

WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 138 No. 25

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

School Committee announces resignation of supt.

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – School Committee Chair Brian Winslow read a statement announcing the resignation of Superintendent Dr. Michael Lovato, effective immediately.

The statement cited health-related reasons for his decision to step down from his position. Lovato stated he was “thankful for his opportunity to have served the Ware school community and deeply values the time he spent supporting its students, staff and families.”

At the July 16 meeting,

Winslow said a copy of the statement will be emailed to all school staff and families, in addition to the Selectboard, announcing Lovato’s departure.

Winslow said the School Committee will begin its search for an interim superintendent for the 2025-2026 school year. He said the

“We’ve lost great people because of this situation, and we owe it to them to know why.”

- Frank Bateman

interim superintendent would be a candidate with vast experience.

“We need someone I feel, that can hit the ground running, that can begin the process of bringing us back to what we’re here for and that’s for kids, for students,” Winslow said.

The search for a perma-

nent superintendent will take place in the spring with a full committee made up of school district stakeholders, including staff, students, parents, School Committee members and residents. He said he hopes that the commit-

Please see **RESIGNS**, page 5

SB reviews Hazard Mitigation Plan

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Senior Planner Mimi Kaplan has been working with the town for about a year to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

She said the plan needs to be updated every five years and the last plan on file was from 2017.

At the July 15 Selectboard meeting, Kaplan explained that hazard mitigation is any sustained action to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards. She said there is an overlap between hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness.

“Hazard mitigation is broader and encompasses things like planning, zoning, regulations, bylaws... could be open space preservation...education and outreach, infrastructure improvements,” she said.

Kaplan said there are a number of benefits for the town in having an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan, including grant eligibility

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 13

Questions needed for ‘Meet the Candidates’ forum

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

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

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

WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch officially opens in Chicopee



Submitted Photos
Ware Police Chief Shawn Crevier toured the new WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch building.

By Kristin Rivers
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch, located on Shawinigan Drive, officially opened the doors of its new location on July 14 to continue serving the communities of Chicopee, Monson, Ware, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow and the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office.

Currently, WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch has been operating out of the Public Safety Complex on Church Street and will move to its new space soon.

For the grand opening, members of the fire and police departments for all five towns, local and state elected officials, staff from WESTCOMM and many more gathered in front of the facility for a ribbon-cutting and remarks from WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch Interim Executive Director Penny Ryan,

Frank Pozniak, the executive director of the Massachusetts State 911 Department, Mayor John Vieau, state Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), state Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), John Beaulieu, vice chair for the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch Board of Directors, state Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), state Rep. Angelo Puppolo, Jr. (D-Springfield) and Erin Hastings, the former executive director of WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch.

After the ribbon was cut, attendees stepped inside for a tour viewing administrative space, training rooms and the dispatchers’ space on the top floor.

Ryan explained how it took “several villages, towns, departments, agencies and a whole lot of foresight, trust and collaboration” to bring WESTCOMM to where it is

Please see **DISPATCH**, page 15

Author Tougias shared history of the Quabbin

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Warren Public Library held a visual presentation with New York Times bestselling author Michael Tougias this past week at the Senior Center.

This presentation featured Michael Tougias’ book “Quabbin: A History and Explorer’s Guide” made possible with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council and the Mass Cultural Council.

Tougias, who grew up in western Massachusetts,

has been researching the Quabbin Reservoir for over 30 years.

In his presentation, Tougias talked about the book as well as the history of the Quabbin and shared the best ways to explore the area. Local author and historian, Ed Londergan, introduced Tougias to a great crowd with 68 people in attendance at the Warren Senior Center.

Tougias has been writing for 40 years and has written stories about local history, World War II, King

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 6



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago
Michael Tougias signed copies of his books after the presentation of “Quabbin: A History and Explorer’s Guide”.

Band Together for Mental Health



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago
Members of the nonprofit organization, Tyler’s Heart, attended the 5th annual Band Together for Mental Health event held at Hardwick Winery this past Saturday.

5th annual fundraising event held at Hardwick Winery

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – Tyler’s Heart held its fifth annual Band Together for Mental Health fundraiser this past weekend at Hardwick Winery.

Over the years the event has grown, and Tyler’s Heart has been raising more money year after year. Tyler’s Heart lives up to its mission by bringing awareness to mental health and encourage acts of kindness by bringing education and resources to schools and communities.

Alysia Kubert of Tyler’s Heart said the organization has grown in population every year and this year’s Band Together for Mental Health had an amazing turnout.

“It was our biggest year

yet,” Kubert said.

Donations and sponsorship have grown, and this year’s event featured five bands performing, a car show, Kid’s Corner, over 50 vendors, food and beverage vendors, raffles and merchandise.

Members of Tyler’s Heart are always working hard to support individuals and families in their community.

There are nine members of Tyler’s Heart who are

Please see **TYLER’S HEART**, page 8



Action Remodeling celebrates 35th anniversary

Flamand family has a small town business success story

Submitted Article

WARE – It was 35 years ago, but Richard Flamand can still vividly remember that day in September 1990 when he quit his stable machine shop job he had held for a quarter of a century in order to start his own business.

“I was making an honest living and supporting my family, but I just wasn’t happy with my job,” said Flamand. “I decided to get my contractor’s license and just do it...own my own business, be my own boss, and make my own decisions for my life.”

That day, Action Remodeling was born.

“Who knew that day would turn out to be the best day of my life?” Flamand said.

The seeds of Action Remodeling actually began years before when Flamand would spend his spare time putting around his family’s home on Berkshire Drive, remodeling rooms and fixing up the exterior.

A lifelong resident of Ware, Flamand and his wife Linda raised their three children in that home – Charlene, Christine and Brian. Having worked with his father for the past 30 years, Brian is now co-owner of the business. They have enjoyed building all three of the Flamand children’s homes.

When it came time to choose a name for the new



Submitted Photo

Brian Flamand and Richard Flamand of Action Remodeling are celebrating 35 years since the business was established.

business, Flamand was stumped. He decided upon Action Remodeling after an old friend suggested that the name should start with the letter “A” since that’s the first place people would look in the phone book. Flamand has lived up to the name “Action”, always moving as quickly as possible from one job to the next.

As the business grew, Linda, the couple’s children, their children’s spouses and even their grandchildren worked for Action Remodeling. The business grew piece by piece, slowly over time.

As their business expanded, they were fortunate to have formed lasting relationships with other area contractors, subcontractors and businesses.

A strong believer in the theory that people come into your life for a reason, Flamand has taken every job seriously.

“In the beginning, things were very slow, and jobs were not easy to come by. Every job, big or small, was

a blessing to me. One of my most meaningful small jobs began with just hanging a picture frame for an older couple. That little job led to many more, larger jobs, like a recent job in Ashburnham building a beautiful covered porch, as well as replacing old windows and doors in the house originally owned by Bette Davis. When owners have their heart and soul involved in the business, they get a reputation of being people who care about even the littlest things,” he said.

The business philosophy for Action Remodeling is simple: “We take pride in our ability to start a job as a contractor and leave as a friend when the job is finished.”

Looking back over the 35 years Action Remodeling has been in business, the father and son team have learned the secret to a successful business.

“Treat your customers’ homes as if they are your own and do the best job you can at a fair price. No job is too small to deserve your full attention,” Flamand said.

Are You Old News?



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

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



File Photo Last week’s photo from 1989 showed Ware baseball umpires James Gathro and James Robidoux.

Cheryl McKeon correctly identified her father, James Gathro and fellow umpire Robidoux. Max Gathro, the grandson of James Gathro, was also able to identify him and shared some words about him.

“My grandfather was a baseball coach and umpire for Ware baseball leagues from the 70s through to the late 90s. He was a very good man. The most honest, respectful and hardworking guy you could come across,” Max Gathro said.



Submitted Photo

Charlie Lask, left, owner of Nat Falk, a men’s clothing store on Main Street in Ware, recently donated new suits, shirts and shoes to the Springfield Rescue Mission.

Lask donates to Springfield Rescue Mission

WARE – For the last 130 years, the Springfield Rescue Mission has provided life-changing services to men through its Short Stay, Transitional and New Life Rehabilitation Program.

Residents of the New Life Program are enrolled in a Wellness Track which is a holistic approach to health

and healing by creating an individual plan for each man. Residents participate in the Learning Center, the Workforce Development Program as well as financial literacy, credit repair and digital literacy.

Recently, Charlie Lask, owner of Nat Falk, a men’s clothing store located at

64 Main St., donated new suits, shirts and shoes to the Springfield Rescue Mission. This generous donation by Lask will support the men as they re-enter the work place and prepare for job interviews and college admission appointments.

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 28

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Willims. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- Tuesday, July 29**
- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
 - 9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
 - 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Willims. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
 - 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch

- 1 p.m. Cornhole
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, July 30

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Willims. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
- 2:30 p.m. Knitting-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, July 31

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

Friday, Aug. 1

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga

- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

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

Monday, July 28

BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, July 29

Chicken Piccata with Mashed Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, July 30

Grilled Ham and Cheese, Soup, Potato Chips, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, July 31

Chicken Parmigiana with Spaghetti, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Aug. 1

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

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS OR ROAST **\$2.88** lb

USDA INSP. STORE CUT BONE-IN HAM STEAK **\$3.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS **\$2.99** lb

SLICED IN OUR DELI

USDA INSP. TURKEY BREAST **\$4.99** lb

USDA INSP. PEPPER JACK CHEESE **\$4.99** lb

GREAT ON THE GRILL

USDA INSP. STOREMADE ITALIAN MARINATED 1/2 CHICKEN **\$2.99** lb

USDA INSP. STOREMADE KOREAN BBQ MARINATED BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS **\$3.35** lb

INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBEYE STEAKS **\$10.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST or STEAKS **\$7.49** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF **\$4.99** 5 LB BAG

PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS..... **\$5.69** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG..... **\$2.33** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN THIGHS 10 LB BAG..... **\$1.55** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN FULLY COOKED PANCAKE BATTERED SAUSAGE **\$2.99** lb

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SALAD SHRIMP 91/120 CT. 2 LB BAG **\$6.99** ea

90 Meat Outlet

90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 7/24/25-7/30/25 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Park Administrator

Full-time Park Administrator for a large, over-55 mobile home community. Responsibilities include overseeing facilities and maintenance crew, as well as enforcement of cooperative rules. Individual would be expected to take an active role in day-to-day operations, in coordination with President, Board of Directors, maintenance crew and office staff.

Requirements include previous management experience; general knowledge of building, property and vehicle maintenance; excellent organizational, communications, and time-management skills.

Resumes can be sent to:
Pine Valley Plantation Cooperative,
 281 Chauncey Walker St., OFC30,
 Belchertown, MA 01007
 or emailed to office@pvpcoco.com
 Attention: Richard Kelleher, President

Please include days and times that you would be available for an in-person interview.

78th Ware Grange Fair will be held Aug. 23

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

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

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

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

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

This year the popular Kids' Corner workshops will be part of the Fair, with the "Funtastic Fair Festival!" The festival will be a fun time for kids to enjoy crafts, dancing, a parade and fair games such as a pie eating contest, hula hoop hop and water balloon toss.

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

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

The barbecue can be enjoyed outside under the

tent, and take-out is also available. Reservations are required by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing waregrange164@gmail.com.

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

All Massachusetts residents are welcome to enter exhibits and earn ribbons and prizes in categories such as vegetables, flowers, arts and crafts, photography, and many more. Exhibits must be brought to the Ware Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road on Thursday, Aug. 21 between 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 22 between 9-11 a.m.

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

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

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

Adult crafters make seashell candle holders

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Ware Library continues to offer fun crafts for their monthly adult evening craft event.

Last Thursday night featured seashell candle holders, which was an idea inspired by Children's Room Librarian, Cathy Goulet. Returning as the instructor for the adult evening craft was Library Assistant Regina Diemand.

The library provided glue guns, ocean themed beads, and plenty of seashells that were generously donated to the Ware Library. The library received three boxes of seashells for crafters to make their own seashell candle holders. The library also received a donation of yogurt jars that were part of the construction of the candle holders.

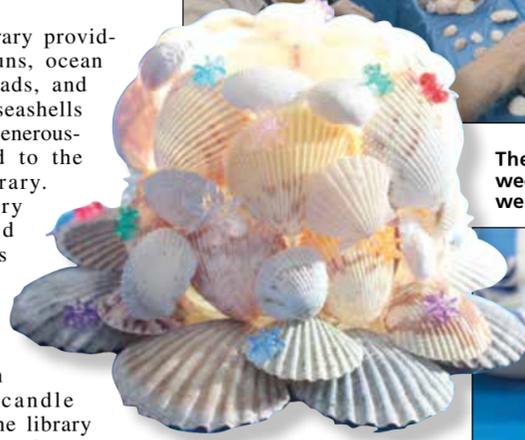
Prior to the adult evening craft, Goulet made her own seashell candle holder. Diemand showed Goulet's example to the crafters who attended, and they soon wanted to make their own seashell candle holder.

Diemand got to work and made two seashell candle holders. There were plenty of seashells to go around, so Diemand strived to make as many candle holders as she can. As crafters got busy decorating, the seashell candle holders just got prettier, especially when they lined up the shells.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

The Ware Library hosted an adult evening craft last week and had a great turnout. Seashells and yogurt jars were donated to the library.



Mary's gorgeous seashell candle holder has lots of seashells and ocean themed beads.

