

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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Vol. 138 No. 29 USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

## Hardwick celebrates with 263<sup>RD</sup> COMMUNITY FAIR

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – 2025 was the year of the 263rd Hardwick Community Fair, the oldest fair in the United States.

For two days, the town came together in celebration as the fair offered numerous agricultural and creative exhibits, demonstrations, food, live music, children's games, wagon rides, an antique tractor parade, chainsaw contest and so much more.

The fair takes place on the Hardwick Common and has been around since the 1760s. The Hardwick Community Fair is



Devon Wentworth of Gilbertville made his cut during the Lumberjack Contest held on Friday night.

At left: the 263rd Hardwick Community Fair was held this past Friday and Saturday. This young fairgoer was getting ready to enter her frog into the Frog Jumping Contest, a 40-plus year tradition at the fair.

even older than the Declaration of Independence. The fair began on Friday, Aug. 15

where there were several food trucks providing delicious food and Lost Towns Brewing offered a beer garden. The Tri-Parish

Community Church provided a baked potato bar for visitors at the start of the parade.

Please see **FAIR**, page 11

## FOREVER MARY LANE



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

The Wetherby Building of Mary Lane Hospital will be all that remains of the century old institution at 85 South St. Demolition on the rest of the buildings on the campus began Aug. 11. See more photos on page 5.

## Demolition of hospital buildings begins

WARE – On Aug. 11, demolition crews began taking down the buildings at the Mary Lane Hospital site on South Street.

By last Wednesday morning, the crews had begun work to take down the

hospital itself, which first opened in 1923 and closed in 2023. Officials from Baystate Health, the owner of the property, said they plan to preserve the original building on the campus, the Wetherby Building.

## Conservation Comm discusses Grenville Park restroom location

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Correspondent

WARE – The Conservation Commission met last Wednesday for a regularly scheduled meeting, and among projects being discussed was the building of a new restroom in Grenville Park.

Parks Commission member William Imbier was in attendance for this meeting, and requested that the conservation commission give guidance as to the site where the new restroom should be built. Discussion centered around possibly building it near to where the previous restroom was, which is centrally located near the Grenville Park offices. The other proposed site would have been along the exit road heading towards Church Street.

The previous restroom was approved to be built by the DPW and National Heritage Association, since the park is a National Heritage site under their jurisdiction, the placement of any building must be coordinated with them first.

The restroom would also be located at least 200 feet from the riverbank, as that is the minimum distance from the river that any sort of plumbing and septic systems can be built. This is to help protect the priority habitat, or the river ecosystem.

Imbier and the Conservation Commission members also continued their discussion from the

Please see **RESTROOM**, page 3



## School Committee appoints interim supt.

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The School Committee interviewed four candidates to fill the one-year role of interim superintendent for the 2025-2026 school year.

At the Aug. 7 meeting, each of the candidates answered a series of questions and shared background about themselves and their various roles in public education.

The committee members voted to appoint Michael Wood as the interim superintendent, and finalized his contract at a subsequent meeting held on Aug. 18.

Wood has 40 years of experience in education

and previously worked as superintendent in Hatfield Public Schools and Nashoba Regional School District. He has worked as a superintendent for a total of 23 years.

He is also a licensed business administrator and has extensive background in building budgets. He currently works as a consultant for TMS, Inc.

Wood said he will approach this interim role as if it is a permanent position, thinking long term while he identifies strengths and weaknesses.

“You’re going to lead according to what the plan is...either already established, or the plan is that you’re going to build with

Please see **SUPT.**, page 5



Jen McNally's daughter Mackenzie ran a craft activity station where kids got to decorate their own pet rocks.

## Grange hosts kids workshop about pets

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Ware Grange hosted a fun kids' corner workshop this past weekend about pets.

Local educator Jen McNally returned to the Ware Grange and welcomed numerous guests to learn about pets. McNally began the workshop with a

Please see **PETS**, page 12

## Jain Dental Care

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# Gilbertville library hosts painting workshop for teens/adults

**HARDWICK** – The Gilbertville Library will host “The Seahorse: How to Pastel Paint,” with materials, for adults and teens.

Award-winning pastel artist Gregory John Maichack will present “The Seahorse,” a pastel painting workshop for adults and teens 18+ hosted by the Gilbertville Library on Sept. 17, from 5-7 p.m. This is a pastel painting workshop designed for both sheer beginners to advanced participants.

Please call 413-477-6312 to pre-register.

This all-new “The Seahorse: How to Pastel Paint,” all draw a seahorse or use a template that Maichack provides, both large and small seahorses. Participants will also create bubbles, and a template will be provided as well.

This is fun, and has an ocean of possibilities, having instruction in expressive pastel strokes, blending, slurring, and layering. Additionally emerald pastel pencils will be provided for details.

All keep their 12 X 18 pastel painting of their personalized vivid seahorse. Photo references of various pastel seahorses are supplied for ideas allowing unfath-

omable possibilities.

Maichack’s own pastel painted seahorses will unveil the process. All will be entertained by lively anecdotes on the mystery of seahorses.

Maichack, is an award-winning artist, twice Mass. Cultural Council Gold Star Award Program nominee, a seasoned pro from instructing at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, colleges, to hundreds of libraries. Maichack lives in the Berkshires and is a portraitist and painter working primarily in pastels. Winner of the Award of Merit from the Bennington Center for the Arts: Impressions of New England Show 2003, he also was awarded the Savoir-faire Pastel Award from the Great Lakes Pastel Society.

Maichack was commissioned by Westfield State College to paint the pastel portrait of the past president of Westfield State University, Doctor Frederick Woodward, which was unveiled at the dedication of the Woodward Center; and pastel painted dictionary great Charles Merriam, unveiled by Merriam-Webster Co. at Merriam-Gilbert Library.

He has been in many

national juried shows and was awarded numerous Massachusetts Cultural Council grants. In addition to portraiture, his still lifes and landscapes are represented by galleries from Kennebunkport, Maine to San Francisco, California. Maichack is accepting requests to do various commissions to do pastel paintings. Visit his web site at [www.GregoryMaichack.com](http://www.GregoryMaichack.com).

Maichack has been a faculty member of the Museum Studio School in the Fine Arts Museum Quadrangle in Springfield; and taught at Holyoke and Greenfield Community Colleges, Westfield State University, East Works, the MFA, Boston, and The Guild, Northampton. Maichack’s pastel paintings have been selected twice for the Annual National Exhibition of the Academic Artists Association and as a result Maichack was invited to be a member of this prestigious organization.

This project is supported in part from a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

## Van Arsdell graduates from UMass Amherst

**AMHERST** – Approximately 5,000 students received bachelor’s degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s Undergraduate Commencement on May 16 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Sophie Marie Van Arsdell of Hardwick received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

# Are You Old News?



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



File Photo  
Last week's photo from 1989 showed winners of the VCR awarded by the Shaw Peterson Realty Inc., John and Deborah Hobson and their son Ryan. Donna Robichaud correctly identified her sister Deborah and her family.

