grounder.

Monson Legion picks up win over Aldenville

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE — During the past several years, all the District 3 Legion baseball teams qualified for the playoffs. That won't be the case this summer. Only the top six teams in the standings will qualify for the Legion playoffs.

Two days after having their season opener at North Adams Post 125 postponed due to rain, Monson Post 241 defeated Aldenville Post 337, 4-2, at Snot Park in Chicopee, last Wednesday night.

"There isn't going to be a Western Mass. playoff this year," said Monson manager Steve Tripp. "The top six teams will qualify for the State tournament. Every game that you play during the regular season is very important."

The first-place team in

the District 3 standings will be hosting one of the pods in the preliminary round of the double elimination state tournament. There are going to be a total of seven pods with four teams each. The winner of each pod, along with Quincy Morrisette Post 294, will advance to the Final Eight Team Department Championship Tournament, which will be held at Adams Field in Quincy from July 26-30.

The Northeast Region One Tournament will be held at Holy Cross College in Worcester.

Brayden Mega, who graduated from Pathfinder Tech, was the winning pitcher for Monson against Aldenville. The righthander went the distance allowing two runs on just three base hits. He issued two walks and recorded six strikeouts.

Please see **LEGION**, page 13

Mutiny gets shutout of Racing Power FC

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Sole possession of first place in the U.W.S. East Conference standings was at stake entering the first ever meeting on the soccer pitch between Racing Power FC USA and the New England Mutiny.

After a scoreless opening half, the Mutiny scored three second half goals en route to a 3-0 shutout victory at Lusitano Stadium, last Saturday night.

"We played very well for the entire game," said Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari. "We finally scored a few goals in the second half."

The Mutiny had a perfect 5-0-0 record following their third shutout win of the season. They only allowed two goals in their first five regular season matches.

The Mutiny are hoping to finish in first place for the fourth time since 2019. They lost to the Santa Clarita Blue Heat in the United Women's Soccer Championship match a year ago in a shootout. It was their only loss of 2024.

Racing Power FC (4-1-0) outscored their first four opponents, 19-0. They only had four subs for the road match, including the backup goalie.

Cat Perez, who was born in Bogotá, Colombia, was the Mutiny's starting goalie for the first time this season. She was also a member of her country's soccer team which competed in the 2024 Summer Olympics games in



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Aida Name of Chicopee gets in action for the Mutiny last weekend.

Paris, France. She has also played for Team Boca Blast of the WPSL.

Chloe Laizer, who recently graduated from West Springfield High School, replaced Perez 15 minutes into the second half.

The duo didn't have to make very many saves against Racing Power, who's an affiliate of the Portugal's Pro women's team.

The Mutiny starting defenders were Rachel Marchini, Aida Name, Anna Carson, and Laci Lewis,

who's the team captain.

Name, who graduated from Belchertown High School, will be a junior on the University of Rhode Island women's soccer team this fall.

Another defender listed on the Mutiny roster is Kylie Ray. She played soccer at Minnechaug Regional for legendary head coach Nundi Goncalves. Ray is currently a member of the women's

Please see **MUTINY**, page 10

sports

Bonsignore breaks record for wins at Riverhead

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. – Justin Bonsignore had a perfect day Sunday at Riverhead Raceway.

Driving the No. 51 Phoenix Communications machine for Kenneth Massa Motorsports, Bonsignore was fastest in both NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour practice sessions on Father's Day, then followed it up by capturing his first pole award of the season in qualifying.

Bonsignore rocketed to the lead early, then settled for second for much of the middle stages of the race. It was on pit road where the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team again shined - getting Bonsignore back out front into the final stages.

He would hang on, holding off Ron Silk, Patrick Emerling and Matt Hirschman over a flurry of restarts in the second half of the race to take the victory.

The win was Bonsignore's 46th career on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, all with Kenneth Massa Motorsports. It was also his 12th career at Riverhead - breaking a tie with Mike Ewanitsko for the most all-time in Whelen Modified Tour competition at the New York quarter-mile.

"I've been wanting to break the record for a long time," Bonsignore said. "Mike was a childhood hero of mine. The pit crew did another awesome job, with two excellent pit stops. To have my family here, it's the first race that all of them have been to this year. For it to be on Father's Day at home and everything we did, it's just really cool."

Justin Bonsignore will return to the track at Pocono Raceway on Saturday, June 21, driving the No. 19 Toyota GR Supra in the NASCAR Xfinity Series for Joe Gibbs Racing. The team will carry sponsorship from TW Cable LLC for the event, which will air live on The CW at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

MUTINY from page 9

soccer team at Seton Hall University.

Tennessee Murphy, who lives in Monson, scored her first goal in a Mutiny home match during the 63rd minute.

The scoring play began when Lewis launched a crossing pass into the box from the right touchline. After the ball took a high bounce, Murphy headed it into the back of the net past goalie Riley Melendez.

"We knew that tonight's opponent was a very good team," said Murphy, who scored her first two goals of the season on the road. "It was a perfect cross from Laci. When I saw the ball go over the defender, I was a little bit nervous because I didn't want to miss a scoring chance. After I headed the ball into the net, it was a very good feeling."

Three minutes later, the Mutiny were given a penalty kick following a foul in the box.

Chioma Okafor, who's a member of the UConn women's soccer team, blasted a shot into the lower left corner of the net giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Murphy, who's a first-year member of the Mutiny, assisted on the third goal in the 79th minute.



Anna Carson sends a kick home.

After dribbling around a couple of defenders, Murphy made a short pass to Avery Klingensmith, who finished off the play by putting a shot into the right corner.

Valley rebounds with win over North Shore

LYNN, Mass. - After Valley dropped the first game of their five-game road trip they showed up and defeated the North Shore Navigators 6-1 at Fraser Field.

The Blue Sox came out firing early getting on the board thanks to Sebastian Mexico launching a two-run homer giving them a quick 2-0 lead. Starting pitcher for North Shore Trey Yesu struggled in the early goings but settled in during the second inning and kept Valley in check.

Valley starting pitcher Marty Coyne got himself into a bases-loaded jam in the

fifth but ended up only allowing one run due to an infield single before being relieved by Andrew Besell. Coyne pitched for four innings and allowed one run with two strikeouts plus a walk.

Valley held onto a 2-1 lead going into the sixth before shifting the tides. Rees Kozar drove in a run to make it 3-1 before the Sox loaded the bases and ran in three more guys off of reliever Sam Beiveau for North Shore, making it 6-1. It was no secret that the top of Valley's batting order delivered big time throughout the sixth inning to take control of the

game.

Jack Niedringhaus and Besell combined for three scoreless innings right out of the bullpen each recording strikeouts and giving no opportunities for Northshore to claw back.

