

WARE RIVER NEWS

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A slice of history

Cake picnic featured during Historical Day

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Historical Commission held a cake picnic this past Sunday during Historical Day as part of celebrating the

nation's 250th birthday.

This picnic featured cakes made by community members with some featuring historic references and designs inspired by the history of the U.S. and its incredible milestone as it reaches 250 years old this year.

As part of the cake picnic, visitors grabbed a voting card and selected cakes

Please see **CAKE**, page 6



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

The cake picnic at the Historical Day held on July 26 was well attended and guests grabbed some to-go boxes to take a slice of each cake.



Ware celebrates first ever Olde Home Day

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The first ever Ware Olde Home Day took place this past Saturday at Grenville Park.

This celebration was the start of the U.S. 250th Celebration Week in town organized by the 250th U.S. Celebration Committee. The

committee had a booth set up with merchandise information regarding upcoming events as part of the weeklong celebration.

Nicole Croteau of the 250th Committee said this was the first Ware Olde Home Day celebration.

"A fun filled day," Croteau said.

Please see **OLDE**, page 7

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Above, Kids and adults participated in a sack race. Right, Kohen, 10, finished in third place in the children's pie eating contest.



Time capsule from 1961 revealed

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – As part of the town's U.S. 250th Celebration Week, the Historical Commission opened a time capsule from 1961 in the Town Hall.

This was the Mary Lane Hospital/Gilbert Building time capsule that was placed in the wall behind the cornerstone, back in the 1960s. The actual time capsule was

put on display alongside items connected to the historic dedication ceremony.

The display featured an original invitation card to the ceremony back in 1961 and the gold shovel.

The same table also featured a poster

with a write up called "History of Town Meeting in Ware", by Kathleen H. Coulombe. This piece talked about the foundation of democracy in the Town of Ware and in the American

Revolution.

The earliest settlement in Ware is recorded to be around 1725. According to Arthur Chase's History of Ware (1911), Ware became a precinct, referred to as the Ware River. The precinct would soon be incor-

Please see **TIME**, page 16



Turley Staff Photo

The time capsule was on display during Historical Day at the Ware Town Hall.

Ready, set, sew!

Sewing classes offered at Trinity Episcopal Church

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – About a dozen people joined the first sewing class offered at Trinity Episcopal Church last week, led by instructor Sandy Ulen with assistance from Loanne Flynn, Barbara Newton, Christine Jeffery and Suzanne Chagnon.

Please see **SEWING**, page 7



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Barbara Newton helped Abbie use her sewing machine.



Schedule of Events

★ 5 to 8 p.m. Family Fun Zone,
Includes Bounce Houses, Obstacle Course, Dunk Tank

★ Face Painting, RockWall and MORE!!!!
All activities are free!

★ 5 to 6 p.m. Torie Jock & Damage Control 🎵

★ 7 to 8:30 p.m. Concert By Charlie Lask & Forever Diamond 🎵

★ 8:45 p.m. Donna Lee Honeywell - National Anthem & more 🎵

★ 9 p.m. Fireworks Spectacular

Concession Stand, Food Trucks, Kettle Corn and More!

For more information,
contact Dan Flynn at 413-297-5886
or Dustin Pennington at 413-813-7328

Ware
Fireworks
Spectacular
and Family Fun!!!
Saturday,
August 1st

Ware Public School Campus
237 West St., Gates open 5 p.m.

Rain date Sunday, August 2nd

RULES

No alcohol
No smoking or smoking products
No animals except for service animals
No chairs on football field
Bags /coolers may be checked

Vote by Mail postcards mailed for State Primary

WARE – The Secretary of the Commonwealth has sent out Vote by Mail postcards to all registered voters in each city and town.

The application deadline to apply for a Vote by Mail Ballot for the State Primary is Tuesday, Aug. 25.

If you choose to return the postcard please be sure to sign and date the postcard before you return it. Postage has been paid so you can simply mail the card, it is not necessary to drop off in person.

If you choose to drop off the postcard there is a Blue Drop Box outside the lower level of Town Hall

marked “Town Clerk,” feel free to drop off as the box is checked several times during the day.

Things to remember

Choose which election or elections you wish to receive a Vote by Mail ballot.

If you are enrolled in a party you will receive that party ballot for the State Primary.

If you are not enrolled in a party (Unenrolled) you must choose which party ballot. you desire for the State Primary.

You may wish to vote in the State Election of Nov. 3; if so, then simply check that box only.

Voting status

Please feel free to check your status as a voter by going to www.mass.gov and search for your voter registration information under “Elections and Voting.” Here you can see how you are registered, what address you are registered at, your party choice if you have enrolled in a party.

You will also be able to view a sample ballot if you are enrolled in a party.

If you are not registered to vote, have changed your address within the town or wish to change your party enrollment you must do so ten days prior to any election.

Are You Old News?



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

Last week's photo from 2022 showed Katie Pietrowski, left, and Annette Nowicki, both of Quabbin Wire, serving up hamburgers and hot dogs for students, family and school staff at the Ware Middle School Block Party. Pietrowski correctly identified herself and Nowicki.

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

Celebration of nation’s 250th continues July 31

WARE – The town’s U.S. 250th Celebration Committee has planned many events to celebrate the nation’s semiquincentennial.

On Friday, July 31, Workshop13 will host “Where’s the Talent?” in its Grand Hall at 13 Church St., from 5-10 p.m. This talent show is for performers of all ages and talents. Prizes will be awarded for each age group.

The town parade and fireworks spectacular will be held on Saturday, Aug. 1.

The parade will begin at 11 a.m., starting at Grenville Park on Church Street, turning onto Main Street, and ending on West Street.

From 12:30-3 p.m. that day, visit Nat Falk Men’s Clothing, 64 Main St., to celebrate the business’ 90th birthday.

Starting at 5 p.m., the Ware Public Schools campus will host the town’s annual Fireworks show, with food vendors, bounce houses, face painting, dunk tanks and live music.

The Ware Lions Club will host a Concert in the Park on Thursday, Aug. 13 in Grenville Park from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond will perform with special guest Jimmy Mazz.

This concert was rescheduled from July 30 due to weather.

National Night Out to be held Aug. 4

WARE –National Night Out event will be held at Grenville Park, 73 Church St., on Tuesday, Aug. 4, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

NNO is a family-friendly community event where parents and their children will have the opportunity to interact with squad cars, fire trucks, ambulances, Department of Public Works equipment, and other public safety



partners to enhance the relationship between neighbors and emergency service personnel while bringing back a true sense of community.

The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. NNO triumphs over a culture that isolates people from each other and allows them to rediscover our own communities and build lasting relationships.

Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park

WARE – The Ware Lions Club presents Concerts in the Park on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Grenville Park, 73 Church St.

Admission to concerts is free and concerts are weather dependent.

Concert dates include Aug. 6, Woodshed; and Aug. 13, Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond with special guest Irv Lewis.

Please note the Aug. 13 concert was rescheduled from July 30 due to inclement weather.

During each concert, the Ware Lions will have a

concession stand selling hot dogs, chips, popcorn and beverages. Raffle tickets for prizes will also be available.

This year’s raffle includes a chance to win a \$300 gasoline gift card to Brookside Mart on West Street. Tickets are \$10 each and available at Thursday night concerts, from any Ware Lions Club member, or at Nat Falk Men’s Clothing or St. Germain Insurance.

The gasoline gift card winning ticket will be drawn on Thursday, Aug. 13. Proceeds from this raffle go to Lion’s charities.

Paige Memorial Library gets ready for Hardwick Fair

HARDWICK – Paige Memorial Library’s Summer Reading program, “Dig in and Read,” is keeping patrons busy with activities and good books.

There are prizes for adults and children who keep up with their reading. Come join the fun.

This year’s theme encourages you to explore history, science and culture and to dig-in to dinosaurs, paleontology, archaeology, American history, plants, nature and gardening.

Summer Reading ends with a fun filled field day on Aug. 22.

The Hardwick Community Fair is fast approaching. Volunteers

are preparing books for the Annual Friends’ Book Sale, and the Paige Memorial Library is where to bring entries for the Literary Competition.

Find the entry form here: <https://www.hardwickfair.com/fair-forms>.

Entries can be poetry (free verse or rhyme), books (no longer than 20 pages: picture/comic/graphic art, computer generated and hand-drawn), fiction, nonfiction (such as editorial, essay, school paper, scientific paper, biography, editorial, or personal perspective piece such as blog post or memoir excerpt) submitted by children up to 8 years old,

youth ages 9-12 years old, teens ages 13-16 years old, and adult, age 17+ years.

Download the form, fill it out, deliver it to the Paige Memorial Library, or mail it to: Literary Competition, Paige Memorial Library, P.O. Box 413, Hardwick, MA 01037. All entries, mailed or delivered, must be received by 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 7. Please note this is a week earlier than the fair weekend.

Come create Fairy Houses on Aug. 4 at 4 p.m., Aug. 5 at 10:30 a.m. and Aug. 6 at 4 p.m. Check your house for old jewelry, tiny figures, orphaned toys and more to make your cre-

ation personal and special.

Since space is limited appointments can be made to cut down on wait time by calling 413-477-6704.

On Aug.15 come to the Hardwick Community Fair, the “Oldest Fair in the United States” since 1762.

The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, will be closed for borrowing on Aug. 15 but will open downstairs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for the Annual Book Sale. From 9 am.-3 p.m. view the Hardwick Fair-y Village and visit with Ambrosia, the Hardwick Village Fairy. There will be glitter tattoos and face painting by Miss Elizabeth.

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

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Parish invites families from across the area to its Summer BBQ on Sunday, Aug. 2 with dinner served noon-1 p.m. at the South Barre Rod and Gun Club, 2626 Barre Road.

The afternoon is planned with every age in mind, from grandparents to grandchildren.

The meal is a half chicken dinner served with baked potato, corn on the cob, salad and watermelon. Children and adults alike can join in the games, and raffles and prizes will run throughout the afternoon.

Tickets are \$20 each and are available by calling the rectory at 413-477-6493.

This is a fundraiser to benefit the Parish Renovation Funds.

All are welcome to join in the fun.

About St. Aloysius Parish

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

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



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Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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9 a.m. - noon

Meet Dr. Andrews
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Browse the entire collection of
Erkers frames



Ware High School Class of '76 plans 50th reunion

Contact information for classmates needed

WARE – Ware High School Class of 1976 is planning its 50th reunion celebration to be held on Oct. 17 at Teresa’s Restaurant.

Class alumni have reached out to many, but are still in need of contact information

for many other classmates.

If you have not yet been contacted, or you know someone who needs information or for other questions, text or call Michelle (Nowak) Higney at 413-237-5854.

August 22
2pm to 7pm

\$60

AMVETS Post 74
2150 Main St
Three Rivers, MA 01080



Steak Dinner, Cigars, Music, Raffles, and More

2026 Steak Dinner

Ticket includes: Dinner, Music, Tasting Event, Cigars, and More

Proceeds to Support our Local Veteran Community



For Information:
Call Post 74: 413 283 4518
Email: Amvetspost74@comcast.net

Tickets Available online and at the Bar



Selectboard OKs ‘fare free’ rides for at risk residents

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Jen Healy, manager of the Quaboag Connector transportation service, requested use \$15,000 of the town’s opioid settlement funds to provide a “fare free” program for Ware residents.

