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STM okays zoning bylaws

By Zacharias
Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

HARDWICK – Voters approved six new zoning bylaws at a special town meeting last Wednesday, including accessory dwelling units, earth removal and importation and farm animals.

All articles passed unanimously, and the zoning bylaws were previously presented at a public hearing in May.

The accessory dwelling units article allows these structures to be built by right, as it is now a requirement of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The Hardwick option allows for more than one unit on a parcel, units of greater size than the state minimum and phased development of ADUs. The article also removes a section from the zoning bylaw about accessory apartments, since it is superseded by the general laws.

A description of ADUs was provided in the warrant. They are separate homes with sleeping, cooking and sanitation on the same lot as a principal dwelling, or a house, and have separate entrances from the principal dwelling.

Protected use ADUs, as governed by the general laws, are no larger than 900 square feet or one half of the gross area of the principal dwelling, and the local option can approve by special permit an ADU of up to 1,200 square feet.

Earth removal and importation

This bylaw is designed to regulate the importation, removal and filling of any material to protect health, public safety and the natural biodiversity of the town of Hardwick including aquifers, water bodies and wetlands, per the description in the warrant.

The bylaw requires a special permit to remove or bring in more than 100 cubic yards of material in or out of the town over a one-year period.

The permit would last for two years and come with a fee as decided by the planning board.

The work is subject to inspection by an engineering consultant, and there are exemptions for permits already issued, municipal uses, ecologi-

Please see **BYLAWS**,
page 8

Hardwick Community Fair



LEFT: Friends gathered for a photo on one of the tractors at the fair.

Turley Photos by Mary Whitelaw

BELOW: An actor portrayed Deacon Joseph Allen during the opening ceremony of the Hardwick Community Fair this past Friday night.

*Tradition continues
for 264th year*

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Community Fair took place this past weekend during a historic year of anniversaries.

Before the Declaration of Independence and even

before Lexington and Concord, the town started its own annual agricultural fair, with the first dating back to 1762. The annual fair features two days of festivities and highlights locals who make the fair great year after year.

The annual Hardwick Community Fair is made possible by the volunteer run

organization, the Hardwick Community Fair Association. The Fair Board along with numerous volunteers help put the fair together and continue its historic traditions.

Every year, the Fair Board dedicates the Hardwick Community Fair to someone during the opening ceremonies. The 2026 Hardwick

Community Fair was dedicated to Pam Hinckley, who was honored by this incredible recognition.

Hinckley was born in Worcester and came to town for her first teaching job in the elementary school. Though she eventually left

Please see **FAIR**, page 6

Hearing continued for Cemetery Road project

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Conservation Commission and Planning Board had a joint meeting on Aug. 12 at the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building.



**YOU NEED A GEO
TECH TO LOOK
AT THE STABILITY,
THE SHEAR
FACTORS OF
THAT SLOPE.”**

**TERRY REYNOLDS
PEER REVIEWER**

The public hearing was for site plan review application of Paquette Bros. Contracting LLC to allow construction of six two-family dwellings served by a single driveway at Cemetery Road in the Village district.

Giving a presentation during the joint meeting was Jeff Dubois of DC Engineering & Survey, Inc.

of Charlton, who has been working with Paquette Bros. Contracting LLC. Also speaking on the plans was Glenn Krevosky of EBT Environmental Consultants, Inc. of North Oxford.

A map of the area for the project off Cemetery Road was presented during the joint meeting. Dubois said the plan hasn't really changed since a previous presentation.

Paquette Bros. is proposing to build six duplexes on the property and proposing to have a driveway coming off of Cemetery Road and Comins Pond Road and have it drive straight into the parking lot. The plans also include side-walks.

Dubois pointed out a berm along the roadway that is approximately 20 feet high. The plan is to take the berm down so the whole project area is all one level.

Planning Board Vice Chair Richard Eichacker asked about the parking lot draining and where the water goes from the parking lot. From what the plans show it seems the water will pool down to the southeast corner.

Dubois explained that the water flow is perpendicular

Please see **HEARING**,
page 5

New Director of Student Services selected

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Interim Superintendent Michael Wood said the school district had a successful search for a candidate to fill the position of Director of Student Services.

He thanked School Committee member Mel Whitham and the other search committee members for their efforts.

“It was very successful and we are very pleased with the results,” he said at the Aug. 12 School Committee meeting.

Candidate Lindsey Smithies was selected as the finalist for the position and was “hands-down” the top choice by the search committee, Wood said.

“We are very pleased to have her here,” Wood said.

Wood recommended the School Committee vote to appoint Smithies to the position of Director of Student Services with a three-year contract. Wood is in the process of negotiating the contract with Smithies.

Whitham said there were many qualified candidates that applied for the position, adding that she had “full confidence” in

Please see **WARE
SCHOOLS**, page 2



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Adam Bishop of Garaventa Lift explained how to use the new accessibility chairlift at the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High St., while resident Donald Neilsen was the first person to use it.

New chairlift installed at Shepard Municipal building

Town continues to improve public accessibility

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Last year, the 28-year-old accessibility chairlift in the Charles

E. Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High St., stopped working, and Town Administrator James Ferrera made a promise to the community to have it replaced.

Thanks to a fall town meeting vote to allocate \$109,000 to the project, this promise was recently fulfilled.

Ferrera and the Board of Selectmen held a press

conference and ribbon cutting on Aug. 11, to unveil the new chairlift. They also invited members of the town's disabled community, including Donald Neilsen and Bob Briere, both of whom use mobility devices that require the chairlift to enter the building.

Please see **CHAIRLIFT**,
page 8



Ware Comedy Show returns on Sept. 26

WARE – The laughter begins the moment the lights come up at this year’s Ware Comedy Show to be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) in the Grand Hall at Workshop13, located at 13 Church St.

This is an evening packed with some of the finest comedy talent in New England and beyond.

If you attended last year’s sold-out event, you already know the standard is high. Comedy fans can expect a night filled with original material, quick wit, and memorable performances.

Returning as host is Boston Comedy Festival winner Dan Boulger.

Boulger headlined last year’s Ware Comedy Show and left audiences thoroughly

impressed with his relaxed delivery, sharp observations, and polished stage presence. His ability to make comedy look effortless is a testament to his skill and experience.

Headlining this year’s show is Jake Silberman, a nationally touring comedian whose sharp wit, unique perspective, and exceptional crowd work have made him a favorite with audiences across the country. Silberman’s ability to find humor in everyday life and connect with a crowd ensures a performance that is both intelligent and hilarious.

The opening acts are equally impressive.

Avery Quinn has headlined venues throughout New England and regularly performs at the Comix stage at Mohegan Sun. His animated

style and commanding presence immediately capture an audience’s attention.

Joining him is Hilary Price, known for her offbeat sense of humor, originality, and relatable storytelling. Her thoughtful, clever material consistently earns big laughs while giving audiences something to think about.

Together, these performers create a lineup loaded with talent, originality, and the creative material that defines great stand-up comedy.

A tremendous thank-you goes to the Ware Cultural Council for its support. Their sponsorship helps make this exceptional evening of comedy available for just \$20 per ticket.

The Ware Comedy Show is for ages 21+. Tickets are available at workshop13.org.

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 2021 showed Adalia Rivera posing for a photo for her mother Ayleen at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School.

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



Turley Staff Photos

BUTTERFLIES AND BLOOMS

This Eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly was photographed as it visited several daylilies in Hardwick.

School supply drive benefits local schools

WARE – The Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce and the Ware Business & Civic and Beyond organizations are hosting a school supply collection drive to benefit local schools.

This year’s school supply drive marks the second year of the collection drive program. Participating locations will serve as a drop off destination for local citizens to

donate school supplies to benefit students from the Ware, Palmer and Monson schools districts.

The school supply collection drive runs though Friday, Aug. 21.

Participating drop off locations are found at Cedarbrook Village, Cluett’s Appliance Center, Dhillon Dentistry, Hakim Medical Center, Hanna’s on Main, Monson

Savings Bank, Moulton Insurance Agency, Ware Town Hall and Westfield Savings Bank in Ware, Monson Savings Bank, The Better Bean and TJ’s Tavern in Monson, and Palmer Town Hall, Palmer Senior Center, Palmer Library, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Phriends Coffee, Mustang Seats, Just a Little Craft Store and Nick’s Sporting Goods in Palmer.

Town Clerk lists early voting dates for State Primary

HARDWICK – Hardwick voters wishing to vote early, in-person for the Sept. 1, 2026 State Primary may do so at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Office Building, 307 Main St., Gilbertville on the following dates and times: Saturday, Aug. 22 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. which is also the last day to register to vote for the State Primary; Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 25 and 26 from 3-7 p.m.

Those wishing to vote by mail must have their application, or intention filed with the Town Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

Ware Grange Fair program books are now available

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair program books are now available online at waregrange.org.

Program books are also available by mail by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing waregrange164@gmail.com.

Plan your exhibits by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Exhibitors may

enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts and photography.

The Ware Grange Fair will be held Plan your exhibits now for the fair which takes place Aug. 28 -29. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

WARE SCHOOLS

from page 1

moving forward with hiring Smithies.

The School Committee voted to appoint Smithies with Kevin Slattery abstaining.

Superintendent’s report

Wood said it is nearing the first day of the 2026-2027 school year and they are working on some small maintenance projects.

He said there were leaks that occurred in the high school during recent heavy rain storms, which appear to be related to drain pipe issues.

Wood said it is possible the drain pipe could be cracked and blocked, which resulted in water entering the locker room in the gymnasium. He said this will be looked at prior to the start of the school year.

