

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Because of Molly

Community marks 25 years since Bish's abduction

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – This past Saturday, the common was filled with community members, legislators and law enforcement officials to support the family of 16-year-old Molly Bish, who was abducted from her lifeguarding job 25 years ago on June 27, 2000.

Her remains were found three years later in a wooded area on Whiskey Hill in Palmer. In 2021, investigators named the late Francis "Frank" P. Sumner Sr. as a person of interest in her murder.

But on this day, the focus would be on Molly, and the changes made to protect children and get justice for the victims of crimes since her



Magi Bish (center) is shown with her daughter Heather and son John Jr. during the 25th anniversary vigil of 16-year-old Molly Bish's abduction from her lifeguarding job at Comins Pond on June 27, 2000.

disappearance.

"We gather today to remember Molly," her mother Magi Bish said. "It's been 25 years of great sadness, but remarkable love."

Magi said that her young-

est daughter was a "simple, silly, sweet 16-year-old."

"Her joyfulness will not be forgotten," Magi said. "I believe Molly's love and light have guided us these 25 years...because of Molly,

we have conquered what evil could not."

The theme of this year's vigil was "Because of Molly," and each speaker shared the impact Molly's life has had on both the com-

munity and beyond.

"Molly transformed us into doers of good," Magi said.

This included establishing the Molly Bish Foundation in her memory, which has pro-

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
This banner featured pins from the annual Ride for Molly charity motorcycle ride.



vided victim advocacy services, support and promoted legislative actions since it was formed.

Molly's older sister, Heather, said while time at the vigil could be spent talking about the person sus-

Please see **MOLLY**, page 8

Friends group discuss trust funds

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – Friends of Mary Lane Hospital members Cathy Cascio and Cindy Allen Bourcier hosted a community meeting to discuss the trust funds associated with Mary Lane Hospital.

At the June 24 meeting, Cascio said they had hoped to have Megan Burke, president of the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, join them to explain how the foundation works, but she was unable to attend.

Bourcier said Burke spoke with representatives of Bank of America, which oversees the Lewis Gilbert Trust, and she said there was concern regarding the letter sent by the Selectboard to Bank of America.

"Because of all the controversy over that letter...she has decided it would be inappropriate for her to come and visit our town at this time," Bourcier said. "She does hope that things will clear up and that she'll be able to come out in the future."

Bourcier said when the hospital closed, they need-

Please see **FUNDS**, page 3

Planning Board approves special permit for campground

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Planning Board continued a public hearing for a special permit by Quabbin Glamping and Camping, LLC.

John Samek, who is the proprietor of Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, is one

of the applicants alongside Libby Talbot of Quabbin Glamping & Camping, LLC. At the public hearing on June 24, the applicants provided newly updated plans with a new site plan designed by Stoddard Engineering, based out of Athol.

This proposed plan is on 80 acres of land at 3305 Greenwich Road.

Originally the applicants had a plan for 100 campsites in total. As of June 24, the plan has been reduced to 50 campsites featuring 24 tent sites, six existing cabins, four proposed cabins and 16 camper sites.

The engineer from Stoddard Engineering was in attendance, Chris Stoddard, and located the existing roads in the site plan,

including Patrill Hollow Road. On the site plan there is a proposed sign to be installed and is in full compliance with Section 8 of the Hardwick Zoning Bylaw and all the applicable building codes.

There were some questions regarding lighting on the site. Samek said the campground will have solar lighting and the posts for

the lights are not at a standard height and are adjustable. The applicant wished to place lights near the turns and corners of the campground roads. Their intention is to keep the lights as minimal as they can.

When asked about water supply and sewage for the

Please see **PERMIT**, page 3



Pied Potter Rick Hamelin demonstrated how to shape a clay tile at the Warren Senior Center.

Artists create colorful clay tiles

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – The West Warren Library Association kicked off Summer Reading last week with a fun colorful clay tile class held at the Senior Center.

For this fun art class, Pied Potter Rick Hamelin and Garine Arakelian of Kulina Folk Art taught kids and adults how to make beautiful clay tiles. Hamelin demonstrated with a tray of clay prior to the guests taking their turn at making some colorful art.

Hamelin offers workshops for children, teens and adults as well as hands-on clay workshops lectures and pottery wheel demonstrations. When it comes to decorating and design, there are multiple tools a clay artist can use.

Please see **TILES**, page 6

Community continues talk on safety complex

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The town held its second informational session of the Warren Public Safety Facility.

Town Administrator James Ferrera welcomed the public who attended as he introduced the Board of Selectmen and representatives of Tecton Architects who conducted this study. This second of three public presentations regarding a proposed public safety complex after the town did a feasibility study that cost the town nothing due to receiving a grant.

The town website, www.warren-ma.gov, has copies of the presentation that can be reviewed by residents who were unable to attend the

meeting on June 26. Ferrera said there are options to look at and options can change as these meetings take place. Jeff McElravy of

Tecton Architects stated that the town and the architects are still in the phase of gathering feedback from the public.

As part of the agenda, the architects will go over the challenges with the current Fire and Police Department buildings, go over three current conceptual designs for the proposed public safety complex, what if scenarios, and how to choose. From McElravy's observation, there are good opportunities to improve the working environment of both departments.

Please see **COMPLEX**, page 7

“IT IS A QUESTION OF COST. GIVE SOMETHING THAT IS SELLABLE TO THE VOTERS.”

JAMES DUSTY
RESIDENT



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Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park

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.

Concert dates include 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.

Ware Cultural Council awards \$12,165 to artists

WARE – The Ware Cultural Council awarded \$12,165 to local artists and organizations to promote the arts in the town of Ware.

The funding for these grants is made possible by the efforts of legislators, state Sen. Peter J. Durant and state Rep. Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. This year, the council received 19 grant applications, and 12 applications were approved by its dedicated volunteer board members.

Here are a few of the activities coming up this summer free of charge: Arts Exploration/Summer

Youth Series (ages 6-12) Wednesdays July 9-Aug. 13 at Workshop 13 (no fee); Story Wizards, July 10 at Workshop 13 (no fee); Summer Concert Series at the Meeting House July 13, July 20 and July 27; Balloons Books and Magic July 29 at Ware Library (no fee); and 7th Annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition, Aug. 23-Sept. 7 (Saturdays and Sundays).

For information on how to apply for a grant during the 2026 grant cycle year please contact the council by email at wareculturalcouncil@yahoo.com.

Town Clerk shares 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.

Catherine Buelow Cascio and Kenneth R. Willette have submitted their Nomination Papers. 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. Individuals may check to see if they are registered to vote at www.ma.gov – Elections and Voting. Simply put it your name and address and you will see whether you are registered or if you need to register or change your address (if you have moved).

Vote by Mail will be

part of this election also. Information and the application are on the Town of Ware website – www.town-of-ware.com under News and Notices. Complete the application and drop off to the Town Clerk in person during normal business hours.

You may also put your application in the Blue Drop Box located outside of the lower level offices or email the ballot to – ntabot@town-of-ware.com. The deadline to apply for a Vote by Mail ballot will be Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 5 p.m. Vote by Mail is active also on the www.ma.gov website – Elections and Voting.

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

Are You Old News?



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

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 Ware Selectmen Gerry Mallet, Stan Pajak, David Flanagan and Paul Petracone marching in Hardwick's 250th anniversary parade.

Summer Reading continues at Paige Memorial Library

HARDWICK – Every Wednesday come to the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road on Wonder-filled Wednesdays for Story Time at 11 a.m. with stories, crafts, science and games and LEGO Building from 3-4 p.m.

Build a Lego creation and put it on display in the library with a picture on Facebook.

Upcoming Summer Reading programs include making a checkerboard game to take home on Thursday, July 10; Board Game Day with snacks on Saturday, July 12 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Pokemon Day on Tuesday, July 15 from 4-6 p.m.; make a Tic-Tac-Toe game to take home on Thursday, July 24; Bingo with prizes on Tuesday, July

29 from 3-5 p.m.; and make a jig-saw puzzle (the library has a die cut) on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

More activities will be added, including a puppet show, bowling, hopscotch. Summer Reading ends on Aug. 9.

On Saturday, Aug. 9 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Town House come and visit with the Mystic Aquarium Traveling Touch Tank. A unique and engaging experience which will provide an assortment of live invertebrates such as lobsters, horseshoe crabs and shellfish to entertain and educate people of all ages.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council,

a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Other summer events Build a Fairy House Workshop will be held at the library on Tuesday, Aug. 12 from 3-5 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 13 from 1-3 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 14 from 4-6 p.m.

In preparation for the Hardwick Fair, the Paige Library will supply materials to create Fairy Houses to be placed in the Hardwick Fair-y Village on Fair Day. Come build your very own Fairy House to display and then take home.

For more information email Director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.



The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to pouimette@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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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, July 7

- 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

Tuesday, July 8

- 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, July 9

- 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

Thursday, July 10

- 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

Friday, July 11

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Food Bank of Western Mass Brown Bag Program
- 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 your name on the lunch list.

Monday, July 7

Lazy Pierogi with Kielbasa, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, July 8

Grilled Reuben, Onion Rings, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, July 9

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, July 10

Turkey Waldorf Sandwich, Potato Chips, Dessert of the Day

Friday, July 11

Baked Fish, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Planning Board postpones public hearings

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Planning Board met on June 26 and had a couple public hearings on their agenda.

There was a home occupation public hearing for 120 Church St. and a special permit for 34-4-4 Greenwich Plains Cannabis Cultivation. Planning Board Chair Ken Crosby was absent at this meeting and without having a full board, there can't be a vote on the special permit.

Vice Chair Chris Dimarzio did open the public hearings to discuss the possibility of postponing both public hearings. The board wanted to ask if the applicants in attendance

would be okay with continuing the public hearing.

The board began with the Greenwich Plains Cannabis Cultivation public hearing. Prior to the continuation vote, Planning Board member Richard Starodaj had mentioned there were site plans presented by the applicant but is lacking detail. Starodaj reminded the applicants that other departments are reviewing their site plans that need to be well detailed.

Dimarzio said there are access to maps that will help with the updates. As of now, the information is hard to read in the plans that were provided. The plans also need something bigger to review and has to include scales of parcels with measurements.

The plans also have to be in line with the bylaw.

The Planning Board extended an offer to the applicants to postpone the public hearing until their next meeting on July 3. There was no discussion from the public regarding the continuation and the board voted to postpone the public hearing for a special permit for Greenwich Plains Cannabis Cultivation to July 3.

The Planning Board hopes the applicant produces better plans to review. The board would then move to the 120 Church St. home occupation public hearing. The applicant was wondering if they could continue the public hearing on another date in July due to a conflict.

There is a plan on file, but the board had concerns about the plans. Dimarzio said "we need something for the record." There needs to be more visual detail on the plans.

The board did postpone the public hearing for 120 Church St. home occupancy to July 31. The board will accept any written testimony as part of the record if anyone from the public can't appear in person during the public hearing.

The next Planning Board meeting is Thursday, July 3 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall in the Selectboard's Meeting Room at 126 Main St. Residents have the option to attend the meeting virtually on Zoom.

FUNDS from page 1

ed to find a new beneficiary of the trust funds. Currently, the trust benefits Mary Lane Hospital through the care of Baystate Health.

"We searched around trying to find the best solution, different foundations all over Massachusetts," she said. "The money needs to go to a nonprofit."

She said they looked at three community foundations, with two based in Worcester County and also the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts. She said this foundation was the "best fit" to meet both the needs of Ware and Gilbertville residents.