What Diemand finds beautiful about these candle holders is how the light from the candle shines through the seashells. This kind of decorative item really brings a coastal or beachy vibe to home decor.

"Very beachy," Diemand said after seeing pretty candle holders made by the crafters throughout the reading room.

Mary was one of the crafters who added a lot of seashells and ocean themed beads to her candle holder. Her candle holder came out gorgeously and other crafters thought Mary did an amazing job. The candle



Seashells come in all shapes and stand out beautifully as candle holders

holder was all seashells; you couldn't even see the yogurt jar the shells were covering.

The crafters were excited to bring these cool seashell candle holders home. To exemplify the lighting Diemand used battery operated flameless candles to see how the light shines through

the seashell candle holders.

The next Adult Evening Craft at the Ware Library will take place next month in August. The craft for that month will be announced soon. Visit the Ware Library at 37 Main St. or call 413-967-5491.

Town Clerk shares Special Town Election information

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

Catherine Buelow Cascio and Kenneth R. Willette have submitted their Nomination Papers.

The last date to register to vote for the Special Election

will be Friday, Aug. 1 at 5 p.m. Individuals may check to see if they are registered to vote at www.ma.gov – Elections and Voting. Simply put in your name and address and you will see whether you are registered or if you need to register or change your address (if you have moved).

Vote by Mail will be part of this election also.

Information and the application are on the Town of Ware website – www.townofware.com under News and Notices. Complete the application and drop off to the Town Clerk in person during normal business hours.

You may also put your application in the Blue Drop Box located outside of the lower level offices or email

the ballot to – ntalbot@townofware.com. The deadline to apply for a Vote by Mail ballot will be Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 5 p.m. Vote by Mail is active also on the www.ma.gov website – Elections and Voting.

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

Summer Eats food program offered at middle/high school

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

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

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

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

Junk & Bulk Trash Removal

Clean Out Solutions
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts
Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
Arthur "Skip" Gervais
(774)397-6500

Join us at **MARY FARM**
Sunday, July 27th • 12:30 - 4pm
for our Annual Picnic (rain or shine).
Enjoy a hamburger, hot dog, side dishes and deserts.
\$10 adults, \$5 kids under 10.
Raffle Baskets and unique items,
Mary Farm Gift Shop & more.
Call 413-283-4529 or email maryfarm@comcast.net
for more information.

STIHL Husqvarna

PARK SAW SHOP
LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY
1292 PARK ST. PALMER, MA 01069
1-800-232-6132
(413) 544-9027
Mon-Fri 6:30am-4pm • Sat 7am-Noon
Shipping Can Be Arranged
RENTALS AVAILABLE

"Join the team that does more by 9am than some do all day!"

Train now to a new career in 6 weeks. High hourly wages and generous bonus program. Van work available too!

Call or text 774-200-6762 or email jobs@mccarthybus.com to apply

J.P. McCarthy & Sons
WWW.MCCARTHYBUS.COM

Steak & Cigar Night 2025

August 9th at 6pm
Doors Open at 5:30pm

\$40 Per Ticket
Steak Dinner, Cigars,
Live Entertainment, Raffles

AMVETS Post 74
2150 Main Street
Three Rivers, MA

Wine Flights
Bourbon Flights

I WANT YOU!
Proceeds to Benefit Post 74 Families
& To Send Cigars To Deployed Units

Sponsor a Veteran
Sponsor a Table
Donate Your Cigars

Tickets Available:
Online & At Bar

For More Info:
Call: Post 413-283-4518 • Mark 413-301-3535
Email: amvetspost74@comcast.net

viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

What is the formula for deciding when to claim?

Dear Rusty:

I am curious about the "formula" to decide when to take Social Security while still working.

I am past the Full Retirement Age. How do you best address such? Should we schedule a call?

Signed: Wondering When

Dear Wondering:

Well, you can always contact us by phone on 1-888-750-2622 to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors or you can send your questions to us via email at SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org. You don't need to pre-schedule a meeting, as we have multiple advisors answering the phone on most normal business days. If they all happen to be busy when you call, simply leave a voicemail and an Advisor will return your call promptly.

For starters, since you have reached your Full Retirement Age, know that your work earnings will no longer negatively affect your Social Security benefits. You can earn as much as possible and your monthly SS amount will be the same, based on your average lifetime monthly earnings for your highest 35 years and based on your age when you claim. Since you have not yet claimed SS, you are already earning Delayed Retirement Credits, which increase your monthly SS amount by .667% for each month you continue to delay. That's 8% for each full year you delay past your FRA. You should not, however, wait longer than age 70 to claim because that is when you will get your maximum SS benefit amount. For you, that means that your age 70 amount will be 28% more than the amount you would have received at your FRA of 66 years and 6 months in October 2023 and about 15% more than if you were to claim now.

Note too, that if your more recent income is among the highest of your lifetime, Social Security will automatically increase your monthly SS retirement amount to account for that event. They will check your work earnings each year to see if you are entitled to a larger SS amount because of your recent earnings.

Since (according to your AMAC member record) you are married, you may also wish to consider whether your wife will get a spousal benefit from you when you claim. If your wife's personal SS retirement amount at her FRA is less than the amount you were entitled to at your FRA, then she will get a spousal boost when you claim. With her spousal boost (if claimed at her FRA), her total SS benefit should be about 50% of your FRA benefit amount not half of the higher amount you will get because you waited longer to claim. But your wife cannot get a spousal boost until you are collecting your SS.

And here is something else to think about: received SS benefits will become part of your overall income taxed by the IRS when you submit your income tax return. If you file your income tax as "married/jointly" and your combined income from all sources exceeds \$32,000 then some of your SS benefits will become taxable income. If your combined income is between \$32,001 and \$44,000, then half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. Or, if your combined income from all sources exceeds \$44,000, then about 85% of your received SS benefits will become part of your income taxed by the IRS. Just something to keep in mind, especially since you are still working.

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

Revisit wildflower gardening

After driving by an exquisite wildflower border, I was prompted to revisit and update a column I wrote some years back on the topic of wildflowers.

If you wish to give the natural look a go, preparation is the key. Read on for more useful advice.

Wildflower or meadow gardens can be beautiful, even breathtaking, if properly cared for. Besides being pretty, they are low maintenance and environmentally friendly, and they often attract butterflies, bees and other pollinators.

Our goal at the time of sowing is a grass-free, weed-free seed bed. Since wildflower seed is sown in winter or early spring, we have lots of time to achieve that goal.

At summer's end rototill the spot intended for your wildflowers. If the grass is especially thick you may need to go over it several times. Allow what is left of the grass to decompose.

Pull any weeds that sprout, or lightly cultivate the soil – don't go too deep or you'll expose more weed seeds to the light! You can also skip the tiller, and eradicate the grass by use of black plastic or a tarp- of course you'll have to look at it for several weeks!

If that's okay, then start now by mowing the grass as close as possible. Lay the black plastic or tarp on top and secure it in place with bricks or rocks. The heat, coupled with the absence of light will kill the grass under-

neath.

By early fall you will be able to rake away any debris that remains. Plan to sow

your seeds in early spring. There are many wildflower mixes to choose from. I'd recommend selecting one that is suited to the northeast. A mix that contains both annual and perennial flowers is a good option – the annuals providing you with color the first year while the perennials are establishing themselves.

Don't skimp on the seed. In fact, use up to three times more than the packet says you need to ensure you'll end up with lots of blooms. To avoid bare spots, divide your seed in half and sow the entire area with the first half, then go to the second. Don't cover the seed at all, just firm it into the soil. A lawn roller works great! Gently water until your seeds have sprouted and your plants are up and growing – this will usually take at least a month. Watch now, as the season unfolds in all of its beauty!

At the end of the growing season, after the plants have gone to seed, you should mow the entire field with your mower on its highest setting. This will prevent trees and shrubs from estab-

lishing themselves in your meadow. The mower will do a fair job of chopping up spent stems and leaves – just let them fall where they will. First, they will act as winter mulch. Then, over time they will break down and add organic matter to the soil – just as leaves and twigs do in the woods. In the absence of a mower you can go the old fashioned route and cut the meadow with a scythe or hedge clippers. In all instances care should be taken not to damage the crown of the plants, this can severely weaken or even kill perennial wildflowers.

As far as fertilizers go, wildflowers generally don't need it! In fact, rich soil does more harm than good, causing weeds to thrive and compete with your flowers for sunshine and water. Speaking of water, once your meadow is established it will only require water in cases of severe drought or if you plan to re-sow annual seeds in bare spots the following spring.



WARE RIVER NEWS TEAM



EDITOR
Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dfflynn@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com



STAFF WRITER
Ryan Drago
rdrago@turley.com

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



@ Ware River News



www.warivernews.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President



www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.



Gobi speaks during Rural Farm Forum

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Grand Room of West Brookfield Town Hall was the location for the Rural Farm Forum April 14.

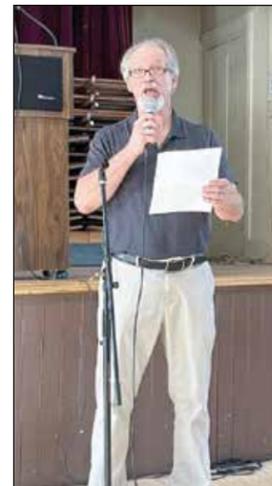
This event gave community members a chance to speak to agencies and organizations working to support local farmers and their farms. Notable organizations such as the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council, The Carrot Project, East Quabbin Land Trust, Hardwick Farmer's Co-Op Exchange, Northeast Organic Farming Association and many more attended the forum to share information and connect with local businesses and local customers.

During the Forum, Matt Koziol of Farmer Matt in New Braintree provided delicious servings of shepherd's pie in the Grand Room of the Town Hall.

Speaking during the introduction of the Rural Farm



Anne Gobi, the Director of Rural Affairs, attended the Rural Farm Forum at the Grand Room in West Brookfield Town Hall.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Select Board Chair Eric von Bleicken spoke during the introduction of the forum.

Forum was West Brookfield Select Board Chair Eric von Bleicken, who introduced all the organizations who attended the forum. A representative of each organization introduced themselves and

shared briefly what services they provide.

von Bleicken would then introduce the keynote speak-

Please see **FORUM**, page 5

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Resident enjoys return of peach season at local orchard

To the Editor,

On Sunday I enjoyed my first peach of the season at the farmstand at Breezeland Orchards.

Mark Tuttle and his wife, Gloria were on hand for the "soft" opening. Mark shared with me how the decision was made as to when to first pick the much awaited for peaches. What a treat!

My connection with the Tuttle family goes way back as I have lived in Warren for 89 years. I may not travel far in the time ahead but a short visit to Breezeland will make me happy.

If you go there, please tell them I sent you.

Peg Gorman
Warren

OPINION POLICY

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

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

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

It's summer and BBQ+Beer+Band returns to Farmer Matt's

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

NEW BRAINTREE – As usual, weather can be interesting in New England, and as beautiful as our countryside can be, luck is a necessary component.

A torrential downpour happened two evenings before a scheduled event, and fingers were crossed as we watched the sky for any portents. The day arrived and the weather settled, and a pleasant breeze wafted across the venue when we drove up the road to New Braintree.

It was late afternoon, July 17 and time for the event known as BBQ+Beer+Band at the farm of the man known as Farmer Matt.

Farmer Matt is Matt Koziol, and he raises purebred Angus cattle on his own 214 acres and more than 400 leased.

The scheduled start was 4:30 p.m., and as no one was taking attendance, folks were moseying up the hill

even before the set time. The musicians were tuning up and so it was to the back of the barn, where Lost Towns Brewing was set up, and where we were greeted by the team of Alex and Erin.

We ordered the West Coast style IPA, Nelson's Swift Ryde which is our go to, but Lost Towns had some interesting brews that we had never heard of before such as a White Stout. Stout is a beverage most associated with an island nation on the other side of the Atlantic. It is brownish, almost black color and has a rich taste.

White stout is a golden colored beer, using oats for a "creamy mouth feel." Cocoa nibs are added as is some coffee. A bit of a departure.

Lost Towns is going on the road. The brewery plans a dinner-concert series on three Wednesdays this summer. The series will take place at Laurel Ridge Bed and Breakfast.

Laurel Ridge is located off Southbridge Road on a secluded 60-acre setting in



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

Woodshed was in the groove at the BBQ+Beer+Band event at Farmer Matt's.

Warren. The words, one of much of the lumber from trees on the property. Please see **FARMER MATT**, page 6

Summer Reading continues at Ware Library

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

Events include Jungle Jim on Thursday, July 29 at 4 p.m. (this program is funded in part by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency); Music & Movement with Julie Stepanek on Wednesday, July 30 at 10:30 a.m.; Hitchcock Center: Insects & Reptiles on Thursday, Aug. 5 at 4 p.m.; Pop Up Art School: and Mask Making for ages 8-12 on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 3 p.m. (registration opens July 21 and is required by calling 413-967-9691 or emailing

gouletc@cwmares.org).

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

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

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

ADA anniversary celebration this Saturday at Senior Center

WARE – The Americans with Disabilities Act Commission will host a celebration event for the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act at the Senior Center, 1

Robbins Road, on Saturday, July 26 from 10 a.m.-noon.

There will be vendors, featured speakers, activities, displays and more. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

FORUM from page 4

er of the Rural Farm Forum, former state Sen. Anne Gobi. Since 2023, Gobi has served as the Massachusetts Director of Rural Affairs and wanted to speak to the residents and local businesses about her role and how she advocates for rural communities and helps support their economic development and growth.

