

WARE RIVER NEWS



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ArtWorks opens 'Flower Power' show

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St., hosted an opening reception for its show “Flower Power” this past Saturday, featuring the work of many different artists and their blossoming creations.

Mediums ranged from pen and ink, markers, pastels, watercolors, acrylics, sculpture and photography.

The gallery was filled with a rainbow display of different kinds of beautiful flowers and plants.

Debra Courage’s piece was done with hard pastel, and her work was created with several squares arranged to complete the picture of beautiful pink and white flowers.

“I like to build the picture,” she said. “It’s like a puzzle.”

Her unique art style and realism within her work was stunning to look at.

Ryan Killoran displayed his skills in photography with a stunning photo of a close-up of a black and white flower with a purple background.

The picture itself shows balance and the pink hues are a nod to his favorite color; pink. He loves to express himself with differently colored hair, and chose pink as his color of choice for the reception.

Brian McQuillan had a stunning sculpture of metal work made of found objects and metal pieces he found at thrift stores and flea markets.

“It’s fun because a lot of people will try to name what each of the pieces is from,” Brian said. “I get to make my dream.”



Debra Courage and her stunning artwork.



Elizabeth Killoran Bowles and her still life of her St. Patrick’s Day dinner décor.



Brian McQuillan and his mesmerizing sculpture of metal and glass.

Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Please see **SHOW**, page 7

Casella proposes reopening landfill

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Brian Oliver, vice-president of Casella, one of the largest landfill operators in the northeast, presented a project proposal to the Select Board to reopen and expand the old landfill on Patrill Hollow Road.

Oliver was joined by Tracy Markham, Casella’s environmental compliance officer Tuesday night, to present what he said was an “exciting” project to not only reopen the town’s landfill, but expand it by 38 acres onto adjacent David G. Roach & Sons gravel pit.

Oliver said Casella has been in existence for almost 50 years with a proven record of environmental sustainability.

Casella had previously proposed reopening the landfill years ago, Oliver said, but this project would be significantly smaller, totaling 48 acres. Of that, 10 acres overlay the old landfill.

Reopening and expanding the landfill could provide the town and the state some “much needed disposal capacity,” he said.

Oliver said the proposed landfill would accept 350,000 tons of municipal solid waste and construction and demolition waste a year.

Please see **CASELLA**, page 15

Proposed bill faces opposition from law enforcement and sportsmen

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – With some of the strictest gun laws and the lowest gun violence rates in the country, many residents are pushing back against a 140-page gun reform bill authored by state Rep. Michael

Day. In less than a week, over 600 people visited Nenameseck Sportsmen’s Club to sign letters petitioning against the bill, which Club President Calvin Cieslak said, “tramples on the rights” of the commonwealth’s citizens.

On Sunday alone, 510 people took part in the Club’s letter sign-

ing day, which was also Cieslak’s birthday. The Club drafted three different letters and allowed people to choose the one that suited them best, to then sign and send to legislators to voice their opposition to the bill.

“Once people hear what’s going on, they want to be involved,” Cieslak said. “A lot of people that

don’t usually take a stance.”

This includes current and past gun owners, but also nonowners, from all political, social and economic backgrounds, Cieslak said. But all with the same goal; to fight for their basic Constitutional rights.

“It’s pretty scary, not just for gun owners,” Cieslak said. “There’s been so little information about this

bill [HD.4420], they’re trying to steamroll it through.”

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, Speaker of the House Ron Mariano held closed door meetings to brief House members about the bill.

Being called “The Lawful Citizens Imprisonment Act” by Second Amendment supporters,

HD.4420 has many questioning if a less-armed society, is actually a safer society.

According to a breakdown of the bill supplied by the Gun Owners Action League, HD.4420 proposes the following changes to the commonwealth’s gun laws, including instituting a new, broad “Assault

Please see **BILL**, page 7

Improvements made to police station after review

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Town Administrator James Ferrera said the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development inspected the Town Hall and Police Station back in May.

On June 26, EOLWD sent a letter to the town listing orders of corrections for the building.

“We have been diligently working on those matters since that inspection,” Ferrera said at the July 13 meeting.

Some of the corrections needed included wiring illuminated exit signs over the doors.

He said an electrician came in

and the signs are now in working condition and inspected by Fire Services Group. Ferrera said Fire Services Group will also inspect the signs and the fire alarm system on an annual basis going forward.

The electrician also addressed another corrective order, which involved there being too many plugs and a lack of receptacles. Ferrera said they were able to eliminate the use of surge protectors and can plug directly into outlets.

The door into the new conference room was also replaced, even though it wasn’t noted in the report as a corrective action.

Please see **WARREN BOS**, page 13



NATIONAL
Teddy
Bear Day
CELEBRATED

Turley Photo
by Emily-Rose
Pappas

Riley Donahue is shown with her two Teddy bears and the Teddy bear she adopted for her brother.

See story and more photos on Page 8.

‘Rock the Park’ fundraiser returns to Grenville Park

Workshop13’s annual music and arts festival celebrates third year

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Months of preparations will soon pay off, as Workshop13 gets ready to celebrate a historic moment in music history, all while raising funds to continue supporting local arts.

“Rock the Park” Music & Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, July 29 from 1-10 p.m. at Grenville Park, 73 Church St.

Executive Director Marie Lauderdale said this date is also the 50th anniversary of the historic event at Watkins Glen which featured The Band, The Grateful Dead and The Allman Brothers, known as The Summer Jam.

This event held the Guinness Book of World Records entry for “largest audience at a pop festival,” with an estimated 600,000 people attending the one-day concert.

“It was the largest single day music gathering in history, bigger than Woodstock,” Lauderdale said.

After the significance of this date was brought up by one of Workshop13’s event organizers, the crew of volunteers knew they needed to pay homage to it.

Please see **EVENTS**, page 5

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**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 \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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 2003 showed Cameron Valle, front, and Michael Feltner with Springfield Spirit basketball player Kara Walters. The professional women's basketball player demonstrated defensive strategy during a basketball clinic in Ware.

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

Ware Senior Center news

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Monday, July 24

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, July 25

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, July 26

9 a.m. Tai-Chi
10 a.m. Scat
10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger-Quabbin Regional DPH Nurse

Thursday, July 27

9 a.m. New Senior Spring Walk
Meet at Senior Center and wear comfortable footwear. Bringing water, sunscreen, bug spray and energy snack are suggested.

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for

Beginners

10 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
2:30 p.m. Art Class
Friday, July 28
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Chair Yoga
1:30-3:30 p.m. Chair Massage (available by appointment only, call 413-967-9645; \$5 for 10 minutes)
6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN

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

Monday, July 24

Pork Stir Fry over Rice. Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, July 25

Turkey Waldorf, Sandwich with Apples, Raisins, Lettuce and Celery, Potato Chips, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, July 26

Meat Lasagna with Hamburg and Pepperoni, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, July 27

Chicken Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Friday, July 28

Baked Ziti, Green and Gold Salad, Dessert of the Day

Farmer's Market offers the best of Hardwick Sundays on the Common

By Ryan Drago
Correspondent

HARDWICK – From the middle of June until the end of October, the town common of Hardwick hosts the annual Farmer's Market.

During the times of 11 a.m.-2 p.m. every Sunday during this time of year, the common is filled with many vendors offering their various goods to the community. Many items at the farmer's market include organic foods, baked goods, cheese, arts and crafts, flowers, herbs, vegetables, honey, jams, maple, meats and plants.

The common brings a beautiful site along with the Town House and the Hardwick Historical Society just walking distance from the usual farmer's market spot.

However, the town of Hardwick can still encounter the unpredictable New England weather. On July 16, Hardwick encountered winds and occasional heavy rainfall all afternoon.

Due to the poor weather, some regular vendors postponed their plans to set up at the common. But despite the wet conditions, some vendors remained on the common to accommodate the customers in attendance.

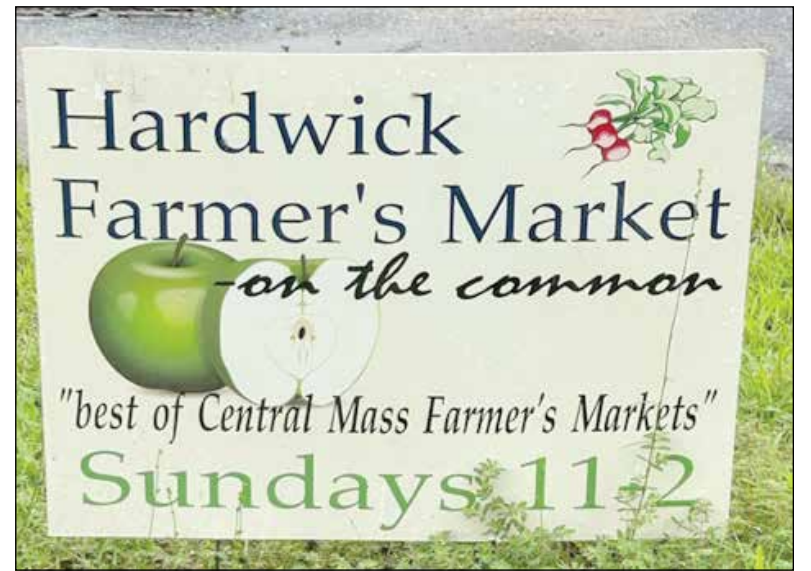
One of the vendors was West Hardwick Blueberries.

This local blueberry patch is owned by Elizabeth Cyran. Her dedication to her business and the community gets her picking berries and making delicious jams.

Cyran noted she also offers peaches and peach jam at her farm. With jams and quarts of blueberries offered at her stand, Cyran appreciates the small-town atmosphere Hardwick has and acknowledges its uniqueness during the season of the Farmer's Market.

"There's a lot of very smart, talented, and artistic people that Hardwick has to offer," said Cyran. "It is the prettiest town common in New England," Cyran claims passionately.

Cyran is also a member of the Hardwick Historical Society and is excited to share that she



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

The Farmer's Market is held on the Hardwick Common on Sundays from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine, June through October.

is part of the planning for Hardwick's upcoming Community Fair in August. In that time, the fair will be offering corn on the cob, cooked corn on the cob as well.

Another vendor offering baked goods is 15-year-old entrepreneur, Mason Pelletier-Biggs. This student of Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter School offers homemade baked goods such as breads, bagels, and croissants.

