

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Great AMERICAN MUSCLE

Car Show

First ever car show pays tribute to U.S. horsepower

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

PALMER – Car enthusiasts celebrated our nation’s independence and American-made horsepower at the first ever Great American Muscle Car Show held at Palmer Motorsports Park this past Saturday.

Hundreds of American muscle cars were on display at the track, ranging from hot rods and gassers, to popular “pony cars” such as Mustangs and Challengers.

This event was sponsored by Sarat Ford Lincoln and Palmer Motorsports Park, along with EMPERFORMANCE. The Valley’s Classic Hits 97.7 gave a live broadcast from the car show and played tunes for all to enjoy.

Please see **CAR SHOW**, page 6



Bob Desroches of Spencer is shown with his 1949 Chevy vintage gasser racecar.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Residents discuss concerns about rail trail usage

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Selectboard Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz said he was contacted about concerns regarding access to the Mass Central Rail Trail in the area of Oakridge Circle.

At the Selectboard’s July 1 meeting, Kusnierz said a resident shared his concerns and video footage of ATVs, dirt bikes, golf carts and unleashed animals entering private property. He expressed his own concerns about someone being hurt by the use of motorized vehicles on the trail.

He said these motorized vehicles do not belong on the trail, and he said the placement of gates near Oakridge Circle would help to prevent this type of unauthorized use

Please see **TRAIL**, page 3

ConCom held public hearing

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Conservation Commission met on July 1 for a public hearing for a lot off Crouch Road.

Presenting the project on Lot 3B of Crouch Road was Professional Land Surveyor for Land Planning Inc., Bryan Hill. The project consists of moving into the lot and there is a stream on site that needs to be crossed for access. Hill said the purpose of wanting to cross that stream is to provide the house on site with septic.

The land surveyor’s goal is to still protect the wetlands and reduce disturbance areas. The project also features the installation of a safe driveway on the lot.

The commission pulled a map of the lot on their screen and shared their main concerns. Conservation Chair Joyce Eichacker circled some of the impacted areas on the map and wanted to have a description of what the house would look like.

The house is going to have a walkway to access the porch and a walkway to the walk-in basement. There is also a plan to install an infiltration system for the roof runoff and a groundwater recharge.

The Conservation Commission had documentation to share with the Hill that is required information. One of the sheets is a replication checklist, a document researchers are encouraged to follow and document when

Please see **HEARING**, page 5

Selectboard, residents discuss the use of trust funds

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Several residents attended the July 1 meeting to ask the Selectboard to reconsider its vote in support of keeping the care of the Lewis Gilbert Trust under current trustee, Bank of America, with Baystate Health as its beneficiary.

Friends of Mary Lane Hospital members Cindy Allen Bourcier and Cathy Cascio, along with several other residents, spoke in support of naming the Community Foundation of

Western Massachusetts as the new trustee.

Bourcier said Bank of America made a decision on April 6 to turn the funds over to the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

Hospital Review Committee Chair Howard Trietsch said for the last four years, the committee has worked to bring healthcare back to town. He said the recent proposal by Baystate Health to open a site in town needs the trust fund money in order to move forward.

“This is an opportunity to bring healthcare back to

Ware,” he said. “We have a real plan. It has a timeline, it has funding, it is Convenient Care...which by their definition has some urgent care components to it.”

Open meeting law complaint

Selectboard Chair Nancy Talbot read the Selectboard’s response to Bourcier’s open meeting law complaint filed against the board’s executive session vote regarding the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

The Selectboard members voted to release the dis-

Please see **FUNDS**, page 5



Submitted Photo

At the July 1, the Selectboard appointed Sommer Bren to serve as a full-time police officer on the Police Department. Bren is shown with Police Chief Shawn Crevier.

Wingmasters visit Hardwick for Summer Reading

HARDWICK – A very special program was held on June 28 at the Town House in Hardwick.

A program, Native American Artifacts and Birds of Prey, by Julie Collier of Wingmasters was sponsored by the Paige Memorial Library with funding from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council.

Native Americans revered birds of prey for their majestic appearance as well as for their hunting prowess. To invoke the spirit of these powerful predators, Native peoples followed the ancient tradition of wearing or carrying bird of prey feathers. They also admired the subtle beauty of raptor feathers, from the black-and-white tail feathers of juvenile golden eagles to the wing feathers of hawks and falcons, patterned with arrow-

head-shaped markings.

The strong connection between raptors and Native Americans suggested this program which combines five live birds of prey with artifacts and both explains and shows how different

Please see **WINGMASTERS**, page 12



Julie Collier is shown here with a barred owl.



Submitted photos Julie Collier of Wingmasters has a peregrine falcon on her arm.

Questions needed for ‘Meet the Candidates’ forum

WARE – Ware Community Television and the Ware River News will be hosting a “Meet the Candidates” forum prior to the Aug. 12 special election, and we need questions from the community.

Select questions will be asked to the candidates running for the Selectboard during the July 26 forum.

Please send your questions by email to pouimette@turley.com or mail to Ware River News, 80 Main St., Ware MA 01082. Written questions can also be dropped off at our office, 80 Main St.



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.

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 14

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 15

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
1-2 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Mobile Food Pantry at Grenville Park
5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, July 16

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
1 p.m. Chair Yoga

Thursday, July 17

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 18

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

LUNCHES

DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, July 14

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

Tuesday, July 15

Shepherd's Pie, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, July 16

Kentucky Stuffed Pepper, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, July 17

American Chop Suey, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, July 18

Fish and Chips, Coleslaw, Dessert of the Day

Are You Old News?



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



File Photo
Last week's photo from 1989 showed the slate of officers installed by the DAV Auxiliary to Chapter 59. Front row from left are Sophie Sidote, Hazel Johnson, Gilda Duval and Nancy Forte; back row from left are Elsie Casey and Janet Messier.

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

Town Clerk shares Special Town Election info

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.townofware.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 – ntalbot@townofware.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.

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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 pouimett@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.

Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park Thursday evenings

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 con-

cession 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.

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Ware Junior/Senior High School lists fourth quarter honor roll

WARE – Ware Junior/Senior High School announced the fourth quarter honor roll for the 2024-2025 school year

Grade 12, High Honors

Michael Devlin, Joshua Dulak, Nevaeh Fielding, Chelsea Foley, Jackson Ghidinelli, Tyson Gordon, Shelby Hogan, Nathan Kaczuwka, Chloe LaGrant, Hannah Lang, Ami LaPointe, Owen McKeever, Philip Orszulak, Olivia Owsiak, Gavin Sawabi and Kyle Slattery.

Grade 12, Honors

Michael Fountain, Nathan Harmon, Alexander Hedge-Hughes, Taylor Janson, Lillian Knight, Jason Mumper, Leah O'Connell, Kayla Obrzut, Messiah Richardson, Morgan Soltysik, Adrian Torres, Christine Tuttle, Ashlynn Westbrook and Tayla Williams.

Grade 11, High Honors

Damian Brace, Ethan Corder, Olivia DiRienzo, Melody Duran, Jack Gaudreau, Maia Lamothe, Marek Luongo, Sophia Rheume, Janasia Roman and Madisyn Slattery.

Grade 11, Honors

Peter Anton, Sofia Diaz, Brady Guimond, Kyle

Kaczuwka, Kaleb Kanozek, Alex Orszulak, Daniel Ramirez and Nathan Trzpit,

Grade 10, High Honors

Olivia Beaumier, Emily Jones, Mila Markham, Reese McKeever and Ohana Wall.

Grade 10, Honors

Aaron Bateman, Andrew Bonilla, Thomas Cleveland, Kahmari Crump, Lillian DeBettencourt, Kazmiry Lagimoniere, Dalton Marquis, Edgus John Michael Owsiak, Lucas Schilling and Haylee Tortora.

Grade Nine, High Honors

Abigail Bateman, Sophie Blais, Leland Cote, Callie Cygan, Caeleb DuBois, Carlea Foley, Carolyn Hubbard, Brennan Johnson, Aaliyah Kemp, Laura Landgren, Mason Lee, Alexandra Marceau, Molly McGrail, Amelia Orszulak, Adalia Rivera Rolon, Sofia Roman, Alexis Russell and Matthew Skutnik.

Grade Nine, Honors

Ivy Bergeron, Jady-N Amy Boulrice, Destiny Diaz, Anna Dulak, Jackson Haddad, Jack Mason, Catherine Mickna, Logan Millet, Zachary Safford and Adin Taylor.

Grade Eight, High Honors

Austin Barry, Lana

Bennington, Zion Calkins, Thanishka Cordero, Gloria Cotaj, Frankee Crehan, Joseph Cygan, Raiden Drouin, Dane Dulak, Madelyn Fandrey, Josephine Galeckas, Austin Hatch, Crystal Hong, Jennavesia Josephson, Gabrielle Kaczuwka, Edmund Klee, Raymond Kularski, Daisy Laverdiere, Alexandria Mickna, Madison Mitchell, Bentley Parker, Laila Perron, Jayliana Rivera, Kamila Santiago, Andrew Shaw, Roman Viess and Zoey Wattu.

Grade Eight, Honors

Finnegan DeMarco, Iris Griffith, Lucy Hebert, Mason Kalafarski, Wyatt Moquin, Claire Murphy, Jackson Musnicki, Andrew Rheume, Chanielys Vazquez Laviena, Malikai Wall, Quentin Wilkins and Adrian Zapata.

Grade Seven, High Honors

Robert Beauregard, Madison Boulrice, James Devlin, Gloria Gern, Emily Lane, Noah Lane, Alexandria Schmidt, Sage Supka, Sean Taylor, Alana Tolman and Sareny Williams

Grade Seven, Honors

Sophia Epley-Nourse, Esmeralda Esteves, Lucas Jurczyk, Kaydin Mason and Pinyaphut Matin.

Concert brings 'Movie Magic' to Barre bandstand

BARRE – With concerts by the Quabbin Community Band resuming on the Harding Allen Bandstand in the center of town for the remainder of the summer, Sunday nights have come alive on the common.

Barre Pizza, a Platinum Sponsor of the band, stays open until 8 p.m., and the new Corner Coffee Co. is scooping ice cream until 9 p.m. The Barre Historical Society is open each Sunday with popcorn and beverages outdoors along with town memorabilia for concert goers to peruse.

This week the band presents "Movie Magic" which will include songs from, "Wicked", "Titanic", "La La Land", "The Wizard of Oz", "Beauty and the Beast" and more. The band is especially excited to present band member Eliza Brown in her debut as vocalist on the James Bond classic, "Skyfall".

All summer concerts begin at 6 p.m. Should



Submitted Photo
Karly Elizabeth Noel, 7-month old daughter of band member Nicole Noel, wore her Quabbin Community Band shirt at the "Music and America" concert held July 6 on the Barre Common.

there be rain on any Sunday evening, the concerts are moved indoors to the Town Hall.

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 Ants on a Log funded in memory of Peggy Trombly on Thursday, July 10 at 3 p.m.; Sharpie Tie Dye at Grenville Park on Tuesday, July 15 from 3-4:30 p.m. (drop-in event); Financial Literacy with Country Bank for ages 5-12 on Wednesday, July 16 at 3 p.m. (registration required); Author Emily Franke Book reading & Signing with Cupcakes Courtesy of Cupcakes & Confections by Jana on Thursday, July 17 at 3 p.m.; Magician Mike Bent on Monday, July 21 at 4 p.m.; Jungle Jim on Thursday,

July 29 at 4 p.m. (this program is funded in part by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency); 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@cwmarcs.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.



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viewpoints

A self-sown surprise

I was pleased to come home from vacation and see the changes in my work gardens over 10 days time. It was astounding to witness the growth that many of the plants put on!

One other thing I enjoyed seeing was a few "volunteers" that had popped up here and there. Celosia, portulaca and my favorite, the cleome, had germinated in bare spots in the garden.

While most of these plants did not fit in to the current year's design and had to be removed, the cleome, better known as "spider flower," popped up exactly where I would have wanted it. In a month or so I will have some gorgeous flowers in the center of a bed, providing height right where I need it.