The win gives Valley a 5-3 record on the season as they look to continue their road trip to Doubleday Field in Cooperstown, New York to take on the Martha's Vineyard Sharks Monday at 1 p.m.

The Valley Blue Sox displayed a balanced showing from both the pitching staff and offense.

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during the past year.

"It has been a lot of fun playing Bromfield," Aberle said. "They're a very good team, but it's been a friendly match whenever we do play them. I'm very glad that we won today's match."

The Lady Cougars lost at Bromfield, 4-1, in the round of 16 last June.

The two teams also faced each other during the 2025 regular season at Quaboag Regional. The Trojans squeaked out a 3-2 win in that contest.

Quaboag's only other loss this season was at Wachusett Regional, who qualified for the Division 1 state tournament.

"We lost to Wachusett 5-0, but three of our matches were close," Denis said. "We wanted to improve our non-league schedule this year."

The last time that Quabbin and Quaboag faced each other in a girls' tennis match was during the 2023 regular season. The Lady Cougars won that match 5-0 at home.

Quabbin finished the 2025 season with a 15-2 overall record. Their only other setback was a 3-2 non-league road loss to Doherty, who's a Division 2 team, on May 14.

"This was one of my favorite seasons since I've been coaching the tennis team," said Quabbin head coach Garth Weideman. "We have a bunch of juniors, who'll be returning next year. Our future does look very bright. Quaboag was the better team in today's match."

A year ago, Quabbin beat Randolph in the round of 32 before losing to second-seeded Manchester Essex in the round of 16.

The two seniors listed on the Lady Panthers tennis roster are Haley Ayer and Ellie Frost.

There wasn't very much drama in this year's round of 32 match.

Aberle defeated Quabbin junior Farrah Wojcik, 6-1, 6-0 in the first singles match.



Erin McGrath lines up a serve.

Despite losing the match, it was a very good learning experience for Wojcik, who also plays field hockey.

"My opponent made a lot of good shots, and I had trouble returning them," Wojcik said. "It was a good learning experience. We had an outstanding season and I'm hoping that we can make it a little bit farther in the state tournament next year."

In the second singles match, McGrath posted a 6-1, 6-1 victory against junior Kalinia Dyer.

That match sealed the Lady Cougars' victory.

"It's very exciting to be moving on in the state tournament," McGrath said. "Quabbin is a very good team."

Pennington-Russell cruised to a 6-0, 6-0, win over Ayer in the third singles match.

"Our singles players are

very different players," Denis said. "Isabelle has the perfect stroke and she always does everything right. Erin has to fight for every point during her matches. Norah has good instincts and ground strokes."

The two double matches were very close.

Schwenker and Broadley teamed up to beat junior's Maddy Stauder and Lizzie Matheson, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) in first doubles.

The Lady Panthers captured the second doubles match, as Frost and sophomore Audrey Laursen posted a 7-7 (7-2), 3-6, 10-3 win over Cook and junior Hayssa Freitas.

While the Lady Cougars seniors were able to win the final home match of the 2025 campaign, the returning Lady Panthers will be looking to make another trip to the Division 4 state tournament in 2026.

"I used to play against Avery when we played in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League," Murphy said. "It's been a lot of fun being teammates with her on this soccer team. She's an outstanding player."

Klingensmith, who's from Belchertown, will be a senior on the American University women's soccer team. During her outstanding high school career, Klingensmith was selected to the All-American team by the United Soccer Coaches.

Murphy, who transferred to the Loomis-Chaffee School four years ago, received the same honor last fall.

"My older sister, Brooke, was also an All-American and it was a very special honor for me. I really didn't expect it, but it was a lot of fun celebrating the accomplishment with my family," said Murphy, who's entering her senior year at Loomis. "I've also committed to play soccer at Bucknell University. It's a small school and I really like the soccer team. I think it's a very good fit for me."

The Mutiny are scheduled to play a road match against the Maine Footy on Saturday night before facing the NJ Alliance in the regular season home finale at 5pm on June 29.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Summer Edition

EAST BROOKFIELD – The summer league on Wednesday nights at Bogey Lanes has reached week number six.

In first place is Sophia's Raiders with a record of 40-8. In second place is Gutter Dolls with a record of 34-14. With eight weeks left in the summer league, Sophia's Raiders is looking to expand their lead and maintain their #1 seed position.

During week six, Sophia's Raiders bowled against Gutter Fingers. In game one, the score was 456-432 in favor of Sophia's Raiders. Sophia Hearnlaye had a good game of 117 to start the match.

In game two, Sophia's Raiders won again by a score of 474-436. Trever Kenneson of Sophia's Raiders bowled a 125 to help his team get the victory.

In game three, Sophia's Raiders won the last game and swept Gutter Fingers by a score of 442-433. Kenneson bowled a 116 in game three for a series of 343. The final score was 1372-1301 in favor of Sophia's Raiders.

Kristen's Squad bowled against Straight Shooters during week six. In game one, Kristen's Squad won by a score of 482-465. Bob

Button of the Squad began the match by scoring a 129, which featured a double strike.

In game one, Straight Shooters bounced back with a win of their own, 469-426. Alan Nason of Straight Shooters bowled a 106, fifteen points higher than his current league average.

In game three, Straight Shooters won by a score of 479-420. The final score was 1413-1328 in favor of Straight Shooters.

The Rolling Stones bowled against the No Shows in week six. In game one, No Shows won a close game by a score of 448-445. Kathy Swistak was well over her league average with a 101.

In game two, Rolling Stones won by a score of 443-422. In game three, No Shows won the last game by a score of 459-432. Steve Swistak made a clutch spare to help his team regain the lead in total pinfall. It was a matter of pinning the last few frames, which Swistak did to have No Shows win total pinfall by a final score of 1329-1320.

Gutter Snipes bowled against Clock Barn. In game one, Gutter Snipes won by a score of 452-393. Marc Vinciulla of Gutter Snipes started the match with a 107.

In game two, Gutter Snipes won again by a score of 426-409. In game three, Clock Barn won the last game by a score of 424-423. Gutter Snipes won total pinfall by a final score of 1301-1226.

WARE from page 9

first time since the MIAA changed the postseason format in 2022.

The Indians defeated 28th-seeded Easthampton, 10-1, in the round of 32 and 12th-seeded Westport, 6-2, in the round of 16. Both of those games took place at Memorial Field in Ware, which will be redone during the offseason.

Hopedale varsity baseball coach Kevin Bresciani attended the Indians round of 16 game. "I don't normally go scout during the regular season, but any little advantage that you can gain during the postseason tournament really helps out a lot," Bresciani said. "When I went to the Ware game last week, I was able to see their tendencies and who their better hitters were. They had a very good season."

The Indians only base hit against Hopedale senior righthander Michael Rutkowski during the first four innings was a line-drive single into right field by junior catcher Kyle Kaczuk with two outs in the top of the first inning.

