

WARE RIVER NEWS

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OLD TYME Baseball

returns to Hardwick

Haymakers and Wheelmen take the field

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – Vintage baseball made its return to Benjamin Roach Athletic Fields this past weekend.

This annual game was presented by the Paige Memorial Library and the Hardwick Parks & Recreation Committee. This tradition is part of the Paige Memorial Library celebrating 120 years on the common.

Library Director Julie Bullock talked about how the library has been on the common for over a century. The high school at the time used to house the library until the building sadly burned down.

Please see **OLD TYME BALL**, page 8



Turley Photos by Camren Robertson

Players went over the rules of Civil War era baseball.

Board promotes Cacela to sergeant

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Police Chief Shawn Crevier requested the Selectboard appoint John Cacela to the open position of sergeant on the Police Department.

At the July 7 Selectboard meeting, Crevier said Cacela has been with the department for over 12 years and has “done a phenomenal job.”

He credited Cacela for his work with the DART program and making National Night Out an annual success for the town.

The Selectboard unanimously approved Cacela’s promotion to sergeant.

Lift assist fee proposal

Fire Chief Jim Martinez presented his proposal to charge a fee for lift assists at Cedarbrook Village of Ware. He said currently the Fire Department doesn’t have a way to recoup fees for this service, unless the patient is transported to the hospital.

He said they respond to all of these calls as required by law, or they call for mutual aid.

Martinez said lift assists at Cedarbrook are “costing us a great deal of money, time and effort.”

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 5

Selectmen review TA’s goals

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – The Board of Selectmen met on July 9 and had a discussion of the Town Administrator’s annual performance evaluation and goals.

Selectmen Chair Richard Eichacker began by addressing Town Administrator James Ferrera’s goals. Eichacker said Ferrera scored high marks in job related expertise, communications and customer service.

Ferrera also did well with quality of work and productivity. He showed a lot of initiative, creativity and excellence in problem solving.

“Everything looks positive,” Eichacker said.

The board reviewed Ferrera’s goals for the upcoming fiscal year. One of the five goals Ferrera has is to complete a glass project for the Shepard Municipal Building and have that project complete by December 2026.

Please see **GOALS**, page 7

Agencies search for missing man

Editor’s Note: Elliott Blackwell had not been located at the time of this newspaper’s printing on Wednesday afternoon. For current updates, please check the Warren Police or Fire departments’ Facebook pages.

Staff Report

WARREN – On Wednesday, July 8, at approximately 3 p.m., the Warren Police Department received a report of a missing 91 year old male, identified as Elliott



Submitted Photos

Elliott Blackwell, age 91, of 308 Cutler Road, went missing from his home on July 8. Public safety officials believe Blackwell may have gone walking in the woods behind his house, but are unsure what direction he walked toward.

Blackwell from his home at 308 Cutler Road, who was last seen at approximately

10 a.m. that morning.

He is 5’ 8”, has a thin build and suffers from dementia. The Warren Police Department believes Blackwell may have gone walking in the woods behind his house, but they are unsure what direction he walked toward.

Immediately after receiving the report, the Warren Police requested assistance from the Warren Fire Department as well as state and local police.

Units swiftly responded to the area,

Please see **MISSING**, page 6

Residents raise concerns to SB

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – The Select Board met Monday where several residents brought up concerns about parking and town practices.

At the July 13 meeting, one resident brought up concerns about parking near the Rose 32 Bakery, located at 412 Main St. in Gilbertville. The resident said that the road is a no parking zone,

and when cars are parked there it creates safety issues such as an inability to see pedestrians, people having to walk into the road and difficulty making room for emergency response vehicles.

According to the resident, this has been an ongoing problem for the past three years, and she alleges the Police Department has ignored her calls. She said there are few citations found in the police logs on Main Street, citing two written

warnings, four verbal warnings and three citations over a month period.

Select Board member Zack Spencer responded to her concerns, saying oftentimes the people parked on the street are only there for less than five minutes to pick up an order. He said if there is a complaint about a particular illegally parked car, they may be gone by the time an officer gets there.

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 3

Leaders present case for Quabbin funding

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
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BELCHERTOWN – Local leaders gathered at the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center to present their case to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority board of directors for additional funding for the towns bordering the Quabbin Reservoir.

The discussion centered on Senate bill S546 and House bill H1042, which would, in part, create a \$35 million trust fund for the dozen Quabbin towns to receive annual payments, and give the towns

more representation on the MWRA.

Attendees included state Rep. Aaron Saunders, state Sen. Jo Comerford, state Sen. Peter Durant and state Rep. Todd Smola. Members of local leadership such as select boards from several Quabbin towns gave speeches, with the exception of Phillipston and Wendell.

The first to speak was Saunders, who represents the 7th Hampden District, including Belchertown. He talked about how the Quabbin is a water extraction operation, with about 180 million gallons

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 16



Submitted Photo

Hardwick Town Administrator Justine Caggiano spoke at the July 10 meeting.



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 8 1 6



Kate Blackwell, Assistant Branch Manager of Monson Savings Bank, Ware, presents the school supply collection location.

Drive to benefit local schools

Staff Report

Last Wednesday, the first placed collection box at Monson Savings Bank branch in Ware kicked off the start of the school supply collection drive sponsored by the Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce and the Ware Business & Civic and Beyond organizations.

This year's school supply drive marks the second year of the collection drive program. Participating locations will serve as a drop off destination for local citizens to donate school supplies to benefit students from the Ware, Palmer

and Monson schools districts.

"We started this collection drive last year on the suggestion of Barbara Barry, Town of Palmer Town Council Chairperson, to support the students of the Palmer schools. I thought we could partner with the WBCA&B and have that organization support both the Palmer and the Ware schools systems and its students with their own collection locations," said Matt Lemieux, Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce President.

The collection drive expanded from the towns of Ware and Palmer to include locations in

Monson. WBCA&B President Dan Flynn organized several locations in Monson to serve as collection locations.

"Last year, at the conclusion of the drive, town coordinators brought truckloads of supplies to their respective schools. Our common goal this year is to collect even more supplies," said Flynn.

Monson Together came on board this year to coordinate the Monson locations.

"Each of the three towns have more locations this year than last year, and we are very excited" said Diane Vadnais, Palmer coordinator.

"Heading up the Palmer side is an opportunity to make sure local students start the school feeling prepared, confident, and supported. It is amazing that having the right supplies can make a huge difference in a child's self esteem and success. Sometimes it helps them feel like they fit in because they have what all the other students have" said Vadnais.

Please see **SUPPLIES**, page 6



Displayed is the collection spot at Palmer Public Library for school supplies drop off.

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 2023 showed Hardwick Community Fair adult rosette winners, Becky Bottomley (Home Canning); Halley Stillman (Fruits and Vegetables); Mary Ward (Baking); Julie-Anne Croft (Flowers); Laura Grunweg (Literary); and Bob Desilets (Art).

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

Sewing class offered on July 21 at Trinity Episcopal

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church, corner of Park and Pleasant streets, will host a sewing class on Tuesday, July 21 from 6-8 p.m.

The fee is \$5 and materials will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Participants will learn to sew by hand or with a machine. Join the class to become familiar with hand or machine sewing and leave with a finished project.

Fee free to bring your own machine and something to mend.

Call 413-967-6100 to reserve your spot.

Ware Senior Center NEWS

- WARE – The Ware Senior Center, 413-967-9645, 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 20
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- Tuesday, July 21**
- 9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh
 - 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 22**
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- Thursday, July 23**
- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
 - 9 a.m. Walking Club (weather permitting)
 - 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
- 10 a.m. Line Dancing
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch Savvy Seniors. A conversation about scams and how to protect yourself by the Attorney General's Office.
 - 12:15 p.m. Art Class
- Friday, July 24**
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
 - 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)
- LUNCHES**
DINE IN 11:30 a.m.
All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.
- Monday, July 20**
Cheeseburger with Lettuce, Tomatoes and Pickles, French Fries, Dessert of the Day
- Tuesday, July 21**
Chicken Piccata with Caper Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day
- Wednesday, July 22**
Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Dessert of the Day
- Thursday, July 23**
Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day
- Friday, July 24**
Chicken Tenders, French Fries, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

School Supply List

Suggested School Supply Donations:

- Box of Colored Pencils
- Plastic Pencil Box (Unlabeled)
- Erasers (Not Pencil Top)
- Thin Set of Crayola Markers
- Thick Set of Crayola Markers
- Scotch Tape
- Pack of Post-It Notes
- Box of 24 Crayons (No Larger)
- Colored Pencils
- Children's Scissors
- Elmer's Glue Sticks
- Expo Markers
- Single Subject Notebooks (Any Color)
- Erasers (Pencil Top Style)
- Lots of Pencils (Ideally Ticonderoga)
- Pencil Case/Box/Bag
- Cm/Inch Ruler
- Hand-Held Pencil Sharpener

Items For Sharing With The Class:

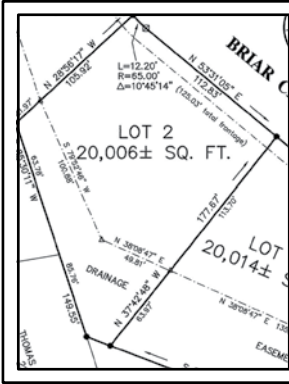
- Lysol/Clorox Wipes
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer
- Expo Markers
- Paper Towels

Drop Off Locations:

WARE
Cedarbrook Village
Cluett's Appliance Center
Dhillon Dentistry
Hakim Medical Center
Hanna's on Main
Monson Savings Bank
Moulton Insurance
Ware Town Hall
Westfield Bank

PALMER
Palmer Town Hall
Phriends Coffee shop
Mustang Seats
Palmer Senior Center
J. Stolar Insurance Agency
Nicks Sports Shop
Palmer Library

MONSON
Monson Savings Bank
The Better Bean
TJ's Tavern



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KAREN DAVIS
admin@monsonttogether.com
DAN FLYNN 413-297-5886
dflynn@turley.com

Research your family history at Warren library

WARREN – Curious about discovering your family’s past? The Warren Public Library welcomes you to a beginner-friendly introductory session on the core features of Ancestry.com on Thursday, July 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Through live demonstrations and helpful tips, professional genealogist Seema Kenney will show you how to confidently search, analyze and organize genealogical information on one of the best known family history platforms.

Join this session at the library and unveil the branches of your family tree.

This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Historical Commission hosts 250th Birthday Cake Picnic

WARE – The Ware Historic Commission invites residents and visitors to join them for America’s 250th Birthday Cake Picnic on Sunday, July 26, from 11 a.m. -2 p.m. in the Great Hall at Ware Town Hall.

As part of Ware’s Historical Day celebrations commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the commission is inviting the community to help throw America a birthday party – by bringing a cake.

Participation is simple. Bring a cake, receive a cake number, display your creation, sample cakes brought by fellow participants, and vote for your favorites.

At the end of the event, prizes will be awarded for Tastiest Cake, Prettiest Cake and the cake that best represents the theme of the U.S.’s 250th Anniversary/1776 History.

This isn’t a professional baking competition, and you don’t need to be an expert baker to participate. Whether your cake is simple or elaborate, traditional or imaginative,

the commission would love to see what you create.

This is a celebration of America’s 250th birthday, so have fun with it.

The Cake Picnic is just one part of a fun-filled afternoon at Ware Town Hall. Throughout Historical Day, visitors will be able to enjoy historical displays, presentations, tours, exhibits and other family-friendly activities celebrating Ware’s history and America’s 250th anniversary.

Participants bringing cakes are encouraged to arrive as close to 11 a.m. as possible so that all cakes can be displayed and included in the voting throughout the event.

Voting will remain open during the afternoon, with winners announced at 2 p.m.

Whether you’re bringing a cake, sampling the creations of others, exploring the exhibits, or simply joining the festivities, the commission hopes you’ll come celebrate with them.

Join the commission on July 26 as Ware comes together to celebrate our nation’s birthday – one slice at a time.

Planning Board OK’s special permit for extra chickens

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – The Planning Board began their July 9 meeting with a public hearing for a special permit for 168 Fisherduck Road.

Applicant Colleen Powers was requesting to keep more than the permitted five chickens at her property.

Powers said her farm received more eggs and they recently hatched. The plan is to keep the hens and teach her kids how to raise animals.

Altogether, Powers estimates there will be 14 chickens altogether; one adult and the rest are chicks. The applicant is waiting to determine how many of them are hens.

The board had a site plan in their packets that shows the location. Director of Planning & Community Development Paralee Smith received some notes from

the Building Commissioner about how the structure for the chickens should not create a nuisance.

Another note is if its larger than 200 square feet, it requires a building permit. Powers said the chicken coop is 8 feet by 8 feet.

The board approved the special permit for 168 Fisherduck Road.

Site plan review

The next discussion was for a site plan review for 300 Palmer Road for an accessory dwelling unit, which is 864 square feet.

One of the applicants operated BHO Realty and is working with a new partner to refurbish some of the buildings. The applicant took the property over and is planning on finishing.

At that point, the applicant will be operating under a new business, not BHO Realty.

There will be no changing to the square footage

but just refurbishing what had been done to the property. Drawings on setbacks have been made and there is a total of about 1.5 acres. Distances between neighbors, roads, and frontages have been made.

The septic on the property was recently tested and is all up to date and passed Title V. The applicant looks to have the space be a nicer property and in line with the work he regular does, which is “bring houses back” to being usable again.

The board approved the site plan review as presented to them.

Planner update

Smith said the town received a bill for a tax on a road. The department is currently looking at the legality of this matter, talking with town counsel, and figuring out how to move forward.

More will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting on July 23.

HARDWICK from page 1

Select Board Chair Jeff Schaaf also responded, saying he was on the Planning Board when Rose 32 Bakery got its permit, and they knew about the limited parking. He said there is not much the town can do other than increase enforcement, but they do not have enough officers for the area to be constantly watched over the hours the bakery is open.

Resident Liz Cyran suggested the bakery could implement a drive-thru type configuration to allow people to pull into the property and grab their order to avoid parking on the street. Resident Bill Cole also said patrons are able to park at the municipal building and walk there.

Cyran also suggested the bakery hire an auxiliary officer or a detail to watch the road while the business is open. However, Schaaf responded it may be a burden on the business and drive them away from the town.

Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker said the board could send them a letter or bring them into a meeting to discuss the concerns.

Cyran also brought up

concerns as to whether the Accountant and Treasurer had the proper certifications to do the job. She also said there are 36 binders of commitments missing, and asked where they could be found.

Cyran also asked if the board would deal with complaints brought against the Town Administrator Justine Caggiano, saying multiple people have sent letters complaining.

Tinker said he had requested the evaluation of her performance to be put on an agenda, but it hasn’t made it to one yet. Schaaf said she is an asset to the town, and letting her go would leave them in a poor position.

“Without her, we’d be lost,” he said.