"The Western Mass group would give us the best distributions," Bourcier said.

Cascio said former Baystate Health CEO Dr. Mark Keroack does have a seat on the Board of Directors for the Community

Foundation of Western Massachusetts, but directors have no say in how the foundations operate and how funds are distributed.

"It's not that Mr. Keroack would have any direct tie to how our money is spent," she said.

Cascio said the foundation would hold the trust money and invest it annually, then the interest goes to the beneficiary to be distributed. She said the beneficiary would be the proposed Mary Lane Hospital Association Foundation, which would be made up of representatives from the towns.

"This way there's a lot of oversight, and local oversight," she said, to how the money is spent.

Bourcier added that there would be "complete transparency" with the proposed Mary Lane Hospital Association Foundation.

"This is a long-term solution," Bourcier said.

Bourcier and Cascio said the Selectboard's letter stating it was in support of the trust staying under the care of Bank of America has "squashed" the shift to this new proposed model involving the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

"I do think that a lot of people didn't understand where we were at from the Selectboard and Stuart [Town Manager] and everybody...I don't think anything was fully done intentionally to stop the process," Cascio said. "Because it kind of put the brakes on where we were going as a town, as a group."

Both Bourcier and Cascio said working with the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts will provide more opportunities to expand healthcare access in the town and provide more flexibility for use of the trust than Bank of America does.

Cascio said shifting the

care of the trust to the foundation and creating a community-based beneficiary is the best step forward for the community. She said working with the foundation does not prevent Baystate Health from benefiting from the trust funds, as they would be eligible to apply for grants as would any other healthcare entity.

"There's many people that have really looked at this and worked on it for months and that's why we're so eager that we continue this process this way," Cascio said. "This is kind of a reminder of why we want to go this route. We've got to look at what's best overall...the whole picture."

Bourcier and Cascio will be meeting with the Selectboard at its July 1 meeting to continue this discussion.

PERMIT from page 1

campsites, the vision of the applicant is to place water spigots near the sites and not have them placed on each individual site. Samek addressed the Planning Board and the public in attendance that other boards are aware of this project.

Samek met with the Board of Health and also the Building Inspector, Paul Stringham, who attended the Planning Board meeting. The plans provided did raise some questions regarding the water supply for the units and the restroom setup. The applicants did address that piping infrastructure will be included with the plans and will be review by the Board of Health.

On the plans there was a proposed leach field on the site as well as a bath house and portable restrooms. The engineer did address the bathhouse which can't be built without the approval from the Board of Health.

Samek said the campground is intended to be

year-round use. Samek said this campground is not looking to host events and is "strictly a campground." Hours of operation would be from 3-9 p.m. with staff on site.

The barriers for the site include a wire fence and a boulder barrier. The plans provided dimensions for each structure, whether it is a tent, cabin or an RV campsite.

Stringham said he did review the plans and mentioned that cabins do need building permits and will be inspected to be sure they're safe for human occupancy. Cabins will also be for seasonal use and not for long-term camping.

Samek said the campers will sign a contract for a short-term stay which is up to four days. There are rules in place to enforce any issue if campers exceed the stay limits. When asked if the campground is accessible for firetrucks and ambulances, the applicant said both Fire Department and EMT companies were both at the site for a drive-through and

thought the roads were adequate.

Jenna Garvey of the Planning Board read an email from Hardwick Fire Chief Josh Pease, who is in support of the zoning and permitting of the campground.

Samek also addressed the possibility of an emergency breakdown case if a camper had vehicle or camper breakdown on the road. In case of a late entry, the camper could stay in the winery.

Stringham had more information to share when enforcing the licenses of campgrounds. The Building Inspector said a lot goes on the Board of Health when enforcing campgrounds. They have be licensed and campgrounds are inspected every year.

"It's a zoning matter," Stringham said.

Several residents still addressed concerns of campground rules being broken in other scenarios or locations and Samek addressed the public that their campground is an "off the grid type camp-

ground" and is committed to enforcing the rules they put in place.

For heating in the winter, heat will be added and Quabbin Glamping and Camping LLC is exploring solar options. The campground is looking to rotate the sights and is not looking for seasonal RV camping. Campers will be booking sites online.

The initial concern the Planning Board had at the start of this special permit public hearing is if the authorities are working together on this decision for a special permit. The Board agreed that there must be more communication between the boards in the future.

Planning Board member Jeff Schaff asked if the Planning Board has enough information to make a decision.

Cole looked to his fellow board members to get each of their opinions. Considering that plans typically change in the process there were four favorable votes for this spe-

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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

When will funds stolen from Social Security be replaced?

Dear Rusty:
When will the funds stolen from the SS Fund be replaced?

They used Social Security when the government ran out of money and used it for illegals. I think the funds should be replaced except for legitimate payments to Social Security recipients. This money was never meant to be used by the federal government to pay their bills.

Signed: Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior:

I must tell you that no funds have ever been "stolen" from the Social Security Administration despite the persistent myth. All money received by SS from payroll taxes, interest on investments and income tax on SS benefits is - and always has been - immediately converted to special issue government bonds (investments), which are held in the Social Security Trust Funds and which pay interest at the current federal bond rate.

Those bond investments held in reserve have been and are used only to pay benefits to those who have earned them by contributing to Social Security via payroll taxes for at least 10 years (40 quarters). Only U.S. citizens and legal residents can get Social Security benefits. Illegal aliens cannot receive Social Security benefits.

For information, repayment of the special issue bonds held in SS reserves occurs every day, because incoming revenue has been insufficient to pay all Social Security benefit costs for several years now, which means that the bonds must be redeemed regularly so that full benefits can be paid to all SS recipients,

who have earned them. There were about \$2.8 trillion in SS reserves as of the end of 2023, but that balance is steadily decreasing due to being redeemed to pay full benefits. As of the last report by the Trustees of Social Security, the reserves will be depleted in about 2033, unless Congress passes reform legislation to restore SS to full solvency.

FYI, the Association of Mature American Citizens is working hard to prevent depletion of the Trust Fund, suggesting to Congress a way to reform the program so future generations can fully benefit from it, with AMAC's Social Security Guarantee proposal. AMAC is constantly working to prevent depletion of the SS Trust Funds, which would result in an across the board cut in everyone's benefit by about 23%. AMAC works every day in Washington D.C. to ensure Social Security is here for many generations.

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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

What are biennials exactly?

Right now, many of our favorite "cottage-garden" flowers are beginning to put on a summer show.

Most of these fall into the category of plants known as biennials. From the towering pastel spikes of the beloved hollyhock, to the tattered, clove-scented sweet William and the mysterious and dangerous foxglove, each share the same life cycle.

Unfortunately, however, here is where lots of gardeners get confused. So then, what exactly are biennials? Do they bloom every other year or just during the second growing season? Is a "short-lived perennial" the same as a biennial?

Let's take a closer look. Merriam-Webster defines biennial as "continuing or lasting for two years; specifically: growing vegetatively during the first year and fruiting and dying during the second." In other words, if you started a hollyhock plant from seed in the spring expect it to put on a lot of green growth this season.

Next spring (year two) the plant will send up a flower stalk. The flowers will eventually die and seeds will form and drop from the plant.

Usually, the mother plant will not return for a third season. If all goes as Nature intended though, a percentage of her seeds will germinate the following spring, starting the two year process to flower all over again.

I encourage gardeners to have fresh green plants growing alongside blooming biennials - that way they will end

dressings of compost and a sprinkling of organic fertilizer) and water (a drink during droughty periods) if you want them to compare to their parents.

Speaking of parents, what happens when the older plant survives into year three? This happens to me periodically, especially with hollyhock, foxglove and sweet William. Certainly not every plant in the clump comes back, but perhaps one out of three do.

Sometimes they look okay, while other times the crown is woody or the flowers aren't quite as tall. Oftentimes diseases can take their toll. Be your own judge here- if you want to gamble, leave the plants in place.

Presently I am doing just that with an amazing stand of hollyhocks that bloomed ever so beautifully near my lamppost last summer. So far, so good. But, to be on the safe side, I do have a couple of self sowers waiting in the wings for next year, since a third year of blooming is highly unlikely.

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.



up with flowers every year, at least hypothetically. Keep in mind that self-sown seedlings are not without work.

Oftentimes they come up too close to one another and must be thinned. Or they germinate in an inappropriate spot and likewise need to be moved. You can try to manipulate the outcome of your "volunteers" somewhat.

For notorious self-sowing biennials like rampion, rose campion, and foxglove, dead-head all but a few seed pods. You will reduce the population and there won't be as many to thin out.

You can also watch the seed pods carefully, and when they are ripe sprinkle them where you want them to come up- this works especially well for hollyhock and sweet William - both of which I'd call reluctant self-sowers. Work I know, but still far easier than setting up the grow lights and heat cables and starting your seedlings indoors!

Remember to give your little volunteers lots of TLC in the way of food (a top

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Send opinions to:
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Letter to the Editor
80 Main Street,
Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
pouimette@turley.com

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Willette announces candidacy for Selectboard

I am writing to formally announce my candidacy for Ware Selectboard in the Aug. 12 special election.

Since choosing to live here 10 years ago, I have been impressed by the dedication and passion that defines our town. For the last five years, while serving on the Finance Committee and the Capital Infrastructure Review Committee, I had the opportunity to meet every Town department head, worked closely with the Selectboard and Town Manager. and met many residents.

I am deeply invested in the well-being and future of our community.

I spent 32 years in the fire service, including 13 years as a fire chief in two Massachusetts communities. This experience, coupled with my years on Finance and Capital Infrastructure Review, has equipped me with the skills necessary to tackle the challenges we face.

I believe in transparent governance, informed decision-making, and proactive solutions. My vision for our town includes maintaining essential services, fostering economic development, ensuring fiscal responsibility, and enhancing recreational opportunities.

I am committed to listening to your concerns and working tirelessly to make our town a better place for all its residents.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the Selectboard and am eager to contribute to the continued success and prosperity of our community. I look forward to engaging with you all during this campaign and hope to earn your trust and support in voting for me on Aug. 12.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ken Willette
Ware



By Ellenor Downer

Last week on a trip to Rhode Island with my brother and cousin, we saw two osprey when we stopped by Point Judith Lighthouse.

We watched them as they flew over the ocean and hovered as they looked for fish. One got ready to dive as it tucked in its wings, but then stopped and flew to another spot to hover.

The osprey, also known as the fish hawk, eats a diet of live fish, has the ability to hover and dives into the water to catch them. They are often seen soaring over shorelines.

Ospreys are brown birds with a white head and a brown stripe through its eye. Underparts are grayish. They are over 24 inches long and have a wingspan of 71 inches. They are the only raptor whose outer toe is reversible, allowing it to grasp its prey with two toes in front and

two behind.

Ospreys are very successful in catching fish. According to a study at least one out of every four dives results in catching fish. The average time ospreys spend hunting before making a catch was about 12 minutes.

Ospreys often build large stick nests on manmade structures such as telephone poles, channel markers, and nest platforms designed for their use. Their eggs do not hatch all at once with the first chick emerging about five days before the last one. The oldest chick dominates the younger ones. When food is scarce, the younger chicks may starve to death.

A Brimfield resident, who likes to visit inland ponds, often watches osprey nesting. Ospreys migrate and this resident reports their return in the spring. An osprey, equipped with a tracking device, flew

2,700 miles from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts to French Guiana South America during 13 days in 2008.