“We have always seen transportation as a social determinant of health, as something to improve the overall wellbeing of folks in the Quaboag Valley, especially the folks in Ware where we are headquartered and where we receive so much support from the town,” Healey said at the July 21 Selectboard meeting.

Healey said the program would be for people in recovery or at risk of developing opioid use disorder. She said they would determine need through a partnership and referral program.

Healey said the software system used to schedule rides for residents in 10 towns can be utilized to accept referrals from Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance, Behavioral Health Network and the Recovery Center of HOPE and other community partners. This will allow eligible riders to maintain anonymity.

“So that when they ride with us, they are not prompted to pay a fare,” she said.

The Selectboard voted to approve the request.

Appointments
Three people applied for two vacancies on the Advisory Committee (formerly known as the Finance Committee). One of the applicants, Nancy Talbot, submitted a statement withdrawing her application due to there being two qualified candi-

dates that also applied to fill the seats.

Brenda Wrobel and Michelle McGuigan were both appointed to serve on the Advisory Committee.

Wrobel has over 38 years in healthcare industry finance, and she is currently employed at UMass as the business manager for the Fine Arts Center. McGuigan is a certified public accountant with over 31 years of experience and she owns a business in town.

Robert Krasnecky was reappointed to serve on the Conservation Commission for a term of three years.

Pole hearing

Representatives from National Grid said the utility company requested to place one joint ownership pole 100 feet west from the centerline of the intersection of Church Street and Gilbertville Road for a replacement conductor project on Gilbertville Road during a pole hearing.

This pole hearing was continued in order to draft new plans with a different location of the JO pole, as not to obstruct a resident’s visibility from their driveway.

National Grid also requested to install a JO pole at the centerline of the intersection of Belchertown Road and West Main Street to improve reliability on Gould Road; and a single ownership pole on Crescent Street to supply underground electricity to a new customer.

The Selectboard voted to approve these two pole locations.

Selectboard guidelines

The board members reviewed comments from town counsel for the draft of the Selectboard’s operational guidelines. The board voted to accept the guidelines.

The operational guidelines

help, “give us, as well as the public, a clear understanding of what our roles are as Selectboard members,” Chair Josh Kusnierz said.

Town Manager search update

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said he collected three job descriptions from other towns for the board members to look at in order to draft a job description for the town manger position.

Selectboard members Ken Willette and Valerie Granger will work to draft the town manager job description with Beckley.

HCA for outdoor cultivation

A representative from Telluric Energy, LLC spoke about the project, which is an outdoor cannabis cultivation site located on a wooded property in a rural residential area.

Beckley said town counsel KP Law provided a template of a Host Community Agreement for the project, which was presented to the board.

The representative is working with a consulting agency to address concerns from abutters about odors from the site.

The representative said the site is designed to be “almost invisible” on a four acre lot. He said only 3% of the site will be used to cultivate cannabis, or about 5,000 square feet.

“My project is a natural farm,” he said.

The representative said he will also grow aromatic crops, such as lavender, garlic and chamomile.

Harvesting of the cannabis would occur in October, but the representative said this should not have an impact on traffic.

The Selectboard voted to

have Beckley continue working with Telluric Energy, LLC to draft an HCA for the board to review.

E-bike/scooters/mopeds and skateboards

Beckley presented information about creating and adopting regulations for electronic bicycles/scooters, mopeds and skateboards. He said the Town Clerk found ordinances from the cities of Agawam and Westfield that regulate the use of these vehicles.

Beckley said the town could adopt such regulations with a town bylaw.

“This is a great start for us to come up with something to address this in Ware,” Willette said.

The Selectboard voted to have the Police Department and town counsel review the regulations.

Rail trail committee

Selectboard member Steven Hawk requested the board form a Rail Trail Committee for the town’s segments of the Mass Central Rail Trail. He was joined by Board President of Norwottuck Network Craig Della Penna and East Quabbin Land Trust’s Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw

Hawk said he would like to form a five member committee to help grow the rail trail in town.

Della Penna spoke about the decades-long efforts to connect the 104-mile trail from Northampton to Boston. He also spoke about forming a friends group for the trail system.

Henshaw said the land trust is supportive of these efforts to finish the trail and will support the town through the process. She said she hopes forming a committee will help move things for-

ward.

The Selectboard voted to form the five-member committee.

Health care committee

The Selectboard reviewed a request to form a Health Care Committee from resident Cindy Allen Bourcier.

Willette said he had concerns about forming the committee, based on comments previously made by Bourcier regarding potential use of the former Mary Lane Hospital property, which is owned by Baystate Health. Bourcier had said she wanted to bring a Federally Qualified Health Center to the site.

Willette said Baystate Health has already announced a potential use for the remaining building on the property, to train residents for a rural healthcare physician program.

He said this committee should not focus on specific sites or projects, as that is the job of a developer.

“We’re not developers... our job is researching and doing assessments and bringing information and people together to get to the goal and get good quality healthcare with what’s available,” Willette said.

He said he does not support a non-neutral committee being formed.

Selectboard member John Desmond agreed with Willette that the town should

not be involved with determining use of a private property.

Resident Anne Bigda spoke in support of forming the committee, which she said is not limited to the Mary Lane Hospital site.

Beckley said Healthy Quaboag is also working to form a committee and has hired consultants.

The board tabled the formation of the Health Care Committee for four weeks. The board will request to hear from Healthy Quaboag representatives about the progress they have made with the consultants.

Open meeting law complaint

The board acknowledged the receipt of an open meeting law complaint filed by Bourcier on July 7 regarding meeting minutes.

Beckley said town counsel reviewed the minutes in question and issued a response to Bourcier’s complaint.

State primary polling hours

Polling hours for the state primary will be held in the auditorium of the Town Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Disability Pride Month

The Selectboard read a proclamation from the Americans with Disabilities Act Commission to designate July as Disability Pride Month.

Ware Senior Center NEWS

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, 413-967-9645, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

Activities

Monday, Aug. 3

9 a.m. Tai Chi
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.

10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, Aug. 4

9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.

10 a.m. Council on Aging meeting. Open to the public.

10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class.

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

Wednesday, Aug. 5

9 a.m. Tai Chi
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for appointment.

9:30 a.m. Quilting Club

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori

Thursday, Aug. 6

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley

View Housing

9 a.m. Walking Club (weather permitting)

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners

10 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:15 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Aug. 7

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori

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

LUNCHES DINE IN

11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

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

Monday, Aug. 3

Chicken Cacciatore over Noodles, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Aug. 4

Pigs in a Blanket, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Aug. 5

Chicken Fingers, French Fries, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Aug. 6

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Aug. 7

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

School Supply List

Suggested School Supply Donations:

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

Items For Sharing With The Class:

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

Drop Off Locations:

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

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

MONSON
Monson Savings Bank
The Better Bean
TJ's Tavern

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

- DIANE VADNAIS 413-233-8113
dianeavadnaisrealtor@gmail.com
- KAREN DAVIS
admin@monsontogether.com
- DAN FLYNN 413-297-5886
dfflynn@turley.com

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us
Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm
to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**



GUEST COLUMN

The joys of harvest season

It's been a fun week in the garden! I love it when the harvest starts to roll in.

This week I picked broccoli, kale, green beans and zucchini. I also replanted a few crops in hopes of a second harvest prior to the first frost.

Read on to hear about my adventures.

You may remember my column from a few weeks back, where I was having a hard time getting "into it" this year. I guess like building any relationship, the more time you spend, the more time you may want to spend as things start to progress and go well.

Anyway, I am happy with my garden again and it feels good to spend time out there. Back to the harvest.

I enjoy harvesting broccoli. It's always fun to see just how big you can get the heads to grow before they want to flower.

The first one I cut was maybe six inches in diameter. Not bad, but the second one was closer to nine inches.

More heads will be ready in the coming weeks. After that I will be harvesting side shoots.

This year, cabbage moths were kept at bay by using a tightly woven bug netting draped over the plants and supported by wire hoops and secured at the base by old wooden planks or stones. So far so good; no worms of any kind in the water left over after steaming.

Kale is broccoli's cousin and is subject to the same



pests. Because of that I also grow it under the netting.

I've been harvesting the kale for well over a month and we already have several bags of it in the freezer. I am starting to rethink my use of plastic baggies, but for now the leaves are washed, patted dry then ripped into pieces and stuffed into baggies pushing out as much air as possible. When my husband makes his vegetable juices and stews, all he does is empty the contents into his creation.

I noticed that the older leaves of the kale were starting to have a yellow cast, so I got out the organic granular fertilizer and gave the plants a sprinkle and a good watering. Hopefully that will reinvigorate the plants for picking well into the fall.

My bush bean seeds got planted late; well after Memorial Day. The harvest is just starting. I will be sure to pick often to keep the plants producing.

I have been saving my own bean seeds for a few years now. It's easy, just harvest the dry pods of "the ones that got away." Make sure they are crispy dry.

Break open the seed pods and store the seeds with a packet of desiccant (usually

in a bottle of vitamins or with leather shoes) in a jar. If you are growing open pollinated or heirloom, non-hybrid varieties you will reliably get the same variety back again. They don't cross pollinate with neighbor beans.

This week I was happy to harvest four zucchinis with more coming. It's funny that already I see freebies at the end of driveways on my commute. I truly hope I have an abundance.

To avoid "boat-sized" squash, pick them small, say six to eight inches long. The seed cavity won't be too big that way and you will encourage the plant to keep producing.

No doubt the vine borer will do in my early sowing soon enough, but never fear. I have sown additional seeds under cover to hopefully have a later harvest once this one expires. I try and keep them covered until the plants bloom, at which time the cover needs to be removed so that the flowers can be pollinated and fruit can form.

I hope you are enjoying the start of the harvest season as much as I am.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



I was cheated; I delayed claiming SS but didn't get my full benefits

Dear Rusty:

I'm 70 now and took my Social Security benefits at age 68.

Social Security would not allow me to take all my increased percentage earned by waiting until age 68 to claim. My local Social Security office said I would get an increased amount but not my full age 68 amount because it was "not an option;" they said I could take it only the way "they said." That's our illegal government.

Signed: Feeling Cheated

Dear Feeling Cheated:

Regarding your comment that SS "would not allow" you to take all of your "increased percentage," I assume you are referring to a Social Security rule which applies whenever benefits are claimed after full retirement age (FRA) but before age 70. That rule says that the Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs), which are earned when someone delays claiming until after their Social Security full retirement age, are applied only in January of each year. What that means is that whenever benefits are claimed mid-year after FRA but before age 70, only the DRCs earned through the end of the previous year are immediately applied, and any additional DRCs earned during the current year are not applied until January of the following year. The only exception to that rule is if someone applies for benefits to begin in the month they turn 70 (or after) when all earned DRCs are applied immediately.