At this point in the meeting, resident Jeffery Smith was removed from the meeting by Schaaf. Smith had accused Caggiano of having a relationship with a police officer in town, and was told to leave.

Earlier in the public comment period, Smith said he received a determination from the Attorney General stating the Planning Board violated the open meeting law last year by deliberating without posting.

Another resident said the town has a problem with holding employees accountable, to which Tinker responded he has tried to hold people accountable, but said it is met with hostility, saying he has been handcuffed from speaking.

Conduct at meetings

The Ware River News has also received, by request, a written statement from Caggiano regarding recent Select Board meetings: “The actions and lack of decorum at Select Board meetings do not accurately represent the wonderful residents of Hardwick that I am proud to serve.”

Caggiano also provided a statement about town employees: “Since I walked in the door, we have done a complete overhaul of the financial departments, implemented a hiring process and have worked to bring up department head salaries to market rate. As a former Human Resources Director in two different larger communities, it is my utmost responsibility to hire qualified candidates. Unfortunately, given the state of what I walked into, it has meant long hours of identifying and correcting prior actions of gross negligence.”

She continued by saying, “I am proud of our current workforce and my goal is to take all the corrective action necessary and use my professional experience to leave the town stronger than how I found it.”

Landfill liabilities

Rick Romano of the Board of Health requested the ability to use KP Law for a couple hours to review obligations related to the landfills, including on Lower Road and Patrill Hollow Road. He said there is a concern of town exposure to certain chemicals in the near future from the landfills.

He said the Board of Health spends over \$20,000 a year monitoring the Lower Road one, but the Department of Environmental Protection reached out saying the board failed to test for PFAS, so that will add another \$6,000 to the monitoring bill.

The board approved the request to use town counsel, capping the hours at four.

Appointments

The board approved the officer appointments as presented by Police Chief Kevin Landine, along with the appointment of David Larson as Conservation Commission clerk and Gail Anderson to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Caggiano said the Cultural Council is looking for members.

The board also approved the hiring of Anne Garwood-Hamp as Highway Department clerk. Caggiano said she is the current highway clerk in West Brookfield.

STM

The board called a special town meeting for Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town House, with a warrant including zoning bylaw changes and the Quabbin Regional School District regional agreement.

Administrative items

The board approved a new Information Technology contract with Anevry.

The board also approved a warrant review process, describing it as a roadmap for future boards. Part of the policy gives the finance committee quarterly reviews of expenditures.

The board approved two one-day liquor licenses for Fieldcrest Brewing for Aug. 14 and 15 for the Hardwick Community Fair. The board

also approved the meeting minutes of April 13, April 30 and June 22.

Quabbin Estates violation

The board approved the request from the Sewer Commission to fine Quabbin Estates \$5,000 and order them to remove solids. Spencer said the issue has been ongoing, and it appears they will not fix the problem unless they are fined.

Other business

Caggiano said the Highway Superintendent Martin Gryszowka will follow up with the state on the railroad crossing on Lower Road, as it is worse than it was previously.

The Select Board will meet next on July 27.

NOTICE

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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters By Russell Gloor

Should I claim spouse benefits now, or my own SS benefit?

Dear Rusty: I am writing to get advice on the optimal time to sign up for Social Security benefits. I am a 64-year-old female and my birthdate is August 1961. My husband is already taking his SS benefits, so I have also wondered if it be advisable to take spousal benefits or full benefits. Signed: Wondering Spouse

Dear Wondering: If you take your Social Security benefits at age 64, they will be permanently reduced. And, for information, you cannot take only your spousal benefit; you must take your own SS retirement benefit whenever you claim and, if you are entitled to more as your husband's spouse, you will also get a "spousal boost" to bring your monthly payment up to what you are entitled to as a spouse. If you claim at any time before your SS Full Retirement Age of 67, both your own SS retirement amount and your spousal boost amount will be actuarially reduced for claiming early. All of which means that claiming before your FRA (e.g., at 64) will mean your monthly benefit will be less than 50% of your husband's monthly FRA amount. Now, for clarity, it's important to know how spouse benefits are calculated: if your FRA entitlement is less than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement, then you will get a "spousal boost" added to your own SS retirement amount.

Note that FRA amounts are always used to calculate spousal amounts, regardless of the age at which benefits are claimed. If your husband waited until age 70 to get a higher monthly benefit or even if he claimed before his FRA, your spousal amount would still be based on his FRA entitlement. If your FRA benefit is less than half of his FRA entitlement, you will get a spousal boost. If not, you won't. Assuming you will be entitled to a "spousal boost," the decision you must make is whether to claim early (e.g., now at 64) or wait until you are 67 to get your maximum amount as your husband's spouse. The factors to consider are these:

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An endless supply of flowers for the windowsill

I must admit that I feel unmotivated in the flower garden this summer. It took me forever to sow my seeds, and even longer to install the resulting plants.

The seedlings finally went into the ground a good two weeks after Memorial Day (gasp!) but they are making up for lost time despite my bad attitude! Just last week the first bouquet graced the kitchen windowsill.

In a few weeks I will have a collection of different vases filled with flowers in that very spot; it's something I look forward to doing every summer. But if I am going to have flowers to fill the vases, I have to keep up with maintenance.

It's not enough to sit back and watch them grow. Here is some great advice worth repeating that will help to keep summer annuals looking their best.

Deadhead

Most annuals will continue to bloom abundantly if they are deadheaded on a regular basis. Deadheading is an entertaining term used to define the removal of spent flowers.

You see, a plant produces flowers for one purpose: to survive. Once a flower has been pollinated it will produce seed, seed that will grow future plants.

If a plant has produced enough flowers that have gone to seed it will consider its job to be done, flower production will cease and it will begin to decline.

By deadheading, we keep the plant in reproductive mode, in other words, in flower! When you remove dying blossoms, make sure to pinch off the entire flower, not just the petals, or it will do no good. Include the stem as well to keep the plant tidy.

Petunias, marigolds, zinnias and salvia, among others, are examples of plants that

require regular deadheading to look their best throughout the growing season.

Shear them back to encourage new growth

Some annuals start to get a leggy appearance about now. Others may have brown tips. These plants require more drastic measures to bring back their youthful good looks.

Give them a good haircut. Simply look within the plant and find healthy, green growth. Cut calendulas, pansies and snapdragon back to that point.

Alyssum or lobelia can often be sheared to within inches of the ground.

Don't worry; they won't look bad for long! You can jump start regrowth with a bit of liquid fertilizer.

Feed your plants

Occasionally, even plants that are well fertilized at planting time begin to have issues. If foliage is pale and flower production is nil, pull back the bark mulch and sprinkle some organic fertilizer granules at the base of each plant.

Cultivate gently and water in.

You can also use a water soluble liquid fertilizer every couple of weeks. If going natural is your cup of tea, make some!

Compost or manure tea has long been used to keep growth lush. Steep a burlap bag of either compost or aged manure in a large trash bucket filled with water and use as needed. Smaller batches can be made right in a watering can.

Likewise, there are numerous blends of seaweed and



fish emulsion on the market that can be watered in or used as a foliar feed.

Water, water, water

If Mother Nature fails to provide at least an inch of rain each week, then unfortunately we must make up the difference. It is so easy to forget to perform this very obvious maintenance task, especially when we are busy doing other things.

If we are negligent often enough, however, our plants will suffer.

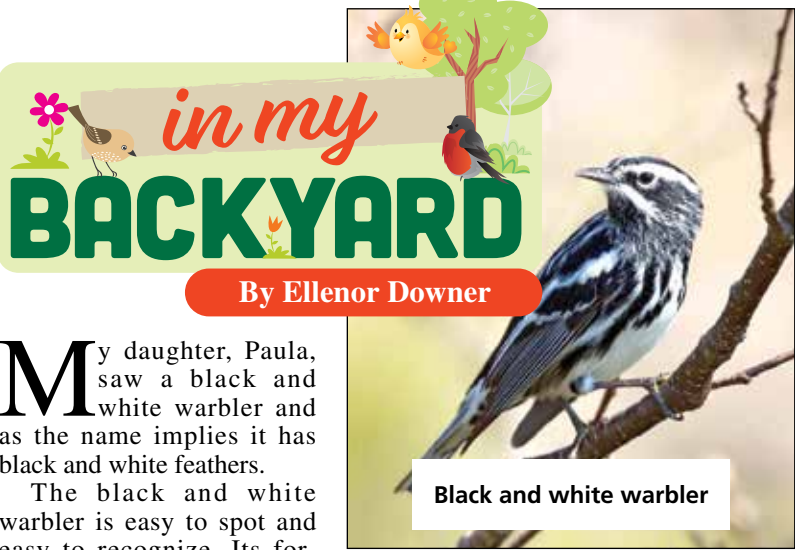
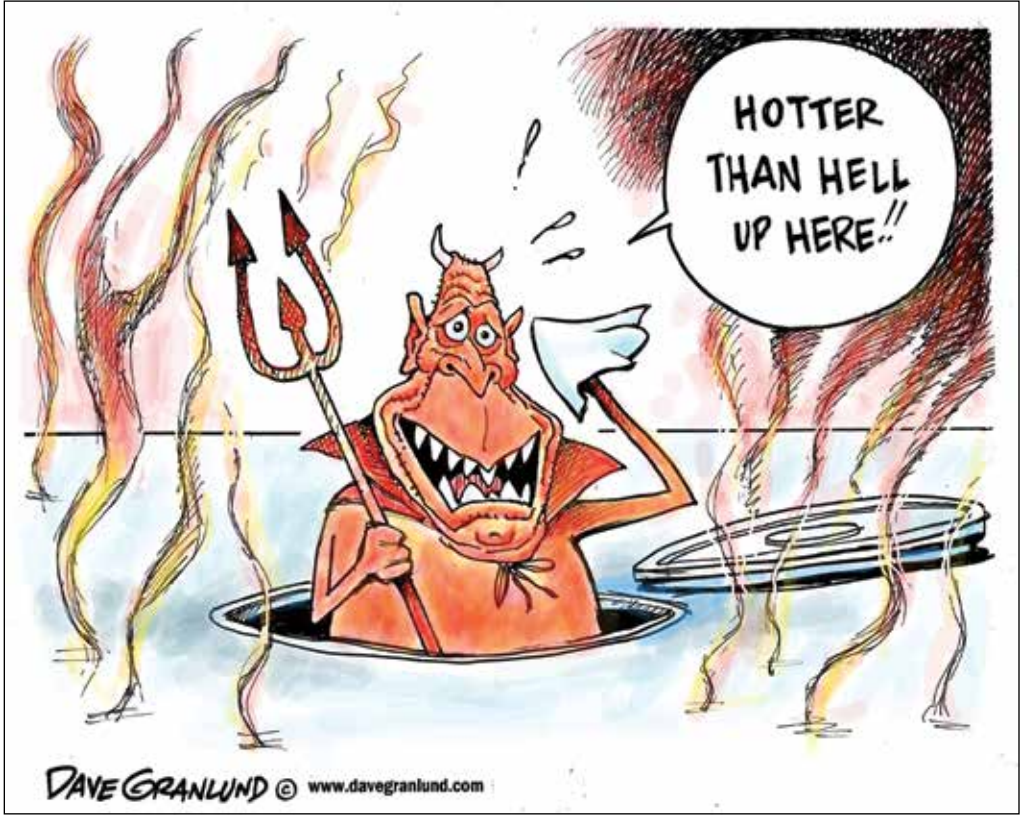
Sometimes pale green foliage is a nitrogen deficiency from simply a lack of water. When you water the garden, remember to do so in the early morning, if possible, to avoid evaporation.

Early evening is another good option, but try to get the job done with enough time for the foliage to dry before darkness sets in.

Deep waterings twice a week are far better than numerous quick showers. The former will promote deep, penetrating roots and future drought tolerance.

Well-watered, well-fed and well-groomed annuals will reward you with beautiful bountiful blossoms for another two months or more – well worth the effort for vases of flowers on the windowsill!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 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.



My daughter, Paula, saw a black and white warbler and as the name implies it has black and white feathers.

The black and white warbler is easy to spot and easy to recognize. Its former name was the black and white creeper. Like the white-breasted and red-breasted nuthatches and

the brown creeper, it climbs about on the trunks and major limbs of trees seeking insects in the bark crevices. It often

southeast, southwest, Texas and Western Canada.

Spring migration begins

feeds low, and nests even lower, usually on the ground.

This warbler inhabits forests, woodlands, shrubs, Savannas, and thickets from Alaska and the north, California, eastern Canada, Florida, Great Lakes, mid Atlantic, New England, northwest Plains, Rocky Mountains,

The adult male has black throat and cheeks and the female and young paler or whitish there.

Their song is a thin, high-pitched, monotonous "weezy-weezy-weezy" like a squeaky wheelbarrow. The call is a chirp or chip.

The black and white warbler breeds in mature or second-growth forests, decidu-

ous and mixed. Males arrive on breeding grounds in late April, before the females.

During courtship, a male chases female, with much singing and fluttering. The female lays five creamy white eggs flecked with brown in a cup shaped nest on the ground or less than two feet above under dead leaves or limbs or against a shrub or tree. They are commonly parasitized by cowbirds.

Both parents feed the young and the young leave the nest in eight to 12 days after hatching. The young are able to fly well.

Please see BACKYARD, page 6

WARE RIVER NEWS

We Want to Hear From You

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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: Ware River News Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to: pouimette@turley.com

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

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Conservation Commission reviews RDAs

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Conservation Commission reviewed two request for determination of applicability during a meeting on July 8. The first RDA was for a project on Hillside Avenue. The applicant provided maps for the commission to review. This project is the last phase of a project in connection to the School Street neighborhood. This project includes road

reconstruction, water main improvement and making the sidewalk Americans with Disabilities Act compliant. Members of the Conservation Commission had questions as to where the water would be going to meet storm water requirements. The water should be collected and sent in a single stream and catch basins could be installed. The project for Hillside Avenue does not seem to require a notice of intent. The Conservation Commissioners voted to

issue a “negative determination” RDA for the Hillside Avenue project. A Negative Determination means a project does not require a more complex permit and can proceed. Some minor protective conditions may include a silt fence when a project is a negative determination. The next public hearing was an RDA for a project on Pulaski Street and Cottage Street. This project is a “design only project” as the presenter described. Improvements for these

streets could be supported by a grant the town applied for. There will be roadway improvements and replacement of the existing drainage. There is not as much work being done on Pulaski Street. The project does have a couple of catch basins. The applicant said the sewer is pretty new and they want to install new drainage to get better water flow. The commission also voted to issue a negative determination for Pulaski Street and Cottage Street.