Other seashore birds

In addition, to the osprey we saw cormorants, seagulls, bank swallows, grackles and even a redwing blackbird whose epaulets were bright red. There were new benches installed along the cliff bank. When we stopped there last year, the benches were in poor condition.

Birds in Sutton

My brother lives in Sutton. He sets out grape jelly and a hummingbird feeder. The Baltimore orioles, catbirds, red bellied woodpeckers and even house finches come for the jelly. The ruby throated

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 6



Osprey

Town Administrator earns 'outstanding' performance review

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen discussed and presented the results of Town Administrator Jim Ferrera's annual performance review.

"I think overall it's very positive," Board of Selectmen Chair Richard Eichacker said at the June 26 meeting.

The annual performance review evaluates the employee's daily work activities and provides both positive recognition of the employee's

achievements, as well as feedback and suggestions for areas of improvement.

Performance dimensions are divided into seven categories, and the employee receives a number scale rating with 1 being "unsatisfactory" and 5 being "outstanding." Categories are Job Related Expertise; Communication and Customer Service; Quality of Work and Productivity; Initiative, Creativity and Problem Solving; Cooperation, Teamwork and Leadership; Dependability and Attendance; and

Supervisory/Staff Development.

Ferrera received ratings of 4 (exceeds expectations) and 5 in the annual performance review with an overall rating of "outstanding" and a cumulative performance score of 187. The maximum score allowed is 215.

In the comments of the annual performance review, the Board of Selectmen members noted that Ferrera was "a valuable asset to the town." They stated that his dedication to his position was "unmatched," and they commended his professionalism

in dealing with the public, employees and town officials.

The Selectmen also credited Ferrera's pursuit of grant funding, training opportunities for employees, and his communication with the town's various departments.

Eichacker said Ferrera goes "above and beyond" what is expected of him in many areas, including his dedication to his position and his participation in community events.

Board of Selectmen Clerk David Dufresne said overall, Ferrera has exceeded expectations in most areas

of the evaluation, but there is always room for improvement.

"Overall, you're doing really well and you're definitely exceeding expectations," he said.

Ferrera thanked the board members for their comments and feedback through the annual performance review.

"I really do appreciate working for board," Ferrera said.

Ferrera presented his goals for 2026, which include creating a task force to look at ways to address the rising cost of utilities and

insurances with a report to be issued to the Selectmen at town meeting by June 2026; procuring a vendor to refresh and update the town's website and manage its successful implementation; working with the Collins Center to perform a complete review of the town's personnel bylaw and update the town's policies related to human resource functions; continuing to address town building maintenance and improvements; and continuing to provide training opportunities to assist with staff development.

Library lists upcoming children's programs

WARREN – The Warren Public Library, 934 Main St., lists upcoming children's programs for the week of July 6-12.

Stuffie Sleepover

The popular Stuffie Sleepover returns this summer on Tuesday, July 8. Bring your stuffie friend to a special Storytime at 5:30 p.m., then leave them overnight for fun adventures and a sleepover at the library.

Be sure to bring a stuffie who's ready to spend the whole night away from home. Then, pick them up on Wednesday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to find out what they got up to at their sleepover.

If you can't make it to the Storytime, feel free to drop your stuffie off anytime during open hours on

Tuesday (11 a.m.-7 p.m.). Alternatively, you're welcome to bring your stuffie just for Storytime even if they aren't ready for a sleepover yet.

Zentangles

On Thursday, July 10 at 2 p.m. learn the meditative art form of Zentangles with local artist FaegasiAurora. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn pattern drawing technique that promotes creativity while reducing stress.

This program is open to kids, teens, and their families. No registration required.

This program is free and all supplies will be provided. Please call or email for more information about either of these programs at 413-436-7690 or warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

CDBG funds reprogrammed for stair project

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – During the Board of Selectmen's June 26 meeting, there was a public hearing held regarding Community Development Block Grant programs.

Speaking during the public hearing was Principal Planner of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, John O'Leary. The purpose of this public hearing was to give an update on ongoing activities for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Community Development Block Grant program.

An additional part of the presentation was discussing a potential reprogramming of the CDBG funds for another activity or project. O'Leary briefly talked about the Town Common Improvement Project, which has its design work nearly complete.

The town hired Weston & Sampson to help with developing a conceptual design and help make improvements to the current condition of the Town Common. The improvements include enhancing its accessibility, adding features to it and making sure the space is better suited for current and future residents.

O'Leary said the design work is nearly complete and the finalized concept will be out and presented sometime

in July. This concept will be presented, and the public will have the opportunity to review the concept and share comments.

The next activity involved with the FY 22-23 CDBG program is the School Street Phase Two project. This project features surfacing of the street and sidewalks and drainage work. The town was also able to access funds from the Community One Stop program to help with phase two of this project.

As a result, the town was able to save around \$150,000 on the project. This information would lead to the second part of the CDBG public hearing. O'Leary discussed how the town should reprogram these funds and what projects are out there to take up.

O'Leary brought up the potential Downtown Stair Replacement Project. The current condition of these stairs is visible to the public and has been an issue over the last decade.

O'Leary brought up some history of these downtown stairs dating back to 2009. In that year, the town applied for a construction fund to help improve along that sidewalk in the downtown area. Over time, there has been some deterioration on the steps, which lead to some of the buildings featuring businesses in town.

In addition to the stairs

deterioration, there have been numerous complaints about these steps being a tripping hazard and adding to safety issues. Several of the town's staff have tried to make these corrections through multiple options.

O'Leary says these funds are accessible and would be a benefit to the town.

"I think it would be in the best interest of the town to consider reprogramming the funds from School Street and into this project," O'Leary said.

After talking with an engineer who reviewed the conditions of these stairs, the cost estimate would be \$157,400. While discussing with the engineer, an approach was explained as they want to make corrections to the stairs.

According to the engineer the town is currently talking with, the lifespan of these new stairs would last the next 25 to 30 years. O'Leary says the existing ramp structure will remain in place.

Board of Selectmen Chair Richard Eichacker asked if the existing stairs are to be removed entirely. O'Leary said due to the strength of the concrete or the pounds per square inch is the reason for the approach to replace the stairs entirely.

Town Administrator James Ferrera shared some input and said the lifespan of these steps is about halfway

through and they're already showing some issues. The engineer helped identify the weaknesses of the steps and strongly believes the new work to the new stairs will be stronger.

From a financial perspective, Ferrera says this project "won't hurt us" if it is approved and because the town has access to funds.

"This is an accessibility type project," Ferrera said.

The Town Administrator believes this project will benefit residents who utilize the stairs in town. In his early days as Town Administrator, Ferrera remembered there was a complaint made by a woman who tripped on the stairs.

O'Leary confirmed with the Selectmen that the stairs are town owned after accessing the registry of deeds. There will be a public engagement piece on this project and the plan is to get it done before the end of the year.

O'Leary confirmed with the Board of Selectmen that this project will not cost the town any money as it is grant funded.

O'Leary asked if the board could make a motion to reprogram up to \$160,000 from School Street Phase Two Project into the Downtown Stairs Replacement Project. The board made the motion and approved.

Summer Eats food program offered

BARRE – This summer, all kids and teens get free meals at Quabbin Regional Middle High School through the Summer Eats program, no ID or registration required.

Summer Eats is open to all kids 18 and under. Kids and teens must be present to receive a meal and are required to eat on-site.

The summer feeding program at the Middle High School will be offered July 8-Aug. 7. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

You can find additional Summer Eats sites near you using Project Bread's Summer Eats map at projectbread.org/summereats.



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Town to hold public engagement event for Hazard Mitigation Plan

WARE – Residents, businesses, and surrounding community members are invited to learn about and provide input on the Town of Ware Hazard Mitigation Plan.

This public meeting will be held during the Selectboard meeting on Tuesday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 126 Main St. Participants can also join virtually on Zoom by following this Zoom link information (meeting ID: 784-604-1861; passcode: 01082).

The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to assess Ware's natural

hazard risks and provide an action plan to reduce the town's vulnerabilities. The Hazard Mitigation Plan is being completed by the town with assistance from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Upon completion, the plan will be submitted to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and FEMA for review and approval. A FEMA-approved HMP makes the community eligible for federal and state mitigation grant funding.

Ants on a Log performing at Ware Library

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Ware Library, 37 Main St., is welcoming the musical group Ants on a Log this summer.

Ants on a Log plays music for children and the young at heart. Their award-winning music centers around positivity, social justice, and silliness. Humor and harmony comes together when Ants on a Log performs for you.

Ants on a Log offers concerts and other creative

content for communities and organizations. This program is generously funded in memory of Peggy Trombly.

The music provided by Ants on a Log is inclusive and fun and leaves the audience feeling energetic, interactive, as the band performs leaving children and adults in delight.

Ants on a Log will be performing in the reading room of the Ware Library on Thursday, July 10 at 3 p.m. Visit the library and come sing and dance with Ants on a Log.

Free meals offered to youth

WARE – Ware Public School is committed to providing students nutritious food and will provide free meals for youth ages 18 and under, Monday through Friday, from June 30-Aug. 1.

No registration or ID is required. Meals will not be available on July 4.

Serving times for congregate meals at SMK Elementary School are as follows: breakfast 8-9

a.m. and lunch 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch meals will also be available to-go from the municipal parking lot on Pleasant Street from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Dates and times are subject to change. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Food Service Department at 413-967-5977. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

TILES from page 1

According to Hamelin, the most useful tool of becoming a potter is "a sense of humor".

In other words, it is good to make mistakes, and you should always have fun and laugh with yourself while you're working. After demonstrating the shaping of the clay for the tiles, Hamelin asked the kids in attendance what the primary colors are.

This was a fun learning opportunity for kids as they learn about the proper way to mix colors to form new colors once they start painting their clay tiles. One by one, kids identified the main colors on the color wheel and what colors to mix to make new colors.

For shapes, the aspiring artists, youth and adults, would use cookie cutters. One of the kids got creative and made a Frankenstein face for his clay tile. In addition, the same kid got busy with the paint and made 10 new colors by mixing paint, including a tan color.

The adults got crafty as they added various designs to their clay tiles. One of the adults designed letters to spell out

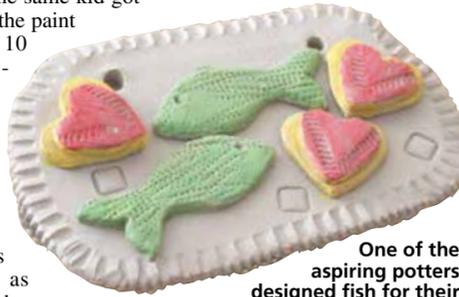


Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Kids got to paint their clay tiles and learned how to mix paint to make other colors.



A beautiful love message in the form of a clay tile.



One of the aspiring potters designed fish for their clay tile. Paint was added after the tile was properly shaped.



A colorful clay tile featured the name "Odin" and hearts surrounding it with a green background.



A penguin and a fish were about to have color added to this clay tile.



A Frankenstein face was designed by one of the child crafters. The face features various colors and shapes.

a name. The aspiring potters had a great time designing their own colorful clay tiles.

When it was time for the guests to shape and paint their own tiles, Hamelin went around the craft room in the Senior Center to help anyone and give some helpful tips.

Many of the potters designed animals and shapes to be highlighted on their clay tiles. The paint was applied after the tiles were shaped to near perfection. A lot of the animals and shapes crafted by the kids and adults were made from clay as well.

Hamelin is based out of central Massachusetts and

has been involved with pottery since 1976. During his time as a potter, Hamelin has been fascinated by the history of redware pottery.