So, if you applied for your benefits to begin when you turned age 68 mid-year in 2024 (but before the end of that year), you would initially only get DRCs earned through the end of the previous year (through December 2023), and the DRCs earned in 2024 wouldn't have been credited

to you until January 2025. Which means you now actually do get your full percentage of delayed retirement credits earned by waiting until age 68 to claim, but you did not get them all until January 2025. Essentially, those extra benefits earned from the beginning of 2024 to the month your SS benefits started were delayed until the beginning of the following year.

We run into this complexity fairly often here at our AMAC Social Security Advisory Service, which is why we counsel those who contact us about waiting longer to claim are aware of this rather obscure rule. Not to defend your local SS office, but they are required to pay benefits according to the established Social Security law. Thus, they were required to inform you that paying you the full age 68 benefits effective immediately when you applied was not an option. It wasn't personal; they were just following the rules.

I know this explanation doesn't dissuade you from "feeling cheated," but I hope understanding how SS works in this case assures you it wasn't personal – SSA applies the same rules to all beneficiaries.

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.



Belchertown resident shared this photo of a glossy ibis he took at Lake Wallace.

The glossy ibis is a medium-sized wading bird, 18.9 to 26 inches long, with compact body, long neck, long legs and long, curved bill.

The plumage appears dark, almost blackish, at a distance or in poor light. Up close, the body is maroon with wing coverts showing a metallic green, bronze and violet tones.

Juveniles are a duller brown color with some white streaking on their neck

Glossy Ibis occur in flocks, both at nesting colonies and when foraging. They typically feed by lowering the bill into water, mud or soil, to feel for prey.

In addition to consuming

animal matter, plants may constitute a major portion of their diet during some seasons.

They frequent almost any wetland environment with shallow water or exposed mud and also readily feed in farm fields or open areas where soils are moist.

They inhabit shallow freshwater wetlands as well as brackish and saltwater wetlands, mangroves, and rice fields. Over much of its range,

When flying, the glossy ibis has its neck stretched forward and legs straight behind it. The glossy ibis does not call often, but may make murmuring sounds while foraging.

During the breeding season, glossy ibises will court one another by preening and



Juvenile glossy ibis

touching bills. Males and females will work together to build a large nest.

Nesting in tight colonies, glossy ibis nests are often no more than 2 feet away from each other. The female will lay three to four eggs and incubate them for 20-22 days.

Glossy ibises can be

Photo by Doug Moore

found across the globe. Their range has greatly expanded in the 20th century in North America.

This species has gone from a rare and local Florida species to regularly breeding as far north as Maine and occasionally along the east coast of Canada. The first Massachusetts nests were

found at coastal sites in 1974.

The oldest recorded glossy ibis was at least 21 years old and lived in Virginia between 1971 and 1992.

Sutton birds

Recently, my brother and sister-in-law hosted a pool party. My brother, Ted, puts out grape jelly for the Baltimore orioles and a nectar feeder for the ruby-throated hummingbirds on his deck.

Birds included male and female ruby-throated hummingbirds for the nectar feeder. Baltimore orioles, red-bellied woodpecker, downy woodpecker and a scarlet tanager came to the deck.

They also have a pond that abuts their backyard. They have a pair of mute swans on the pond. They raised a family for several years in a row.

Great blue heron

I often see a great blue heron wading in Long Pond in Rutland. Every time I drive along Route 122 by the pond, I look for the heron.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowner@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

WARE RIVER NEWS

We Want to Hear From You

EDITOR
Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Dan Flynn
dflynn@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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WEB
warerivernews.turley.com



PHONE
(413) 283-8393



ADDRESS
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069

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www.turley.com

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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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

Note: Statements or allegations made during the public comment periods of municipal meetings are those of individuals and do not reflect the official views or positions of the public body, municipality, or this newspaper. Comments that are made are not checked for accuracy.

viewpoints

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Second Chance Animal Services thanks golf tournament supporters

To the Editor:

On behalf of everyone at Second Chance Animal Services, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many golfers, volunteers, donors, sponsors, and community members who made our 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament such a tremendous success.

When a community comes together, amazing things happen for pets in need. The funds raised will help provide affordable veterinary care through our Community Veterinary Hospitals, ensuring more pets receive the medical care they need while staying with the families who love them.

We are especially grateful to our generous sponsors whose support helped make this event possible.

Our sincere thanks to Tito's Handmade Vodka, Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, The Republican, and Herlihy Insurance Group for their leadership support. We also thank Cornerstone, Embie Industries, IDEXX, Southbridge Credit Union, and SEM (Security Engineered Machinery) for their valued partnership.

We're equally grateful to the businesses and individuals who donated auction and raffle items, the volunteers who gave their time, Cold Spring Country Club for

hosting another outstanding tournament, and everyone who chose to spend the day supporting our mission.

Together, you are helping ensure that families facing financial challenges can still access quality veterinary care for their beloved pets. Your generosity truly makes a difference, and we are honored to have such compassionate supporters standing beside us.

Thank you for helping pets receive the second chance they deserve.

Lindsay Doray
Chief Development Officer
Second Chance
Animal Services

Residents have 'no confidence'

Editor's Note: A letter of "no confidence" was submitted to the Hardwick Select Board on July 27. In this letter, the authors asked for the resignation of the Select Board chair, and termination of the Town Administrator. Below is a shortened and revised version of the letter.

I can not express in words the extreme shock and dismay that we, as a taxpayer and citizen, are experiencing due to the current mismanagement by the Select Board of the Town of Hardwick.

At a minimum the Board should be embarrassed by their actions, and inactions.

However, as stewards of our Town, it's resources

and tax dollars, the Board should be ashamed for their constant outbursts, shouting at residents, not to mention throwing them out of public meetings, lack of attention to resident's complaints, refusal to follow up on those complaints, and their partisan actions of blindly adhering to agendas that do not promote fiscal responsibility or further benefit the Town of Hardwick.

The Town Administrator has fostered an atmosphere of negativity, and has constantly refused to allow citizens to be on the agenda to address the Select Board over matters she does not deem appropriate or necessary.

In short, she is censoring what can and can not be

spoken about in this Town, and what can and can not be brought up at Select Board meetings.

Public statements and actions, shows a lack of ability to lead, or willingness to properly implement the job you were elected to do. As such, this is a formal notice of no confidence in your ability to govern.

We again call for the immediate firing of the Town Administrator, for cause.

This is in the best interests of the Town of Hardwick. It is time for the Select Board to work for the betterment of the Town, not to it's detriment.

Elizabeth Cyran
Franklyn Cyran
Hardwick



By Lisa Marselle
Guest Columnist

In America, about 35% of our produced food ends up in landfills taking up space, producing methane gas, and wasting our grocery dollars.

As one researcher put it, it's like going grocery shopping, buying three bags of groceries, then tossing one bag right into the trash as you exit the store.

The EPA also reports, "that preventing wasted food altogether is the most preferred action to reduce the environmental impact of food waste."

So now is a good a time to share info and dispel any confusion on those interesting little numbers stamped on our food. Understanding food date labels such as "Sell by," "Best by," "Use by" and others, may help extend our food dollars, so we're not tossing out perfectly good

food if handled and cooked properly.

This helps us and our planet now and for future generations.

Food dates inform us. Most of those dates though are surprisingly not expiration dates, except those on baby formula, food, and products. No baby products should be used after these dates.

For all other foods though, as dates are not required by federal law, it's food producers who voluntarily determine all of these dates. And, dates have more to do with product quality and nothing to do with product safety.

Many folks (nine out of 10 from one study) will trash items once they see that the product's date is past, but needless to say, this practice could be wasting food.

The following information gathered from The University of Maine Cooperative Extension, University of

Reduce food waste: For your wallet and the planet

Georgia, the USDA, and other sources, tell us exactly what these dates and numbers describe.

Known as "open dates," the most commonly used food date labels are:

Sell by Date – This date label tells the store how long to keep an item on the shelf or on display for the best flavor and peak quality. It's not a safety date.

You'll often find this label on foods such as dairy products, eggs, meat, poultry, seafood, bread and baked goods.

Best if Used by (or Before) – This date label also has nothing to do with safety of the product, but again, indicates peak quality and best flavor.

Use by – This date label also does not indicate safety, but stresses that this is the last date of peak quality.

Freeze by – this date indicates when a product should be frozen to maintain peak quality. Again, it's not a purchase or safety date.

Expiration date – These dates are rare in the U.S., except for the baby items. So if a date notes "expiration," simply do not use this product beyond this date.

"Closed or coded dates" are all the extra numbers and

letters found on shelf stable products, generally after one of the phrases above. This information tells manufacturers when and where a product was made, canned or boxed.

See the trend? These dates indicate peak quality, not safety. Again, food must be handled properly, but overall, a past date does not mean that the food is bad.

So if we are not going by

these dates, what do we as consumers do about safety? The USDA and others urge folks to use their senses.

If it smells bad, looks bad, feels bad (slimy), toss it. Thus the saying, "When in doubt, throw it out!"

Additionally, Foodsafety.gov has information to help us stay safe. Their Food Keeper page and app give some safety guidelines.

While using this informa-

tion, there are folks deemed as "People at Risk" including children under age 5, folks over age 65, sick people or those having treatments like chemotherapy and pregnant women. Here safety is imperative as these folks have a greater chance of becoming seriously ill by poor food safety.

But using this new information, let's stop food waste and save our dollars.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god
5. Romanian monetary unit
8. Santa's helper
11. Fictional Pink Floyd corporal
13. Sea eagle genus
14. Broad volcanic crater
15. Minneapolis suburb
16. Actual commercial worth (abbr.)
17. Exchange rate
18. Ethnic peoples in Guinea
20. Men's fashion accessory
21. Craft material
22. Offerings
25. Early
30. Large room
31. Soviet Socialist Republic

32. One who hauls
33. Shorthand for accepting
38. Promotional materials
41. Loss of memory
43. One who beheads
45. Photographers
48. Small, rich sponge cake
49. White clerical vestment
50. Partner to "oohed"
55. Abba __, Israeli politician
56. Zero
57. Owl monkey genus
59. Lace bug genus
60. Mild expression of surprise
61. Storage devices
62. Keyboard key
63. Make a mistake
64. One-time Korean president

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge building degree
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. Large, stocky, lizard
4. Rumanian river
5. Missive
6. Stout-bodied moths
7. Brings out
8. Bird of prey
9. King of Thebes
10. Cleaving tool
12. African antelope
14. Three are particularly famous
19. Satisfy
23. C. European river
24. Dictator
25. Portion of (abbr.)
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
27. Consume food
28. Woman (French)

29. Scrape or wear away by friction
34. Popular vegetable
35. Pacific Standard Time
36. Brazilian state capital
37. Paddle
39. Cause to become insane
40. Drier and flakier
41. Mimic
42. ESPN host Kimes
44. One who moseys
45. Secret political clique
46. Behind the stern of a ship
47. Supernatural force
48. Sanctuary in Orthodox churches
51. Swiss river
52. Grayish white
53. Engrave
54. UNC's chief rival
58. Midway between south and southeast

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Select Board hears updates on parking, break-ins

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

HARDWICK – Police Chief Kevin Landine attended the Select Board meeting Monday to discuss illegal parking near Rose 32 Bakery along with a recent incident of vehicle break-ins in the Wheelwright village of town.