The Director of Rural Affairs works with local, state and federal partners to provide resources and assistance to aid rural communities in shaping and achieving their vision for economic development. There are currently 181 rural communities in the Commonwealth and Gobi as Director of Rural Affairs visits these communities and finds out what is happening in each one.

As Gobi visits these communities, she looks to see what economic development and growth opportunities are

available for these communities. In other words, "better way to access needs," she stated. "Work on seeing what the needs are."

From Gobi's point of view every organization at the forum wants to help and there are numerous ways for farms and similar businesses to get support and better visibility throughout the state.

Gobi mentioned a contract with the Department of Transportation to work with more promotions throughout the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90). These contracts would help customers see more Massachusetts-based products.

"We're trying to promote our farms," Gobi said. "Resources for farmers are not so great."

According to Gobi, the whole country relies on farmers and their products and in recent years many farmers are facing a number of struggles trying to stay operational.

Gobi said Massachusetts is applying for many federal grants that can help rural communities develop. There are several grant programs including Community One Stop for Growth and the Rural Development Fund.

One of the biggest challenges farms are facing are the rising costs and the ongoing unpredictability. Many farms have encountered heavy losses in recent years, but Gobi thinks no funding can help recuperate the losses businesses had faced.

"As a state, we don't have that kind of funding to make up the losses," Gobi said.

When visiting the rural communities Gobi works with mainly town managers and hears the needs of each community. Rural development projects are essential to the growth of rural communities and Gobi as the Director of Rural Affairs wants to help promote the farms of Massachusetts.

There are over 7,000



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Farmer Matt provided shepherd's pie for the attendees of the Rural Farm Forum.

farms in Massachusetts and are appreciated by their customers and their communities. Gobi believes there are different ways to keep farms operational and expand their products.

Many guests and Gobi mentioned the use of agri-

educational tours, and workshops.

As the Director of Rural Affairs, Gobi wishes to connect with rural communities and help with doing more promotion for Massachusetts farms. With more promotion and sources such as agritourism, Massachusetts farms will have the support to get their farm products into larger markets.

After speaking, Gobi met with representatives of numerous organizations and answered questions they have regarding Rural Affairs. For more information, visit www.mass.gov/orgs/rural-affairs.

Gobi is also a member of the Rural Policy Advisory Commission. This commission serves as a research team for issues critical to the welfare and vitality of rural communities. This commission advocates to ensure that rural communities receive a fair share of state investment.

RESIGNS from page 9

tee could hire a permanent superintendent before the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

School Committee member Melissa Whitham said the interim superintendent's position is a "really important

job" and the committee needs to be careful in its selection.

"We have a whole community of students, and families and staff that need to know they're walking into a positive work environment and a positive school environment," she said. "We've

got to get this right."

Comments and concerns

Teacher and resident Allison Biron asked if the independent investigation into the allegations made against Lovato by the Ware Teachers Association would be made public.

"Over the past year, there has been so much negativity and so much trouble going on with our district," she said. "I'm curious what the next steps are...if we see the results of the investigation, if we don't, is there going to be some type of apology to the community now that Lovato is gone?"

Biron said many in the school community were labeled as liars with their

complaints against Lovato.

Dan Orszulak asked if Lovato was still being paid following his resignation. Winslow said he had to be careful in his response, but said there was an agreement between Lovato and the School Committee.

"There will be a period of time of payment," he said.

Resident and former School Committee member Chris Desjardins acknowledged that the committee is limited in what they can say on the matter, and that it's not that they're doing nothing.

Resident and parent Frank Bateman said there needs to be due diligence taken during the hiring process to fill the superintendent's vacancy.

He also asked about the independent investigation and the Title IX complaint filed against the school district.

"We've lost great people because of this situation, and we owe it to them to know why," Bateman said.

Bateman volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to update the athletic handbook.

Amber Boucher, who was a longtime teacher in the school district before resigning and the former president of the Ware Teachers Association, shared her appreciation for the school community.

"I will miss you all so terribly," she said. "I appreciate everything that folks have done to support the students

of Ware. I hope that they understand how they lucky they are to have concerned people who are interested in their welfare and their well-being."

Winslow said the results of the independent investigation will be discussed at a future meeting. He said it is important right now to get the school district back to where it should be.

"Things will be addressed in due time and questions that can be answered will be answered," Winslow said. "But right now, we need to have someone to lead us... we need to get back to taking care of things."

ADVERTISING SALES

HELP WANTED

- Do you want to work in your community helping local businesses connect with their customers?
- Do you want a career supporting local journalism, which tells the unique stories of our communities?
- If so, then join our team! Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers. The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills. Basic computer skills are required. Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

Turley Publications, a locally owned family business, offers a competitive commission structure, 401k, and health plan.

Send resume & cover letter to:
 Jamie Joslyn
 24 Water Street
 Palmer, MA 01069
 Email: jamie@turley.com

Saturday, July 26th

Uncle Country

7pm-11pm

Friday Nights ~ 8pm-11pm

Karaoke

Saturday Nights also if no band

Upcoming Events

Saturday, August 9th
7pm-11pm

Uncle Country

EVERY SUNDAY
DARTS
LUCK OF THE DRAW
5:30pm • All Welcome

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy

Jillian, Gina, Kiaya, Sam, Alissa, Katelyn were ready to serve guests at Farmer Matt's BBQ+Beer+Band event.

FARMER MATT

from page 5

If you've been around awhile, you remember the tornado that ripped through the area in 2011. Well, some of the trees uprooted then, are part of the house. Talk about recycling.

The band was now in tune and playing. The quartet performing are known as Woodshed. The style is designated as country/folk, but it was not without some bluesy notes.

The two instrumentalists and vocalists to the front were A.J. Kiernan and Jason Wood. Behind them were Karen Gallant providing harmony and the beat with an instrument known as a Cajon and Mike St. Germain was on stand-up bass.

The audience definitely found the band a pleasure to listen to, and others will too, as they are booked to gigs through the summer. In September they will go into a studio in Springfield to record an album of five songs over five days.

As the day got later, more and more folks arrived to enjoy the band, the food, or each other's company. Some enjoyed walking around the farm which is a pleasure in itself.

Down at the other end several Angus cows had found a lush spot and were



The Anguses (or is the plural Angi?) enjoy the lush green grass.

calmly grazing. Walking back from there, the sun was slowly declining making for a pleasant contrast over the large field.

The food squad was kept busy taking orders and preparing meals. The process started with Katelyn writing up, and the kitchen team preparing the meal and when done, it was delivered to the patron. The system itself was beyond the understanding of your correspondent, as the diners gave their phone numbers, and that had something to do with the order.

No matter, it was all efficient.

Matt was everywhere. At

one point, he and another fellow were seen moving a picnic table so that some guests could make use of it. In doing so, two kids were sitting on it as it was being carried.

What Matt won't do for his guests!

The band continued to play, the weather was idyllic and the evening continued pleasantly.

The evening would come to an end, but summer is not over and Aug. 21 will see the return of BBQ+Beer+Band with the band North Country Strangers headlining.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Author Michael Tougias presented his research and stories of the Quabbin Reservoir at the Warren Senior Center.

QUABBIN from page 1

Philip's War and is known for writing true survival stories. Tougias had dozens of books on display and available for purchase. One of them is called "Extreme Survival", where Tougias has stories from over 100 people who shared their survival stories.

Tougias also co-wrote "The Finest Hours" with Casey Sherman. This book was picked up by Disney and was made into a movie back in 2016. "The Finest Hours" is about the real-life event of the distress of two ships off Cape Cod initiating a dramatic Coast Guard rescue.

During the visual presentation on July 16, Tougias talked about the history of the Quabbin Reservoir and how the area was picked and what happened to the towns and their people. The project took place during the Great Depression as a construction project to provide drinking water for Boston and surrounding communities.

The project resulted in four towns (Dana, Prescott, Greenwich, and Enfield) being disincorporated.



Young adult books written by Michael Tougias, include "The Finest Hours", "A Storm too Soon", "Rescue of the Bounty" and many more.

Tougias had many pictures in his presentation showing the area of old homes in the lost towns. The greatest joy Tougias got from writing his book was interviewing people who knew the Quabbin area very well.

Out of all the four towns, Tougias said Enfield was the largest town. There were several houses from the Quabbin that were relocated to other areas.

There were statistics shared during the presentation, including the length of the Winsor Dam, 2,600 feet. The length of the Reservoir is 18 miles with a maximum depth of 151 feet. The Reservoir has a capacity of 412 billion gallons of water. The surface area of the Quabbin Reservoir is 25,000 acres.

Tougias described a visit to the Winsor Dam as a "peaceful walk with a beautiful view."

Not only homes, but burial plots and gravestones were relocated prior to the construction of the reservoir, which not only supplies drinking water for Boston, but for over 40 additional towns in the Boston area.

There was one gravestone left behind on a hillside and is known as the Wendell gravestone. Tougias had a photograph of the gravestone in his presentation.

Tougias also shared some forgotten history that is tied to the area related to King Philip's War. There is a sign for Wheeler's Surprise and the Siege of Brookfield. The ambush took place on Aug. 2, 1675 as Captain Edward Hutchinson died from his wounds and Captain Thomas Wheeler was wounded but managed to escape.

Wildlife is big in the Quabbin, and Tougias had many beautiful photographs of the animals who call Quabbin their home to this day. There are moose, deer, foxes, blue heron, and fish.

One popular debate about the Quabbin Reservoir is whether mountain lions live in the area or not. Many people don't believe there is, but many believe mountain lions do roam around the Quabbin. Tougias admitted that he is a believer and whoever tours the Quabbin should look out for that long tail.

Fish are in the Quabbin, including bass and lake trout. There are several fishing areas throughout the Reservoir.



Local author and historian Ed Londergan introduced Michael Tougias at the presentation sponsored by the Warren Public Library with a grant from the Warren Cultural Council and the Mass Cultural Council.

Towards the end of his presentation, Tougias spoke about the Quabbin having spiritual tranquility. It is a special feeling visitors of the Quabbin get when they explore its natural beauty. Though many residents at the time the Reservoir was being built may have lost their home or town, the future led to them gaining something back.

According to Tougias, having Quabbin Reservoir is a chance for people to make an effort to notice more as they're exploring. As a result, many visitors feel a sense of gratitude for having the Quabbin Reservoir near their home.

"Gratitude leads to new things," Tougias said.

After the presentation, Tougias took questions from the audience and signed copies of his books, including "Quabbin: A History and Explorer's Guide". Tougias had many of his books available, including some young adult books for younger readers.

Tougias identified one of his most significant stories as "The Waters Between Us". This is a story of a complex and strained relationship between father and son and how a family tragedy brings them closer together.

The story also highlights outdoor misadventures as well as the healing power nature can give you during tough times. Tougias says he still gets a lot of comments about this book to this day.

For more about Tougias' work, visit www.michaeltougias.com.

School Supply List

Suggested School Supply Donations:

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

Items For Sharing With The Class:

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

Drop Off Locations:

- WARE**
 Cedarbrook Village
 Monson Savings Bank
 Moulton Insurance
 Hakim Medical Center
 Dhillon Family Dentistry
 Ware Town Hall
 Ware River News
- PALMER**
 J Stolar Insurance Agency
 AMVETS Post 74
 Just a Little Craft Store
 Palmer Restaurant
 Phish Phriends
 Life's Memories & More
 Rocky's
 Palmer Town Hall
- MONSON**
 The Better Bean
 Monson Savings Bank
 TJ's Tavern

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
 Matt Lemieux, 413-886-2591
 Mnchkn1221@aol.com
 Dan Flynn, 413-297-5886
 dfflynn@turley.com



Crochet with Faye at the Warren library

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Warren Public Library, 934 Main St., hosted Crochet with Faye this past week to create amigurumi whales.

This is a two-part class taught by local artist FaegasiAurora, who provided all the crochet supplies. This fun activity was for crafters ages 10 and up.

Faye has been crocheting since she was a child. During high school, Faye did mostly knitting and picked up crocheting again a couple years ago. Despite the break, Faye feels her crochet skills are at their very best today.

“My skills are better than ever,” Faye said.

Faye explained the difference between knitting and crocheting when it comes to crafting certain accessories. Knitting is good for garments, but in Faye’s opinion crocheting is good for making stuffed animals.

The first class consisted of crafters beginning to craft their amigurumi whales. Faye says amigurumis can



Amigurumi whales come in all colors when it comes to crochet.

Submitted Photo

be tough because crafters have to go in a constant circle and try to remember where they started for the next step.

Faye was there to help in case crafters felt they were lost. Though amigurumi whales are tough to make, the end result is awarding. Once the framework of the whale is done, the crafters will return to the library on Thursday, July 24 at 2 p.m. for part two of the class.

Part two will feature stuffing the whales and designing their faces. Faye brought fiberfill for the stuffing that will hold the whale together as a cute, crocheted plushy or stuffed animal.



Crafters got started on their amigurumi whales during the first of two crochet classes.

Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Housing Authority hears topics from residents meeting

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Warren Housing Authority heard from Executive Director Janny Nivar about a residents meeting that took place on July 8.

According to Nivar, the residents have brought up some interesting ideas for events and activities. Some residents brought up the possibility of having a mobile pet vet to come once a year.

There were also ideas shared about having potlucks throughout the year and gathering events for games.

The Housing Authority would want to have some coordination on where the items will be organized. For items, there was a request for a handicap picnic table, exercise equipment, and

a dog park table. There is also a demand for the use of the laundry room and maintenance on the machines.