New members join the Finance Committee

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Finance Committee welcomed new members at the July 6 meeting, and reorganized. Town Administrator James Ferrera thanked the new members for stepping up to serve. Joseph Dziok was appointed to serve as the chair and Donna Pina as the vice-chair. The appointment of the clerk was tabled and Tammy Dufresne was named the temporary clerk. New member Charles Lyman, who was absent from the meeting, had expressed interest in the clerk position.

will help cover expenses. The Finance Committee approved the line item transfer for the Sewer Department and now the request will go before the Board of Selectmen. The next line item transfer involves the Cable Advisory Committee spending cap, which is currently at \$30,000. According to Ferrera, the committee spent a little over \$7,000 above that cap, but they do have the money. Ferrera said the Cable Advisory Committee is aware of this and will handle this better in the future. The cap may need to be raised depending on the improvements and expenses. The Finance Committee approved the line item transfer for Cable Access. The next item was from the Treasurer, who requested to transfer \$1,261.57 from the Medical Insurance Expense to the Medicare Expense line. Medicare deductions were higher with several payroll factors. The Finance Committee approved the transfer for the Treasurer.

Lions host community service carnival to launch new club

WARREN – The public is invited to experience the service, fellowship, and community spirit of Lions Clubs at the upcoming Lions Service “Carnival” on Saturday, July 18 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the St. Stanislaus Polish Club, South Street, West Warren, in conjunction with the Ware Lions. The family-friendly event will showcase the many ways Lions Clubs serve their communities while offering a day of fun activities, food, and entertainment for all ages. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about Lions Club membership and community service programs, as well as participate in free eye screenings. Children can enjoy a bounce house and games, while complimentary refreshments –

including snow cones, cotton candy, popcorn, hot dogs and water – will be available for children while supplies last. A highlight of the day will be a Cornhole Tournament beginning at noon. Registration and warm-up activities start at 11 a.m. The entry fee is \$20 per person, with cash prizes awarded to top competitors. Participants may register in advance through the Scoreholio app or sign up on the day of the tournament. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit local veterans. “This event is a way we can make the community aware of what the Lions have to offer the community, and it

Ware Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park

WARE – The Ware Lions Club presents Concerts in the Park on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Grenville Park, 73 Church St. Admission to concerts is free and concerts are weather dependent. Concert dates include July 16, Bigelow; July 23, The Bridge; July 30, Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond with special guest Jimmy Mazz and Aug. 6, Woodshed. During each concert, the Ware Lions will have a concession stand selling hot dogs, chips, popcorn

and beverages. Raffle tickets for prizes will also be available. This year’s raffle includes a chance to win a \$300 gasoline gift card to Brookside Mart on West Street. Tickets are \$10 each and available at Thursday night concerts, from any Ware Lions Club member, or at Nat Falk Men’s Clothing or St. Germain Insurance. The gasoline gift card winning ticket will be drawn on Thursday, July 30. Proceeds from this raffle go to Lion’s charities.

July 16: Bigelow • July 23: The Bridge
July 30: Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond with special guest Jimmy Mazz • Aug. 6: Woodshed

WARE BOS from page 1

He said other agencies that bill a fee for lift assists, charge anywhere from \$300-500 per call. He proposed charging \$300 per lift assist to the facility, rather than to the patient requiring aid. Martinez said Cedarbrook is a for-profit entity with 184 residential units. He said the lift assists at the facility account for 25% of the Fire Department’s calls for service. Town Manager Stuart Beckley said people that live at Cedarbrook are also residents and taxpayers of the town and he said the lift assist fee, if created, should be universal and not just isolated to Cedarbrook. Martinez said many assisted living facilities train their staff in lift assists, but he does not see that at Cedarbrook, which is why he looked at this option. He would also support Cedarbrook training their staff to provide their own lift assists. “But to actually use us as the only mechanism to pick people up off the floor because of an allegedly ‘hands-off’ policy – I think that’s unacceptable and I think it should be addressed,” Martinez said. Selectboard Vice-Chair Ken Willette asked Martinez to provide data about the percentage of calls to Cedarbrook that resulted in transport to a hospital. The Selectboard will also invite representatives from Cedarbrook to attend a meeting and continue the discussion.



John Cacela (front row, right) was appointed to the position of sergeant on the Ware Police Department at the July 7 Selectboard meeting. Cacela is shown with Police Chief Shawn Crevier (front left) and Selectboard members (back row from left) Steven Hawk, Ken Willette, Valerie Granger and John Desmond.

sion. Rural healthcare Cindy Allen Bourcier said she attended a meeting with federal and state agencies regarding rural health care. Beckley was also in attendance. “It was very impressive, very exciting,” she said. “The goal was to outline funding strategy for Rural Development programs to redevelop the Mary Lane site, restore services and repurpose the Wetherby Building...and they are going forward with this project.” Bourcier said the state needs to qualify the town for a Federally Qualified Health Center. She said this type of center offers more services, serves all people regardless of income and accepts all forms of insurance. She said 51% of the board of directors at a FQHC has to be patients.

“It’s the community that is part of the board of directors,” she said. Bourcier said she believes this is a better fit for the community and that people will be excited about it. Bourcier said there has also been talk about forming a regional health coalition with area towns with the help of Healthy Quaboag. She said the process is going slowly, and she also reached out to Selectboard member Valerie Granger and Beckley to form a new healthcare services advisory committee and she presented them with a draft of a mission statement. Bourcier said she hopes the town is working with the federal and state agencies on this project.

Revision to meeting minutes The Selectboard reviewed

plaint she filed with the state regarding this subject, saying she hoped “we could work together and try to resolve these different things.” Willette said he is uncomfortable revising minutes that have already been approved and accepted by the Selectboard. He said he would like to review Bourcier’s request with town counsel. Willette said the state closed and rejected one of Bourcier’s several complaints regarding the May 6 meeting minutes. Selectboard Clerk John Desmond said he didn’t think that Bourcier’s proposed revisions would make any difference in the accuracy of the minutes. The Selectboard agreed to refer Bourcier’s request with town counsel.

Line item transfers The Selectboard approved several line item transfers from fiscal year 2026 to the current fiscal year, as recommended by the Advisory Committee. Economical development committee The Selectboard voted to establish a new five-member committee, the Ware Downtown and Economic Development Committee. This new committee will replace and expand upon the current role of the Downtown Development Committee.

Downtown Development Committee Chair Dennis Craig said one of the issues the committee is working on is a solution for increasing business parking in the downtown area. Town Hall hours The Selectboard members discussed the current Town Hall hours, which are by appointment only on Wednesdays. Board members said they have heard from residents that this is inconvenient to them, but they have also heard from employees that it is helpful to get work completed. The board will continue discussion of Town Hall hours at a future meeting. Town Manager search Willette said the town will form a Town Manager search committee, as well as create a job description for the position. Currently, there is no official job description, but rather a list of responsibilities in the town charter and the employment contract. Willette said the search is expected to begin in the late fall or early winter. Main Street building demolition Beckley said the demolition of fire-damaged buildings on Main Street is expected to be completed in August.



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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of June 24-30, the Ware Police Department responded to 20 miscellaneous calls, 18 administrative calls, 17 traffic violations, 12 emergency 911 calls, four harassments/stalks/threats, five trespasses, one theft/larceny, 12 disturbances, three frauds, two safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident, four suspicious/wanted, two assist other agencies, two fires, 16 animal calls and 26 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, June 30
6:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Criminal Complaint Request
10:51 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Aspen Street, Report Made
12:36 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
5:54 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, No Action Required
6:26 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Shoreline Drive, Dispatch Handled
11:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, False Alarm

Wednesday, July 1
12:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
1:34 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Parker Street, Advised
1:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
9:10 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Pine Crest Circle, Services Rendered
9:30 a.m. Fraud/Deception, Babcock Tavern Road, Advised
10:53 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Laurel Drive, Services Rendered
3:54 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Mirabile Drive, Investigated
7:59 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, No Action Required
8:22 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Main Street, Services Rendered

Thursday, July 2
11:48 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Beaver Road, Investigated
6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gilbertville Road, Citation/Warning Issued

7:09 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Anderson Road, No Action Required

Friday, July 3
7:43 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, Investigated
10:45 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Aspen Street, Advised
5:57 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, No Action Required
6:49 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Park Street, Advised
7:25 p.m. Weapons/Firearms, Otis Avenue, No Action Required
8:57 p.m. Weapons/Firearms, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate

Saturday, July 4
3:33 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Monroe Street, Could Not Locate
8:55 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered
1:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Vigeant Street, Services Rendered
1:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Babcock Tavern Road, No Action Required
1:43 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Warren Road, Unfounded
4:17 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Palmer Road, Advised
6:45 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Road, Investigated
8:41 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
9:08 p.m. Safety Hazard, Berkshire Circle, Assist Given
9:32 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Morse Avenue, Could Not Locate
10:29 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Aspen Street, Advised
11:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
11:51 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Monson Turnpike Road, Could Not Locate

Sunday, July 5
12:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
12:34 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Eddy Street, Could Not Locate
1:01 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street,

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.

Advised
1:21 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Eddy Street, Advised
4:26 a.m. Structure Fire, Eddy Street, Investigated
12:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
3:22 p.m. Vehicle Fire, Vigeant Street, Investigated
6:33 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Pulaski Street, Advised
8:56 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Highland Street, Services Rendered
10:25 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Canceled En Route

Monday, July 6
9:19 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
1:37 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, High Street, Advised
4:07 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Hillside Terrace, Advised
4:54 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fisherdick Road, Services Rendered
4:59 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Otis Avenue, Advised

5:02 p.m. Smoke Investigation, High Street, Services Rendered
5:29 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Hillside Terrace, Advised
5:37 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, High Street, Advised
8:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Unfounded

Tuesday, July 7
3:39 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street, No Action Required

Hardwick libraries list Summer Reading events

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library and the Gilbertville Public Library invite you to sign up for the Summer Reading Program “Dig In and Read” through Aug. 22, which includes activities and prizes for all ages, dinosaurs, American history and nature.
Visit www.paigelibrary.com and Facebook for activities and events. This is Dinosaur Week.
Shenanigans with Friends will perform at the Town House on Saturday,

July 25 at 3 p.m. This event is brought to you by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library, and supported by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council through the Massachusetts Cultural Council.
Shenanigans performs a mix of rock, country, folk and R&B with tight harmonies and danceable rhythms. Come listen and come dance.
Join the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road,

for the Wednesday morning Story Hour with an art/science activity and play time starting at 10:30 a.m., Paige Book Club, the Cookbook Club, the Friends group, the Ongoing Book Sale, the Paige Writers, the 250th Quilt group, the Movie Festival Committee, and programs for all ages and interests.
Watch for a new date for African rhythm drumming with Jafar Manselle and the Wendell Warriors on the Hardwick Common.

Family fun at St. Aloysius Parish BBQ on Aug. 2

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Parish invites families from across the area to its Summer BBQ on Sunday, Aug. 2 with dinner served noon-1 p.m. at the South Barre Rod and Gun Club, 2626 Barre Road.
The afternoon is planned with every age in mind, from grandparents to grandchildren.
The meal is a half chicken dinner served with baked potato, corn on the cob, salad and watermelon. Children and adults alike can join in the games, and raffles and prizes will run

throughout the afternoon.
Tickets are \$20 each and are available by calling the rectory at 413-477-6493. This is a fundraiser to benefit the Parish Renovation Funds.
All are welcome to join in the fun.

About St. Aloysius Parish
St. Aloysius Parish serves the villages of Gilbertville and Wheelwright, from two worship sites, St. Aloysius Church (64 Church St., Gilbertville) and St. Augustine Mission (98

Church Lane, Wheelwright).
A parish of the Diocese of Worcester, it is home to St. Aloysius Catholic School and is served in collaboration with St. Francis of Assisi Parish in South Barre. Learn more at staloy-siusstaugustine.com.

SUPPLIES from page 2

The school supply collection drive runs though Friday, Aug. 21.
Participating drop off locations are found at Cedarbrook Village,

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of July 6-13, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 59 building/property checks, 33 directed/area patrols, 11 radar assignments, two traffic controls, nine emergency 911 calls, four citizen assists, five assist other agencies, one investigation, one motor vehicle investigation, two safety hazard, one vandalism, one threat, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, July 6
9:37 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, Church Lane, Services Rendered
11:51 a.m. Assist Citizen, Ridge Road, Report Taken
2:11 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
3:12 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered
4:40 p.m. Medical Emergency, Ridge Road, Patient Refusal
5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Barre Road, Spoken To

Tuesday, July 7
11:28 a.m. Investigation, Police Department, Spoken To
4:19 p.m. Safety Hazard, Hardwick Pond Road, Referred to Other Agency

Wednesday, July 8
5:59 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
9:59 a.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Negative Contact
12:54 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road,

MISSING from page 1

established a unified command, and strategically developed a search plan that included land, air and water assets. The Massachusetts State Police provided support with, Search and Rescue coordination, numerous K-9 teams, the Special Emergency Response Team trained in Search and Rescue, Air Wing, Communications assets and Field Service assets.
Additional local departments provided air support with drone units.
Through the assistance of the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, a mobile command center was established while DFS and Central Mass Sparks Association - Rehab 78 coordinated rehab for responders.
After an extensive search on land, the District 7 Dive Team was activated bringing responders from departments across central Massachusetts to conduct searches in local bodies of water. After eight hours of searching, the last units demobilized for the night due to the lack of daylight and to rest.
Prior to demobilizing, the team worked to develop a comprehensive search plan to initiate the next

Cluett’s Appliance Center, Dhillon Dentistry, Hakim Medical Center, Hanna’s on Main, Monson Savings Bank, Moulton Insurance Agency, Ware Town Hall and Westfield Savings Bank in Ware, Monson Savings

Transported to Hospital
1:58 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ruggles Hill Road, Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, July 9
5:04 a.m. 911 Fire/Alarm, Charity Hill Road, Services Rendered
10:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
11:20 a.m. Serve Warrant, Church Lane, Arrest(s) Made
12:46 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Highland Terrace, Officer Handled
6:13 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Patient Refusal

Friday, July 10
7:40 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
12:53 p.m. Assist Citizen, Broad Street, Officer Handled
5:07 p.m. Assist Citizen, Broad Street, Officer Handled
7:09 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Greenwich Road, Spoken To

Saturday, July 11
9:04 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Spoken To
3:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Joslyn Road, Written Warning

Sunday, July 12
7:01 p.m. Vandalism, Church Lane, Report Taken
8:18 p.m. 911 Threat, High Street, Peace Restored
10:30 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

morning.
In total, approximately 70 first responders operated on July 8, with additional search and rescue teams responding July 9 and subsequent days.
Lieutenant Kyle Sledziewski requested that the public does not form their own search parties however, the public can support by checking cameras both on buildings or on trails for video footage or by checking their own property in town.
A Silver Alert was requested through the Massachusetts State Police, a reverse 9-1-1 call was sent, and any sightings of Blackwell should be reported to the Central Massachusetts Regional Emergency Communication Center or the Warren Police Department at 413-436-9595.
Members across the public safety community will continue to support the family in the coming days through searches and investigative work. This remains to be a missing persons investigation.
At this time, there will not be any regular updates on this search posted to the department’s Facebook page. The Warren Police Department will update the community when any new information is discovered.