The Blue Raiders (16-8) took a 2-0 lead against senior righty Nate Kaczuk, who's planning to play baseball at Holyoke Community College, in the bottom half of the opening frame.

Sophomore centerfielder Nate Montville (3-for-4) began the rally by slapping a leadoff single into left field. Then Lewis, who'll be playing baseball at Wheaton College next spring, blasted the first pitch that he saw to deep left field for a double. Montville scored from first base on the play.

Lewis, who was hitless in his final three at-bats of the game, scored on Smith's RBI single to left field.

Kaczuk, who allowed four runs on 10 hits in the first four innings, managed to get out of the first inning jam without allowing any more runs.

The home team built a 4-0 lead in the second inning.

After loading the bases, Smith knocked home two more runs with a one-out single into center field.

"I thought we did a great job of jumping on them early and setting the tone," Bresciani said. "It's always important to score first in big games."

Rutkowski retired eleven consecutive batters before the Indians finally put-together a rally in the fifth inning.

Junior designated hitter Alex Orszulak beat out a slow ground ball to the shortstop for an infield hit with one-out. Following a flyball out, senior right fielder Owen McKeever doubled down the left field line putting runners at second and third. Another infield hit by junior Jack Gaudreau scored Orszulak. Rutkowski struck out the next batter before the Indians could get any closer on the scoreboard.

Kyle Kaczuk drew a walk leading off the top of the sixth inning. His older brother followed with a line-drive single into center field which brought the potential tying run to the plate.

Rutkowski halted the Indians rally very quickly, as he retired the next three batters on a pop-up caught by Smith and two strikeouts.

"When you get to this level, you have to score runs," Slattery said. "We just didn't do that in tonight's game. Their pitcher just kept throwing strikes."

Smith capped off his memorable performance by belting a two-run triple to center with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning against Gaudreau, who had replaced Kaczuk on the mound.

Rutkowski retired the side in order in the top of the seventh, which ended the game and the Indians season.

The other Ware seniors, who graduated the day before the Elite Eight game, are Jason Mumper, Josh Dulak, and Trevor Millet.

"All of the seniors are awesome kids. They helped us win two Western Mass. titles and three league titles," Slattery said. "We're going to miss them a lot next year."

The Blue Raiders lost, 12-2, to top-seeded Pioneers Valley Regional in the Division 5 semifinals, which were held at Westfield State University on June 11.

The Cougar Store reopens at QRMHS

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Quaboag Regional Middle High School community witnessed the reopening of its beloved school store, known as the Cougar Store.

The project to reopen this store was done by Quaboag students who are a part of the Entrepreneurship Club. The Advisor of the Entrepreneurship Club is teacher Jean DiRico, who was at the reopening on June 5.

DiRico joined her students during the reopening on June 5, who did an amazing job working on the newly redesigned school store.

When asked about the start of the project, DiRico said the school store hasn't been used in 10 years and this school year was a good time to have it revitalized. A total of 10 students who are part of the Entrepreneurship Club participated in redesigning the store and took up a lot of responsibilities and learned numerous skills during the project.

The 21st Century Afterschool Program students in the Entrepreneurship Club redesigned the store, which has been completely repainted and outfitted like an actual retail store. The students learned about store layout, marketing, purchase

orders, mark-up, invoicing, and other aspects of creating a business plan. The 21st Century Community Learning Center grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education funded the club and helped give these students the opportunity to learn new skills and put together an amazing space that is part of their school.

The kids will have the responsibility of running the school store as if it's their own business. These kids were also the creative minds behind picking the type of merchandise that will be sold in the store. The store sells water bottles, wristbands, ball caps, T-shirts, polo shirts, lanyards, M&M jars, candles, plushies, and bags. Any income that is generated at the school store will go towards school projects and improvements. The store will also be providing community service hours through the National Honor Society.

During the opening of the store, students were joined by very special guests. Visiting the students at the store were state Senators Peter Durant and Jacob Oliveira. In addition to the Senators, State Representatives Todd Smola and Donnie Berthiaume also joined the students for the reopening of their school store.

Smola said the best part

about this event is the project and the store is run by the kids.

"The students have the involvement," Smola said.

The store was successful years ago at Quaboag and after 10 years of not operating, it was time for it to return and is now run by the students. Smola describes Quaboag as a community based school that provides much interaction and the students are able to interact more with the community as they operate their school store.

"We're proud of these students," Smola commented. "Promote your school pride."

There was an inspiring sign in front of the newly renovated school store, which will now be known as the Cougar Store.

Durant said having this store will give these students "real world experiences."

The senators and representatives were excited to meet the students of the Quaboag Entrepreneurship Club and go shopping for some merchandise in the new school store.

Assistant Superintendent of Development, Madeline Smola, was in attendance for the reopening of the store and welcomed all the guests prior to the ribbon cutting. Smola is also the District Coordinator of both 21st Century programs in the district.



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago
For the first time in 10 years, the school store at Quaboag Regional Middle High School is now open and will be operated by students of the Entrepreneurship Club. The Cougar Store sign with its newly designed logos on the side.

DiRico said having this store is "great for the school" as well as for the students. Many students have expressed interest in possibly wanting to pursue a career in business or become entrepreneurs. DiRico said many students talked about it a lot while working on the new school store.

Prior to the ribbon cutting, Madeline Smola would welcome some students from the Entrepreneurship Club to speak and share some words for those who attended. Kaitlyn Nault and Williams Lopes came up to speak as the Cougar Store was prepared to officially open.

Nault is one of the managers and is the media manager of the club and talked about the work being done

to make this store revive in the school community. Nault talked about how the goal of this project is to show a lot of school pride. The students learned about purchasing and designing the merchandise, which certainly expresses a lot of school pride.

Lopes is the club manager and treasurer and used this time to give thanks to all who supported the club and this project. The club wanted to bring something to the school that will last forever.

A special thanks was given to Madeline Smola, Jean DiRico, Stephen Duff, Marc Astrella, the Quaboag custodial staff, Michael Lavelle, Isabella Santos, Jill Curtis, Lisa Long, Mark Carron, Casey Handfield, and the 21st CCLC.

When Lopes thanked Handfield for being a constant supporter of the project he said, "he would've loved how this store turned out." Lopes said this project taught him financial related skills and also taught him having "a sense of community".

After the ribbon cutting, all guests would enter the Cougar Store for the first time. A lot of merchandise was purchased as these talented students of the Quaboag Entrepreneurship Club got to work during the opening of the new Cougar Store at QRMHS.

The store will have new hours in the fall during next school year.