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

## Ware Senior Center news

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

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

### ACTIVITIES Monday, Aug. 25

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

### Tuesday, Aug. 26

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Cornhole

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

### Wednesday, Aug. 27

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse Office Hours
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- 2:30 p.m. Knitting-Crochet-Laugh

### Thursday, Aug. 28

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

### Friday, Aug. 29

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi

- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
- 6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

### LUNCHES

**DINE IN 11:30 a.m.**  
All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

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

### Monday, Aug. 25

Fried Chicken, Sweet Potatoes, Veggies of the Day

### Tuesday, Aug. 26

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

### Wednesday, Aug. 27

Breakfast Burger with Fried Egg, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

### Thursday, Aug. 28

Chicken Nuggets, Tater Tots, Dessert of the Day

### Friday, Aug. 29

Tuna Melt Sandwich, Tomato Soup, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

## ACCURACY WATCH



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

# Back-To-School

## Ware Public School Bus Routes for the 2025-2026 School Year

WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE

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## BINGO IS BACK!

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Monday, September 8th

Season Opening Night Special!

1 Free Meal with each \$20 Admission Packet

Doors open at 4:30 p.m.  
Kitchen opens at 5 p.m.

Balls drop at 6:25 p.m. Sharp!

We made some changes to the program!  
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9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

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## Rep. Berthiaume staff announces office hours

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna, invite constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas or issues that they may need assistance with.

People may call Donna at 774-402-4742 if they would like a private meeting.

Office hour schedules include on Tuesday, Sept. 9 town of Ware at the Senior Center from 9-9:45 a.m.; town of Hardwick at the Town Hall from 10-11 a.m.; town of West Brookfield, at the Senior Center from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and town of Brookfield at the Town Hall, 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; on Wednesday, Sept. 10 town of Leicester at the Center Center from 9-9:45 a.m.; town of Spencer, at Senior Center, from 10-11 a.m. with Tammy Ruda from Rep. Marsi's Office and town of East Brookfield at the Senior Center from 11:15 a.m.-noon; on Thursday, Sept. 11 town of Oakham at Town Hall from 9-9:45 a.m.; town of New Braintree at the Town Hall from 10-10:45 a.m.; town of North Brookfield Town Hall from 11 a.m.-noon and on Wednesday, Sept. 17 town of Barre Senior Center from 9:30-10:15 a.m. and town of Hubbardston at Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

# Friends of Mary Lane held discussion at Town House

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis  
Correspondent

**HARDWICK** – The Friends of Mary Lane Hospital organization held an update and discussion pertaining to the status of what is happening at the former site of the hospital, as well as the organization's efforts to preserve healthcare in Ware.

The discussion, hosted by Cynthia Allen Bourcier went over the will written by Lewis Gilbert in 1919, as well as the condition of the Mary Lane Hospital site, and what the future plans of the foundation are.

### Lewis Gilbert will

Lewis Gilbert was a landowner in Ware in the early 1900s, and he resided on the property that was eventually transformed into the hospital on South Street. It was thanks to him that the building of the hospital was possible, as he granted \$400,000 to be put towards providing healthcare for the residents of Ware and

Gilbertville, in particular.

That sum of money in 1919 has accrued to be worth about \$7 million today.

Before Gilbert died, he drafted a will which explained exactly how his property was to be used after his death.

First, he required that the hospital forever be known as Mary Lane Hospital, in honor of his wife. Second, he stipulated that the money he had granted was to be used solely for building and maintaining a hospital, Bourcier said.

Most importantly, it was his wish that the property always be used as a hospital, she said.

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are working to preserve the wishes of Gilbert, and with demolition of the hospital buildings beginning Monday, they are shifting their efforts towards the future of the property.

### Merger and transfer of ownership

Before 2016, Mary Lane

Hospital was independently owned, and this changed starting in 2014 when healthcare organization Baystate Health bought out Wing Memorial hospital in Palmer. Two years later in 2016, Baystate Health urged Wing and Mary Lane to merge, putting the hospitals in the hands of new management, Bourcier said.

While the merger did happen and both hospitals had the name Baystate in their name, the procedures in which the merger happened were illegal and unethical, according to Friends of Mary Lane Hospital.

The merger went before boards, a board for Mary Lane and a board representing Wing, but there were no local residents on either board, when there should have been at least two, Bourcier said.

### Endowment funds

Tax returns for the Mary Lane Hospital ended in 2015, as that was the last year before the merger. On these

returns, it showed the restricted assets of \$7 million, which are the funds from the grant given by Gilbert.

It also showed unrestricted funds of about \$9.5 million in unrestricted funds, which Bourcier said seem to have disappeared. She said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital have been working tirelessly, searching the Ware Library and Hardwick Library for any records that might show where this sum of close to \$10 million has gone.

Bourcier said the organization has also asked around for records from Baystate Health, which have been denied.

She said what they do know is that Bank of America is controlling money and funds, and allegedly had three beneficiaries who got money from these endowment funds, including the hospital, the Ware Library, and the cemetery.

However, Bourcier stated that the cemetery and library do not recall receiving funds.

### What the Friends group does

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are committed to providing healthcare to the citizens of Ware and Hardwick.

She said there are about 30,000 people in this general part of the state straddling Hampshire and Worcester counties, who are in a black hole of healthcare, where the closest hospitals are in the city. Mary Lane Hospital was helpful in avoiding this lack of healthcare.

According to Bourcier, the current proposal by Baystate Health to open a Convenient Care site in Ware is not one which is helpful to the towns and the community.

Bourcier said the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital are also trying to have the Community Foundation of Western Mass., based in Springfield, take over as trustee of the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

## Warren library hosts Boston lightkeeper program Sept. 4

**WARREN** – Boston Light Keeper Sally Snowman will be at the Warren Public Library Thursday, Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Sally and her husband, Jay Thomson, for a presentation on Boston Light's 307 years of history and anecdotes of Sally's experiences as a 21st Century Keeper.

Boston Light, the first established Light Station

in colonial America, began lighting the way for safe navigation into the fledging maritime port of Boston in 1716. Its notoriety as the last manned Coast Guard Light Station in the country came to a close with the retirement of Sally Snowman, its 70th keeper, in 2023.

Please call or email the library at 413-436-7690 or warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com to register.

## Paige Memorial Library continues book sale

**HARDWICK** – Did you miss the Paige Memorial Library's Annual Hardwick Fair Book Sale?

There are still many wonderful books downstairs in the library which need homes. There are fiction, special interest non-fiction, and lovely books for children. Stop by Tuesday and Thursday from 2-4 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thank you to all the

Fairy House makers. The Annual Hardwick Fair-Village attracted many tiny fairies, one human size fairy, and many appreciative visitors who made a wish, tied a ribbon on the Wishing Tree, and left with a glittering tattoo.

Peter Schmid's beautiful garden was enhanced by the art in the Hardwick Fair-Village.

The Fairy Houses were to be shown for the day, then all participants were

asked to claim them after the Fair. There is no room to bring them into the library because of the book sale and so they were all left outside for pick up. Please claim your beautiful fairy houses.

Wednesday Morning Story Hour begins at 11 a.m. Come early to play and to meet friends.