During the last Select Board meeting, a resident raised concerns about safety risks as a result of cars parking near the bakery, noting there are signs that prohibit it. Landine said he understands the concerns, but parking on that stretch of road had been common for many years, and there were only signs put up around 2020 at the order of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Landine said officers will move cars along when possible, and an officer was handing out warning parking tickets between the last meeting and the July 27 meeting, but

there are cases where the officer has their blue lights on and motorists still park along the road.

He said the police are doing what they can to help the issue.

He said there is another issue with motorists parking at the municipal building to access the bakery, since there is no crosswalk between the two buildings, and there are also residents living in the apartments on Main Street who regularly walk and do not have a crosswalk to use.

Landine suggested the board send a letter to MassDOT highlighting these concerns, along with concerns about getting better signage. He said MassDOT did not allow painting the road because of a state or federal law.

Another suggestion from the board was to allow parking on the side of the road the bakery is not on.

Landine also gave an update on some vehicle break-ins in Wheelwright

on the weekend of July 18, where 11 cars were broken into including one car stolen. He said the perpetrators were likely driving a stolen car out of New Britain, Connecticut, and they wear masks and gloves to conceal evidence.

Landine said they also have a juvenile drive the cars so traffic charges get dropped. According to Landine, there was an arrest made on Route 20 recently where two of the three perpetrators were detained.

He urged residents to lock their doors, saying the perpetrators only target unlocked vehicles.

Public comment guidelines

The board opted to not allow public comments for this meeting, but discussed how the session can be managed more effectively in the future. Board members said the last meeting got out of control with personal attacks.

Select Board Chair Jeff Schaaf said he was reluctant to take public comment away. According to

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano, some other towns limit speakers to two minutes each, along with limiting the time of the public comment session.

Warrant policy

The board continued discussions on the signing of financial warrants, with Select Board Vice-Chair William Tinker saying two out of the three board members should be required to sign the warrants, since they require a majority vote of the Select Board. He also brought up that the warrants need to be signed by 3 p.m. on Wednesdays and they sometimes do not show up until noon, giving the board only three hours to analyze and sign them.

He said two signatures is acceptable and one should be only in emergencies.

Tinker also said he is not being consistently included on email chains concerning warrants and other Select Board business.

Caggiano noted the short

turnaround between the warrants coming out and having to be signed is a result of limited hours from the accountant, and when asked if it may be possible to get them in earlier, she said not at this time.

She also said Hardwick’s warrant signing system is standard operating procedure in other towns, and it is not a conversation elsewhere.

STM

The board voted to update the location of the special town meeting scheduled for Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town House. The new location will be the Myron Richardson Municipal Building at the same date and time, with articles including the Quabbin Regional School District regional agreement, zoning bylaw articles and a sewer article.

Early voting

There was a public hearing to reduce the early voting hours for the Sept. 1 state primary. Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said only a handful of residents utilized early voting

in recent years.

All dates are not official yet, but Witkos said it is likely Aug. 22 will be available from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. along with some weekdays, potentially from 3-7 p.m.

Appointment

The board appointed Sinead Tinker as a MART driver.

Quarterly billing

The board, also acting as the sewer commission, approved quarterly billing for the sewer bills to make payment easier for users, and they also discussed potentially seating a new sewer commission who can focus on only sewer related issues.

Town Administrator’s report

Caggiano said construction has started on Highland Terrace. She said 179 Main St. is being re-bid and there was also a Police Department interview.

The new town website will launch on Aug. 3 and the Hardwick Community Fair is Aug.14-15.

Town plants tree for semiquincentennial

Staff Report

WARE – The town’s 250th U.S. Celebration Committee and the Historical Commission worked together to plant a cherry tree in front of Town Hall, to honor the nation’s semiquincentennial.

Historical Commission member Claudia Kadra said cherry trees carry a deeply rich symbolism.

“When I look at this young tree, I am reminded of one of my favorite quotes by Joanne Raptis, who wrote: ‘Be like a tree; stay grounded, connect with your roots, turn over a new leaf, bend before you break, enjoy your unique beauty, and keep growing.’”

Kadra said this didn’t just describe the cherry tree that was planted that day, but that it also described the spirit of the community.

“We stay grounded in our

rich history,” she said. “We connect deeply with our roots. And together, we continue to grow, season after season.”

Kadra thanked Town Manager Stuart Beckley for his time and dedication in researching the best tree for the space. She also thanked her husband for making the trip to pick up the tree from the nursery.

Kadra thanked Mike Hewitt for providing assistance in preparing the ground and digging the hole.

“This project was a true team effort,” she said.

Kadra said she hopes the tree will stand as a symbol of the community’s shared past, its vibrant present and its blooming future.

Historical Commission member Claudia Kadra spoke about the efforts to plant the cherry tree.



Submitted Photos
A cherry tree was planted in front of Town Hall to celebrate the nation’s 250th.

CAKE from page 1

that were the tastiest, prettiest and most creative representation of the 250th. The winner of each category received a prize at the end of the picnic.

Claudia Kadra of the Historical Commission entered a cake for the picnic. Kadra’s cake was a carrot cake with a celebration decoration for the 250th.

The cakes entered had a lot of thought-out detail with patriotic themes. Jen Mott designed a red, white, and blue cake with the use of raspberries and blueberries.

Alice Atkinson-Bonasio of the Historical Commission designed a unique cake with both the British and U.S. flags on top. The cake also featured figurines of British troops and Patriot soldiers lined up for battle, illustrating a battle during the American Revolution.

Rita Lee got creative by designing a cake with a beaver featured on the top with the saying “dam it” written in icing. The creation of the

beaver cake was also done with some help from members of the Lak family.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley entered a bundt cake into the Cake Picnic and was amazed by the creativity behind each cake.

“What a beautiful display of cakes,” Beckley said.

During the cake picnic, visitors also witnessed the performance “Women of ‘76” with Rita Parisi of Waterfall Productions. Parisi performed as five different women who lived and witnessed moments during the American Revolution.

Parisi has been performing shows for 21 years.

In “Women of ‘76”, Parisi portrayed Prudence Cummings Wright, Mary Katharine Goddard, Mary Gould Almy, Baroness Frederika Von Riedesel and Nancy Morgan Hart.

Parisi found these five women through research and described each woman as being very distinct. Once learning these stories, Parisi wanted to tell these women’s stories that deserve to be told.



The Historical Day celebration at Ware Town Hall featured a cake picnic. This cake featuring British redcoats and U.S. patriots was baked by Alice Atkinson-Bonasio.



A 250th-themed carrot cake was made by Claudia Kadra.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Guests voted on which cake was the prettiest, tastiest and best creative and historical cake.



Rita Parisi of Waterfall Productions is shown alongside Selectboard member Steven Hawk.



A bundt cake was made by Hilarie Shea.



A cake featuring 13 stars and the year 1776 was made by Rachael O’Brien.



A beaver themed cake was made by Rita Lee, with some help from the Lak family.



During the cake picnic was a one-woman performance, called “Women of ‘76” starring Rita Parisi portraying five unique women who witnessed and shaped the American Revolution.

OLDE from page 1

Ware’s Olde Home Day featured local groups and organizations, music, vendors, food trucks, games and activities. Performing on the bandstand was Brianna Lamb, a Marionettes Show, and DJ Roy Erickson.

In attendance was the Clowning for Kidz Foundation, based out of West Warren. This all-volunteer, non-profit organization supports the needs of children through the art of clowning.

There were over half a dozen clowns at Grenville Park hanging out near their RV offering balloons, cotton candy, and laughs. Clowns included Dotz, Dipsy-Do, Frizzle, and many others clowning their way at Grenville Park.

Various town organizations were present during Ware’s Olde Home Day.

The Ware Middle School PTO was hosting a raffle to raise money for future field trips and other fun activities for students during the school year. The PTO had eight cool prizes such as a TV, sports package and gift certificates.

PTO President Amy Wattu and Vice President Courtney Lynch were joined by student helpers Zack and Zoey. Zack is a student at Ware Middle School and Zoey is a sophomore at Ware High School.

Members of the Ware Library attended Ware Olde Home Day sharing information about what they offer at

the town’s library. The Ware Library is located at 37 Main St. and also includes a children’s library.

Members of the 250th Committee took sign ups for the pie eating contest, one for kids and one for adults. The kids were up first and were ready to eat their way to some prizes.

Aubrey, age 11, was the first-place finisher of the pie eating contest, followed by 7-year-old Emmett and 10-year-old Kohen.

Both the adults and the kids also got to enjoy a sack race, tug of war, hula hooping, lawn games and an obstacle course.

There was also a pie baking contest taking place during Ware Olde Home Day. Bakers entered a pie of their choice to see if their work was selected as the best baked pie.



Penny tried out the stilts and made her way down the field at Grenville Park.



The clowns of the Clowning for Kidz Foundation brought cotton candy and laughs during Ware Olde Home Day.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Representing the Ware Middle School PTO at the Ware Olde Home Day celebration in Grenville Park this past Saturday was President Amy Wattu (left), Ware Middle School student Zack, PTO Vice President and teacher Courtney Lynch, and Ware High School sophomore Zoey.



Emmett, 7, was the second-place finisher of the children’s pie eating contest during Ware Olde Home Day.



Aubrey, 11, was the winner of the children’s pie eating contest.



Kids tried out the obstacle course that was set up at Grenville Park.



Ware Olde Home Day is part of the U.S. 250th Celebration Week in Ware.



Kids got in position prior to the start of the pie eating contest. Top three finishers receive a prize.



Lawn games were enjoyed during Ware Olde Home Day including this target game where you have to toss noodle spears.

SEWING from page 1

Participants ranged in age and experience level, with some looking to learn the basics, and others to improve their skills. They had a selection of simple projects to work on, including sewing a hair scrunchie, a flat-bot-tomed bag, or a drawstring bag.

Ulen and others were able to help participants understand the pattern instructions, measure and cut fabric, operate their sewing machines, or even stitch by hand.

Every participant walked away with a completed project that they were proud of, and a sense of accomplishment.

Both Ulen and Flynn have been sewing since they 8 years old, and they have a mutual love for quilting.

Flynn said she began sewing to make clothing for her Betsy Wetsy doll, before moving on to make herself a nightgown out of flannel. In high school, she focused on making clothing and as an adult, she made curtains as

Abbie is shown holding a hair scrunchie she made at a sewing class held at Trinity Episcopal Church.

a means to support herself.

Flynn said she has been quilting since 1996, and has completed about 200 quilts since then.

Many of the quilts Flynn and her fellow quilting guild members sew are baby quilts for hospitals. They also send quilts to people in Guatemala.

Ulen said she can “make pretty much anything,” but that quilting is her favorite.