Arakelian focuses more on candle and soap making as well as painting on textiles, paper quilling jewelry and skin care products.

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BACKYARD from page 4

hummingbirds come for the sugar water.

Mass Audubon Society sightings

The Massachusetts Audubon Society reports several unusual bird sightings. They included swallow-tailed kites in Mashpee, a Mississippi kite in Harwich, a Franklin's gull and two royal terns in Provincetown,

a continuing prothonotary warbler in Concord, a Wilson's phalarope at Belle Marsh Reservation in Boston and a Brewster's warbler in Amherst.

Berkshire County sighting were a worm-eating warbler on Mt. Washington Road in Egremont, a least bitttern in the Post Farm Marsh in Lenox, an Acadian flycatcher at the Jug End Reservation in Egremont and six red crossbills at the summit of Mt. Greylock in Adams.

In Franklin County, there were four sandhill cranes on Plainfield Road in Ashfield and two hooded warblers on Falls Road in Sunderland.

Hampshire County highlights were a Brewster's warbler on the Narwottuck Rail Trail in Amherst and a least bitttern near Station Road on the Narwottuck Rail Trail also in Amherst, three purple martins and four blue grosbeaks in the Honey Pot on Moody Bridge Road in Hadley and a common goldeneye on the Quabbin Reservoir off the Windsor Dam in Belchertown.

Hampden County notables were two upland sandpipers on the Perimeter Road in Ludlow and two blue grosbeaks at the Southwick Wildlife Management Area in Southwick. Worcester County had an Acadian flycatcher near the Uxbridge Rice City Pond in Uxbridge and five evening grosbeaks at a private residence in Royalston.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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Cemetery Commission reviews perpetual care

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Cemetery Commission met on June 24 to review the usage of perpetual care.

In recent meetings the Cemetery Commission had discussed getting perpetual care for the town's cemetery. Commission Clerk Cindy Baxter provided copies of the law regarding perpetual care.

According to the law, it is up to the commission to decide to pay with perpetual care and has to be in line with the rules the law addresses. Baxter had questions regarding the language used in the rule about perpetual care. Baxter

highlighted the part where it says perpetual care is for burial places or burial lots.

With the "or" stated in the language, Baxter wants the commission to keep that in mind as they move forward with a decision. If the Cemetery Commission wants to adopt perpetual care, it must fit within the perimeters.

With "burial place" listed in the language, The Cemetery Commission is convinced their cemetery falls into that category.

Steve Cristol, Vice Chair of the Cemetery Commission was wondering if trees fall into perpetual care. The commission has

Please see **CEMETERY**, page 13

Author presents narrated slideshow of Quabbin history

WARREN – New York Times bestselling author Michael Tougias, author of "Quabbin: A History and Explorers Guide, will present a narrated slide presentation about Quabbin Reservoir at the Warren Senior Center on Wednesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m.

This event is sponsored by the Warren Public Library with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council and the MA Cultural Council.

The program features the demise of the "lost towns" flooded to create the Quabbin, the construction of the massive reservoir, and how the Quabbin works today. In addition, Tougias will take the audience on a natural history tour of the Quabbin and surrounding area with suggestions for day trips.

Tougias' slides include

before and after images of the lost towns, workers building the dams and aqueduct, the grand opening of the reservoir, wildlife of the Quabbin, unique natural places, and favorite trails and entrance gates. Tougias also discusses three fascinating events from the region he calls "forgotten history" as well as a couple of surprise findings.

When Quabbin was constructed in the late 1920s and 1930s, four towns "drowned," 2,500 residents displaced, and 7,500 graves were moved. Today Quabbin Reservoir provides water for Boston and 45 other communities, serving over 2.5 million people.

Quabbin and the surrounding forest is the largest tract of open space in southern New England, home to nesting loons and bald eagles, coyotes, porcupines, and

moose.

Tougias has been hiking and researching the Quabbin for over 30 years.

"I first fell in love the solitude and the beauty of this special place," said Tougias. "Later, the history captured my attention, and I set out to interview all the former residents of the lost towns I could locate. Although many were just children when the state took their towns, they have incredible stories of how this huge project changed so many lives. My book and this presentation is a way for me to share my passion for the area and encourage fellow explorers to visit this region of Massachusetts."

Tougias is the author and co-author of 30 other books including four books about true survival at sea stories: "So Close

To Home", "A Storm Too Soon", "Overboard!" "Fatal Forecast", "Ten Hours Until Dawn", and "The Finest Hours" (now a Disney Movie). He has also written a book about his adventures at his remote cabin in Vermont titled "There's A Porcupine In My Outhouse!"

His latest books are "Above & Beyond: JFK and America's Most Dangerous Spy Mission" and a memoir titled "The Waters Between Us: A Boy, A Father, Outdoor Misadventures and the Healing Power of Nature".

Tougias presents slide presentations on the topics covered in all his books, and is a dynamic speaker who often attracts large crowds. Visit his website at www.michaeltougias.com. When not writing or exploring, Tougias donates his time to protecting open space.

COMPLEX from page 1

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie spoke briefly before the presentation and talked about the issues at the current fire station.

This was part of a study departments were asked to participate in and it helped identify the needs that could be good for the next 50-75 years. Both fire stations, including Station B in West Warren have issues and the department needs a new place, according to Chief Lavoie.

The doors are becoming too small for fire trucks and there are some crowding issues. Lavoie thinks it is best to look at other options. The Fire Department has their equipment separated, using Station B to store some equipment. Lavoie did want to inform the public that the options they're looking at is all informational and nothing is being voted on.

In the program exercise, Tecton Architects identified the size for individual departments and for a combined public safety complex. Fire Department would be 16,670 square feet, Police 9,875 square feet, town office 15,430 square feet, fire & police 26,545 square feet, a combined public safety complex 25,400 square feet and a combination of police, fire and town office would be 41,975 square feet.

Tecton also identified the impacts on fire departments if they don't have modern buildings from health, mental wellbeing, physical preparedness, training and other multiple factors. McElravy shared a statistical study back

in 2020 where 44% of reported injuries at fire departments were not sustained during emergency responses. What currently exists at the Warren Fire Station are tightly crowded bays, a door size that is not up to modern standards, which is 14 feet high and 14 feet wide.

Lavoie did address the current situation at the fire station. Though it is not up to code, the department does the best they can to maintain the building with the space they have.

"We maintenance these stations every day," Lavoie said "We do the best with the space we have."

For the police station what currently exists is a lack of a proper training space. Police Chief Gerald Millette had to miss this second informational session, but Tecton did go over the current conditions of the police station.

For modern police stations, there is a training space, roll call space, and a patrol space. For prisoner processing, the current space is tight and has poor functionality. The presentation featured pictures of both the fire station and police station. The biggest element missing in the current Warren police station is proper evidence storage.

Tecton would move on to the three main locations that were identified in the study that could house a public safety complex. The first is located at 87 & 0 Brimfield Road. This is next to the town's Highway Department. The second choice is by the Shepard Building at 48 High St. & 100 Maple St.

The last option was locat-

ed at Old West Warren Road that include some challenges such as having a wetland area, a stream on site and a significant elevation of 50 feet. Each location had a conceptual design provided in the presentation by Tecton Architects.

Tecton would then go over the cost of each location and what factors go into the cost. There is construction cost, project development and contingency make up the cost. The least expensive option is 87 & 0 Brimfield Road and the probable cost would be around \$25,637,000. The cost for the location of 48 High St. & 100 Maple St. is \$26,132,000 and Old West Warren Road is the most expensive option with a probable cost of \$30.9 million.

Members of the public wanted to address some questions, and most were about the current condition of the Town Hall building in the center of Warren. This is where the Warren Police Department is currently located. It was shared with the public that the build is 200 years old and was not initially designed to be a space for the police department.

The public agrees that the police need a feasible building but also feel the town has neglected the building and is the reason behind its current and poor condition. The Selectmen stated that any renovation work for the building would be costly and right now they're only making recommendations based off the information they got from this feasibility study.

The town is also trying to follow federal compliances from the State when it comes

to building codes.

Simultaneously, town departments are trying to find grants that will help improve the town. Lavoie is hoping to get grants in the future after this study is presented. Residents were also curious about what the plan is when the buildings are emptied.

The Selectmen are aware that there are a lot of "what if" situations and any feedback is going to help the Town find a solution.

"This is the feedback we're looking for," said Chair Richard Eichacker.

With the feedback, the town will take as much information as they can and figure out what to do next. Earlier in the presentation, Tecton showed examples of modern stations that were done in other Massachusetts towns. One example was from the town of Lexington.

The concern residents had was if a facility like what Lexington has is necessary for a small town like Warren. The population of Warren is under 5,000 and maybe a facility should be of a smaller scale.

A financial advisor came up next to explain the tax impact. All of the statistics are assumed with no future growth in the town.

There was an analysis of 20 years, 25 years and 30 years. All the interest rates listed in the analysis are all assumed as well. For example, for 20 years, \$30 million, and an assumed interest rate of 3.5%, it would be \$365 per year per \$100,000.

There were what if situations addressed such as if a police station was built. The scenario provided by Tecton

was if they used 48 High St. & 100 Maple St. location and if there was no firearm simulator, it would cost about \$10,884,000. If there is a simulator, it would decrease to \$10,112,000.

Tecton also did a study for if the fire station at 87 & 0 Brimfield Road would cost around \$16,809,000. If they built a police station and then a fire station 18 months later, the probable cost would be \$28,247,000.

On how to choose, the next meeting is on Sept. 27 and after that final informational session, the Board of Selectmen will choose a single site or design. Then, there will be a future Town Meeting with a ballot question regarding the public safety complex.

The town residents agree they need something and they appreciate their police and fire departments. However, the options that were presented are too expensive or too far up the scale for a small town.

In the fire department's position, the population of the town may not have grown, but the call volume has risen. Lavoie is looking at all possible options, but believes the town is in need of a modern station that could exist for the next 50-75 years.

Resident Jim Dusty spoke and shared some experience about working in the Town Hall building that is housing the police station. Dusty says the building is in rough shape and recalls the town not voting to pay for any maintenance or repairs to the building. Dusty believes Warren has a team of people who care about the town and are

looking ahead to the future.

"Recognize how important it is for the town to go forward, not backward," Dusty said.

Dusty knows whatever the town decides, it is going to cost money, but believes the town has to act now, rather than later.

"It is a question of cost," he said. "Give something that is sellable to the voters."

Another resident, Javier Melendez spoke on the subject and described this informational meeting as a "focus group meeting". Melendez also talked about the grants being limited and there are mandates made by the state and on the federal level.

Raymond Kopacko spoke and re-referenced something that was said in the previous informational meeting. "There is no Plan B" and Kopacko said the Selectmen should consider a Plan B or more plans after.

Eichacker commented and said the board is working on getting more options. Ferrera spoke on maintenance and that the town has \$25,000 in their budget to maintain seven of the town buildings.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. at the Shepard Municipal Building gymnasium at 48 High St. McElravy from Tecton Architects expected to see some challenges after conducting this study and says there will be a lot to consider moving forward.

At the end of the meeting, Lavoie said it is good to get feedback and feels "everybody is on the same page that we have to do something."



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Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. was joined by the investigative team from the State Police.

Because of Molly

State Rep. Todd Smola presented a citation from the House and Senate to Magi and John Bish.

MOLLY from page 1

pected of Molly's abduction and murder; they weren't going to give him that power.