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

**RESTROOM** from page 1  
previous Parks Commission meeting about the possibility, and likelihood, of connecting the septic system of the park restroom into that of Church Street. The location on the exit road was speculated to be easier in terms of coordination, but would be further from parking and overall less convenient for park-goers to

access. While the location is still undecided, the overall consensus within the board was that since the planned site is so close to the previous one, there should be little problem in getting approval to build there.

The first step in this will be to conduct a perc test, which is a test that analyzes

how well soil is at absorbing water. If the soil is suitable for septic systems, it would be plausible and legal to build the restroom in that area.

The restrooms themselves have already been ordered and shipped, and it is now simply a matter of getting the pipes, septic systems, and holding tanks implemented.

## 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.

## FOR RENT

### Quabbin Estates

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# viewpoints

## LETTERS TO EDITOR

### BOH chair corrects information in article

To the editor:

I am writing to the editor of the Ware River News concerning a misstatement made in the article "BOH held hearing on grease trap regulations" that appeared on page 5 of the Aug. 7, 2025 issue.

In that article, it was stated that "Health Agent Matt Fortier said one complaint was brought to his attention by the wastewater superintendent of Hardwick, stating that the fine of \$50 per day of violation was too lenient."

This is incorrect. There was no "complaint". Hardwick's Wastewater superintendent submitted a comment on the regulation, at Mr. Fortier's and our board's request. A review of the meeting's recording confirms that Mr. Fortier described this as a "comment," not a complaint.

The superintendent rendered his opinion that the

potential fine of up to \$50 per day might be too low as, in the event that there was a significant violation, it would likely cost the Town more than \$50 a day to investigate and address such a violation. This was only an opinion offered as feedback on the proposed regulation.

The phrasing in the article suggests an adversarial stance of the superintendent against businesses in Hardwick. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our superintendent is a conscientious and dedicated town employee seeking only to aid the Board of Health in safeguarding the wellbeing of our residents in conjunction with an appropriate and workable regulatory environment for our businesses.

**John Mott, DDS**  
Chair  
Hardwick  
Board of Health

### Newly elected Selectboard member thanks voters

Dear Editor:

The Town of Ware has a proud history of citizens participating in its governance, this was clearly on display during the recent election for the open Selectboard seat.

Even though the polling location had to be changed just 24 hours before the election, more than 800 voters adapted and made their voices heard.

I am humbled by the number of votes I received, allowing me to serve as your next Selectboard member. Thank you for your support.

I also want to acknowledge Cathy Cascio and her campaign for the Selectboard. She cares deeply about Ware, and I

look forward to continuing to work with her on the issues facing us.

Our future success requires the Selectboard to engage with the community, to have respectful dialogue and to create solutions that fit our needs and budget. I pledge to be a good listener and to take the time to learn more about your concerns and ideas.

I also encourage all Ware voters to consider serving on a Town Board or Committee. You can find a list of vacancies at [https://townofware.com/board\\_committee\\_seat\\_openings.php](https://townofware.com/board_committee_seat_openings.php).

**Ken Willette**  
Selectboard Member  
Ware

### Residents say goodbye to loving community

Dear Editor:

After 20 years, my family and I are leaving Ware.

We leave behind a loving community; we did our best to love it right back. Michelle Holmgren of the Quaboag Hills Community Coalition talked me into being their board chair, just like Roc Goudreau convinced me to chair the board for Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center when it started, and I am so glad they did.

Stanley at Ware TV supported me and John Zienowicz and our Quaboag Connections show. Paula Kularski and Darcy Gauthier helped me start Under Five Thrive and Planned Approach for Community Health, and joined me when we started the first domestic violence advocacy and accountabil-

ity programs in the region where we worked with three of our police chiefs and started a national program. Tracy Opalinski helped envision our E2E on Main Street. A bunch of us kept working until recovery services took root here.

Sue Lisak cut my family's hair and made us always feel a part of everything. Dr. DiLeo kept the school standards high while my kids attended here. Nancy Talbot and Stuart Beckley never stop moving us all forward.

I'll miss our river, our park, and our people on Church Street, especially on Halloween.

We had it so good here with you all, and we knew it.

With gratitude,

**JAC and Jason Patrissi**  
Ware

## Rust is no joke

This time of year I always get a few questions from gardeners who wonder what type of disease is afflicting their treasured hollyhocks.

Sadly, it's affecting mine too. Read on for more information on this malady.

Two years ago I planted Hollyhock seeds indoors. The plants grew wonderfully that first year with nice deep green basal foliage.

Being biennial in nature, year two is when they came into their glory with incredibly beautiful pink flowers on towering six to seven foot spikes. Now it's year three – a gift when biennials are concerned.

The plants started out fine and then I noticed a few raised orange-brown spots on the leaves. By season's end, the plants are pale in color and covered with the rusty orange spots.

Most of the lower foliage has been destroyed and has dropped to the ground.

My hollyhocks are suffering from a fungal problem by the name of rust. It first appears as waxy orange blisters, known as "pustules" on the undersides of the lower most foliage. On the surface of the leaves small, orange-yellow spots form.

Hollyhock rust rarely kills its host, but it can make plants look quite unsightly. In a severe infestation like mine, premature leaf drop occurs.

Next spring, if I dare to

grow hollyhocks again, I'll have to do it in a different part of my landscape and escape any spores that the

18 inches. We can't control when and how often it rains, but when we supply the moisture timing and application count. Water around the base of the plants, without it touching the foliage, and do so early in the morning so that leaves have a chance to dry before nightfall.

Apply new bark mulch each spring to cover spores that may be waiting in the soil.

And lastly, when planting new seedlings, locate them as far away as possible from previously grown plants even if they didn't have a serious infestation.

Although I've never tried this myself, I have read a few testimonials from gardeners who had luck applying corn meal to their soil in an effort to control soil borne fungal diseases such as rust. Reportedly it stimulates beneficial organisms that feed on pathogens. Two pounds per one hundred square feet is recommended.

Even if it doesn't work, it probably won't hurt!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



## LETTER TO EDITOR

### Attend the Fall Family Fun Fair at the Ware Center Meeting House

To the editor:

Ware's Fall Fair takes place at the Ware Center Meeting House and Museum on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, with a rain date of Sept. 14.

Please visit our updated website: <https://warecentermeetinghouse.org> and plan to join us for a fun and entertaining day on the lawn of the Meeting House on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. to enjoy food, over 30 craft booths, a silent auction, face painter, glitter tattoos, tours, our own DJ (our own Roy Erickson), a fun puppet show at 11 a.m.,

activities for kids in the newly created "kid zone" and so much more!

The Knights of Columbus are cooking burgers and hot dogs, our bake sale is out-of-this-world, and we'll have the most amazing puppet show by Tom Knight. The puppet show is funded by the Ware Cultural Council a local agency, which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

There will be more special activities for the kids as well at every nonprofit table. Come join us and help us preserve this incredible land-

mark in the Ware community.

It's not too late to donate to the silent auction or volunteer to help on the day of the fair. Send your donation to the Proprietors of the Ware Center Meeting House, P.O. Box 1401, Ware, MA 01082, call me at 413-967-7223, or email me at [llak310@comcast.net](mailto:llak310@comcast.net) and I'll come by to pick up your donation in person. The rain date is Sunday, Sept. 14.