Trinity Episcopal Church will offer another sewing class on Tuesday, Aug. 18 from 6-8 p.m. at the church, located at the corner of Park and Pleasant streets.

The fee is \$5 and materials will be provided.

All skill levels are welcome.

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

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

Call 413-967-6100 to reserve your spot.



Star sat atop a selection of fabric.



Quinn sewed a drawstring bag.



Penny sewed a tie belt for a skirt she made.



Sadie held the flat-bot-tomed bag she made.



Sadie sewed a seam along a bag she was making.



Sewing class instructor Sandy Ulen helped Sadie with her project.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

SPORTS

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Quabbin area Little League competes in 12U playoffs

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE – Nine of the 13 players on the Quabbin Area 12U Little League AllStar roster are headed for the full-size baseball diamond next spring.

Even with two losses in the state sectional tournament, Quabbin walked away with moments the players and coaches won't soon forget.

Because neither Leominster nor Athol/Orange were able to field All-Star teams, the District 3 tournament wasn't held this year. Quabbin automatically advanced into the sectional tournament for the first time as the District 3 representative.

"We didn't get to compete in the District 3 tournament, but I think we have enough talented players to win it. We've been building to get to this point during the past couple of years," said Quabbin manager Matt LaPointe. "We received our championship banner a couple of days ago. We took a team picture with the banner before tonight's game. We hosted a sectional state

tournament game for the first time and I'm very proud of these kids."

Quabbin hosted Holden at Felton Field in a first round game of the double-elimination tournament on July 22.

Holden, who scored four runs in the top of the first inning, celebrated a 6-0 victory.

One of Quabbin's 12-year-old players is Richie Valcourt, who was the starting pitcher against Holden.

After allowing four runs on five hits in the opening frame, the righthander only allowed two runs (one earned) on seven hits during the final six innings he was standing on the mound. He struck out two.

"They're just a powerhouse team and they were able to take the lead in the first inning," LaPointe said. "I thought Richie did a fantastic job of keeping them off balance after the first inning. We also made a couple of very nice plays defensively."

Following the game, Valcourt, who's been playing baseball since the third grade, talked about playing in the state sectional tournament for the first time.

Turley photos
by Gregory
A. Scibelli



Deklan Sampson throws back to the infield after making a play.

Above, Dylan Mace makes a throw to third. Left, Jake Pimental hustles for first base after making contact.

"We're a very good team and it's very exciting playing in this tournament for the first time," he said. "I was nervous before the start of the game. I'm excited to be moving up to the bigger field next year, but it's going to be challenging."

The other 12-year-olds listed on the Quabbin All-Star roster are Clayton Cranston, Noah Currier, Lukas Lance, Michael Leslie, Dylan Mace, Hunter Mitus, Deklan Sampson, and Mateo Serra.

The other four members of the squad were Jack Bowen Murphy LaPointe, Jake Pimental, and Lukas Valcourt, who's the only ten



Hunter Mitus fouls off a pitch.



Richie Valcourt fires home with a pitch.



Turley photos by David Henry
Ally Fleury heads up the field.

Here for Beer earns first-round bye

SOUTH HADLEY – Here for Beer, a women's soccer team in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League featuring women from all over the region, has continued to have successful summer campaigns.

They have earned the No. 1 seed in this year's playoffs. With that, they have a first-round bye to the semifinals.

If they get past their semifinal opponent, they would play in the finals on Friday, July 31 at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow.



Martine Worrall-Turgeon guides the ball near midfield



Rachel McKenna dribbles near the sideline.



Jake Jachym sends a ball to homeplate for the Bankers.



Tre Yesu, of Monson, fires home for St. Joe's.

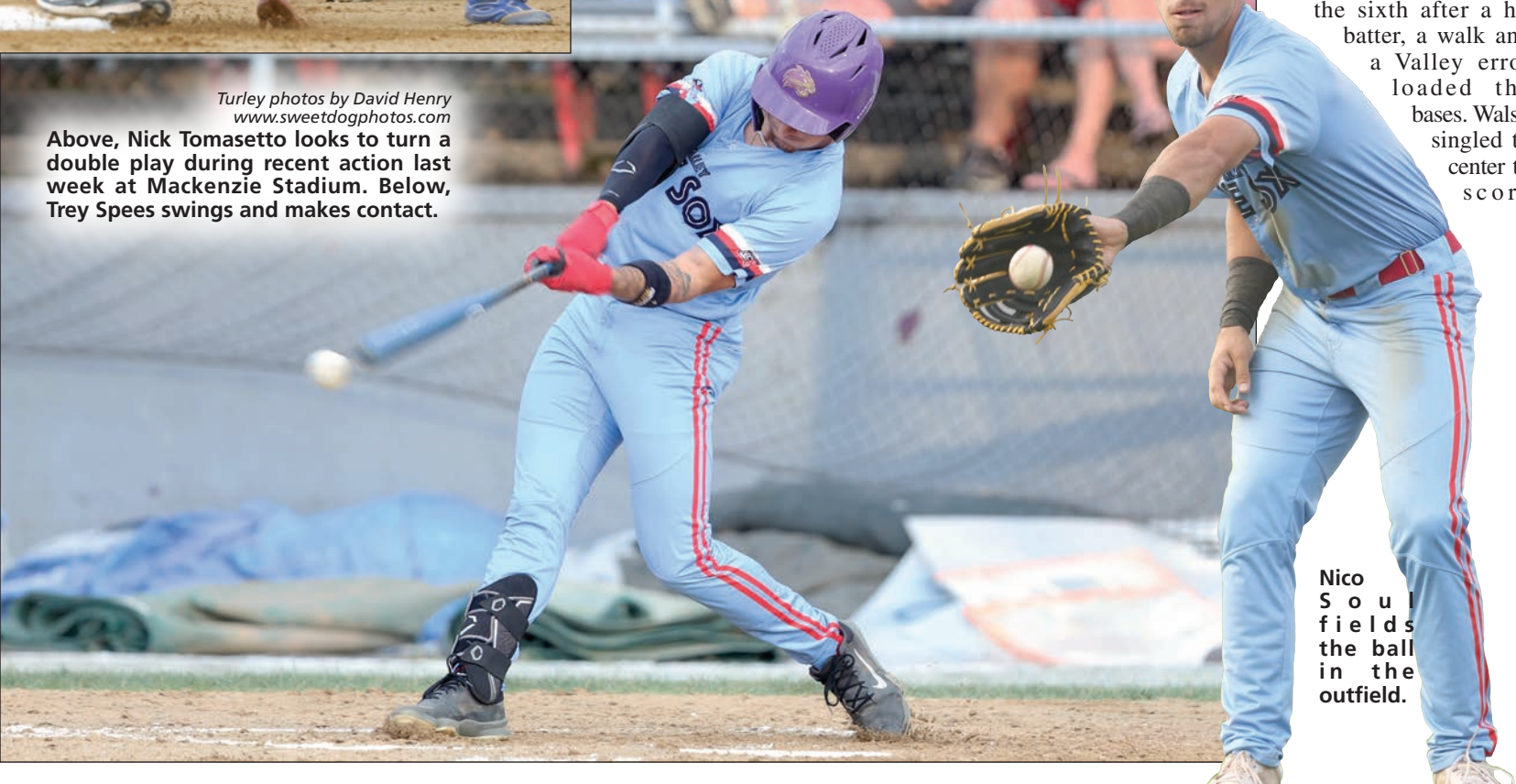
Saints beat rival Bankers

HOLYOKE – Last Thursday night, the pennant race stepped up with rivals PeoplesBank and St. Joe's matching up at Mackenzie Stadium. While PeoplesBank trailed early in the game, they nearly came all the way back, but St. Joe's prevailed 9-7. The playoffs are on the horizon in the league with St. Joe's and PeoplesBank likely drawing top seeds for the six-team playoffs.

sports



Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com
Above, Nick Tomasetto looks to turn a double play during recent action last week at Mackenzie Stadium. Below, Trey Spees swings and makes contact.



Nico Soul fields the ball in the outfield.



Joshua Toole frames up a pitch.



Estaban Garcia has his eyes on the ball as he swings.

Blue Sox nearing end of regular season

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox went 1-for-2 in a doubleheader against the Mystic Schooners on Saturday. Entering Saturday’s doubleheader against the Schooners (22-17) Valley sat at 16-18-1, sixth in the South Division and outside the playoff picture, trailing both Danbury and Bristol for one of the division’s postseason spots. The Blue Sox (17-19-1) responded with a convincing 10-3 victory in Game 2 to split the twin bill

and remain in the postseason hunt. Mystic struck first in the first game and opened the inning when Bryce Detwiler lifted a sacrifice fly to right field after consecutive singles from Jack Harley and Anthony Belisario put runners on the corners. The Schooners added another run in the fourth as Chris Walsh lined a two-out single before Adam

Troch followed with an RBI double down the left-field line, giving Mystic a 2-0 advantage. Valley answered immediately in the bottom half; however, Chris Cancel launched a solo home run to left field to cut the deficit in half. Andrew Oppenheimer kept the Blue Sox within striking distance throughout his six-inning start, allowing three runs, only two earned, while striking out four. But Mystic manufactured what proved to be the decisive run in the sixth after a hit batter, a walk and a Valley error loaded the bases. Walsh singled to center to score

Detwiler and extend the lead to 3-1. Valley mounted one final rally in the seventh. Chris Carson doubled to center before pinch-hitter Alex Hill delivered an RBI single to trim the deficit to one. With the tying run aboard, Mystic closer MJ Bollinger recorded the final two outs to preserve the 3-2 victory. Despite matching the Schooners with seven hits, the Blue Sox came up just short. The Blue Sox wasted little time putting the loss behind them in the nightcap.

Nick Tomasetto ignited the offense with a solo home run in the first inning before Michael Iannazzo added a sacrifice fly later in the frame to give Valley a 2-0 lead. Tomasetto drove in another run with an RBI single in the second, and after Mystic answered with one of its own, Valley broke the game open in the third.

Nick Spaventa blasted a solo home run to center before Chris Carson added an RBI single. A wild pitch later scored Michael Iannazzo to cap a three-run inning and extend the Blue Sox’s lead to 6-1. Valley continued to add insurance the rest of the way, highlighted by Tomasetto’s two-run single in the fifth, an RBI single from Iannazzo in the sixth and Nico Soul’s sacrifice fly in the seventh. The Blue Sox finished with 10 runs on 14 hits.

Earlier, Carson was named an NECBL All-Star, and the outfielder backed up the honor with another productive performance. Carson finished the doubleheader 3-for-7 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored, helping pace a Valley lineup that received contributions throughout the order. Tomasetto led the way by going 3-for-5 with a home run and four RBIs, while Iannazzo collected two hits and two RBIs. Spaventa also homered as the Blue Sox salvaged the split.

Four Valley pitchers combined to secure the Game 2 victory. Lukas Jachens started before Niall Todd earned the win with two scoreless innings in relief. Jon Shields and Jason Pinsonnault closed out the final three innings as the Blue Sox improved to 17-19-1, keeping themselves alive in the NECBL playoff race entering the final week of the regular season.