"Tonight is 'Because of Molly,'" Heather said. "I've come to see the beauty in the pain...because of Molly, I have hope her legacy lives on in all of us."

Heather invited people attending the vigil to sign a book placed on a table in front of the gazebo on the common, sharing their "Because of Molly" experiences with the family.

Retired state Sen. Stephen Brewer, who was serving the region at the time of Molly's disappearance, said it was initially thought that she may have drowned at Comins Pond, where she was working as a lifeguard. This ultimately led to the commonwealth getting a side scan sonar device to search bodies of water, after investigators had to borrow one from the state of Connecticut to search the pond.

Brewer said the commonwealth also didn't have an Amber Alert system at the time of Molly's disappearance, but now it does. He said Molly's sister Heather has worked tirelessly on improving legislation, including anti-stalking laws.

"This was a different world 25 years ago and we all came together to support this beautiful girl and her family," he said. "We will never forget Molly Bish."

Former state senator and current Director of Rural Affairs Anne Gobi said she never met Molly, but has come to know her through her family.

"Because of you, I know Molly," Gobi said to the Bish family.

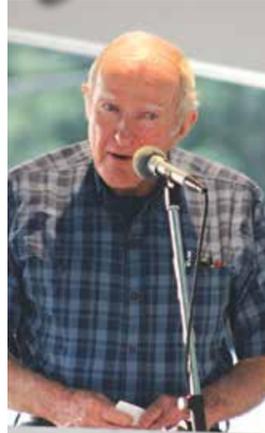
She spoke about each family member, and how John Jr. grew up to be a wonderful father, and how passionate Heather is. She said she has shared "a lot of tears," and "a lot of laughs"



Julia O'Keefe sang several moving songs during the vigil.



Heather Bish talked about all of the changes made to protect children and get justice for victims of crime since her sister Molly's abduction and murder.



Retired state Sen. Stephen Brewer spoke about the Bish family.



State Sen. Jake Oliveira's District Director Jennifer Pickering presented a citation to Magi and John Bish.

with Magi and John Sr.

"A couple who have taken grief and turned it into action," Gobi said.

State Rep. Todd Smola, a resident of Warren for the past 14 years, said that change happens in the legislature through the "gut and determination of people who lead the charge," like the Bish family.

"To make sure that these terrible tragedies don't happen again," he said. "These things would not have happened if it was not for the Bish family."

The emcee for the vigil was a former state representative and retired State Trooper, Reed Hillman, who first became close to the Bish family through his work in law enforcement, when he met John Sr. Hillman said he even served as the officiant for John Jr.'s wedding.

Hillman spoke about the family's continuous efforts to protect missing children and seek justice.

"There are children here today who are here because of your efforts," he said to the Bish family.

Hillman said while this may be the last vigil the family holds for Molly, her abduction and murder are still an active investigation,



Rev. Fr. Christopher Nerreau from Emmanuel Orthodox Church in Brookfield led the prayers.

and he encouraged anyone with information to contact the Worcester County District Attorney's tip line by calling 508-453-7575.

District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. said State Police investigators continue to work on Molly's case and he said tips still come in every week.

Early said forensic science has gotten better since Molly's disappearance, and they will continue to seek answers.

"This case has a special



Former state representative and retired State Trooper Reed Hillman acted as emcee for the 25th anniversary vigil for Molly Bish.

place in everyone's heart," Early said.

After the vigil, Hillman invited everyone present to grab a candle and join the Bish family at Comins Pond, where the Quaboag Highlanders Pipes & Drums performed a tribute to Molly on the bagpipes.

Hillman thanked everyone for attending the vigil and for remembering Molly after all of these years.

"We just wanted to make sure Molly was remembered by all who love her," Hillman said.



Former state senator and current Director of Rural Affairs Anne Gobi talked about how she came to know about Molly Bish through her family members.



John Bish Jr. gets a hug from his son during the vigil.

July 2025

Quabbin Health District Public Health Nurse Newsletter

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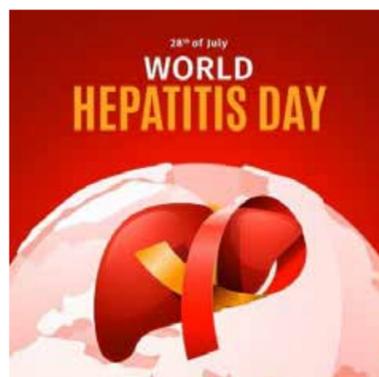
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Panthers get their reps in

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

AUBURN—While there are a couple of new boys' basketball teams competing in the Auburn Summer League this year, Quabbin Regional has been a member of the prestigious league since the 1990's.

"We really enjoy playing in this summer basketball league," said longtime Quabbin boys varsity basketball coach Dennis Dextrateur. "We get the opportunity to play against some of the teams that we normally don't face during the regular season. It's always nice to see different styles of play and compete against different players."

The Auburn Summer League games were held at the outdoor courts located

behind the Horgan Skating Arena for many years. The games are now played indoors at the Auburn High School gymnasium, which is air conditioned.

"When we first joined this summer basketball league, it was an outdoor league, but now all the games are played indoors," Dextrateur said. "We don't have to worry about the weather anymore, and the gym is air conditioned."

According to Dextrateur, it has been more than ten years since Quabbin won the Auburn Summer League championship title.

"I believe the last time that we won the summer league title was in 2012 or 2013. We're hoping to end that drought this year," he said. "This is an outstanding developmental league for us. We're able to play some of our younger players."

Quabbin has also played in the Game On Summer

League in Fitchburg in the past, but they're just playing in the Auburn league this summer.

While Dextrateur can attend the Auburn Summer League games, he isn't allowed to coach the team.

Those duties are handled by Alan Crane, who's a former Quabbin basketball player, and Steve Gasper.

The other members of the Panthers summer league team are Brady Patchen, Jacoby Dilling, Aiden Crane, Isaac Patchen, Bobby Tobin, Jack Leclair, Anthony

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 10

Jacoby Dilling makes his way up the court during action last summer season.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Mutiny drills Fuel to clinch playoff spot

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Back on June 8, the New England Mutiny scored a season-high six goals during a road victory against the New Jersey Alliance. The Alliance were scheduled to make their first ever visit to Lusitano Stadium last Sunday afternoon, but they didn't have enough players to fill out their roster.

Instead of taking the weekend off like the Western Mass. Pioneers were forced to do 24 hours earlier, the Mutiny were able to find another opponent on short notice. The Worcester Fuel made the 45-minute trek west on the Mass. Pike to Ludlow.

It wasn't a very competitive match, as the Mutiny posted a 12-0 shutout victory in what was most likely their final home game of the season.

The Mutiny and Fuel were originally scheduled to face each other at Millbury High School on July 6.

"New Jersey indicated to us that they were having roster issues for this weekend, so we decid-

Please see **MUTINY**, page 10



Aiden Crane makes a pass on the run.



Kyle Clark muscled his way to the hoop.



Luke Salvatore gets the turnaround shot.

Registration open for 3v3 soccer jamboree

BELCHERTOWN — The Third Annual Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree is scheduled to be held at the State Street Fields in Belchertown on August 16th, 2025. The annual event is held in memory of 13-year-old Julia Haynes who passed away in March of 2023 following a battle with brain cancer. All of the funds the Jamboree raises benefit the Julia Haynes Scholarship Fund, which is a 501(c)(3) founded by four of Julia's classmates.

The first two events hosted more than 60 teams, each year, in grades 3 through high school for the all-day event bracket which also featured food trucks, raffle and dunk tank.

Registration is open until July 20 and is \$100 per team for up to four players and includes an event t shirt. There is also a new bracket for class of 2022 - 2025 participants. There will again be food trucks, a DJ and some fun activities for attendees including a

Please see **JAMBOREE**, page 11

Bankers take second straight over Saints

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE—After People's Bank fell behind against the St. Joseph's Baseball Club in the top of the first inning, player/manager Joe Ferry knew that his team could make a comeback in the Tri-County League contest

The score was tied 3-3, entering the bottom of the sixth inning when People's Bank scored a pair of runs leading to a 5-3 victory on a hot night at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke, last Tuesday.

"We fell behind in the first inning, but we kept battling back the entire game," Ferry said. "This is a very good team win for us."

The home victory improved People's Bank overall record to a perfect 5-0.

St. Joe's (6-3) lost to People's for the third time in a span of less than two weeks.

"It's another frustrating loss," said St. Joe's player/manager Brian Hayes. "I would like to play them in a playoff series. I think we have a little more pitching depth than they do."

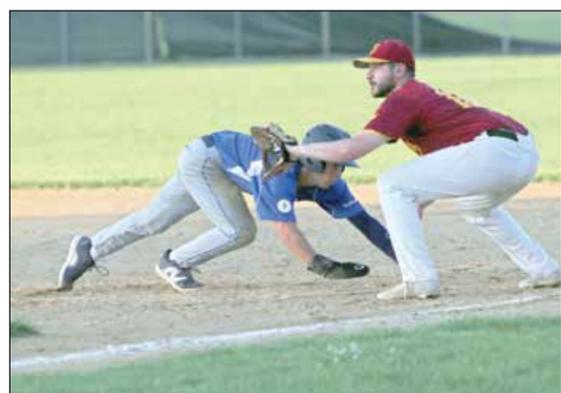
After allowing the two runs in the first inning, People's Bank righthander Jovanni Merced only gave up an unearned run during the final six innings. He allowed six hits with a walk and six strikeouts.

"Jovanni hadn't pitched in

Please see **BANKERS**, page 11



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Devin Slattery, of Ware, sends a throw to first.



Brandon Magni attempts to catch a pickoff throw.

First inning surge leads Blue Sox past Sharks

HOLYOKE — A four-run first inning was the catalyst for a dominant Blue Sox win on Saturday, as they handily defeated the visiting Martha's Vineyard Sharks by a final score of 6-2.

After an error by Vineyard's Harley Goodner opened the scoring, Valley piled on three more runs. The runs scored on a Gavin Schrader single, a Mike Lucarelli double and a Cade Carr sacrifice fly.

"It allowed us to be confident," said Head Coach Endy Morales of the early surge. "We had lost to them already this week, they're a really good team, so to come out and punch them first, it just set the tone for the rest of the game."

Michael O'Conor added the other two Valley scores on a home run that soared into the Blue Sox bullpen. Sebastian Mexico contributed a two hit performance, and Michael Elko came across home plate twice as a base runner.

Please see **BLUE SOX**, page 11

sports

Quabbin Valley set to host second over-28 fall league

Following up on the resounding success of its inaugural campaign, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 adult baseball league will hold its second Fall League this September and October.

Seeking to create a similar competition environment to its spring/summer league, Quabbin Valley, with contributions from the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, created a four-team fall league last year featuring the Braves, Dodgers, Cardinals, and Twins.

Those same four teams are set to return and each team tends to have openings on them. Additionally, the league is open to welcoming more teams in to the league if it finds enough interest.

While the fall league schedule is still under construction, it will mostly feature Sunday morning games played with wood-bat only, which is customary for fall baseball. There could be some Saturday games added

to the schedule depending on the completion of the spring/summer season as well as to makeup rainouts, potentially. Games are nine-innings long and there is a small playoff and championship held at the end of the season. Last year's fall season was eight games and that is the goal for this year. Free and low-cost fields are used as well as just one umpire in an effort to keep the costs lower for players. The cost to play will likely range from \$40 to \$60 for the eight-game schedule. Players from outside the Quabbin League may also pay a small fee for insurance as well.