Bank, The Better Bean and TJ’s Tavern in Monson, and Palmer Town Hall, Palmer Senior Center, Palmer Library, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Phriends Coffee, Mustang Seats and Nick’s Sporting Goods in Palmer.

Fatal single-vehicle crash under investigation

WARE — On July 9 at approximately 9 p.m., first responders were dispatched to the area of 110 Bondsville Road following a report of a single-vehicle crash.
A preliminary investigation indicates that a BMW sedan was traveling southbound on Bondsville Road when it crossed the roadway to the left, exited the roadway, and struck a tree. It does not appear that any other vehicles were involved in the crash.
The male operator, 31, who was the sole occupant of the vehicle, was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The crash remains under investigation by the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section, the Massachusetts State Police Crime Scene Services Section and the Ware Police Department.
The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the cause and manner of death.

BACKYARD from page 4

Adapted to creeping along limbs and on tree trunks to feed, they forage on dormant insects from tree trunks and branches in early spring. They switch body from side to side at each hop while foraging. Sometimes, they fly out after insects in the air.
They eats primarily insects. It feeds on a wide variety of caterpillars including those of spongy moth, beetles including bark beetles, click beetles, and wood borers, ants, flies, bugs, leafhoppers, aphids and other insects, spiders and daddy longlegs.

Massachusetts Audubon sightings
Unusual bird sightings reported in late June to the Massachusetts Audubon Society included swallow-tailed kites in Mashpee, a Mississippi kite in Harwich and a Franklin’s gull and two royal terns in Provincetown.
Central Massachusetts sightings in the Ware River watershed included: a great blue heron, belted kingfisher, yellow-bellied sapsucker, two northern flickers, two eastern wood pewees, two alder flycatchers, two least flycatchers, three eastern Phoebe, four great crested flycatchers and two eastern kingbirds, a yellow-throated vireo, a blue-headed vireo, six warbling vireos, 110 red-eyed vireos, a common raven, two red-breasted nuthatches, two house wrens an eastern bluebird, 43 veery, a hermit thrush, a wood thrush, 34 gray catbirds and four cedar waxwings.
Also reported were a blue-winged warbler, four yellow warblers, seven chestnut sided warblers,, three black-throated warblers, three green warblers, a Blackburnian warbler, seven pine warbles, on prairie warbler, three black and white warblers; two redstarts, 56 ovenbirds, 28 yellow-throated warblers, a Canada warbler, nine scarlet tanagers, six eastern towhees, a field sparrow, three swamp sparrow, a rose-breasted grosbeak, four indigo buntings, two bobolinks and three red crossbills..
People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowner@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

GOALS

from page 1

Ferrera also wants to work with the Board of Health to facilitate a discussion to get two residents that are currently on well water and switch to town water for the purpose of saving annual monitoring well fees incurred by the town. These annual costs are absorbed by the town within the budget of the Board of Health.

Another goal is to continue to do some additional training and certifications. One of Ferrera's training pursuits is a Small Town Administrator credential.

There are other training sessions Ferrera wants to get for the town staff.

"We've got a great staff here," Ferrera said. "I want to give them the tools and resources they need to continue to be successful, continue to prosper."

Board of Health request

The Selectmen reviewed and discussed a request from the Board of Health to transfer the responsibilities for administering the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors functions to the Building Department.

Some research was done

on this matter and there seems to be no objections internally on this decision. However, Ferrera said the bylaw states that the role is under the Board of Health.

The idea is to move the administrative functions over to the building and planning department. Board of Health Chair Dan Thibodeau said they don't have control for plumbing.

Ferrera said he believed the intent of the bylaw at the time was since the Board of Health appoints, they're responsible for the administrative functions.

"We don't know the intent of when this was passed, ultimately," Eichacker said.

Thibodeau read out loud what section 11 of Chapter 142 says.

"Inspectors appointed from civil service list approved of plumbing or gas fitting exemption. The said inspector buildings, if any, otherwise the Board of Health."

The Selectmen approved the request from the Board of Health to transfer the responsibilities.

Articles

The Board went over any articles that can remain open

from fiscal year 2026.

Ferrera said they could possibly turn back \$9,800 from the town website upgrade project as it is completed.

Other articles include staff training, which was kept open, and there is also the duct work article to keep open since that is an ongoing project.

The board voted to close out the article pertaining to the article regarding the town website to recover \$9,800.

Police Chief request

Police Chief Gerald Millette requested to appoint Ian Curtiss to the position of full-time police officer with a wage authorization at a Step 5 on the patrolman's scale for a one-year term.

Millette said Curtiss has seven years of policing experience and is currently a sergeant with the Springfield College Police. Other credentials include instructor certification, Crisis Intervention Team certification and instructor in alert civilian response to an active shooter training.

Curtiss said he's glad to be back in Warren and thanked the Millette for welcoming him back to the department. The board approved the

appointment.

Tax Collector

Tax Collector Kerry Schmidt attended the Board of Selectmen's meeting to address a printing error on some preliminary real estate tax bills. Approximately 250 taxpayers got tax bills from last year instead of this fiscal year.

New bills were printed out with a notice of explanation and were mailed out. Schmidt wanted the public to know that the second bill being sent out will be correct.

Town Administrator's report

Ferrera shared his report for the month of June. The FY 26 employee evaluation process with staff had started and all evaluations for staff that are supervised by the Board of Selectmen were completed.

In June, Ferrera attended the high school graduation ceremony for Quaboag Regional School District.

A monthly department head meeting was conducted in preparation for the Annual Town Meeting that was held on June 11. The Annual Town Meeting was successful according to Ferrera, and the

FY 27 budget passed along with all warrant articles.

No free cash was used to balance the budget, no layoffs, no reduction of services and no overrides in the FY 27 budget.

The town has less than a 3% increase from last year's budget in the FY 27 budget.

Ferrera participated in the Small-Town Administrators Annual Meeting in Westminster.

He worked with Warren Rural Improvement and Sylvia Buck to complete the Warren Honor Roll Sign Improvements in front of the Warren Public Library. A dedication for the sign is currently being scheduled.

Ferrera is continuing to work with contract negotiations with Central Massachusetts Regional 911 district staff.

The wheelchair lift adjacent to the Board of Health Office has been completely decommissioned. The new wheelchair lift is scheduled to be installed in the middle of July.

Ferrera participated in a Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association virtual training on Coordinating FMLA, ADA Retirement

and Workers Compensation Benefits.

In his report, Ferrera shared some information involving the town's Planning Board.

The Planning Board meetings were held on June 1 and June 15. The Site Plan Review hearing continued for the proposed development on Cemetery Road by Paquette Bros. Contracting; the hearing will be continued in July.

The special permit and site plan review hearing was conducted for a standby generator replacement at the Verizon New England property at 21 Quaboag St. The board voted to approve and issue the special permit and site plan approval.

The proposed Floodplain District Zoning Bylaw amendment was approved at the Annual Town Meeting, and the Town Clerk is moving forward with submission to the Attorney General for final approval.

Raymond Kopacko resigned his position on the Planning Board as of June 2. Ed Londergan was appointed by the Selectmen to fill the position.



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BASEBALL from page 1

The Paige family stepped in and donated money to rebuild a building that would become the official library. 120 years later, the Paige Memorial Library is a proud neighbor to the common.

Speaking of history, baseball has an interesting tie to Hardwick. Bullock said baseball in Hardwick once had a tradition where a team of married men played against unmarried men.

The other connection to baseball is Goddard Park, which is next to the Paige Memorial Library. The park was named in commemoration of Wayne Goddard, who was always interested in sports, especially baseball.

Goddard grew up on a farm by Goddard Road and always wanted to become a professional baseball player. He was a little league baseball coach, and many kids would go practice on the common.

Goddard loved supporting youth sports and brought kids to Boston for Red Sox games.

The stone in front of the baseball field with Wayne G. Goddard Park written on it also features a baseball logo as a dedication to Wayne Goddard.

The home team for this vintage baseball game was the Hardwick Haymakers. The visiting team was the vintage baseball club, the Westfield Wheelmen, who play baseball under rules of various eras.

For this game between the hometown Haymakers and the visiting Wheelmen, the game was played under Civil War era rules. The rules include no gloves, underhand pitching and batters can be called out by a catch after one bounce.

Dan Genovese of the Westfield Wheelmen is not only in love with the game of baseball but also got into the history of the game and how it was played for over a century.

While growing up playing baseball, Genovese conducted research on the game and learned about players from Massachusetts who went on to play professional baseball.



Turley Photos by Camren Robertson
The Wheelmen make contact with the ball.



One of the Wheelmen players looked to his team.



Shown are Hardwick Haymakers players Rich Rigney and Chris Buelow.



Turley Photos by Camren Robertson
Good sportsmanship was on display.

Throughout his research, Genovese found out there were two men from Westfield in the 19th century that went on to play Major League Baseball. Adonis Terry had a great career with Brooklyn, pitching two no hitters and had nearly 200 wins in his baseball career.

The other Westfield baseball player was Al Hubbard, who was the captain of the Yale team and played two games in Major League Baseball with one game under a false name. According to Genovese, Hubbard was either hiding from his parents, or he may have been under contract with another team.

Genovese learned about vintage baseball while watching ESPN in the early 2000s where a game was being played at Wahconah Park in Pittsfield. After observing how the game was played under late 19th century rules, Genovese thought he and his fellow baseball comrades could play the game in this vintage style.

Soon Genovese would form a vintage baseball club with his friends, which he described as being “a core group of players.” Genovese is the Captain of the team, who re-founded the team in 2006.



Players gave each other a fist bump.

The Westfield Wheelmen would play about two games a month during the baseball season and would go on to play against other vintage baseball clubs throughout the New England and upstate New York.

The Wheelmen are named after bicycle manufacturers. Wheelmen were people who built bikes back in the 19th century and there were bike makers in Westfield.

The Wheelmen play two

styles of vintage baseball. One is the Civil War era style with the underhand pitching. The other style is 1886 era baseball with overhand pitching.

“The rules can be quirky,” Genovese said.

While playing on the baseball diamond, Genovese

is the Catcher of the Westfield Wheelmen. The team plays their home games at Hilltop Farm in Suffield, Connecticut, which is where Wheelmen Manager Dan “Short Order” Cook grew up.

Cook was now in his 20th year with the Westfield Wheelmen and is one of few original members of the team since its reestablishment in 2006. Joe Hepworth is also an original member of the Wheelmen, but for this game against the Haymakers, Hepworth served as the game’s umpire.

“Short Order” Cook still plays while he manages the team and is a pitcher, or in the Civil War era, was the “hurler.” The terminology of the positions was different during the 1860s. For example, before differentiating the field positions such as first, second, and third baseman, the term for the position was base tender.

For Cook, learning the vintage ways of baseball was a learning curve, but fun once you started playing the game. Another tough learning curve was learning to catch without the protection of a glove.

Bubba Rudolph of the Westfield Wheelmen has been playing for the team for the last 15 years. Rudolph played baseball throughout high school and college, but continued playing variations of the game such as softball for recreation and on a competitive level.

While playing softball Rudolph played against members of the Wheelmen and went to some of their games to watch the vintage style of baseball. Soon, Rudolph became a Wheelmen and was pitching during the game against the Haymakers. Those underhand pitches are harder to hit than you think.

Another veteran ball player for the Wheelmen is Mickey Garcia, who was originally an opponent of the Wheelmen for nearly three years. Garcia got into vintage baseball due to loving the nostalgia of the game and get-

ting to play in different eras. He also plays in a Cape Cod baseball league where a lot of college players come out and play during the summer.

After competing against the Wheelmen, Garcia was approached by the team to come play in a few games. This Civil War era version of baseball includes a lot of classic plays, including the hidden ball trick, ball still being in play if you’re hit by a pitch, and even the occasional disguise of a potato being shaped like a baseball.

During the game against the Haymakers, Garcia as the Shortstop faked missing a throw from the pitcher which happened to be the potato and managed to trick the base runner and get tagged out before getting to third base.

Garcia has been a Wheelmen for about 15 years and loves playing baseball and always encourages his teammates through laughter, teamwork and sportsmanship.

The fans got to enjoy a fun and close game of baseball as the Wheelmen and the Haymakers took the field. There were hot dogs, popcorn, and bottled water available for purchase.

The Wheelmen brought vintage wooden baseball bats for purchase and even brought a vintage high wheel bike. One of the Wheelmen was riding the high wheel bike at Roach Field.

Wheeler, the Wheelmen mascot, also made an appearance during the game against the Haymakers.

After the game, where the Wheelmen and Haymakers played a game where they mixed the teams up, both teams gathered on the field for a vintage baseball photograph. The Paige Memorial Library and Parks and Recreation Committee thanked the Wheelmen for joining them for a vintage baseball game and thanked all the players who signed up to join the Hardwick Haymakers.

This year’s Haymakers included Dylan Bowles, Jesse Boucher, Chris Buelow, Ryan Drago, Jenna Garvey, Chase Haven, Chad Holmes, Christopher Lance, Chris Lowell, John Orzech, Rich Rigney and Justin Wilcox.

The Haymakers will return to Roach Field for another game of vintage baseball.



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Meeting Info

July 29th
Barre Senior Center
10:30am

CARNIVAL from page 5

is also part of a membership drive with the hopes of starting a new club in Warren,” said Curt Jameson, past district governor of Lions Clubs

District 33A and chair of the event.

The event is open to the public and admission is free. For more information, contact Jameson at curt6203@gmail.com.

SPORTS

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Monson Post 241 baseball comes away with win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WESTFIELD—Despite wobbling defensively in the third and fourth innings, Monson Post 241 regrouped and fought its way to a gritty victory at Bullens Field in Westfield.

With the Senior Legion contest knotted at 6-6 with two outs in the sixth inning, Monson catcher Kyle Kaczuwka delivered an RBI single. He also scored a run during that frame, as Post 241 celebrated an 8-6 win over Westfield Post 124 last Thursday night.

“Most of the games haven’t gone our way this season,” said Kaczuwka, who’s the only player from Ware High School listed on the Monson Legion baseball roster. “We’re a big family and it feels very good to get back into the win column again.”

Monson had a 4-8 overall record following last Thursday’s road contest.

“We did struggle defensively early in the game, but we were able to score a few runs” said Monson manager Steve Tripp. “This is a very big win for us heading into the playoffs.”

Monson was sitting in fourth place in the Zone 3A standings. They were scheduled to close out the regular season with another road game against Belchertown on Monday night.

Brayden Mega was Monson’s starting pitcher against Westfield (6-6-1). He threw 30 pitches in a loss at Greenfield Post 81 the previous night.