Wood said the chiller project is expected to reach “substantial completion” by Aug. 31 with final completion by Sept. 30. He said they will be able to use the chiller once it has reached substantial completion.

Wood said hiring is going well to fill vacancies, but there is still a need for two special education positions, one at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School and the other at Ware Middle School.

He said if they are unable to fill both positions, they may need to partner a classroom for part of the school year.

“It’s not our preference,” Wood said. “But we really had a hard time finding

somebody.”

Wood said the Department of Public Works helped the school district paint parking lot lines, crosswalks and speed bumps in the campus parking lots.

A back-to-school family night will be held campus-wide on Aug. 24 to meet with administrators and staff. Students in seventh-ninth grade will receive their schedules that night.

Cell phone policy

The School Committee unanimously voted to accept the cell phone policy, that will prohibit students from using cell phones and other personal electronic communication systems, including wearable technology from “bell to bell.”

This policy prohibits use during academic time from the first bell to the last bell, including use during class periods, lunch and transition times.

This policy does not prohibit personal electronic communication systems that are used to monitor medical devices through apps, such as for medical conditions including diabetes.

Handbook updates

The School Committee discussed changing the school district’s Title IX coordinator to the school district’s attorney or an outside consultant, instead of the Director of Student Services.

The committee approved the updated handbook, with minor changes to language regarding electronic hall passes and changes to the athletic handbook.

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Ware Cultural Council announces start of 2027 grant cycle

WARE – The Massachusetts Cultural Council will begin accepting online applications for the 2027 grant cycle starting on Sept. 1 through Oct. 15.

Please visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/operating-grants-for-organizations/application-process/> for information on how to apply for funding cultural community activities in Ware.

These grants can support various artistic projects and activities such as exhibits, festivals, field trips, school performances, workshops and lectures. The Ware Cultural Council thanks the Massachusetts State Legislature for providing the annual funds to each local cultural council in the Commonwealth.

The mission of the Ware Cultural Council is to promote, encourage, facilitate, the arts, plays, music and interpretive sciences for the enjoyment of Ware citizens of all ages.

For more information, email wareculturalcouncil@yahoo.com.

Ware Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park

WARE – The Ware Lions Club presents the Concerts in the Park series with The 60's Experience on Thursday, Aug. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in Grenville Park, 73 Church St.

Admission to concerts is free and concerts are weather dependent. During the concert, the Ware Lions will have a concession stand selling hot dogs, chips, popcorn and beverages.

Photography highlighted 'through the lens'

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The ArtWorks Gallery, located at 69 Main St., hosted the opening reception of the new photography exhibit, "Through the Lens: Presence and Absence."

Serving as the juror of the exhibit was fine art photographer, educator and archivist, James Gehrt. His work in photography focuses on ordinary subjects and is mostly in black and white.

Gehrt teaches photographic archives in the graduate program at Simmons University and serves as Corporate Archivist at MassMutual.

Gehrt entered some of his photographs into the "Through the Lens" exhibit. One of them is an owl photograph he calls "Harvard Owls" from his long-term project, Seat of the Muses.

His project began with photographs he made in museums back in the 1990s. He would photograph museum objects, specimens, architecture, reflections, display cases, shadows and much more.

He recently began reinterpreting some of his photographs through wet-plate collodion, which creates large ambrotypes on glass by projecting an image through the process lens onto a sensitized glass plate.

These wet-plate collodion ambrotypes could be seen at the "Through the Lens" exhibit. This style of photography is a collaboration of technology, 19th century chemistry, museum history, and Gehrt's own archive.

The Best in Show photograph was "The Second Story of Hope" by Stephen Johnas. The photograph was taken by Johnas in the location of Guánica, Puerto Rico.

The Best Black and White photo went to Joanne Holtje for her entry "Ferry". Though her work in photography was recognized at the "Through the Lens" exhibit, Holtje admitted that her most common art medium is paint.

"I don't consider myself a photographer," Holtje said.

Her skills with photography were picked up when she would regularly take photographs during walks. Her black and white photograph, "Ferry", was taken



AT LEFT: Joanne Holtje is shown alongside her work, including "Ferry", which was selected as Best Black and White photograph in the "Through the Lens: Presence and Absence" exhibit.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

INSET, BELOW: Best Color went to Vern McClish who entered the archival ink-jet print of "Abandoned Machine Shop".

during a ferry trip to Martha's Vineyard.

Holtje's second photograph displayed below the award-winning photograph was also in black and white and is a shot of a street in Cohasset. Holtje's art studio is based out of Holyoke and she has exhibited her work in art galleries throughout western and central Massachusetts.

Rose Grant of Ware had a couple of her photographs entered into the "Through the Lens" exhibit. Grant has been a photographer for 10 years and said she has been taking a lot more pictures after being "gifted with a really nice camera."

One of her photographs was originally a colored photograph but was done in black and white. Her photo is a winter landscape picture of a street in Hardwick and is called "Hardwick Morning".

Her other entry was a colored photo called "Foggy Westport", an image of a highway in Westport where the fog suddenly began to build up. Grant's most common subject in her photographs is birds.

The "Through the Lens: Presence and Absence" exhibit can be viewed on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. now through Sept. 13. More information can be found at workshop13.org.



Rose Grant's photograph titled "Foggy Westport" which she captured on the highway in Westport.



The juror of the exhibit James Gehrt entered a couple photos for the exhibit. This is his wet-plate collodion ambrotype called "Harvard Owls (from Seat of the Muses)".



"Hardwick Morning" by Rose Grant.



Best in Show was "The Second Story of Hope" by Stephen Johnas, a photograph he took in Guánica, Puerto Rico.

Read the Ware River News online at www.warerivernews.turley.com

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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters By Russell Gloor

I worked for my ex-husband but wasn't paid and now have little Social Security, what are my options?

Author note: This is article number 500 in the AMAC Foundation's "Ask Rusty" series of Social Security articles, which have been published nationwide every week since February 2017. "Ask Rusty" is provided free of charge as an integral part of the AMAC Foundation's mission to "support and educate America's seniors." If you would like to help the AMAC Foundation fulfill its mission, charitable donations are graciously accepted at <https://amacfoundation.org/donate/>.

Dear Rusty:

Sadly, I was in business with my ex-husband. I'm a nurse and he was a chiropractor. He refused to pay me "on the books" and now, at age 73, after divorcing him due to his financial irresponsibility. (I don't want to burden you with the thefts that he perpetrated), I am stuck with a small \$773 Social Security payment each month. At age 73 I am now faced with having to go back into the workforce. Is there anything I can do to prove that I worked 40 years for my husband, but wasn't paid?

Signed: Distressed Divorcee

Dear Distressed:

We are so sorry to hear of your unfortunate circumstances. Assuming your ex-husband is now collecting Social Security retirement benefits or is at least eligible to if you are divorced at least two years, you should be able to collect an ex-spouse benefit as his former wife. In that case, you would be entitled to receive 50% of the Social Security benefit he was entitled to at his own Full Retirement Age because he and you were married for over 10 years. The way that will work is that you would continue to receive your personally-earned \$773 monthly Social Security retirement amount earned from other employment, but you would also be entitled to a supplemental "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to half of the SS payment amount your ex-husband is entitled to at his SS Full Retirement Age. In other words, because you were married to your ex for more than 10 years, you are entitled to the same Social Security benefits as though you were still mar-

ried. That is true, even if he has remarried and his new wife is also getting a spouse benefit from his record. You will still be entitled to an ex-spouse benefit from your ex-husband as his former wife. And if he dies before you, as a surviving ex-spouse you will get the same Social Security benefit he was receiving at his death, instead of the smaller amount your will get while you are both living. Regarding rejoining the workforce, while you can certainly go back to work at age 73 without it negatively affecting your Social Security benefits, if you are struggling financially, I suggest you visit this website sponsored by the National Council on Aging: www.benefitscheckup.org. At this website, you can enter your zip code and find much information about other supplemental assistance you may be entitled to where you live, including healthcare and medication assistance, housing, nutritional assistance, etc. Regarding your question: "Is there anything I can do to prove that I worked 40 years and wasn't paid?" Social Security determines benefits based solely on your personal earnings as reported to the Internal Revenue Service, which is, in turn, dependent on how your joint income taxes were filed over the years you worked in your husband's business. Social Security is unable to assist you with IRS matters. I'm afraid yours is more of a legal matter you would need to pursue by discussing your situation directly with the IRS or engaging an attorney for assistance.

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

The Garden Lady discusses weeds and seeds

I came back from vacation and was shocked as to how much the garden had grown. Crops were ready to be harvested and weeds that were merely inches tall had grown by leaps and bounds! Of course, we did have nearly a half foot of rain that week, and this probably played a part in such exuberant growth. Read on to learn how indiscriminate watering by Mother Nature can mean weeds, weeds and more weeds.

Why such a growth spurt? Because just like other seeds, those of our least favorite weedy plants need both sunlight and water in order to germinate and grow well. When we water on purpose, we can direct the rain where we'd like - usually at the base of the plant. Unfortunately, rainfall that lands on a brick path, the garden aisle, and also in between plants within the row can cause a lot of weeds to sprout.

Hand weeding and hoeing are both great exercise, and the best option for otherwise bare areas of young weeds. Many gardeners make the mistake, however, of hoeing too deeply and exposing more weed seeds to sunlight. Try to just scrape the surface of the soil. Stirrup hoes are particularly effective, skimming across the soil and severing the stems of weeds at the root line as they go. Very tall weeds can be cut down by use of garden shears, scissors or a week whacker, depending on the size of the area. Once cut back, you can cover the whole area with a tarp, or black plastic to fry what was underneath, killing weed seed.