Spider flower goes by the scientific name *Cleome hasslerana*. Older cultivars such as "Helen Campbell" and the "Queen" series top off at an airy four or five feet tall, while the newer "Sparkler" hybrids are a bit shorter and bushier. Besides white, spider flower comes in pink, cherry and lavender.

It was given such a unique name because of the flower's long, slender stamens that remind one of spider legs protruding from the plant. The stamens hold the eventual seed pods a distance away giving them even more "popping power" once ripe.

As a child, I was drawn to

the seed pods of this peculiar plant - if you waited until they were "just right" and gave them a squeeze, the seeds would fly everywhere.

have better luck.

I had always known that cleomes prefer full sun and well-drained soil. What I didn't know was that they also like fertile soil and space away from one another. Regular doses of liquid feed are a must!

In the north, the cleome's habit of self-sowing doesn't become annoying, but in warmer areas it can become weedy. Clipping the seed-pods as mentioned above would "nip this problem in the bud." Seedlings that develop from volunteers will likely be a blend color-wise of the plants you grew last year because they are cross-pollinated by insects.

I will have to wait and see what color my self-sown cleome seedlings end up being, but lucky for me the rest of the flowers in the garden bed are in pink and lavender shades and will blend perfectly the volunteers.

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.



What fun!

This attribute gives the plant tremendous "staying power" in the garden- in other words it pops up everywhere the following season! This can be a very good thing if you enjoy having the cleome around as much as I do.

Because cleomes are flower producing powerhouses they sometimes become exhausted by midsummer; their lower leaves yellow and flowers start to fade. I always thought that if they were dead headed like other, more common annuals were, maybe they would last longer into the season.

So, as an experiment I clipped the seed-pods close to the plant as soon as they began to form. Unfortunately, the overall form of the plant was altered not for the better- and with little reward for my work. Then I began to search out what exactly cleomes need in order to thrive- perhaps if I met those requirements I'd

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Can I switch to a taxi driver job without hurting my Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I opted to draw my Social Security retirement benefit early and work part time. The company I work for has decided to pull me from field work due to my age and health. Although they are great keeping me at 20 hours per week running for parts and doing office work, I'm not sure how much longer it will last. I'm thinking of taking a taxi driving job to keep my income enough to live on. The way it would work, I would lease the cab for some amount of dollars per day, set my own hours to work and collect anywhere from \$1.40 to \$4.00 per mile, depending on what type of fare. My question is: how does Social Security look at that type of employment? Would I be held to the 15 - 45 hours a month standard? I could never come close to making the \$1,200 to \$1,300 a month I need by working so little. Any advice is greatly appreciated.

Signed: Seeking Advice

Dear Seeking:

If you go ahead with your plan to lease a taxicab instead of continuing your current employment, you would, in effect, be considered "self-employed" and would submit your income tax return to the IRS accordingly. Social Security would get your earnings information as reported to the IRS and it would be your net earnings from self-employment after deducting all your business expenses that is reported to SSA by IRS.

There is, however, a special rule which would apply to you in your first calendar year of self-employment while collecting early Social Security benefits. Since, in your first year, some of your earnings would be as a part-time employee paying SS FICA payroll taxes, Social Security would first look at your earnings as an employee to see if you exceeded the annual earnings limit (\$23,400 for 2025).

Then, upon starting your self-employment, Social Security would look at the hours you spent performing "substantial gainful activity" (e.g., driving your taxi) each month and, if you spent more than 45 hours per month in that capacity, you would not be considered "retired," and thus, not eligible for Social Security in any month you exceeded that amount of hours.

If you earned less than the annual limit in total both as an employee and while self-employed, you would get benefits for all months of the year. But if you earn more than the

annual limit, you will get no benefits for any month you exceeded 45 hours as a self-employed person. Again, this only applies during the first calendar year of self-employment - in the following year only your net earnings from self-employment would count toward the annual earnings limit.

In effect, SSA would use the hours-worked standard to see if you are truly retired or actually working. If the latter, they would withhold SS monthly benefits for any month you exceed 45 hours working while self-employed (up to and including December of your first calendar year of self-employment), and only if your total income (as an employee and while self-employed) exceeds the annual limit.

So, if your goal is to net \$1,200 - \$1,300 per month as a self-employed taxi driver, that would be well within the limits of the annual earnings test (\$23,400 for 2025 but changes yearly). But there may, or may not, be a reduction in your Social Security benefits during your first year of self-employment, depending on when you start as self-employed. Note that SSA will ask about your work plans when you apply, and if you expect to stay under the annual limit (working part time in both capacities), you should get full SS benefits. Just be careful to stay under the annual earnings limit for those collecting early Social Security benefits. FYI, earnings from before your SS benefits started don't count toward the earning limit.

Note, too, that your monthly Social Security benefit will be actuarially reduced according to how far in advance of your full retirement age you claim SS. Whenever SS benefits are claimed prior to one's full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

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



READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER



Consider giving the gift of life

Sturbridge resident seeks living kidney donor

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE - Resident Robin Lataille is still looking for a living donor to receive a kidney transplant from, and she is asking for the help of the community to find a match.

"I had a few people tested and it didn't work out," Lataille said. "I know there's one out there for me."

Lataille first received the gift of life 15 years ago, when she received a kidney from a deceased donor after spending seven years on dialysis. She went into kidney failure due to decades of struggling with high blood pressure, despite living a healthy lifestyle and being an athlete.

In February of 2022, Lataille's doctor told her she would need to start dialysis again, and start looking for a living donor.

Lataille continues to do



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette
Robin Lataille, left, is shown with her partner Pam. Lataille is seeking a kidney donation from a living donor.

dialysis three days a week for three and a half hours at a time.

"The road just gets harder and harder on dialysis," she said. "I try to be as upbeat as I can be."

Lataille has never been one to let life's challenges slow her down, and up until recent years, has earned medals for her participation in the Transplant Games of America, which are held both in the U.S. and internationally. Lataille has traveled to Sweden, Argentina and South Africa to compete in these games.

Lataille recently under-

went knee replacement surgery and took her first trip to the beach in a long time, and she is hopeful that finding a living donor will help her to regain her active lifestyle and take part in the things that matter to her the most, including Donate Life events.

When she's not spending time with her family and friends, Lataille enjoys walking, baking and swimming. She taught swimming lessons at the YMCA for several years.

"I'm looking forward to being outside and just being

Please see **GIFT**, page 5

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

Send opinions to:
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

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 adven-

tures 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.

Warren library lists Summer Reading programs for kids

WARREN – The Warren Public Library, 934 Main St., announced upcoming Summer Reading programs for youth.

Crochet with Faye

On Tuesday, July 15 and Thursday, July 24 at 2 p.m., join local artist FaegasiAurora for this two-part workshop and make your own crochet whale amigurumi. Amigurumi is the Japanese art of knitting or crocheting small, stuffed, adorable yarn creatures.

This program is free and open to children and young adults age 10+. All materials will be provided for this class. Please contact the library to register.

Rock Painting

On Saturday, July 19 at 1 p.m., join the library on the common (or inside the library in case of rain) and paint a decorative or inspirational garden rock – to keep, or to secretly leave somewhere for someone else to find.

This program is free and open to kids, teens, and families. Registration is appreciated but not required.

All events will be held at the Warren Public Library, 934 Main St. Please call or email for more information at 413-436-7690 or warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

GIFT from page 4

able to do things,” Lataille said. “I’m looking forward to finding that kidney donor so I can continue my great life.”

Lataille said she is able to remain positive with the unwavering support of her partner Pam and their grandchildren, her brother Bill and his family, and her special friend Lynn.

Granddaughters Giana and Mia recently made a video and flyers to promote Lataille’s need for a living donor, and they have attended Donate Life events with her and Pam as well.

“I am getting a lot of support,” Lataille said.

How to be a living donor

To be a living donor, people need to register with the National Kidney Registry in order to receive a blood testing kit, which can be completed at a local lab and then sent to Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, where Lataille is a patient.

To see if you are eligible

to donate to Lataille, visit her personal site at www.nkr.org/BDP546 and sign up.

Once the blood test has been completed, living donors will be contracted by Brigham and Women’s Hospital’s organ donation team and asked questions to determine further eligibility. Potential donors will answer a series of questions about their lifestyle and medical history.

Lataille said being an organ donor on your driver’s license doesn’t qualify you to be a living donor, and that signing up with the National Kidney Registry is a necessary step to find out if you are eligible to donate.

“Please consider being a living donor,” Lataille said. “You give that gift of life and also get that gift of life because you’re giving to others.”

For more information about Lataille’s journey, visit her National Kidney Registry site or follow “Robin Needs a New Kidney 2024” on Facebook.

HEARING from page 1

designing, conducting, and reporting their studies. The Conservation Commission needs this information to understand where the groundwater is, where the soil is and how soil is tested.

The applicant does have a plant list and has identified what kind of ferns are currently on site and what ferns to plant afterwards. Hill says he plans on doing soil tests during the time of the installations.

After reviewing the map, the Conservation Commission believed the work being done goes right up to the edge of the wetland. Afterwards, there is no longer a forested area, and Conservation feels the wetland is no longer protected. Eichacker wants to know what can help mitigate the loss of the canopy.

Hill proposed to leave

some silver birch trees for shading of the restoration area and also plant new trees around the perimeter. Hill will also be doing a test pit as well on site.

The Conservation Commission went over a plan with Hill and talked about what to go over in the replication checklist. The commission wants the applicant to give an example of what wetland plants are on the lot.

For soil testing, the commission wants the applicant to survey it and see what the elevation is. Once the applicant fills out the checklist, they have to get it back to the Conservation Commission.

Other forms to go over included a Buffer Zone and Resource Area Impacts Form. The land surveyor wants to identify the distance from the buffer to the wetland. Field data forms are

needed as well.

Hill originally thought these forms were sent in, but the Conservation Commission said they never received them. For tree clearing area, Hill believes there is no need to cut any existing trees. A shading area will be made by planting new trees such as silver birch and red maple.

Hill gave an outline of the work area and says the applicant is giving workers enough room without putting anything at risk. Work is being done in the replication area and Hill said there is “a second barrier between area of work and replication area.”

The Conservation Commission voted to continue to public hearing for Lot 3B on Crouch Road to their next meeting on July 8. Hill will provide the revisions at the next Conservation Commission meeting.

FUNDS from page 1

discussion from the executive session, and Talbot read the minutes from that meeting.

She said there has not been a letter sent to anyone regarding the Selectboard’s vote, which had the majority of members in favor of having Attorney Patricia Davidson work with Bank of America to support Baystate Health’s proposal to establish a Convenient Care location in town. Selectboard member Jack Cascio was the only discerning vote.

“No letter has been sent because the board did not formally take a vote in open session to further this,” Talbot said.

Talbot said the attorney recommended the Selectboard retake the vote in an open session.

Baystate Health Attorney Ryan Berry said if the town supports Baystate Health’s Convenient Care site with use of the trust funds, Baystate is “ready to go” with the opening of the site.

“If Baystate no longer has the benefit of the Gilbert trust funds, that Convenient Care clinic is not getting built,” Berry said. “There’s nobody else as far as I’m aware that’s waiting in the wings. No other healthcare organizations have stepped up to my knowledge...it’s either healthcare provided by Baystate Health or nothing.”

Trietsch said this is a work in progress and he proposed that the Convenient Care site be named after Mary Lane, and there would be a memorial explaining of the history of the hospital and the trust. He also asked that a community advisory board be created to include citizens that would work with Baystate Health and provide feedback regarding care.

“I think it’s important for the people of Ware and Hardwick to have some

input,” Trietsch said.

Trietsch also said he wants to see the results of an independent audit conducted of the trust funds. Berry said the audit has now been completed and it was “a clean audit,” with no findings or concerns regarding the use of the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

“All three of these things would rebuild some of the lost trust with the town,” Trietsch said of his suggestions to Baystate Health.

Berry said Baystate Health would keep the Mary Lane name at its Convenient Care site and also welcomed the creation of a community advisory board with representatives from Ware and Hardwick.