When it comes to decisions on big items the Housing Authority wants to include everyone in the decision-making process. Big items such as benches and parking.

Mark J. Carron of the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners suggested the residents be presented a ballot for voting. Every single resident receives a ballot and the board will give them a deadline to submit their votes.

The board will be responsible for counting the votes. There are currently 60 units in the housing authority.

Another idea is to have

Please see **HOUSING AUTHORITY**, page 13

Summer Reading ‘rocks’ in Warren

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Warren Public Library welcomed kids for a fun Saturday afternoon of rock painting on the common.

This Summer Reading event was open to kids, teens and families as guests got to work on their own decorative garden rocks with members of the library. Supplies were provided by the library, but guests were more than welcome to bring their own rock to paint.

There was plenty of paint for everyone to bring their rocks to life with color and creativity. The rocks were transformed into animals, insects and more. They

were painted in colorful patterns of dots and stripes.

These decorative garden rocks would look good on a bookshelf, in a garden, on a windowsill, or wherever your rock stands out the best.

The next Summer Reading event is for kids and teens and features jewelry making with artist Kim Larkin. Registration is required for this event. Kids will learn how to make a necklace, bracelet or earrings.

For more information, visit warrenpubliclibrary.org, call 413-436-7690 or stop by the library at 934 Main St.

The elephant book drop is back in the front of the library and looking better than ever to make returning your Summer Reading books both easy and fun.



Rocks became colorful during rock painting on the common.



A ladybug that can blend in with your garden.

Submitted Photos



A rock becomes a cute bumble bee.



A silly face was drawn on a rock during rock painting on the common hosted by the Warren Public Library.



A smiley face that appears to be on a rock painted ice cream cone.

NESCO SALES INC.

COMPLETE AUTO BODY CENTER

RS #1688

We Make It Easy For You!

- Collision Specialists
- Free Estimates (By Appointment)

- We Help with Insurance Claims!
- Expert Color Matching

89 1/2 State Street, Bondsville, MA 01009

www.nescoautobody.com

413-283-6403

THE CENTERED PLACE

SINCE 1988

Yoga & Meditation Classes

Offering both onsite and online classes

Voted Best Yoga in the region by
Town & Country Living Magazine

Yoga leaves you more relaxed, centered,
open and energized.
Come experience this for yourself.

YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

413 436 7374
286 BRIDGE ST, WARREN MA
WWW.THECENTEREDPLACE.COM

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

McNeely Tree Service

Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing • Storm work
- Furnace Wood
- Firewood \$275/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

ROBINSON

TREE SERVICE

LLC

Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal
Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding
Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

All Major Credit Cards Accepted
100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010
508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net
www.robinsontreeservice.net



Headsmack was one of five bands who performed at the Band Together for Mental Health event.



Deb Quilts was one of over 50 vendors who attended the event at Hardwick Winery. *Turley Photos by Ryan Drago*



Volunteers and friends of Tyler's Heart participated in a photo shoot with Frankenstein.



Rustic Fusion's Egg Roll Evolution food truck parked at Hardwick Winery.



Raffle prizes were up for grabs at the Tyler's Heart booth.

TYLER'S HEART from page 1

working hard to continue to support the mission of Tyler's Heart. The current members are Paul Haynes, Elissa Boos, Jim Boos, Alysia Kubert, Jamie Dodge, Michelle Petraitis, Jessica Huertas, Jennifer Spangenberg, and Rob Kubert.

Proceeds go to providing big life journals to schools, memorial gifts, peer to peer support and Tyler's Heart awards a \$2,000 scholarship every year. The recipient of this year's scholarship was Nadia Rondeau, a graduate of David Prouty High School.

In the past, Tyler's Heart has hosted other fundraising events, but the Band Together for Mental Health is their biggest annual fundraiser. Tyler's Heart has hosted a cornhole tournament, comedy for crash event. The car show at the Hardwick Winery was a new addition to the Band Together for Mental Health event.

The five bands performing were Ashley Hensel & Ben Eramo, Crossing Kelley, Secret Sage, Headsmack, and Lori Brooks. All the bands performed outside under one of the pavilions at Hardwick Winery.

Tyler's Heart hosted this event in previous years at the former Common Ground Ciderworks in North Brookfield. This year Kubert said the organization is looking to expand in other areas to host events including the Band Together for Mental Health.

"Spread our mission," Kubert



Merchandise such as T-shirts were available at the Tyler's Heart booth. Their mission is to bring awareness to mental health and encourage acts of kindness.



Gilbert the Pig and his pig friends visited the Hardwick Winery during the 5th annual Band Together for Mental Health

said. "Spread across the communities and looking to expand in other areas, trying to spread our message."

There were over 50 vendors in attendance at this year's Band Together for Mental Health. Vendors offered multiple goods such as jewelry, clothing, baked goods, candles, plants, soap, handcrafted items such as quilts and much more to shop for.

There was a kid's corner providing all sorts of fun activities. Kids got to enjoy face painting, tie dye, sand art, rock painting, giant Jenga, bracelet making, photo props, and a lot more. Later in the day, people got to meet Gilbert the Pig and his piggy friends at the Hardwick Winery.

Tyler's Heart had a booth with raffles with multiple prizes to win and merchandise to continue to spread

awareness of their cause in memory of Tyler and his sister Grace. There were prize baskets, sports memorabilia, tickets, band T-shirts, and Tyler's Heart swag.

Kubert describes Band Together for Mental Health as a very family-friendly event that is also about spreading kindness. For memories, there was a photo booth with a Tyler's Heart backdrop and a Frankenstein statue in front. Dozens of guests got to do a photo shoot with Frankenstein.

Throughout the day, a lot of people showed up during Band Together for Mental Health and Tyler's Heart more than doubled their funds from last year.

"We are extremely grateful for the overwhelming support," Kubert said.

For more information, visit tylerheart.org to learn more about this nonprofit organization who helps bring awareness to mental health and continuing acts of kindness.

There is a sharing wellness library placed in the center of North Brookfield. Self help books for all different ages are available in the sharing wellness library. Tyler's Heart and its team hope to expand this more in the future.

JOIN US FOR CEDARBROOK'S COASTAL CARNIVAL

A RETRO SEASIDE CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY, JULY 26TH 11:00AM TO 2:00PM

Step back in time to the golden days of the boardwalk! Grab your shades and get ready for a seaside-inspired celebration filled with old-school charm and summertime fun!

CLASSIC CARNIVAL GAMES

COTTON CANDY, POPCORN & SNOW CONES

Optional Costume Contest

You could win a prize for best:

- Cool Cat Coolness
- Beach Babe Chic
- Greaser Vibes

JUKEBOX OLDIES & SOCK HOP SOUNDS

HOT ROD DOGGS FOOD TRUCK

Bonus Tour & Raffle Entry

Take a tour during the event and you could win:

- \$250 Big Y Gift Certificate
- \$250 Visa Gift Card

"A day of nostalgia and fun for all ages!"

RSVP by 7/23 to Mary at 413-758-5377 or mdembkowski@cedarbrookvillage.com

INDEPENDENT LIVING

413-758-5377

CedarbrookVillage.com

ASSISTED LIVING

73 South Street

Ware, MA 01082

MEMORY CARE

Cedarbrook Village at Ware

An Everbrook Senior Living Community

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com



Brayden Mega fires a pitch home.



Hunter Griswold sends a fire to first.

Strong finish to regular season for Post 241

PALMER – Last week, Monson American Legion Post 241 baseball scored a 5-1 win over West Springfield in its final home game of the regular season. Post 241 fell 7-3 against Pittsfield in its regular season finale, but Monson put together four wins in its final five games to make the Legion tournament. Monson would play three games in the tournament. Coverage from those games will be in the next two editions.



Miguel Velazquez gets the tag out at second.



Grayson Griswold fields a grounder.



Shane Szado fields a grounder to first.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

North County defeats B-Town in Legion playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN— Following a loss at Northbridge Post 343 on June 28, the North County Post 129 Legion baseball team had a 2-7-1 record. The Post 129 squad closed out the regular season by winning seven of their final ten games and qualified for the state playoffs.

While North County just squeaked into the playoffs as the sixth-place finisher in District 4, Belchertown was the best baseball team in District 3 throughout the regular season.

The two Legion baseball teams faced each other in the opening round of the state playoffs at the Belchertown High School baseball field last Saturday afternoon. North County scored three unearned runs in the first inning and posted a 3-0 shutout victory over the top-seeded team in the Region 1 pod.

“We started playing very well as a team during the

second half of the regular season,” said North County righthander Levi Hessel, who was the winning pitcher in the opening round game. “I had a 3-0 lead to protect before I walked out to the mound for the first time in the bottom of the first inning.”

Hessel was a member of the Oakmont Regional varsity baseball team, which won back-to-back Division 3 state titles in 2023-24. He’ll be playing baseball at Wheaton College next year.

The righthander only allowed four base hits in 5 2/3 innings in his start against Belchertown.

North County, which plays its home games at the Winchendon School, has a total of seven Oakmont players listed on their roster. They also have three players from Quabbin Regional in Barre.

They are Alijah Flint, Adam Adams, and Aiden

Please see **PLAYOFFS**, page 11



Anthony Girgenti slings a throw to first.

Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

WMass Pioneers grab win in playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Four days after giving up a pair of stoppage time goals and having to settle for a tie against rival Vermont Green FC in the regular season finale, the Western Mass. Pioneers hosted the Long Island Rough Riders in a USL League Two play-in match.

Once again, the Pioneers held a two-goal advantage late in the second half, but this time there wouldn’t be any miracle comeback by the opposing team. The Pioneers advanced into the Eastern Conference quarterfinals with a 2-0 shutout victory before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium, last Tuesday night.

“We’re very happy with

this result, especially after what happened on Friday night,” said longtime Western Mass. Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. “It was in the back of my mind during tonight’s game. You just hope it doesn’t happen again.”

The Pioneers, who finished the regular season with a 10-1-3 record, played their last home game of the season.

Pioneers’ goalie Trey Sheppard, who made his first home start of the season against Vermont, was feeling much better after posting his first shutout against the Rough Riders.

“I didn’t sleep very well the other night, but

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 10

Tommy Catalano scores win at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, New Hampshire – For Tommy Catalano, watching his brother Trevor earn his first NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory at Monadnock Speedway last year was emotional for several reasons.

Trevor’s triumph came in only his eighth NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour appearance. Entering

Saturday’s Duel at the Dog 200 at Monadnock Speedway, Tommy had 96 career starts on his resume, none of which had resulted in a win despite several close calls.

Years of patience and hard work brought a second Catalano to Monadnock’s Victory Lane in thrilling fashion.

Tommy was tasked with fending off Patrick Emerling during an overtime restart while on older tires. Emerling briefly took the lead from Tommy, but a nudge to Emerling’s back bumper knocked him out of the groove just enough for Tommy to earn an emotional breakthrough victory by the slimmest of margins – .007

seconds.

“I didn’t really want to get [Emerling] like that into [turn three],” Tommy said. “I was hoping to kind of move him up the hill a little bit. Everyone was kind of tight right there. Justin [Bonsignore] was right on my bumper. It’s unbelievable.

Please see **RACES**, page 12



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Jose Suarez Monaco goes after the ball

sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Summer Edition

EAST BROOKFIELD – The Wednesday Mixed Summer League have three weeks left of candlepin bowling left in the summer.

After 11 weeks of league, Sophia's Raiders remain in first place with a record of 67-21. Gutter Dolls are in a distant second place with a record of 53-35. Kristen's Squad are in third place with a record of 48-40 and Straight Shooters are in fourth place with a record of 46-42.

In week 11, the Rolling Stones bowled against the Gutter Snipes. In game one, Gutter Snipes won by a score of 425-418. In game two, Rolling Stones won by a score of 428-411. In game three, Rolling Stones won the last game by a score of 433-430.

Marc Vinciulla of Gutter Snipes finished the match with a 107. The final score was 1279-1266 in favor of the Rolling Stones.

The second place team, Gutter Dolls, bowled against Sophia's Raiders. In game one, Gutter Dolls got a big win over Sophia's Raiders, 432-425.

In game two, Sophia's Raiders won by a score of 425-410. In game three, Sophia's Raiders and Gutter Dolls tied the last game at a score of 424. Sophia Hearnlaye ended the match with a high game of 109.

The final score was 1274-1266 in favor of Sophia's

Raiders. Gutter Dolls received three points and Sophia's Raiders won five.

Clock Barn bowled against Kristen's Squad in week 11. The match began with a tie in game one with both teams scoring 424. In game two, Clock Barn won by a score of 429-424. In game three, Kristen's Squad won the last game by a score of 438-428.

The final score was 1286-1281 in favor of Kristen's Squad.

The No Shows bowled against the Straight Shooters in week 11. In game one, Straight Shooters won by a score of 442-407. Alan Nason of Straight Shooters bowled a 102.

In game two, Straight Shooters won again by a score of 449-447. Pete Swistak of No Shows bowled a 105 in a losing effort.

In game three, Straight Shooters won for a three-game sweep over No Shows, 485-425. Sue Rose of Straight Shooters bowled well with a 106 in game three. Nason finished strong with a 108 during the team's victory.

Straight Shooters defeated No Shows with a final score of 1376-1279. Straight Shooters move to fourth place with a record of 46-42.

Gutter Fingers won two out of three games and six points bowling against their average. The team scores consisted of 438, 444, and 434. Jean Pouliot was over average (87) every game by scoring 99, 90 and 90.

Sophia's Raiders have three weeks left to defend their #1 seed position.