An interest/registration form, will be forthcoming soon, but until then, to express interest in the league, you can email the coordinators of the league at either GScibelli22@yahoo.com or ikhandfield@gmail.com.

Scheduled and team placement for unaffiliated players will be finalized in mid-to-late August. Please join in the fun this fall.

PANTHERS from page 9

Quarterone, Evan Sherblom, Collin Leclair, Matt Wade, Calvin Hurd, Lucas Gaspar, Gavin Rivard, and Bryce Pariseau.

Brady Patchen and Dilling are the captains of the summer league team.

Unless something changes between now and November, Quarterone will be the only senior on the varsity basketball team during the 2025-26 regular season.

"I think we're going to be the underdog next year, which is something that I like," Dilling said. "We're also hoping to qualify for the state tournament. We just missed it by one game last year."

Quabbin finished the first week of the Auburn summer league season with a 1-1 record.

After losing a close game to Quaboag in the first game, the Panthers pulled out an exciting 49-45 overtime victory against Tahanto Regional last Wednesday night.

"It feels great to win our first game of the summer league season, especially after losing our first game,"



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Evan Sherblom looks to shoot for the Panthers. The summer season is important to Quabbin's development.

Brady Patchen said. "We were trailing in the second half, but we were able to battle back and win it in overtime. Playing in this league is going to help us a lot."

Patchen made a 3-pointer in overtime against Tahanto, which gave his team a 47-45 lead with a minute remaining. He also made a foul shot.

A made free throw by Dilling sealed the deal with

ten seconds left in OT.

"We played with a lot of energy defensively in the overtime period," Dilling said. "It led to our offense, which was the reason why we won the game."

After taking the Fourth of July week off, Quabbin is scheduled to face David Prouty on July 7 and Wachusett Regional on July 9.

MUTINY from page 9

ed to switch our game with Worcester," said Joe Ferrara, who's the Owner/Managing Director of the Mutiny. "We'll try to reschedule the game with New Jersey or find another opponent to fill out our regular season schedule."

Because Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari was unavailable to coach last Sunday's home match, Ferrara took over the coaching duties.

The Worcester team used to be in the same Division as the Mutiny, but they were moved down to the second Division this year. They've

played a couple of other games against First Division clubs this season.

The victory improved the Mutiny's record to a perfect 7-0.

Racing Power, who are from Baltimore, lost to the Mutiny, 3-0, at Lusitano Stadium on June 14, but they'll most likely be hosting

the playoff game on July 13 because of the goal differential. The margin is capped at five goals for each match.

The U.W.S. National semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held in Chicago, Illinois.

The Mutiny, who lost in last year's championship match, clinched a berth in

the United Women's Soccer League playoffs for the fifth time since they moved to Lusitano in 2019.

"We've had a lot of success since we began playing our home matches here at Lusitano Stadium," Ferrara said. "We've had a dynamic group of players during the past couple of years. We are

losing a couple of key players for the rest of the season."

Chioma Okafor was called up to play for the Nigerian Women's National Team in the African Nations Women's Cup. Cat Perez, who's a goalie, is playing for the Colombian National Team.

Kendall Bodak, who's from Monson, returned to Clemson University to start preparing for the college soccer season. Avery Galante also went back to the University of South Carolina.

While the Mutiny were missing a couple of players, Hope Santaniello played in her first match of the season against Worcester. She returned home to Agawam after playing for a professional soccer team in Iceland. She has been a member of the Mutiny since 2019.

"Playing soccer with this team is something that's very special to me," Santaniello said. "It was great to be back and see all the girls again. I've also really enjoyed playing for the professional soccer team in Iceland. I'm learning a lot of different things."

Santaniello scored the Mutiny's fifth goal of the first half and added three more during the final 20 minutes of the match.

"Hope just looks fantastic," Ferrara said. "She's been on our roster the whole season and is one of our all-time best players."

Hope's younger sister, Bella, was also scheduled to play for the Mutiny in last Sunday's match. However, because Worcester didn't have enough players show up for the match, she played for the visitors.

"My sister definitely has a lot of potential," Hope said. "I'm very glad that she's following in my footsteps. It was a lot of fun playing against her today."

Maddy Theriault, who graduated from Palmer High School, recorded a hat-trick during the first 15 minutes of the opening half.

Bella Meadows scored the other first half goal for the Mutiny. She also scored the first goal of the second half.

Avery Klingensmith, who graduated from Belchertown High School, chipped in offensively with a pair of second half goals.

Mila Dillard, who's from Chicopee, also scored a goal during the second half.

It was the Mutiny's fourth shutout of the regular season. The defense was anchored by Aida Name, who's from Chicopee, Kylie Ray, who graduated from Minnechaug Regional, Rachel Marchini, and Anna Carson.

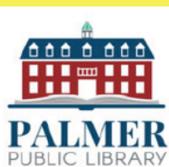
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Dave Clark slings a throw to first.



Cam MacDonald gets an out.



Jovanni Merced sends a pitch home for PeoplesBank.

BANKERS from page 9

two weeks, and he got off to a slow start in tonight's game," Ferry said. "He settled down after the first inning."

People's Bank sixth inning rally began with third baseman Cam McDonald hitting a double to right field against righty Jack Feltovic. He advanced to third following a bunt hit by shortstop Sam Allen that rolled up the third base line. Allen then stole second base putting two runners in scoring position. Both runners crossed the plate when centerfielder Seth Allen (2-for-4) blasted a triple to right field.

It was People's tenth and final base hit of the ballgame.

With one-out in the top of the seventh inning, pinch hitter Colby Harrington hit a single into center field before Merced retired the next two batters on flyballs.

Things started out very well for St. Joe's.

Shortstop Devin Slattery leadoff the top of the first inning with a line-drive single up the middle to center field. Then left fielder Jacob Petrin drew a walk on a 3-and-2 pitch. The visitors loaded the bases when a ground ball hit by right fielder Pat

Fitzgibbons wasn't handled cleanly by the third baseman.

St. Joe's took a 2-0 lead when third baseman Joey DeMichele hit another ground ball into left field for a single.

It was the only runs Merced allowed in that inning, as he got out of the jam with the help of a 6-4-3 double play and a strikeout.

Following back-to-back singles in the bottom half of the opening frame by second baseman Dave Clark and first baseman Kyle Platner, Feltovic escaped further trouble with a 6-3 inning ending double play.

The home team took a 3-2 lead against Feltovic, who pitched the entire game, two innings later.

A ground ball single by left fielder Brady Balint, a bunt hit from Seth Allen, and a walk by catcher Pete Hogan loaded the bases. Clark drove home People's first run with a line-drive single into left field. Then Platner hit into a double play scoring the tying run. Hogan scored on a wild pitch, which gave People's the lead for the first time at 3-2.

St Joe's tied the score in the top of the fourth following a throwing error before People's Bank retook the lead



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Kyle Platner goes for a tag.



Jack Feltovic fires a pitch home for St. Joe's.

again two innings later.

The fourth and final meeting of the regular season

between the two squads is scheduled to take place at St. Joe's Park on July 11.

BLUE SOX from page 9

Valley threw eight pitchers in the contest, striking out 11 Vineyard batters. Max McCrary earned the win. Andrew Wertz came in for the ninth inning, when he struck out two batters to close out the game and earn the save.

Giolo Colasante started the game for Vineyard, allowing four hits and four runs across two innings of work. He was credited with the loss.

The Blue Sox improve to an overall record of 10-8 on the season, while the Sharks fall to 12-7. The win snaps a two game losing skid for Valley.

"I thought that was a good one to get. It could have very easily been three losses in a row," said Morales. "Now we get to go into the off day with a win, and a really tough stretch coming up next week. I thought that was a great way to approach the off day and beat a team that's super competitive."

The Valley Blue Sox suffered defeat on Friday despite a rally in the sixth inning that saw them score four runs and take the lead.

Down 3-0 to the visiting Mountaineers, Valley went on a run that featured a Rees Kozar two run double, a Clay Burdette sacrifice fly and an additional

run on a throwing error.

Vermont responded in the top of the seventh with a Jaylen Hernandez two run home run, securing the 5-4 victory at MacKenzie Stadium.

"Overall, our defense needs to be cleaned up. We're making key mistakes later in the game ... I would like for us to be a little more efficient on the mound, and then defensively just clean up in those big moments," said Head Coach Endy Morales.

Beau Ellison started the game on the mound for Valley, allowing six hits and three runs across four innings of work. Riley Williams was credited with the loss in relief for Valley.

For the Mountaineers, Jack Rollo earned the win. Oliver Ellison got the save.

The loss drops Valley's record on the season to 9-8. Morales will look to build on this record today, when they host the Martha's Vineyard Sharks.

"In the grand scheme of things, we're still above .500, I would love to stay above .500 [today] ... This is the time where you want to make that separation. You don't want it to be the last week of the season and you're chasing four wins to try and get into the playoffs. You want to do that now so you have a bit more buffer," Morales said.



JAMBOREE from page 9

raffle. Those interested in registering a team, becoming a volunteer, sponsor or donating to the raffle can get more details on the @juli-

as3v3jamboree Instagram or Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree Facebook pages or through Runsignup: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Belchertown/Julias3v3SoccerJamboree>

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The Importance of setting strong financial goals

There's a quote about the importance of setting goals: "If you don't know where you're going, any path will take you there."

This holds true for things that are important to you financially as well. To set your financial goals, think about your priorities. Outline them as either "must-haves" — such as a comfortable retirement — or "wish list" — perhaps a vacation or entertainment.

You'll want your goals to be specific. Assign estimated dates and costs to each one so you can plan how much to save and how much time you have before you need the money.

Next, hold yourself accountable to stay on track. That involves actively tracking your progress, maintaining your focus and using these three time-tested strategies — diversify, own quality investments and keep a realistic perspective. A financial advisor can help with this.

Finally, enjoy that sense of accomplishment when you reach your goals, seeing your efforts literally pay off.

This content was provided by Edward Jones for use by Hunter Boody, your Edward Jones financial advisor at 413-289-1875.

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of June 15-24, the Ware Police Department responded to 29 miscellaneous calls, 31 administrative calls, 15 traffic violations, 20 emergency 911 calls, two motor vehicle accidents, one harassment, three frauds/deceptions, one safety hazard, one breaking and entering, one theft/larceny, one trespass, nine animal calls and 24 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, June 15
3:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Could Not Locate
4:35 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Morse Avenue, Arrest Made
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 After Check
12:49 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
5:18 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, June 17
12:39 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
6:36 p.m. Safety Hazard, Maple Street, Could Not Locate

Wednesday, June 18
1:57 p.m. Drugs, West

Street, Services Rendered
5:59 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
6:24 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Moriarty Road, Services Rendered
6:32 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered
6:36 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled

Thursday, June 19
1:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
10:48 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
12:30 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Street, Services Rendered
10:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, River Road, Investigated

Friday, June 20
9:50 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Babcock Tavern Road, Could Not Locate
9:54 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Babcock Tavern Road, Dispatch Handled
8:05 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Main Street, Investigated
Arrest: Neftanial G. Rosario, 26, Ware
Shoplifting by Concealing Merchandise; Resist Arrest
8:39 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Advised
11:48 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Investigated

Saturday, June 21
2:07 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled
3:27 p.m. Traffic

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.