For the past year, Pelletier-Biggs has dedicated his work and passion for baking into forming his own business, Mason's Creations and Specialty Baked Goods.

Local to Hardwick, Pelletier-Biggs is thankful to have the town's Farmer's Market to offer his baked goods to the community. Intending to return to the Farmer's Market regularly, Pelletier-Biggs loves the support of the community and the support of fellow vendors.

Pelletier-Biggs plans to study business when he goes to college and continue his passion for baking. Mason's Creations can be reached by calling 413-324-3457 and some of his baked goods are listed on his website, masonscreations.net.

Another vendor at the Farmer's

Market is Stillman's Farm. A family-owned farm out of New Braintree has been going to Hardwick Farmer's Market for about 20 years.

Representing the farm at their booth was Reid Stillman, Kirsten Stillman and Faith Stillman. The Stillman family farm is a grower and purveyor of fine produce and plants.

"We grow almost everything from berries, fruits, veggies, corns, peppers," said Reid.

The Stillman's Farm booth was filled with plenty of their produce and plenty to go around for the season. Like the other vendors in attendance, the Stillman family are grateful to be a part of the town's Farmer's Market and wish to support the community anyway they can.

"This is an effort to grow the community and offer local products, crafts, and services... these small-town communities are important for us to put in our efforts," said Reid.

Stillman's Farm is located at 1205 Barre Road, New Braintree. They can be contacted by calling 508-867-7193 or emailing stillmans@verizon.net.



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

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Glenda's

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Friday & Saturday Nights ~ 8pm-11pm
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QCB presents 'Scenes From The Movies' July 23

BARRE – This Sunday, July 23 at 6 p.m., the Quabbin Community Band will be featuring band arrangements highlighting themes from famous movies.

Thanks to donations from our supporters the Band has invested in a few contemporary arrangements; "Selections from UP", "Captain Marvel MAIN THEME" and "The Mandalorian". They will also perform favorites such as, "Back To The Future", "John Williams In Concert", and "Jurassic World".

In recognition of the Band's 50th anniversary they're bringing back, "Great Themes from Great Italian Movies" in a nod to one of the most notable paisanos (fellow Italian American) to play in the Band over the past 50 years, trombonist Frank "Mimo" Valente.

Frank lived to be 99 years old, passing peacefully in June of 2016. Frank was one of the "old timers" who played in the Gilbertville Band before it

became the Quabbin Community Band, and for many years led his own big band swing group.

During the 1970s Mimo connected with many of the then high school students who became the next regulars in his jazz band, which QCB director John Hansen insisted on featuring as part of the Quabbin Community Band Summer Concert Series, giving them their own concert on the Bandstand at the end of the summer. This popular "jazz night" eventually became the current season-ending favorite, "Dixieland Night".

Frank taught his son Gary to play the trombone, putting Quabbin Regional "on the map" in the high school band world when Gary was the first student from Quabbin ever accepted into the McDonald's All-American Band (Martha Campbell from Hardwick, also a member of QCB, was selected the following year on piccolo).

Bring your lawn chair or blanket, the show starts at 6 p.m. In the case of inclement weather, concerts will move to the Barre Town Hall.

Margaret Reidy is the current musical director of QCB who encourages musicians of all ages to join the band at 6:30 p.m. each Monday night through Aug. 7 at the Barre Town Hall for weekly practice. Be sure to follow the Band on Facebook at Quabbin Community Band.

Submitted Photo
Frank "Mimo" Valente during rehearsal with the Quabbin Community Band, circa 1976



General store offers coffee, convenience and more

Old Furnace General Store

By Dallas Gagnon
 Staff Writer
 dgagnon@turley.com

HARDWICK – Old Furnace General Store of 1839 Lower Road is a one-stop general store, offering convenience to locals and travelers alike.

Customers can expect to find anything from bread, beer and lottery tickets to fresh baked, locally sourced pastries and custom blended Old Furnace General Store coffee.

"We believe we have the best coffee in town," said Owner Jeremy Nowicki.

Old Furnace General Store coffee blend is an air roasted coffee, ground fresh in-house to offer a "cleaner" flavor.

For those who want to enjoy a fresh cup of coffee and a little something to pair with it, Old Furnace General Store offers baked goods from local bakers such as Brynne's Bread and June's Bakeshop as well.

"We're all about supporting local...it's about taking care of each other," said Nowicki.

Additional local products offered at Old Furnace General Store include maple syrup from Richard Brodmerkle of Oakham, wine from Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, popcorn from Kettle and Pine, ice cream from Maple Valley and honey from Aunt Chrissy.

For those who are on the go, Old Furnace General Store also offers fresh deli sandwiches, salads and homemade breads.

Owner Amber Duval and Nowicki said the couple had wanted to run this type of business, years before they decided to open at 1839 Lower Road.

"We truly wanted something for the community," said Nowicki.

According to Nowicki, the building sat empty for nearly five



Shown is an outside view of the Old Furnace General Store.

Turley Photos by Dallas Gagnon



Shown are fresh, locally sourced, raspberry muffin.



Owners Amber Duval and Jeremy Nowicki are shown behind the counter of the Old Furnace General Store.

years before he and Duval wrote a "Dear Mister" letter to the previous owner.

Since closing on the property in 2021, Duval and Nowicki have invested countless hours into making their vision come to life.

"We built everything from scratch - from the shelves, to the counters, to the coffee stations," said Nowicki.

He added he and Duval cleaned the place from top to bottom and completed renovations using locally sourced lumber.

The company is now closing in on nearly six months in business.

"It's bringing something back,"

said Nowicki.

He added supporting local businesses is healthy and important.

"We're giving back to the community which is something unique in itself," said Nowicki.

Located near the Ware River, Old Furnace General Store also sells bait for those looking to fish.

Nowicki said the location and the local history influenced the owners' decision naming the business.

The business is located in a village of Harwick formally known as

"Furnace Village."

While several previous business owners used a different company name throughout changes in ownership, Duval and Nowicki said they wanted something they believed related closely to the community while also giving back something new.

To enjoy a cup of custom blend coffee, fresh pastries, lottery, spirits or ice cream, stop by Old Furnace General Store and support local business.

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community

Flower arranging with Sherry Johnson is July 27

HARDWICK – Enjoy flower arranging with Sherry Johnson on Thursday, July 27 at 7 p.m. at the Town House, 32 Common St. Registration is required for this program sponsored and supported by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library. This class may lead to your Hardwick Community Fair’s winning floral entry. The cost is \$5 to defray costs for the lesson, Oasis, and flowers. Bring floral/gardening shears/clippers, a low vessel in which to arrange flowers (low vessels can be borrowed that night if you do not have one), and flowers from your garden, if you wish. For more information or to register, visit the Library, call 413-477-6704, or email director. paigelibrary@gmail.com.

Lions and Rotary clubs present Big Band concert July 27

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Lions and Rotary clubs annual concert will take place at the Sturbridge Bandstand on Thursday, July 27 from 6-8 p.m. The Big Band Boston-based Abletones, playing music of Frank Sinatra, Tommy Dorsey and other bands of the Big Band era will bring back fond memories. Listen and feel free to dance on the grassy common to the beat and sound. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy.

Police officer honored for 21 years of service

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Select Board Chair H. Robert Ruggles recognized Officer Edward Pollock for his 21 years of service to the Police Department. “I work for the best department, probably in the state, under Chief [James] Ayotte,” Pollock said at Monday night’s meeting. He credited the Hardwick-New Braintree police officers for their professionalism. “Thank you all,” Pollock said. The Select Board presented Pollock with a commendation for his achievements.

Police Chief’s contract
Ayotte said there are three things in his contract that he would like the Select Board to consider changing. The first being having to report to the Select Board quarterly about what police details he works on in his time off. This includes weekends, nights and vacation time. Ayotte said another change he’d like to see, is that currently he’s only allowed to pick up police details outside of town on his time off. He asked the Select Board to amend the contract to include in town as well. Ayotte said this will help get him back in town more, as the police station is located in New Braintree. “People can stop talk to me... air their concerns a little easier,” he said. Another change he’d like to see in his contract is for additional administrative days. Ayotte said the union works a four on, two off schedule, which results in about 14 additional days off a year. He said the lieutenant negotiated for seven administrative days a year, but Ayotte was denied for the same request.

“I’m asking the Board to reconsider that,” he said. Vice-Chair Kelly Kemp said she doesn’t agree with allowing for in town police details and felt Ayotte’s contract, which was negotiated a year ago, was fair. Town Administrator Nicole Parker said Ayotte’s contract had more vacation time than the lieutenant’s, as well as other differences. Both Ruggles and Clerk Eric Vollheim didn’t think it was necessary to continue having Ayotte report his out-of-town police details on his days off. The Select Board agreed to remove the quarterly police detail reporting from the contract. Ruggles and Vollheim voted in favor of allowing for in town police detail coverage, with Kemp opposed. The Select Board will revisit Ayotte’s request for seven additional administrative days at a later date. Regional public health coalition Members of the Board of Health, Judith Kohn, Paul Mailhot and Patricia Tinker, attended the Select Board meeting to give an update on the regional agreement with the Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition. Kohn said Leicester had asked for a newly elected person on the Board of Health to engage with them, and the Board selected Ernest Warburton. Mailhot said the Board has been in communication with Leicester about their terms, and they were supposed to receive a contract from Leicester to review, but did not. He expressed concern about communication between Leicester and the Board. “Nothing’s coming through us, it seems to be going through other departments before we even know about it,” he said. Please see **HONORED**, page 12