Sincerely,

**Lynn Lak, clerk**  
The Proprietors  
of the Ware Center  
Meeting House

## WARE RIVER NEWS

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



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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  
80 Main Street,  
Ware, MA 01082  
or via email to:  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

## Turley Election Policy

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

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



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Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

## Explore Lake Wallace with the Quabbin Photo Group

**BELCHERTOWN** – The Quabbin Photo Group invites the public to an inspiring evening on Monday, Aug. 25, at 7 p.m. at the Belchertown Recreation Department, 66 State St., that will feature retired Belchertown educator and environmental advocate Louise Levy.

Levy is well known in the community as one of the visionaries behind the creation of the Lake Wallace Recreational Area ([www.belchertown.org/lakewallace](http://www.belchertown.org/lakewallace)), a scenic spot tucked away in the heart of Belchertown. During her career as an educator, she brought countless students into the outdoors, using hands-on ecology lessons to help them connect with the natural world.

Today, as a leader of the Friends of Lake Wallace, she continues to champion its environmental and educational importance.

At this special program, Levy will share her extensive knowledge of the lake – its history, its diverse plant and animal life, and why it's such a treasure for photographers and nature lovers alike. Following her talk, members of the Quabbin Photo Group will present a showcase of their favorite landscape and wildlife images taken at Lake Wallace, revealing the

area's beauty through the eyes of skilled local photographers.

Adding to the evening's appeal, the lake itself is located directly behind the meeting venue, giving attendees the opportunity to step outside and explore the area for themselves after the presentation.

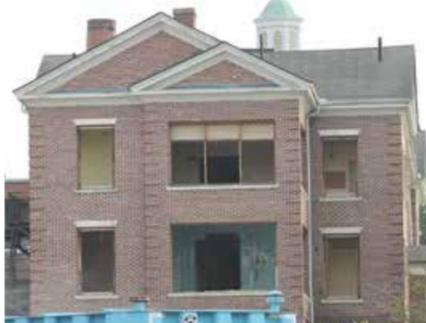
Founded by renowned nature photographer Les Campbell, the Quabbin Photo Group was created to celebrate the natural beauty of the Quabbin Region.

The group holds monthly meetings open to the public, offering educational programs, guest speakers, and opportunities for photographers of all levels to share their work. Membership helps support QPG's mission of fostering appreciation for the region's landscapes and wildlife.

This free event welcomes everyone, whether you're an experienced photographer, a casual nature enthusiast, or simply curious about one of Belchertown's hidden gems.

For more information about the program, contact Program Chair Ed Comeau at [ecomeau@comeaphotography.com](mailto:ecomeau@comeaphotography.com). To learn more about the Quabbin Photo Group, reach out to President Mark Lindhult at [mlindhult@gmail.com](mailto:mlindhult@gmail.com).

## Demolition of Mary Lane Hospital



Windows have been removed from the Wetherby Building.



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette



Piles of demolition debris are shown outside of the former emergency department.

Baystate Health officials said they plan to preserve the Wetherby Building, the oldest building on the Mary Lane Hospital campus.



Work began to demolish the former emergency department of the hospital last week.



An excavator moved a pile of debris.

**SUPT.** from page 1

the stakeholders in the system," Wood said.

Wood said he would be listening and learning about the environment and the culture of Ware Public Schools and working with the School Committee, families, students, community members and teachers to create the model of education needed for the students.

Wood said current staffing issues experienced by schools across the commonwealth can be addressed by creativity, including working with graduating students pursuing degrees in education and encouraging them to return to their high school as teachers. He also suggested finding people with degrees in the community to teach classes in their area of interest for short term roles.

He said he would also look at their current staff and see if they have skills that could be used to meet areas of need, including staffing at the high school.

Woods said special education is his passion, and he has served as a director of special education in multiple school districts. He said it is important for the school district to work with the state to meet the needs of special education students.

"We have to be honest with ourselves in where we have deficits if we have them and again, we have to figure out where we can celebrate," Wood said. "It takes really a team effort when it comes to special education. You have to have your building leadership really understand how special education and special educators need support within a school to do the work that they need to do... it's really about building a culture that we support all students and that we all have special needs in some respect and we have to pay attention to the individual needs of every student...some have more."

Woods said building a culture of understanding and working toward a growth plan will help meet that goal.

"If all kids can be educated within the town of Ware in our public schools, it's better for the community in every way," Woods said.

Wood said he will bring positivity and a growth mindset to the interim superintendent role. He said this includes celebrating the schools and accomplishments of the students in the community.

He said his leadership style focuses on culture, and building a sense of belonging with his staff.

"Today we're building a

culture of togetherness and problem solving that's about taking a look at the best building of a foundation that you can have for the school district to thrive," Wood said.

When it comes to dealing with staff discipline, Wood said it is important to treat people with dignity and respect.

He said a superintendent in a small town school district needs to be visible and be open to talking with people and he will always have his door open.

Wood said his first priority in this role is to identify the issues the school district is facing. The physical and emotional safety of students and staff will be the first focus.

### Other candidates

Other candidates interviewed included Jannell Pearson-Campbell, Maureen Binienda and Mark Prince.

Pearson-Campbell has 24 years in education, having started as a substitute teacher. She said she still remembers her first year of teaching and stressed the importance of teamwork and structure.

Her doctorate focused on the placement of minority students in special education without having processes. She had previously served as an interim superintendent in Northampton Public Schools.

Binienda was the long-standing superintendent of Worcester Public Schools before her retirement and has most recently served as interim superintendent at Quaboag Regional School District and Easthampton Public Schools. She is also a member of the Worcester School Committee.

She said this would be her 50th year in public education.

Prince has served as assistant superintendent of Framingham Public Schools, and as superintendent in South Kingston, Rhode Island. He currently works as an education specialist for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### Discussion by School Committee

The School Committee members discussed the merits of each candidate and narrowed their decision to Wood and Binienda.

School Committee member Melissa Whitham said she wanted the interim superintendent to be pragmatic and logical, and that both candidates have those qualities.

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said Binienda is also familiar with the issues the school district is facing. Whitham said Wood

was personable and direct with his answers to their questions.

Whitham said Binienda's experience in education is "unrivaled," and described Wood as being "charismatic." Both candidates came highly recommended by their references.

"I guess it kind of comes down to experience versus a little more charismatic, I suppose," Whitham said.

School Committee member Aaron Sawabi said Wood was articulate and had an understanding about the importance of culture. He said Wood was confident in his budget building skills.

"He definitely seemed to be a very strong people person," Sawabi said. "I think we need that."

The School Committee members agreed that if Wood accepted the interim superintendent role, he would no longer be able to work as a consultant for TMS, Inc., which is also the school district's business management firm.

Winslow said both Wood and Binienda are fully licensed to be superintendent.

The committee members voted unanimously to appoint Wood as interim superintendent.

## Friends of Ware Senior Center announce fundraisers

**WARE** – The Friends of the Ware Senior Center will be offering a raffle of a Philips 65-inch flat screen TV, (4K UHD), with tickets available at the Thrift Store in the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon.

Raffle tickets are \$5 per ticket and the drawing will be held on Dec. 15.