Berry said Bank of America and the Attorney General are both in support of Baystate Health using the trust funds to move forward with the Convenient Care site.

“Both are completely satisfied with the way that Baystate has used the Gilbert trust over the years,” Berry said.

Trietsch said Baystate Health’s proposal will only work with the support of the community.

Selectboard member Jack Cascio shared his distrust of Baystate Health, given its history with the town and the closure of Mary Lane Hospital.

Talbot said she believes that Baystate Health’s proposal is “the best and only option at this time” to provide healthcare to residents.

The Selectboard voted again on the motion to allow Davidson to work with Bank of America to support Baystate Health’s Convenient Care proposal with three in favor and one opposed.

Full-time police officer

Police Chief Shawn Crevier presented Somer Bren to be appointed to

fill the final vacant full-time position on the Police Department.

“She’s currently a local college police officer,” Crevier said.

Crevier said Bren has full-time academy and specialty training, including training in dealing with sexual assaults, that will benefit the department.

The Selectboard voted to

appoint Bren as a full-time police officer to start July 20.

ADA celebration and update

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the Americans with Disabilities Act anniversary celebration will be held at the Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, on Saturday, July 26. He said there will be vendors, displays, speakers

and refreshments.

All are welcomed and encouraged to attend this event.

Beckley said the town’s ADA Commission is working to purchase flags for wheelchairs to make them more visible on sidewalks and crosswalks, and signs to help direct people to accessible parking at town events.

Tractor Supply grand

opening

The manager of the newly built Tractor Supply store announced that construction delays have pushed the grand opening of the business back to Saturday, Aug. 2. A soft opening of the store is expected to occur this week.

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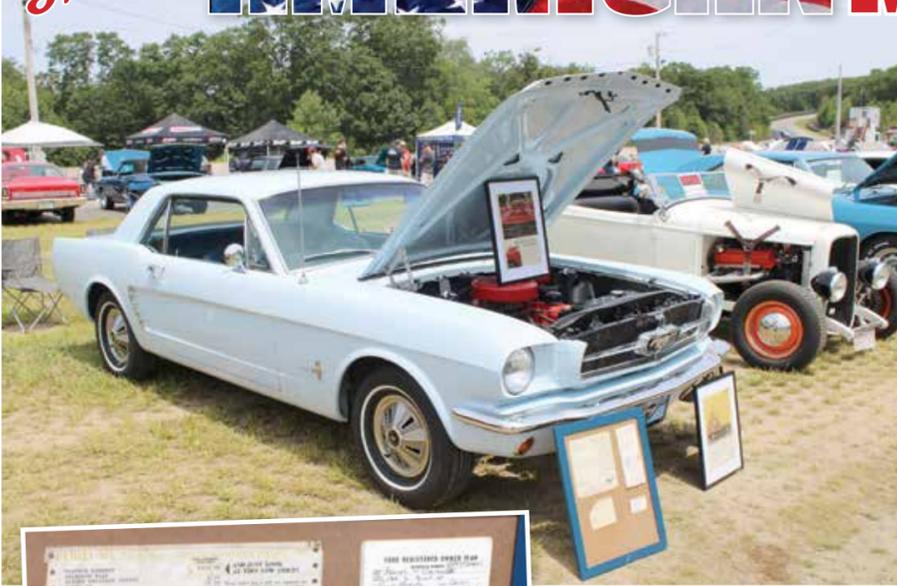
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Great AMERICAN MUSCLE Car Show



This 1965 Ford Mustang still features its original Arcadian Blue paint.



Ed Jodoin of Palmer stands with his 1932 Ford So-Cal Highboy at the Great American Muscle Car Show at Palmer Motorsports Park this past Saturday.



Shown is the original sale's slip for the 1965 Ford Mustang.



Spectators enjoyed looking at all of the various vehicles at the Great American Muscle Car Show.

CAR SHOW from page 1

All who attended had a variety of food to choose from provided by Buster's food truck and Monson's own Cookies by Ray.

Exhibitors lined their cars up and popped the hoods, ready to answer questions about their car's history with anyone who was interested.

Ed Caplette of Hampden brought his 1968 Jeepster Commando half-cab pickup complete with a custom paint job by artist Michael Raina. Caplette said he has had the Commando for about five years now and he recalled how he dragged it out of a field to bring it home.

"I started with a frame sitting on jack stands," he said. "I built the whole car."

Caplette has restored over 50 cars during his career, and

he said it usually takes about a year and a half to complete each one.

Caplette said there were about 3,000 models made of the half-cab pickup, which was used as farm truck.

An avid car enthusiast, Caplette said he had a "whole bunch" of Camaros and Chevelles and he hopes to one day own a 1955 Chevy gasser – the same year he was born.

Gassers were a popular vehicle at the Great American Muscle Car Show, especially Bob Desroches' 1949 Chevy.

Desroches owns Bob's Auto in Spencer, and he has had the vintage racecar for close to 30 years.

"I bought it as a hot rod in 1998," he said. "It's been the love of my life."

Bob's Auto does automo-

Please see more Muscle Car Show photos on Page 7.

bile repair and specializes in vintage cars, work which he described as being "years of acquiring parts."

He's added some unique features to this 27 year-build, including a new style, 6-speed manual transmission, and next up is the paint job. The gasser is fast enough to be a street car and does well in nostalgia races.

Joining Desroches was his friend Eric Hubert from Rhode Island, who drove up in his mint condition 1986 Pontiac Trans Am.

Hubert said he's had this

car since this past October, which he bought from its first owner with just 81,000 miles on it.

"It's a true original car," Hubert said.

Hubert said he bought the Trans Am because it was the same type of car he drove in high school. The only difference being that his first Trans Am was a 1985.

"It's the identical twin to my high school car," he said. "Same interior, same color, same everything."

Hubert said the Great American Muscle Car Show was the second time he's entered the Trans Am in a show, and he said the car was invaluable to him.

"To me, it's priceless," he said. "I couldn't replace this car."

Many of the cars at the track last weekend also had ties to their owner's childhood memories, and this includes Palmer resident Ed Jodoin's 1932 Ford So-Cal Highboy, which he's had for six years.

Jodoin said he has wanted this type of car since he was a child after watching a Disney cartoon which featured a little coupe.

"Ever since then, I always wanted one," Jodoin said.

Jodoin frequently takes the Highboy to shows around the area, including the Moose Lodge in Chicopee and the Elks Lodge in Ludlow.

Jodoin said while he loves the Highboy, it's time for him

to sell it to make room for something new in his collection.

"There's not many like this," he said of the car. "It's just as clean underneath as it is on top."

Although Ware resident John Collins didn't bring an American-made car to the show, he did bring his 2012 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS, which has a 997.2 body style.

Along with his 911, Collins brought an oil painting he did of the car, which won "Best in Show" at an art show held during a Porsche event in the Poconos. This was the first ever art show Collins entered, and the judge who awarded him the top honors was Grant Larson, the Porsche designer who created the very model of car that Collins' owns.

Collins, who retired from his career in architecture, said he began painting and sculpting about three years ago, learning from many masters in these mediums including one of Ware's most notable artists, Roc Goudreau. Collins has since gone on to creating one-of-a-kind portraits of cars by commission.

"The very first portrait I did was of my car," Collins said.

The photograph Collins used to create this portrait was taken on turn 14 of the Whiskey Hill track, where he is a club member.

Collins' artwork can be viewed online at collinsart-

studios.com or at West Brookfield Art & Frame Gallery in West Brookfield, where he is a gallery artist.

Upcoming events Palmer Motorsports Park, located at 58 West Ware Road, has a full lineup of events for the 2025 track season.

Cars & Coffee events are scheduled on select Sundays from 9 a.m.-noon. To register for these events, visit palmermsp.com/carsandcoffee.

Porsche on the Mountain will be held on Sunday, Oct. 5 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and features everything Porsche from show cars to track cars, to race cars and project cars. Show car entry is \$35 (preregistration required) and \$10 general admission.

Proceeds from this event benefit Homes For Our Troops. For more information and to register, visit www.porscheonthemountain.com.

The annual Trunk or Treat Car Show to benefit food pantries in Palmer and Ware will be held on Sunday, Oct. 26 and the popular Mustangs on the Mountain event is also set to take place in October to benefit the Central New England Equine Rescue.

For more information about Palmer Motorsports Park, visit palmermsp.com or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



This 1957 Ford Ranch wagon is owned by Richard Birch of Southbridge.

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Shown is a Ford Mustang Shelby GT500. Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

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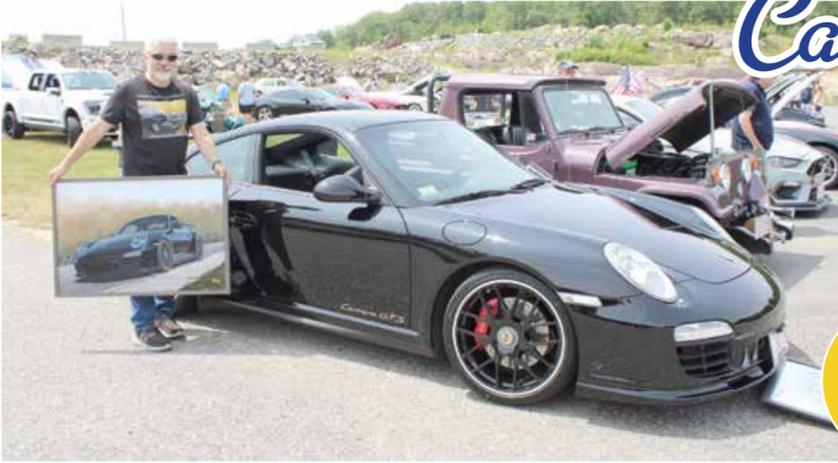
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American-made vehicles included a variety of Dodge, Ford, Pontiac, GMC and Chevrolet models.



Great AMERICAN MUSCLE Car Show



John Collins of Ware holds an oil painting he created of his Porsche 911.



ABOVE RIGHT: Ed Caplette of Hampden is shown with his 1968 Jeepster Commando half-cab pickup.



Ed Caplette's 1968 Jeepster Commando features hand painted details by artist Michael Raina.

Please see more Muscle Car Show photos on Page 6.



A Dodge Viper was featured in the Great American Muscle Car Show.



This 1973 GMC Sprint is owned by Roger Hart.



Eric Hubert drove his 1986 Pontiac Trans Am up from Rhode Island to enter in the Great American Muscle Car Show.

78th Ware Grange Fari will be held Aug. 23

WARE – This year's Ware Grange Fair will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23.

In its 78th year, this community-focused event features exhibits, food, and fun family activities.

The Fun Dog Show, introduced last year, is a family-friendly event where any dog is welcome to enter. It is not a professional dog show. It's a fun event that gives members of the community the opportunity to show off their adorable dogs.

Dogs will be judged in categories such as Waggiest Tail, Best Trick and Best Dressed. Winning dogs will receive a ribbon and prize. To participate in the Fun Dog Show, bring your dog and a copy of their rabies vaccination certificate to the Grange and register them for the show beginning at 1:30 p.m. The show begins at 2:30 p.m.

Come and participate with your dog or just come to see all the cute dogs.

This year the popular Kids' Corner workshops will be part of the Fair, with the "Funtastic Fair Festival!" The festival will be a fun time for

kids to enjoy crafts, dancing, a parade and fair games such as a pie eating contest, hula hoop hop and water balloon toss.

Come have a fantastic time with Miss Jen starting at noon.

This year's fair will feature the return of last year's popular barbecue dinner menu, which includes pulled pork, chicken, brisket, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, dessert and drink for \$25.

The barbecue can be enjoyed outside under the tent, and take-out is also available. Reservations are required by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing waregrange164@gmail.com.

Many favorites are returning for this year's fair, including the bake sale, raffles, games, burgers and hot dogs available in the afternoon, and the auction. Live music will be performed by Brianna Lamb starting at 3:30 p.m. for attendees to enjoy during dinner.