“Brayden has a rubber arm, and he loves being in the spotlight,” Tripp said. “He only threw 30 pitches last night, which kept him eligible to start tonight’s game.”

The righthander allowed six runs (one earned) on five hits with three walks and two strikeouts during the first four innings.

Righthander Sebastian Mayberry, who began the

Please see **POST 241**, page 10

Here for Beer shuts out Monson Mustangs



Martine Worrall-Turgeon eyes a teammate up the field.

SOUTH HADLEY – Last Thursday evening, Here for Beer scored a big win over Monson Mustangs 5-0 in Women’s summer soccer action. The two teams were in a key matchup with both teams near the top of the Women’s Division in the PVSSL. Here for Beer is now alone in second place at 6-1 while Monson is now 5-2 heading into the final weeks of the regular season.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Cassie Ashwell sends a pass away.



Shun Murasawa sends a free kick away.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ronan O'Brien heads past midfield.

Vermont Green hands Pioneers defeat

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The members of the Western Mass. Pioneers gathered for a team photo before kicking off their regular-season finale against rival Vermont Green FC last Friday night.

Having been eliminated from the USL League 2 playoffs for the first time since 2018, the Pioneers were hoping to end Vermont Green’s long unbeaten streak.

The Pioneers overcame a 2-0 halftime deficit to tie the score early in the second half, but Vermont Green stretched their unbeaten streak to 37 matches following a 4-2 victory before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium.

“Our main goal was to make the playoffs, which we’ve been able to do every year since 2018,” said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. “We battled back in the second half, but it just wasn’t enough.”

Vermont Green (13-0-1), who are the defending USL League 2 champions, haven’t suffered a loss since a

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 11



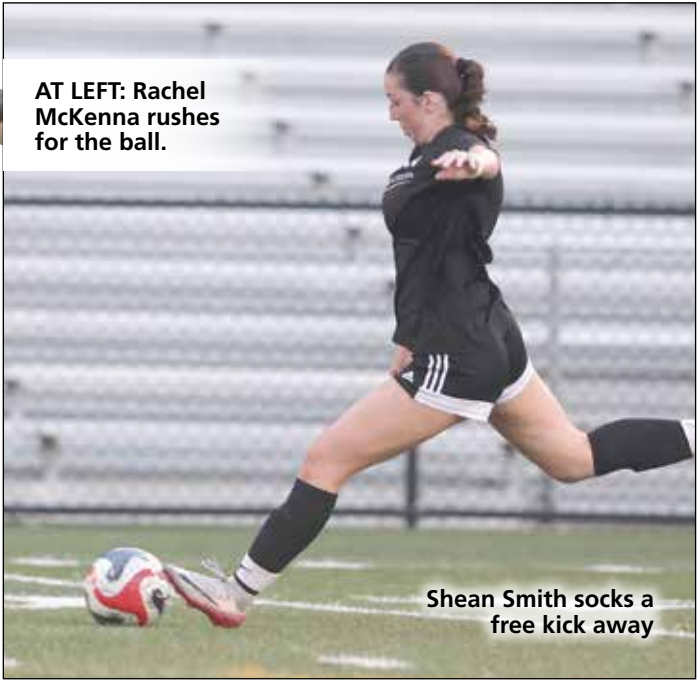
Gwen Duggan makes a pass toward midfield.



Taryn Carriveau turns play around after taking possession.



AT LEFT: Rachel McKenna rushes for the ball.



Shean Smith socks a free kick away



Cam MacDonald sends a throw across the diamond.

St. Joe’s grabs win over PeoplesBank

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE — Since 1995, the PeoplesBank baseball team has built a dynasty in the Tri-County League, capturing 21 championship titles, including each of the last 13 seasons.

The St. Joseph’s Saints, who are looking to win the TCL championship title for the first time in two decades, are determined to knock PeoplesBank from its perch this summer.

In a span of 48 hours last week, the Saints celebrated two victories in the rivalry series.

St. Joseph’s traveled to Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke last Wednesday night and defeated PeoplesBank, 10-5, which kept them in first place in the league standings.

“We’ve faced Peoples in the championship series the past couple of years, and they’ve gotten the best of us,” said St. Joe’s shortstop Devin Slattery, who had a base hit and scored three runs in last Wednesday’s game.

“We beat them in a regular season game last year and they’re a great team. We’re also outstanding team this year and we’re trying to win the championship title.”

St. Joe’s entered this week’s action with a 13-3 overall record, while Peoples had an 11-3-1 mark.

“We made a couple of mental errors in tonight’s game,” said Peoples player/manager Joe Ferry. “We out hit them, but we left too many runners on base. It’s a frustrating loss.”

Peoples, who fired a 6-0 shutout victory in the first meeting of the regular season between the teams, never held the lead in last Wednesday’s game.

The visitors took a 3-0 lead against lefty James Flahive in the top of the second inning.

After loading the bases with no outs, St. Joe’s second baseman Greg Vouras, who’s the Athletic Director at Westfield High School, grounded into a double play plating the game’s first run. First baseman Dillon Slattery, who singled to center, and his older brother, Devin, (walk) both crossed the plate on an errant throw by the catcher that bounced into left field.

“I believe baseball games are won and loss on the bases,” said Devin Slattery, who played for Peoples for one season before moving to St. Joe’s. “We put some pressure on them in the second inning, and they made a throwing error.”

Dillon Slattery, who finished the game with two base hits and scored three runs,

Please see **TRI-COUNTY**, page 10

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Greg Vouras fields a grounder.

T-Birds unveil 2026-2027 regular season schedule

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud American Hockey League affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, released their full schedule for their 2026-27 regular season on Thursday in conjunction with the AHL. The T-Birds will be celebrating their 10th playing season as an AHL member club, as well as their sixth playing season in affiliation with the Blues. Springfield has qualified for the Calder Cup Playoffs in four of its past five seasons, coming off a run to within one win of the Eastern Conference Finals.

For the first time in seven seasons, the Thunderbirds will begin their regular season on the road, on Saturday, Oct. 3, in Wilkes-Barre against the Penguins in a rematch of the Atlantic Division Finals. The T-Birds will kick off their home ice season at the Thunderdome against the Laval Rocket on Saturday, Oct. 10 on Opening Night. Puck drop is set for 6:05 p.m.

Fans are advised that, for a second straight season, all Saturday games at the MassMutual Center will start at 6:05 p.m.

The Thunderbirds will face every Eastern Conference team at least twice during the 2026-27 regular season, except for the Cleveland Monsters and Toronto Marlies. Once again, the AHL season will consist of all 32 clubs playing 72 games (36 home, 36 away).

Springfield will play 52 games against Atlantic Division opponents, including 26 at the MassMutual Center. Their most frequent opponents are the Providence Bruins, who will visit the Thunderdome seven times. The first meeting between the longtime foes will be on Friday, Oct. 30 at 7:05 p.m., with other home-ice meetings scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4 (7:05 p.m.), Wednesday, Dec. 16 (7:05

p.m.), Sunday, Dec. 27 (3:05 p.m.), Saturday, Jan. 2 (6:05 p.m.), Wednesday, Jan. 13 (7:05 p.m.), and Saturday, March 6 (6:05 p.m.).

The home-ice portion of the 1-91 rivalry series against the Hartford Wolf Pack begins on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 3:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome. It marks the first of six meetings in Springfield, as the familiar rivals will also meet at the MassMutual Center on Tuesday, Nov. 10 (10:35 a.m.), Wednesday, Dec. 30 (7:05 p.m.), Saturday, Jan. 16 (6:05 p.m.), Wednesday, Feb. 17 (7:05 p.m.), and Saturday, April 3 (6:05 p.m.).

With the Atlantic Division trimmed to seven teams for the 2026-27 season, the Thunderbirds will see each of their division opponents from Pennsylvania six times in the regular season, including three head-to-head matchups each at the Thunderdome. The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins visit on Sunday, Jan. 3 (3:05 p.m.), as well as Friday, Jan. 29 (7:05 p.m.) and Saturday, Jan. 30 (6:05 p.m.).

The Lehigh Valley Phantoms make their first stop in Springfield for a two-game weekend on Friday, Oct. 16 (7:05 p.m.) and Saturday, Oct. 17 (6:05 p.m.) before a return meeting on Saturday, Jan. 23 (6:05 p.m.).

The Hershey Bears make their trek from Chocolatetown to the Thunderdome on Friday, Nov. 6 (7:05 p.m.), Saturday, Nov. 7 (6:05 p.m.), and Sunday, April 4 (3:05 p.m.).

The Thunderbirds will also play 18 games (9 home, 9 away) against North and Pacific Division opponents. The San Diego Gulls are the lone Western Conference team on the T-Birds’ schedule, as they visit Springfield for the first time ever on Saturday, Feb. 20 (6:05 p.m.) and Sunday, Feb. 21 (3:05 p.m.)

POST 241 from page 9

game in left field, wound up as the winning pitcher. He took over the mound with no outs in the fifth and tossed 1 1/3 innings without allowing any runs.

Matt Santos earned the save. The righty hurled the final 1 2/3 inning allowing just two base hits.

Monson took a 4-0 lead in the second inning.

After loading the bases against lefty Noah Amaral, Monson centerfielder Jarett Skowrya drew a walk forcing home the game’s first run. A couple of batters later, Santos (2-for-5), who started the game at shortstop, hit a double into center field driving home another run. Following a Kaczuwka walk, Mayberry, who started in left field, capped off the inning by hitting a two-run double to left.

The Monson defense committed two errors in the bottom of the third inning leading to three unearned runs.

Monson, who banged out 13 base hits, got two of those runs right back in the top of the fourth inning on back-to-back RBI singles by Kaczuwka and Mayberry.

Trailing 6-3, Westfield began the bottom of the fourth inning with a triple to right field by centerfielder Jacob Barnes. He crossed the plate when a ground ball hit by second baseman Audrey

Amaral was misplayed by the third baseman. It was Monson’s fourth error of the game.

Post 124, who’s managed by Don Irzyk, tied the score in the fourth following a sacrifice fly from DH Keith Drzyzga and a throwing error.

Before retiring several years ago, Irzyk served as Pathfinder Tech’s Athletic Director while also leading the football program and guiding the varsity baseball team.

With one out in the top of the sixth inning, Mega beat out a groundball to the shortstop for an infield hit. After stealing second base, he advanced to third on a throwing error by the catcher. The next batter hit a pop-up caught by the shortstop, which set the stage for Kaczuwka. He smacked a fastball into left field scorning Mega with the go-ahead run. Following Mayberry’s third base hit of the game, Kaczuwka scored on a ground ball single into left field by right fielder Emerson Boronski.

It gave Monson a two run cushion heading into the final two frames.

Westfield loaded the bases in their final two at-bats, but the Monson defense didn’t commit anymore errors and managed to celebrate a road victory.

Blue Sox get offense going in win over Keene

KEENE, NH – The Valley Blue Sox (11-14-1) have hit an offensive stride in its past three games, and finally capitalized on it in a 7-6 win over the Keene Swampbats on July 11 at Alumni Field in Keene, NH. Throughout the three games, the same face has been the center of it all.

Blue Sox’s catcher Chris Cancel (UConn) does not normally see the letters “DH” written next to his name in the starting lineup. According to head coach John Raiola, the decision to keep Cancel in the lineup on a usual off-day came down to his swing path.

Raiola would know. He previously served on the SwampBats coaching staff in 2011, making him closely familiar with Alumni Field’s dimensions. The right-field foul pole is 354 feet from home plate and the center

field fence is 352 feet from home plate. This creates an abnormally short right-center field gap.

“It’s the first time in the DH all year, because all he’s got to do was take his normal swing and hit a ball well to the right center, and it’s got a shot,” Raiola said.

That’s exactly what Cancel did, going three for four with four RBI. His biggest swing of the night was a second inning two-run home run to right-center field that cleared the wall with ease and put the Blue Sox up 2-0.

“My main approach is let the ball get deep, hit it backside,” Cancel said. “I

honestly have a lot more juice that way. My swing does play very well for this field, that right center, short porch. And I think we saw that today.”

Cancel’s two other hits were singles. The first was a line drive to left field that scored one to tie the game at four in the sixth inning, the next a line drive off of the centerfield wall that extended Valley’s lead to 6-4 in the seventh inning.

Cancel’s three-hit day against Keene was the latest offensive success, and he’s currently riding a four-game hit streak and three-game RBI streak. His RBI streak began July 8 when he had a three hit game in a 12-9 loss to the Newport Gulls.

Cancel recorded one RBI in that game, a solo home run to the opposite field in the right-center field gap. After that game, Cancel said the reason for his tendency to hit the ball to the opposite field is rooted in his swing.

“I pretty much try and just be on time for the fast-ball,” Cancel said. “And then adjust to the off-speed, catch that more out in front. But yeah, work the middle of the field with the fast-ball.”

One of Cancel’s other two hits in the game was a double to the opposite field.

“They are all paying attention to who’s making the lineup,” Raiola said. “You got to be swinging it well in order to get yourself in there. ... There’s a couple really good swings today. A lot to do with the park, and how he’s been swinging it rewarded that decision.”



Battles gets victory on Wednesday night showcase

THOMPSON, CT — The Crown Vics began Wednesday’s showcase with multi-time winner Ethan Williams showing the way early before youth prevailed. Upon his first time at the Thompson 5/8-mile, young Jack Emerson would take over the lead with eight laps remaining and never looked back to take the win over Williams and Ty Mello.

Jared Materas and Jason Williams may have

brought the Late Model field to green but it was Matt Lowinski-Loh who quickly took over the top spot within the first lap. Materas would bring out the first caution on lap 10 after spinning across the nose of Jared Roy’s #1CT. Things went sideways once again on lap 18 with a mechanical issue slowing Jake Johnson leaving Williams and Mike Benevides to pile in for a massive wreck into the turn

four wall. Back to green, Lowinski-Loh drove away with the 25-lap win over rookie Travis Hydar and Jared Roy.