The Friends are also selling their lotto calendars now until Oct. 31. Tickets are \$10 per lotto calendar and people have a chance to win every day in November.

Lotto calendars can be acquired at the Ware Senior Center, Nat Falk, Crystal Springs, Ware Library and the Ware branch of the North Brookfield Savings Bank. Ticket stubs and payment need to be placed in the drop off box at the Ware Senior Center.

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# Watercolor art created at Warren library

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Warren Public Library hosted a fun art workshop this past week featuring watercolors.

Local artist, FaegasiAurora, or Faye, returned to the library to show guests of all ages how to create watercolor painting techniques with the use of crayons. Faye provided all the materials as the workshop took place in the upstairs room of the library.

The watercolor workshop had a good turnout with both kids and adults excited to create some art. In the center of the table, Faye presented samples of her artwork to give the kids some inspiration.

Faye's work was inspired by an artist she came across on Facebook. The artist, Andrea Nelson, demonstrates different art styles that Faye wanted to try.

Faye kept a journal of some of her work to share. The local artists also shared two different watercolor styles to show the kids and have them try. The first watercolor style is using plain water and then adding color. The next style is having color on the paintbrush



The Warren Public Library had a great turnout of kids and adults creating some watercolor art with local artist FaegasiAurora.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

and immediately placing on the dry paper.

The use of the white crayon is to draw on blank paper first. The lines from the crayon appear more once kids begin to add watercolor.

"A simpler style for all ages and all skill levels," Faye said.

Both kids and adults were getting into the spirit of watercolor art. Shana was

one of the parents who decorated a beautiful rose watercolor. Adia was one of the kids who created a watercolor of a cat.

Faye went around the room to hand out more sheets of paper in case the kids wanted to make more than one watercolor painting. The kids expressed interest in doing more art classes like watercolor art in the future.

This news gave Faye the idea of having more art classes at the Warren Public Library.

Visit the Warren Public Library at 934 Main St in Warren. More information can be found at warrenpubliclibrary.com. The library will be holding their annual book sale on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

# LWPA hosts 8th Annual Poker Run on Aug. 23

WEST BROOKFIELD — The Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association will host its 8th annual Poker Run on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 2-5 p.m.; in case of rain, the event will be held the following Saturday, Aug. 30, also from 2-5 p.m.

The event is a fun way to get out and spend time with friends while enjoying the wonders of Lake Wickaboag.

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 scoresheet and a winning attitude.

On the day of the Poker Run, for a \$20 donation to the LWPA, players can purchase a scoresheet at any of the five dealer pontoon boats marked with red flags. With scoresheet 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' scoresheets. For final hands to be counted and scored, players must turn in their scoresheets to any dealer boat no later than 5 p.m.

LWPA volunteers will tabulate and score all scoresheets, 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 scoresheet.

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

# ZBA seeks two residents to serve on board

WARREN – The Warren Zoning Board of Appeals is seeking two residents of Warren who would like to serve on the board.

The ZBA is a five-member board that hears and considers petitions for Zoning Variances and

appeals of decisions of the Building Inspector.

Residents who would like to serve the town in this capacity should send a Letter of Interest to the Board of Selectmen, P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083-0609.

# Book Sale to be held on Sept. 6

WARREN – The Warren Public Library, 934 Main St., will hold its Annual Book Sale on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Stop by and grab some

bargains. Hundreds of books, DVDs, audiobooks and CDs will be for sale on the Warren Public Library front lawn.



Roses in the form of watercolor made by Shana.



Faye's tree in the form of watercolor.



An adorable watercolor of a cat and heart created by Adia.

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# Workshop13 presents 7th Annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition

WARE – The seventh annual juried Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition opens on Saturday, Aug. 23 with a reception from 1-4 p.m.

Awards will be announced at 3 p.m., including a \$1,000 Best in Show Award. This annual exhibition of realism is held in the unique Grand Hall gallery of Workshop13, a non-profit cultural arts and learning center located at 13 Church St.

The 7th Annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition will be on display from Aug. 23 to Sept. 7 and can be visited on Fridays from 4-7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. This year's exhibition gathers more than 100 works by artists throughout the northeastern U.S.

The juror for the 7th annual NEFAE is David Gray. Gray's award-winning works have been covered by major art publications including Southwest Art, Art of the West, and American Art Collector. His signature style reveals a personal and contemporary expression of beauty and order which pays homage to Western European Classical Tradition in its craftsmanship.

**About Workshop13**  
Workshop13 Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator located in Ware, and devoted to increasing the appreciation and accessibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of our community through instruction, collaborations, and arts-based initiatives.



"Yet We Sleep, We Dream" by Eliza Moser was the Best in Show award-winner from the 6th annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition.



Submitted Photos

This photo was taken from the opening reception of the 6th annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition.

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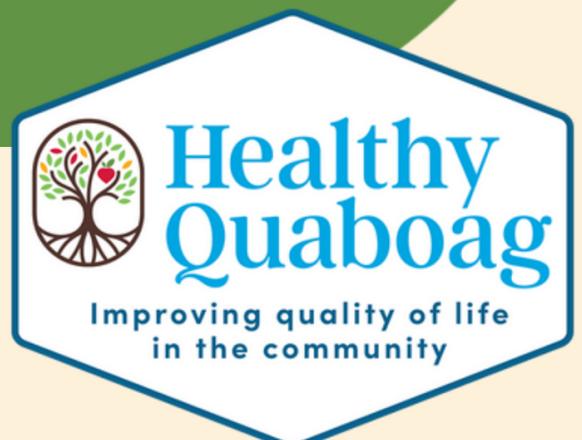


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For any questions, please contact Nisha Humayun at [nhumayun@townofware.com](mailto:nhumayun@townofware.com) or (413) 207-7698



# Snows Surf Shack held grand opening

WARE – Community members were eager to experience the newly opened Snows Surf Shack located at 136 Pleasant St. last Thursday with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Selectboard Chair Nancy Talbot and Town Manager Stuart Beckley welcomed restaurant owners Andy and Kristin Norton back to town and congratulated them on their newest venture. Members of the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond were also on hand to celebrate the occasion.

Previously, the Nortons

had owned and operated Wicked Wings at the same location.

“It’s been a labor of love,” Kristin Norton said of the opening of Snows Surf Shack, which she said pays homage to the restaurant’s past as a seafood restaurant across from Snows Pond.

“We hope that you love it as much as we do,” she said. “We appreciate all of your support and love.”

Talbot said she knows the Nortons have put in a lot of time and work to open Snows Surf Shack and she thanked them for choosing Ware to open their restaurant in.



A surfboard hangs about the doorway in Snows Surf Shack.

Staff, family, town and state officials and community members celebrated the long-awaited opening of Snows Surf Shack.



Booth seating provides a comfortable spot for guests to enjoy their meals.



High-top tables are surrounded by a beach theme that is in line with the menu at Snows Surf Shack.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette  
Snows Surf Shack has a fun surfer-inspired décor.



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# SPORTS

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Brady Guimond tries to weave around the opposition

## Indians, Panthers summer season ends in semifinals

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

AUBURN—The boys' basketball teams from Quabbin Regional, Quaboag Regional, and Ware High School were the top three seeds in the Auburn Summer League playoffs. None of them advanced to the championship game.