All Massachusetts residents are welcome to enter exhibits and earn ribbons and prizes in categories such

as vegetables, flowers, arts and crafts, photography, and many more. Exhibits must be brought to the Ware Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road on Thursday, Aug. 21 between 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 22 between 9-11 a.m.

All entries must be in place by 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 22. Judging will take place Friday afternoon and the hall will re-open to the public on Friday evening at 5 p.m.

Most of the fun takes place on Saturday, Aug. 23 with the hall opening at 9 a.m. and most of the events occurring in the afternoon and concluding that evening with the auction at 6 p.m.

For the full event schedule and contest information for exhibitors, visit Ware Grange's website at waregrange.org. Program books are being mailed to past exhibitors; if you're new to the fair and would like to request a copy of the book by mail, contact the Grange by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing waregrange164@gmail.com.

Summer Reading activities continue at Paige library

HARDWICK – There are lots of activities at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, for all ages.

Summer Reading, with special programs and activities, prizes, and lots of good books to borrow, continues to Aug. 9. Reading Logs are checked each week for tickets for prizes.

On Wednesdays from 3-4 p.m., build a Lego creation to display in the library with a picture on Facebook. Story Hour is at 11 a.m. for a reading, crafts, science, and play.

On Thursday, July 10, at 3 p.m., make a checkerboard game to take home. Board Game Day with snacks is on Saturday, July 12, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Pokemon Day with Miss

Brianna is on Tuesday, July 15, from 4-6 p.m. Make a Tic-Tac-Toe game to take home on Thursday, July 24 at 3 p.m. Come play Bingo with prizes on Tuesday, July 29 from 3-5 p.m.

Calling adults to play ball or cheer on the Hardwick Haymakers on Saturday, July 19 at 1 p.m. at Goddard Field next to the Paige Library. The rain date is July 20.

On Thursday, July 24, at 6 p.m., Laura Dusha Nelson will help us plan for The Journey Before Us.

The Ukulele Workshop with David Maloof at the Town House on Thursday, July 22 at 6 p.m., is for all ages.

Come join us for summer fun. Register at 413-477-6704 or Director. paigelibrary@gmail.com.

Thrift Store open on select Saturdays

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Thrift Store of the George Whitefield United Methodist Church is open the first and third Saturdays of each month, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 33 West Main St.

Many lovely summer wardrobe selections are now available for women, men and children, as well as other seasonal updates to inventory. The Thrift Store offers quality used clothing, shoes, accessories, household goods, décor, picture frames, children's toys, books and DVDs at bargain prices.

Donations of gently used items are appreciated and may be arranged by contacting Jane Dolan at 508-867-5571. Proceeds from sales support the church's ministries and missions.



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By Richard Murphy, KC1EZH
Correspondent

WEST BROOKFIELD – Where the West Brookfield Common fronts North Main Street there was an information tent set up with two banners.

The one hanging from the table announced an Amateur

Radio Field Day. The one on the tent bore the words, Ask Me About Ham Radio!

So, what is Ham Radio and thus, one might ask, why an Amateur Radio Field Day?

Ham Radio is amateur radio, and Amateur Radio is non-commercial radio communication service on radio frequencies assigned by the Federal Communications Commission in the U.S. Worldwide, The International Telecommunication Union assigns frequencies.

Originally, professional telegraph operators called amateurs “hams” as sort of an insult, amateurs embraced it,

“transforming it into a badge of pride.”

Now that we know what Hams are i.e. non-commercial radio, the field day was the place to meet hams and find out who they are.

Why a field day on Saturday, June 28? The goal was to set up temporary stations using off-grid power to demonstrate ham radio’s ability to provide vital communications during natural disasters, power outages, and other emergencies.

The Field Day is the largest emergency communications exercise in North America, and is sponsored by the American Radio Relay League. The ARRL is the national amateur radio association in the U.S.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a proclamation, signed by the governor, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State, recognizing the field days.



Tim was at the Headquarters Tent,

There are radio associations regionally across the country. The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club is the club in this area and was the

local field day sponsor.

Many members participated in the field day and it was a more than welcoming event.

At the information tent,

Tim, KC1RZE (KC1RZE is Tim’s call sign, a call sign is how stations, amateur or

Please see **RADIO**, page 16



Michele and Dennis were at the GOTA (Get On The Air) tent at the Amateur Radio Field Day.



Steve and Mert and a digital Ham radio.



Ken and Deb after their shift.

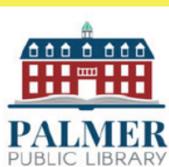
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Gathering

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To Join Our Group!

WHEN & WHERE

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For any questions reach out to:
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Post 241 clinging to playoff hopes

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

PALMER – After a defeat earlier this week, the Monson Post 241 American Legion baseball team fell to 3-5 on the season, good for just six points. But with only five losses, Monson is holding onto eighth place for a potential spot in the district play-offs.

Monson has just a small number of games remaining in its regular season to try and improve its standing, including matchups with Westfield, North Adams, Longmeadow, Pittsfield, and West Springfield, which

includes players from Agawam.

During one of their most recent matchups, a 3-2 defeat over Pittsfield-2. The Mustangs got a complete game victory from Grayson Griswold, who attends Pathfinder Tech.

Post 241's squad includes players from five different schools, Palmer, Monson, Pathfinder, Ware, and Quaboag.

Griswold would hold Pittsfield, a larger school compared to the five Post 241's players come from, to just three hits and one earned run. The Mustangs were able to overcome errors that led to

another run and five additional baserunners through walks by Griswold.

Ware's Nate Kaczuwka had two hits in the game and Hunter Griswold turned in a hit and an RBI in the match-up. Monson got all three of its runs in the top of the fourth inning.

Monson has a matchup on Friday, July 11 at 5:45 p.m. at home at Legion Field against Longmeadow. They will follow with a road matchup on Sunday afternoon against Northampton at Joe Wolfe Field. On Monday, Post 241 will host West Springfield at 6 p.m. in Palmer.



Isaac Patchen circles around a blocker.

Panthers return to action

AUBURN – Last Monday evening, the Quabbin Panthers, a high school summer basketball squad, got back on the court and scored a win over David Prouty in their first action since the Fourth of July holiday week. The Panthers did a

great job on both sides of the ball to build an early lead. The Panthers rode a balanced lineup, able to move players in and out of the lineup. Quabbin's week continued with a game on Wednesday evening. The Panthers return to action next Monday and Wednesday.



Matt Wade gets the put-back.



Brady Patchen drives toward the hoop.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Agawam's Hope Santaniello fights for possession of the ball.



Bella Santaniello, gets in the action for the Worcester Fuel during a recent matchup with the Mutiny.

Mutiny closes out regular season

LUDLOW – The New England Mutiny, which gathers talent from all over the region to play its home matches at Ludlow's Lusitano Stadium, recently wrapped up its regular season, including an impromptu 12-0 win over the Worcester Fuel. The Mutiny's short season will lead them to the playoffs, which are likely to take place on the road this year. The Mutiny have hosted playoffs at Luistano in the past.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Avery Klingensmith, of Belchertown, tries to get a pass away.



Maddy Theriault, a Palmer graduate, corrals the ball.



Samantha Breton, of Chicopee, tries to fake out an opponent.



Mila Dillard, of Chicopee, heads down the field.



Aiden Crane goes for the breakaway after a steal.



Jacoby Dilling goes for the layup.

Western Mass. Pioneers punch playoff tickets with victory

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—After winning the USL D-3 Pro League championship title in 1999, the Western Mass. Pioneers only qualified for the playoffs five times during the next 20 years.

Since joining USL League Two in 2019, the Pioneers have qualified for the playoffs each season.

The Pioneers clinched a berth in this year's playoffs following a 5-0 win over the Albany Rush before a large gathering at historic Lusitano Stadium, last Wednesday night.

"This is the sixth time in a row that we've made the playoffs," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari, who's been coaching the men's squad since 2012. "I think it's a very good accomplishment

for the club. We need to win our last two regular season games to have a chance to finish in first place."

The Pioneers (9-1-2), who have finished in second place in the league standings during the past three years, are battling Vermont Green FC (9-0-2) for the top spot in the Northeast Division table.

"We accomplished one of our goals tonight by clinching a playoff berth," said Pioneers midfielder Augustine Boadi. "We're now trying to win the league title."

The Pioneers were scheduled to play a road match against the New England FC on Monday night before closing out the regular season by hosting the boys from Vermont on Friday night.

The Vermont Green won the first meeting of this sea-

son between the two squads, 2-0, which took place in front of 2,500 enthusiastic soccer fans at Virtue Field located on the University of Vermont campus on June 17.

When Vermont made the three-hour trip south on Rte. 91 to Lusitano Stadium a year ago, they clinched a playoff berth with a 3-1 win over the Pioneers in the regular season finale. It was the Pioneers, who had already locked up a playoff berth, only home loss of the 2024 campaign.

Entering last Wednesday's match, Albany (2-9-1) had never defeated the Pioneers since they joined USL League Two in 2022.

The Pioneers, who defeated the Rush, 6-0, on

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 10

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Summer Edition

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Wednesday night summer league at Bogey Lanes has made it to July before Independence Day.

After nine weeks of league bowling, Sophia's Raiders are distancing themselves from the pack in first place with a record of 60-12. Gutter Dolls are in second place with a record of 46-26. Kristen's Squad is in third place with a record of 37-35. The Straight Shooters and No Shows are tied for fourth place with a record of 36-36.

Sophia's Raiders won two out of three games bowling against their average in week nine. Sophia Hearnlaye bowled her best game of the summer with a 127 in game two. Her teammate, Phil Clough, bowled a 133 in game two. The team won six points to advance their record to 60-12, which puts them in a commanding lead over the rest of the teams.

Straight Shooters bowled against the Gutter Fingers in week nine. In game one, Straight Shooters won the first game by a score of 478-462. Alan Nason of Straight Shooters began the match with a 112.

In game two, Gutter Fingers won by a score of 509-496. Jean Pouliot of Gutter Fingers, who averages 87, bowled well with a 111. Nason did better than his first game by bowling a 129.

In game three, Straight Shooters were the winners by a score of 458-433. Nason fin-

ished with 104 and a series of 345. Total pinfall was in favor of the Straight Shooters by a score of 1432-1404.

The No Shows bowled against Gutter Dolls. In game one, No Shows won by a score of 458-431. Pete Swistak of No Shows had a good game to start the evening with a 125.

In game two, Gutter Dolls defeated No Shows by a score of 483-471. Swistak bowled a 128 in a losing effort as Emily Darcy of Gutter Dolls bowled a 115.

In game three, the Gutter Dolls won the last game by a score of 458-428. After winning big in game three, the Gutter Dolls won total pinfall by a final score of 1372-1357.

The Gutter Snipes bowled against Kristen's Squad. In game one, Kristen's Squad won by a score of 460-398. In game two, Kristen's Squad won again by a score of 444-437.

In game three, Kristen's Squad won for a three-game sweep over the Gutter Snipes, 488-468. Lori Merriam of Kristen's Squad finished the match with a 125. Marc Vinciulla of Gutter Snipes had a strong showing in game three with a 136. The final score was 1392-1303 in favor of Kristen's Squad.

Clock Barn bowled against the Rolling Stones in week nine. In game one, Rolling Stones won by a score of 432-422. In game two, Rolling Stones won again by a score of 427-410.

In game three, Clock Barn won the last game by a score of 453-439. Rhonda Howe of Clock Barn finished the match with a 108. The final score was 1298-1285 in favor of Rolling Stones.

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.

PIONEERS from page 9

May 19, put the second meeting out of reach by scoring four goals in the first half.

"Building a large first half lead allowed us to relax a little bit in the second half," Molinari said. "We played

very well tonight."

The Rush have gone 0-7-1 since celebrating back-to-back victories against Black Rock and Boston City FC at the end of May. Any hopes they might've had about upsetting the Pioneers didn't last very long.