Town receives proposal for water/wastewater acquisition

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Town Manager Stuart Beckley presented the results of a request for proposal for the acquisition of water and wastewater assets, issued by the town earlier in the spring. “We did receive one proposal,” Beckley said, by the July 13 deadline. He said there are eight criteria by which the proposal will be judged. “We’re looking at engaging a consultant to assist the Board and go through the document and review, as well as raise questions the Board may want to ask of the applicant,” he said at the Tuesday night Selectboard meeting. Beckley said many questions were asked at a public forum held back in May, and another forum would be beneficial to explain the proposal. Selectboard member Keith Kruckas expressed concern with moving forward with this project, without a Town Planner in place. Further discussion will continue after the Selectboard reviews the RFP received. **ADA plan** The Selectboard heard the Americans with Disabilities Act transition plan as presented by Mike Kennedy of the Center for Living and Working and planner Jim Mazik. Beckley said Mazik has helped the town for many years, and both Mazik and Kennedy were hired together to conduct an evaluation and transition plan for the town’s ADA compliance and accessibility. Compliance concerns include doors that move too fast and are too heavy, obstructed sidewalks, access to auxiliary aids and services and accessible bathrooms in the elementary school. Sidewalks, driveway crossings,

utility poles and guy wires pose a challenge for wheelchair users and people with mobility issues. **Update from HR director** Human Resources Director Justine Caggiano presented a public records policy that has been reviewed by the town’s labor attorney. The Selectboard voted to accept the policy, with Keith Kruckas abstaining. Caggiano also announced that Aug. 11 is her last day working for the town. **Town Manager’s report** Beckley said National Night Out will be held Tuesday, Aug. 1 at Grenville Park, and the Selectboard’s regular meeting will be rescheduled to Aug. 8. Beckley updated the Selectboard about a proposal to reopen and expand a landfill in neighboring Hardwick along Muddy Brook, which is a source of Ware’s drinking water. “It’s something very worth paying attention to in terms of protecting our drinking water,” he said. Beckley said repairs are planned to the railroad crossing on South Street this weekend into Monday. He said there will be a lot of outreach to alert residents of detours, with such short notice. Accessibility improvements are underway at the new playground at Grenville Park, including applying for grants and adding ADA accessible parking. Beckley said Fire Chief Jim Martinez met with agencies to look at beaver impoundments on Coy Hill recently, and the water level was down from a couple of weeks ago. He said the town of Warren is facing similar issues with beavers. The Department of Public Works has been working on sidewalks, as well as fixing manholes at the end of Homestead Avenue. Beckley said the attorney is

going through paperwork and violation notices for 92-104 Main St. and will come up with a recommendation for the vacant buildings. The East Street bridge construction is expected to be completed within three weeks. **Special approvals** The Selectboard approved the following special event permits, the Domestic Violence Awareness Walk on Sunday, Oct. 15 from 1-3 p.m. at Veterans Park (or inside the Town Hall in case of rain), and Wreaths Across America on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Veteran and Ware resident Frank Bateman explained his reasons for bringing Wreaths Across America to town, recalling the first time he attended an event, and what a touching and moving experience it was. After hitting some walls, Bateman was able to bring this event to the town that he loves, where he is active in the veterans organizations, as well as Scoutmaster of Scouts BSA Troop 281. The Selectboard also approved a toll road permit to Graceful Swan, Inc. for the Ware Holiday Flair Committee on Aug. 5 and 6 from 8 a.m.-noon at North and Main streets. Rain dates for the toll booth fundraiser are Aug. 26 and 27. **Appointments** The Selectboard approved the following appointments, Kathleen Deschamps to Community Development Authority; Denise Blodgett to Community Development Authority; Shayne Pedercini to Agriculture and Youth committees and Community Development Authority; and Robert Krasnecky to Conservation Commission.

EVENT from page 1

“Three top-notch bands from across New England will represent these iconic groups: Professor Louie & The Crowmatix with Woodstock Horns, Bearly Dead and The Brothers Project,” Lauderdale said. “Rock the Park” will also include a cultural performance by Bomba De Aquí, an award-winning Afro-Puerto Rican Bomba group sponsored by the Ware Cultural Council. There will also be artists, vendors, local businesses for outreach, food trucks, beer garden and free children’s activities. Children can explore and create with clay, or make wire sculptures using wire donated to Workshop13 by Quabbin Wire & Cable Co., Inc.

“We wanted an area where kids could just drop in,” Lauderdale said, adding that the activities will be more open-ended this year. “It’s going to be a lot of fun.” Many local businesses have donated to help support the event, Lauderdale said, which helped Workshop13 reduce their ticket price to just \$10, if purchased at It’s Wine O’clock, Nat Falk, Hanna Devine’s, ArtWorks Gallery, Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, and B’leaf Wellness Centre (while supplies last). Tickets purchased online or at the event are \$15. As always, children aged 12 and under are admitted free. “Previously priced at \$20/\$25, we have now lowered the cost to \$10/\$15, making the event more

accessible to a wider audience. This price adjustment has been made possible by generous local sponsors who recognize and appreciate the value the arts bring to a community. We are overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our sponsors and happy to pass that on to festivalgoers. We are sincerely thankful to our sponsors for making this event possible,” she said. Sponsors include Country Bank, The Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation, Pioneer Valley Environmental, B’leaf Wellness Centre, Pennington Painting, Monson Savings Bank, Mass Cultural Council, Ware Cultural Council, The River 93.9, Valley’s Classic Hits, Superior Plus Energy, Cedarbrook Village, Quabbin Wire & Cable Co., Inc., Firesafe

Chimney Services, Dhillon Cosmetic Dentistry, Moulton Insurance Agency and Dioguardi Jewelers. Lauderdale also gave “very special thanks” to the Town of Ware, the Parks Department and the Ware Police Department for their continued support. The Ware Jr./Sr. High School Cheer Team will be in charge of VIP parking in Grenville Park, at a cost of \$5 per car. Proceeds from the VIP parking will help send the Cheer Team to summer cheer camp the week after “Rock the Park.” Parking will also be available for \$5 at the United Church of Ware’s parking lot. Free parking is available where permitted on streets, and in municipal parking lots.

Food and drink will be offered by Rustic Fusions Mobile Cafe, Holyoke Hummus Company, Pig Park BBQ, Batch Ice Cream, Wake the Dead Donuts, Kettle and Pine, Tree House Brewing Co. and Bay State Brewing Company. Ware’s Knights of Columbus will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers as well. There will also be 25 artisans and vendors selling their wares. Make sure to bring your reusable water bottle, as event sponsor Pioneer Valley Environmental created a water filtration system to tap into the Park’s water, providing clean (and free) hydration. Lauderdale said this water filtration system is something event organizers are excited about, as they encourage all of their vendors

to have a low environmental impact and use biodegradable products when possible. With the help of a giant band shelter secured through Michael’s Party Rentals, the festival will keep on rocking, even if the rain returns. Lauderdale said this is Workshop13’s biggest fundraiser of the year, ensuring that its three locations, including ArtWorks Gallery and ClayWorks Studio, can continue to foster arts and culture in the region. “We hope to just keep growing and expanding,” Lauderdale said. For more information about “Rock the Park” or Workshop13, visit workshop13.org or find them on social media.

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Discussion on gravel pits continues

By Ryan Drago
Correspondent

WARREN – The Planning Board continued discussions on special permits from their previous meeting back in June.

At the July 10 meeting, one of the continued discussions was the continuation of a special permit on Samek Properties LLC. The company is currently seeking a special permit to allow a 60 by 120-foot square building to house and maintain the necessary equipment for operation on a sand and gravel pit at 275 Brimfield Road.

As stated in the previous meeting, the Planning Board must be in a super majority to vote on special permits. A representative of Samek Properties was in attendance during the meeting and was seeking some clarification.

After a brief discussion prior to moving forward in the meeting, the Board made a motion to continue the public hearing on special permit for Samek Properties LLC to its next meeting on July 17.

The next topic for discussion

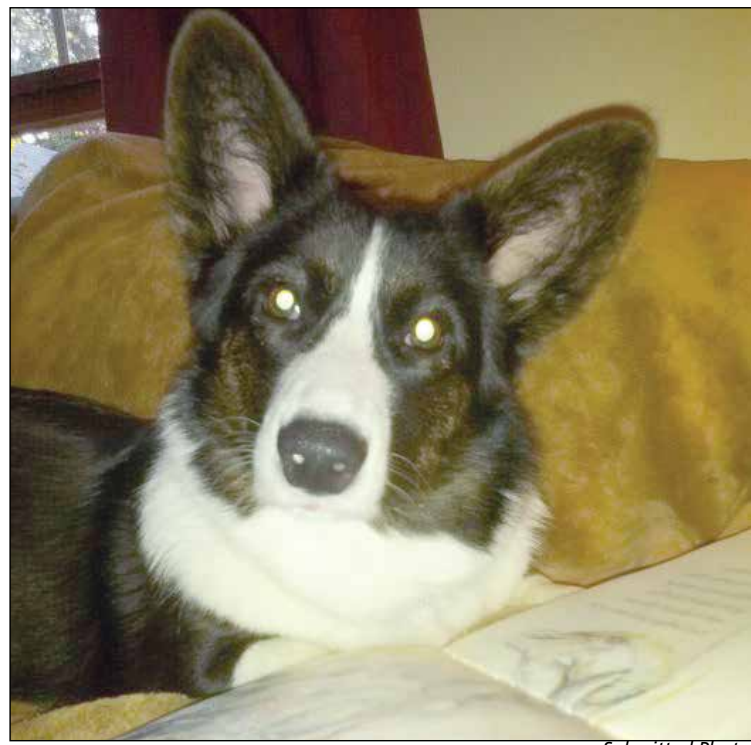
was another special permit related to releasing funds for a former gravel pit and an expired permit on 87 Spring St. An email was sent to the Planning Board indicating the party was not renewing the gravel pit.

Before moving forward, one member of the Board addressed certain actions to be taken first.

“He has to restore the property and revegetate it before it can be closed out and returned,” said David Dufresne, vice-chair of the Planning Board. In other words, before conclusion of work, the pit being worked on must be restored and properly seeded.

The Board suggested after this task was completed, the party would make an appointment with the building inspector, Brenda J. Church, to check the pit. If the property is seeded appropriately, then the Board will decide on closing out the discussion.

The board also suggested having Church take pictures of the property and send them with her report back to the Board for their observation, to ensure the pit had been seeded properly.



Submitted Photo
Keeva, a certified therapy dog, will join the Warren Public Library for story time on July 25.

Read with Keeva at Warren Public Library

WARREN – Join Keeva for a special Story time on Tuesday, July 25, at 11:30 a.m. at the Warren Public Library.

Keeva is a certified therapy dog with Bright Spot Therapy Dogs. She visits hospitals, libraries, day care centers, colleges, elementary schools.

Participants will read stories with Keeva and make a craft. They will also discuss therapy dog training and the various jobs they do.

Visit the library at 934 Main St., call 413-436-7690 or email warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com for more information.