In the future you can use mulch to reduce the amount a weeding you have to do - it

soil with their roots. Plant parts can be incorporated come spring time. In preparation for sowing cover crop seed, the soil surface should be scuffed up so that the seeds will make good contact with earth. Once prep is complete I rake the soil smooth and broadcast the grain, first throwing the seed in one direction and then the other.

It's a good idea to divide the seed in half and try to cover all the area you have once, then go back and fill in the light spots with the rest. After the seed has been sown I'll drag the flat end of a steel rake over the soil surface to bury it ever so slightly.

My goal is to have the seed sprout now, so that its roots will hold the soil and its nutrients in place over the off season.

Winter rye will put on an amazing amount of top growth by spring - weed whack or mow it first to make incorporating easier.

I am also contemplating "tarping" it to solarize the soil at the same time, then working in the dead plants by hand.

Either way, if you do this for a few years in a row you'll watch the organic matter content of your soil soar, reportedly at a rate of three to four thousand pounds per acre!

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.



WARE RIVER NEWS

We Want to Hear From You

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OPINION POLICY

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

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

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers. Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

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.

Learning about renewable energy through travel

By Sam O'Connor A senior at Quabbin Regional High School

In April of 2026, I had the incredible opportunity to go to Europe for just over a week, visiting Poland and Germany. While there, my main mode of transport was by bus, from which I got to see countless windmills towering overhead, and off in the distance, plots of solar fields, both providing energy for the lights shining in each town we passed. Renewable energy sources like wind and solar are much better for both the environment and the atmosphere, as they replace the use of fossil fuels and are not in limited supply.



The burning of fossil fuels emits massive amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases trap the sun's warmth inside our atmosphere, slowly increasing the average temperature of the planet, which in turn causes issues like irregular and extreme weather.

By turning instead to renewables, which create far fewer emissions, Germany is mitigating its impact on the environment. Over the past few decades, Germany has taken many steps to reduce its emissions. As of 2025, the country came

closer to a huge milestone in its journey away from non-renewables than ever before - nearly half of all energy produced was done via renewable means. With a grand total of 42% of energy being generated by either wind, solar, biomass, or other forms of renewable energy, Germany's "Energiewende" (meaning "energy transition" in English) has been a great success thus far. This, compared to the United States' 9% of energy being generated by renewable means, is very impressive, and certainly something worth taking notes from. Solar and wind are already being used in many parts of the U.S., but not to their full capabilities.

While Massachusetts has provided incentives to its residents to switch to renewable sources like solar, our biggest renewable source, few other states have done the same. And even with these incentives, only 17.3% of Massachusetts energy is derived from renewable sources. Our state's percentage of renewable energy is nearly twice that of the U.S. average, but this is not nearly enough to stop climate change. Countries like Germany, which have much higher percentages of renewable energy than the U.S., should be looked to as a model for how we should work toward reducing our impacts on the planet.

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. 24**
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- Tuesday, Aug. 25**
- 9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh
 - 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class.
 - 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Aug. 26**
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- Thursday, Aug. 27**
- 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
 - 12:30-2:30 p.m. Movie Matinee “Rescued by Ruby”
- Friday, Aug. 28**
- 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 413-967-9645 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.

- Monday, Aug. 24**
- Breakfast Burger with Cheese, Fried Egg, Lettuce and Tomato, French Fries, Dessert of the Day
- Tuesday, Aug. 25**
- BBQ Pork, Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day
- Wednesday, Aug. 26**
- Chicken Sandwich, French Fries, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day
- Thursday, Aug. 27**
- Brunch, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Corned Beef Hash, Dessert of the Day
- Friday, Aug. 28**
- Baked Fish, Rice Pilaf, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Voter registration deadline for State Primary is Aug. 22

WARREN – The polls will be open for the State Primary Election on Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

The last day to register to vote for the State Primary Election is Saturday, Aug. 22 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kids’ Corner workshop explores nature on Aug. 29

WARE – The next Kids’ Corner workshop at Ware Grange will be the “Enchanted Forest Nature Party” and will take place during the Grange Fair on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 10 a.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

Kids’ Corner workshops are led by preschool teacher, Jen McNally, and teach children about nature and the environment

through stories, songs and fun activities. This workshop will explore the great outdoors in conjunction with the Ware Grange Fair.

Children will take a guided nature walk to learn about the outdoor world and look for natural items to use in making crafts.

Visit Ware Grange on Facebook or at ware-grange.org for more information.

Grange hosts barbecue dinner Aug. 29

WARE – The Ware Grange is holding a barbecue dinner at the annual Grange Fair on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 4 p.m.

The menu includes pulled pork, chicken, bris-ket, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, drink and des-

sert for \$25. Eat outside under the tent or take your meal to go.

Reservations are required. Please call 413-284-1135 or email ware-grange164@gmail.com to make your reservations for the barbecue.

Breezelands Orchards opens for the season

Staff Report

WARREN – On July 25, Breezelands Orchards opened its farmstand for the upcoming season.

“We had a wonderful response from the community for the weekend hours,” said Mark Tuttle, Breezelands Orchards owner.

“Our mission is to continue the legacy that’s has been achieved over the 130 years the orchards have been in operation,” said Tuttle. “We are grateful for our returning patrons and the new ones that arrive daily.”

The farmstand’s bakery offers award winning cider donuts, in addition to breads, turnovers and pies. The farmstand also offers peaches, blueberries, jams, jellies and swag.

“This farmstand operation is a labor of love,” said Gloria Tuttle, bakery manager. “We will have more items to offer as the season progresses but being open only for four months, we com-



Pictured from left to right are Liz Feeney, Gloria Tuttle and Mark Tuttle, presenting the first apple cider donuts of the season.

press twelve months of effort into those four months.”

“Our most common question asked of us is when apple cider is available and

that is always by Labor Day weekend. We want the freshest apples to be used in the apple cider for our customers,” said Tuttle.

The farmstand is open daily from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and is located at 1791 Southbridge Road.



Liz Feeney, Gloria Tuttle and Sawyer Lincoln presented the first day of donuts for the season.



Turley Staff Photos
Liz Feeney taking pies out of the oven.

HEARING from page 1

to the contour line and reaches the catch basins.

Attending the joint meeting virtually was Peer Reviewer Terry Reynolds of Terry Reynolds Engineering. Reynolds had questions about the slope stabilization and if the planners knew the calculations of the slope to see if it’s stable.

The steepness of the slope was a concern by both Conservation and Planning members, especially when the slope is close to one of the buildings.

“You need a geo tech to look at the stability, the shear factors of that slope,” Reynolds said.

Dubois said there were no stabilization issues currently at the site. However, due to concern with rain, the boards want to see if it’s possible to get an analysis done on the slope.

A stormwater report for this site was also asked for and the Planning Board also

wanted to see more detailed sections on the plans. Dubois explained the number of units on the site impacts the storm-water standards.

Dubois will email questions to Conservation Chair Joyce Eichacker, which she will forward to Reynolds who will submit written responses. Joyce Eichacker had an elevation question regarding the plans not full degrading down to the pit level.

Krevosky explained the slope with vegetation on the edge of the degrading area. History of work on this site dates back to 1980.

Krevosky said, “there was no requirement for earth removal permits prior to 1998 to put any topsoil back in.”

An aerial map of the site from 1997 was shown in addition to the current map to show the lack of topsoil, despite vegetation. This is evidence that in 1997 the area was degraded and now vegetated.

Krevosky read a paragraph of the review of the site.

Since this is new development in a non-degraded area, limit of work has been identified.

There is approximately 12 feet from one building to one of the hills. The idea of a one-to-one slope was checked out. Another idea is to do a three-to-one slope where it is not completely run down.

All parties will address preliminary and post-planned notes, riverfront area calculations, and go over the numbers of the plans to make sure they add up.

The Conservation Commission also wanted the berm added in.

“It’s just in terms of the riverfront,” Joyce Eichacker said.

The river flooding was a concern brought up, even though the water is about 20 feet down from the property level. According to Conservation, the river does rise on occasions.

The boards wanted to see more language on the limited project.

Richard Eichacker of the Planning Board asked about the maintenance for the basins and who’s responsible is it to maintain them. If Paquette Bros. Contracting is going in the direction of making the duplexes condos, it may be the condo association’s responsibility.

Both the Conservation Commission and Planning Board agreed that they may not need another joint meeting for this site plan review application. The Planning Board is meeting on Sept. 14 and Conservation is meeting on Sept. 9.

Planning Board Chair, Derick Veliz, also asked if the planners could highlight some critical sections in the plans, such as parking lot, slopes, sidewalks and lighting. A plan highlighting what the project is going to look like in the end.

The public hearing for Paquette Bros. Contracting’s site plan review application for Cemetery Road was continued by both boards.

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A child prepared their cow for showing.



Turley Photos by Mary Whitelaw

State and town officials joined members of the Hardwick Community Fair Association members and volunteers for a group photo.



ClayWorks gave pottery demonstrations throughout the weekend.



Children enjoyed swinging on the rope swing, with help from Isabelle Wentworth.

FAIR from page 1

her teaching job, Hinckley still found herself in a teaching role.

In the winter months, she still teaches sewing and knitting at the Paige Memorial Library. Hinckley has been involved with knitting and sewing since the age of 5 and she still has the first piece of embroidery she ever worked in her possession.