12U from page 9

year old player listed on the roster.

Mace led off the bottom of the first inning by hitting a ground ball to Andrew Charest, who was Holden’s starting pitcher. Mace was safe at first base with an infield hit and advanced to second base on a throwing error. Charest retired the next three batters.

With two outs in the second, Lesile also had an infield hit against right-hander Ryan Sturrock, who relieved Charest at the start of the inning.

Sturrock, who didn’t allow any runs on four hits in three innings, wound up being the winning pitcher. He also had six strikeouts.

After Holden scored a run in the third, the home team loaded the bases on singles from Lukas Valcourt, LaPointe, and Richie Valcourt with two outs in the fourth.

Sturrock escaped the jam without allowing any runs following a flyball out.

It was Quabbin’s best scoring chance.

Their only other base hit was a single by Pimental in the fifth inning.

New exhibit at Naismith dedicated to Stephen Curry

SPRINGFIELD – On Friday July 24, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame made history by launching its newest exhibition dedicated entirely to 12-time NBA All-Star, two-time MVP, Olympic gold medalist, four-time NBA champion, and the undisputed greatest shooter of all time: Stephen Curry.

This project represents the first time in the Hall’s nearly 75-year history that a current, active player will be honored

with a dedicated feature experience.

Developed as the next iteration of the Hall of Fame’s acclaimed gallery, “The Vault,” the immersive exhibit titled Stephen Curry: Beyond the Arc goes far beyond Curry’s legendary on-court accolades. Created in direct partnership with Curry’s Thirty Ink business team, the exhibit is designed to explore his multifaceted legacy as a basketball icon, entrepreneur, philanthro-

pist, and family man.

Visitors can expect a captivating, curated journey through Curry’s life and career, featuring:

- Exclusive Memorabilia: Rare game-worn gear, championship artifacts, and Olympic ephemera
- Rare Footage: Archival video tracing his journey from an overlooked college prospect to a global superstar.
- First-Hand Storytelling: Immersive audio and video

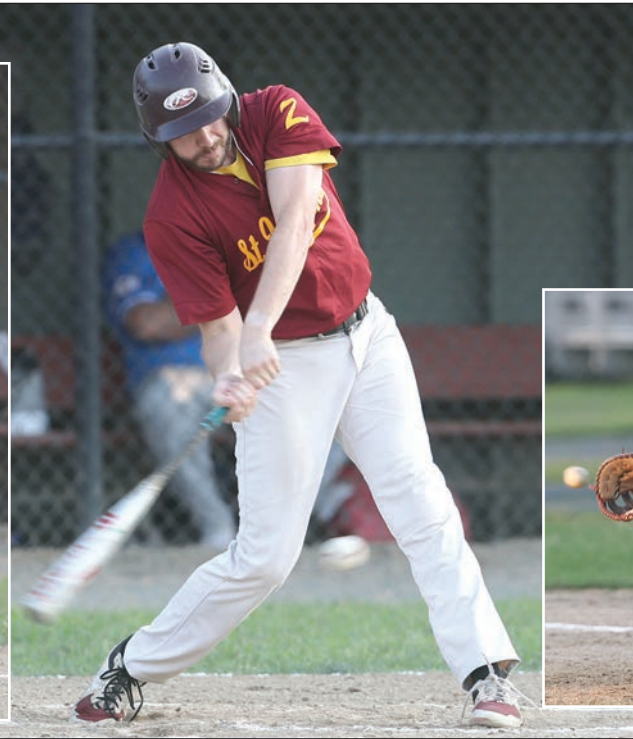
components that capture the emotion and heart of a true champion.

The Stephen Curry: Beyond the Arc experience promises to be an unparalleled attraction, offering fans an intimate look at a superstar of basketball - and a superstar of life.

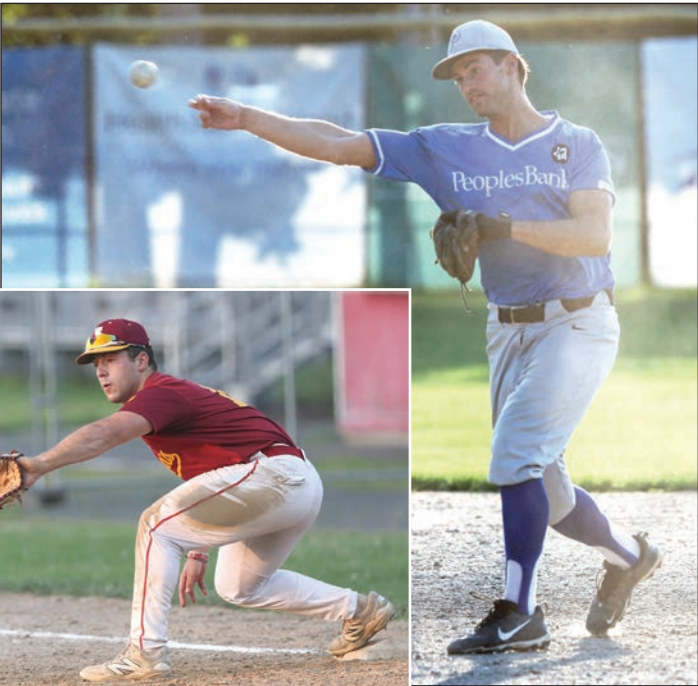
The exhibit was scheduled to open to the public July 24 at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts



Seth Adams swings for the fences.



Brandon Magni connects.



Turley photos by David Henry
Joe DeMichele makes a catch at first.

Dave Clark sends a throw to first for PeoplesBank.

Community Art Project featured at Grenville Park

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – During the Ware Olde Home Day celebration, Workshop13 displayed its community art project.

The project consists of a sculpture of Lady Liberty, who will wear a “We the People” robe, which will be featured during the town’s parade on Aug. 1. This entire project was a community effort thanks to Workshop13 staff and artists.

Executive Director of Workshop13, Marie Lauderdale, was at Ware Olde Home Day adding fabric to the robe on the Lady Liberty sculpture. As part of celebrating community and the 250th celebration of the U.S., Workshop13 wanted to highlight the fine arts.

After a month and a half of planning and designing, the Lady Liberty sculpture was born. Workshop13 wanted to invite the community to decorate some patches of fabric that will be added to the robe that Lady Liberty will be wearing during the parade.

Lauderdale said that the sculpture will be introduced as “Liberty enlightening the world.” The patches of fabric are a way for members of the community to add their voice to the robe and share what freedom means to them, what makes a community strong and what they wish to carry into the future.

Several people will be escorting Lady Liberty during the parade. The staff and artists behind this project are Lauderdale, robe designer Dana Volungis, lead designer and artistic director John

Collins and sculptor Mary Remington, who had the torch of Lady Liberty ready for placement.

The project also had many contributors such as Maurita Eaton, Liz Buck, Pam Spielberg, Rachel Perry and many others.

The additional artistry provided by the community made the robe even more patriotic with inspiring symbols and messages tied to the spirit of the U.S. and its 250th birthday. Collins had painted a bald eagle and had his design printed on a piece of fabric that was stitched onto the robe.

“What liberty means to you,” Lauderdale said.

Joyce Eichacker of the Workshop13 Board of Directors helped out handing out pieces of fabric for visitors at Grenville Park to design their message that will be a part of the “We the People” robe.

This community art project was a combination of celebrating the 250th anniversary of the U.S., art and the community.



More information about Workshop13 can be found at workshop13.org.

To continue the celebration of the 250th, Workshop13 will be hosting the “Where’s the Talent,” talent show on Friday, July 31 from 5-10 p.m. at Workshop13’s Grand Hall at 13 Church St. Performers of all ages and talents are welcome.

Fabrics were added to the robe by locals who visited Grenville Park during Ware Olde Home Day. One patriotic fabric highlights the 250th anniversary of the U.S. with the message, “Stars and Stripes Forever.”



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Workshop13’s community art project of Lady Liberty and the “We the People” robe was seen during the Ware Olde Home Day celebration at Grenville Park.



An eagle portrait was designed by local artist John Collins.



People looked at the Lady Liberty art project.



Workshop13 Board of Directors Chair, Joyce Eichacker, prepared fabrics for guests to draw and place them on the “We the People” robe.

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Free leadership program offered for high school girls in Hampden County

Applications are now available for HERizon, a free leadership and empowerment program for high school girls across Hampden County. Offered by the Hampden District Attorney's Office, the program is designed to help young women develop confidence, leadership skills, and lasting connections. HERizon provides participants with mentorship programs, engaging discussions, and interactive opportunities to learn from area professionals and community leaders. The program meets bi-weekly at the Hampden District Attorney's Office in Springfield. Sessions are led by young women who serve in a variety of roles throughout the DA's Office. As the program progresses each year, participants explore such topics as maintaining healthy relationships, building confidence, mental wellness, women's health, and self-advocacy, among others. "HERizon is about helping young women recognize their own potential and giving them the tools and support to become confident leaders in their schools and communities," said Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni. "When young women feel empowered to use their voices, advocate for themselves and support one another, the impact extends far beyond the classroom." The free HERizon program is open to high school girls throughout Hampden County. Applications for the program are now being accepted. Students interested in applying can learn more about the program by emailing Halie Matthew at: Halie.Matthew@mass.gov.

Ware Police Log

During the week of July 19-28, the Ware Police Department responded to 21 miscellaneous calls, 23 administrative calls, nine traffic violations, 16 emergency 911 calls, two harassments/stalks/threats, eight trespasses, four thefts/larcenies, 15 disturbances/nuisances, two safety hazards, three suspicious/wanted, four animal calls and 24 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, July 19
1:09 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Park Avenue, Advised
6:50 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, West Street, Services Rendered
10:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Monday, July 20
7:21 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Oak Ridge Circle, Services Rendered
9:33 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Oak Ridge Circle, Advised
9:53 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fisherdick Road, Advised
10:34 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Oak Ridge Circle, Services Rendered
11:03 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, North Street, Could Not Locate
4:09 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered
7:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Tuesday, July 21
12:21 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, River Road, Services Rendered
9:27 a.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, North Street, Citation/Warning Issued
10:17 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Palmer Road, Investigated
6:06 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, North Street, Services Rendered

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Wednesday, July 22
12:19 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Convent Hill Road, Services Rendered
1:10 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Elm Street, Services Rendered
8:38 a.m. Safety Hazard, Aspen Street, Services Rendered
10:26 a.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Investigated
12:53 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
1 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Main Street, Services Rendered
2:10 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Report Made
4:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Berkshire Circle, Investigated
6:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:28 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
8:59 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Church Street, Services Rendered
10:29 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Main Street, Report Made

Thursday, July 23
2:32 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Williston Drive, Services Rendered
2:17 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Palmer Road, Investigated
4:06 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, High Street, Advised
8:41 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Investigated
9:10 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Woodland Heights, Unfounded

Friday, July 24
7:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
8:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Dispatch Handled
5:46 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Hillside Village, Advised
6:54 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Sygiel Road, Services Rendered
8:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Services Rendered
Arrest: Lakhwinder P. Hans, 48, Ware
Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit; Marked Lanes Violation; Stop for Police, Fail; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle

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.