The Quabbin Panthers

and the Quaboag Cougars finished the regular season tied for first place with 8-1 records. Quaboag earned the top seed and Quabbin was the second seed in the playoffs due to a tiebreaker.

Ware, who finished in third place, lost to fifth-seeded Killingly High School in the semifinals.

After defeating eighth-seeded Tahanto Regional in the quarterfinals, Quabbin was also upset by

10th-seeded Grafton, 50-38 in the other semifinal game held inside the air-conditioned Auburn High School gymnasium, last Wednesday night.

"I'm very proud of my players, but we could've played a little better in tonight's game," said Quabbin summer league coach Alan Crane. "This is a very disappointing loss for us."

Grafton, who only won three games during the summer league regular season, didn't have very much trouble beating Quaboag in the quarterfinals.

Just like they did against Quaboag, Grafton managed to put together a run early in the first half and took control of the semifinal game.

Making a comeback in the Auburn Summer League is a little bit difficult because each half is twenty minutes running time. The only time that the clock stops is during the final two minutes of each half.

"It's always tough when you fall behind in this league because the clock never stops," Crane said. "It's the same situation with our AAU games."

One of Quabbin's leading scorers during the Auburn League regular season was Jacoby Dilling. He didn't play in either playoff game.

Brady Patchen picked up the slack offensive-



Brady Patchen fakes with the ball.

ly for Quabbin. He scored a team-leading 14 points against Grafton.

"We were missing Jacoby tonight," Patchen said. "He would've been a big help for us, especially offensively. He also plays with a lot of energy defensively. We still had a very good season in this league. We're hoping to carry it over to the high school basketball season."

Anthony Quarterone, who'll most likely be the only senior listed on the Panthers varsity roster this winter, also didn't play in the semifinal loss.

Aiden Crane missed reaching double digits against Grafton, as he fin-



Evan Sherbloom looks for an opening to drive to the hoop.

Please see **INDIANS**, page 10



Brodie Koczur eyes a long three.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Jack Gaudreau lifts a shot.

## Cougars summer season ends with playoff loss

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

AUBURN—The only reason why the Quaboag Regional boys' basketball team participated in this year's Auburn Summer League was because Oxford High School dropped out right before the season started.

With only seven players listed on their roster, Quaboag won eight games during the summer league regular season.

The Cougars (8-1), whose only loss came against Leicester in the regular season finale, finished tied for first place with Quabbin Regional. They entered the playoffs as the top-seeded team due to a tiebreaker.

After earning a first round bye, Quaboag fell behind early in the opening half and suffered a 48-41 loss to 10th-seeded Grafton in the quarterfinals, which were held inside the Auburn High School gymnasium on August 4.

"This was a very tough game for us all around,"

Please see **COUGARS**, page 14

## Crowther takes helm of Quabbin boys soccer

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Bill Crowther has been coaching soccer at the youth level for more than 20 years.

Crowther, who coached the boys' junior varsity soccer team at Quabbin Regional last year, was recently named as the Panthers new varsity soccer coach by Athletic Director Mark Miville.

"When my two sons (James + Lee) played soccer at Quabbin, I was an assistant coach for the varsity team," Crowther said. "I coached the j.v. team last year, but I've never been a varsity head coach before. I'm really

looking forward to it."

Crowther takes over the reins from Ryan Wine, who stepped down at the end of last season due to personal reasons.

"I decided to comeback last year because I thought it would be a lot of fun coaching the j.v. team. I also assisted Ryan with the varsity team," Crowther said. "We worked very closely together. After I was named as the varsity coach, Ryan sent me a nice note. It has been a seamless transition so far."

Wine, who graduated from Quabbin in 2013, had been the boys' varsity soccer coach at his alma mater since 2022.

Quabbin finished the 2024

campaign with a 4-12-2 overall record. Their first win of the season was a 1-0 home shutout against Tahanto Regional on September 12.

Wine didn't coach that game, so Crowther picked up his first career varsity win on that afternoon.

"I've already won my first varsity game," said Crowther, who grew up in Bedford. "I filled in for Ryan for our home game last year against Tahanto, which we won. We also beat Tahanto in the second meeting."

The Panthers j.v. soccer team was made up of mostly eighth graders last year.

"The j.v. team was very young, but we did win a couple of games," Crowther said.

"We played well against the teams who were a little bit older than us."

According to Crowther, about 70 players were signed up to try out for the middle school, junior varsity, and varsity soccer teams. The first official practice of the fall season took place on August 18.

"I'm very optimistic," Crowther said. "The returning varsity players are a year older. They're also bigger, stronger, and faster. I'm hoping that we can take a step forward and finish the regular season with an above .500 record."

Collin Lindley, who's the only senior listed on the varsity roster, is a returning cap-

tain.

"Collin is going to be our starting center back," Crowther said. "He's a very hard worker and is team oriented. He's a leader by example."

The other Panthers co-captain is junior Owen Twarog, who's a midfielder.

Twarog, along with junior Jacoby Dilling, were the Panthers leading goal scorer's last season.

Quabbin, who are members of the Mid-Wach League, is scheduled to open the 2025 regular season with a non-league home match against the Uxbridge

Please see **SOCCER**, page 10

## Short-handed Villa FC captures PVSSL Men's Championship

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—After being forced to play the final 20 minutes of regulation with only ten players, the chances of winning the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League men's championship title for the second consecutive year didn't look very promising for third-seeded Villa FC.

The defending champions, who were trailing 1-0, managed to tie the match against top-seeded Cap & Hitch of New England with less than a minute remaining in the second half.

The score remained tied

Please see **MEN'S**, page 10



Villa FC captured the PVSSL Men's Championship earlier this month.

Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

# sports

## Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

### Summer Edition

**EAST BROOKFIELD** – The Thursday Mixed Summer League at Bogey Lanes has come to an end.

After 14 weeks of league candlepin bowling, the team of Dave Sanborn, Tammy Butler, Steve Burritt, and Keith Butler finished in first place with a record of 75-37. Finishing in second place just one point shy is the team of Karen Olszta, Jackson Loomer, Nate Fontaine and Aaron Fontaine (Team Seven) with a record of 74-38. The team broke the tie with Team Five due to having the highest pinfall during the summer league.

The team of Phil Clough, Aaron Halbedel, Shawn Rackus, and Jordan Waugh (Team Five) finished in third place with a record of 74-38. The Kolb Krew finished in fourth place with a record of 68-44.

In the final week, Mix Ups bowled against the Polar Rollers. In game one, Mix Ups won by a score of 446-429. Patrick Capri of Mix Ups began the match with a 109 to help his team get the victory.

In game two, Mix Ups won again by a score of 428-423. In game three, Mix Ups won with a sweep over Polar Rollers, 450-408. Mix Ups finished in seventh place with a record of 48-64. The final score was 1324-1260 in favor of Mix Ups.

Team Nine bowled against Team Five in the final week. In game one, Team Five defeated Team Nine by a score of 448-441. Phil Clough of Team Five began the match with a 116.