Her skills in the fiber arts were learned thanks to the teachings of her mother and grandfather. Hinckley was initially surprised by the news that this year's Hardwick Community Fair was going to be dedicated to her.

The announcement came to her in the spring when she found a note by President of the Fair Board Fay Butler. Many people volunteer their time to make the Fair possible and Hinckley was honored to be recognized.

"I've just been doing what I've always done," Hinckley said.

Her area of work is in the fiber arts category for the Hardwick Community Fair. Hinckley coordinates the judges and sets tables.

Hinckley has been involved with the fair for about 35 years. According to her daughter, Kate, Hinckley has been attending the fair since 1979.

For Hinckley, this honor is special to her as the town has become like her family.

"A very touching recognition," Hinckley said. "Hardwick feels like a really large family."

Butler had asked all attendees to gather at the flagpole on the common for the fair's opening ceremony on Friday evening. The Pascale family of Barre performed the National Anthem during the opening ceremony and the American flag was also raised.

Butler was joined by his fellow Fair Board members, Select Board members Jeffrey Schaaf and William Tinker, Town Administrator Justine Caggiano, and Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos. The ceremony also welcomed Congressman James McGovern, state Sen. Peter Durant, and state Rep. Donnie

Berthiaume.

Former state Sen. Stephen Brewer attended the Hardwick Community Fair this past weekend and has been coming to the fair ever since he was a kid.

According to Brewer, the fair is an example of "Americana at its very best."

Butler announced that the 264th year of the Hardwick Community Fair has fallen on a special year, which marks the 250th anniversary of the U.S. To highlight the history of both the nation and the Town of Hardwick, the ceremony featured an actor portraying Deacon Joseph Allen of Hardwick, who was a town founder.

Allen served on the first Select Board alongside Benjamin Ruggles and also built the meeting house. Allen also witnessed the very first agricultural fair in Hardwick in 1762. He was also part of the alarm company in Hardwick during the Revolutionary War. In 1776, Allen also read the text of the declaration to the citizens of Hardwick.

"These were revolutionary words," Allen said.

Butler and the Board officially dedicated this year's Hardwick Community Fair to Pam Hinckley, someone Butler described as someone with "great skill and intelligence." Hinckley raised her family in Hardwick and is an active community member ever since she came to Hardwick.

According to Butler, part of Hinckley's purpose "has always been to build community through crafts."

McGovern said it takes a continuous effort to keep the tradition of the Hardwick Community Fair going, an event that has happened even before the birth of the U.S.

McGovern shared some history with the town on how 75 minutemen from Hardwick went to go fight the British as a war had started.

"A story of ordinary people," McGovern said.

Durant came up to speak and noted that 264 years is a long time for something to last. Many people over the course of those 264 years made sure the Fair stayed this long.

Berthiaume spoke next and presented the town with a copy of the Declaration of Independence, printed in a manner similar to how Salem printer Ezekiel Russell did it back in 1776. This replica of American history was accepted by the Witkos.

"I receive this on behalf of the town," Witkos said.

The history of Hardwick and its notable people were highlighted in the cemetery next to the Town House. One of the posters highlighted Timothy Ruggles, the founder of the Hardwick Community Fair back in 1762.

This year's quilt was displayed at the booth of the Gilbertville Public Library.



Abigail Goudreau of Ware was the second female overall with a time of 44:18:31.

The quilt was made by Erin Roy, Patsy Buck, Pam Hinckley, Jenn Mott, Laura Grunberg, Kate Morreale and Colleen Tovan. This group spent several months putting this gorgeous quilt together with everyone quilting a square for the quilt.

The quilt was being raffled off to support the Gilbertville Public Library. The idea came from Morreale to bring people together to make a quilt.



Dylan Mace competed in the crosscut saw competition.



These quilts were entered in the fair.



David Larson rode in the Mountain Bike race.



Brody Faucher of Barre finished fourth overall in the road race with a time of 39:18:27.



Four generations of the Flamand family of Ware attended the Lumberjack Contest.



Get Up and Dance Studio performed Saturday at the Hardwick Community Fair.

HARDWICK Community Fair



Fresh vegetables earned ribbons at the Hardwick Community Fair.



Jakob LaDue competed in the chainsaw competition.



The Pascale family performed the National Anthem this year.



Hardwick Community Fair Association President Fay Butler, left, dedicated this year's fair to Pam Hinckley, right.



Scarecrows were displayed in the cemetery.



William Wentworth, Rose Wentworth and Lily Nydam helped run the obstacle course.



Deb Deschamps practiced chest compressions.

Town Clerk lists Early Voting hours

WARE – The Town Clerk announced that all Early Voting for the Sept. 1 State Primary will take place in the Ware Town Hall auditorium located at 126 Main St.

Parking is available in the Municipal Lot directly across from Town Hall and accessible parking is available.

Dates and hours of the Early Voting are as follows: Saturday, Aug. 22 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 24 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 25 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 27 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, Aug. 28 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Outside of the voting booths there will be sample ballots for the Democrat and Republican Party for you to view.

Those voters registered to vote in either party will receive their party ballot upon checking in; voters who are Unenrolled will need to make a choice of either the Democrat or Republican Party ballot.

A reminder that as an

Unenrolled voter after the State Primary you immediately return to the status of being a registered voter but not enrolled in that party.

Note that the last date to register to vote for participation in the State Primary will be 10 days prior on Saturday, Aug. 22.

The last date to submit an application for Vote by Mail is Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 5 p.m.

For voters who have requested a Vote by Mail Ballot and have received them, the last date to return your ballot is State Primary Day – Sept. 1 at 8 p.m. when the polls have closed.

If you are in doubt as to being a registered voter, your party affiliation, or wish to register to vote please check www.mass.gov – Elections and Voting for the information you are seeking.

Voters may also view a sample of the Democrat and Republican ballots at the above website.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot at 413-967-9648 extension 177.

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.



CHAIRLIFT
from page 1

Ferrera said this project was a “major accessibility upgrade” for the building and that it took close to a year to finish. The replacement of the chairlift was completed by Diversified Construction Services, LLC.

“We were able to use the existing towers and stairs and replace all other components,” Ferrera said. “It was a collaborative effort.”

Before the project was completed, the town shifted all board and committee meetings to the Warren Senior Center to ensure that anyone would be able to attend in person.

“I’m happy to report that all public meetings will be moving back to the Shepard building immediately,” Ferrera said.

This project is a continuation of the town’s efforts to improve public accessibility that was outlined in the 2024 Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. Another recent improvement was the town’s redesigned website, which meets Title II requirements, and installing accessible counters in the Treasurer’s office.

“The town of Warren will continue to be a community that is inclusive to everyone,” Ferrera said. “Access is a cornerstone of a welcoming town and these projects reflect that.”

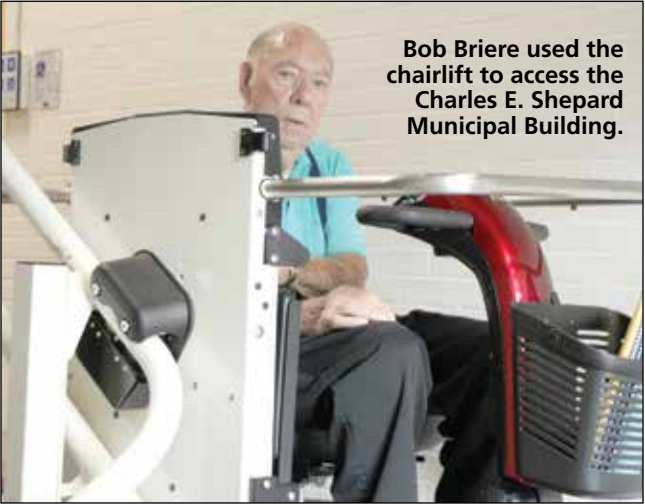
Access to government services is “critical,” Ferrera



ABOVE: Adam Bishop of Garaventa Lift pointed to the chairlift’s wall control panel.
LEFT: Town Administrator James Ferrera and resident Donald Neilsen are shown at the press conference announcing the installation of the new accessibility chairlift.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
Board of Selectmen members Ray Kopacko and Richard Eichacker cut the ribbon with Town Administrator James Ferrera.



Bob Briere used the chairlift to access the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building.

said, and this was a major concern to Neilsen when he learned the original chairlift was inoperable.

“I ensured him that the building would be open,” Ferrera said.

Ferrera said when he made that commitment to Neilsen, he also told him that he would be the first person to use the new chairlift when it was ready.

Ferrera invited Neilsen and Briere to speak about the importance of accessibil-

ity, and Neilsen said many of the town’s senior citizen population will soon be or already use a mobility device like he does. Briere said veterans may qualify for mobility devices through Veterans Affairs.

“Accessibility will bring out more voters,” Neilsen said.

Neilsen also brought up a need for improved accessibility to town meetings, which are held at the Quaboag Regional Middle High

School. Ferrera said he will continue to partner with the school district to make that happen.

Following a ribbon cutting, Adam Bishop of Garaventa Lift explained how the chairlift could be operated, and Neilsen and Briere both used it to reach the building’s multiple levels.

Bishop said the chairlift can hold up to 550 pounds, and it can be operated by controls on the lift itself, and by a control panel on the wall.

Chairlift users must continue pressing the directional button to make the lift move. If they stop pressing the button, the lift will stop until the button is pressed again.

Lights flash on the walls of the building to alert people when the chairlift is in use.