International opera singer visits Paige Memorial Library

HARDWICK – International opera soprano Darlene Ann Dobisch, will share her love of music and teaching that she developed in Germany using stories, songs, and instruments on Tuesday, July 25 at 2:30 p.m. (older children) and Wednesday, July 26 at 11 a.m. (younger children) at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road.

Dobisch was born and raised in Wheelwright and studied voice at Clark University and the University of Michigan with Phyllis Curtin, Martha Sheil and Maria Ferrante. She moved

to Europe and received an Artist's Diploma with honors at the Luebeck Conservatory with Judith Beckmann and James Wagner.

Other fundamental musical impulses have come from Martin Katz, Ulf Bastlein, Charles Spencer, Shirley Verrett, and Seiji Ozawa. She won the Robert P. Manero Music Prize and received numerous scholarships to foster her career.

For more information or to register, visit the Library, call 413-477-6704, or email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com.

Grange Fair program books available

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair program books are now available.

Plan your exhibits by checking out the categories of exhibits in our program book. Books are available on the Grange website at waregrange.org.

To receive a book by mail, call 413-284-1135 or

email waregrange@comcast.net. Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts, and photography.

The Ware Grange Fair takes place in late August. Visit the website for schedule and details.

Quaboag Regional Middle High School lists honor roll

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School announced the fourth quarter honor roll for the 2022-2023 school year.

and Kandace Wilcox.

Grade 10, 3rd Honors

Casyn Carpenter, Emily Ford, Emily Hubbel and Cristyna Tambolico.

Grade Nine, 1st Honors

Madic Andreoli, Juliana Augusto, Kadin Dufault, Gianna Lindsey, William Lopes, Olive Moulton, Jacob Plante and Genevieve Regan.

Grade Nine, 2nd Honors

Emma Astrella, Madelyn Bagg, Jeffrey Bouchard, Shelby Bridges, Jacob Cacace, Gretchen Conn, Emma Dion, Brennan Doe, Serenitee Gagnon, Evangeline Iwaniec, Morgan Lakota, Jackson McGarry, Reece Miner, Kaitlyn Nault, Madeline Potvin, Jason Read, Gabrielle Riendeau, Makayla Savoie, Madison Sears, Grace Smart, Jack Stevens, Elijah Wilhelm and Kyle Withers.

Grade Nine, 3rd Honors

Jaylin Bailey, Rylie Barton, Isabelle Bellizzi, Isaac Cowher, Gabriela Feeney, Alison Jones, Mia Letendre, Brayden Lopato, Lilly Nimitz, Ava Ostrout, Caleb VanKlee and Camden Williams.

Grade Eight, 1st Honors

Jennifer Adams, Logan Baldwin, Cameron Bennett, Devlyn Bridges, Sierra Brote, Ava Cassavant, Hunter Dodson, Haylee Dumont, Brielle Gerulaitis, Josephine Hescoc, Lexi Kelly, Lucian Kerkow, Emma Landine, Lyndie Miller, Kasey Narov, Persephone Piermarini, Cadan Prinsen, Asher Sargent, Brea Sauriol, Hunter Sherman, Jasmine White, Gavin Williams and Connor Yurkunas.

Grade Eight, 2nd Honors

Riley Black, Kira Bouchard, Megan Clark, Grace Demars, Jade Fontaine, Scott Garrand, Cole Giroux, Amarie Martino, Patrick Needham, Olivia Petersen, Mallory Piazzo, Amber Sullivan and Brielle Sullivan.

Grade Eight, 3rd Honors

Riley Douglas, Eric McAnuff, Sophia Paolucci, Logan Schoff, Brooke Swistak and Kristian White.

Grade Seven, 1st Honors

Anthony Araujo, Violet Atwood, Jack Beall, Cadence Cieslak, Olivia Iwaniec, Alyssa Lussier, Bryann Lussier, Isabelle Manzano, Liliana McIsaac, Emma Nault, Emily Robidoux, Maeve Smith, Connor Snay, Caroline Stevens and Natalia Veliz-Baldizon.

Grade Seven, 2nd Honors

Maci Astrella, Mackenzie Bennett, Elizabeth Bennington, Andrew Boudreau, Harper Bradley, Yesenia Carrasco, Julie Chenier, Allie Choquette, Olivia Hebert, Austin Letourneau, Evelyn Lyon, Aydan Marsh, Victoria Paradis, Theodore Sexton and Logan Spring.

Grade Seven, 3rd Honors

Travis Bigda, Lincoln Brown, Riley Corder, Rolando Galvan, Brayden Jones, Woodman Moulton and Maggie Taro.



Submitted Photo
The Brookfields Rotary Club held their installation recently with Teresa McCarthy as president.

Brookfields Rotary Club holds installation

BROOKFIELD – The Brookfields Rotary Club brought in the start of the new rotary year with the installation of its incoming President Teresa McCarthy and her Officers Christine Gagne and Lynn Duffy O'Shea and Board of Directors on July 12 at White's Landing.

Officiating the evening was Assistant Governor Dave Zonia and Past President of the

Sturbridge Rotary Club Klaus Hachfeld. Assisting with the ceremony was Brookfields Rotary Club member and graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School Jake Rosen.

The Club looks forward to choosing projects for this year that will help in the seven towns it services. For more information about the Club, email rotaryclubofthebrookfields@gmail.com.

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Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Christina Gusek is shown with her two pieces (left and center) that feature a science fiction approach to plant life.



Ryan Killoran and his photography skills (bottom piece).

BILL from page 1

Weapons Ban," including firearms already owned by law-abiding citizens; banning all federally legally tax-stamped automatic firearms; gun bans on possessing any gun, loaded, or unloaded at all state, county, and municipal buildings, all polling places and any private property unless the owner has provided express consent or has posted signage allowing firearms on their property.

The bill also includes mandates for Safe Storage laws, as well as new training requirements including costly written exams and live fire training. It mandates registration of all guns and feeding devices, reporting of any modifications or new parts to a guns and serializing all firearm parts.

Anyone under age 21 would be prevented from acquiring or carrying any semi-automatic rifle or shotgun, and anyone under 15 could not take part in shooting sports and training.

For clubs like Nenameseck, the new age restrictions would eliminate their junior rifle teams, which have served as a skills and confidence building sport for teens, with safety at the forefront Cieslak said. It would also impact families that hunt together to supply food for their households.

One member of the Club's junior rifle team, ZuZu Demetrius, went on to shoot for the Olympic team and is now a recruit at the State Police Academy.

The bill also places new mandates, protocols, and training

requirements on retailers.

Cieslak said the Club will continue to accept letters, which are available on its website nenameseck.com. He's also put out a challenge to other sportsmen's clubs, to host similar events as this past Sunday's.

Nick's Sport Shop in Palmer has been offering opportunities to sign letters during business hours through Sunday, July 23; Bearded Arms in Chicopee will hold an event Saturday, July 22 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and North Brookfield Sportsmen's Club will hold a public event on Sunday, July 23 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Other clubs are still in the planning stages of organizing events.

Nenameseck Sportsmen's Club is preparing for another letter signing day in early August, but Cieslak encourages residents to reach out to the Club at any time, or visit their website or Facebook page.

Ware's Police Department has issued a statement opposing HD.4420 and encouraging residents to "do their research" regarding the bill and its impact on gunowners and whether it will reduce gun violence or not.

"There is no reason why enabling this new bill is needed," Chief Shawn Crevier said. "There's zero stats on legal, licensed gun owners committing violent crimes...that's zero."

Officer John Cacula said if enacted, the bill could have the opposite effect and increase the potential for mass shootings, especially within designated "gun-free

zones" as outlined in the bill.

"In attempting to cure the symptoms of gun violence, this bill does not address the root causes, such as mental health concerns, societal infrastructure, and lenient sentencing for repeat offenders," Cacula said. "It's like wearing a band-aid to heal a brain aneurysm."

The lack of enforcement of existing gun laws, is the other big part of the gun violence problem, Cacula and Crevier said.

"We have excellent gun laws here in Massachusetts," Crevier said. "But they're just not enforced...it would be asinine to add new ones."

Cacula urged residents to reach out to state representatives by contacting their offices through phone, email or mail; and have their voices heard.

"Remember that our form of government is a Constitutional Republic; and that the individuals we select to represent us are bound to follow the rules established in that Constitution, the heart of which is perpetually maintained and nurtured by the blood of heroes both living and dead," Cacula said.

Since this bill was proposed, Cacula said he's been approached by many residents, but especially veterans that all say the same thing: "this is not what I fought for."

Cieslak encouraged residents to keep reaching out to legislators, even if they've already signed a letter.

"We need to show these guys we're here, and we're not going away," he said.

Relay team ranks 15th at Nike Outdoor Nationals

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – Although student-athletes from Quabbin Regional High School have qualified for nationals six times, Jaxon Warburton, Seth Twarog, Bryce Venne and Will Hood hold the honor of being the first ever track relay team to qualify from the school.

Earlier this spring, the relay team qualified to compete at the Nike Outdoor Nationals held on Hayward Field at the University of Oregon in June, with a time four seconds faster than the 3:36 needed to qualify.

"The boys ran a 3:32.0 in the 4x400 at the state relays back in April," Coach Matt Castriotta said. "They finished second that day and crushed the school record by more than two seconds."

Castriotta has been coaching outdoor track for 20 years, and is joined by Coach Matt Twarog to head the Quabbin program.

The Quabbin Track Club was able to raise over \$5,000 through donations to a GoFundMe page, in order to spend four days on the west coast, representing the rural regional school amidst a field of larger, more competitive schools.

For recent Quabbin graduate Hood, this event marked a bittersweet end to his high school athletic career.

Hood, who also played baseball for the high school, said he's been pretty successful on the outdoor track team. He started in seventh grade, only missing his freshman year when sports ceased due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Until this track season, I hadn't lost a track meet," he said.

Sidelined with a hip flexor injury, Hood had to skip All-Stars, and was unable to train for nationals. He even had a physical therapist come to his house before flying to Oregon, just to make sure he was still able to safely compete.

"It was good to know that it would hurt, but I could do it," Hood said.

Hood also qualified individually for the 400 meters at nationals, but opted out of competing in order to give his all to the relay team.

Hood is getting ready to attend UMass Amherst this fall and is already talking with the coach there about continuing his track career through college.