Blue Sox edged by Danbury Westerners

HOLYOKE - On First Responders' Day at MacKenzie Stadium last Sunday, where members of the Holyoke Fire and Police Departments were honored, the Valley Blue Sox narrowly fell to the visiting Danbury Westerners 8-7.

The Westerners quickly jumped in front, as centerfielder Garrett Larsen launched a home run over the left field wall during the game's first at-bat.

The early offense set the tone for a game that showcased nine lead changes and ties.

Sunday's back-and-forth battle came to a head when Danbury extended their lead on a Grayson Sparr RBI double in the eighth inning. That run proved to be the

difference, as Danbury edged out an 8-7 win.

"We're going to continue to stay on the offensive attack," said Blue Sox manager Endy Morales.

"We're staying right there. I think mentality, we just got to continue to put good swings on balls. We played better defense today, so as long as we continue to stay forward and move forward, I think we'll be fine."

Valley tallied 11 hits in the loss. Nick Spaventa picked up three hits and two RBI in five appearances. Sebastian Mexico had



a two hit performance, adding two RBI. Michael Elko added the other multi-hit outing for Valley, while Rees Kozar and Wyatt Hunt earned RBIs.

Danbury's Aidan Paradine went three for three with an RBI. Left fielder Michael Iannazzo produced two RBI from two hits, and Gavin Donohue collected two runs, a hit and an RBI from four plate appearances. Sparr and Larsen had two hits apiece.

Kenan Elarton started for Danbury and Andrew Koshy earned the win in relief. Harper McLendon was given the loss. Teo

Spadaccini got credit for the save.

Valley falls to a record of 11-13. Danbury improves to a 9-13 record on the season.

After an off day tomorrow, the Blue Sox enter a stretch in which they will play six games over the course of five days.

"It's going to take everybody," said Morales. "This is why we have the wonderful resources of Adam Feit and the [training] facility, and taking advantage of the off days. We have all these resources so that we can withhold a stretch like that. It's going to take every single guy, not just to look ahead, but to attack the game that's right in front of us. I think we'll be just fine if we do that."

Polewarczyk grabs win at Hudson Speedway

HUDSON, N.H. - Joey Polewarczyk left no doubt Sunday night as to who holds the home track advantage at Hudson Speedway.

The Hudson, N.H., native and 2020 Granite State Pro Stock Series champion, led every lap en route to his second straight victory in the series' annual Gate City Classic 100.

Only a pre-race redraw could keep "Joey Pole" from starting on the pole, as the veteran clocked in fastest in time trials but redrew second. Two-time GSPSS champ Joey Doiron led the field to green, but Polewarczyk nosed out front before the field even reached turn one.

Polewarczyk and Doiron showed the way for the first nine laps, until Bobby Frappier nosed into the turn-three concrete to bring out the evening's first caution flag. On the restart, Polewarczyk reasserted himself out front, keeping Doiron at arm's length but setting a brisk pace around the high-banked quarter-mile.

While the two veterans held firm out front, former Hudson winner Angelo Belsito dived for third with recent winner Evan Beaulieu and first-time starter Connor McDougal. Eddie MacDonald lingered in the distance, cracking the top five by halfway as he gave Belsito fits for fourth.

Polewarczyk and Doiron were well ahead of the pack when Cory Casagrande ran up on a slower car in heavy traffic, sending the car for a spin and drawing a yellow flag with 25 laps to go.

Once again, the lead duo took off from the field, but the battle for third heated up as "The Outlaw" cleared Belsito, then Beaulieu, to claw his way toward

the podium. Belsito and Beaulieu quickly found their hands full with a charging Casagrande and Cole Robie, both trying to make up for lost time in the closing laps.

But not even Doiron could chase down Polewarczyk, who gapped Doiron by nearly half a second on the way to his fourth GSPSS win at his home track.

Doiron's runner-up result was his best-ever finish at Hudson, the track where he last finished a GSPSS race outside the top ten back in 2020.

MacDonald brought car owner Dale Drew's No. 50 home in third, with Beaulieu close on his heels in fourth. Robie finished fifth, giving the young hard charger three top-five runs to open the season.

Casagrande was sixth after an early exit one week ago at Speedway 95, while Belsito slipped all the way to seventh in the home stretch. Frankie Eldredge had his best GSPSS performance yet with an eighth-place finish, while McDougal and Josh St. Clair rounded out the top ten.

Polewarczyk's ninth GSPSS win elevates the 36-year-old to second on the series' all-time win list behind D.J. Shaw. His home-track mastery has played a big part; only once in five GSPSS appearances at Hudson has Polewarczyk not parked in the winner's circle.

The GSPSS teams have a week off to celebrate Independence Day before returning to action on Friday, July 11 at Claremont Motorsports Park, kicking off a four-week midsummer trek through New Hampshire.

T-Birds bringing back Community Caravan

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds are proud to announce the return of the T-Birds Community Caravan, with support from MassMutual, marking the third annual summer tour designed to bring the excitement of Thunderbirds hockey to communities across the region.

This year's Caravan will include three stops throughout the Greater Springfield area during the summer months, continuing the initiative's mission to keep the T-Birds top-of-mind in the offseason while deepening the team's connection to local families and fans. This summer's Caravan dates are as follows:

Saturday, July 19 - Sonny's Place, Somers, CT - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Saturday, August 9 - Amelia Park Ice Arena, Westfield - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

* The Westfield Community Caravan will also feature the annual T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament on the outdoor deck hockey court at Amelia Park. The Street Hockey Tournament features teams of players ages 9-12. To register your team, click here.

"After a fantastic continuation of the program last summer, we're thrilled to bring back the Caravan and keep building on its success," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "We're equally excited to welcome back MassMutual as a partner and thank them for embracing our mission of being champions in the community beyond the Thunderdome."

Each free-to-attend event will feature appearances by Thunderbirds mascot Boomer, team staff,

and a lively mix of interactive games, street hockey, family-friendly activities, and local vendors. Fans can also enjoy delicious food options, with each Caravan date spotlighting a local nonprofit beneficiary, helping to raise awareness and support for impactful community organizations.

"We're delighted to support the Springfield Thunderbirds not only on the ice but also throughout the local community," said Dennis Duquette, head of community responsibility at MassMutual and president of the MassMutual Foundation. "Their caravan provides terrific activities for local kids and families, and we're proud to be a part of it."

The Springfield edition of the Caravan will be collecting donations benefiting The Gray House. Among the requested items are baby food, diapers and wipes, school supplies, and non-perishable food items. The Thunderbirds will also be hosting food drives at the July and August Caravan stops. The July Caravan at Sonny's Place will benefit the Enfield Food Shelf in Connecticut, while the August Caravan in Westfield will collect items for the Westfield Food Pantry. Additional information for all Community Caravans will be released in the coming weeks via the Thunderbirds' website and social media channels.

For more information on upcoming events, including the Community Caravan, stay tuned to the T-Birds on social media @ThunderbirdsAHL, or visit the Community Tab on www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

The home team took a 1-0 lead following a corner kick goal in the ninth minute.

Defender Gustavo Barbosa booted the ball into the box from the right corner. Then Boadi sent a pass to forward Jose Bustamante who tapped the ball into the net past Albany goalie James Joyce.

A little more than ten minutes later, Matt Cence, who's also a midfielder, delivered a crossing pass from the right wing into the box. Boadi finished off the play by scoring his first goal of the season.

"I've been on a goal drought for a long time," Boadi said. "I've been working very hard, and it feels very nice to finally score a

couple of goals, especially in front of the home crowd. You can't ask for anything better than that."

Cence and Boadi hooked up again in the 24th minute. This time, Boadi blasted a shot into the upper right corner of the net.

While Cence and Boadi are teammates during the summer, they'll be opposing each other at the beginning of September.

Boadi, who's one of the Pioneers veteran players, is also a member of the men's soccer team at Bryant University, while Cence plays at UMass-Amherst.

Aidan Kelly, who's the Pioneers captain and defender, is also a member of the

Minutemen men's soccer team

The two college soccer teams are scheduled to meet each other in a non-conference match in Amherst on September 6.

"It's always a lot of fun playing your summer teammates during the college soccer season," said Boadi, who would like to play for a professional soccer team after graduating from college next year. "I'm hoping that we can win our game against UMass. We talk about it all the time and I'm really looking forward to that match."

Cence is a first-year member of the Western Mass. squad.

"I'm thankful for coach

Molinari allowing me to join the team this year," Cence said. "It has been a great experience and the guys on the team are awesome."

Cence also assisted on the Pioneers' fourth goal, which was scored by midfielder Robbie Lyons in the 34th minute.

The Pioneers had several more scoring chances during the second half.

Bustamante netted his second goal of the match during the 82nd minute. Defender Alejandro Carrillo was credited with the assist.

Goalie Alan Horrocks only had to make a couple of save in recording the Pioneers sixth shutout of the season.

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.**

Quabbin Middle School lists honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional Middle School announces the honor roll for the fourth quarter.

Grade Eight, High Honors

Alison Baptiste, Kalina Bassett, Hazel Carter, Lauren Colleton, Adalyn Cranston, Fiona Derr, Brynn Dunphy, Maya Faucher, Xavier Fjeld, Silas Flint, Nathan Gingras, Oliva Gregory, Hayston Hay, Madisyn Hill, Reese Jamieson, Sarah Jean-Francois, Sage McQuestion, Lunabelle Moore, Gemma Mullins, Greyson Mullins, Olivia O'Connor, Whitney Reeves, Chloe Richardson, Sophia Rogers, Ava Rogowski, Madisyn Shotwell, Annabelle Silver, Adele Strickland, Addison Surprenant, Michael Tabares, Robert Tobin, John Tyler, Robyn Waltz and Jack Wynne.

Grade Eight, Honors

Olivia Abbas-Peck, Emma Ackert, Adeelya Andrade, Caleb Conway-Dias, Joseph Cook, Alexandra Cullen, Gabriel DelGiudice, Jeremy DeMoranville, Landon Devine, Cecelia DiMartino, Aryanna Donofrio, Tyler Ellis, Lindsay Fors, Juliana Guilderson, Madison Haley, Kiara Hanny-Rivera, Sawyer Harmon, Eli Hunter, Avery Hyland, Aubrey Lawson, Weston Letendre, Allie Lipiec, Aixamary Maldonado, Sarah Neal, William O'Neill, Quinn Ouimette, Kimberly Riendeau, Jacob Rosario, Amelia Ruis, Zoey Salvadore, Alexis Savary, Deven Skinner, Brianna Souza, Rosalie Stark, Launa Tran, Maxwell Wade and Gareth White.

Grade Seven, High Honors

Saylor Bissonnette, Julia Blanchard, Winter Boyea, Eliza Brown, Joyce Brown, Emily DeMalia, Brody Despres, Maria Hamm, Nolan Herrick, Aimee Ickler, Evelyn Johnson, Pele Johnson, Caiden Lance, Ava Maxim, Cameron McDonald, Madeline Omasta, Sebastian Palomera-Espinoza, Owen Pears, Evelyn Priestly, Madeleine Proulx, Autumn Rector, Lily Ryan, Avery Sequin, Emma Stauder, Fiona Stevens, Katy Twarog and Elizabeth Welch.

Grade Seven, Honors

Albert Afonso, Brady Aiesi, Addyson Barringer, Caleb Brouillet, Jack Castell, Brayden Clark, Henry Corbett, Preston D'Amato, Sophia Dittami, Lane

Fargnoli, Benjamin Fisher, Gabriel Fleury, Addison Ford, Eden Fortier, Lucas Gaspar, Meaghan Glidden, Emily Johnson, Brynn Kelly, Noah Kelter, Amy Landrin, Theodore Langer, Grace Lantiegne, Maggie Leander, Mathieu LeBlanc, Jack Leclair, Alessandra Lewis, Bree May, Valerie Metterville, Brayden Nadeau, Jonathan Nunes, Isabella Pena, Thomas Schoonmaker, Andrew Scott, Hannah Shotwell, Madalyn Simons, Daisy Stevens, Rowan Valley, Maggie Ward, Charlie White, Lila Wilson, Skylar Wisniewski, Raegyn Wnek and Lola Zantouladias.