The chairlift can be accessed along the High Street-facing side of the building, toward the rear, by following the one-way flow of traffic. Accessible parking spaces are located outside the door.

August 22

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waterfowl with setbacks from the property lines of 25 feet in the front, 15 feet in the rear and 10 feet at the sides, and the maximum square footage of the structure is 200 square feet.

The poultry and waterfowl have to be quartered from dusk to dawn, and must be fenced in unless they are foraging while being supervised, and cannot leave their property.

The bylaw allows for up to four geese, one rooster and prohibits guinea fowl and peafowl.

Other zoning bylaws
An associate Planning Board member was established, and they will be appointed by a joint meeting of the Planning Board and

Select Board, and could serve on a special permit application or in the case of absences, vacancies or conflicts of interest on the Planning Board.

A gender-neutral terminology bylaw was passed which simply changes some wording throughout the bylaw. There was also an article to change the definitions of ADU protected use and ADU local in order to implement the ADU bylaw.

Other articles
The STM approved the amendments to the Quabbin Regional School District agreement and rescinded an appropriation of \$13,000 to the sewer enterprise budget that was approved at the annual town meeting.

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Ryan McLane does a running drill.



London Shepard focuses on solid contact off the batting tee.

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Forge Baseball Clinic returns to WMass

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM—One of the last sports camps of the summer of 2026 was held at Spec Pond in Wilbraham from August 10-13. A total of 57 baseball and softball players between the ages of 6-16 from

Wilbraham and the surrounding communities attended the four day clinic. “This is our fourth year conducting the baseball clinics, and this is probably the best one yet,” said camp director Dustin Brisson “We have almost 60 kids, including a couple of softball players for the first time, this week. It’s the most campers we’ve ever had at this clinic and I’m very pleased.” Brisson, who is the owner of Forge Athletics, was born in Florida and played college baseball at the University of Central Florida from 1997-2000. The first baseman was drafted by the Boston Red Sox in the 15th round of the 2000 MLB draft. Brisson, who played 345 minor league games, advanced to Double A Portland. His baseball career came to an end due to an injury. “I was blessed to have the opportunity to play professional baseball,” Brisson said. “I’m doing what I can to give back to these kids.” Some of the camp instructors were Lindsay



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Campers receive some instructions from one of the coaches in the Forge Baseball Clinic.

Beer, David Wendt, Ace Adams Chade Shade, who’s the head coach of the Springfield College baseball team, Pat Strange, who’s the pitching coach at Westfield State University, Dan Gomez, who’s the head baseball coach at Western New England University, and Terry Doyle, who’s the baseball coach at New England College.

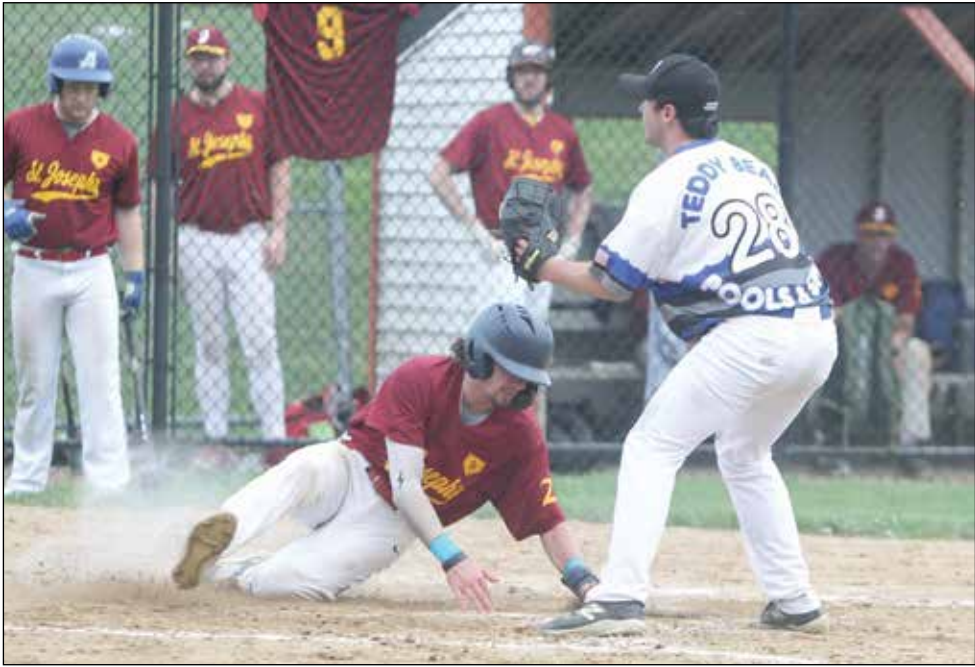
Please see **CAMP**, page 10

Soccer academy has strong session

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN — During the past 15 summers, the Quabbin Soccer Academy has held clinics in Ware and Belchertown. The two soccer clinics this summer were held at the Chestnut Hill Community School in Belchertown. “We held our first clinic in Ware in 2011,” said Matt Schiffer, who’s the Director of the Quabbin Soccer Academy. “We moved the clinics to Belchertown in 2014. The clinic has grown substantially since 2021. We had over 100 kids sign up for the clinics that year. I thought it was going to be a one-time thing, but we’ve had between 80 and 100 kids sign up each year since.” A total of 85 kids, who are between the ages of 4 and 13, attended the second soccer clinic, which took place from August 10-14. Most of the campers were from Belchertown. “Originally, we only had one clinic each summer,” Schiffer said. “The parents suggested that we do two clinics each summer and it has worked out very well during the past few years.” Schiffer described the typical day at the clinic. “It’s a six-hour camp and we just want to make it fun for the kids,” he said. “We do some skill development, but we also play some fun games. We also play scrimmages.” The kids are split up into four groups depending on their age. The full day soccer clinic went from 9am to 3pm each of the five days. There were also two other time options from 9am to 10:30am and

Please see **ACADEMY**, page 10



Nate Carrill slides safely home.

Tri-County finals forced to a deciding game three

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY— Third-seeded Teddy Bear Pools & Spas had a golden opportunity to sweep the top-seeded St. Joseph’s Saints in the Tri-County League championship series. Teddy Bear held a 1-0 lead entering the top of the third inning in game two. St. Joe’s rallied for three runs in the third and fourth innings and they evened the best-of-three series at 1-1 following a 6-3 victory at South Hadley High School Friday, Aug. 7. The game came to an end after five innings due to darkness, which didn’t please the Teddy Bear players and their supporters. “It’s a very frustrating situation,” said Teddy Bear player/manager Ryan Magni. “I think we

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



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Matt Drobiak tries to evade a run-down.

Lusitano keeps the soccer going

Hosts exhibition collegiate match

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW— In what could become an annual tradition, the UConn and UMass women’s soccer teams met in an exhibition match in front of a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium on Aug. 5. Neither team was able to find the back of the net during the contest, played in three 30-minute intervals, but it was still a memorable evening at the 108-year-old stadium located on Winsor Street in Ludlow. “It’s very exciting to be hosting a college soccer match here at Lusitano Stadium,” said Joe Ferrara Jr., who’s the Managing Director of the New England Mutiny and the General Manager of the Western Mass. Pioneers. “Both UConn and UMass have been very supportive of the Mutiny over the years. I also have a personal relationship with both coaching staffs.” The last time a college soccer match was held at Lusitano Stadium was on October 17, 2018. On that fall evening, the Worcester State University Lancers squared off against the Western New England University Golden Bears in a non-conference men’s match-up. Cyrus Raines, a Belchertown High School graduate, delivered his first collegiate goal during the second half, which lifted the Lancers to a 1-0 shut-out victory. Raines, who’s a defender, finished his college soccer career with three goals. The Worcester State

head coach at that time was Jason Willis, who’s currently an assistant coach for the Western Mass Pioneers. He also coaches a Western United Pioneers team. Willis graduated from Ludlow High School, and he helped the Lions boys’ soccer team win two state titles and three Western Mass. titles back in the 1990’s. Ferrara, who also graduated from Ludlow High School in the 1980’s, played many soccer games on the grass stadium field. “I recall scoring a lot of big goals on this field while I was in high school,” Ferrara said. “I also played for the Lusitano Whites, which won the first ever summer league championship on this field. I hope the college players appreciate the history of this place.” This past spring, Ferrara approached UMass head coach Jason Dowiak about playing the exhibition match against UConn at Lusitano Stadium. “Because it was UMass turn to host the exhibition, I asked coach Dowiak if he would be interested in playing the game here this year,” Ferrara said. “He thought it was a very good idea.” It was something that Dowiak, who was hired as the UMass women’s soccer coach in 2017, had always wanted to do. “I’m beginning my ninth season as the UMass women’s soccer coach and this is something that I’ve always wanted to do,” said Dowiak following the scoreless draw. “I’ve watched several Mutiny games here in the past and this was really a very

Please see **SOCCER**, page 10

LWPA hosts 9th Annual Poker Run on Aug. 22

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association will host its 9th annual Poker Run on Saturday, Aug. 22 from 2-5 p.m.; in case of rain, the event will be held the following Saturday, Aug. 29 also from 2-5 p.m.

The event is a fun way to get out and spend time with family and friends while enjoying the wonders of Lake Wickaboag. Whether by boat, kayak, or canoe, all are welcome.

The LWPA Poker Run has little to do with poker beyond using poker hand rankings to score the game. To play, players simply need a score sheet and a winning attitude.

On the day of the Poker Run, for a \$20 donation to the LWPA, players can purchase a score sheet at any of the five dealer pontoon boats marked with red flags. With score sheet in hand, players can then take a leisurely cruise or paddle to each of the dealer boats in any order they choose to be dealt one card.