Twarog has been a member of the outdoor track team since seventh grade, only missing a



The members of the Quabbin Track Club's 4x400 relay team are shown at the Nike Outdoor Nationals held at the University of Oregon in June. They are from left, Jaxon Warburton, Seth Twarog, Bryce Venne and Will Hood.



The relay team took home a baton, which they signed and will bring to Quabbin Regional High School to be displayed in the trophy case.

year due to the pandemic. Now a senior, Twarog said he and his teammates all started the sport to help stay in shape for the other sports they play.

"As we got better at track, it's become more of an actual main sport rather than just a way to stay fit," he said.

Both Venne and Warburton will be juniors this school year, having started outdoor track when they were in the eighth grade.

Warburton said it was exciting to play under the lights at nationals, as their team didn't compete until 9 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, which would be midnight back home.

"Each event takes a long time," Warburton said.

Despite the time difference, the rest of the outdoor track team, as well as family and friends, watched the streaming of the competition and cheered the four student-athletes on from afar.

Warburton said this was his first time running in a closed stadium, but aside from that, the competition wasn't really that different.

"I had a lot more nerves walking onto the track," Twarog said.

Venne said the most profound moment of competing at nationals was walking into the stadium.

"It was next level...everybody was screaming," he said.

The Quabbin Track Club finished 15 out of 21.

While in Oregon, the Club was able to visit some iconic locations featured in the 1985 film "The Goonies", including the beach where One-Eyed Willy's ship was last seen sailing off into the mist; and even the Fratelli's getaway car.

There was one stark difference being on the west coast versus the east coast, Venne said.

Please see **NIKE**, page 15



Submitted Photos
Student-athletes Jaxon Warburton, Seth Twarog, Bryce Venne and Will Hood look out over the track at the University of Oregon, where they competed against schools from across the U.S.

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STONE CHURCH CELEBRATES NATIONAL Teddy Bear Day

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – The Stone Church Cultural Center in Gilbertville hosted a Teddy Bear Picnic this past Monday, offering children something unique to enjoy on a rainy day.

The event was hosted by Quabbin Valley Healthcare and included several fun crafts, snacks, and activities for the children to celebrate National Teddy Bear Day.

There were watercolor activities, bear mask making with glitter glue, and a “first aid” station for Teddy bears that are old with wear and tear from love and snuggles.

The first aid station also featured Terry Ouellette and Marilyn Fisher who sewed red velvet hearts onto new bears children got to adopt. The adoptions even came with certificates and a place to put a name.

Several children enjoyed the event, and Riley Donahue adopted a bear for her and her brother. The sibling pair Elliott and Sophie Anderson enjoyed painting and getting velvet hearts sewn on their new bears - their parents brought their childhood

Teddy bears for the picnic as well.

There was a snack sandwich to make Teddy bear sandwiches with bread, butter, cinnamon sugar, and chocolate chips. There was a bear cookie cutter to shape them into little bears as well.

Sibling trio Sadie, Piper and Rockland Harrington enjoyed the bears and toy picnic table and tea sets.

A book was read about the Teddy Bear March, and then the children got the opportunity to perform the Teddy Bear March with their own bears.

It ended with a “picnic” lunch of Lunchables, Teddy Grahams, and gummy bears with a juice box.

The event was put together by volunteers and members of the Friends of the Stone Church including Cheryl Wolfe, Kathy McCrohon, Judy Kohn, and Judy Knight.

McCrohon hosts annual “fun days” for children at the Stone Church, and there will be another event coming in the fall.

The Teddy Bear Picnic was a great success, and the volunteers are looking forward to hosting it again next year.



Teddy bears were available for adoption, courtesy of Quabbin Valley Healthcare.



Terry Ouellette and Marilyn Fisher sew velvet hearts onto newly adopted Teddy bears.



Judy Kohn reads a book.



Kathy McCrohon leads children and their Teddy bears in a movement song.

Children enjoyed teddy bear-themed treats.

Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

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It is the responsibility of the Ware Public Schools to identify any child ages 3 through 21 who may have a disability who is either a resident of Ware or who attends a private school within the geographic boundaries of Ware. This also includes children who reside in Ware who are homeschooled, as well as children ages 3 through 21 who are not yet enrolled in school.

The Ware Public Schools is also responsible for the evaluation of those students to determine if they are eligible for special education or related services under federal and state law.

The Ware Public Schools is also committed to identifying children before their third birthday in order to provide early intervention services for three and four-year-olds with disabilities. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's development and would like to have your child screened, please contact the Ware Public Schools Office of Special Education.

If you suspect that your child may need an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services, you may request an evaluation, at no cost, through the Ware Public Schools Office of Special Education. Please contact us at the following:

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Ware, MA 01082
Phone: (413) 967-4271
Email: astanton@ware.k12.ma.us

It is the policy of the Ware Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, homelessness, military service, union activity or genetics in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Massachusetts General Laws, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, M.G.L. c. 71A and c. 76, s. 5.

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Lucy Hebert goes for the loose ball.



Gloria Cotaj sends a pass inside.



Naomi Torres dribbles toward the basket.



Guard Jaxon Warburton explodes to the basket after receiving a high ball screen from teammate Nick Whitelaw in Auburn League action.

Indians fall to West Side

WILBRAHAM – Last week in Spec Pond Summer Basketball League action, the Ware Indians fell to the West Side Spirit 25-15. Ware is 1-3 on the summer season. They are back in action on Monday, July 24 against the Ludlow Lightning at 7 p.m.



Gabby Kaczuwka dribbles inside the paint.



Lana Bennington looks to pass.

Balanced scoring emerging for Quabbin despite losses

AUBURN – Balanced scoring is beginning to emerge for the young cagers from Quabbin and coaches Tim Hay and Luke Brownell continue to emphasize and teach an effective passing offense.

Despite two recent losses in the Auburn Summer League, the E.P. Wine sponsored team had as many as six scorers in each game. The effort to share the basketball and find the open player seems to be a lesson that the young cagers are responding to and, more importantly, making a commitment to apply each game.

A close loss to Grafton by a score of 32-24 in a highly contested defensive game by both teams saw power forward Kyle Clark led the team with eight points and eight rebounds. Brownell has been working with the junior on establishing himself in the low and mid-post area and this is where Clark seems to be most effective and sometimes dominant.

The coaches have been working with lone senior Nick

Whitelaw as well towards creating a twin tower high-low post forward tandem on offense. Both Whitelaw and Clark have shown the ability to create offense around the high-low post area and their size and acumen will certainly expand their roles on the team.

With the addition of Zeke Santoro, a junior forward, and Anthony Quarterone, a 6'3 sophomore to the summer team the Quabbinians are deep in the power forward position and looking to take advantage.

Chris Prunesti-Leveille matched Kyle Clark in scoring eight points including two treys. Jaxon Warburton, adding an advanced skill set each time he takes the court, led the team with five loose ball recoveries.

Warburton has taken advantage of the starting position in the lead guard spot to facilitate the passing game and has shown a propensity to get to the basket more and

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 10

Blue Sox doubled up by Danbury Westerners

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were defeated by the Danbury Westerners by a score of 10-5 last Saturday. The team fell to 16-15-1 on the season.

Sean Seanlon started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching five shut-out innings with four strikeouts.

Valley led the game for the first five innings. Eliot Dix leadoff the game with a solo home run, followed by an RBI groundout by Efrain Correa Jr. in the top of the second. Michael Zarrillo added a solo home run in the top of the sixth inning to make it 3-0. Zarrillo batted 2-for-3 on the night with a walk.

The trouble began in the bottom of the sixth inning, when the Blue

Sox gave up seven runs off of back-to-back-to-back home runs followed by a fielding error and a sacrifice fly to allow the Westerners to take the lead 7-3.

AJ Guerrero hit a solo home run in the top of the seventh to cut the Danbury lead to three runs. The left fielder went 3-for-5 on the night.

Danbury added three more runs off in the bottom of the seventh following a two run home run and an RBI double, allowing the Westerners to increase their lead 10-4.

Valley would take one more run back following a solo home run from CJ Willis, making the final score 10-5.



Matthew Garcia fields a grounder.

SEE ADDITIONAL PHOTOS ON PAGE 10.

Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Mutiny makes playoffs following tie with Rush

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The New England Mutiny managed to qualify for the United Women's Soccer (UWS) playoffs for the second consecutive year.

The Mutiny officially clinched a berth in this year's East Conference playoffs following a 2-2 draw against the Connecticut Rush at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on July 8.

However, it wasn't the result that the Mutiny players or coaches were really looking for in the regular season home finale.

"You don't always get the result that you're looking for in the game of soccer," said Mutiny assistant coach Jill Kochanek. "We tried a slightly different formation with the personal that we had for tonight's match."

First-year Mutiny head coach Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra was unavailable for comment follow-

ing the home match.

The Mutiny, who finished the regular season with a 4-2-2 overall record, entered the playoffs as the sixth seed. They were scheduled to make to Lancaster for a quarterfinal match on Wednesday July 12.

"We come into every season expecting to make the playoffs. That's our number one goal," said Meghan Cunningham, who has been playing for the Mutiny for more than ten years. "It's disappointing that we're not a higher seed this year."

The conference semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held at a site to be announced this weekend.

Following a 3-0 road win against the Scorpions SC on June 12, the Mutiny had a 3-0-1 record.

Their leading goal scorer at that point of the regular season

Please see **MUTINY**, page 10



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Hope Santaniello maneuvers through the middle of the field.

Bankers in great shape heading for playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE—PeoplesBank has been one of the best baseball teams in the Tri-County League during the past few decades.

PeoplesBank has won the last nine TCL championship titles and a total of 18 since 1995. They

entered the final week of the 2023 regular season with a 15-1 record.

"We were the second seed in last year's playoffs, which I believe was only the second time that we weren't the top seeded team during the past nine years," said Joe Ferry, who has been the PeoplesBank player/ manager since 2019. "We finished the reg-

ular season with the same record as Easthampton Savings Bank, but they won the tiebreaker against us."

PeoplesBank wound up defeating Easthampton Savings Bank in last year's finals.