Western Mass. softball captures gold

DEVENS – Earlier this month, the entrant from Western Massachusetts captured the gold in this year's Bay State Summer Games for softball.

The tournament began this year with West team actually suffering a loss 3-0 in the opener playing in the Willard Field Complex in Devens. The tournament started on July 8 with two games. Following an opening loss, the West bounced back with a 4-3 win over the Northeast team.

Action continued on Wednesday July 9 as the West scored two wins in the game. They defeated Metro 2-1 and then trounced on the Central Mass. team 10-2 to earn a spot in the gold medal game, which took place on Thursday, July 10. The West found itself in a rematch with Coastal and this time prevailed in a slugfest, winning 11-7.

Among the players on this year's team from Western Mass., Chelsea Hull of Monson High School, Agawam's Alexina Lentas, and Holyoke's Mia Bauer were on the team.

Quabbin Valley set to host second over-28 fall league

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

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

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

While the fall league schedule is still under construction, it will mostly feature Sunday morning games played with wood-bat only, which is customary for fall baseball. There could be some Saturday games added to the schedule depending on the completion of the spring/summer season as well as to make up rain-outs, potentially. Games are nine-innings long and there is a small playoff and championship held at the end of the season. Last year's fall season was eight games and that is the goal for this year. Free and low-cost fields are used as well as just one umpire in an effort

Blue Sox scored slugfest win before break

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox had great offensive success in their 14-11 victory over the Sanford Mainers. Valley (16-19) had the bats going early thanks to shortstop Michael Elko and right fielder Isaac Wachsmann, however, Sanford (18-18) started the offensive explosion first.

In the top of the first, Mainers' Zack Kent singled up the middle to score Domenico Tozzi. Peter Koblinsky scored an earned run on an E2 by Hayden Perry and Kent scored unearned. Sanford had a dominant top of the second inning, scoring four more insurance runs thanks to wild pitches and an error by the Blue Sox.

Valley found their footing in the bottom of the inning. It started with Wyatt Hunt being hit by a pitch which was followed by Andrew Loikits' double. An E6 error occurred which allowed Hunt to score and Loikits to advance to third. Kai Cunningham then singled into center field scoring Loikits. Cunningham found his way down to second base on a nice steal and was then driven in to score off of a single by Chris Carson. It was now 7-3 at the end of two innings.

Sanford acquired two runners on first and second before Sam Miller nuked a three run home run shot into left field to make it 10-3 heading into the bottom of the third.

Just when it looked like the Blue Sox were going to be crushed by the Mainers, Valley had an incredible offensive explosion. Wachsmann crushed a homer into left field to start the scoring frenzy. Nichoals Spaventa and Hunt walked and then Loikits reached first base on an E1 which allowed Spaventa to score to make it 10-5. Cunningham hit a sac

ground out to score Hunt and advance Loikits. Hayden Perry walked to reach first. Carson drove a ball into left center to score Loikits and advance Perry to third. Then Michael Elko came to the plate. Elko ripped a triple into right field scoring Perry, Carson and himself on an E4 to tie the game at 10-10. Wachsmann came up to bat for the second time that inning and crushed a homer into the same exact spot as before to give Valley their first lead of the night 11-10 to end the inning.

Wachsmann was hyped about his home runs. "There was not a lot going through my head [during the home runs.] I was just trying to put together good at bats and help the team get back into the game."

Valley's Head Coach Endy Morales was impressed with Wachsmann's performance. "He's a super talented guy and when pitchers make mistakes and when facing really good hitters, you make them pay, that's just the name of the game right there."

More scoring occurred in the bottom of the fourth. Hunt tripled which was then followed by Loikits walking and stealing second. Cunningham then walked to load the bases up. Perry's sac ground out scored Hunt and advanced Loikits to third. Carson walked and then Elko slapped a double off the center field wall to drive in Loikits and Carson. The Blue Sox were now up 14-10.

Sanford was ultimately not able to catch up to Valley's explosive offensive momentum as the game ended 14-11 in favor of the Blue Sox.

Morales was hyped about the win. "Absolutely incredible [game]. I told the [team] in the second inning this game was going to be a dog fight and they responded," Morales said.

[@turleysports](https://twitter.com/turleysports) www.turleysports.com facebook.com/turleysports

Turleysports

Devin Slattery
WARE

The Ware native has held down the shortstop position with St. Joe's in the Tri-County league this year, leading the Saints to a second place finish in the regular season.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

Athlete of the Month



Moulton
Insurance Agency

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETE!

Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff
99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing

143 West Street
Ware, MA 01082

45 North Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007

www.moultoninsurance.com

413-967-3327

Our Family Cares About Your Family



ARBELLA
INSURANCE

PIONEERS from page 9

I received a lot of support from my teammates," said Sheppard, who's from Columbus, Ohio. "I just forgot about the past and focused on tonight's game. I'm really looking forward to playing for this team again next year."

Sheppard is also one of the goalies listed on the Amherst College men's soccer roster. The Mammoths are the defending NCAA Division 3 National Champions.

Sheppard, who's going to be a sophomore in the fall, missed most of the Pioneers regular season because the Amherst men's soccer team made a trip to Europe where they played several matches.

"It was definitely a very cool experience," he said. "We played a few games over there, but I'm very glad they gave me an opportunity to play here."

Sheppard certainly enjoyed having a solid defense in front of him led by Pioneers captain Aidan Kelly, who's a member of the UMass-Amherst men's soccer team.

"Aidan is a great defender," Sheppard said. "He makes all of the plays."

The other three Pioneers starting defenders in the home finale were Jaiden Willems, Juan Hermoso, and Gustavo Barosa.

Willems suffered an injury in the middle of the first



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Juan Hermoso heads up the field but eyes an open teammate.

half against Long Island (9-3-1). He was replaced by Jared Smith.

"I thought Jared was the man of the match," Sheppard added. "We have a very good defense."

The play-in match was scoreless until the 26th minute of the opening half.

That's when Mamadi Jiana, who graduated from Chicopee High School, received a pass from Israel Neto before blasting a shot into the net.

"I felt very good after scoring what turned out to be the game winning goal in front of the hometown crowd," said Jiana, who mostly likely played his final match wearing a Pioneers jersey at Lusitano Stadium. "It's always very special whenever we're playing at home."

A couple of minutes later, Neto fired a shot from the top of the box, but Long Island goalie Ethan Wood managed to knock the ball over the crossbar resulting in a corner kick.

The Pioneers held a 1-0 halftime advantage.

In the middle of the second half, Neto chipped a pass from the right side of the box to a wide Santiago Blasco Gomez, who put the ball into the net giving the Pioneers a 2-0 advantage.

Unlike what happened in the regular season finale, Sheppard and the defense didn't allow the Rough Riders to make a late comeback.



Rees Sheppard socks a free kick away.

PLAYOFFS from page 9

Lapointe, who pinch hit in the seventh inning.

The Legion playoff format was changed this year. The first round of the Legion double elimination playoffs were held at seven different sites throughout the state. Each of the pods had four teams.

The Senior Division Championship Tournament is scheduled to take place at Adams Field, Quincy, Massachusetts starting on July 26.

North County (9-10-1) was one of the three Legion teams who defeated the top-seeded team in the opening round.

"We managed to score three runs in the first inning before they shut us down over the final six," said North County head coach Gregg Picucci. "We played well defensively, and our two pitchers pitched very well. We just need to perform a little bit better offensively."

The only team from District 4 who beat Belchertown (12-2) during the regular season was Northampton Post 28 on June 13.

"We don't enjoy losing, but it's part of baseball," said Belchertown head coach Todd McDonald. "We just made a couple of costly mistakes in the first inning of today's game. Their starting pitcher also pitched well. He just kept throwing strikes."

North County, who was the visiting team, began the top of the first inning with a leadoff walk by centerfielder Johnny Losordo. After the next batter hit a pop-up caught by Belchertown shortstop Ian McDonald, Losordo stole second base. Then Hessel hit a flyball that

was misplayed by the right fielder, which turned out to be a key play in the inning. Following another pop-up caught by second baseman Jake Waller, North County scored their first run when leftfielder Ben Forbes hit a line-drive single to left.

Two more runs crossed the plate following another single into left field by third baseman Steven Escano.

Hessel set down the side in order in the home half of the first inning before Belchertown put together a rally in the bottom of the second.

Catcher Jacob Smith (2-for-3) began things with an infield hit to third before advancing to second base on a throwing error. DH Chace Earle also had an infield hit before a walk to first baseman Thatcher Rudnik loaded the bases. Hessel then proceeded to strike out the next threat batters ending the threat.

Hessel finished his outstanding performance with a total of nine strikeouts.

Belchertown had three more base runners in the following frame, but once again failed to score.

After allowing three unearned runs in the first inning, Belchertown righthander Alex West retired eight consecutive batters before giving up another single to Escano with one out in the fourth.

At that point, West was relieved by Earle, who loaded the bases with two outs in the inning.

Belchertown center fielder Spencer Waite made an outstanding diving catch on a line drive hit by Losordo which ended the fourth inning.

The home team loaded the



Levi Hessel pitches for North County.

bases again with two outs in the bottom of the sixth.

Forbes, who replaced Hessel on the mound during that inning, got out of that jam without allowing any runs following a strikeout.

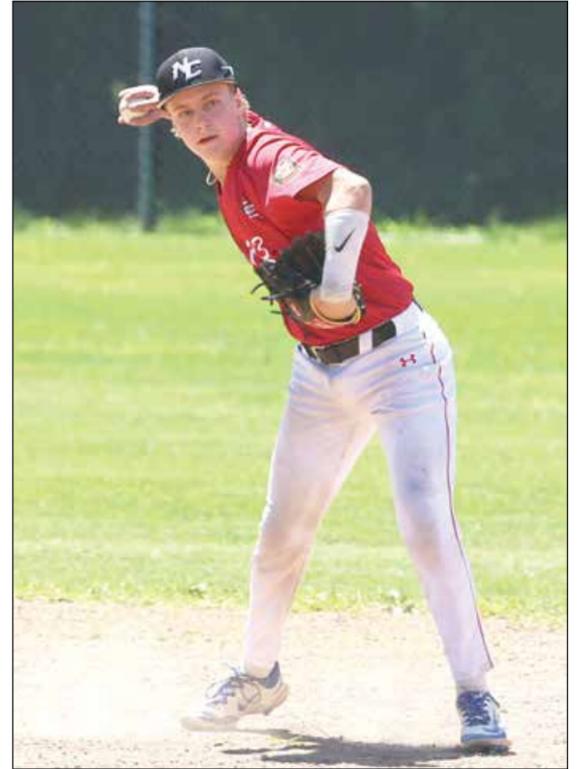
Earle, who's a righty, retired the final eight batters that he faced. McDonald set down the only batter that he faced in the top of the seventh on a flyball to center.

Forbes, who plays base-

ball at Fitchburg State University, also retired the three batters that he faced in the seventh inning, which sealed the upset victory for North County.

Belchertown kept their season alive with a 5-0 win against Northampton on Sunday morning.

North County suffered an 11-3 loss to Leominster Post 151 in a winner's bracket game.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Rocky Lora makes a play.



Adam Adams receives a throw to third.



Adam Adams, who attends Quabbin Regional High School, tries to make a play at second.

QUABBIN from page 10

to keep the costs lower for players. The cost to play will likely range from \$40 to \$60 for the eight-game schedule. Players from outside the Quabbin League may also pay a small fee for insurance as well.

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

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

Attention all businesses in Ware, Warren and Hardwick!

We're promoting the history of local businesses in our *Established* **EDITION** OFF THE MAIN STREET MEMORIES

to be published in the Ware River News

All local businesses are invited to showcase themselves to our readers – ads will run in order from the oldest to most recently established.

Whether its been 100 years, 50 years or just 5 years, your business is a vital part of our community.

Don't miss out on this special issue.