Grade Six, High Honors

Julianna Bienvenu, Ava Blancato, Vincent Broten, Jaysen Cassano, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ayla Clark, John Cook, Anna Coomey, Ella Critelli, Joey DeMalia, Matthew Flamand, Andrew Fuller, Asher Griffith, Madilyn Houle, Silas Howe, Ryan LaRange, Maishao Lee, Brady Malin, Adalyn McHugh, Kayla McHugh, Sawyer Minton, Theodore Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Nolan O'Connor, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Liam Shaw, Weston Stukuls Barrieau, Brayden Surprenant, Hana Mae Tousignant and Joseph Youngstrom.

Grade Six, Honors

Nevaeh Andrews, Prince Asare, Aubrianna Babineau, Asher Baker, Zachary Barre, Jacob Blanchard, Talasyn Boissoneau, Alistair Bombfield, Caleb Caban, Josie Castell, Olivia Coates, Ryan Colgate, Hannah Cutler, Ethan Donaldson, Hannah Dube, Maximus German, Jude Gomes, Brynnley Gould, Lincoln Graves, Joseph Haley, Colby Hill, James Jackson, Nathan Kearchner, Levi Kniskern, Allison Kolenda, Kaydence Landry, Walker Larson, Ilyanna Lynch, Carter Majoy, Logan Mellor, Lucy Merrill, Adalia Miller, Havenanna Morley, Aviendha O'Neill, Evelyn Palladino, Bryce Pariseau, Bentley Parker, Logan Peters, Oliver Poulin, Lillian Roohan, Cooper Sampson, Emily Schur, Ava Sherblom, Sophia Small, Andie St. Clair, Landon Swindlehurst, Amelia Theriault, Kenzie Thorpe, Regan Toohill, Emma Veinotte, Anthony Wade, Everett Weisman, Brady White and Brady Williams.

Quabbin High School lists honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Regional High School announces the honor roll for the fourth quarter.

Grade 12, High Honors

Matthew Erickson, Adam Faulha, Rachael Fuller, Samuel Guertin, Isabel LaBelle, Lauren Orne, Julia Smith and Jaxon Warburton.

Grade 12, Honors

Eamon Arnold, Jordan Blanchard, Alisyn Bruso, Kyle Clark, Abigail Crawford, Jacquelyn Dahlstrom, Teaghan Earle, Angelina Feliciano, James Q Geary, Kyra Grummell, Rylee-Anne Harty, Mackenzie Holmes, Hunter LaBier, Travis LaRoche, Travis Los, Vincent Marinelli, Alexandra Pease, Nathan Pride, Adelynn Prochnow, Ethan Salvadore, Sadie Sheldon, Hannah Shepard, Sydney Slatery, Isabella Smith, Irene

Stolgitis, Vanecia Tarquinio, Richard Tucker, Abigail Ure and Ryan Wreschinsky.

Grade 11, High Honors

Micah Cerezo, Kalina Dyer, Adelaide Harmon, Elizabeth Matheson and Hannah Zereski.

Grade 11, Honors

Owen Breuer, Tricia Bruso, Bailey Burke, Kylee Costello, Annabella DiMartino, Hemily Halaby, Emma Kahlau, Grace Anna, Hunter McQuestion, Jayne O'Brien, Aaron Rowell, Madelyn Stauder, Andrew Warfield, Thomas Wigglesworth and Jin Xi Zou.

Grade 10, High Honors

Jacob Bassett, Madeleine Boisselle, Makenzie Casey, Isabel Doty, Leah Doucette, Tess Dunphy, Anna Hautala, Sadie Kennan and Ellary White.

Grade 10, Honors

Klavdiya Antonian, Skyler Bard, Halo Bissonnette, James Cook, Katelyn Durant, Brody Faucher, Grace Flamand, Alijah Flint, Kathryn Ford, Mia Gleason, Lillian Hinckley, Kayli Howland, Kirk Kaelin, Taylor Kolb, Sierra Lambert, Audrey Laursen, Ailey Majoy, Scarlett Merriman, Anna Metcalf, Jesse Newton, Samantha O'Connor, Charlotte Oliver, Sadie Ouimette, Blake Parmeter, Maya Putnam, Julia Quintal, Sylvan Rector, Camren Robertson, Abigail Rogowski, Jennavicia Roseberry, Emma Ryan, Sienna Shaw, Ash St. Clair, Aubrey Thorpe, Owen Twarog, Grace Vanoudenhove, Caylee Watts, Brendan Welch, Carlo Zolla and Leanna Zou.

Grade 9, High Honors

Brent Benoit, Abraham Brown, Chloe Howarth, Emma Lindsey, Ellie Poulin, Ava Sobol and Erin Trotter.

Grade 9, Honors

Nicolas Antonio, Anyiah Bergeron, Josephine Buck, Carlmorisia Campbell, Eleanor Carroll, Nicholas Carroll, Brian Colleton, Michael Condry, Aiden Crane, Kayla Curran, Adrien Cyr, Ryan Dailey, Aliyah Edouard, Maya Edouard, Andrew Erickson, Audrey Faucher, Samuel Feldman, Alaina Flynn, Sydney Freeman, Daniella Gaudreault, Callahan Hardy, Matthew Labrousse, Alison LaRoche, Max Melad, Niki Nikakhlagh, John Orsini, Aubrie Phelps, Moira Powers, Juliet Priestley, Lucas Proctor, Carter Stevenson, Haley Stoll, Silas Stukuls Barrieau, Benjamin Thompson and Catherine Tucker.

District Safety Team simulate car crash

From the desk of Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Colleen Mucha

BARRE – On May 2, the Quabbin Regional School District Safety Team, composed of administration and members of the five district towns fire and police, hosted a Crash Simulation for grade 11 and 12 students.

The goal of this event was to encourage students to reflect upon decisions that they make when operating a motor vehicle or when choosing to be driven by another person.

The messaging to students was that "They Matter." This simulated crash was held in the parking lot adjacent to Alumni Field. Although this was a staged event, emergency vehicles police, fire and EMS responded to the scene



Submitted photo

A victim sits on the ground near a car crash during a simulation staged by the Quabbin Regional School District safety Team.

as they would for an actual event.

Quabbin student actors, Hunter McQuestion, Cameron Forde, Rachel Harrington, Jayne O'Brien, Brody Faucher and Jahzara

Tweedell, took on the roles of "victims" in the crashed vehicles and did an admirable job in a difficult situation.

A special thank you is necessary for Barre School

Resource Officer Mark Sawyer, Barre Sgt. Russell Davidson, Barre Chief James Sabourin, QRSD Director of Safety Kevin Clark, New Braintree/Hardwick Lt. Kevin Landine and New Braintree Fire Chief Dennis Letendre for their knowledge and expertise in organizing this event.

In addition, we are grateful for the emergency response participants from Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston and New Braintree who responded and re-enacted their important roles at a crash scene. We were also fortunate to have three of our student intern junior fire department members, Kylie George, Madeleine Gaumont and Kevin Thompson participate in the scenario in their

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 13

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Palmer, MA 01069
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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of June 22-July 2, the Ware Police Department responded to 35 miscellaneous calls, 24 administrative calls, 11 traffic violations, 20 emergency 911 calls, seven motor vehicle accidents, five harassment, two frauds/deceptions, three breaking and enterings, three trespasses, 12 animal calls and 40 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, June 22
4:12 a.m. Weapons/Firearms, Monroe Street, Report Made
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
7:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Wednesday, June 25
1:20 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
9:24 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Berkshire Circle, Services Rendered
10:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Thursday, June 26
12:46 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Prospect Street, Dispatch Handled
6:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation/

Warning Issued
9:42 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Warebrook Road, Investigated

Friday, June 27
6:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:58 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
3:37 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate
5:45 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Main Street, Services Rendered

Saturday, June 28
1:38 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Main Street, Could Not Locate
8:30 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, North Street, Investigated
2:54 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Warebrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
3:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
3:38 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered

Sunday, June 29
6:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
11:29 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
5:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Hillside Terrace, Investigated
6:55 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Church Street, Could Not Locate
7:49 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Mountain View Drive, Investigated
9:10 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Transport Complete
10:29 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, North Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Amber L. LaClair, 23, Ware
Disorderly Conduct; Resist Arrest

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.

Monday, June 30
5:42 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Unfounded
1:12 p.m. Trespass, West Main Street, Services Rendered
2:09 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Gilbertville Road, Report Made
3:25 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Pleasant Street, Report Made
5:48 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Services Rendered
8:30 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Main Street, Advised
11:31 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate

Tuesday, July 1
3:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Citation/Warning Issued
1:33 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Church Street, Services Rendered
3:02 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Sheehy Road, Services Rendered
6:20 p.m. Suspicious, West Street, Investigated
8:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Barnes Street, Report Made

Wednesday, July 2
5:45 a.m. Trespass, Mechanic Street, Advised

Warren Police Log

During the week of June 22-28, the Warren Police Department responded to 96 building/property checks, six community policings, 18 emergency 911 calls, three complaints, three motor vehicle accidents, one odor/gas leak, one fraud/forgery, one burglary, one safety hazard, one trespass, four animal calls and 21 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, June 22
11:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, School Street, Criminal Complaint
6:50 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Chapel Street, Report Filed
7:58 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party
8:21 p.m. Erratic Operator, Brimfield Road, Criminal Complaint

Monday, June 23
8:54 a.m. Fire Alarm, School House Drive, Investigated
11:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning
11:47 a.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Cottage Street, Report Filed
4:14 p.m. Safety Concern, Comins Pond Road, Report Filed
6:12 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Yankee Drummer Drive, Transported to Hospital
8:38 p.m. Odor/Gas Leak,

Parkview Street, Referred to Other Agency

Tuesday, June 24
2:22 a.m. Falls, Winthrop Terrace, Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
8:17 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Gilbert Road, Report Filed
9:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
6:46 p.m. Burglary, Maple Street, Report Filed
7:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Report Filed

Wednesday, June 25
12:42 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
5:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Citation Issued
7:43 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Curtis Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
2:59 p.m. Trespasser/Prowler, Main Street, Report Filed
7:28 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Forest Avenue, Report Filed
8:34 p.m. Suspicious Person, Brimfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, June 26
12:08 a.m. Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
9:07 a.m. Falls, School Street, Transported to Hospital
10:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle

Stop, Brook Road, Citation Issued
7:27 p.m. Complaint, South Street, Gone on Arrival
8:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

Friday, June 27
4:49 a.m. Seizures, Bemis Road, Transported to Hospital
7:06 a.m. Serve Warrant, Reed Street, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Matthew P. Shea, 45, West Warren
Warrant
9:01 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Yankee Drummer Drive, Report Filed

Saturday, June 28
1:09 a.m. Falls, Quaboag Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:29 a.m. Falls, Mechanic Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:26 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Bragg Road, Negative Contact
1:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
4:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
8:20 p.m. Complaint, North Street, Negative Contact
11:24 p.m. Suspicious Person, Brimfield Road, Report Filed
11:58 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Albany Street, Report Filed

Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of June 23-July 7, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 97 building/property checks, 75 directed/area patrols, 13 radar assignments, four traffic controls, 16 emergency 911 calls, eight citizen assists, three assist other agencies, six complaints, one harassment, seven investigations, two fires/illegal burns, two safety hazards, three motor vehicle investigations, eight animal calls and 12 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, June 23
5:35 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Negative Contact

Tuesday, June 24
1:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Services Rendered
4:41 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Death/Unattended

Wednesday, June 25
5:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning
10:18 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Officer Handled
10:40 a.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Mechanic Street, Negative Contact
4:15 p.m. Investigation, Hardwick Road, Negative Contact
9:23 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Prouty Road, Spoken To

Thursday, June 26
6:50 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital
1:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Ruggles Street, Officer Handled
5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation Issued
5:14 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

7:44 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Lower Road, Officer Handled
8:14 p.m. 911 Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Friday, June 27
10:57 a.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled
11:05 a.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled
12:05 p.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled
5:08 p.m. Investigation, Lower Road, Officer Handled

Saturday, June 28
1:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, New Braintree Road, Arrest(s) Made
2:06 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
7:06 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

Sunday, June 29
10:43 a.m. Harassment, East Street, Spoken To
11:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, High Street, Services Rendered
1:23 p.m. 911 Misdial, Patrill Hollow Road, No Action Required
2:18 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Jackson Road, Peace Restored
4:32 p.m. Serve Warrant, High Road, Arrest(s) Made
6:38 p.m. Welfare Check, Main Street, Transferred Call to C7
10:25 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Grove Street, Services Rendered
10:49 p.m. Assist Citizen, Ruggles Hill Road, Dispatch Handled

Monday, June 30
9:04 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, July 1
12:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, High Street, Investigated
10:59 a.m. Investigation, Jackson Road, Negative

Contact
12:50 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled
7:10 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, July 2
6:35 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
11:03 a.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Spoken To
11:09 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, July 3
1:24 p.m. Assist Citizen, Short Road, Officer Handled
6:39 p.m. 911 Animal Call, North Street, Services Rendered
10:45 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Collins Road, Services Rendered

Friday, July 4
6:09 a.m. Fire/Other, Church Street, Services Rendered
5:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Investigated

Saturday, July 5
10:30 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Muddy Brook Road, Services Rendered
6:33 p.m. 911 Complaint, Broad Street, Spoken To
7:40 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
9:07 p.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Negative Contact

Sunday, July 6
6:57 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick, Officer Handled
11:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Officer Handled
6:01 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
7 p.m. Complaint, Joslyn Road, Officer Handled
8:48 p.m. Fire Alarm, Old Petersham Road, Investigated



People enjoyed the Wingmasters program on June 28 at the Town House. The program was sponsored by the Paige Memorial Library and received funding from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council.