Because Easthampton Savings Bank is no longer a member of the TCL, the Chicopee Falls Tigers

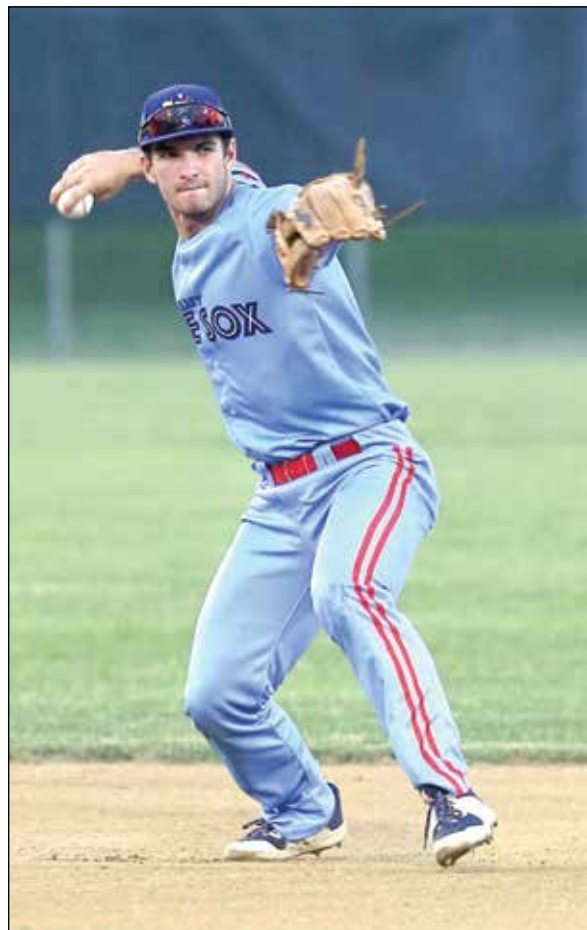
will probably be PeoplesBank biggest challenge in this year's playoffs.

"We're looking forward to playing any team in the playoffs," Ferry said. "All of the teams are gunning for us. We do have a big target on our backs, but we know

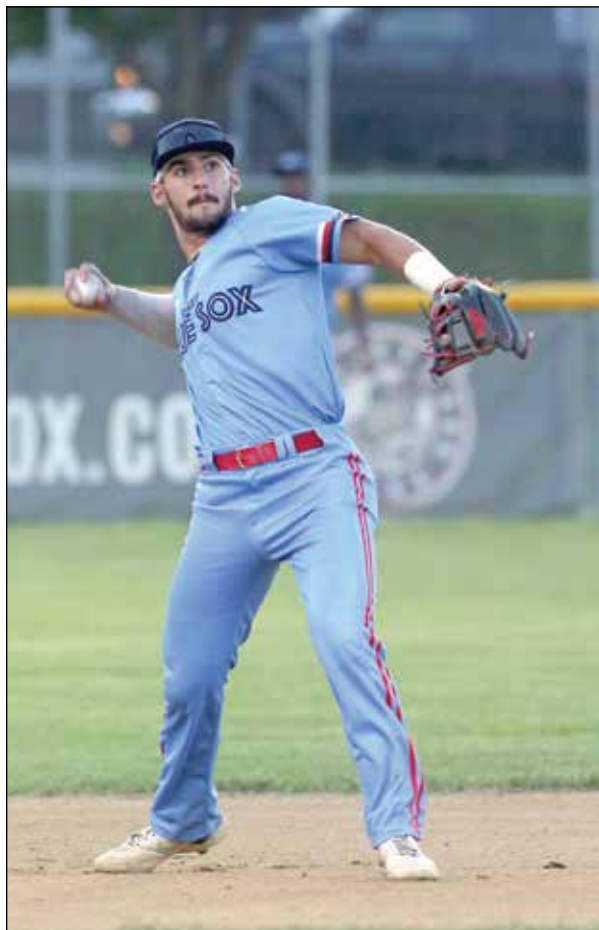
Please see **BANKERS**, page 11

sports

BLUE SOX DOUBLED UP BY WESTERNERS



Jeff Pierantoni winds up for a long throw.



Michael Zarrillo gets the out at first.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Jonathan Bautista pitches for the Blue Sox.

Hall presenters named

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the list of Hall of Famers scheduled to present the Class of 2023 at the Enshrinement Ceremony to be held Saturday, Aug. 12, at Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts, the “Birthplace of Basketball.” 45 Hall of Famers are expected to be in attendance for the ceremony, including all presenters.

Members of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2023 were asked to select previous inductees to accompany and present them to their peers. The choice is solely the decision of the incoming Hall of Famers or their family members if recognized posthumously.

The 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees and Presenters: 1976 Women’s Olympic Basketball Team, presented by Ann Meyers (Class of 1993), Nancy Lieberman (’96)

Becky Hammon, presented by Sheryl Swoopes (’16), Teresa Weatherspoon (’19)

David Hixon, presented by Jim Calhoun (’05), John Calipari (’15)

Dirk Nowitzki, presented by Jason Kidd (’18), Steve Nash (’18)

Dwyane Wade, presented by Allen Iverson (’16)

Gary Blair, presented by Teresa Weatherspoon (’19), Van Chancellor (’07)

Gene Bess, presented by Chris Bosh (’21), John Calipari (’15), Roy Williams (’07)

Gene Keady, presented by Jerry Colangelo (’04), Tom Izzo (’16)

Gregg Popovich, presented by David Robinson (’09), Manu Ginobili (’22), Tim Duncan (’20), Tony Parker (’23)

Jim Valvano, presented by John Calipari (’15)

Pau Gasol, presented by Toni Kuko (’21)

Tony Parker, presented by Manu Ginobili (’22), Tim Duncan (’20)

For more information and the latest updates, visit hoophall.com/Enshrinement or follow @hoophall on Twitter and Instagram.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.



Submitted photo
Junior guard Bryce Venne slashes past his defender for a strong layup and resulting foul.

QUABBIN from page 9

more in his development.

Team captain Nick Whitelaw is working with a young group but the hard-working senior never misses a clinic and has provided good instruction and confidence to the younger forward players in Quarterone and Santoro. Though the team endured two losses with Grafton and David Prouty by a score of 63-44, both were good efforts

In the second loss to David Prouty, Chris Prunesti-Leveille led the team with 18 points followed by Kyle Clark with 11 points, Ricky Janoure, Jaxon Warburton and Nick Whitelaw each added 4 points apiece.

While the offense seems to be more balanced and developing a more lethal passing attack it is the defense that needs to be more consistent. The amount of ball-bys leading to direct scoring opportunities, usually an uncontested lay-up by the opposition, remains an area that needs improvement. Defensive fundamentals are needed and the fact that the team allowed 15 opportunities which translated to 30 unanswered points is a focus of the summer coaching staff.

Coach Tim Hay has been working with guards Bryce Venne, Ricky Janoure, Jaxon Warburton and Jacoby Dilling on defensive strategy and tactics.

The sub-varsity players, coached by Dawn Sulmasy and sponsored by Ground Up Landscaping have held their own in a varsity dominated league in Fitchburg. Despite losses to varsity teams from Fitchburg High School and Gardner the team is gaining valuable experience and playing time.

Coach Sulmasy’s team was edged by Gardner 44-39 in a highly competitive and exciting game. Zack Alves, Anthony Quarterone, Matt Wade and Jacoby Venne stood out with strong efforts and performances. Anthony Quarterone is playing in both varsity leagues and the sophomore, with his

now increasing scoring and rebounding, is taking advantage of the opportunity.

Quarterone has also been an emerging team leader with the younger team in Fitchburg which has been noticed and appreciated by the summer coaching staff and, more importantly, his teammates.

Coach John Leonard will be back again conducting his advanced skills development clinic on Thursday, July 27 at the Quabbin High School gym. Participation is very limited so any player interested should sign up with a summer coaching staff member.

MUTINY from page 9

was Catherine Berry, who headed back to University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season.

Had Berry been able to play in every regular season match, the Mutiny, who posted a 1-2-1 mark during the second half of the regular season, would’ve probably been hosting a playoff match for the second consecutive year.

A year ago, the Mutiny lost to FC Buffalo, 2-1, in the East Conference semifinals at Lusitano Stadium.

“Having to play a midweek playoff game on the road is always a very difficult thing to do,” Cunningham said. “Hopefully, we can get a good group of players for our playoff game. It has been a lot of fun being a member of this soccer team and I’m hoping to come back again next year.”

The start of last Saturday’s match was delayed for an hour due to lightning.

Once the weather did clear up, the Mutiny took a 1-0 lead during the second minute of the opening half.

Jenna Kalwa, who’s the head coach of the University of Saint Joseph women’s soccer team, began the scoring play by sending a pass to Catherine Bean in the middle of the box. Bean finished off the play by blasting a shot into the upper left corner past Rush goalie Alessandra Augur.

Bean, who’s from Westfield, will be a junior on the Bryant University women’s soccer team in the fall.

She gave the Mutiny a 2-0 advantage by converting a rebound goal during the 23rd minute.

The Mutiny other local players, who saw action in the regular season finale, were



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Catherine Bean tries to corral the ball.

Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Brooke Samborski (Chicopee), and Alexis Legowski (South Hadley). Julia Robak (Chicopee) was the back-up goalkeeper.

The Rush (1-6-1) cut the deficit in half a couple of minutes later following Ellery Winkler’s first goal of the contest.

A little more than five minutes into the second half, the Mutiny had another scoring

chance on a header in the box by Rachel Marchini following a corner kick, but it just sailed wide.

The Mutiny managed to hold onto the one goal lead until the 74th minute when Winkler fired a low shot into the right corner of the net past Kopac tying the score at 2-2.

Marchini missed another header and the Mutiny had to settle for the draw.



Laci Lewis gets ready to clear the ball.



Laura Gauvin gets past an opponent.

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sports

Bonsignore wins photo finish at New Hampshire

LOUDON, N.H. – Justin Bonsignore scored his second win of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season on Saturday evening at New Hampshire Motor Speedway – and did it in a photo finish coming to the line. The driver of the No. 51 for Ken Massa Motorsports machine was out front when rain hit the track with just under 35 laps to go and the field pulled down pit road.

It looked as though it might be over - but the rain stopped - NASCAR and track officials dried the track - and the Mohegan Sun 100 went back under the green flag. Bonsignore pitted during the caution and had to restart outside the top-10. He charged through the field and was in position to race for

the lead in the final few laps in the Phoenix Communications ride.