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of June 8-17, the Ware Police Department responded to 25 miscellaneous calls, 28 administrative calls, 18 traffic violations, 21 emergency 911 calls, five motor vehicle accidents, two harassments, four fraud/deceptions, one safety hazard, two thefts/larcenies, one trespass, 14 animal calls and 45 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, June 8

8:20 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Babcock Tavern Road, Investigated
 9:07 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Williston Drive, Investigated
 2:18 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
 2:49 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 7:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 8:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 10:01 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Canal Street, Services Rendered

Monday, June 9

2:19 a.m. Bylaw Violation, West Street, City Ordinance Violation
 3:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 3:11 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
 5:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:56 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Moriarty Road, Advised
 7:55 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pleasant Street, Report Made

Tuesday, June 10

3:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 3:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 5:04 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Investigated
 8:48 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Warren Road,

Services Rendered
 11:28 a.m. Warrant Service, Eddy Street, Arrest Made
 Arrest: Jamie Valadez, 35, Ware
 WMS Warrant
 6:52 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Eddy Street, Investigated

Wednesday, June 11

7:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pulaski Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 8:26 a.m. Fraud/Deception, West Street, Services Rendered
 5:27 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 5:57 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
 7:17 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Spring Street, Advised

Thursday, June 12

1:23 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Warren Road, Services Rendered
 1:33 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Canal Street, Could Not Locate
 6:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Valley View, Investigated
 8:55 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Main Street, Could Not Locate
 2:27 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 6:07 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Advised
 8:24 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Old Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled

Friday, June 13

4:50 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Fisherick Road, Dispatch Handled
 8:34 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Maple Street, Could Not Locate
 10:47 p.m. Disturbance, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled

Saturday, June 14

11:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 2:47 p.m. Assault, Otis Avenue, Advised
 4:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, No Action Required
 6:04 p.m. Warrant Service,

Editor's Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court's final disposition.

Sorel Road, Arrest Made
 Arrest: Dennzel Davis, 33, Ware
 WMS Warrant
 8:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 9:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Sunday, June 15

3:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Could Not Locate
 4:35 p.m. Disturbance, Morse Avenue, Arrest Made
 Arrest: Devon M. Chaffee, 30, Woodruff, South Carolina
 Unregistered Firearm; Firearm, Store Improper Large Capacity; Assault Weapon, Unlicensed Sell/Possess; Assault with Dangerous Weapon; High Capacity Feeding Device; Ammunition Without FID Card, Possess
 6:11 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monson Turnpike Road, Could Not Locate
 7:05 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Swift River Dock, Dispatch Handled

Monday, June 16

5:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 12:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gould Road, Appears Secure
 12:49 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
 5:18 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
 8:56 p.m. Smoke Investigation, Mechanic Street, Investigated

Warren Police Log

During the week of June 1-7, the Warren Police Department responded to 51 building/property checks, three community policings, 12 emergency 911 calls, two larceny/thefts, two missing persons, three frauds/forgeries, six complaints, two harassments, three motor vehicle accidents, five animal calls and 15 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, June 1

12:38 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed
 9:23 a.m. Missing Person, Bacon Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:24 p.m. Welfare Check, Bacon Street, Transported to Hospital
 5:26 p.m. Complaint, Coy Hill Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 6:48 p.m. Diabetic, Winthrop Terrace, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 7:11 p.m. Falls, Keyes Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, June 2

12:49 a.m. Noise Complaint, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 1:41 a.m. Noise

Complaint, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
 4:43 a.m. Missing Person, Comins Pond Road, Returned to Family/Guardian
 10:52 a.m. Harassment, Milton O. Fountain Way, Referred to Other Agency
 2:25 p.m. Harassment, Brimfield Road, Negative Contact
 2:28 p.m. Falls, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 5:07 p.m. Complaint, Bacon Street, Officer Took Call
 6:27 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Palmer, Property Picked Up
 6:53 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
 6:57 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle, South Street, Investigated
 7:41 p.m. Suspicious Person, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital
 8:19 p.m. Complaint, Bacon Street, Report Filed

Tuesday, June 3

11:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 12:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Cronin Road,

Criminal Complaint
 4:06 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Keys Road, Officer/Chief Advised
 7:23 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Reed Street, Officer Took Call

Wednesday, June 4

8:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 1:53 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
 3:25 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Reed Street, Report Filed
 6:05 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Mechanic Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 8:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
 9:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Friday, June 6

2:57 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Constitution Avenue, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, June 7

8:03 p.m. Power Lines Down, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
 9:31 p.m. Noise Complaint, Southbridge Road, Negative Contact

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of June 9-16, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 51 building/property checks, 40 directed/area patrols, three radar assignments, two traffic controls, 13 emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, seven assist other agencies, two investigations, two motor vehicle investigations, four complaints, one threat, one fraud, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, one motor vehicle accident, two animal calls and nine motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, June 9

11:50 a.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated
 11:56 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Unknown Location, Officer Handled
 4:55 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Greenwich Road, Report Taken
 5:31 p.m. 911 Misdial, Greenwich Road, Officer Handled
 7:28 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Jackson Road, Report Taken
 7:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 9:45 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Road, Spoken To

Tuesday, June 10

12:28 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Patrill Hollow Road, Services Rendered
 8:13 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
 10:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Investigation, Lower Road, Services Rendered
 11:21 a.m. Welfare Check, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 12:54 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
 1:13 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Transported to Hospital
 4:11 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Dispatch Handled
 4:34 p.m. Threat, Main Street, Services Rendered
 9:36 p.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, June 11

1:10 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Maple Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, June 12

5:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Citation Issued
 8:04 a.m. Investigation, Unknown Location, Investigated
 9:50 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Old Petersham Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
 2:36 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Spoken To
 3:52 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Greenwich Road, Officer Handled
 4:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 8:41 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Broad Street,

Transported to Hospital
 10:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Services Rendered

Friday, June 13

10:20 a.m. Fraud, Main Street, Officer Handled
 12:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Turkey Street, Services Rendered
 8:55 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Pond Road, Unfounded
 11:32 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Sullivan Avenue, Removed Hazard

Saturday, June 14

1:45 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Call Canceled

Sunday, June 15

1:32 a.m. Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Criminal Complaint
 11:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning
 12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 1:03 p.m. 911 Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Prospect Street, No Action Required
 1:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Merge
 11:20 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Ruggles Street, Spoken To

Bluegrass Gospel Service will be held June 22

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church will host a Bluegrass Gospel Service at 10 a.m., June 22, at 33 West Main St.

The program themed "walking each other home" will feature traditional bluegrass instruments of fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo, stand-up bass, harmonica,

spoons and voices performing old time favorites along with background stories. All are welcome. Any questions can be directed to Heidi Jeldres at 978-989-5736.