WINGMASTERS

from page 1
Native American cultures transformed natural materials into objects of beauty and drama. Crafts displayed at this program included a buffalo hide shield which could withstand bullets from a gun of that era, a rattle made from a turtle shell, clothing and headdresses.
While the birds and the artifacts were the primary interests, Collier interacted with her charges with love and respect which was obviously mutual. She was able to caress these mighty birds and to make contact with her nose (her beak) to show affection. They also responded to her verbal commands.

Wingmasters is a partnership of Collier and Jim Parks, both licensed wildlife raptor rehabilitators based in western Massachusetts dedicated to increasing public understanding and appreciation of North American birds of prey. Together they care for injured birds of prey at their center in western

Massachusetts.
Most of the birds they rehabilitate can ultimately be released back into the wild, but in some cases the birds are left permanently handicapped. Collier and Parks are further licensed to provide a home for these nonreleasable raptors and to use them for educational programs.
Since 1994 Wingmasters has presented over 10,000 programs at schools, libraries and museums throughout New England.
The obvious message in Wingmasters is saving the birds, but Parks and Collier changed careers and followed their dream. For Collier it was also honoring her Native American Creek and Chickasaw heritage by showing audiences the strong connections between Native Americans and birds of prey. They both found teaching was their calling and they are firmly committed to giving educational programs of the highest quality, integrating their vast collection of raptor-related artifacts into the different

educational programs they offer. Wingmasters is the only traveling program to do so on this scale and with this degree of diversity and quality.
Wingmasters programs are noted for a calm atmosphere that promotes learning. There is always an interactive exchange of questions and answers during the program. However, For the birds' well-being and for the safety of the audience and the well-being of the raptors, the birds are never free-flow and are never handled by anyone but Collier and Parks and are never flown for demonstration.
Wingmasters also offer a valuable educational resource through their web site, with hard-to-come-by research information and in-depth species profiles on raptors of the Northeast, accompanied by Collier's artwork and Parks' photographs and articles on birds of prey in history and art.
People may visit <https://www.wingmasters.net/>.

'Project Mishoon' presented at Swift River historical society

NEW SALEM – On Sunday, July 13 at 1 p.m. in the Prescott Church on the grounds of Swift River Valley Historical Society, 40 Elm St., discover the untold history of Lake Quinsigamond's submerged treasures.

Join the historical society for an exclusive presentation by Cheryl Stedtler, Hassanamisco Nipmuc Band citizen and Director of Project Mishoon, as she unveils the fascinating journey behind the discovery of ancient dugout canoes known as mishoonash. Delve into the rich heritage of the Nipmuc tribe and their ancestral navigation of the lake using these unique vessels.

With scientific documentation, underwater imaging,

and captivating insights, Stedtler will unveil the mysteries surrounding these rare mishoonash, dating back to the 1640s. Learn how these remarkable finds are rewriting the narrative of New England's archaeological landscape.

Don't miss this opportunity to uncover the link between these submerged treasures and the historic mishoon discovered at Morton Pond.

Stedtler will be joined by David Robinson, Director of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources to speak about the information he has assembled regarding the Morton Pond dugout belonging to SRVHS.

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.

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church clothing drive

BROOKFIELD – The Committee for Ecology and Social Action of the Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church is sponsoring a clothing drive through Helpsy, the largest clothing collector in the Northeast.

Textile waste is a fast-growing problem and occupies nearly 5% of all landfill space, but 95% of unwanted clothing can be reused, repurposed, or recycled. Only 15% currently is.

On July 12-19, the church will be open between 3-7 p.m. so you can bring your old clothing (including slips, bras,

underwear, socks) and certain other acceptable items, such as shoes, accessories (including hats, bags, belts, scarves and jewelry), luggage, stuffed animals and linens (including sheets, blankets, curtains, table linens and quilts).

All items in any condition are acceptable if they are clean, dry, and odorless.

The Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 9 Upper River St. on the Brookfield Common, near the junction of Route 9 and Route 148.

For more information, contact Barbara Hale at blh.buuc@gmail.com.

Frank Edward Lukas, 74

WARE – Frank Edward Lukas, age 74, passed away on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Western Massachusetts Hospital in Westfield after a period of declining health.



Frank was born in Ware on July 19, 1950, raised and educated in Warren; he was the son of the late Edward F. Lukas and Anna (Gondek) Lukas.

He was proud of his service in the United States Navy. Frank was proud of his country and the flag that it represented. He was a Life-Time Member and Past Commander of the Disabled American Veterans

Quaboag Chapter 59, and the Vietnam Veterans Post 405.

Frank devoted countless hours as a volunteer for BINGO and picnics at Leeds in Northampton and the Holyoke Soldiers Home.

Frank was employed for many years as a machinist for Warren Pumps, prior to his retirement. He was a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend.

Frank is survived by his loving children and grandchildren; his son Edward Lukas, his daughter, Cherylyne Lukas, his

grandchildren: Jacob Smart, Kasey Cote, Cassidy Lukas, Emma Lukas, Abigail Lukas, Megan Lukas, Kylee Lukas, Edward Lukas, Jr., and Savannah Lukas, and four great-grandchildren. Frank also leaves behind his former wife and best friend, Karen Lukas.

A Visitation Period will be held on Monday, July 14, 2025, from 10-11 a.m. in Cebula Funeral Home, 66 South St., Ware.

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

Lukas, Frank Edward
Died July 6, 2025
Services July 14, 2025

Orszulak, Colleen (Burns)
Died July 4, 2025
Services July 12, 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.

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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.

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Colleen B. Orszulak, 82

WARE – Colleen (Burns) Orszulak passed away peacefully at home on July 4, 2025.

Colleen was born in Goffstown, New Hampshire on July 30, 1942, daughter of Paul and Doris (Fowler) Burns. Upon graduating from Goffstown High School in 1960, Colleen and her family moved to Ware.

Colleen studied English at the University of New Hampshire while working summers at the Ashworth by the Sea at Hampton Beach. Her teaching career began in Southwick followed by Gilbertville and finally at Ware Junior High where she taught eighth grade English for 25 years.

Colleen met and married her husband Paul (Pavo) in 1967, and they resided together in Ware for 58 years while raising four children.

In her retirement, Colleen and her husband Pavo enjoyed their most rewarding job, running "Grammy's Day Care" where she taught all of her grandchildren how

to read, and provided them with countless memories and life lessons, while her children were teaching.

Colleen enjoyed life's simple pleasures; swimming, reading, gardening, feeding the birds, and hosting family parties at her

house. She never missed an event or game played by her children or grandchildren.

She loved spending her summers with friends and family at Red's, Benny's Pond, and later with her grandchildren by the pool. She proudly taught them all to swim.

Colleen loved to sit in the sun with her feet in the sand and the highlight of every summer was the annual family trip to Hampton Beach, her happy place, where no matter the weather conditions, it was "a beautiful day."

Her happiest moments were always with her family by her side.

Colleen is survived by her loving husband of 57

years, Paul; her children and their spouses, Dan (Heather), Christine (Jim), Stephen (Maggie), Michael (Heather), and her brother, Greg Burns. She was a devoted Grammy to Lizzie, Katie, Lexie, Callie, Alex, Amelia and Hannah. Sadly, Colleen was predeceased by her first child, Timothy, who died only days after his birth.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, July 11, 2025, from 4-7 p.m. at Cebula Funeral Home. A funeral mass will be offered on Saturday, July 12, at 10 a.m. in St. Mary's Church, 57 South St. in Ware, where everyone will meet directly at the church. Burial will follow the mass at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Ware Sports Boosters, P.O. Box 1441, Ware, MA 01082.

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.



QUABBIN from page 11

roles on the fire department. Final thanks go to Barre Select Board member, Mark Regenius and Paul Maio from New Braintree for donating the cars for the event.

Our juniors and seniors were attentive and respectful during the crash scenario as well as during a debrief after the event. Students asked good questions and were fully engaged.

Counselors, administrators, and a comfort dog from the Princeton Police Department were on campus for the remainder of the day in the event any student needed to talk or share their feelings in regard to what they saw this morning.

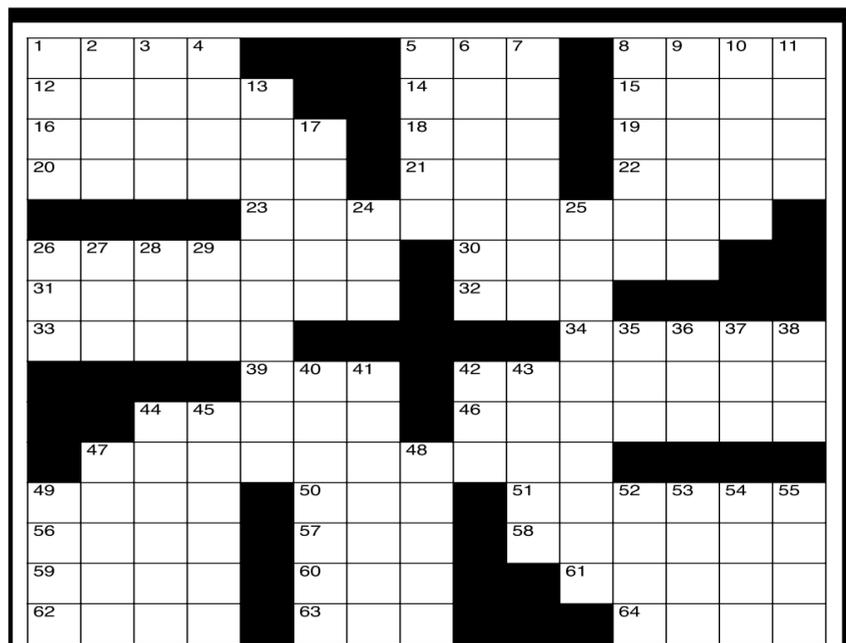
Driving distracted or impaired has serious consequences. Talking to students on an ongoing basis is critically important to help this message stick. We appreciate support from families and our community. It is our hope all of our students will continue to make the best decisions for their health and safety during the upcoming prom and graduation seasons as well as throughout their lifetimes. Our students Do Matter, now and always.



Juniors and senior students at Quabbin Regional High School watch as emergency personnel respond to a staged crash on May 2 at the school.



Emergency workers tend to a "victim" on a stretcher.