★ AD CHOICES ★

3" x 3" ad \$55
← 3" x 5" ad \$80

AD DEADLINE: **JULY 30**

CALL DAN FLYNN
OFFICE 413.967.3505
CELL 413.297.5886

PUBLISHES AUGUST 7, 2025

TARGETED MARKETING LOCAL RESULTS



Turley Publications, Inc.
www.newspapers.turley.com

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

- BARRE GAZETTE
- COUNTRY JOURNAL
- CHICOPEE REGISTER
- THE JOURNAL REGISTER
- THE LUDLOW REGISTER
- QUABOAG CURRENT
- THE SENTINEL
- THE SUN
- WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES
- TOWN REMINDER
- WARE RIVER NEWS

turleynews

TurleyPublications

Turley Publications, Inc.
- A TURLEY PUBLICATION -
WWW.TURLEY.COM

ESTABLISHED 1991

Regin's Repair
Gilbertville, MA

Auto Service & Repair • Towing

Jim Regin, Owner
19 Church Street
Gilbertville, MA 01031

413-477-6651
Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of July 13-22, the Ware Police Department responded to 32 miscellaneous calls, 25 administrative calls, nine traffic violations, 21 emergency 911 calls, six motor vehicle accidents, four harassments, one safety hazard, four thefts/larcenies, two damage/vandalisms, one breaking and entering, nine animal calls and 63 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

- Sunday, July 13**
 4:33 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Plains Road, Dispatch Handled
 6:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 8:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued
- Monday, July 14**
 1:31 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Church Street, Advised
 7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 3:44 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Spring Street, Services Rendered
- Tuesday, July 15**
 4:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Bondsville Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 1:32 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
 6:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 10:19 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Park Street, Dispatch Handled
 10:51 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
- Wednesday, July 16**
 6:59 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pulaski Street, Investigated
- Thursday, July 17**
 5:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 1:51 p.m. Damage/Vandalism, West Street, Services Rendered
 2:11 p.m. Damage/Vandalism, Greenwich Road, Advised
 7:17 p.m. Warrant Services, Main Street, Arrest Made
 Arrest: James B. Peterson Jr., 50, Ware
 WMS Warrant; WMS Warrant
 8:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled

Vandalism, West Street, Services Rendered
 2:11 p.m. Damage/Vandalism, Greenwich Road, Advised
 7:17 p.m. Warrant Services, Main Street, Arrest Made
 Arrest: James B. Peterson Jr., 50, Ware
 WMS Warrant; WMS Warrant
 8:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled

- Friday, July 18**
 3:38 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dale Street, Services Rendered
 4:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 8:15 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
 3:08 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Investigated
 4:23 p.m. Assault, Otis Avenue, Report Made
 7:52 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Could Not Locate
 8:30 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fisherdick Road, Services Rendered
- Saturday, July 19**
 9:35 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Report Made
 11:13 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pleasant Street, Services Rendered
 12:42 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Cherry Street, Report Made
 12:51 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Services Rendered
 3:40 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Otis Avenue, Advised
 4:05 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Services Rendered
 8:29 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, North Street, Dispatch Handled
 10:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Investigated
- Sunday, July 20**
 9:05 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Vernon Street, Advised
 2:34 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, River Road, Dispatch Handled
 3:06 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gilbertville Road, Could Not Locate
 4:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Belchertown Road, Investigated
 8:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued

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

- Monday, July 21**
 8:08 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Monroe Street, Services Rendered
 8:19 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
 9:46 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Street, Dispatch Handled
 12:18 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Old Belchertown Road, Services Rendered
 2:42 p.m. Assault, West Street, Report Made
 3:29 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pulaski Street, Report Made
 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
 10:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
- Tuesday, July 22**
 5:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 7:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 7:31 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, Dispatch Handled
- Wednesday, July 23**
 9:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Barre Road, Report Taken

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of July 14-21, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 59 building/property checks, 39 directed/area patrols, four radar assignments, 13 emergency 911 calls, nine citizen assists, two assist other agencies, one complaint, one investigation, three safety hazards, one scam, one threat, one trespass, one motor vehicle fire, three motor vehicle accidents, two animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

- Monday, July 14**
 10:49 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
 11:45 a.m. Safety Hazard, Delargy Road, Services Rendered
 11:50 a.m. Scam, Main Street, Spoken To
 11:51 a.m. Safety Hazard, Delargy Road, Mere
 5:21 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Officer Handled
- Tuesday, July 15**
 9:33 a.m. Assist Citizen, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Spoken To
 11 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
 12:53 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Lower Road, Transported to Hospital

- 1 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, North Street, Officer Handled
 4:18 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
 6:34 p.m. Investigation, Prospect Street, Services Rendered
- Wednesday, July 16**
 3:04 a.m. Safety Hazard, Main Street, Officer Handled
 12:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Birch Street, Call Canceled
 1 p.m. Threat, Prospect Street, Officer Handled
 2:58 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:28 p.m. Assist Citizen, Petersham Road, No Action Required
 5:05 p.m. Assist Citizen, Jackson Road, Officer Handled
 10:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
- Thursday, July 17**
 7:27 a.m. Welfare Check, High Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:33 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Officer Handled
 4:05 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Spoken To
 5:43 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Parker Court, Services Rendered

- 9:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Barre Road, Report Taken
- Friday, July 18**
 4:03 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Main Street, Services Rendered
 4:09 p.m. 911 Fire/Auto, North Road, Extinguished
 5:50 p.m. 911 Trespass, North Street, Investigated
 10:11 p.m. 911 Disturbance, West Street, Services Rendered
- Saturday, July 19**
 2:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued
 5:08 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
 7:15 p.m. Complaint, Sullivan Avenue, Officer Handled
- Sunday, July 20**
 10:02 a.m. Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
 2:07 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Investigated
 6:23 p.m. Assist Citizen, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Officer Handled
 10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Criminal Complaint
- Monday, July 21**
 12:02 a.m. 911 Welfare Check, North Street, Officer Handled

Warren Police Log

During the week of July 6-13, the Warren Police Department responded to 232 building/property checks, 12 community policings, 12 emergency 911 calls, two property damages, one stolen vehicle, one identity theft, one larceny/theft, two motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 60 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

- Sunday, July 6**
 5:24 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:48 a.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
 12:50 p.m. Trauma, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital
 1:53 p.m. Stolen Vehicle, Old West Warren Road, Criminal Complaint
- Monday, July 7**
 7:28 a.m. Falls, Yankee Drummer Drive, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 9:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Criminal Complaint
 1:21 p.m. Welfare Check, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
 8:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
- Tuesday, July 8**
 8:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation, Issued
 9:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:45 a.m. Identity Theft, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed
 1:05 p.m. Falls, Mechanic Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 1:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
 5:01 p.m. Animal Bites, Southbridge Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 6:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
- Wednesday, July 9**
 3:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:25 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Nelson Street, Officer/Chief Advised
 4:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 4:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

- 6:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning
 6:53 p.m. Speak to the Chief/Officer, Milton O. Fountain Way, Transported to Hospital
- Thursday, July 10**
 10:43 a.m. Property Damage, Nelson Street, Report Filed
 11:40 a.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, South Street, Transported to Hospital
 3:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:14 p.m. Safety Concern, Maple Street, Officer Took Call
 3:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
 5:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Criminal Complaint
 6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
 8:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

- Friday, July 11**
 4:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Investigated
 5:40 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
 2:42 p.m. Falls, Knox Trail Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
 8:14 p.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Bemis Road, Report Filed
 10:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Keyes Street, Investigated
- Saturday, July 12**
 2:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 3:59 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Pleasant Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 4:30 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:45 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Maple Street, Officer Spoke to Party
 5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 5:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:13 p.m. Property Damage, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed
 9:03 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 9:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 9:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 10:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
- Sunday, July 13**
 10:50 a.m. Falls, Bacon Steet, Report Filed
 6:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 7:21 p.m. Noise Complaint, North Street, Officer Spoke to Party

RACES from page 9

“Hopefully this isn’t the last one.”
 After starting 12th, Tommy cycled to the second position after electing to stay on track during a caution with 42 laps remaining that, ironically, involved his brother Trevor.
 Tommy lined up second behind Luke Baldwin for the ensuing restart, with Tyler Rypkema providing the two a buffer between Emerling, who led the remaining lead lap cars off pit road. Knowing he needed to move quickly, Tommy dove underneath Baldwin in Turn 1 to take the lead, which also pinned Emerling on the top line.
 By the time Emerling worked his way back to second behind Tommy, another caution would trigger an overtime restart. The fastest car at Monadnock all evening would now be lined up to Tommy’s outside for the final two-lap sprint, but even with the odds against him, the seasoned veteran was not ready to surrender the win just yet.
 Emerling led at the white flag. Through determination and sheer will, Tommy led at the checkered flag, albeit just

barely.
 The scene in Victory Lane was nearly identical to last year’s Duel at the Dog 250, with the only difference being the role reversal of the brothers.
 As the Catalanos celebrated, Emerling felt a mix of frustration and disappointment with his second-place effort. He was critical of the maneuver Tommy pulled on him to take the victory but does not plan to linger on Saturday’s defeat for long.
 “We had the best car today,” Emerling said. “We led basically the whole race and the whole team executed really good. We were doing exactly what we had to do and had the race won in the last corner but got smashed out of the way. That’s not the type of racing that I do, but I guess that’s how it goes.”
 If Emerling had edged Tommy at the line, he would have snapped a streak of different winners to open 2025, having previously won at New Smyrna Speedway. Austin Beers’ victory at Lancaster Motorplex last weekend tied the record for seven different winners in seven events that was set in 1999.

Instead, Tommy’s valiant effort during the final laps set a new NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour record; eight winners in the first eight races.
 Building up Catalano Motorsports has been a prolonged, methodical effort not only by Tommy, but his mother Amy, his father Dave, his brothers and every member of his team. That elusive first victory finally arrived on Saturday, a day Tommy wasn’t sure would ever materialize.
 “It’s just nuts,” Tommy said. “You see all the people that have won so far this year and if you said any of them were going to win their second race [this year], that wouldn’t have surprised me at all. To come here and do what we did is phenomenal.”
 “You start getting down thinking it’s not meant to be, but you keep plugging away and keep at it.”
 Kyle Bonsignore finished third in his 100th NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour start, followed by his cousin Justin Bonsignore and Beers. The rest of the top 10 included Rypkema, Baldwin, Stephen Kopcik, Craig Lutz and Anthony Nocella.

HOUSING AUTHORITY from page 7

residents sponsor an event. The Housing Authority had an idea to host an event to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States in 2026. Nivar says there is plenty of time to plan.

Modernization report

Near two buildings there is a stairwell replacement project that needs to be done. Nivar says this project proposal has been on the agenda for a while.

The Executive Director has found a vendor to do the work. There is also a fire alarm upgrade project

to be done soon.

Anticipated votes

The Housing Authority talked about a Housing Choice Voucher Program and a one-year contract with Dedham Housing. Nivar was just looking for a vote by the board before moving forward. The board voted and approved the contract.

The board moved to vote on the wage match policy. Nivar received all the information and said the policy was not originally in place. There are active employment earnings and people are earning wages currently. The board approved the wage match policy.

The Housing Authority moved on to talk about the Section 8 new construction/substantial rehabilitation compliance certification. Nivar wanted to inform the housing authority that the building is being used properly.

"The building is being used for the purpose that it was set up for," Nivar said.

This certification verifies that a property is meeting the requirements of the Section 8 program, specifically for new construction or substantial rehabilitation projects. The board approved the Section 8 new construction and substantial rehabilitation compliance certification.

Broadway hits featured on bandstand Sunday evening

BARRE – This coming Sunday marks the seventh concert in the summer series presented by the Quabbin Community Band, and will feature many favorites from the Broadway stage.

"Phantom of the Opera", "Les Miserables", "Fiddler on The Roof", and "My Fair Lady" will be featured along with guest vocalist Mary Catherine Salo who will be back with the band for her third summer to sing, "Highlights from South Pacific", and "Selections from Chicago".

The band will also be

performing, "Symphonic Gershwin" as well as "Godspell Medley" and several more.

Membership in the band is at an all-time high following COVID, and so are the crowds in attendance. Be sure to participate in the weekly 50/50 drawing when you come out to enjoy great home town music on the Barre Common, and look through the concert booklet to support the many wonderful local businesses who have come out to support the QCB this season.

All summer concerts



Mary Catherine Salo returns as guest vocalist with the Quabbin Community Band on Sunday, July 27.

begin at 6 p.m. Should there be rain on any Sunday evening, the concerts are moved indoors to the Town Hall.

WARE BOS from page 1

from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other agencies. She said it is not clear how much funding will be available from FEMA at this time.

"Currently there's less of that available...there are still hazard mitigation grants available if a disaster is declared," she said.

Kaplan said the Hazard Mitigation Plan will help make the town more resilient to natural hazards and the events of climate change, and it also increases awareness of hazards and risks among residents and could save lives if there is a serious disaster.

She said the plan has five major components, including a risk assessment, identifying vulnerable populations, mitigation capabilities and strategies.

Kaplan said the highest risks the town faces are flooding, hurricanes and tropical storms, as well as high-wind storms, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes and microbursts. Medium risks are dam failures, extreme temperatures, wildfires, invasives species and vector-borne diseases, severe winter storms and earthquakes. She said drought was considered low risk.

Power outages caused by high-wind events or winter storms are also a risk outlined in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Kaplan said a number

of actions in the previous Hazard Mitigation Plan were carried over into the updated plan due to not being completed.

She said some of the high priority actions include installing a backup generator for water supply Well No. 5, building a water filtration facility, repairing a stormwater pump on Pulaski Street and working with property owners to replace upstream culverts on private property on Route 32, replacing public way culverts and more.

"Replacing culverts on Quarry Street and Old Poor Farm Road were the two highest priority culvert replacements that were mentioned by the committee," Kaplan said.

Some of the new mitigation strategies included in the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan are developing an evacuation plan for the Winsor Dam and the Goodnough Dike reach (including the mobile home park); installing two dry hydrants at Beaver Lake; education and outreach about invasive plants and insects and targeting areas for treatment; education and outreach about vector-borne diseases (carried by mosquitoes and ticks); exploring the feasibility of making the Senior Center the designated emergency shelter for the town; evaluating critical facilities for earthquake resistance; increasing Code Red enrollment with residents; and rebuilding the town pool or

installing a spray park to help residents cope with extreme heat.

Kaplan said a "heat wave" is defined as three or more consecutive days reaching temperatures over 90 degrees.

Selectboard Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz requested that Japanese knotweed mitigation be added to the list of actions in the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan. He said the invasive plant is overwhelming roadways.

Kaplan will continue updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan to submit the final draft to the Selectboard for approval.

Fire hydrant concerns

A resident of Homecrest Avenue shared concerns about an out-of-service fire hydrant at the end of the street, which hasn't worked for at least eight years. He questioned when the hydrant would be repaired, especially after a nearby house experienced a fire.

"It should be fixed," he said.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said there are currently 34 fire hydrants out of service in town. Kusnierz said he would like to see a prioritized list for the repair and replacement of these hydrants, especially those located at the ends of streets.