To improve their chances of a winning hand, players can purchase an extra card at any one of the dealer boats for an additional \$10. Dealers will mark the cards dealt on players' score sheets.

For final hands to be counted and scored, players must turn in their score sheets to any dealer boat no later than 5 p.m. LWPA volunteers will tabulate and score all score sheets, and the winner of the game will be the player who has the best five-card poker hand at the end of the event.

Second and third place winners will also be determined by their hands.

Winners will be announced at 7 p.m. at the Lake Wickaboag Boat Club or contacted by phone. Players must be sure their name and phone number are clearly printed on their score sheet.

For more information and updates, please visit the LWPA website at lakewickaboag.com, or visit their Facebook page.

Paige library celebrates end of Summer Reading

HARDWICK – The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library book sale is open Tuesday and Thursday, from 2-7 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. until Aug. 26, downstairs at 87 Petersham Road.

The library has lots of books for people to explore and take home. They even have materials for homeschoolers.

The Paige Memorial Library thanks all the volunteers who made the Hardwick Community Fair a success. Special thanks to the Friends of the Paige Library, to Village Hedge Warden Peter and the attending fairies Miss Elizabeth and Ambrosia the Flower Fairy, and to those who created fairy houses for the many unseen fairies who visited the Hardwick Fair-y Village.

End of Summer Reading
On Saturday, Aug. 22 at 10 a.m. join the library

at the "Celebrate the 250th Field Day."

The Paige Library Summer Reading program, "Dig in and Read", will end on Saturday with a Colonial Field Day. Please let library staff know by Friday, Aug. 21 if you are coming so they can have the proper number of treats available.

Tickets will be drawn for prizes for adults and children who kept up with their reading and also for the patriotic quilt created by the "Kids Can Sew" quilters: Madeleine, Magdalena, Maren, Marianne and Michaela who fashioned a work of art with Pam Hinkley. At their request it will be auctioned to raise money for Paige Library programs.

There is still time to make your donation and to receive tickets for the raffle.

For more information email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

Annual Ware Grange Fair returns on Aug. 28-29

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair will be held on Friday, Aug. 28 and Saturday, Aug. 29 at the Grange Hall on Route 9, 297 Belchertown Road.

This year's fair will feature a fun dog show, Kids' Corner workshop, children's field events, games, raffles,

bake sale, live music, a barbecue dinner and an auction. Exhibits may be entered on Thursday, Aug. 27 from 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 28 from 9-11 a.m.

The exhibit hall opens to the public Friday evening from 5-7 p.m., and there will be a bake sale, raffles and penny sale. The fair continues on Saturday with exhibit hours from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and various events throughout the day.

An auction of fruits, vegetables, baked items, etc., will begin at 6 p.m. Raffle and penny sale winners will be drawn after

A barbecue dinner will be held from 4-5:30 p.m.

For more information, details on exhibiting, or to make reservations for the barbecue, call 413-284-1135 or visit waregrange.org.



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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 4-12, the Ware Police Department responded to 15 miscellaneous calls, 27 administrative calls, 21 traffic violations, 15 emergency 911 calls, two harassments/stalks/threats, one trespass, three disturbances/nuisances, two safety hazards, six suspicious/wanted, one theft/larceny, one breaking and entering, three structure fires, three motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 13 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

- Tuesday, Aug. 4**
6:45 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Otis Avenue, Assist Given
11:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Hardwick Pond Road, Services Rendered
11:53 a.m. Safety Hazard, Aspen Street, Services Rendered
12:51 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coldbrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
4:26 p.m. Structure Fire, Maple Street Annex, Extinguished
- Wednesday, Aug. 5**
9:55 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
10:19 a.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered
11:15 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dale Street, Unfounded
11:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
11:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
5:29 p.m. Structure Fire, West Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Sydney Wallace, 60, Ware
Disorderly Conduct

- 8:33 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street, Could Not Locate
- Thursday, Aug. 6**
4:47 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled
4:51 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, False Alarm
1:27 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Main Street, Services Rendered
3:20 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Services Rendered
7:32 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, North Street, Advised
11:03 p.m. Structure Fire, Glendale Circle, Extinguished
- Friday, Aug. 7**
4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Main Street, Report Made
- Saturday, Aug. 8**
11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Church Street, Report Made
2:10 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Shoreline Drive, Dispatch Handled
6:53 p.m. Safety Hazard, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
7:52 p.m. Safety Hazard, Belchertown Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
- Sunday, Aug. 9**
4:03 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Thorndike, Dispatch Handled
6:25 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled
6:58 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Warebrook Drive, Dispatch Handled
7:34 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Dispatch Handled

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.

- 9:29 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered
10:18 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Hillside Village, Dispatch Handled
3:35 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Highland Village, Investigated
- Monday, Aug. 10**
1:58 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street, Investigated
5:10 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Otis Avenue, Arrest Made
Arrest: Neftaniel G. Rosario, 27, Ware
WMS Warrant; WMS Warrant; WMS Warrant
10:31 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Morse Avenue, Advised
- Tuesday, Aug. 11**
1:28 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
5:50 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Valley View, Investigated
- Wednesday, Aug. 12**
1:44 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

During the week of July 19-25, the Warren Police Department responded to 169 building/property checks, six community policings, 11 emergency 911 calls, two suspicious activities, one theft/larceny, one harassment, one vandalism, two assault and batteries, one structure fire, one complaint, two animal calls and 18 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

- Sunday, July 19**
5:10 a.m. Falls, Chapel Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal
9:04 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, East Road, Transported to Hospital
- Monday, July 20**
3:11 a.m. Falls, Presidential Circle, Transported to Hospital
7:51 a.m. Assault and Battery, Southbridge Road, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Daniel R. Holly, 38, Warren
Assault and Battery with Dangerous Weapon
12:36 p.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Main Street, Report Filed
3:13 p.m. Property Exchange, East Road, Report Filed
9:13 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, East Road, Transported to Hospital
- Tuesday, July 21**
4 p.m. Lost Property, Old West Warren Road, Report Filed
5:16 p.m. Welfare Check, Heritage Drive, Ambulance Signed Refusal
- Wednesday, July 22**
7:27 a.m. Vandalism,

- Mechanic Street, Report Filed
9:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Written Warning
4:19 p.m. Structure Fire, Southbridge Road, Fire Extinguished
9:42 p.m. Allergic Reaction, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital
- Thursday, July 23**
1:50 a.m. Parking Issues, Old West Brookfield Road, Information Taken
1:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Criminal Complaint
8:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:05 a.m. Property Exchange, East Road, Report Filed
9:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Report Filed
9:38 a.m. Stroke (CVA), School Street, Transported to Hospital
10:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Warren Road, Written Warning
12:06 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Negative Contact
1:26 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital
2:16 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Chapel Street, Mutual Aid Transport
4:16 p.m. Fuel Spill, Main Street, Removed from Scene
5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
6:58 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Heritage Drive, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Joshua J. Lucier,

- 21, Warren Warrant
- Friday, July 24**
6:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
8:56 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Milton O. Fountain Way, Investigated
10:42 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Winthrop Terrace, Information Taken
6:29 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Chapel Street, Transported to Hospital
7:49 p.m. Assault and Battery, Spring Street, Officer Spoke to Party
10:26 p.m. Welfare Check, Bemis Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
- Saturday, July 25**
7:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:40 a.m. Falls, North Street, Transported to Hospital
10:06 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Cutler Road Extension, Report Filed
12:58 p.m. Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
4:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
4:47 p.m. Harassment, Moore Avenue, Report Filed
7:41 p.m. Complaint, Crouch Road, Officer Spoke to Party
9:26 p.m. Erratic Operator, Washington Street, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Paul L. Savage, 60, West Warren
OUI-Liquor or .08%, c90 s24 (1) (A) (1); Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle c90 s24 (2) (A)

Volunteers needed for Restorative Justice program

NORTHAMPTON — The Northwestern District Attorney's Office partners with Communities for Restorative Justice, a community-based restorative justice organization, to divert certain cases out of the traditional court system and into a restorative justice process. This partnership has been in place since 2020 in Hampshire County and recently expanded to Franklin County in 2026. The restorative justice process has resulted in positive outcomes in cases where a responsible party is willing to acknowledge harm. Through this process, victims and other impacted

parties may participate in determining how harm can be addressed and repaired, including through community service, meaningful apologies, restitution, and other restorative practices. Upon successful completion of the process, the criminal case may be dismissed. C4RJ's work is primarily volunteer-driven, and the organization is currently seeking new volunteers interested in restorative justice work, both online and in person, in Hampshire and Franklin counties. Volunteers receive training to prepare them to work within restorative justice principles and the C4RJ process.

Upcoming volunteer training will consist of four Zoom sessions held on Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27, with sessions running from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. each day. Individuals interested in learning more about C4RJ and what volunteering involves are encouraged to attend a one-hour Zoom information session on Thursday, Aug. 13 at noon or visit C4RJ's volunteer page at <https://www.c4rj.org/join-us/volunteers>. Email Assistant Case Manager, Julia Parham, at jparham@c4rj.org to RSVP, receive the Zoom link, or ask questions.

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TOWN OF HARDWICK HIGHWAY WORKING FOREMAN
Seeking qualified applicants for 12 Highway Working Foreman positions. The Town of Hardwick is seeking qualified applicants to perform high-level technical, clerical, and administrative work assisting the Town Administrator and Select Board. This is a part-time, 18 hours per week position. For full job description, go to www.hardwick-ma.gov. Qualifying applicants should send cover letter and resume to selectboard@townofhardwick.com or send to PO Box 575, Gilbertville, MA 01021.