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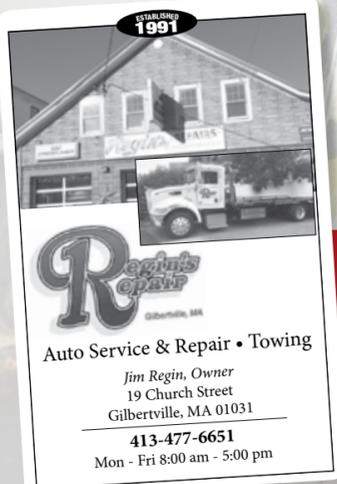
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Ham radio operators take to the field in West Brookfield

Emergency Communications Drill to be held on June 28

WEST BROOKFIELD – On Saturday, June 28, from 2-6 p.m., the Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club will participate in the annual American Radio Relay League Field Day on the town common.

Field Day is the largest emergency communication exercise in North America,

sponsored by the ARR), and it brings together over 35,000 licensed amateur radio operators across the U.S. and Canada. The goal is to set up temporary stations using off-grid power to demonstrate ham radio's ability to provide vital communications during natural disasters, power outages, and other emergencies.

The public is invited to stop by and learn about amateur radio, see it in action, and even try making a radio contact. Club members will be on hand to explain how amateur radio supports emergency pre-

paredness, provides public service communications, and how anyone can get started and earn a license.

This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in technology, communication, or community service to see firsthand how ham radio can connect people when it matters most.

For more information about the Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club, visit www.qvarc.com. Come join them on the town common and discover the power and fun of amateur radio.

obituary

LEGION from page 9

"We received an outstanding pitching performance from Brayden Mega," Tripp said. "This is the third year that he's been playing for us, and he has improved each year. We do have several other very good pitchers on this year's team."

Monson's other pitchers are Austin Meacham (Monson High School), Nate Kaczuwka (Ware High School), and Liam McGrath (Quaboag Regional), who's a first-year member of the Legion team.

Mega, who won five games for the Pioneers this past spring, will be playing college baseball at Monroe University, which is in New York City. Their baseball team competes at the NJCAA Division I level.

Mega can also play for the Legion team again next summer.

"I just wanted us to win our season opener," Mega said. "I was feeling very good out on the mound, especially after my teammates gave me an early 4-0 lead."

Aldenville (2-1) began the Legion season with a 9-1 road win against the Wilbraham Falcons.

A year ago, Aldenville lost to Belchertown in the District 3 championship game.

Righthander Justin Moskal, who was the ace of the South Hadley High School pitching staff this past spring, didn't receive very much support from his defense against Monson.

The majority of the Aldenville players are from South Hadley.

Monson second baseman



Pathfinder's Brayden Mega delivers a pitch home.

Miguel Velasquez, who attends Pathfinder, makes a throw to first.

Miguel Velasquez led off the second inning with an infield hit. Then Kaczuwka, who started at third base, bounced into a 6-4 fielder's choice play and catcher Shane Szado drew a walk.

After stealing third base, Kaczuwka scored the game's first run following a throwing error by the catcher.

"Nate is a fantastic base runner," Tripp said. "He has very good baseball instincts. You can always count on him to do the right thing."

With one-out in the fourth, Kaczuwka reached

first base following a fielding error. Szado and right fielder Jarett Skowrya followed with walks, which loaded the bases. Then McGrath hit a foul pop-up which was caught by first baseman Matt Drobiak. He threw the ball to catcher Memphis Huertas, but the runner at first base broke towards second on the play. Kaczuwka crossed the plate following a run down. An infield hit by center fielder Jason Mumper scored Monson's third run. Another run scored on a throwing error, which gave the visiting team a 4-0 lead.

Aldenville cut the deficit in half with a two-out rally in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Shortstop Brandon Carillon was hit-by-a-pitch, and third baseman Alex Savlick walked. One run scored on a double by centerfielder Noah Carillon. Drobiak also drove home a run with a single into center field.

Mega would then retire the final seven Aldenville batters of the game, which gave Monson its first win of the Legion season.

"We just made several costly mistakes in tonight's game," said Aldenville manager Mason Scott. "We did battle back after following behind 4-0. We're now looking forward to playing Westfield."

Aldenville squeaked out an 8-7 win at Westfield Post 124 last Friday night

On the same night, Monson suffered an 11-3 loss to East Springfield Post 420 in their first home game at Legion Field in Palmer.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Shane Szado, of Monson, frames up a pitch.

PIONEERS from page 9

The first meeting of the 2025 regular season between the two rivals was scheduled to take place at Virtue Field in Burlington, Vermont on Tuesday night.

The Western Mass. squad will be hosting Vermont in their final match of the regular season on July 11.

The Pioneers also played a 1-1 tie in the home opener on May 23 against Seacoast United Phantoms, who are the defending USL League Two champions. Their only home win came against New England FC, 4-1, on June 6.

"We dominated tonight's game, but we couldn't put away our chances," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "Sometimes you can score a goal on four or five shots. Sometimes you take many shots and don't score any goals. It's just part of the game."

Black Rock hasn't celebrated a victory at Lusitano Stadium since the 2018 regular season. The two squads did play a scoreless draw at the old stadium in 2023.

Kelly, who joined the Pioneers a year ago, is from Belfast, Northern Ireland. He'll be a senior on the UMass men's soccer team in the fall. The Minutemen men's soccer coach is Fran O'Leary, who's a native of

Dublin, Ireland.

"My college coach is from Ireland," Kelly said. "He's the main reason why I decided to play soccer at UMass. It has been a great three years there and I have one more left. I'm really looking forward to it."

Kelly replaced Nicholas Oberrauch as the Pioneers captain.

"I learned a lot from Nicholas last year," Kelly added. "I was honored when Federico told me that I was going to be the captain of this year's team. I'm very glad to be leading this group of players."

Kelly is also a starting defender, along with Jared Smith, Jaiden Willems, and Juan Hermoso.

Kelly and Smith combined to score what turned out to be the only Pioneers goal against Black Rock following a corner kick two minutes into the opening half.

Israel Neto booted the ball into the box from the left corner. Kelly tapped the ball over to Smith, who fired a wide open shot into the back of the net for his first career goal with the Pioneers.

"We've been working on set pieces at practice," Kelly said. "I got my foot on the ball and luckily Jared was there to take a shot. I'm very glad that he scored his first career goal in tonight's

match."

Black Rock scored the equalizer on a header by Koki Hamada in the 10th minute.

Western Mass. goalie Cam Hall didn't have to make very many saves during the final 80 minutes of the match.

At the other end of the field, the Pioneers had seven more corner kicks during the final 35 minutes of the opening half, but they were unable to score.

With 15 minutes remaining in the half, Mamadi Jiana, who's a former member of the Chicopee High School boys' varsity soccer team, stole the ball away from a Black Rock player. He then took a shot from inside the box, which sailed high over the crossbar.