Todd Douillard ran away with the lead at the start of the SK Light Modified feature before Austin Goff made it a two-man show by lap four. RJ Marcotte, John O’Sullivan, Kevin Davis and Daltin McCarthy ran nose-to-tail behind the leaders, keeping them hon-

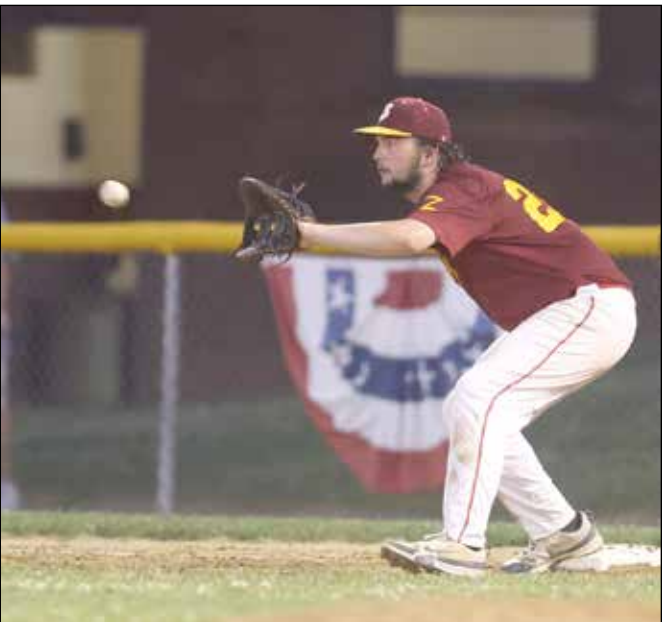
est before Goff was shuffled back on the inside groove. Motoring into turn one, Davis and O’Sullivan launched sideways into the corner to bring out the lap nine caution that also ended the day for newcomer Brandon Michael with a hard lick into the turn one wall.

Douillard would be next on the wrecker on the restart

Please see **RACES**, page 15



Jack Feltovic sends a pitch away.



Dillon Slattery makes the catch at first for an out.

TRI-COUNTY from page 9

and his older brother were teammates on the Ware varsity baseball team for a couple of years.

Peoples first baseman Cam Rivest, who’s the varsity baseball coach at Ludlow High School, led off the bottom of the second with a line-drive single into left field before scoring on a wild pitch.

With two outs in the top of the fourth inning, third baseman Joey DeMichele (3-for-4) delivered a two-run single into centerfield, which increased St. Joe’s lead to 5-1.

St. Joe’s scored five more runs in the following frame with the benefit of only one base hit.

Right fielder Brian Hayes, who was hit-by-a-pitch, and Dillon Slattery (Walk) both scored on wild pitches.

Centerfielder Jacob Hayes drove home another run with a sacrifice fly. Another sacrifice fly by left-fielder Mark Jodoin scored two more runs.

PeoplesBank battled back against righty relief pitcher Jack Feltovic, who wound up as the winning pitcher, during the final three innings.

Feltovic replaced lefty starter Jackson Hayes on the



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Johnny Gegestkas connects on a base hit.

James Flahive delivers a pitch for PeoplesBank.

mound with two outs in the fourth inning. He allowed four runs on eight hits.

With two-outs in the bottom of the fifth, third baseman Cam McDonald drew a bases loaded walk cutting Peoples deficit to 10-2.

After scoring another run in the sixth, Peoples catcher Pete Hogan knocked home two runs with two outs in the seventh.

The home team couldn’t get any closer than five runs, as Feltovic ended the game

with a ground-ball out.

Fueled by a complete game performance from Monson’s Trey Yesu, St. Joe’s posted an 8-5 home victory in last Friday’s contest against the Bankers.

Yesu, who was the ace of the Bridgewater State University pitching staff the past couple of years,

allowed five runs on 12 hits with eight strikeouts and just one walk. He threw 108 pitches.

The two rivals are scheduled to face each other again in a make-up game before the end of the regular season.



\$12.50 Each

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Kevin M. Blackmer Sr.

WARE – Kevin M. Blackmer Sr. of Ware passed away on Friday, July 3, 2026.

Kevin was born in Ware to the late Raymond and Florence (Allard) Blackmer and grew up in Gilbertville. He graduated from Quabbin Regional High School, class of 1983.

He worked at W.E. Wrights in Warren, Hardwick Kiln in Gilbertville, and various types of construction or handyman work in the area. Metal scrapping with his long-time partner, Rebecca Grout of Ware was a favorite pastime.

Watching baseball in the spring, and football in the fall was important.



Helping was in his nature. He could often be found doing landscaping at his sister's. Then he would relax on the porch and watch each light-up lawn ornament, that he most likely gifted her, illuminate until they all lit at night.

Celebrating each holiday with decorative lights was a passion of his.

Big Boy, his beloved cat, is going to miss sitting at the slider with him watching birds at the feeders together.

He leaves behind his son Kevin M. Blackmer, Jr. of Ash Fork, Arizona; and his three siblings Kenneth C. Blackmer and wife Diane of La Vergne, Tennessee, sister Karen A. Hughes and

partner Kevin G. Pelletier of Ware, and brother Keith J. Blackmer and wife Shannan of Barre. He leaves his nephews Christopher C. Hughes and wife Jackie of South Hadley, Justin R. Blackmer of South Barre, Joseph K. Blackmer of Barre, and John Blackmer, as well as his niece Laurie Blackmer and partner Robert Rice and her son Jeremy McDonald of La Vergne, Tennessee. Kevin also leaves behind his friends Mickey, Stevie and Mike. Besides his parents, he is also predeceased by his sister Kelley M. Blackmer, and niece Cheyenne N. Blackmer.

Charbonneau Funeral Home is honored to serve the Blackmer family, an online tribute page can be found at charbonneauhf.com.

Bertha A. Harroun, 81

WARE – Bertha Ann (Waz) Harroun, age 81

passed away on Friday, July 10, 2026. Bertha was born in Ware on Dec. 10, 1944, daughter of the late Joseph J. Waz Sr. and Rita (Chevette) Waz.

She was employed alongside her daughter as office cleaners for Rehabilitation of Western New England.

Bertha was a loving and caring mother; she was her



daughter Linda's best friend. Bertha and Linda were everything to each other. Together they loved shopping and going out to eat.

She will be forever loved and deeply missed.

Bertha leaves behind her loving daughter, Linda Harroun, her brother James Waz and sister Janice Beffrey. Sadly, Bertha was predeceased by her beloved husband, Harvey Willis Harroun in 2019 and

her brother, Joseph J. Waz Jr. in 2001.

A Chapel Service will take place on Friday, July 17, 2026, at 10 a.m. in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Chapel in Agawam 1390 Main St., Agawam.

Cebula Funeral Home of Ware is directing the final arrangements. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

PIONEERS from page 9

3-0 setback against Seacoast United in the 2024 Eastern Conference semifinals.

Alfred Baafi, who completed his first season playing for the Pioneers, was a member of the Seacoast United squad, which wound up winning the National championship title, two years ago.

"We really wanted to beat our rivals in tonight's game," said Baafi, who led the Pioneers with four assists. "It was a great feeling after my Seacoast team beat them in the playoffs two years ago. I really enjoyed playing for the Pioneers this summer. My dream is to play for a professional soccer team."

One of the Pioneers veteran players is Santiago Blasco Gomez, who was the team captain.

"This is my third season playing for the Pioneers and I love this place," Gomez said. "We've made the playoffs the past two years, which was an amazing experience. It's disappointing not making it this year. I'm hoping to play here again next year."

Gomez, who's from Alborache, Spain, was a graduate student on the Bryant University men's soccer team a year ago.

The Pioneers, who finished their season with an 8-3-3 overall record, haven't beaten their archrivals from



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Alfred Baafi approaches the ball.

Burlington since a 1-0 road win on June 17, 2023.

Vermont Green, who are hosting the first two rounds of the playoffs this weekend, now holds a 4-3-2 edge in the series against the Western Mass. squad.

Vermont Green took the lead when Samson Kpardeh sent a pass from the left side into the box where Jeremy Fancou fired a shot into the right corner past Western

Mass. goalie Ben Alexander during the 24th minute of the opening half.

Fancou scored his second goal seven minutes later, which was assisted by Ryan Zellefrow.

The score was 2-0 at intermission.

Nine minutes into the second half, the Pioneers sliced their deficit in half following a corner kick goal.

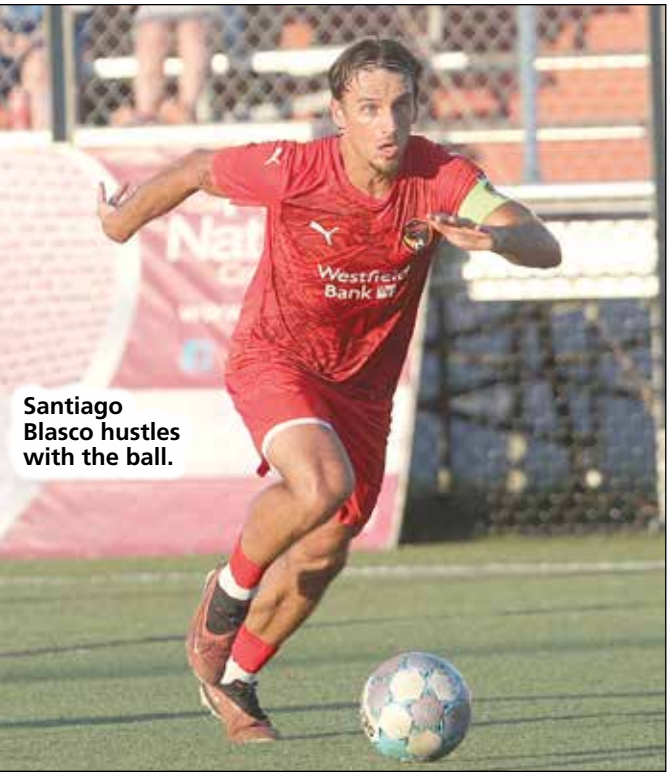
Ronan O'Brien booted the ball into the box from the left corner. After the ball was headed by Dylan Hunston, Riley Priddy put another header into the left corner past Vermont Green back-up goalie Seth Wilson.

During the 59th minute, Martin Echarren booted a free kick into the right corner tying the score at 2-2. It was also his team leading seventh goal of the season.

Vermont Green retook the lead following a goal by Kpardeh during the 74th minute.

Another goal by William Sawin during stoppage time sent the Vermont Green rowdy supporters into a frenzy.

The Pioneers will be looking to qualify for the league playoffs, and they'll also be looking to celebrate a victory against the Vermont Green during the summer of 2027.



Santiago Blasco hustles with the ball.

William O. Grushey, 86



WARE – William Owen Grushey, beloved husband,

to helping others.

In retirement, William father, brother, veteran, and friend, passed away peacefully on June 4, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of love, service, strength and unwavering devotion to his family.



William, "Buddy," was the son of the late William George Grushey and Sophia M. (Krenzolak) Grushey.

Born and raised in Ware, he graduated from Ware High School before proudly enlisting in the United States Navy. He served aboard the USS Forrestal until his honorable discharge in 1962.

William was the cherished husband of Barbara Ann (Dunbar) Grushey and the heart of the family they built together. Their 52-year marriage was one of enduring love, mutual respect, and countless treasured memories until Barbara's passing in 2021.

Following his military service, William began a distinguished career in law enforcement. He served as a police officer with the Ware Police Department before attending Springfield Technical Community College.

He later joined the Metropolitan District Commission and ultimately served as a Massachusetts State Trooper with the Massachusetts State Police. Whether serving his community or caring for his family, William was known for his integrity, courage, and steadfast commitment

embraced his lifelong love of the outdoors. An avid sportsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he and Barbara treasured their vacations in Maine. His greatest joy, however,

was tending the lush garden of colorful flowers at their summer home in Dennisport on Cape Cod.

William will be deeply missed by his three sons: James Christopher Grushey of Ware; Jarret Jay Grushey and LeighAnn of Ware; and Justin Parker Grushey and his wife, Rachel, of Hyannis. As "Grampy," he will be lovingly remembered by his five grandchildren: Brooke, Cam, Paige, Quinn and Deacon.

He is also survived by his two sisters, Heather Grigas of Belchertown and Gwen Mitus of Gilbertville. His memory will be cherished by his brother-in-law, Donald Dunbar and his wife, Maryann, along with his many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

William's kindness, quiet strength, and unwavering dedication to his family and community will be remembered always. His life was defined by service, compassion, and a deep appreciation for the people and places he loved.

A memorial service and burial are currently being planned. Details will be announced and shared with family and friends in the near future.

Death notices

Blackmer Sr., Kevin M.
Died July 3, 2026

Grushey, William Owen
Died June 4, 2026

Harroun, Bertha A. (Waz)
Died July 10, 2026
Services July 17, 2026

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 (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

WPS offers Summer Food Program through July 31

WARE – Ware Public Schools is committed to providing our students nutritious food.

Free meals for youth ages 18 and under will be offered Monday through Friday, July 1-31 at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School for congregate eating and at

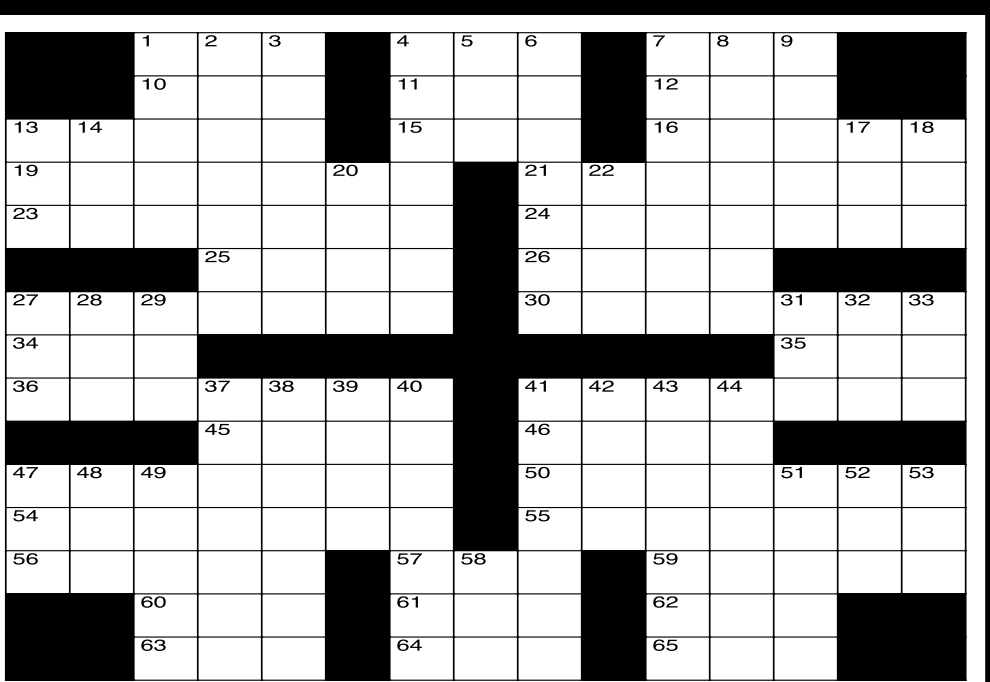
the Municipal Parking Lot on Pleasant Street for to-go.