Incident/Crash, Main Street, Report Made
4:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Report Made

Sunday, June 22
4:12 a.m. Weapons/Firearms, Monroe Street, Report Made
10:20 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, North Street, Investigated
11:27 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
5:10 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Homecrest Avenue, Advised
8:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Monday, June 23
7:30 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
12:31 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Palmer Road, Report Made
4:26 p.m. Trespass, South Street, Advised

Written Warning
4:48 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, School Street, Transported to Hospital
5:17 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

Friday, June 20
7:53 a.m. Safety Hazard, Czesky Road, Dispatch Handled
9:07 a.m. Serve Warrant, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made

Saturday, June 21
10 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
12:45 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Petersham Road, Services Rendered
1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
4:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Sunday, June 22
3:27 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
10:46 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
1:03 p.m. 911 Neighbor Dispute, North Street, Peace Restored
8:43 p.m. Property Damage, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Taken/Referred to Other Agency
5:55 a.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Negative Contact
8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
9:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
9:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
10:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
10:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
11:24 a.m. 911 Burglary (Breaking and Entering), Collins Road, Transported to Hospital
11:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
12:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
12:40 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
1:36 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
1:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Road, Written Warning
1:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road,

Warren Police Log

During the week of June 8-21, the Warren Police Department responded to 236 building/property checks, 29 community policings, 35 emergency 911 calls, one larceny/theft, three harassments, one threat, seven complaints, seven motor vehicle accidents, two fires, one animal bite, two frauds/forgeries, one safety hazard, nine animal calls and 23 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, June 8
1:37 p.m. Complaint, Southbridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:36 p.m. Power Lines Down, Town Farm Road, Investigated
9:27 p.m. Noise Complaint, Southbridge Road, Negative Contact
10:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Hit and Run, Main Street, Report Filed

Monday, June 9
9:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:31 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Lombard Street, Referred to Other Agency
10:36 a.m. Harassment, South Street, Report Filed
11:45 a.m. Falls, Winthrop Terrace, Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:08 p.m. Suspicious Package, Maple Street, Report Filed
3:24 p.m. Suspicious Package, Southbridge Road, Investigated
7:07 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 10
10:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:32 a.m. Threats, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed
2:05 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Chapel Street, False/Accidental
6:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Wednesday, June 11
1:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:51 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Brook Road, Transported to Hospital
8:55 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
9:51 a.m. Noise Complaint, Main Street, Report Filed
10:53 a.m. Suspicious Person, South Street, Officer Spoke to Party
3:59 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, June 12
5:53 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Town Farm Road, Report Filed
7:25 a.m. Complaint, Old West Brookfield Road, Negative Contact
10:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Citation Issued
10:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning
11:15 a.m. Harassment, Douglas Road, Officer Spoke to Party
12:09 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Old West Brookfield Road, Dispatch Handled

Friday, June 13
7:23 a.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
2:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Saturday, June 14
12:31 p.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to Party

Sunday, June 15
6:25 a.m. Bleeding, South Street, Transported to Hospital
7:15 a.m. Bleeding, Winthrop Terrace, Mutual Aid Transport
1:48 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Ware, Mutual Aid Assist
5:13 p.m. Animal Bites, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital
6:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Cronin Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:20 p.m. Welfare Check, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital

Monday, June 16
10:02 a.m. Diabetic, Reed Street, Transported to Hospital
3:36 p.m. Harassment, Mill Street, Report Filed
8:59 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Main Street, Investigated
11:15 p.m. Diabetic, Chapel Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 17
7:14 a.m. Falls, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
12:21 p.m. Welfare Check, Maple Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
2:58 p.m. Stroke, Walkeen

1:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
2:19 p.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Cottage Street, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Natasha M. Wilson, 28, West Warren
Witness/Juror/Police/Court Official, Intimidate; Larceny under \$1,200; Assault and Battery on +60 Disabled with Injury
7:46 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party
10:15 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bemis Road, Report Filed

Friday, June 13
7:23 a.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party
2:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

Saturday, June 14
12:31 p.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to Party

Sunday, June 15
6:25 a.m. Bleeding, South Street, Transported to Hospital
7:15 a.m. Bleeding, Winthrop Terrace, Mutual Aid Transport
1:48 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Ware, Mutual Aid Assist
5:13 p.m. Animal Bites, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital
6:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Cronin Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:20 p.m. Welfare Check, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital

Monday, June 16
10:02 a.m. Diabetic, Reed Street, Transported to Hospital
3:36 p.m. Harassment, Mill Street, Report Filed
8:59 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Main Street, Investigated
11:15 p.m. Diabetic, Chapel Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, June 17
7:14 a.m. Falls, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
12:21 p.m. Welfare Check, Maple Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
2:58 p.m. Stroke, Walkeen

Wednesday, June 18
1:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed

Thursday, June 19
9:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
1:04 p.m. Mutual Aid Ambulance, Ware, Canceled
5:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Pursuit, Main Street, Report Filed
9:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Washington Street, Transported by Life Flight
9:45 p.m. Harassment, Cottage Street, Information Given
10:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Report Filed

Friday, June 20
12:59 a.m. Falls, Cronin Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
12:22 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Shamrock Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
2:04 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Investigated
2:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
3:18 p.m. Bleeding, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, June 21
11:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
11:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Vehicle Towed
3:56 p.m. Brush Fire, Dunham Road, Fire Extinguished
6:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
9:57 p.m. Assault and Battery, Comins Pond Road, Report Filed

Koziol Road, Report Filed
5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, June 18
10:32 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Yankee Drummer Drive, Transported to Hospital
11:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Keys Road, Criminal Complaint
12:27 p.m. Welfare Check, Maple Street, Investigated
10 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Plates Seized
10:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Brimfield Road, Vehicle Removed

Thursday, June 19
9:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
1:04 p.m. Mutual Aid Ambulance, Ware, Canceled
5:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Pursuit, Main Street, Report Filed
9:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Washington Street, Transported by Life Flight
9:45 p.m. Harassment, Cottage Street, Information Given
10:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Report Filed

Friday, June 20
12:59 a.m. Falls, Cronin Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
12:22 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Shamrock Drive, Officer Spoke to Party
2:04 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Investigated
2:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
3:18 p.m. Bleeding, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, June 21
11:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
11:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Vehicle Towed
3:56 p.m. Brush Fire, Dunham Road, Fire Extinguished
6:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
9:57 p.m. Assault and Battery, Comins Pond Road, Report Filed

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of June 16-23, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 66 building/property checks, 36 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, three traffic controls, 11 emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, three complaints, two scams, one motor vehicle investigation, one burglary, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, one property damage, three safety hazards, three animal calls and 26 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, June 16
5:38 p.m. Scam, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
7:09 p.m. Scam, Turkey Street, Officer Handled

Tuesday, June 17
4:57 a.m. Medical Emergency, Jackson Road, Transported to Hospital
9:13 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, High Street, Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, June 18
9:40 a.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Hall Road, Removed Hazard
12:04 p.m. 911 Animal Call, Church Street, Services Rendered
4:37 p.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Could Not Locate

Thursday, June 19
5:21 a.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Petersham Road,

Taken/Referred to Other Agency
5:55 a.m. 911 Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Negative Contact
8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
9:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
9:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
10:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
10:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
11:24 a.m. 911 Burglary (Breaking and Entering), Collins Road, Transported to Hospital
11:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
12:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
12:40 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road, Written Warning
1:36 p.m. Fire Alarm, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
1:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Road, Written Warning
1:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Petersham Road,

Written Warning
4:48 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, School Street, Transported to Hospital
5:17 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

Friday, June 20
7:53 a.m. Safety Hazard, Czesky Road, Dispatch Handled
9:07 a.m. Serve Warrant, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made

Saturday, June 21
10 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
12:45 p.m. Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting, Petersham Road, Services Rendered
1:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
4:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Sunday, June 22
3:27 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
10:46 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
1:03 p.m. 911 Neighbor Dispute, North Street, Peace Restored
8:43 p.m. Property Damage, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships? We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more. This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free. Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

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Roger J. Riendeau, 80

WARE / MYRTLE BEACH, SC – Roger J. Riendeau, 80, passed away from a brief illness on March 21, 2025, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Roger served our country for 22 years as a member of the United States Air Force. He was incredibly proud of his service, which was apparent by his signature Air Force baseball hat and license plate.

He then went on to work for Belchertown State School for an additional 16 years.

Upon his retirement, Roger spent his time between his hometown of Ware, his dream condo in Myrtle Beach, and visiting with his children, who happened to live in three different states. His visits were often and always full of time spent "getting things done". He was truly the family handyman, always wanting to help and pass on his knowledge to children and grandchildren.

Roger loved the open road, visiting many National Parks, western towns, and, of course, his children and their families. He spent many years creating the some of the best memories for his daughter and her children driving them to Virginia for big Thanksgiving celebrations.

He recently enjoyed one last road trip with his son, Chris, as they returned to a

place that he had been wanting to go back to for years, Alaska's Alcan Highway. It was a month full of scenery, wildlife, fishing, and time spent visiting his son, Michael, and his family in Colorado. Chris feels so fortunate to have had this special time with his dad.

Roger was known for a variety of other interests which included World War II history, John Wayne, and his favorite TV show, "Gunsmoke". And, boy, did he love to keep his car clean – inside and out. You'd be hard-pressed to find a speck of dust anywhere. It became a running joke in the family, but it was just another way he exemplified his military values, respect and discipline.

Roger is going to be missed greatly by his son Michael Riendeau, and his wife Tina; his son Chris (Roger) Riendeau, and his daughter, Lori Flanagan. Additionally, he has 11 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren who will feel this loss. He was preceded in death by his daughter-in-law Sheila Riendeau, his granddaughter Rebekah Hanson, and his grandson Gage Flanagan.

The family will hold a private burial and celebration of life. He will be laid to rest in his family plot at Mount Carmel Cemetery.



George Emil Chrabaszcz, 69

WARE – George Chrabaszcz, 69, of Ware, passed away peacefully on June 26, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.

He spent his final moments in the home he had proudly built with his own hands—a lasting symbol of his strength, craftsmanship, and independence. George lived a full and purposeful life marked by service, determination, and a deep love for his family.

He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served his country during the Vietnam War as Crew Chief on the C-5 Galaxy—the largest aircraft in the military. At the time, he was the youngest Airman ever appointed to that position.

His service took him around the world, with assignments in Europe, Asia, and beyond. These experiences helped shape his strong work ethic, global perspective, and unwavering pride in his service.

Following his military

service, George earned a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Studies from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, a premier institution in aviation and aeronautics, further deepening his expertise and passion for aircraft and engineering. He returned home and joined the family business, Chrabasz Oil, a home heating oil company in Ware.

He later founded his own business, Chrabasz Heating Service, proudly serving his community with the same hands-on dedication he brought to everything he did.

George had a lifelong passion for cars, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Known for his remarkable skill and determination, he could fix and build nearly anything. One of his favorite sayings was, "The impossible just takes a little longer" – a phrase that perfectly captured his grit, creativity, and persistence.

He is survived by his lov-

ing sons, Brandon, Bryce, and Colin; his grandchildren, Khloe and Koda; his brother Kenneth and his children, Wesley and Jessica; his sister Lisa and her children, Will and Caitlin; and his cousin John. George was preceded in death by his parents, Dorothy and Emil, and his beloved sister, Lori.

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Mary's Church on Saturday, July 5, at 11 a.m. The church will open at 10 a.m. for final good-byes. Friends and family are welcome to attend and celebrate his life. George will be laid to rest with Air Force Honors and Prayers of Committal following the mass in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ware.

George will be fondly remembered for his strength, humor, enduring commitment to precision, and deep devotion to those he loved.