In game two, Team Five won again by a score of 477-444. Aaron Halbedel of Team Five bowled a 119 and his teammate Shawn Rackus bowled a 117. In game three, Team Five won to sweep Team Nine by a score of 456-438. Rackus finished strong with a 120.

The final score was 1381-1323 in favor of Team Five. The individual high series of the match was bowled by Aaron Halbedel with a 330.

The Kolb Krew bowled against The Bowl Busters in the final week. In game one, Bowl Busters won by a score of 426-409. In game two, Kolb Krew bounced back and won 444-413. Drew Kolb bowled a 108 to get the victory for his team.

In game three, Kolb Krew won again by a score of 429-419. The final score was 1282-1258 in favor of Kolb Krew, who finished in fourth place in the summer league on Thursday nights.

The soon to be crowned champions, The Furs, bowled against Glen Echo Rollers. In game one, The Furs won by a score of 464-401. In game two, The Furs won again by a score of 467-407. In game three, The Furs concluded the league by winning the last game, 453-423.

Fall leagues will be starting in September at Bogey Lanes.

## More teams wanted for Quabbin league

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

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

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

The league is looking for at least one full team to join the league. If you play in an adult league in the region and have most of your team comprising of players over the age of 28 and would like to enter the league, please get in touch as soon as possible. The league is

looking to finalize its schedule by Aug. 25.

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

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

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

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

### Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and

share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

### INDIANS from page 9

ished the game with nine points. Lucas Gaspar, who's entering the eighth grade, chipped in with seven points.

A Patchen put-back hoop gave Quabbin a 6-5 advantage five minutes into the opening half.

It turned out to be their final lead of the entire game, as Grafton scored nine unanswered points.

A reverse lay-up by Grafton's Jackson DiFiore gave his team 14-6 lead with 9:45 remaining in the half.

Quabbin tried to stay within striking distance, but they were trailing 25-17 at halftime.

Grafton managed to build a double digit lead early in the second half.

A 3-pointer by Quabbin's Collin LeClair closed the gap to 37-31 with six minutes left in regulation.

Following a LeClair lay-up, Patchen was fouled while making an inside hoop. He added the bonus free throw, which made the score 44-36 with a little more than three minutes left.

Grafton would put together a 6-2 run down the stretch and advanced into the summer league finals for the second consecutive year.

Since Grafton is joining the Mid-Wach League this year, the two basketball teams most likely will be facing each other again this winter. The Quabbin players will be looking for some revenge in that game.



Aiden Crane starts his way down the court after a rebound.



Dalton Marquis receives a pass.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

### SOCGER from page 9

Spartans on September 2.

When the two teams faced each other at Alumni Field last October, the Panthers pulled out a 1-0 victory.

"We played a very good game against Uxbridge last year," Crowther said. "The varsity team finished the season strongly. I'm hoping it carries over into this season. The players are very excited"

The Panthers also beat

Saint Paul Diocesan Jr/Sr High School of Worcester, 3-1, before tying Monty Tech, 2-2, in the regular season finale.

The Panthers will be playing two games each against Mid-Wach rivals Tahanto, West Boylston, Gardner, and Clinton this fall.

"The Mid-Wach league was realigned during the offseason. Our schedule at least on paper isn't as strong as it was last year," Crowther said. "I think we'll

be playing a few more competitive games this year. Every game is important to me."

The new Panthers junior varsity soccer coach is Jeremy Rivard, who previously coached the middle school soccer team.

Ryan White will be the head coach of the middle school team.

Jesse Twarog will be assisting Crowther with the varsity team.

### MEN'S from page 9

during the two 10-minute overtime periods.

During the ninth round of the penalty shootout, Villa goalie Lucas Morales-Fernandez made an outstanding diving save giving his team an exciting 1-1 (9-8 PK's) win over Cap & Hitch at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow earlier this month.

"This is our second championship in a year, and it feels excellent," said Villa player/coach Mike Lima following the match, which lasted more than two hours. "We're one of the better teams in this league, so everybody always wants to be beat us. We were trailing late in second half, but we were able to battle back."

Lima, who shared the coaching duties with Ruben Sousa, is one of the Villa FC players who graduated from Ludlow High School.

The other former Ludlow High School soccer players listed on the Villa FC roster are Kyle Tomas, who received a red card during the 60th minute, Brandon McCarthy and Enzo Botta.

A year ago, Villa FC, who plays their home matches at Minnechaug Regional, defeated Lusitano White in the men's finals. They also took home the championship trophy in 2017 with a 3-2 win over Pros Malaca.

Anthony Basile was selected as this year's MVP award winner. He was also the M.V.P. of the 2017 championship match.

"This is a very special team with a lot of very special players," said Basile, who's from East Longmeadow. "I'm very happy that I'm still able to be a part of it."

Villa FC, who finished the regular season with a 9-1-2 record, advanced into this year's finals after defeating sixth-seeded STCC Alum in a penalty shootout in the quarterfinals, and Lusitano Red, 6-2, in the semifinals.

Cap & Hitch (11-1) joined the prestigious sum-

mer league a year ago. They dispatched eighth-seeded Empower Health, 5-0, in the quarterfinals and the White's 6-2 in the semifinals.

"This was just an unbelievable match by both

Mass. Pioneers, recorded a hat-trick in last year's finals. He was also selected as the 2024 MVP winner.

This year's championship match was still scoreless at the half.

Cap & Hitch was given a penalty shot by referee Fabio Cardoso following a foul in the box twenty minutes into the second half.

Kamer Nuhui, who graduated from Agawam High School, stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the net past Morales-Fernandez.

During that sequence, Cardoso gave Tomas a red card leaving Villa with only ten players on the field. Cardoso continued to issue yellow cards like they were parking tickets, which kept the match from getting out of control.

Basile tied the score at 1-1 after putting a shot into the net past goalie Alberto Truoiolo with only a couple seconds remaining in regulation.

"I just saw an opportunity," he said. "I just swung my foot and watched the ball roll to the back of the net. It just felt great."

At the end of the second overtime period, Bryant Keeney had a chance to be the hero for Villa, but his line-drive shot hooked wide.

The nine Villa players that made PK's during the shootout were Andre Morrison, Joao Miranda, Shane Sewell, Andrew Ortiz, Quin Serafino, Mason Perham, Mike Willis, McCarthy, and Ganzer.

The eight PK's made by the Cap & Hitch players were Simba Pelletier, Bennett Walsh Jr., John Senn-McNally, Dominic Cirelli, Connor Weslocki, Czaporowski, O'Neill, and Nuhui.

Morales-Fernandez finally ended the match by making a save on a shot attempt by Nathan Sanchez.

It was another memorable summer for the members of Villa FC.



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdog-photos.com

Anthony Basile, an Agawam High School graduate, poses with the trophy and league co-president Dianna Kolodziej.

teams. It's tough that someone had to lose," said Cap & Hitch head coach Bennett Walsh. "I've never been involved in a match where they were 18 shots in the penalty shootout. I'm very proud of my guys."

Both teams had chances to take the lead during the first half, which was 40 minutes long.

Cap & Hitch had the first opportunity during the 26th minute.

Ethan Czaporowski, who played soccer at Belchertown High School, weaved around a couple of defenders inside the box before firing a shot that deflected off the crossbar.