The score was deadlocked 1-1 at halftime.

The Pioneers had several more scoring chances in the second half, but they could not put the ball into the net past goalie Benjamin Duffley.

With less than two minutes remaining in the contest, Kelly made a sliding tackle breaking up a breakaway opportunity for Black Rock.

The visiting team didn't have any other shots on goal, and the score was still tied when referee Fabio Cardoso blew his whistle for the final time.

Judith Ann Hyde, 75

WARE / GILBERTVILLE – Judith Ann Hyde, 75, of Ware and Gilbertville, passed away peacefully on June 10, 2025, after a period of declining health.

Born on Aug. 1, 1949, to the late William and Mary (Moore) Bothwell, Judy lived a full and spirited life. She was predeceased by her two infant sons, Thomas and Ryan Krukus; her brother, William Bothwell and his sons Tommy and Jeffrey; her beloved sister and best friend, Linda Stolgitis; and her devoted husband and partner in crime, William Hyde, who passed away in 2020. We're pretty sure the two of them are already bickering and laughing together again in heaven.

Judy is survived by her stepchildren: Christine Stymiest, Kathleen Gleason, Andrew Hyde, and Patricia Smith; her loving sister, Barbara Jackson; and her grandchildren: Shawn Murray, Shelaigh Hyde, Matthew Murray, Shivonne Hyde, Ashley Woodbury, Emily Dafler, and Allison Hyde. She also leaves behind her cherished nieces and nephews: Donny Stolgitis, Kristie Stolgitis, Karen Fitzgerald, Alan Jackson, Sherry Jackson, and Randy Bothwell, along with their children, and many extended family members and friends.

Judy dedicated much of her career to caring for

others, working as a direct care attendant in group homes for individuals with developmental disabilities. Her compassion and strength touched many lives.

A proud Red Sox fan, Judy loved her get-aways to Aruba and Martha's Vineyard, trips to Foxwoods, and – most of all – spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She treasured the time she spent babysitting her great-nieces, Bella and Linda, when they were young, and more recently, celebrating holidays with her great-nephews, John and Patrick.

Judy was a true spitfire: tough, outspoken, and unfiltered, yet fiercely loyal and full of love for those she held dear. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered for her sharp wit, fierce honesty, and boundless love.

A Visitation Period was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, from 9-11 a.m. in the Cebula Funeral Home, 66 South St., Ware. A Prayer Service with Time of Remembrance took place at 11 a.m. in the funeral home. Burial will be in St. Aloysius Cemetery in Gilbertville.

Funeral services and arrangements are under the direction of Cebula Funeral Home of Ware. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.



Death notice

Hyde, Judith Ann
Died June 10, 2025
Services June 18, 2025

OBITUARY POLICY

Ware River News

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

SURVEYOR from page 6

drainage issues on Beaudry Avenue in Section F. Olson suggested they could put some trap rock so there is no wash out happening in the section.

Olson also told the commission they want the drainage to be functional but still keep the area looking nice in the cemetery.

Olson believes reseeding the area will help, and the water will spread out bet-

ter. Cristol wanted to know if raising the asphalt would help, but Olson thinks that could cause puddling.

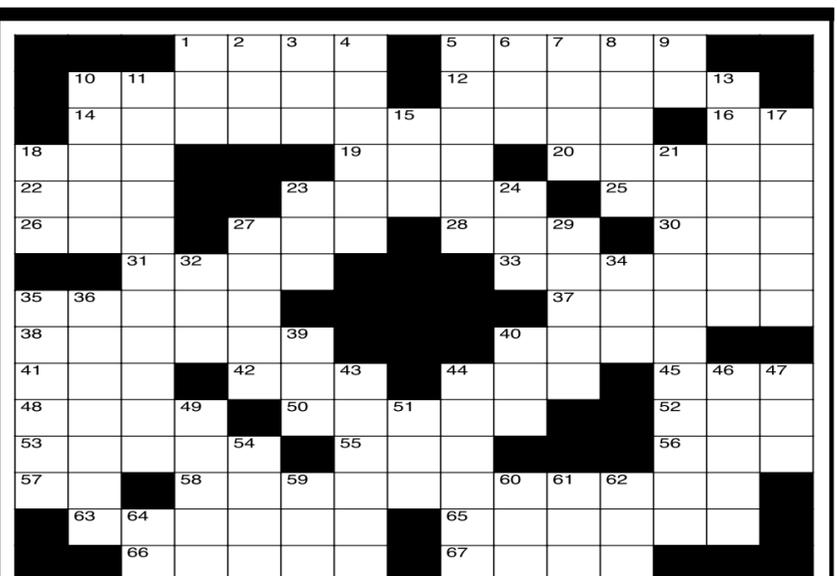
"You want water to disperse more and not be isolated in one space," Olson said.

For cemetery expansion and possible terracing, Olson brought up the possibility of erosion happening. The commission wants to figure out the cost of expanding the cemetery and terracing.

Olson suggested the board

review the area more to see what is accessible for both cremation plots and full burial sites. When observing the hill in the possible expansion area, the commission wants to determine if it's too steep.

The commission made a motion to have Olson look at all the expansion areas and terracing possibilities for cremation lots. The motion passed and Olson will keep the Cemetery Commission informed.



CLUES ACROSS

- Type of bread
- Range of mountains
- Ended
- Musical forms with a recurring theme
- On the nature of being
- Law enforcement agency
- Australian flightless bird
- Subway rodent
- More dried-up
- A beaver might build one
- Suggestive of the supernatural
- Art __, around 1920
- American rocker Snider
- Not or
- Earliest human: __-Magnon Man
- Firearm
- Tough outer skin of fruit
- Alternative form of a gene
- Low shrub some call "fat pork"
- Plants in the chamomile tribe
- Revolutionary War era spy
- Portion of a book
- Hoover's office
- Title of respect
- Tax collector
- Cool!
- Real estate
- Boy's name
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Strongly recommends
- Hit lightly
- Bar bill
- Atomic #54
- Devotes again
- Fish sauce
- French stock market
- Things that consist of two elements or parts

CLUES DOWN

- Retired game show host Sajak
- Equal (prefix)
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Loved
- A type of analyst
- Ad __
- Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- Ran without moving
- Opposite of yes
- Diffuse clouds of gas
- Mentioning one by one
- Instruments used to dilate
- Freshwater fish
- Remotely-manned flying objects
- Doctor of Education
- Renews
- Not the start
- Pitching stat
- Small water buffaloes
- Ceramic jars
- I (German)
- Something to toss on a fire
- The process of flowing in
- A series of acts at a night club
- Egg of a louse
- Inquire too closely
- Travelers
- Drink
- Behave in a way that degrades
- Electronic music style
- Northern Ireland city
- Upset
- Stiff structure resembling a hair
- Father
- North Atlantic fish
- 8th month (abbr.)
- Make an effort
- Commercial