Saturday, July 25
1:43 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Mirabile Drive, Advised
2:02 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Sherman Hill Road, Investigated
5:50 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Church Street, Services Rendered
7:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Highland Street, Investigated
9:31 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Benham Avenue, Arrest Made

Sunday, July 26
11:11 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Mirabile Drive, Report Made
5 : 3 4 p . m . Miscellaneous/Non-Urgent, Main Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Gregg J. Harrison, 55, Ware
OUI-Liquor or .08%
10:44 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Highland Village, Services Rendered

Monday, July 27
1:32 a.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Report Made
7:29 a.m. Assault, Mirabile Drive, Arrest Made
11:20 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Doane Road, Dispatch Handled
2:47 p.m. Assault, East Street, Services Rendered
2:48 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Bondsville Road, Services Rendered
5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:04 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Investigated
8:17 p.m. Drugs, West Street, Investigated
8:37 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Eddy Street, Investigated

Tuesday, July 28
1:26 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Greenwich Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Warren Police Log

During the week of June 28-July 4, the Warren Police Department responded to 202 building/property checks, six emergency 911 calls, two disturbances, one threat, one illegal dumping, two safety hazards, one fraud, four complaints and 44 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, June 28
7:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning
8:20 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Hines Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party
9:04 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:16 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Brimfield Road, Negative Contact
8:53 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Brimfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
10:32 p.m. Suspicious Person, O'Neil Road, Checked/Secured

Monday, June 29
7:45 a.m. Threats, Jones Street, Report Filed
3:11 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Bridge Street, Information Taken
10:59 p.m. Noise Complaint, Dean Street, Gone on Arrival
11:27 p.m. Noise Complaint, Coy Hill Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Tuesday, June 30
11:51 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Bragg Road, Officer Spoke to Party
6:39 p.m. Complaint, Little Rest Road, Officer Spoke to Party
7:17 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Little Rest Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, July 1
6:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
3:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Criminal Complaint
5:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
5:16 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Main Street, Report Filed
5:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Nathan T. Benson, 25, Worcester
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With
7:03 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Connor Drive, Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, July 28, 2026
4:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
9:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Road, Written Warning
9:40 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
11:08 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Power Line Off the Pike, Area Patrolled
1:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Maple Street, Written Warning
1:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning
2:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
2:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
2:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
2:55 p.m. Complaint, Chapel Street, Report Filed
3:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
3:24 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed
3:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Citation Issued
5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
5:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brook Road, Written Warning
6:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
7 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning
7:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
7:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:57 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Parkview Street, Transported to Hospital

Friday, July 3
7:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:05 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital

10:56 a.m. Unwanted Party, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed
11:57 a.m. Fire Power Lines/Wires, Keys Road, Referred to Other Agency
12:16 p.m. Arrest, East Brookfield, Report Filed
Arrest: Leroy E. Wilcox, 63, Warren
Assault and Battery with Dangerous Weapon; Assault and Battery Causing Serious Bodily Injury; Kidnapping; Threat to Commit Crime; Witness/Juror/Police/Court Official, Intimidate; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm, Store Improper; Firearm Without FIF Card, Possess; Ammunition Without FID Card, Possess; Drug, Possess Class B; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess; Firearm Without FID Card, Possess
3:56 p.m. Fire Power Lines/Wires, Keys Road, Investigated
9:50 p.m. Seizures, South Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Saturday, July 4
12:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Written Warning
1:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Summer Street, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Christopher Pond, 22, Quaker Hill, Connecticut
Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation; Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle; Motor Vehicle, Receive Stolen; Dangerous Weapon, Carry; Ammunition Without FID Card, Possess; Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open Container of
6:02 a.m. Fire Power Lines/Wires, Manning Road, Investigated
8:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Criminal Complaint
9:29 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Old Douglas Road, Transported to Hospital
1 p.m. Erratic Operator, Ware Road, Written Warning
3:08 p.m. Unwanted Party, Chapel Street, Peace Restored



Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

Turley Publications will print your Summer event FREE OF CHARGE in our Autumn Fest Supplement which will be published September 9, 2026. 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!!

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 19.

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 "Summer Event" in the subject line of your email.

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.

Joan Ann (Martin) McDonald

HARDWICK – Joan Ann (Martin) McDonald, of Hardwick, passed away peacefully on July 24, 2026 in the loving home of her daughter, surrounded by family.

Born to Joseph L. Martin and Emily D. (Lacombe) Martin of Ware, Joan lived a life defined by strength, resilience, kindness and unwavering love for her family.

Joan is survived by her children: Karen Majka, Sharon Long, Darryl Boudreau, Shelley Boudreau, Sherry Gould, Darren Boudreau and Ricky Boudreau. She also leaves behind 23 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husbands, Harold G. Boudreau and Thomas McDonald; her parents, Joseph L. Martin and Emily D. Martin; her sister, Jean A. Perron; her sons, Harold G. Boudreau and Derrick J. Boudreau; her daughter, Cheryl J. Lemoine; her grandson, Jason Berthiaume; her great-grandson, Ryder A. Demers; her great-great-granddaughter, Ella Skye Kline; and her beloved furry companion, Ginger, who held a special place in her heart.

Joan embraced life with passion and determination. She loved traveling, especially her cross-country adventures out west, and looked forward each year to spending winters at her home in Florida.

She found peace and fulfillment working in her yard, often tending to it from sunrise until sunset.

She enjoyed reading romance novels, creating Native American inspired crafts, painting, horseback riding, and hunting with her boys at hunting camp.

Whether she was building, repairing, or creating, there was truly very little Joan couldn't do. She was remarkably resourceful, independent, and never afraid to tackle a challenge herself.

Throughout her career, Joan worked at Diamond National, where she repaired machinery, showcasing her exceptional mechanical ability and work ethic. She later served as the Head Telephone Operator at Belchertown State School, where she dedicated many years before retiring.

Above all, Joan had a



generous heart and was always ready to lend a helping hand to her children, grandchildren, friends, or anyone in need. She possessed a rare combination of quiet compassion and fierce determination.

Strong-willed, hardworking, and endlessly capable, Joan met life's challenges with courage and grace. Her beauty radiated not only through her smile but through the strength of her character, her resilience.

Joan's legacy lives on through the generations she nurtured, the countless lives she touched, and the enduring memories of a woman whose love, strength and spirit will never be forgotten. She will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

All are invited to her calling hours on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026, from 4-8 p.m. at Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., Ware, MA 01082. Her funeral service is Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026, at 10 a.m. at United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., Ware, MA 01082 followed by burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Greenwich Road, Ware.

Paul Mitchell, 98



Oct. 13, 1927-June 4, 2026

Born in Ware, to Thomas Andrew and Irene Beach Mitchell, Paul grew up in Hardwick and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He attended St. Michael's College for his undergraduate degree, and University of Chicago for his master's degree.

Paul taught history at Lincoln Sudbury High School, specializing in all things Russian, from 1958 to 1990, was head of the history department and established a Russian History Book Section at the library.

He is predeceased by his brother Thomas P. Mitchell and his sister Mary

Mitchell Thompson. He leaves behind three nephews: Michael, Mark and John Thompson.

Paul was passionate about teaching, Russian history, literature, Icon Art, cats, classical music, choral voices and his Corvette.

He loved to flip his tie over his shoulder and disrupt the norm. He had a far-reaching impact upon all the people he touched and was an optimist who invariably bid farewell with "SHINE ON."

A graveside ceremony will held be August 21, 2026 at 11 a.m. at the Old St. Williams Cemetery, West St., Ware, MA.



Death notices

Blackwell, Elliott H.
Services Aug. 8, 2026

Boothman, Kaye (Petersen)
Died July 21, 2026
Services Aug. 16, 2026

McDonald, Joan Ann (Martin)
Died July 24, 2026
Services Aug. 5, 2026

Mitchell, Paul
Died June 4, 2026
Services August 21, 2026

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www.turley.com

Elliott H. Blackwell, 91

WARREN – Elliott H. Blackwell, 91, of Warren, with deep sadness, we announce his passing, with great gratitude for a life well lived.

Elliott was born at home in Harvard, to Rufaye and Herbert Blackwell, the third of five children. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

In 1959, he moved to Warren to work at Warren Pumps, where he spent his career, and bought the farm he would cherish and call home for the rest of his life.

In 1961, he married Sara Thomas, and together they raised three children in a life centered on faith, family, service and love.

Elliott leaves his beloved wife of 65 years, Sara; his children: Seth and his wife, Cathy; Faith; and Grace and her husband, Burt; his grandchildren: Heath and his wife, Samantha; Elijah; and Jacob; and his great-granddaughter, Matilda Evelyn. He also leaves his brother, Lewis, and sister, Bernice. He was predeceased by his sister, Mary Belle; brother, Wayne; and son-in-law, Alan L. Wilcox (Faith).

Elliott lived a life of steady service and was a loved and trusted part of his community. He was Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 142, leading young



people on a 50-mile hike and many other adventures.

He served on the Conservation Commission and Finance Committee, and was an officer and a member of Quaboag Lodge

for almost 31 years. He was also active in his church, where his faith in God was not merely professed, but practiced through patience, humility, service and devotion.

He loved and carefully tended his land, maintaining the forests as a Tree Farm and keeping the fields and grounds beautiful. He was also an enthusiastic family genealogist, hosting large gatherings-some big enough to require name tags – and helping keep generations connected and remembered.

Those who knew Elliott saw him as thoughtful, calm, faithful, careful with words and generous with his time. His family also knew the twinkle beneath the surface: quiet mischief, gentle sarcasm, silliness and joy.

He combined steadiness with humor, wisdom with playfulness and conviction with kindness.

In all things, he sought moderation, faithfulness and love: serve God, love family and care well for the people and places entrusted to you.

Calling hours will be on Friday, Aug. 7, 2026, from 3-5 p.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 3 West Brookfield

Road (Route 9) in Brookfield. A memorial service will be held at Upper Room Christian Fellowship, 18 Central St., West Warren, on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026, at 11 a.m.

Please omit flowers. Instead, consider a donation to a charity of your choice or one of these: Shriners Children's; Central Massachusetts Search and Rescue; Massachusetts Rescue and Recovery K9 Unit; Berkshire Mountain Search and Rescue; or Warren Fire Association.

Debunking five common Social Security myths

Social Security is often one of the most important income sources in retirement. Yet widespread myths about how it works can lead to confusion, unnecessary worry and poor planning decisions. Here's the truth behind five of the most common misconceptions.

Myth 1: Social Security is going broke. You've probably heard this one, but the full picture is more nuanced. According to the 2026 Social Security Board of Trustees Report, if Congress does nothing, the program would need to reduce benefits starting in 2032, paying roughly 78 cents for every dollar owed.

But that's just one scenario. Congress could raise the combined payroll tax from 12.4% to 16.65%, which the trustees estimate would secure full benefits through 2100. Other options include eliminating the earnings cap subject to payroll tax or adjusting retirement ages. Lawmakers have tools to address this.