TOWN OF HARDWICK HELP WANTED
The Town of Hardwick is seeking qualified candidates to perform high-level technical, clerical, and administrative work assisting the Town Administrator and Select Board. This is a part-time, 18 hours per week position. For full job description, go to www.hardwick-ma.gov. Qualifying applicants should send cover letter and resume to selectboard@townofhardwick.com or send to PO Box 575, Gilbertville, MA 01021.

DRIVE FOR THE QUABOAG CONNECTOR
Drivers needed for the Quabog Connector. The Town of Hardwick is seeking qualified drivers to perform high-level technical, clerical, and administrative work assisting the Town Administrator and Select Board. This is a part-time, 18 hours per week position. For full job description, go to www.hardwick-ma.gov. Qualifying applicants should send cover letter and resume to selectboard@townofhardwick.com or send to PO Box 575, Gilbertville, MA 01021.

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Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of Aug. 10-17, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 74 building/property checks, 48 directed/area patrols, eight radar assignments, one traffic control, 13 emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, two assist other agencies, one safety hazard, three complaints, one burglary, two investigations, one motor vehicle investigation, one threat, one trespass, one disturbance, one harassment, one motor vehicle accident, two animal calls and five motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

- Monday, Aug. 10**
10:15 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prouty Road, Transported to Hospital
12:29 p.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), Main Street, Services Rendered
8:19 p.m. Welfare Check, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
- Tuesday, Aug. 11**
10:22 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
4:56 p.m. Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
5:03 p.m. 911 Misdiagnosis, Maple Street, Officer Handled
6:55 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Bridge Street,

- Transported to Hospital
- Wednesday, Aug. 12**
12:22 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
3:19 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Patril Hollow Road, Officer Handled
3:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Spoken To
5:25 p.m. Medical Emergency, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital
- Thursday, Aug. 13**
5:04 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
1:27 p.m. Disturbance, Turkey Street, Investigated
3:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated
6:53 p.m. Safety Hazard, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Services Rendered
- Friday, Aug. 14**
11:33 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled
4:46 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
6:38 p.m. Parking Complaint, Common Street, Services Rendered
8:56 p.m. Parking Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled
9:16 p.m. Fire/Other, Common Street, Services

- Rendered
- Saturday, Aug. 15**
11:40 a.m. Medical Emergency, Common Street, Transported to Hospital
1:11 p.m. Parking Complaint, Common Street, Services Rendered
6:56 p.m. Harassment, Main Street, Spoken To
7:11 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
7:37 p.m. Officer Initiated, Out of Town, Officer Handled
- Sunday, Aug. 16**
12:34 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered
4:22 p.m. Threat, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
5:13 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
7:42 p.m. Welfare Check, Barre Road, Patient Refusal
10:25 p.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
- Monday, Aug. 17**
6:13 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Grove Street, Transported to Hospital
7:19 a.m. Investigation, Pine Street, Negative Contact
7:35 a.m. Investigation, Pine Street, Report Taken

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Michael Pillsbury celebrates 35 years as funeral director

Michael Pillsbury, Director, of Pillsbury Funeral Homes in North Brookfield, Brookfield, Barre and Spencer, celebrates 35 years as a licensed Massachusetts Funeral Director.

Together with his wife Michelle, Pillsbury owns and operates the four family-run funeral homes, continuing a proud tradition of service that began over 60 years ago.

The Pillsbury's have dedicated their lives to providing compassionate, professional care to families throughout Central Massachusetts, upholding the values of dignity, respect and community that define the Pillsbury name.

Michael and Michelle are the proud parents of five children: Kory, Katelyn, Michael



Michael Pillsbury

Jr., Colin and Connor, and are deeply grateful to the many families, who have placed their trust in Pillsbury Funeral Homes over the years, as well as to their devoted staff for their continued commitment and care.

Jubilee Ministries diaper drive benefits Ware families

WARE – The annual diaper drive by the United Way Diaper Bank and its 14 partner organizations serving families across the region has begun.

Trinity Episcopal Church will be collecting donations at a drop box located at the service desk in Walmart, 352 Palmer Road. Donations will be accepted through the month of August and all donations will benefit the Jubilee Ministries.

About 40% of American families with small children struggle to buy diapers.

The UWFH Diaper Bank and its partners distribute up to 20,000 diapers and pull-ups a month to help children stay dry, healthy and in important child care and school programs each day.

For more information about the UWFH Diaper Bank's annual diaper drive, visit www.uw-fh.org.

Ware High School Class of 1976 plans 50th reunion

Contact info 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.

Michael S. Soja, 58

WARE – Michael S. Soja, 58, of Ware, passed away unexpectedly, on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026.

He leaves behind his beloved wife and best friend of 12 years, Nikki Soja; along with their two precious daughters, Lillian Rylee Soja and Everleigh Summer Soja of Ware; a stepdaughter Kelsie Nimtz and her husband Jared, of Greenfield; his mother Judith Letourneau of Amherst; his sisters, Lynne Soja-Getek and her husband Ryan, of San Diego, California and Maria Soja of Shrewsbury; and his nephew Luke Hanson of East Longmeadow. Michael is predeceased by his daughter Lailyn Soja and his father William J. Soja.

A lifelong resident of Ware, Michael was a dedicated employee and valued colleague at UMass Amherst for more than 20 years, serving in various capacities, most recently as the President of AFSCME local 1776.

Beyond work, Michael enjoyed spending time outdoors and took great pride

in caring for and maintaining the home he created for his family. More than anything, he treasured the time he spent with those he cared about and loved.

Michael enjoyed traveling with Nikki and was so happy to finally make it out of the country with her, not once, but twice. One of his favorite places to be was at the beach, where he spent many days enjoying sunrises and sunsets, and playing in the waves with his girls.

Michael loved to cook and was especially known for making his meatballs.

Music was also a big part of his life. He loved singing along to his favorite songs in the car, beside a great fire, and with his girls at home, often pulling Nikki into the kitchen to dance with him.

Over the years, Michael enjoyed attending many concerts and live music events with family and friends, making memories



with the people who meant the most to him. Michael will be remembered by those who knew and loved him as someone who genuinely cared about others and was always willing to help.

He had a way of encouraging those around him to look on the bright side, offering support and positivity when they needed it most. His love for his family, his caring nature, and the way he showed up for the people in his life will be deeply missed.

There will be a brief calling hour for Michael from 10-11 a.m. in All Saints Church, 17 North St., Ware, MA 01082 on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026, with a Funeral Mass to follow at 11 a.m. Burial will be held privately.

Please visit www.charbonneaufh.com to make a memorial contribution to the: Lillian and Everleigh Soja Fund.

Death notice

Soja, Michael S.
Died Aug. 11, 2026
Services Aug. 22, 2026

Ware River News
OBITUARY
POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

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

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

NOTICE

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

LWPA to host Annual Members' Meeting on Aug. 20

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association will host its Annual Members' Meeting on Thursday, Aug. 20 from 7-9 p.m. at Salem Cross Inn on Route 9.

LWPA members and guests are welcome. All attendees will be entered into a raffle for a \$50 Salem Cross Inn gift card.

The evening will start with 30 minutes of social

time including hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 p.m.

This year's agenda will focus on the state of Lake Wickaboag, and feature presentations including the 2026 Lake Management Report, an Introduction to the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Charitable Fund and a funding and fundraising update and outlook.

The meeting will wind down with the Salem Cross Inn gift card raffle drawing and close with a live auction featuring a one-of-a-kind, original painting of Lake Wickaboag by local artist, Rebecca L. Fay, of the West Brookfield Art and Frame Gallery.

For more information, please visit the LWPA website at lakewickaboag.com, or visit them on Facebook.

Bluegrass Gospel Service will be held Aug. 30

WEST BROOKFIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church will host a Bluegrass Gospel Service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30 at 33 West Main St.

The program will feature

traditional bluegrass instruments and voices performing old time Gospel favorites and other toe-tapping tunes in the bluegrass style. These services have been very well received and are back by popular demand.

Come as you are and enjoy some good music and fellowship. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Any questions can be directed to Heidi Jeldres at 978-989-5736.