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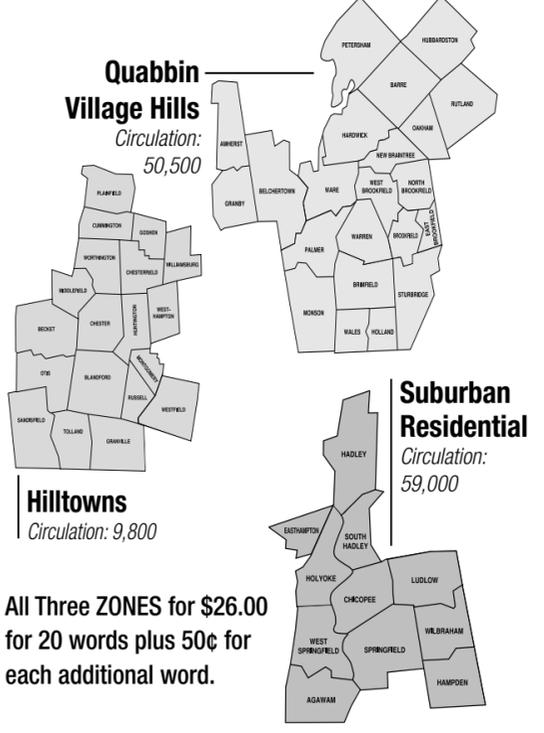
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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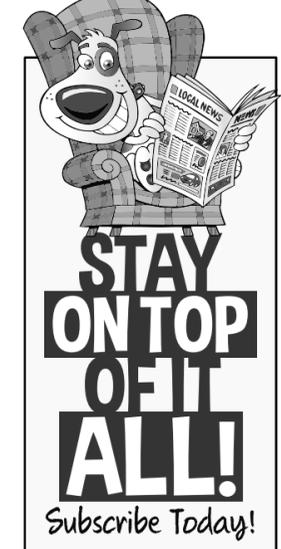
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public notices

Ware Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing
 The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) by Deborah Krainski, for removal of 3 pine trees at 21 Horseshoe Circle.** Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, Contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648.
 Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>. 06/19, 06/26/2025

Town of Ware Conservation Commission
 The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) by Lois Lopatin, to remove 5 trees and stumps of 2 trees located within 100 feet of Beaver Lake at 25 Horseshoe Circle.**
 Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9468.
 Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MPNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>. 06/19/2025

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT TOWN OF WARE FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT 95 MAIN STREET
 The Town of Ware invites sealed Bids for the Façade Improvement Project at 95 Main Street. The Façade Improvement Project includes the furnishing of all labor, equipment and materials required to complete the replacement of existing vinyl siding, windows and door.
 This project is being administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC), FY21 Ware Community Development Block Grant Program.
 Contract documents including detailed specifications will be available electronically beginning June 18, 2025 from 9:00 AM through the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. Electronic copies may be obtained by contacting Evan Mastroianni at

emastroianni@pvpc.org or 413-781-6045.
 All bids for this project are subject to the provisions and minimum wage rates required by M.G.L. c.30, §39M as amended, and M.G.L. c.149, §§26 to 27H, inclusive. All applicable Federal minimum wage rates and applicable Federal labor standards shall also apply pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act. When both State and Federal wage rates are applicable, the higher rate must be paid.
 The Awarding Authority encourages, to the extent feasible, the use of minority-, women- and disadvantaged-owned businesses for work under this contract and likewise encourages, to the greatest extent possible, that all bidders take affirmative steps to ensure training and employment for lower-income project area residents and award of subcontracts to HUD-defined Section 3 businesses. Bidders on the work shall make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder.
 Bid security in the form of a bid bond, certified or cashier's check, payable to the Town of Ware, is required in a dollar amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid amount. A performance bond and labor and materials bond for 50% of the total contract price, issued by a satisfactory surety company shall be required by the successful bidder.
 The Town of Ware reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to accept proposals deemed to be in the best interest of the Town, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn within 30 days of the bid opening.
 The Town of Ware, through its Selectboard, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town.
 The Town of Ware will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB.
 The Town of Ware Selectboard is the Awarding and Contracting Authority.
 Bids may be changed or withdrawn prior to the bid opening, but not within the sixty (60) days subsequent to the bid opening, by submission of such a change in writing in a sealed envelope, identifying the submitting party and indicating that it contains a correction of the bid for the Façade Improvement Project at 13 Church Street, Ware.
 The submission and review of bids must comply with 2 CFR Part 200, MGL Chapter 30, Section 39M, Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities/Community Development Fund Program

(EOHLC/CDF) policies and other laws and regulations of the Commonwealth. Acceptance of any bid is subject to the continued availability of funds through the EOHLC/CDF grant awarded to the Town of Ware.
 Questions regarding this procurement directed to Erica Johnson at PVPC, at ejohnson@pvpc.org.
Hard copy bids for the Façade Improvement Project at 95 Main Street for the Town of Ware, Massachusetts, must be received by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104 by 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025.
 06/19/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS25P0361EA Estate of: Mark Victor Critelli Date of Death: 02/20/2023 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
 To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen M. Critelli of Ware, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
 The Petitioner requests that: **Karen M. Critelli of Ware, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/16/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an

inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
 WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: June 06, 2025
Mark S Ames, Register of Probate
 06/19/2025

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicle Under G.L. c. 255, Section 39A
 Notice is hereby given by REGIN'S REPAIR 19 CHURCH ST GILBERTVILLE, MA 01031 Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on 6/23/2025 at 10:00AM at: Regin's Repair 19 Church St Gilbertville, MA 01031 by private sale, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle
 2009 Toyota Camry
 Registrat/sate: 2ZGN35/MA
 VIN: 4T1BE46K09U393137
 Name and address of owner: Geoffrey Ralls
 12 Cara Lane
 East Longmeadow, MA 01028
 By: James M. Regin
 Dated: 6/1/2025
 This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A
 06/05, 06/12, 06/19/2025

Notice of Initial Site Investigation & Tier Classification June 2025
42 Eddy Street Ware, MA 01082 Release Tracking Number 1-50406
 Pursuant to the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (310 CMR 40.0480), and Initial Phase I Site Investigation has been performed at the above referenced location.
 A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at the location, which is a Disposal Site (defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, Section 2). The site has been classified as Tier I, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. Response/Assessment Actions at this site have been and will be conducted by Peter and Paul Erikson, who have employed Mr. Kurt Klages, LSP (7770) to manage the response actions in accordance with the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (310 CMR 40.0000).
 M.G.L. c. 21E and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan provide additional opportunities for public notice of and involvement in decisions regarding response actions at the Disposal Site: 1) the Chief Municipal Official and Board of Health of the commu-

nity in which the site is located will be/have been notified of major milestones and events, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1403; and 2) upon receipt of a petition from ten or more residents of the municipality in which the site is located, or of a municipality potentially affected by a site, a plan for involving the public in decisions regarding response actions at the site will be prepared and implemented, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1405.
 To obtain more information about the Disposal Site and the opportunities for public involvement during its remediation, please contact: Mr. Kurt Klages, LSP, Jewel Environmental Corp., 508-207-8879.
 06/19/2025