Funeral Services are under the direction of the Koziol Family of Cebula Funeral Home. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

Death notices

Chrabaszcz, George Emil
Died June 26, 2025
Services July 5, 2025

Riendeau, Roger J.
Died March 21, 2025

Ware River News OBITUARY POLICY

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.

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 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 pro-

gram 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); Music & Movement with Julie Stepanek on Wednesday, July 30 at 10:30 a.m.; 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@cwmar.org).

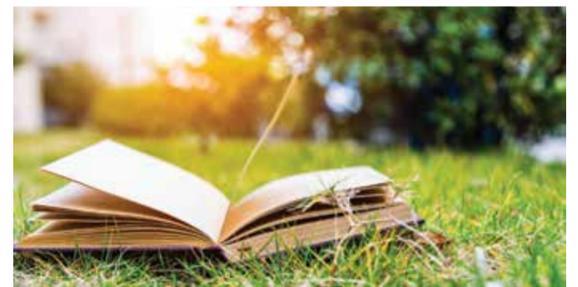
There will also be ongoing weekly programs, including Monday Crafternoon from 3-5 p.m., Storytime with Miss Cathy on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Imagination Station on Tuesdays from

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.



CEMETERY from page 7

some tree work they want to complete soon.

Baxter did bring up embellishment, which was listed in the rules of perpetual care. Not sure on the specifics, the commission looked up embellishment and how it applies to cemeteries. The commission wanted clarification before making any firm decision.

"We need to come to an understanding of this before we have more of these moments where we're not sure," Baxter said.

Cristol looked up embellishment and said it is decorative detail or feature adding to make something more attractive. After reading that definition, the commission thought of some ideas that could make things more decorative at the cemetery.

The commission thinks signage could be improved and give people more aware-

ness of where the cemetery is. It is still unclear if tree work falls into perpetual care.

The commission moved on to talk about authorizing True Green to reseed and fertilize the section of the cemetery that was infested by grubs. The commission agreed to keep Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson informed on tasks being done on sections of the cemetery.

Encumbering funds

The Cemetery Commission talked about encumbering funds for projects. Members discussed what is a good amount of money to put in an encumbrance fund.

The biggest project Cristol brought up is tree work and Rusty's Tree Service will do the job. The commission agreed to encumber up to \$3,600 for the tree work.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Notes
6. Long-haired dog breed
12. ESPN's nickname
16. Spanish be
17. Disadvantage
18. Of I
19. Actor Pacino
20. On your way: ___ route
21. Fifth note of a major scale
22. Companies need it
23. News agency
24. Faces of an organization
26. Ponds
28. Samoa's capital
30. Partner to "Pa"
31. Adult male
32. Cool!
34. Used of a number or amount not specified
35. No No No
37. Hosts film festival
39. British place to house convicts

CLUES DOWN

1. Follower of Islam
2. Trauma center
3. French young women
4. Norse god
5. U.S. commercial flyer (abbr.)
6. Merchant
7. Peyton's younger brother
8. Jungle planet in "Star Wars" galaxy
9. Tree-dwelling animal of C. and S. America
10. "Pollack" actor Harris
11. Stuck around
12. Put on
13. Influential Norwegian playwright
14. Christian ___, designer
15. Fulfills a debt
25. Style
26. More (Spanish)
27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
29. Remedy
31. Disturbance

CLUES DOWN

33. "The Martian" actor Matt
36. Express delight
38. Brooklyn hoopster
39. 1900 lamp
41. Motionless
42. One's mother (Brit.)
43. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
46. Compels to act
47. Gardening tool
49. Ancient country
51. Frightening
53. Wimbledon champion Arthur
54. Popular plant
55. Database management system
58. Gasteier and de Armas are two
60. Where soldiers eat
64. Tenth month (abbr.)
65. Illuminated
68. Atomic #18
69. Adults need one to travel

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Trivia is not without meaning

At least to contestants

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

HARDWICK – It was maybe around 40 to 45 years ago that the game Trivial Pursuit hit the consciousness of board game players. It caught on and trivia became a thing.

Eventually, maybe it was early in the new century, trivia matches would take place in public venues such as bars and restaurants. Teams with cute names would come and an announcer would be the master of ceremonies.

Soon enough, companies rose up to organize it, and if an evening crowd wanted to play, there were more than a few choices. That was so in larger urban areas such as Worcester, or in the college infested Pioneer Valley, but what about out here in what are thought to be the hinterlands.

Well, we are not so much of a backwater that there are not oases of culture. Maybe not high culture, but who cares?

Of a Monday night, myself and Dan Flynn found such a spot. Trivia might not be what comes to mind when Hardwick Crossing Country Club is mentioned. Teeing up to hit a ball may be the

first thought, but like most such venues there are other options.

There is a restaurant in the clubhouse and there, one can of course dine, but on Tuesday there is Sip and Paint and Wednesday is Music Bingo night.

Mondays, at 6:30 p.m. is trivia, and hostess Paula Ye was there to organize the festivities. The outfit she represents is Wise Guys Trivia. Contestants are organized in teams and the team names are given to the host or hostess.

Team names usually have an aspect of humor. I have been part of a team of varied membership for over a decade and a half, and the moniker is When is it appropriate to tell your dog he's adopted? Your probably asking, why isn't he embarrassed?

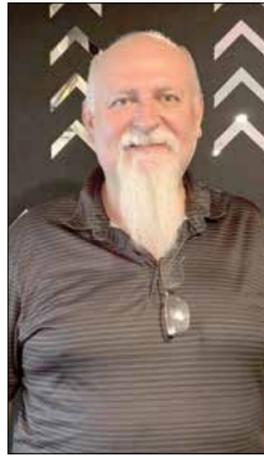
There were five rounds with five questions each. A sixth question each round was double down. Get it right, score is doubled. Wrong? Zero. On Facebook was a gift question.

The final question is to wager what you want and live or die with it.

The first round was athletics with weird names. Challenge was to guess their sport. Easy enough and everyone got it. Second was year of an event, a little harder. Third, names that were two words both the same.



Paula Ye was the Trivia hostess last Monday night at Hardwick Crossing Country Club.



Adam Kettles of Wishing Well Charities enjoyed Wise Guys Trivia.

Been around awhile as I remember BamBam from the Flintstones.

Round four was kid stuff or things that appeal to children. Surprisingly, we did not do horribly. The last round asked for the names of TV series based on a star. Despite rapid onset aging, we did okay.

So, it was time for Final Jeopardy. Uh, no that's on a TV show. At Wise Guys Trivia it is the Do or Die Final Question. It was hard, but fortunately, realizing discretion is the better part of valor, we bet only a nominal amount. As you have to wager before the question,

cowardice worked in our favor.

Until it didn't. Someone else bet well and answered better and Dan and I had to settle for third place.

That was not to say there was no fun. The competition was lively, and Paula moved it along competently.

Even though we did not order a meal, the waitstaff was pleasant and attentive as we enjoyed some fries, IPAs and cider.

Dan would introduce me to Adam Kettles of Wishing Well Charities of Ware. Wishing Well Charities was founded by Chris and Belinda Midura.



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

The lovely waitstaff at Hardwick Crossing Country Club.

Wishing Well grants wishes for those who need help in Ware and surrounding communities. They will be holding their annual fundraiser on Nov. 1. Details will coming up on their Facebook page.

An observation on Trivia strategy. More teammates gives one an advantage. Being ancient, I'm your guy

for the 50s and early 60s. After that, other generations help for cultural questions.

As a history nerd, I help there, but for more social stuff, someone else is needed.

So, remember that as you get ready for next Monday night at Hardwick Crossing.

public notices

Town of Ware Public Hearing Notice

The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear an application from Tractor Supply Company for a new Flammables and Combustible Liquids, Flammable Gases and Solids License, by installing (2) 1,000 gal tank for heating, (1) 1,000 gal tank for the LPG dispenser for resale purposes and (2) 8gal cylinder for forklift use, all above ground storage tanks located at 256 West Street, Ware, MA, Assessors' Parcel ID: 10-0-129. Copies of the petition are available at the office of the Selectboard, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA during normal business hours.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Nancy Talbot
Chair of Selectboard
07/03/2025

Town of Warren Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 166 Section 22, a public hearing for consent to install 1 SO Pole #6.1 approximately 600ft from the centerline of Southbridge on Cronin Rd. This hearing will be on **Thursday, July 10, 2025, Shepard Building 48 High St. Warren, at 6:00PM.**

Richard Eichacker, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
06/26, 07/03/2025

Notice of Public Hearing Ware Zoning Board of Appeals LEGAL NOTICE

V-2025-01

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Zoning Board of Appeals, per the powers given under M.G.L Chapter 40A, will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 7:00 PM** on the application of Robert Jones (Nu-Way Mobile Homes), for a Variance (V-2025-01). The applicant is requesting variance relief from the setback requirements for proposed mobile home under Section 4.8.7, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Zoning Board of Appeals as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members

of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 2 4th Avenue, Ware MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 10178, Page 211. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 52-0-21. Zoned: Suburban Residential (SR).

A complete copy of the application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under Recent Filings. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

WARE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
S.K Robinson, Chairman
07/03, 07/10/2025

Town of Hardwick Conservation Commission Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act that a Public Meeting will be held for a **Request for Determination of Applicability** on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the Municipal Office Building, 307Main Street, Gilbertville. All interested parties are urged to attend.

Applicant: Abbie White
Description of Proposed Work: Construct farm workshop/storage building. Pole for electricity to building.
Location: 232 Lucas Road

Town: **Hardwick**
Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>.
07/03/2025

Town of Ware Conservation Commission Public Hearing

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 6:30pm** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)** by Patrick Demarco, for the removal of trees at his proper-

ty located at 28 Beach Rd. Ware, MA 01082. Assessors Map ID 48-0-56. Said hearing will be held in the Selectboard Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main St. 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>
07/03/2025

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 10, 2025.** Total circulation of **85,000** which reaches over **200,000** readers in the Pioneer Valley. **Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public**

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Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.



Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.



Foreign exchange students seek host families for 2025-2026

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a non-profit public benefit organization, is currently seeking warm and welcoming host families to open their homes to international exchange students for the upcoming school year.

Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience for families that fosters cultural understanding, builds lifelong friendships, while enriching

local communities. Students, aged 15-18 years, come from over 60 countries around the world, including France, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Australia, Spain and many more. The students are carefully selected based on their academic performance, English proficiency and personal character, and they are eager to become part of an American family, attend a local high school and share their own tra-

ditions.

During their stay, ASSE exchange students immerse themselves in American culture by living with and becoming part of a volunteer host family while attending a local high school. This experience allows them to improve their English skills, form lifelong friendships and gain a deeper understanding of American life and values. Exchange students bring

energy, curiosity, and fresh perspectives to their host families and communities. They attend local schools, participate in activities, and become a real family member.

Host families provide a safe and supportive home, meals, and encouragement, while students come with their own spending money and health insurance, ensuring that hosting is a rewarding and enrich-

ing experience without financial burden.

Anyone with a warm and welcoming home can host an exchange student. Host families come in many forms, including married couples (with or without children), single parents, young professionals, empty-nesters, same-sex couples and retirees.

ASSE also offers qualified American students the opportu-

nity to learn another language and culture by spending a school year, semester or a summer with a host family in another country.

Families interested in hosting an exchange student or exploring study abroad opportunities are encouraged to learn more and apply by visiting www.host.asse.com, calling Lori Michael at 800-677-2773 or emailing east@asse.com.

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