Myth 2: Social Security will cover all your retirement needs. Think of Social Security as a financial foundation, not the full building. According to the Social Security Administration, benefits replace only about 40% of pre-retirement income for a median earner. That means you'll likely need to account for most of your retirement income yourself. Building a strong personal savings strategy now can help close that gap.

Myth 3: You lose benefits permanently if you keep working. Not true. Social Security does have an "earnings test" that can temporarily reduce benefits for people who claim early and keep working. If your earnings exceed a set annual cap – which changes each year – Social Security will withhold a portion of your benefits. But once you reach full retirement age, the Social Security Administration adjusts your monthly check higher to repay those withheld amounts over time.

Myth 4: An ex-spouse's benefits come out of your own. If you were married for at least 10 years and are currently unmarried, your former spouse may be eligible to collect on your earnings record, or you may be able to collect on theirs. Divorced spouse benefits can be up to 50% of the other person's full retirement benefit. But those payments don't affect yours. Your monthly benefit is not reduced by anything paid to an ex-spouse or even a current spouse.

Myth 5: Social Security benefits are no longer taxed. Recent legislation caused some confusion here. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits. If your combined income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll still owe taxes on a portion of your benefits.

The law also created a temporary deduction (available through 2028) for people 65 and older. Eligible taxpayers can deduct \$6,000 per qualifying filer if their modified adjusted gross income is \$75,000 or less for singles or \$150,000 for couples. The deduction phases out at \$175,000 for singles and \$250,000 for joint filers.

The more you understand Social Security, the more control you have over your retirement outcome. Grounding your decisions in facts rather than assumptions can make a meaningful difference in your long-term financial security.



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
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Barre Gazette
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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Deadline to apply is 8/6/2026 .
Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Town of Huntington is seeking a **PART-TIME CHIEF OF POLICE.** \$37,500 - \$50,000 yearly salary based on qualifications. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us.** Deadline to apply is 8/6/2026. *Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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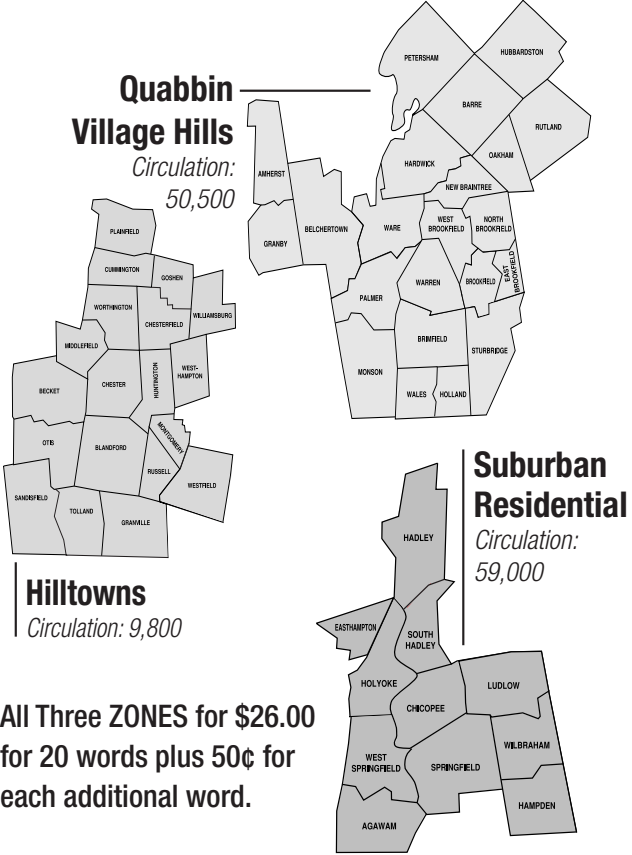
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public notices

Town of Ware
Conservation Commission

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 6:30pm** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)** by David Kelly, for the removal of one tree at his property located at 26 Shoreline Dr. Ware, MA 01082. Assessors Map ID 47-0-45. Said hearing will be held in the Selectboard Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main St. Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org> 07/30/2026

Town of Ware
Conservation Commission

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L.131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Notice of Intent (NOI)** by Beaver Associates, Inc. for construction of a single family home at Beach Road, Map 48 - 0 - 62. Said hearing will be held in the Selectman's meeting room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648. 07/30/2026

Town of Ware
Conservation Commission

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L.131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Notice of Intent (NOI)** by Irving & Cheryl Rocheford, Trustees for construction of a single family home at Coffey Hill Road, Map 19 - 24 - 3. Said hearing will be held in the Selectman's meeting room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648. 07/30/2026

(SEAL)
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002201
ORDER OF NOTICE**
TO:
Brian Herring,
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 *et seq.*:

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, numbered **190 Upper North Street**, given by Brian Herring to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated March 14, 2019, and recorded or filed in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13216, Page 111, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **08/31/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on 07/14/2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

07/30/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 88 West Street, Ware, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Thomas Hubbard to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Norwich Commercial Group, Inc. d/b/a TPOGO its successors and assigns and now held by Freedom Mortgage Corporation, said mortgage dated March 22, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15094, Page 194, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 23, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15314, Page 312, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 6, 2025, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15496, Page 282, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on **August 20, 2026 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Certain pieces of real estate situated in WARE, Hampshire

County, Massachusetts, known and designated as 88 West Street, being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the northwesterly corner of the tract herein conveyed at an iron pin on the southerly side of said street;

thence SOUTHERLY on line of land formerly of the Murdock Estate about one hundred (100) feet to land formerly belonging to the P.J. Crowe Estate;

thence EASTERLY on land formerly of the P.J. Crowe Estate about fifty (50) feet to land formerly of Fred Burge;

thence NORTHERLY on land formerly of Fred Burge one hundred (100) feet to West Street;

thence WESTERLY on West Street to the place of beginning.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated March 11, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15094, Page 191.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road,
Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886
Attorney for
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200
MLG File No.: 25-01046
07/23, 07/30, 08/06/2026

**Town of Ware
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:**

The Town of Ware is seeking proposals from qualified environmental professionals (QEPs) for services toward implementing the Town of Ware Brownfields Cleanup Project (BF00A01119) at the American Gas Site on Monroe Street (RTN-1-0017892) funded by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Proposals are sought only from firms prequalified under the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) contract for Environmental Engineering, Diagnostics and Testing (PRF77 designated DCAMM).

The Town of Ware was awarded a cleanup grant by the EPA in 2023, a copy of the original

grant proposal is included in Attachment A. Following the grant award the Town entered into a cooperative agreement with EPA (Attachment B).

The Town of Ware and any QEP agree to adhere to all requirements of the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (2 CFR Part 200), the Full and Open Competitive Requirements (2 CFR Part 1500), the EPA DBE requirement (40 CFR Part 33), and applicable requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Note that the deadline for completing the cleanup work under the EPA grant is September 30, 2027. Prospective QEPs submitting proposals for this project must commit to completing all work within this timeframe and provide a realistic project schedule to complete this work within this timeframe.

Proposals shall be submitted in writing to the Town Manager's office, 126 Main Street, Ware MA 01082 by August 14, 2026 at 2:00pm when they will be opened. For more information visit the Planning Department at Ware Town Hall, 126 West Main Street, Ware MA 01082. The deadline for proposals is August 14, 2026, at 2:00pm. For more information, visit the Planning Department at Town Ware Town Hall, 126 West Main Street, Ware MA 1082.

07/30/2026



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TIME from page 1

porated as a district in 1761. The time capsule had a name and date written on the side that said “Bill Rohan” and “1961.” William “Bill” Rohan was a long-time resident of Ware, now residing in Cape Cod.

At the time leading to the ceremony, Rohan worked as a plumber for the HP Cummings Company in 1961. It was Rohan who was given the task of sealing up the time capsule and placing it in the wall behind the 1961 cornerstone.

Rohan joined the time capsule opening via Facetime. Rohan shared that he remembers signing his name and dating the time capsule prior to its placement.

The big question everyone kept asking during Historical Day was, “What is inside the capsule?”

The contents included a blessing from Mt. Carmel Church, a letter from the Gilbert Campaign, which recorded 2,750 donors who raised \$300,000.

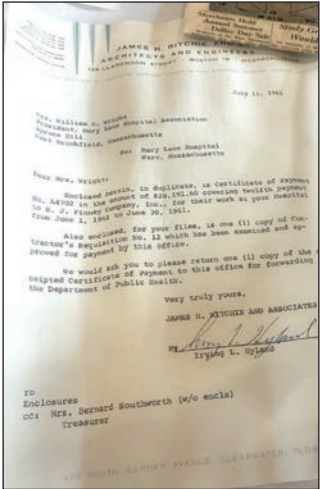
Other letters included a letter from Nat Falk, the Mary Lane Board of Directors, and a letter from an architectural firm. There was a dedication program for the Gilbert Wing grand opening event.

The time capsule also featured various lists. There was a list of all costs and payments, Mary Lane Hospital’s medical staff and employees, and a list of Mary Lane Hospital Auxiliary.

There were also stacks of Ware River News newspapers



Members of the Historical Commission are shown from left, Lynn Lak, Alice Atkinson-Bonasio, Kathy Galford, Claudia Kadra, Wanda Mysona and Susan Sandridge, during the town’s Historical Day.



The time capsule contained a letter from the architectural firm James H. Ritchie and Associates.

from the years 1959-1961. These newspapers featured stories chronicling the Gilbert Building from its early conceptual design stages to its completion.

All items in the 1961 time capsule will be preserved by the Historical Commission.

There will be a new time capsule put together in honor



Historical Commission members Claudia Kadra, Kathy Galford and Wanda Mysona held up items from the time capsule that was opened.

of the 250th. This new capsule includes issues of the Ware River News, letter from the Selectboard, a 250th town event flyer, and a signed card of the day’s participants.

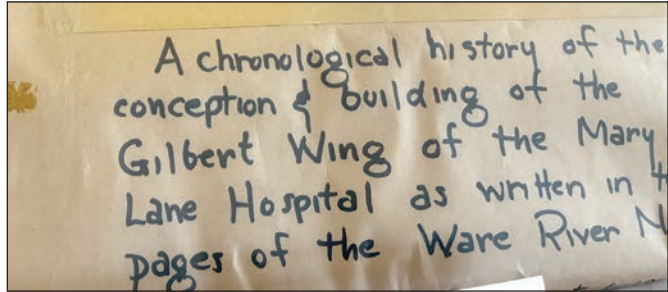
The Historical Commission wanted to thank Tom Atkinson for his work in digitalizing Ware history. The Historical Commission had

a display of events, accomplishments and a game called “Great Adventures.”

The game requires players to look at eight artifacts on the table, read the headlines and place each sentence next to an artifact. Afterwards, players would ask for feedback and claim a prize if they’re correct.



A 1961 edition of the Ware River News announced the opening of the Gilbert Wing of Mary Lane Hospital.



Shown are some of the contents of the time capsule.



Community members came to view the contents of the time capsule.

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