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
 By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey S. Vincent and Jessica L. Vincent to Beverly A. Allard dated February 5, 2019 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13194, Page 181 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 17, 2025** at 267 Osborne Road, Ware, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
 To wit:
 A certain parcel of land on the southerly side of Osborne Road designated as Parcel 1 on "Plan of Land in Ware owned by Leo G. and Carol M. Chenevert, O'Keefe Associates dated March 14, 1983" recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 123, Page 79, bounded on said plan as follows:
 BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner thereof in the southerly line of Osborne Road at the northwesterly corner of Parcel 2 on said plan; thence South 36° 07' 23" East 300.59 feet along Parcel 2, other land now or formerly of John L. and Martha L. Szczepanek; thence South 11°

04' 37" West 345.19 feet along land now or formerly of Cecilia M. Smith to a point; thence North 22° 56' 02" West 368.33 feet along other land of the grantors to the southerly line of Osborne Road; thence North 62° 15' 53" East 124.93 feet along Osborne Road to the place of beginning.
 Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors herein by deed of Beverly A. Allard dated February 5, 2019, and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13194, Page 178.
 Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.
Terms of sale: A deposit of \$10,000.00 by cash, certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. This sale is subject to a 5% buyer's premium. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the Mortgagee's law offices within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.
Other terms will be announced at the sale.
 Beverly A. Allard,
 Present holder of said mortgage,
 By her Attorney,
 Joseph J. Lange, Esq.
 Lyon & Fitzpatrick, LLP
 14 Bobala Road, Suite 4
 Holyoke, MA 01040
 (413) 420-4086
 06/12, 06/19, 06/26/2025

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HELP WANTED HOUSEKEEPING / CUSTODIAL POSITIONS

Eagle Hill School, a college-prep board school located in Hardwick, MA, seeks to hire highly motivated, hardworking, and energetic individuals to join our housekeeping team.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Window cleaning; Vacuuming; Dusting; Trash Removal; Restroom Cleaning; Floor cleaning with commercial machines

Required Qualifications & Skills

- Ability to work in a team environment; Proven ability to work independently with minimal supervision; Must be flexible regarding scheduling based on business demands; Successful completions of background check; Willingness to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends, and/or Holidays as needed

Physical requirements:

- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.; Able to push/pull up to 50 lbs.; Able to bend, stretch, and twist; Able to stand for long periods of time; Able to climb multiple flights of stairs on daily basis and walk frequently; Able to work with chemicals according to directions

Eagle Hill School is located in Hardwick, MA and is a private boarding school for high school students in grades 8 through 12. If interested, call Devon Jurczyk, 413-207-7021. Phone calls only.

HELP WANTED KITCHEN / DISHWASHING POSITIONS

Eagle Hill School, a college-prep board school located in Hardwick, MA, seeks to hire highly motivated, hardworking, and energetic individuals to join our kitchen staff.

Eagle Hill School is seeking full and part time kitchen staff for dishwasher positions as well as food preparation and serving.

- Ability to work in a team environment
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Must be flexible regarding scheduling, including nights, weekends, and/or holidays as needed
- Successful completion of background checks is required
- Physical Requirements and Work Environment
- Must be able to lift approximately 30-50 pounds
- Bend, kneel, push, pull, and other physical exertion
- Ability to stand and walk for extended periods of time
- Work in a hot and damp environment with moderate to high noise volumes

Schedule
 Year round, full time schedule
 Ability to work evenings, weekends, and holidays as needed, including occasional events
 Extended hours required on an as needed basis

Hills of East Quabbin

EQLT hosted second annual bike ride

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – The East Quabbin Land Trust hosted its second annual Hills of East Quabbin Ride this past weekend. This is a charity bike

ride to help benefit the East Quabbin Land Trust. Members of the EQLT were set up at Farmer Matt's in New Braintree, which is where the cyclists would begin their ride. During this year's bike ride, 50 cyclists showed up to tour the beautiful roads of these rural central Massachusetts towns.

There were new routes in place for this year's Hills of East Quabbin Ride. Maps were provided at the booth set up by members of the

EQLT. Cyclists traveled through the East Quabbin towns of New Braintree, Oakham, North Brookfield, West Brookfield and Hardwick.

The short route was 24.2 miles long and the long route was 47.5 miles long. The EQLT office in Hardwick was the midway rest stop for the bikers. At the end of the ride, cyclists were invited to enjoy some food at Farmer Matt and beverages from Lost Towns Brewing.

Despite a little drizzle of rain in the morning, cyclists still showed up for the ride. There were not only local bikers from the East Quabbin towns, but bikers from all over New England. There were bike riders from Connecticut, New Hampshire and from all regions of Massachusetts.

Rick Romano, who participated in last year's ride and has returned to participate this year, chose to participate in the long route in the first Hills of East Quabbin Ride and said he witnessed many of the beautiful back roads and rolling hills in the East Quabbin region.

"It was a good ride last

year," Romano said. "It's about getting exercise and having fun on this ride."

Both routes took cyclists through the Ware River valley. The tour highlights many of the EQLT properties such as Wendemuth Meadow (25 Bates Street, North Brookfield), Mandell Hill (660 Barre Road, Hardwick), Deer Park Preserve (Barre Road, Hardwick), Patrill Hollow Preserve (Hardwick Road, Hardwick), Pynchon's Grist Mill Preserve (165 Wickaboag Valley Road, West Brookfield), and Eva's Woods (Ware Corner Road, Oakham).

Though it started off as a "rainy ride" the cyclists had a great time and enjoyed the Hills of East Quabbin. Start times were flexible, but many bikers returned to Farmer Matt's in the afternoon.

For more activities provided by the East Quabbin Land Trust, visit eqlt.org. This charity bike ride helps benefit the East Quabbin Land Trust, who is dedicated to caring for the farmlands, woodlands and waters in the East Quabbin region of Massachusetts.



Patrick, left, and Gerard ride together during the East Quabbin Land Trust's Hills of East Quabbin Ride.



Cyclists checked in prior to the bike ride. Members of East Quabbin Land Trust were stationed at the starting and end point of the ride, Farmer Matt's in New Braintree.



Mark Lynch started his bike ride in the Hills of East Quabbin ride.

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