"If we could just possibly know how many of our hydrants are down, why are they down, and what is the plan...how many are we fix-

ing per year, so we can get a better understanding of these issues," Kusnierz said.

Town Manager's report

Beckley said work has begun to restore the fire escape from the Grand Hall exit of the Town Hall.

He said streetlight repairs are expected to be completed on July 22. He said there are approximately a dozen that need to be repaired.

Beckley said there are cracks in the walls of the Senior Center and four contractors attended a pre-bid meeting the previous week for a project to install columns under the Senior Center and fix the cracks.

He said demolition permits have been issued for Mary Lane Hospital, and it is likely that the demolition of the buildings (except for the Wetherby Building) will begin in mid-August.

Beckley said the governor finalized the budget for fiscal year 2026 last week, and because of school choice costs, it is now \$100,000 different than what was approved by the House and Senate.

"We will need to close that gap at fall town meeting," he said.

Beckley said the cost of school choice has risen from \$1.2 million to about \$1.4 million. He said there are about 160-170 students seeking school choice.

Beckley said there is a service line pipe leaking on

Mirabile Drive located on private property. He said this service line does serve five houses, and the Water Department is looking to have a contractor fix it and then billing the property owner.

"It's losing about 100,000 gallons a day," Beckley said. "It's turned into a major leak."

Beckley said Fire Chief Jim Martinez held a meeting with mill owners and town departments to address public safety and sprinkler systems in the millyard and grant funding available.

"That's progressing and it had enough momentum that people were interested in having future meetings," he said.

Beckley said a committee under Healthy Quaboag is working on starting community gardens in town, including at the new location of Trinity Episcopal Church's Jubilee Ministries location on Pleasant Street.

Citizens' petition

A resident brought up a petition that was submitted to the Selectboard requesting the reversal of the board's vote in support of Bank of America and Baystate Health continuing to oversee and benefit from the Lewis Gilbert trust fund. Cindy Allen Bourcier said a paper with about 40 signatures was turned into the town about four weeks ago.

Beckley said this petition was shared with

the Selectboard, and the Selectboard upheld its vote to support a proposal by Baystate Health to open a Convenient Care site in town.

Public hearing

The Selectboard held a public hearing to issue a license to Tractor Supply on West Street to store flammable and combustible liquids/flammable gases and solids at the rear of the property in order to heat the building. The total to be stored would be 3,016 gallons, above ground.

The Selectboard voted in favor of issuing the license.

ADA anniversary celebration

The Americans with Disabilities Act Commission will host a celebration event for the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act at the Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, on Saturday, July 26 from 10 a.m.-noon. There will be vendors, featured speakers, activities, displays and more.

The public is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

National Night Out

National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Grenville Park, 73 Church St. Various public safety officials, town departments and organizations will be present with information, activities and giveaways.

Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

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

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO: Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email* them to: jamie@turley.com *Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 11.

	1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9			
						11							
12	13		14				15						
16			17				18		19	20	21		
22							23						
24					25		26			27			
					28		29			30			
31	32	33			34			35		36			
37			38				39						
40					41			42	43	44	45	46	47
48					49				50				
51									52				
					53				54				55
					56				57				
					59					60			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Pacific Standard Time

4. Extracts through heating and melting

10. Express delight

11. More curvy

12. Expression of uncertainty

14. Indicates before

15. Daughter of Hera and Zeus

16. Southwestern CA city

18. Unified

22. Less attractive

23. Base of jellies

24. A large and noisy party

26. He was traded for Luka

27. Wolverine genus

28. «Happy Days»

30. Root of taro plant

31. Student environmental group (abbr.)

34. Silk garments

36. Unique power

37. Ray Liotta cop film

39. Leak slowly through

40. Notion

41. Atomic #55

42. Fixed in one place

48. About heat

50. Type of baseball pitch

51. Seedless raisin

52. Large wading birds

53. Similar

54. Time zone

55. Atomic #34

56. Program

58. Old world, new

59. Contrary belief

60. «To the ___ degree»

CLUES DOWN

1. Plain-woven fabric

2. Classed

3. Suppositions

4. Midway between south and west

5. Tropical American trees

6. Leveled

7. Published false statement

8. Adolescent

9. Junior's father

12. Aurochs

13. Not low

17. Boxing's GOAT

19. Short musical composition

20. Small immature herrings

21. Eavesdropper

25. Parcels of land

29. Anger

31. Irritations

32. Hindu holy man

33. Wicker basket for fish

35. Natural object

38. Transporting in a vehicle

41. A dog is one

43. Smaller portion

44. Sew

45. Belonging to a thing

46. Horsley and Greenwood are two

47. Scottish language

49. Producer

56. Exclamation of surprise

57. Russian river

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$225.00
Seasoned cut & split \$325.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

MISCELLANEOUS

PIANO FOR SALE
\$100 or best offer.
Call Judy at 413-419-8263.

NATIVE ULTIMATE 12 FISHING KAYAK:
Excellent Condition, always stored indoors. Adjustable seat, Scotty Rod Holders, Hummingbird fish finder, trolling motor, paddle, Stohliquist fishing vest, and many extras. \$600.
Call Frank 413-537-5254

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.
BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.
Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

SERVICES

A B Hauling and Removal Service
2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris, Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

ELECTRICIAN

LICENSED ELECTRICIAN
I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Mini-splits, upgrades, pools, trustworthy & dependable. Luis Arroyo #20773A. Text or call 413-218-3301.

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.
Call John at (413)206-6509

EXCAVATING

ELIOT STARBARD EXCAVATION
35+ yrs of happy customers.
508-882-0140

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

WALKER HOME IMPROVEMENT
Interior and exterior
Finish carpentry, framing, window & door replacement, drywall, painting and decks. Competitive pricing. Insured.
Call Brendan at 413-687-5552.

Find archives of this local newspaper at
www.newspapers.turley.com

SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arboretum Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING
Weekly Mowing
Landscape design and installation
Paver Patios, Walkways
For more services visit mattguertinlandscaping.com
Call or text 413-266-9975
Insured - Commercial - Residential

LAWN & GARDEN

***COMPOSTED LOAM* 3/8"** screened, \$40/yd. deliv., 10 yd min.; No additives, fillers or by-products. Local deliv. to Oakham and surrounding towns only. Eliot Starbard 508-882-0140.

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS
ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

C J MASONRY HARDSCAPE RETAINING WALLS

Chimney Repair
Foundation Repair
Steps, Patios
Pool Surrounds
Pressure Washing
Water Proofing
Cord Wood

Brian French
(413) 222-5542
frenchyn@gmail.com

SERVICES

PLUMBING

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees. Free estimates. Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374.

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING
Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

DL & G TREE SERVICE. Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

TUNE-UPS

LAWN TRACTOR & MOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A & M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
STUMP GRINDING
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
Call Miike (413) 348-7967

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING
Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

SAW STUMP GRINDING
413-213-5470

SAW Stump Grinding
Call for a Free Estimate, Veteran Owned, Fully Insured
WWW.SAWSTUMPGRINDING.COM
413-213-5470

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

HELP WANTED

Full Time Position
OIL BURNER SERVICE TECH

MA Oil Burner Tech License required. Full Time position with benefits and vacation. Local service area, no cities. Potential signing bonus based on experience. Call Sherman Oil to inquire. 508-867-7447 or email shermanoil@aol.com.

HOUSEKEEPER. Monday and Friday, 5 hours each day. Duties include cleaning, ironing, washing. Send resume to **PO Box 8, Hampden, MA 01036.**

SERVERS WANTED
Inquire at **Girly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069** or call 413-284-0005.

THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON IS SEEKING A **PART-TIME TREASURER.**

\$20,384 - \$23,110 annual salary based on experience. Approximately 16 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Position is open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest and resumes from qualified candidates for a **full-time Equipment Operator/General Laborer** position within the Highway Department.
Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

More in-depth information can be found on the Town's website: www.worthington-ma.us
Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to highway@worthington-ma.us and sboard@worthington-ma.us.
This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.
The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Post your job openings in our classifieds. WE GET RESULTS!

HELP WANTED

TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Peru Highway Department is now accepting applications for the position of **Truck Driver/Laborer.** Preferred applicants will have a valid Class B CDL, Class 2A Hoisting license, and a current DOT Physical card. Construction and mechanical experience preferred. Must be able to work in all weather conditions. Position is full time 40hrs/week with mandatory overtime during snowstorms. Excellent benefits.
Email resume to: townadmin@townofperu.com or mail to **Town of Peru, Board of Selectmen, 3 East Main Rd. Suite 107, Peru, MA 01235.**
For additional information contact the Highway Superintendent at (413) 655-8224.
(The Town of Peru is an equal opportunity employer).

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

4 ROOMS, 2 BEDROOMS, 1.5/baths, appliances included. \$1500/mo. No utilities. 1st/last/security. References and proof of income required. Call 413-589-0401.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

WARE: 3 BDRM., quiet dead end street. Refrig/stove/off-street parking. \$1300/mo. First/last. (508) 723-2638.

FOR RENT

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

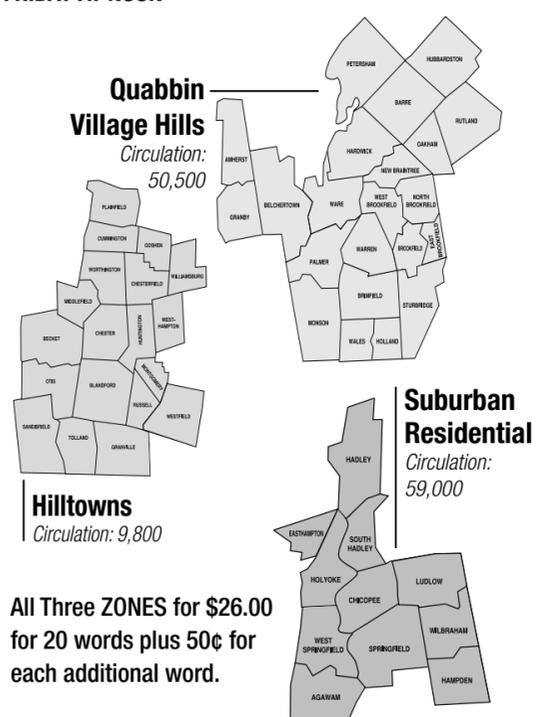
FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
Make checks payable to Turley Publications

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

FRIDAY AT NOON

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

Turley Publications, Inc.
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS
413.283.8393
www.turley.com
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

DISPATCH from page 1

today.
 “We could not be here without the unwavering support of chiefs, mayors, town managers, City Councilors, senators, legislators and the Massachusetts State 911 Department,” Ryan said. “Today is the culmination of vision, partnership and hard work.”

She also recognized retired Chicopee Police Chief William Jebb and former Mayor Richard Kos for their support.

“Their vision and leadership helped to get these important conversations started. We cannot thank you enough,” Ryan said.

Pozniak said the facility “embodies a shared commitment to public safety, regional collaboration and innovation in the world of emergency communications.”

“At the State 911 Department, we believe that every second counts and this new complex will help ensure that every call is met with swift, professional and coordinated response. It is a shining example of what we can accomplish when cities and towns come together for the greater good,” Pozniak said. “WESTCOMM reflects the very best of what public service is all about, putting people first, investing in technology and building resilient systems that protect our communities.”

Vieau encouraged potential regional partners to visit the facility.

“I know that a lot of our neighbors are concerned about giving up control, but what you end up with is state-of-the-art, professional dispatching. Something that is very special in keeping your community safe,” Vieau said. “As mayor of Chicopee, I believe that’s paramount. It’s paramount to the success of any community. You want to make sure that people who live in your city feel safe or your town feels safe and that’s really what this is all about.”

Oliveira shared WESTCOMM’s reach



An exterior shot of the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch

Turley Photo by Kristin Rivers

also serves his colleagues including state Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), who also represents Chicopee, state Sen. Ryan Fattman (D-Sutton), who represents Monson and state Sen. Peter Durant (D-Spencer), who represents Ware.

He stressed, also, the importance of reliability for emergency management systems, citing the tragic floods in Texas earlier this month.

“Having access to a dispatch center that can put you in touch with the life-saving people that each one of these folks behind me represents is essential to ensure that our public is served by this facility,” Oliveira said.

Velis emphasized having more people working in public safety.

“The most sacred role of all elected officials is public service is the well-being of the people they represent. The physical safety of the people they represent, and this building right here goes a long way incrementally to increasing and protecting the public safety of the people we represent,” Velis said.

Beaulieu shared the timeline, with the journey having started in 2015, the Massachusetts State

Police joining the ranks in December 2016, Kos, Jebb and Secretary of Public Safety Dan Bennett coming together in 2017 to kick things off, seven communities being part of the regional dispatch until it was narrowed down to three, but “we all still had the same vision.”

He also noted prior Board of Directors Chair Stephen Crane for keeping things moving, hiring Hastings as the first executive director, the rest of the team and the dispatchers.

“From the board of directors to everybody that works in this building to all our state senators and representatives, thank you for letting us get to fruition with this building,” Beaulieu said.

Arriaga said the facility “is built to facilitate the folks that save lives” and how “every single phone call requires that right person, that right technique and it makes all the difference in the world.”

“It is time of the essence and they deserve a place they can sit comfortably and do their job. They are courageous folks and this facility’s only going to help amplify the help that they’re giving our region. Public safety is of

utmost importance and this facility stands as a symbol of that,” Arriaga said.