Breakfast will be served from 8-9 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at SMK. Lunch will be distributed from the Pleasant Street parking lot from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

No meals will be served

on July 3. Dates and times are subject to change. No registration or ID is required.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Food Service Department at 413-967-5977. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Tire pressure measurement
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007's creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 13. Cloths spread over a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. We all take them
- 21. Earl's jurisdiction
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Rummy-like card game
- 25. Affected by injury
- 26. Member of a Semitic people
- 27. Withdrew from a union
- 30. Woman's cloak
- 34. Spanish river

35. Prohibit

- 36. Something you can take
- 41. Dish soap brand
- 45. Ottoman military commanders
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Makes somber
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. A tool to inject
- 55. Support
- 56. Informal term for money
- 57. Catch doing something wrong
- 59. Prehistoric people
- 60. Large African antelope
- 61. Vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. High resolution microscope
- 64. Pitching statistic
- 65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Indoor plant
- 2. Marketable
- 3. Rather
- 4. Collected
- 5. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- 6. Irish hip-hop trio
- 7. Ageless
- 8. Course requirements
- 9. Pokes at
- 13. TV channel
- 14. They ___
- 17. Cooking material
- 18. Investment account
- 20. Iron-containing compound
- 22. Swiss river
- 27. Small coin (French)
- 28. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Taxi
- 31. Helps little firms

32. Unhappy

- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Glowing
- 38. Item to be addressed
- 39. An informal body of friends
- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Neural structures
- 42. Brews
- 43. A place for ships
- 44. One who sings holiday songs
- 47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 48. Scottish town
- 49. The most worthless parts
- 51. Sticky
- 52. Put to work
- 53. Precursor to the EU
- 58. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)

2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

WARE WATER DEPARTMENT • Ware, Massachusetts • PWSID# 1309000

This report is a snapshot of the drinking water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your drinking water originates, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

Address: 4½ Church St., Ware, MA 01082 • Contact Person: Edgar Sykes, Chief Water Operator
Telephone #: 413-967-9620 • Email: dpwwater@townofware.com • Internet address: www.townofware.com

Water System Improvements

Our water system is routinely inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP inspects our system for its technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water to our customers. To ensure that we provide the highest quality of water available, your water system is operated by Massachusetts certified operators who oversee the routine operation of our system.

Opportunities for Public Participation

If you would like to participate in discussions regarding your water quality, you may attend the regularly scheduled Select Board meetings for information. The meeting dates are posted on the Town’s website.

YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

Your water is provided by the following sources listed below: The Town of Ware is served by six (6) groundwater supplies at two (2) source locations. The Barnes Street source consists of four (4) gravel-packed wells that discharge into a large diameter cistern constructed in the 1890’s. The cistern is also an active source of water supply. The Barnes Street wells are located in the central section of the distribution system along Muddy Brook. Well #5 consists of a single gravel-packed well located off Gilbertville Road, near the northeastern border of Ware and the Town of Hardwick.

Source Name	MassDEP Source ID#	Source Type	Location of Source
Well, #'s 1 thru 4	130900-01G, 02G, and 04G	Groundwater	Barnes Street Wellfield
Well, #5	1309000-03G	Groundwater	Gilbertville Road

Is My Water Treated?

The Ware Water Department makes every effort to provide you with safe and pure drinking water. To improve the quality of the water delivered to every customer, Potassium Hydroxide is added to the water to adjust the water to a non- corrosive pH above 7.0. This makes the water neutral or slightly alkaline. Testing throughout the water system has shown that this treatment has been effective at reducing residual lead and copper concentrations. The Ware Water Department uses Sodium Hypochlorite (Chlorine) as its disinfectant. Disinfection with chlorine has been proven effective at ensuring that water is free of harmful organisms and is safe to drink. Our water system makes every effort to provide you with safe and pure drinking water. The water quality of our system is monitored by our licensed operators and MassDEP to determine if further treatment may be required. Water quality testing results show that the well water needs to be treated to continue to meet MassDEP goals. To improve the quality of the water, our system is working towards installing treatment facilities to remove iron and manganese. The Water Department is exploring funding sources for an economical solution to proceed with construction of these improvements.

How Are These Sources Protected?

While the Ware Water Department’s source susceptibility ranking is listed as High the Town has adopted protective bylaws and purchased properties that have been identified as risks. MassDEP has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the water supply source(s) serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies.

What is My System’s Ranking?

A susceptibility ranking of high has been assigned to the system using the information collected during the assessment by MassDEP.

Where Can I See The SWAP Report?

The complete SWAP report is available at the Water Department Office and online at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/the-source-water-assessment-protection-swap-program>. For more information, call the DPW Water Office, 413-967-9620.

What Are the Key Issues For Our Water Supply?

The SWAP Report notes the key issues of fertilizers, pesticides, underground storage tanks, and the transportation corridors runoff, for the water supply protection area for Wells #'s 1,2,3, 4, 5 and the Cistern. The report commends our water system on taking an active role in promoting source protection measures through the adoption of protective bylaws, protective inspections, and knowledge of the Zone II protection areas.

What Can Be Done To Improve Protection?

- The SWAP report recommends:
- Extension of Sanitary Sewer Lines within the source water protection areas.
 - Develop and implement a wellhead protection plan,

Our public water system plans to address the protection recommendations by:

- Updating the Wastewater Treatment Plant to be able to accept additional areas of the service area.
- Updating the wellhead protection plan

Residents can help protect sources by:

- Practicing good septic system maintenance
- Supporting water supply protection initiatives at the next town meeting
- Taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days
- Contacting the Water Dept. or Board of Health to volunteer for monitoring or education outreach to schools
- Limiting pesticide and fertilizer use, etc.

SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants - such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants - such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides - which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants - including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants - which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Ware Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) –The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) –The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level (AL) –The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

90th Percentile – Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) – These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

Unregulated Contaminants – Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSg) – This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Running Annual Average (RAA) – The average of four (4) consecutive quarterly data.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) below which there is no known expected risk to health.

MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ppm	= parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	= parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	= parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
pCi/l	= picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	= Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ND	= Not Detected
N/A	= Not Applicable
mrem/year	= milliremms per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

What Does This Data Represent?

The water quality information presented in the table is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown was collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table.

NOT REQUIRED IN 2025	Last Date(s) Collected	90 TH percentile	Action Level	MCLG	# of sites sampled	# of sites above Action Level	Possible Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	8/23/2023-8/25/2023	4.1	15	0	20	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	8/23/2023-8/25/2023	0.176	1.3	1.3	20	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRD L	MCLG or MRDL G	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants (Not Required In 2025) Included As Date Of Last Test							
ANTIMONY	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.006	0.006	N	Discharge of petroleum refineries
ARSENIC	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.010	0.010	N	Erosion from natural deposits
BARIUM	11/28/2023	0.037	0.026-0.037	2	2	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
BERYLLIUM	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.004	0.004	N	Discharge from metal refineries; electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
CADIUM	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.005	0.005	N	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries
CHROMIUM	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.10	0.10	N	Discharge from Steel & pulp mills; natural deposits
CYANIDE	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.2	0.2	N	Discharge from steel & metal factories; plastic & fertilizer factories
FLUORIDE	11/28/2023	ND	ND	4.0	4.0	N	Water additive that promotes strong teeth; erosion from natural deposits
MERCURY	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.002	0.002	N	Erosion from natural deposits; Discharge from factories
NICKEL	11/28/2023	0.001	ND - 0.001	0.1	0.1	N	Discharge from steel & metal factories
SELENIUM	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.5	0.52	N	Discharge of petroleum refineries; natural deposits
THALLIUM	11/28/2023	ND	ND	0.002	0.002	N	Leaching from ore processing sites
NITRITE (ppm)	11/28/2023	ND	ND	1.0	1.0	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE (ppm)	11/5/2024	2.16	0.25-2.16	10	10	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRD L	MCLG or MRDL G	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
PFAS Contaminants							
PFAS6 ... (ppt) Barnes	7/30/2025	ND	ND	1.81	N/A	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials. Additional sources include the use and disposal of products containing these PFAS, such as fire-fighting foams.
PFAS6...(ppt) Dismal Swamp	3/24/2025	8.35		1.92	N/A	N	
NMEFOSAA; PFTA; NETFOSAA; PFUNA; PF3OUDS; PFHPA; PF3ONS; PFDOA; PFTRDA; ADONA; PFDA; HFPO- DA; PFNA ... (ppt)	3/24/2025 7/30/2025	ND	ND	20	N/A	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials.
PFHXS-	3/24/25 7/30/2025	2.69 1.29	1.29-2.69	10000	10000	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS
PFHXA -Dismal Swamp	3/24/25	0.372	ND-0.372	20	NA	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS, including production of moisture and oil resistant coatings on fabrics and other materials.
PFHXA – Barnes Street	7/17/24	ND					

PFOA (ppt) – Dismal Swamp	3/24/2025	1.06	1.06-1.57	4000	0	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS
PFOA – Barnes Street	7/30/2025	1.57					
PFOS (ppt) – Dismal Swamp	3/24/25	5.66	1.75-5.66	4000	0	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS
PFOS (ppt) - Barnes	7/30/25	1.75					
PFBS (ppt) – Dismal Swamp	3/24/25	0.408	0.408-1.6	N/A	N/A	N	Discharges and emissions from industrial and manufacturing sources associated with the production or use of these PFAS
PFBS (ppt) – Barnes Street	7/30/25	1.6					

2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

WARE WATER DEPARTMENT • Ware, Massachusetts • PWSID# 1309000

Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Volatile Organic Contaminants	4/23/2025	ND	ND	N/A	N/A	N	Various; Runoff from herbicides; discharge from factories; leaching from soil; discharge from chemical producing factories

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Disinfectants and Disinfection By- Products							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) (ppb) Not required to test in 2025	8/8/2023	11.27	0.87-3.8	80	—	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS) (ppb) Not Required to test in 2025	8/8/2023	3.2	ND-3.2	60	—	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm) free, total,	Monthly	1.16	0.02-1.18	4	4	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Perchlorate	7/15/2025	ND	ND	0.050	NA	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Unregulated contaminants are those for which there are no established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist regulatory agencies in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Unregulated Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source
Perfluorobutanesulfonic ¹ Acid (PFBS) -	7/17/2024	2.82	2.82	N/A	N/A	Manmade chemical; used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
Sodium (ppm) – (Not required to test in 2024)	11/28/2023	18.5-33.5	26.0	N/A	20	Discharge from the use and improper storage of sodium containing de-icing compounds or in water-softening agents

Secondary Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source
Iron - Sample Site 10010 (mg/l)	3/24/2025	0.609	0.587	0.3	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
	4/23/2025	0.585				
	7/23/2025	0.566				
Iron - Sample Site 10011 (mg/l)	4/23/2025	0.317	0.317	0.3	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
Iron - Sample Site RW3 (mg/l)	3/24/2025	0.653	0.587	0.3	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
	4/23/2025	0.662				
	7/23/2025	0.618				
Iron - Sample Site RW6 (mg/l)	4/23/2025	0.338	0.338	0.3	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes

Secondary Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source
Manganese - Sample Site 10010 (mg/l)	3/24/2025	0.268	0.227	0.05	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
	4/23/2025	0.220				
	7/23/2025	0.194				
Manganese - Sample Site 10011 (mg/l)	4/23/2025	0.038	0.038	0.05	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
Manganese - Sample Site RW3 (mg/l)	3/24/2025	0.308	0.275	0.05	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
	4/23/2025	0.284				
	7/23/2025	0.233				
Manganese - Sample Site RW6 (mg/l)	4/23/2025	0.042	0.042	0.05	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes

* EPA has established a lifetime Health Advisory (HA) for manganese of 0.3 mg/L and an acute HA at 1.0 mg/L. (Add health language listed below if detect is over 300 ppb)

COMPLIANCE WITH DRINKING WATER REGS

Does My Drinking Water Meet Current Health Standards?

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. We are proud to report that last year your drinking water met all applicable health standards regulated by the state and federal government. Samples analyzed for Total Trihalomethanes (THM's) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA's) were taken at required dates and times in accordance with MassDEP's Sampling Plan. Analyses indicated our water quality was well within required parameters.

Health Effects Statements

Total Coliform: Coliform bacteria are naturally occurring bacteria present in the environment. They are used as an indicator if other potentially harmful bacteria may be present in drinking water. Ware Water is required to maintain a chlorine residual of 0.80 mg/l in the finished water that leaves the treatment plant on Pleasant Street. This level of disinfectant is maintained to insure safe drinking water is delivered to customers throughout the distribution system.

System Exempt from Meeting Certain Requirements

The Ware Water Department is not exempt from meeting any drinking water requirements set by the MassDEP or the USEPA.



View from Anderson Road Water Tank Ware, MA

Report is available at the following locations:

Ware Town Hall at 126 Main St. • Ware Post Office at 165 West St. • Ware Public Library at 37 Main St.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATON

Do I Need To Be Concerned about Certain Contaminants Detected in My Water?

Ware's drinking water contains concentrations of Manganese and Iron. Manganese is a naturally occurring mineral found in rocks, soil and groundwater, and surface water. Manganese is necessary for proper nutrition and is part of a healthy diet but can have undesirable effects on certain sensitive populations at elevated concentrations. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and MassDEP have set an aesthetics-based Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) for manganese of 50 ug/l (micrograms per liter), or 50 parts per billion. In addition, EPA and MassDEP have also established public health advisory levels for Iron and Manganese. **Drinking water may naturally have manganese and, when concentrations are greater than 50 µg/l. When concentrations exceed these recommended levels, the drinking water may be discolored and taste bad. Over a lifetime, EPA recommends that people drink water with manganese levels less than 300 µg/l. Over the short term, EPA recommends that people limit their consumption of water with levels over 1000 µg/l, primarily due to concerns about possible neurological effects. Children up to 1 year of age should not be given water with manganese concentrations over 300 µg/l. Formula for infants should not be made with water with concentrations of Manganese of greater than 300 µg/l for longer than 10 days.**

See: https://search.epa.gov/epasearch/?querytext=manganese+in+drinking+water&areaname=&areacontacts=&areasearchurl=&typeofsearch=epa&result_template=&referer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epa.gov%2Fhome%2Fpage-not-found#/
Sodium sensitive individuals, such as those experiencing hypertension, kidney failure, or congestive heart failure, should be aware of the sodium levels where exposures are being carefully controlled.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

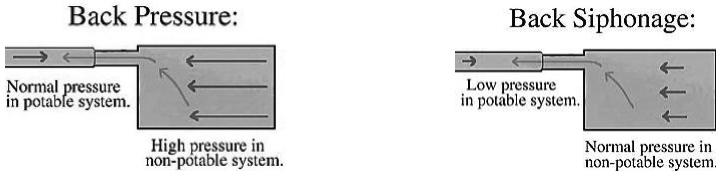
The Ware Water Department makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells from underground aquifers or withdrawal point from a surface water source, throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business? Is there still a need to protect the water quality from contamination caused by a cross-connection? If so, how?

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipment that allows the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids, or gases (hazardous to humans) in event of a backflow.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of water can occur when the pressure created by equipment or a system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (back pressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (back siphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of and a problem that each and every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent.