Bonsignore passed Doug Coby to take the lead when the field crossed at the white flag. Off turn two on the final lap, Coby went to the outside of Bonsignore for the lead with Ron Silk looking three-wide to the bottom. Bonsignore led through the middle of turn three before Coby crossed to the bottom and got inside coming off turn four to the finish line.

Bonsignore and Coby drag-raced to the line and made a little bit of contact, with Bonsignore coming out on top by a small margin. It was the 37th career win for the Holtsville, New York, native and his second points-paying win at New Hampshire.

“It was just crazy,” Bonsignore said. “The way we were able to drag-race back to the line and beat Doug, it was amazing. This is our Super Bowl, our Daytona 500. There’s nothing like racing a Modified here. I’m glad we got the race back going and the fans stuck it out. Coby, Silk and I have a good rivalry but there’s a ton of respect involved. I knew where I wanted to be on the last lap.”

Bonsignore will be back on the track at Claremont Motorsports Park for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event on Saturday, July 29. For more information on the three-time series champion, visit JustinBonsignore.com.



Justin Bonsignore was a winner at New Hampshire Motor Speedway last weekend.

Tickets available for chicken BBQ/pig roast

BELCHERTOWN – It’s not too late to get tickets to the Swift River Sportsman’s Club Chicken BBQ/Pig Roast happening on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Starting at noon and going through 6 p.m. at 350 Cold Spring Road, three different meal tickets will be offered: chicken BBQ, pig roast and a combination chicken BBQ/pig roast. Entertainment will be provided by the Time Trippers from 1-5 p.m.

For more information, including tickets, please call either Mike at 413-205-6778 or Ed at 508-981-7249.

BANKERS from page 9

how to deal with the pressure.”

St. Joe’s celebrated a 3-1 home win over PeoplesBank on June 6.

“We haven’t lost a game since St. Joe’s beat us in the second game of the season,” Ferry said. “We won the next three games against them by the final scores of 14-1, 14-0, and 14-4.”

The only other PeoplesBank managers during the past 30 years have been Jim Long, who passed away on July 12, 2017, and Fred Perry.

“I have a tremendous amount of respect for Jim Long,” Ferry said. “He meant a lot to this baseball team and we’re trying our best to carry on the winning tradition here. We just want to have fun and win another championship title.”

Most of the PeoplesBank players have been playing together for many years.

“We do have a very good team chemistry,” Ferry added. “We also have a lot of other guys who can fill in. We’re always looking to add new players every year.”

PeoplesBank will enter this year’s TCL playoffs as the top seed. They clinched first place following a 10-0 home victory against 413 ATC on July 11. Jimmy Flahive hurled a sixth inning no-hitter in that contest.

The other members of the PeoplesBank pitching staff are Johnny Gegetskas, Matt Gardner, Zach Handzal, and Danny Gaines, who’s from Holyoke.

“We do have a solid pitching staff,” Ferry said. “We play a couple of games each week and the starting pitchers know which day they’re going to pitch.”

Ferry was the j.v. baseball coach at Palmer High School when Handzal was a member of the team.

“I just love playing on the same baseball team with Zach. He’s a bulldog on the mound,” Ferry said. “He always gives 110% effort in every game.”

Several other players listed on the PeoplesBank roster are Dave Clark, Pete Hogan, Kyle Platner, Seth Allen, Sam Allen, Rey Rivera, and Aiden Consedine.

The Tri-County League playoffs are scheduled to begin on July 24. Each of the playoff series will be a best of three series.

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of July 11-18, the Ware Police Department responded to 34 miscellaneous calls, 42 administrative calls, seven traffic violations, 28 emergency 911 calls, eight animal calls, one harassment, one fraud/deception, four thefts/larcenies, two damage/vandalisms, eight motor vehicle accidents, one safety hazard, one breaking and entering/burglary, one assist other agency, one vehicle fire and 22 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, July 11

9:25 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Unknown, Dispatch Handled
2:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Highland Village, No Action Required
3:55 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Advised
5:10 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Canal Street, Investigated
9:44 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Investigated
10:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Wednesday, July 12

7:37 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
12:12 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
1:09 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
4:28 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
4:30 p.m. Assist Other Agency, East Street, Services Rendered
8 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Street, Services Rendered

Thursday, July 13

8:32 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Shoreline Drive, Report Made
10:45 a.m. Vehicle Fire, Upper Church Street, Taken/Referred to

Other Agency
11:47 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Unknown, Dispatch Handled
1:19 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, West Main Street, Services Rendered
4:51 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
4:57 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Advised
9:02 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
9:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Friday, July 14

12:29 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
8:24 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Maple Street, Investigated
12:45 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Served in Hand
2:03 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
5:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Criminal Complaint Requested
5:57 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Aspen Street, Services Rendered
8:12 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Gilbertville Road, Unfounded

Saturday, July 15

12:19 a.m. Assault, Parker Street, Services Rendered
Arrest: Austin Bennett, 64, Ware
Assault and Battery on +60/Disabled
8:01 a.m. DUI/Impaired, East Street, Investigated
9:41 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Advised
12:43 p.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Services Rendered
1:05 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Greenwich Road, No Action Required
2:45 p.m. Fraud/Deception,

Palmer Road, Report Made
2:54 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Palmer Road, Investigated
Arrest: Annmarie Zajac, 48, Wheelwright
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle
10:26 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Webb Court, Services Rendered
Arrest: David Hutchinson, 29, Ware
Assault and Battery; Assault and Battery on Police Officer; Assault and Battery on +60/Disabled; Resist Arrest; Disorderly Conduct, Subsequent Offense c272 §53

Sunday, July 16

5:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
5:17 p.m. Drugs, West Street, Investigated

Monday, July 17

12:40 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Unknown, Dispatch Handled
1:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Criminal Complaint Requested
Summons: Luis Martinez Jr., 42, Springfield
Uninsured Motor Vehicle
1:36 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Upper Church Street, Services Rendered
3:02 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Patient Refusal
4:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
5:42 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Pulaski Street, Investigated
9:13 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised

Warren Police Log

During the week of July 2-9, the Warren Police Department responded to 258 building/property checks, 179 community policing, 26 traffic enforcements, 25 emergency 911 calls, one fraud/forgery, one illegal dumping, one fire/illegal burn, one motor vehicle accident, one complaint, six animal calls and 43 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, July 2

8:57 a.m. Dizziness, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
11:04 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
3:15 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Old West Warren Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:35 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, July 3

12:45 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, Presidential Circle, Transported to Hospital
4:44 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent, School House Drive, Information Taken
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written warning
4:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
6 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:33 p.m. Property Dispute, O'Neil Road, Report Filed

Tuesday, July 4

4:20 a.m. Sick/Unknown, North Street, Transported to Hospital
4:58 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues, North Street,

Citation Issued
6:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Wednesday, July 5

12:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
2:36 a.m. Falls, Keys Road, Transported to Hospital
5:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:13 a.m. Officer Wanted, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed

3:20 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
4:48 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Bemis Road, Transported to Hospital
5:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Criminal Complaint
Summons: Joseph Carey, 22, West Brookfield

Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID
6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed
10:51 p.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Carpenter Street, Fire Extinguished

Thursday, July 6

11:28 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
2:21 p.m. Complaint, Elm Street, Negative Contact

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.

2:23 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Chapel Street, Transported to Hospital
2:36 p.m. Stroke (CVA), South Street, Mutual Aid Transport
2:42 p.m. Heat Exhaustion, Coy Hill Road, Report Filed
7:20 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Santos Road, Report Filed

Friday, July 7

4:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:13 p.m. Heat Exhaustion, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
4:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Citation Issued
9:46 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Main Street, Report Filed
10:54 p.m. Falls/Bicycle, Coy Hill Road, Transported to Hospital

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of July 10-17, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 46 building/property checks, 29 directed/area patrols, eight traffic controls, five emergency 911 calls, 10 radar assignments, seven citizen assists, one complaint, five assist other agencies, one safety hazard, three vandalisms, four motor vehicle investigations, two animal calls and nine motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, July 10

8:02 a.m. Complaint, North Road, Officer Handled
1:55 p.m. Assist Citizen, Turkey Street, Spoken To
2:46 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
4:13 p.m. Vandalism, Lower Road, Officer Handled

Tuesday, July 11

2:16 p.m. Safety Hazard, High Road, Removed Hazard
2:22 p.m. Assist Citizen, Grove Street, Officer Handled

Wednesday, July 12

5:45 a.m. Vandalism, Upper

Church Street, Investigated
8:50 a.m. Assist Citizen, Church Street, Officer Handled
2:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Barre Road, Officer Handled
6:02 p.m. 911 Misdial, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
9:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Upper Church Street, Services Rendered

Thursday, July 13

9:11 a.m. Vandalism, Barre Road, No Action Required
9:40 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
9:40 a.m. 911 System Trouble, General, Dispatch Handled
10:49 a.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
2:50 p.m. Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
4:50 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Ridge Road, Officer Handled
5:18 p.m. Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
7:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Upper Church Street, Officer Handled
7:50 p.m. Assist Citizen,

Prospect Street, Services Rendered
8:30 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Ridge Road, Officer Handled

Friday, July 14

3:16 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered

Saturday, July 15

10:36 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered

Sunday, July 16

2:40 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
4 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Spoken To
5:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
5:54 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Petersham Road, Officer Handled

Monday, July 17

5:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Written Warning
6:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning

NFPA report shows 96 on-duty firefighter deaths in 2022

The National Fire Protection Association released a new report, "Fatal Firefighter Injuries in the U.S. in 2022", which showed a total of 96 on-duty U.S. firefighter fatalities in 2022.

According to a press release, of these deaths, 51 were volunteer firefighters, 38 were career firefighters, six were contractors for federal or state land management agencies, and one was a full-time federal land management employee.

The number of injury and cardiac-related fatalities in 2022 is higher than past years, largely due to the inclusion of deaths occurring within 24 hours of duty, which were previously not counted in the report unless there was a specific physical complaint while on duty. The report now includes fatal injuries and cardiac deaths that occurred within 24 hours of duty, irrespective of manifested or reported symptoms.

"Sudden cardiac deaths or cardiac conditions regularly account for the largest share of on-duty firefighter deaths," said Richard Campbell, author of the report and a senior research analyst at NFPA. "By adjusting the reporting period by 24 hours, we were able to more fully capture cardiac failure among firefighters, allowing us to more accurately identify the serious health risks firefighters face on the job."