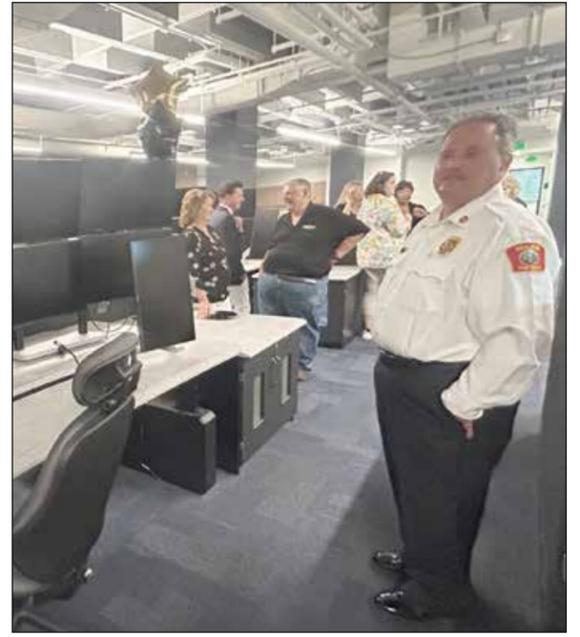
Puppulo said that this opening was “a great collaborative.”

“When you look at what’s been able to happen here over the last several years and over what we’ve been able to bring today to the table, it really is not only a regional effect, but a state-wide sort of effect,” Puppulo said. “It’s certainly more should be done across this Commonwealth in the likes of this to make sure that we’re able to regionalize to save money, be more efficient and be faster with the services that we need to get out there to rescue and save lives.”

Hastings said that “standing here today is more meaningful than I can express” and how the facility “isn’t just bricks and steel,” but “a physical manifestation of an idea that was sparked years ago when a small group of leaders believed there was a better way to serve our communities, to regionalize 911.”

She also thanked the dispatchers who stepped up to serve.

“You are the reason this place exists. It was built for you, it was built because of



Ware Fire Chief Jim Martinez looked at one of the dispatch stations at the newly opened WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch building.



Dispatcher Mirelia Vargas stands by one of the work stations.

you, it was built to honor the critical life-saving work you do every single day and while the leadership may change over time, the legacy is in the foundation. You don’t need a name on a plaque to know where the roots of something strong lie. You just need to look around and remember

who showed up with a blueprint and a vision,” Hastings said. “Congratulations on this next chapter. May these walls serve as both protection and promise for the public, the responders and the professionals within them.”

public notices

**TOWN OF WARE
 Department of Public Works
 Legal Notice
 Invitation for Bids
 FY 2026
 Annual Materials & Services
 Contract: DPW-26-01**

The Town of Ware will receive sealed bids for furnishing materials and services as needed for the yearly period from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. The bids are for bituminous concrete resurfacing and related work, for various mixtures of bituminous concrete picked up at the plant and for furnishing and applying liquid asphalt.

Specifications and Bid Forms are available at the Town of Ware, Town Manager’s Office, 126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082 and at https://cms1.revize.com/revize/warema/bids_procurements/2025.php#outer-5563.

Bids shall be submitted and addressed to the Town of Ware and marked “FY 2026 Annual Bid for Materials and Services”. Bids will be received at the Town Manager’s office, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA until **11:00 A.M., August 14, 2025**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Contractors are required to comply with the Commonwealth of Mass. Department of Labor and Industries Prevailing Wage Rates in accordance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 149, Sections 26 and 270. The Town of Ware is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. 07/24/2025

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 LAND COURT
 DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
 COMPLAINT TO FORECLOSE TAX LIEN**

[seal] No. 21 TL 000203
 Theodore M. Giles, Jr., also known as Theodore Moss Giles, Jr., formerly of Schenectady in the State of New York, and also formerly of Worcester, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth, and now of parts unknown; or his heirs, devisees or legal representatives:

A Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff Tallage Brooks, LLC. The Complaint asks the Court to enter a judgment ending any ownership rights or interests in the land described below. The

Complaint is about a parcel of land located in the Town of Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, described in the Complaint as follows:

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.179 AC being described as parcel 60 0 176 in the office of the Assessors, Town of Ware identified in book and page 7073-313, Hampshire Registry of Deeds.

To respond to the Complaint, you or your attorney must take these steps by the Deadline to Answer, which is the eighth day of September in the year two thousand and twenty-five.

First, prepare a written Answer. You may write your own Answer or use the form or the online guided interview program on the Court website. Second, file your Answer with the Land Court Recorder’s Office, or in the Assistant Recorder’s Office at the Registry of Deeds where the land is located, or using the Court’s online eFiling system. Third, serve a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff by mail or e-mail.

If you do not answer the Complaint by the above Deadline to Answer, this Court will

find you in default. You may lose the chance to answer or dispute the facts listed in the Complaint or pay the taxes owed. You may lose all ownership rights or interest in the land described above. If a judgment of foreclosure is entered, you will lose ownership of your property. If the property is worth more than the amount owed to cover the tax debt and foreclosure costs, you may be entitled to receive any remaining funds (excess equity) from the Plaintiff.

It is ordered that this citation be published right away, once in Ware River News a newspaper published in Town of Ware.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this **sixteenth day of July in the year two thousand and twenty-five.**

Attest with Seal of said Court.
 Deborah J. Patterson
 Recorder

Plaintiff’s Attorney:
 Daniel C. Hill, Esq.,
 6 Beacon Street, Suite 600,
 Boston, MA 02108
 Tel: (617)494-8300
 07/24/2025

**TOWN OF HARDWICK
 BOARD OF HEALTH
 PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Hardwick Board of Health will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 6:45 p.m.** at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment on proposed Grease Trap Regulations. These regulations establish requirements for the installation, maintenance, and inspection of grease traps in food service establishments to prevent blockages and protect public sewer and septic systems.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Copies of the proposed regulations may be requested at Town Hall or by email to bh@hardwick-ma.gov. 07/17, 07/24/2025

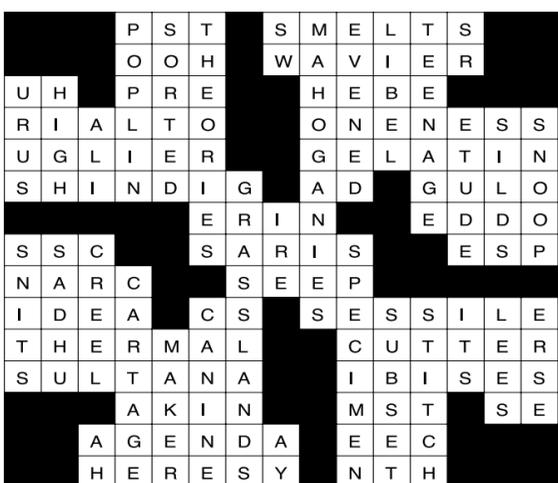
Storage Auction
 In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Kerri Tinker will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 70 Boston Post**

Rd., Warren, Mass on 8/16/25 at 9:00 a.m.

The contents of Gerry Van Pelt, Julie Figueroa, Ashley Apraham, Brian Alves, Michael Murphy and Bernadette Carberry will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 167 West St., Ware, Mass on 8/16/25 at 9:30 a.m.**

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278. 07/24, 07/31/2025

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



Ware River News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.
 One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.
 The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**NO SALES TAX HOLIDAY!
PRE BUY SALE!!!!**

**1000'S OF APPLIANCE DEALS!
E-BIKE SALE!!!
100'S OF A/C'S & HUMIDIFIERS!
GIANT BIKE SALE!!!**

12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING
WHITCO
 140 Main St., Spencer
 www.whitcosales.com
 508-885-9343
 Open: Mon.-Fri. 10am-8:30pm, Sat. 9am-8pm, Sun. 12pm-7pm

**NEW LISTING:
WEST BROOKFIELD, MA**



Charming 4-bed Cape in beautiful West Brookfield! Close to the town common, this 2000 sq. ft. antique-style home blends character & comfort. Enjoy a custom remodeled kitchen, with breakfast nook & all appliances included. 1st-floor bedroom, sunny family room, dining & living room, remodeled bath, natural gas stove, oil heat, and spacious mudroom with laundry. 3 more bedrooms upstairs, plus a bonus room. Neutral & inviting throughout. Oversized 2-car detached garage and 2 fenced backyards - perfect for pets or play! Sidewalks, streetlights, in-town beach, and year-round events make this town feel like a Hallmark movie. Easy access to Routes 9, 20, & MA Pike! Listed at \$389,900.

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

We Do More So You Will Make More!!!



exp REALTY
 Michelle Terry
 Broker/Owner
 130 W. Main Street
 Spencer, MA 01562
 michelleterryteam.com

GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008



2 bed/2 bath mobile home in highly sought after Nanatomqua. Luxury vinyl plank floors, bed & bath at each end. Eat-in kitchen, oversized living room w/electronic blinds and built-ins. All new windows throughout. Furnace only 2-3 years old. Park share \$17,250 included in list price. Monthly lot rent \$210 includes water, sewer, taxes, road maintenance and trash removal. Whole house generac generator, shed. Covered deck with handicap ramp.

**6 Second Street
Brookfield - Nanatomqua
\$190,000**

Lisa Caron Real Estate
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, CDPE, E-PRO
 42 W. Main Street, PO Box 447 Brookfield, MA 01506
 Cell: 508-341-8299
 Search Homes Instantly: <http://www.lisacaron.com>



WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!

LANDSCAPE STONE
 White • Blue • Purple • Red
 Lt Gray • Dark Gray • Beige • Rip Rap

SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING

Construction Stone • Title V & Presby Septic Sand
 Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand
 Pool Liner Sand • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel
 Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums
PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

Bond
 98 North Spencer Rd., Spencer
 bondsandandgravel.com
 508-885-6100
 508-885-2480

Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

Adventure tours of Warren
 Share the Adventure with us!



**2026 Norwegian Cruise Line
Bermuda and Nova Scotia -
Call Today**

July 12.....Escape to Rockport	\$110
July 26.....Perkins Cove for a Day.....	\$110
Oct. 4.....Stockbridge - Rockwell Museum.....	\$120
Oct. 18.....Turkey Train.....	\$175
May 20268-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruis.....	from \$1699

Share the Adventure with us soon!
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
 or email adventuretours@att.net
 or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com



Gorgeous 4 br home with so much character. Open floor plan, large eat-in kitchen w/lg center island, upgraded corian countertops, built-in hutch, pantry, pellet stove, tons of cabinets & access to back patio area. Dining rm w/wood floors, front to back living room w/brick fireplace & 1/2 bath make up 1st floor. On the 2nd fl you will find a full bath & 4 bedrooms all w/hardwood floors & great closet space. There is a small finished room in the basement. Everything has been done here..... Buderus Boiler & hot water tank in 2013, mass save insulated 2013, new driveway 2018, new roof 2019. This property sits on 1.52 acres & is beautifully landscaped. You will find raspberry bushes & tons of perennials. Screened gazebo & storage barn in huge back yard.

**35 Ayers Street
North Brookfield
\$449,900**

Lisa Caron Real Estate
 Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, CDPE, E-PRO
 42 W. Main Street, PO Box 447 Brookfield, MA 01506
 Cell: 508-341-8299
 Search Homes Instantly: <http://www.lisacaron.com>




180 West Street, Ware • 508-868-0016
www.bppools.com • bppools@hotmail.com

**Support Your
Hometown Businesses
SHOP LOCAL**

**BUYLINE CONNECTION
3 Ads for 1 Low Price!!!**
 Ware River News, Barre Gazette & Quaboag Current
 Over 16,000 copies • Prints every Thursday

Special Ad Size Pricing

3" x 1" ...	only \$33
3" x 1.5" ...	only \$48
3" x 2" ...	only \$66
3" x 2.5" ...	only \$82
3" x 3" ...	only \$99

Full Color Included!

**Contact
Dan Flynn
413-297-5886
dflynn@turley.com**

FARMSTAND IS NOW OPEN!!!



PEACHES ARE IN!

Our Donuts Are Famously Delicious!

FREE 1/2 Dozen Cider Donuts
 WITH THIS COUPON AND PURCHASE
 GOOD TUES. THRU THURS. ONLY TP

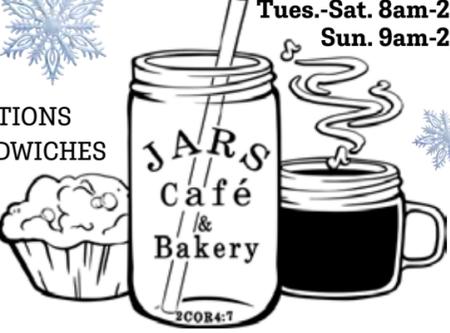
Southbridge Road, Warren, MA
 5 min. from Sturbridge - 148 N. Follow Signs
 Open 10am-6pm



**23 Summer Street
North Brookfield
MA 01535**

- ❖ COFFEE
- ❖ GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS
- ❖ BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
- ❖ SOUPS
- ❖ COOKIES
- ❖ MUFFINS
- ❖ PASTRIES

508-637-1577
 Tues.-Sat. 8am-2pm
 Sun. 9am-2pm



Bring in entire ad for one FREE Beverage with purchase of a baked good. Tues.-Thurs. 8am-10am

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge. Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.



www.turley.com

Cohasse Golf Course
 Semi Private - Join Today!
 Visit Cohasse.com for Times
 Memberships Available
 for 2025 Season
*Bar open limited hours.
 Restaurant not open yet.*

COHASSE COUNTRY CLUB
 393 Eastford Road
 Southbridge, MA 01550
 Phone: (508) 764-6801



UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