VETERANS DAY SALUTE
Ware River News ~ November 5, 2026

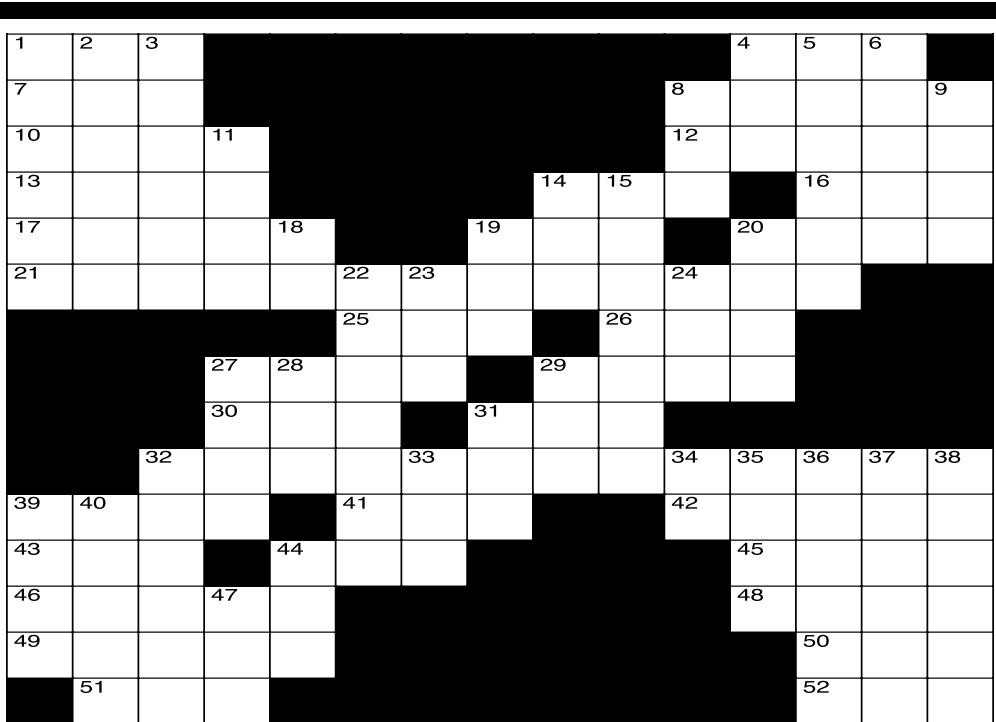
Ware River News will be saluting our local veterans (from all wars and branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, active duty U.S. Military members.

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to dflynn@turley.com or drop off a photo to Ware River News, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069

All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than Monday, October 20, 2026.

There is no cost to submit a photo. No photos will be accepted after deadline. If you would like to use a prior submitted photo, please contact Dan Flynn no later than October 13th (413) 297-5886.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Microgram
- 4. Fixed charge
- 7. Each
- 8. Feeling of humiliation
- 10. Coat with sticky substance
- 12. Powerful "Severance" family
- 13. Japanese city
- 14. "Pulp Fiction" actress Thurman
- 16. Hat
- 17. Place where rockers work
- 19. Psyche
- 20. Snakelike fishes
- 21. Where people live
- 25. Body part
- 26. Old towel
- 27. One's essential being

- 29. Japanese alcoholic beverage
- 30. Boxing's GOAT
- 31. Wet muddy ground
- 32. Christian Laettner is one
- 39. A place to store lawn tools
- 41. Large tub for liquid
- 42. Old World lizard
- 43. One-time European member group
- 44. Healing student
- 45. Nuclear weapon
- 46. "Kiss of the Spider Woman" actress Sonia
- 48. Silk garment
- 49. About some Norse poems
- 50. Woman religious community member
- 51. Congressman (abbr.)

- 52. Two-year-old sheep

CLUES DOWN

- 1. An insane person
- 2. "Homeland" actress Danes
- 3. Buttock muscles
- 4. US federal agency
- 5. Birds of prey
- 6. Electronic communication
- 8. Ocean
- 9. Terminates
- 11. Low-pitched sound from a bell
- 14. Exclamation: yuck!
- 15. A place to attach a boat
- 18. Exclamation of surprise
- 19. Make a mistake
- 20. Border line
- 22. Have religious faith

- 23. Klutz
- 24. Large tree
- 27. House of ___ rulers
- 28. Red deer
- 29. Small coin (French)
- 31. Popular sandwich
- 32. 10-year period
- 33. Not good
- 34. Government lawyer
- 35. Egypt's intelligence agency
- 36. Without an occupant or incumbent
- 37. Stain with one's hands
- 38. Crippling
- 39. One point east of southeast
- 40. Large, united groups
- 44. ___ and cheese
- 47. Alcoholic beverage

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Aug. 22-Aug. 23, 9am-4pm

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The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
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Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 586-8500
Docket No.
HS26P0512EA
Estate of:
Michelle D. Giard
Date of Death: 08/24/2021
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Christopher J. DiMarzio of Ware, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/02/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 05, 2026
Mark S Ames,
Register of Probate
08/20/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 37 Indian Hill Road a/k/a 8 Indian Hill Road, Ware, MA 01082

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by David L. Liggon to Ameriquet Mortgage Company, and now held by Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity, but solely as owner trustee of the New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-2, said mortgage dated May 17, 2004 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry

of Deeds in Book 7839, Page 1, as affected by Declaratory Judgment dated May 4, 2026 and recorded in said Registry in Book 15737, Page 329, said mortgage was assigned from Citi Residential Lending, Inc. as attorney-in-fact for Ameriquet Mortgage Company to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for, Ameriquet Mortgage Securities Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-R7 by assignment dated January 15, 2009 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 9729, Page 282; said mortgage was assigned from Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for, Ameriquet Mortgage Securities Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-R7 to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. by assignment dated November 14, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 13489, Page 154; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity, but solely as owner trustee of the New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-2 by assignment dated September 5, 2024 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 15228, Page 267; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on September 22, 2026 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, being known and designated as Lot No. 72 (Seventy-Two) as shown on a plan of lots recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans 69, Pages 79 And 80. Said lot being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

*Southerly by Indian Hill Road, seventy-five (75) feet;
Westerly by Lot No. 73 (Seventy-Three) as shown on said plan one hundred ten (110) feet;
Northerly by Lot No. 59 (Fifty-Nine) as shown on said plan, seventy-five (75) feet; and
Easterly by Lot No. 71 (Seventy-One) as shown on a plan of lots recorded as aforesaid in book of plans 69, pages 81 and 82, one hundred ten (110) feet.
Subject to possible flowage rights of Ansel Ross under instrument dated April 6, 1878 and recorded as aforesaid in Book 252, Page 349.*

Subject to possible flowage rights of Loretta Smith under instrument dated march 1, 1871 and recorded as aforesaid in Book 279, Page 333.

*Subject to restrictions of record.
Being the same property conveyed to grantee herein, by deed recorded on December 10, 1984, in Book 2518, at Page 216.*

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 December 10, 1984 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 2518,

Page 216.
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.
FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, 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 in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity, but solely as owner trustee of the New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-2
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
08/20, 08/27, 09/03/2026

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicles under G.L. c. 255., Section 39A
Notice is hereby given by REGIN'S REPAIR 19 CHURCH ST GILBERTVILLE, MA 01031

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on **9/4/2026 at 10:00AM** at: Regin's Repair 19 Church St Gilbertville, MA 01031 by private sale, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keepers lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle

2003 Chev Trailblazer
Registration#/State: 54KE81/MA
VIN: 1GNDT13S432103983
Name and address of owner:
Jackson Lee Torres & Joshua James Roth
15 Canal St
Ware, MA 01082
Tina Magnan
10 Otis Ave. #3
Ware, MA 01082
2011 Toyota Prius
Registration/State: 56HR82/MA
VIN: JTDKN3DU3B0269590
Name and address of owner:
Beth Ellen Nichols.
19 Sherwin St., Apt. 1
Ware, MA 01082

By: James M. Regin
Dated: 8/16/2026
08/20, 08/27, 09/03/2026

Storage Auction
The contents of Melissa Bickford will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 31 Southbridge Rd. Warren, MA on September 5, 2026 at 9:00am.**

The contents of Melissa Bickford, Jonathan Burke and Bill Kitch will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 70 Boston Post Rd Warren, MA on September 5, 2026 at 9:30 AM.**

The contents of Julie Figueroa, Cynthia Stalter, Courtney Voland, Jose Sanchez and Karen Coughlin will be auctioned off at **Secure Storage, 167 West St Ware, MA on September 5,**

2026at 10:15 am.
Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278.
08/20, 08/27/2026

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Probate and
Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 586-8500
Docket No.
HS26P0540EA
Estate of:
Daniel J. Trzpit
Date of Death: 07/29/2026
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **James A. Trzpit of Ware, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **James A. Trzpit of Ware, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/16/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S.**

Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 14, 2026
Mark S Ames,
Register of Probate
08/20/2026

TOWN OF WARE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
The Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **September 8, 2026, at 6:40pm**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, to hear an application for a **new Common Victualler License for Three Pearls LLC (bakery), located at 30 West Main Street, Ware, MA.** Copies of the petition are available at the office of the Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA.

All interest parties are invited to attend.

Joshua Kusnierz, Chairman
Selectboard
08/20/2026

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Probate and
Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
Docket No.
HS24P0199PM
In the matter of:
Suzanne Bay
of Ware, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Temporary First & Final** account(s) of **Laurie Wilkinson of Ware, MA** as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have

been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **09/10/2026.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 04, 2026

Mark S. Ames
Register of Probate
08/20/2026

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

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

TOWN of BRIMFIELD EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Emergency Management Director

DEFINITION
The Emergency Management Director designs emergency response plans and procedures to respond to emergencies and natural disasters. The Emergency Management Director works in coordination with government agencies, public safety officials, nonprofit organizations, and elected officials to help lead the response in crisis. This position is compensated with a stipend.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS
The essential functions or duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

- Responsible for planning and coordinating emergency management preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
- Works collectively with various municipal departments ranging from School, Police, Fire, and Highway Departments as well as the Board of Health to ensure effective implementation of goals, training, emergency management, and planning.
- Acts as a liaison between the Town and relevant federal and state agencies, notably the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).
- Serves as an advisor regarding preparation for potential hazards, response to disasters, and post-event recovery.
- Performs other related job duties as required.

Please apply by submitting a letter of interest and resume to the Select Board Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or by email to selectboard@brimfieldma.org

EARLY DEADLINES

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Thursday, Sept. 3

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Served Every Saturday 4pm - Close
Includes a generous portion of our
slow roasted prime rib
served with a baked potato
and a seasonal vegetable.
While Supplies Last!