However, Campbell notes, an unknown number of deaths due to unspecified medical causes in 2022 were likely cardiac related, so the reported number of cardiac deaths likely continues to under-

state the true total.

The report categorizes the type of duty that firefighters were engaged in when the deaths occurred, including deaths that occurred: on the fireground; at a non-fire emergency; responding to or returning from emergency calls; and during training.

Trauma injuries accounted for 33 firefighter deaths, including 20 internal trauma deaths, six deaths by crushing, five deaths due to unspecified traumatic injuries and two deaths due to gunshot injuries or projectile wounds.

In addition, six multiple fatality incidents occurred in 2022, tying for the highest number of multiple fatality incidents since 2009.

Four of the incidents involved vehicles, each resulting in two fatalities. The two remaining incidents involved structure fires, one in which three firefighters were killed in a building collapse and the other in which two firefighters died after sending a mayday from the second floor of a house.

Just over one-fifth of firefighter deaths (21) occurred while responding to or returning from emergencies.

The report also showed that overexertion and stress accounted for just over one-half of the deaths in 2022. Of the 49 deaths in this category: 34 were sudden cardiac incidents and one was due to cardiac symptoms; 11 deaths included an unspecified medical cause; one was due to a stroke or aneurysm; and two deaths were the result of drug overdoses.

According to the report, excluding the 340 firefighter deaths that

occurred on 9/11, the highest fatal injury total was 174 firefighter deaths in 1978 and the lowest was 48 deaths in 2019.

This overall downward trend is an encouraging indication that firefighter injury prevention and health and wellness efforts through the years are being met with success. At the same time, the data shows that work as a firefighter includes significant physical demands, taking place in environments that involve a range of hazardous conditions and presenting risks not only at fire scenes, but during training activities, non-fire emergencies, and transport to and from emergency scenes.

"While significant strides have been made over time to better protect firefighters on the job, firefighters continue to take on more roles and responsibilities, placing significant physical and mental stresses on them that can have fatal consequences," said Campbell. "Ongoing efforts to adequately address these issues will be needed in order to see meaningful reductions."

This firefighter fatal injuries study is made possible by the cooperation and assistance of the United States fire service, Centers for Disease Control's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the United States Fire Administration, the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

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Ware River News

HONORED

from page 5

Kohn said the Board of Health wants to work with Leicester, but agreed that communication has been an issue.

"It's been very unprofessional," she said.

She said there are other regional health coalitions around the town they could consider joining, including the Quabbin Health District, which serves Ware, Belchertown and Pelham, and a health coalition in the North Quabbin area.

Parker said when she started her position in 2021, the Board of Health and Select Board signed a contract with Leicester, which expires June 30, 2024; with an extension of another three years. She said the town is included in the upcoming grants received through Leicester from the Department of

Public Health.

Ruggles said the Board of Health needs to streamline the permit process, as it's going through too many people before it reaches Leicester.

"I'd really like to make this easier," Ruggles said.

Parker said she will contact Leicester to continue the discussion.

EV charging stations

Parker said the town would be required to pay \$1,446 for each of the electric vehicle charging stations if they used a \$40,000 grant to remove and replace the existing ones. She said with a one-year warranty, it would total around \$3,000.

The Select Board voted to have Parker apply for the grant.

Ambulance contract

The Select Board signed the annual contract for emergency medical services from West Brookfield Rescue Squad. Parker said the contract is the same as last year, at \$24,400.

Building repairs

Parker said the repairs to the water damage in the municipal building are mostly complete, aside from some ceilings and electrical. Two more rooms will be carpeted this Friday.

She said they still need to address the issue with the boiler before heating season begins.

Accountant

Parker said the town's accounting contract with Marcum LLP ends soon, and she is hopeful they

will find a replacement. She is looking into shared services with other municipalities, and she has also approached former Marcum accountant Laurie Dell'Olio.

Cable television license

The Select Board accepted the cable television license through July 14, 2033.

Housing concerns

Food Pantry volunteer Liz Reilly voiced concerns about the condition of some of the buildings she goes into, particularly apartment buildings.

She said many of the buildings are overseen by a property management company, and it's difficult to contact the property owner.

Vollheim said she can file complaints with the Board of Health.

CASELLA from page 1

David G. Roach & Sons will be involved with the landfill operations.

Landfill hours would be Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 7-11:30 a.m. The landfill will bring in approximately 50 trucks a day, and travel routes will avoid the center of town.

Casella would also look into converting landfill gas into renewable energy.

Oliver said Casella would enter into a Host Community Agreement with the town, which includes a host fee payment of \$6 per ton, or approximately \$2.1 million a year.

"We would have to have an HCA for the life of the landfill," Oliver said, which is about 13 years.

Casella also expects to pay the town an additional \$500,000 annually in leachate delivery payments for use of the Gilbertville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

"We would anticipate negotiating a leachate agreement with the town, to take landfill leachate to the Gilbertville Wastewater Treatment Plant," he said.

Oliver said Casella will develop odor and nuisance control plans in coordination with the town, and help pay the cost of maintaining an independent landfill monitor and engineering consultant at the site to be retained and managed by the Board of Health and Select Board.

Oliver said a public forum will be held at a future date to allow for feedback from residents.

The estimated timeline for the proposed project begins with a town meeting this fall, followed by permitting from November 2023-2026, and construction from November 2026-September 2027 before being operational in January 2028.

In order for the project to move forward, voters would need to decide on the relocation and termination of Patrill Hollow Road; a bylaw amendment to increase the maximum allowable structure height; rezoning of the landfill property; and a zoning amendment to permit the landfill in the industrial district.

RIVER EAST from page 13

At this year's River East School-to-Career Annual Recognition Breakfast, it was announced that Monson Savings would receive the Business Champion Award for all the support it offered to the local non-profit.

"We are so thankful for the partnership we have with Monson Savings Bank," said Amy Scribner, River East School-to-Career director.

"So many doors have been opened for students because of the Bank's support of our organization."

During the breakfast ceremony, Monson Savings President and CEO Dan Moriarty made a surprise announcement: the Bank would be donating an additional \$10,000 to River East School-to-Career.

"Being a champion means making the right decision, at the right time, for the right reason. We recognize the value of the programs and opportunities offered through River East School-to-Career and this surprise announcement felt right," Moriarty said.

"Today's students are tomorrow's employees and leaders. Thank you to the Career Facilitators, RESTC Board, and Amy Scribner for their dedication to preparing our students to enter the workforce."

NIKE from page 7

"There was no Dunkins'," he said.

Even with schools from all over the country competing, members of the Quabbin Track Club agreed that track is the friendliest of sports, and that competition is really driven by yourself.

"It definitely builds your discipline for self-improvement," Warburton said.

It's also the perfect sport to keep you in shape for a number of other sports, Hood said, and you can develop your strength and skill at your own pace.

"Anybody can do it," he said.

The student-athletes are spending their summer working on their conditioning and preparing for the next outdoor track season. They are all working toward reaching their personal goals.

Twarog said he is hoping to beat the 400 meter record, while Venne said he wants to break the school record for 400 meter hurdles. Venne said he was two seconds from beating it last season, even after falling.

Warburton said he wants to qualify for nationals individually in javelin.

In fact, all three hope to qualify individually.

Competing at the Nike Outdoor Nationals earned the Club members plenty of Nike products, including red windbreakers with their names on them, spikes and more; but it also gave them memories to last a lifetime.

"It's more about the experience," Venne said.

A recording of the competition is available at nike-outdoornationals.runnerspace.com.

Red Sox clinch championship with 8-7 win

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Red Sox faced off against the Braves during Ware Youth Baseball's championship game at Grenville Park; ending their 8-2 season in the bottom of the sixth inning with a score of 8-7.

Coach Josh Kusnierz led the champion minors team, made up mostly of youth ages 7-9, with one 6 year old.



Red Sox third base player Ryan tags out a runner from the Braves during the championship game.

"We had a young team," Kusnierz said of the Red Sox, which was one of three minors team in the league, adding that it was a "really competitive season."

Kusnierz said the three teams were evenly matched and featured a great mix of talent. All of the coaching staff from the three teams did their part to correct stances, give advice at bat, and offer encouragement – even to the opposing team's players.

"It's nice to have the other coaches get excited and get involved in the game...it's what's awesome about our league," Kusnierz said. "The kids understand what we're there for."

A baseball coach since 2017, Kusnierz said he focuses on teaching discipline, leadership, how to handle losing a game, and more importantly; how to have fun.

"There's so much to sports, but at the end of the day I have a personal goal of having fun," he said.

The 7-9 age bracket is the "meat and potatoes" of baseball Kusnierz said, because for many young athletes, it's when they decide to continue onward, or pursue other interests.

Another goal Kusnierz and his coaches set for this season was getting all players to hit the ball off the tee.

"Every single person hit this year off the tee...One or two hits a year is a huge confidence booster for them," he said. Kusnierz said the Red Sox had a lot of big hits this season, including



The Red Sox cheer on their teammates on base.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

some inside the park homeruns.

Fielding skills also improved, with some throw-outs from home to second base, and home to third. Players also were able to tag-out potential base stealers.

They also formed new friendships and made memories to last a lifetime.

"Overall, the goal is to make sure the kids have fun. That's the biggest thing about it," Kusnierz said.

This player warms up for his at-bat.



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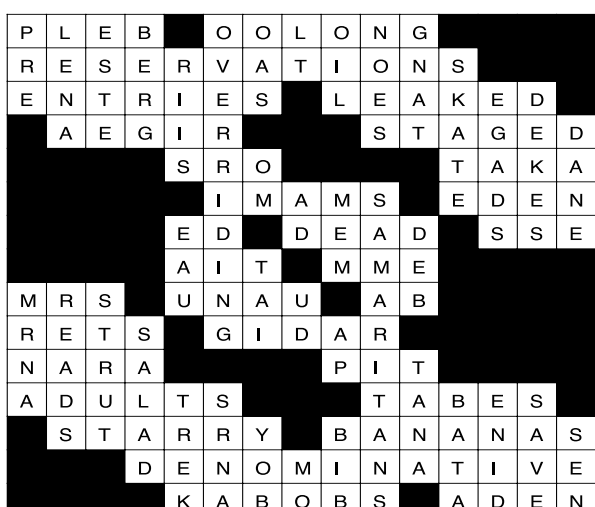
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