CLUES ACROSS

1. 50 percent
5. Records electric currents
8. Charlize Theron flick "Flux"
12. More frosty
14. Disfigure
15. Sky color
16. A thoroughfare in a town or city
18. Actress de Armas
19. Spend time in a relaxed way
20. California peak
21. Lodging option
22. Small amount of a thing
23. Expresses sorrow
26. Keeps an ear warm
30. Babies (Spanish)
31. A conceited and self-centered person
32. No seats available
33. Pouches

CLUES DOWN

34. Hip joints
39. A place to bathe
42. Evading
44. Minute, one-celled unit
46. Losing one's hair
47. A country in W Africa
49. One point north of northeast
50. Pointed end of a pen
51. Extreme
56. Norse personification of old age
57. Doctors' group
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. Mens' fashion accessories
60. A way to allow
61. Gloomy
62. Grads wear one
63. Between south and southeast
64. Jaguarundi cat

1. Snakes do it
2. Hormone
3. The standard monetary unit of Turkey
4. Fixed charges
5. Electronic communication
6. Artilleries
7. "Strangers on a Train" actor Farley
8. Burning
9. Makes ecstatically happy
10. Greek liqueurs
11. Tropical Old World tree
13. Someone who takes vengeance
17. Style of cuisine
24. Select
25. Immunized against disease
26. Old world, new
27. Honorable title (Turkish)
28. Court case: ___ v. Wade
29. Supervises interstate commerce
35. Not divisible by two
36. Twelve
37. Commentator Coulter
38. Encourage
40. Plumbing fixtures
41. Early
42. One point north of due east
43. King of Thebes
44. Short-tailed martens
45. Impose a penalty on
47. Consort of Poseidon
48. A way to lessen
49. Brooklyn hoops team
52. Female of a horse
53. Do as one is told
54. A way to prepare meat
55. Unit of measurement

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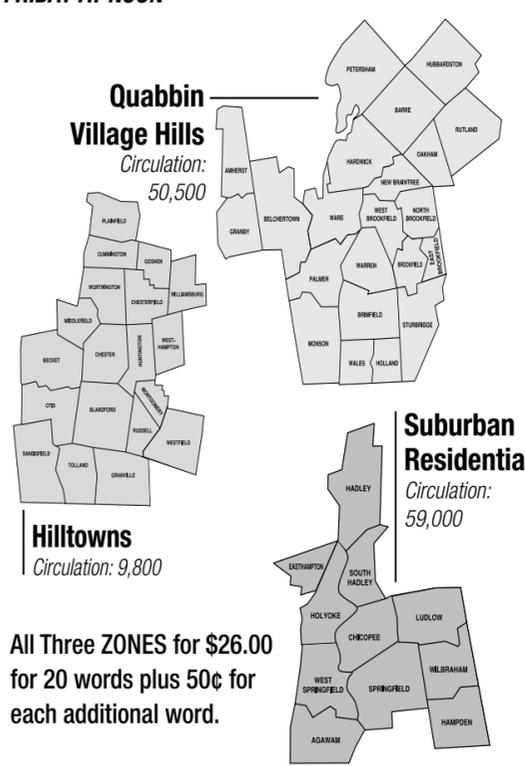
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Durant announces establishment of Crumbling Foundations Commission

BOSTON – The legislature’s enactment of a \$61.01 billion state budget for fiscal year 2026 brings good news for Massachusetts residents whose foundations are crumbling due to the presence of pyrrhotite, state Sen. Peter Durant, R-Spencer, said in a recent press release.

“With the establishment of a commission to study how the state can best help residents whose foundations are crumbling, we will be able to create legislation and move forward with the process of getting these affected homes fixed allowing residents to stay in their homes,” Durant said.

In a bipartisan effort and after years of lobbying from members of Massachusetts Residents Against Crumbling Foundations, the measure, as part of the fiscal year 2026 budget, will move to the Governor’s desk for her signature.

The establishment of the commission and duties of chairing the group will fall to Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities, Edward Augustus, or his designee. The group has a March 31, 2026, deadline, at which time they will report their findings.

Durant said he hopes to craft legislation based on the group’s recommendations

and noted that crumbling foundations issues have been a priority for him.

“We often talk about the state’s housing crisis and here are families being forced from their homes because of, essentially, a natural disaster,” Durant said. “We need to address that as soon as we can because the problem is worsening each day as these foundations further deteriorate and more homes are found to have this problem.”

Members of Massachusetts Residents Against Crumbling Foundations said Monday night they are relieved but that a celebration would be premature.

“It brings us more hope, which is great, but we still know we have a long way to go,” said Todd Robbins.

Some members of the group have been struggling to find funding to fix their foundations for the better part of a decade. Estimates for the repairs can reach \$250,000.

“If this comes to fruition, it means we can get on with our lives,” Scott Fershleiser said.

Michelle Loglisci said she believes part of the success this year came when legislators were invited to view the damage to homes first-

hand. Group members said that people are often stunned after seeing the damage.

The problem is also prevalent in Connecticut where a program to assist homeowners has been in place for some time. About 1,500 homes have either been repaired or are under contract for repair.

In addition to Augustus, the Massachusetts commission will also include the undersecretary of consumer affairs and business regulation or a designee; the commissioner of insurance or a designee; the commissioner of banks or a designee; two members appointed by the attorney general who shall have experience in advocating for homeowners and consumers; the house and senate ranking minority members of the joint committee on financial services; two representatives of the Massachusetts Residents Against Crumbling Foundations; a representative of the Massachusetts Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association, Inc.; a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc.; a representative of the Massachusetts Insurance Federation, Inc.; and a representative of the Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Association, Inc.

Dr. Seth Gemme recognized as one of Modern Healthcare’s ‘40 Under 40’

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Health is proud to announce that Dr. Seth Gemme, chair and associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was recognized by Modern Healthcare as one of the 40 Under 40 for 2025.

This program recognizes the healthcare industry’s rising stars age 40 and under who contribute to a culture of innovation and help their organizations achieve and exceed financial, operational, and clinical goals.

The recognition highlights Gemme’s leadership and innovation, which have improved clinical efficiency and access to Baystate

Emergency care. He has developed several home-grown strategies that result in measurably shorter ER wait times and reductions in patient walkouts.

These include the “Vertical Model,” which segmented patients based on acuity and complaint to expedite care, and the Global Emergency Medicine Metric Evaluation (G.E.M.M.E.) Tool, which has been submitted for a provisional patent early in 2024. The G.E.M.M.E. tool drove a newly developed hospital-wide Code Capacity Policy, meant to decompress the ED in times of increased capacity within 30 minutes.

“Dr. Gemme has been influential in creating an environment of outcomes focused leadership and team accountability” said Dr. Adrienne Seiler, Clinical Chief Officer, Baystate Health. “With this approach, teams focus on improving hospital access through our hospital’s ‘front door’ of the Emergency Department. Dr. Gemme’s leadership guided broad solutioning to support our goal of all patients being cared for in a safe and timely manner.”

The strategies Gemme and his team have developed will become a model for academic hospitals nationwide.

public notices

Hardwick Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing
Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board per Hardwick Zoning Bylaw, Sections 3.2.3.a and 5.0 will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 6:45PM** at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA.

This Hearing is regarding the application for Site Plan Approval by Eagle Hill School Foundation, Inc. to construct a 25,153 sf Senior Student Dormitory at 242 Old Petersham Road. A complete copy of the application can be inspected at the Municipal Offices in the Town Clerk’s office during posted business hours. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>
Hardwick Planning Board
William Cole, Chair
0710, 07/17/2025

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 (Nuway 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

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of the following storage units will be sold **July 19, 2025 at 9 a.m.** for non-payment at Country Corners Storage, 50 Greenwich Rd. Ware, MA Bldg. 3 Unit 17 07/10, 07/17/2025

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Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

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RADIO from page 8

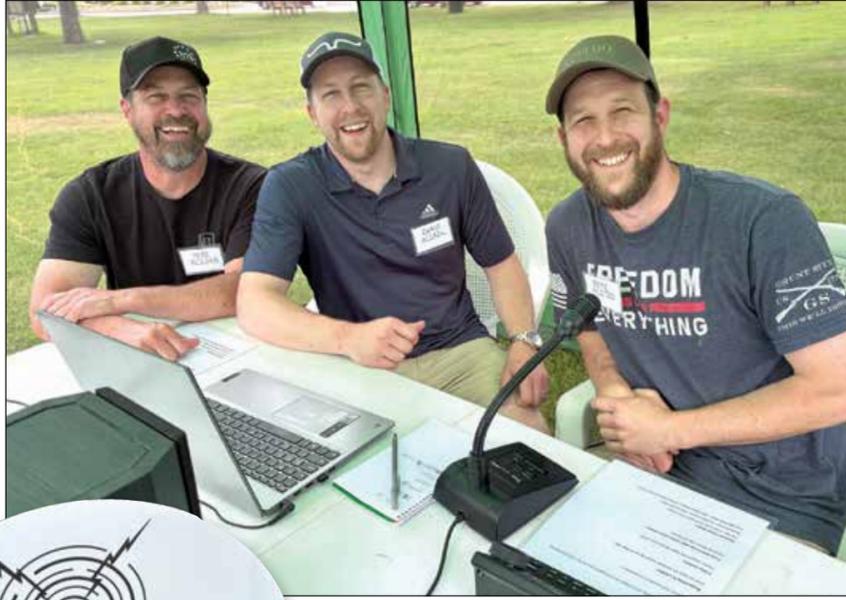
commercial, are identified) was there to greet visitors and answer question as well a provide literature from the well-stocked table.

There were several other tables in tents for Field Day goers to visit. Most would first visit the GOTA tent. GOTA, stands for Get On The Air. The tent had equipment set up so that people who were not hams could make a contact. The table staff was Dennis, KC1LNL, and Dan WIDPN, who were guiding someone in making a contact with a ham in the Mid-Atlantic region.

In a demo tent near Main Street, Peter, WB1QGY and Ed, WB2ESF were making contacts on 2 meters.

Amateur radio has been around long before the digital era, but the computer was destined to interact with the ham world. Mert, KC1KVA and Steve, KC1SXP were speaking to the world digitally with a computer feed that is known as FT8.

The husband, and wife team, Ken, KB1HXO and



Three Hams from one fam.

Deb, KC1RDH had been working the 10-meter band, and were leaving and would be replaced in the tent by three members of the same family, Pete KC1TDO, Chris, KC1RZL, and another Pete, KC1SAB.

Bill, KC1WGM and Ken WB1DX were active on 20 meters.

Ken's wife, Michele, KC1TIW was indispensable in answering the reporter's questions.

Two officials of the ARRL came to the field day at different times, Ray Lajoie and Sierra Harrop. Ray is the Western Mass Section Manager and Sierra is the Public Relations and Outreach Manager.

An interesting bit of history was brought to the information table by West Brookfield resident Barbara Rossman. She left a HealthKit manual. HealthKit, as the name implies, made kits for genera-



Peter and Ed at the 2-meter demo station.

tions of amateurs.

Rossman also left off a number of transistors which were once as high tech as could be back in the day, but are now obsolete. History never stops.

So, what is it that draws the members participating in the field day and others to become hams? Certainly, motivations are personal, but the ARRL has literature suggesting reasons. One can make global connections, and compete in events.

If there is an interest in tech, Amateur Radio has a lot of that.

Hams get involved in public service, sometimes crucially.

If your interest is piqued, the place to learn about ham

radio locally, is the aforementioned Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club. The website is qvarc.com/

The excellent website has information on what the hobby is and how to become one. Periodically, the club hosts examination sessions so one can pass a test and get on the air.

Other than July and August, the club meets the last Tuesday of each month at the West Brookfield Senior Center, 73 Central St., at 6:30 p.m.

Every Wednesday, the club hosts a weather net where hams (not just members) share weather info from where they live. It's a fun on air meet up.

If interested, contact QVARC on the form in the website, or see you in September. The membership is more than welcoming.



The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club is the club in this area and was the local field day sponsor.

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