What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

Without the proper protection something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. In fact, over half of the country's cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses. There are very simple steps that you as a drinking water user can take to prevent such hazards, they are:

- NEVER submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains, or chemicals.
- NEVER attach a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker in any threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Buy appliances and equipment with backflow preventers.
- Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections.



If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial, or institutional facility you must have your property's plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection by your water purveyor. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection, contact the Ware Water Department to schedule a cross- connection survey.

WATER CONSERVATION

In an effort to conserve water and save money, the following is a list of things you can do:

Indoor Water Use

- Check toilets for leaks by adding food coloring to the Tank. If a toilet is leaking the color will appear in the bowl within 15 minutes.
- Inspect the overflow pipe in the toilet tank. The water level should be at least a half inch below the top of the pipe. Repair dripping faucets and showerheads. A drip rate of one drop per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water per year.
- Limit the length of your showers to 5 minutes or less.
- Stop running water while you are shaving or brushing your teeth. Don't use running water to thaw meat or frozen foods.
- Run the dishwasher only when it is fully loaded.
- Run your washing machine with full loads whenever possible.

Outdoor water Use

- Look for sprinklers that produce droplets, not mist, or use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation for trees and shrubs. Water early in the morning or late at night.
- Spread a layer of mulch around trees and plants.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways, decks, and sidewalks. Don't leave the water running while washing your car.

News

Hydrant flushing will be starting the night of July 6th and continue for as long as needed to address the needs of the town. It is expected to be an extended round of hydrant flushing due to the inability of the water department to flush during the fall as Church Street Tank was drained and undergoing maintenance. Information on the flushing program can be found on the Town's website: www.townofware.com, in the DPW section. The Ware Water department recently completed the cleaning and refurbishment of 3 of the 5 wells in town. This was done for a multitude of reasons, some of which include...

- **Improved water flow:** Removing mineral scale, sediment, biofilm, iron bacteria, or other buildup can restore the well's original yield and increase pumping efficiency.
- **Better water quality:** Cleaning can reduce discoloration, unpleasant tastes or odors, and bacterial growth associated with fouling. It may also improve the effectiveness of disinfection.
- **Extended well lifespan:** Refurbishment addresses wear and damage before they become major failures, helping the well remain productive for many more years.
- **Lower operating costs:** A clean well typically requires less energy to pump the same amount of water because there is less resistance to flow.
- **Reduced pump wear:** Pumps operating in clogged or sand-producing wells often work harder and wear out faster. Restoring the well can reduce strain on pumping equipment.
- **Avoided replacement costs:** Refurbishing an existing well is often substantially less expensive than drilling a new one, provided the well structure is still sound.
- **Improved reliability:** Regular maintenance reduces the likelihood of unexpected breakdowns and interruptions in water supply.

Starting in the Fall of 2025, the Ware Water Department started a full rehabilitation project on the water Storage Tanks located on Church Street and Anderson Road. Both tanks were drained, cleaned, treated, painted, and had mixers placed into them. The work being performed on the outside of the tank was being done to improve the structural and aesthetic quality of the tank as well as to update certain safety features on the ladder and gang plank above the tank. The mixers were added so that the town can continually move the water inside of the tank, hopefully eliminating some of the natural sediment build up that occurs over time in all water tanks. As of publication both tanks should be cleaned, treated, painted and back online and fully functional. The water department wishes to express its thanks to the citizens of the town for their patience for any inconveniences that may have been caused by the draining and filling of the tanks, and its continual gratitude for their support in trying to clean up the water.

The water meter replacement program will continue throughout 2026. There is no charge to the customer for the upgraded meter. The new style meters have the advantage of keeping a profile of your past water usage. This profile can help determine if there is a leak present in your house.

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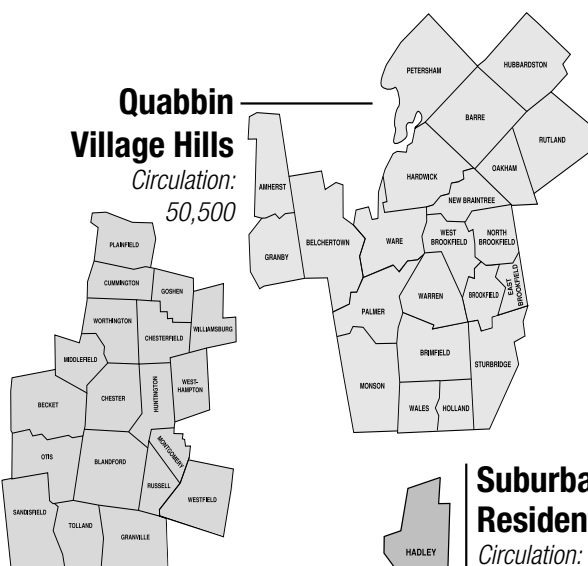
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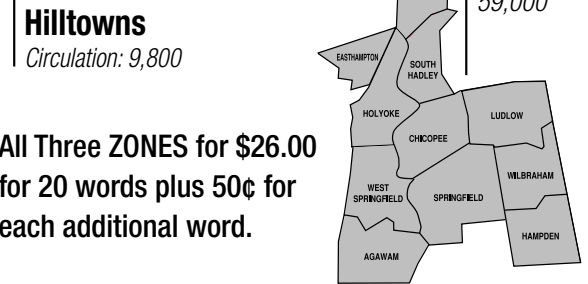
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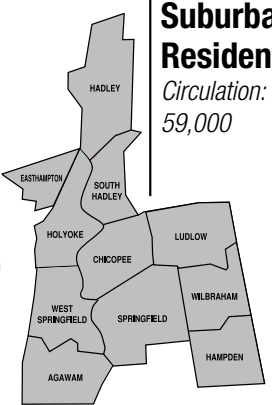
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RACES from page 10

with Marcotte leaving no room to race, making hard contact with the turn one wall to end his day. Back to green, McCarthy, Goff and Eddie Gomarlo ran nose-to-tail at the head of the field. The busy night for the Thompson Speedway wreckers continued on lap 13 with McCarthy and O’Sullivan piling into the turn three wall. Under green for the final time, Austin Goff would run away with the win followed by RJ Marcotte and rookie Milania Shilosky.

Dan Bowes took off at the start of the Twisted Tea 40 for the New England Supermodified Series with hopeful winner Jon McKennedy dropping out on lap five with mechanical issues. All the while, Jeffrey Battle began reeling in Bowes out front as Ben Seitz lay in wait back in third. Battle would finally nab the lead on lap 22 while Seitz and PJ Stergios went to war for third behind him. Stergios would win that

battle and one more against Bowes as the right-rear tire on the #25 was all but expired through the final fifteen circuits. Jeffrey Battle lambasted the field for the win with PJ Stergios coming home second and Dan Bowes holding on for third to round out the victory lane podium.

Ryan Lineham would bring out the lap one caution in the Street Stocks when a three-wide move in the first corner didn’t pan out. Back under green, Nick Anderson and Mike Viens showed the way up front with Jerrod Soucy and Al Stone III keeping the pressure on behind them. Soucy would make his way around to lead the halfway marker and never looked back for win number one on the season ahead of Lineham and Viens.

The Thompson Sunoco Modifieds rounded out Wednesday’s racing program under the leadership of Nathan Pytko and Derek Ramstrom at the head of each lane under the initial

green flag. Keith Rocco and Todd Owen made their way to the front by lap five just as contact between Bryan Narducci and Ramstrom sent the #35 into the turn one retaining wall. The remainder of the 50 lap feature saw Rocco and Owen wage their classic over-under battle for position before Owen finally began to drove away with fifteen laps remaining to take his first Sunoco Modified victory of the season. Keith Rocco came home second with Narducci coming back from his penalty for the lap five caution to claim third.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returns to Thompson Speedway on Wednesday, August 5 for the Thompson 150 presented by FloSports.com. The August midweek showdown at the Big-T will also feature the Thompson Sunoco Modifieds, Late Models, SK Light Modifieds, Street Stocks and Crown Vics with a 6:00pm Post Time. Event schedule will be released in the near future.

SEPTEMBER 2026

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public notices

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicles
under G.L. c. 255., Section 39A

Notice is hereby given by REGIN’S REPAIR 19 CHURCH ST GILBERTVILLE, MA 01031

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on **7/17/2026 at 10:00AM** at: Regin’s Repair 19 Church St Gilbertville, MA 01031 by private sale, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keepers lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.

Vehicle description:
2014 Chrysler Town & Country Registration/State: 6XWF19/MA VIN: 2C4RC1BG5ER343463 Name and address of owner: Denise Ziembra 408 Main St. Sturbridge, MA 01566

By: James M. Reglin
Dated: 6/24/2026
07/02, 07/09, 07/16/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No. 26 SM 002109 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Sultana Anton

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*)

Movement Mortgage, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in 5 A And B Mirabile Dr., Ware, MA 01082, given by Sultana Anton to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated October 5, 2020 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13804, Page 248, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property

on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at: **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **08/17/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 7/1/2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson,
Recorder
07/16/2026

TOWN OF WARREN LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 166, Section 22, a public hearing for consent to install 1 JO Pole on Southbridge Road Ext beginning at a point approximately 300 feet southeast of the centerline of the intersection of Southbridge Road Ext and Southbridge Road and continuing approximately 200 feet in a southwest direction; 1 new pole on Southbridge Road Ext: 2-25.

This hearing will be on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main Street, West Warren, MA 01092 at 6:00PM.

Prior to the hearing copies of the petition are available for viewing during normal business hours in the Selectmen’s Office.

Written testimony can be submitted to the Board of Se-

lectmen’s Office or emailed to selectmen@warren-ma.gov no later than 12:00 PM on Monday, July 20, 2026.

Richard Eichacker, Chair
Board of Selectmen
07/09, 07/16/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500
Docket No. HS25P0404EA
Estate of: Louise Mae Dickinson
Date of Death: 04/28/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Carol MacGillivray of Holland, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, **First and Final Account** and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection

at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/06/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 06, 2026

Mark S Ames
Register of Probate
07/16/2026

TOWN OF WARREN LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 166, Section 22, a public hearing for consent to install 2 JO Poles on Southbridge Road beginning at a point approximately 360 feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Webber Road and Southbridge Road and continuing approximately 400 feet in a north direction; 1 new Pole on Southbridge Road: 166 & 167-50.

This hearing will be on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at the Warren Senior Center, 2252

Main Street, West Warren, MA 01092 at 6:00PM.

Prior to the hearing copies of the petition are available for viewing during normal business hours in the Selectmen’s Office.

Written testimony can be submitted to the Board of Selectmen’s Office or emailed to selectmen@warren-ma.gov no later than 12:00 PM on Monday, July 20, 2026.

Richard Eichacker, Chair
Board of Selectmen
07/09, 07/16/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Division Docket No. HS26P0426EA
Estate of: David Paul Madigan
Also known as: David P. Madigan, David Madigan
Date of death: May 25, 2026
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kenneth R. Madigan of Chesterfield, MA.**

Kenneth R. Madigan of Chesterfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure

by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
07/16/2026

Storage Auction

The contents of Morgan Lamontagne will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 70 Boston Post Rd., Warren, MA on **July 25, 2026 at 9:00 AM.**

The contents of Crystal Croce, Amber Aguiar, Nicole Robinson, Zachary Freeman, Josiah Vega will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 167 West St., Ware, MA on **July 25, 2026 at 9:45am** and Kane Hardaker at **10:00am.**

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.
07/09, 07/16/2026

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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

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QUABBIN from page 1

extracted per day. Despite this, he said, there is little water access in Belchertown, as there is a mandatory water ban in the town. The only town in the state that receives water from the reservoir and currently has a water ban in place is Reading.

Saunders said the drought in Belchertown was enough to cancel sports because they could not irrigate the fields, and there are no facilities for workers in the New Salem police department to use.

Saunders said the Quabbin towns only get three tenths of a percent of the MWRA's budget, and the new funding per year does not even bring that funding up to four tenths of a percent.

He said the consideration to the towns is "criminally small," and used Belchertown as an example, saying the state has a value of \$3,800 per acre. The state pays each town a certain amount of money per undevelopable acres of land that are protected for the Quabbin, in a payment in lieu of taxes.

Saunders pulled out \$4,000 from his pocket to illustrate the worth, and said it is "time for wholesale change."

The second speaker was Smola, who represents the 1st Hampden District, which includes the town of Ware. He said if the Quabbin crumbles, the rest of eastern Massachusetts does as well.

He also brought up the

reduced levels at Gate 43 in Hardwick, and said the fishermen and hunters who utilize the Quabbin regularly are the best stewards of the land. He said this in response to attempts to reduce access to the land.

The third leader to speak was Durant, who represents the Worcester and Hampshire District, including the towns of Barre, Hardwick, Phillipston and Ware. He said the residents of the Quabbin towns feel slighted, but are passionate about the environment, as he said it is a resource here.

Durant also criticized the proposed battery energy storage system in Oakham, calling it a "horrible idea."

The fourth speech was from Comerford, who represents the Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester District, including the towns of Athol, Orange, New Salem, Pelham, Petersham, Shutesbury and Wendell. She said no towns should face a disproportionate burden of cost, but each of the Quabbin towns are receiving just three cents per day, on average.

Comerford said the proposed legislation is not an attempt to tax eastern Massachusetts, but for the MWRA to tap into their billion dollar budget. She said there should be a seat from the Quabbin on the board and the trust fund should be implemented.

Comerford also spoke of PFAS being found in the water of Swift Elementary School and insufficient water to fight a fire in Wendell.



Secretary Rebecca Tepper of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and chair of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's board of directors, spoke during a meeting held at the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center in Belchertown on July 10.

Many leaders from local Quabbin towns also spoke at the meeting, with many of them raising concerns about the amount of undevelopable land and the financial impacts to the towns because of the insufficient funding for that land.

One speaker was Richard Stevens, a member of the Barre Select Board, who said they are seeking equitable funds, and said there is a well water crisis in the town. Lesa Lessard Pearson of the Belchertown Select Board asked the MWRA to uphold their commitment to the towns, and said their economies are connected. She said there are thousands of acres of land that cannot contribute to it.

William Zinni, a member of Hardwick's Conservation Commission, said the water is at risk over time due to development needs to make money for the town. He said there are 5,800 acres of Quabbin land in the town, and the town receives just \$33 per acre.

William Tinker of the Hardwick Select Board said there are services gone in town due to the costs of protecting the water. Tinker said the town was offered \$2 million per year for a landfill, but the town declined to continue protecting the land.

Stuart Beckley, the town manager of Ware said the town provides control burn services for the state, and the water quality in the town is



Submitted Photos

Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley talked about the town's water quality.

poor, with brown water being drink, but people don't want common. He said it is safe to to.

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