Another former Belchertown player listed on the Cap & Hitch roster is Shay O'Neill, who's father, Devin, is the longtime men's soccer coach at Western New England University.

A minute later, Gabriel Ganzer, who plays for Villa, had a breakaway opportunity, but his shot attempt bounced off the left post.

Ganzer, who's a former member of the Western

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Steve Brewer rode alongside Mark Korzec in the Antique Tractor & Implement Parade.



The Children's Parade assembled behind these banner bearers. This year's theme was "Down on the Farm."

# 263<sup>RD</sup> HARDWICK COMMUNITY FAIR



William Cole sang the National Anthem during the opening ceremony Friday night.

## FAIR from page 1

The first day of the fair begins with an opening ceremony near the flagpole of the Town Common. William Cole sang the National Anthem as the flag was hoisted.

Every year the fair has a special dedication ceremony where the fair is dedicated to one person in the community. President of the Hardwick Fair Association Fay Butler made the special announcements and said the board wanted to acknowledge Billy Ward, Sr. for his dedication to the Hardwick Community Fair.

Joining in the celebration was state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and state Sen. Peter Durant. Both Berthiaume and Durant presented the citations from the House of Representatives and the Senate to Ward and recognized him for his many years of unwavering dedication to the fair. Ward didn't remember the exact number of years he has been involved with the fair, but he estimates it's been over 50 years.

When asked what this dedication meant to him, Ward said it means "more than I can explain." What makes this year's fair even more special for Ward was "seeing my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren all participating."

Ward is known for starting the chainsaw and timber contest that takes place every year during the fair. The contest has been around for over 25 years. Ward's son has now been running the competition for many years and said his grandson will be taking over the responsibilities of running the chainsaw contest next year.

This competition has a good turnout every year and hundreds of guests gathered to watch as timber was being cut on a timely basis. Lumberjacks must make two clear cuts as fast as they can. The participants are divided into four different classes based off engine displacement, measured in cubic centimeters, which directly relates to the saw's power.

There was a lot to explore at the Hardwick Community Fair. Butler described the fair as "a very affordable, family-oriented fair." Butler has seen the fair as a place where many residents who lived in Hardwick at one time always come back on an annual basis to reconnect with old friends and start new friendships.

The fair in its many years of existence has always been agriculturally based, featuring antique tractors, cattle show, farm products, chainsaw competition and much more.

"All the food comes from this town," Butler stated. At one point there were over 30 cow farms in Hardwick.

Fair Secretary Lisa Cohen attended the opening ceremony of the 2025 Hardwick Community Fair and described the moment as "magic" considering that this fair has been going on for 263 years. The fair was originally chartered by King George back in the 18th century.

The fair brings the entire



Turley Photos by Mary Whitelaw  
**Scott Flamand of Ware shared his second place ribbon earned in the Lumberjack Contest with his grandchild.**



4-Hers bring their Holsteins into the show ring.



Hardwick Community Fair President Fay Butler held the microphone while Billy Ward Sr. talked about the fair. This year's fair was dedicated to Ward.



Mushu cleared the last in a series of jumps during the rabbit hopping demonstration.



Brody Faucher spun cotton candy while Jacob Bassett looked on.



Dance teacher Rachelle Lyons talked to her students before their dance number.

community together and features events for all ages.

On Saturday, the Paige Memorial Library offered their book sale and featured a special guest. It was Ambrosia the Flower Fairy, who offered glitter tattoos and stickers. Friends of the Library were sporting fairy wings during the fair and were excited to share the library featuring shelves and boxes full of books for sale with stories of all genres.

Library Director Julie Bullock was proud to share the fifth village of Hardwick, the fairy village out on the front lawn of the library. Peter Schmid is the landscape architect behind the design of the Hardwick Fairy Village.

"All homesteaders are welcome," Bullock said.

Across the street from the Town Common was the Hardwick Historical Society Museum exhibit. Residents can explore their town's history.

Hundreds of residents gathered at the Common to watch the children's parade. Dozens of Hardwick's youth strolled through the streets around the Hardwick Common with kids in front carrying a banner for this year's children's parade.

Across the street from the Common was an antique tractor display. Hundreds of residents gathered on the side of the street to hear the tractors start up to ride along the Common for the Antique Tractor & Implement Parade. Music entertainment for both days of the fair was by the music group The Otters.

For more information about the historical Hardwick Community Fair, visit [www.hardwickfair.com](http://www.hardwickfair.com).



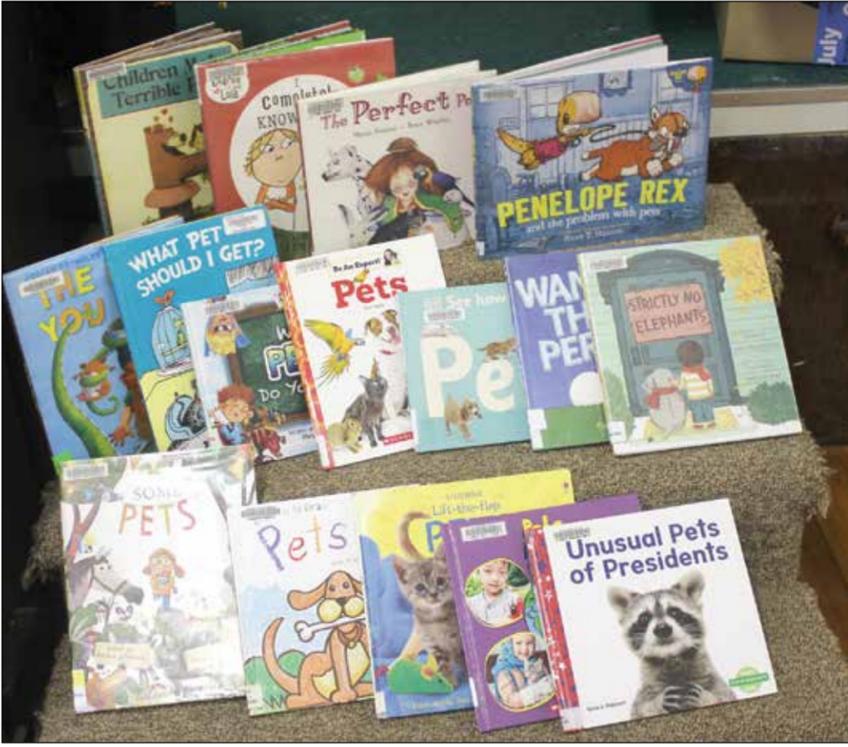
Luca made his way through the hay house in the children's obstacle course.



The facepainter transformed this girl with rainbow colors.



The Antique Tractor & Implement Parade made its way around the common.



Various children's books about pets were displayed at the Ware Grange during a kids' corner workshop.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Jen McNally read a pet themed book called "Not Norman".

**PETS** from page 1 story called "Not Norman". The story is about a young boy who wants a soft, furry pet and ends up with a goldfish.

After story time, the kids got to explore the grange featuring different activities. McNally's daughter, Mackenzie, was busy running one activity station where kids get to decorate their own pet rocks. After decorating the rocks, kids receive a certificate where they name their pet rocks.

Mackenzie called the station, "the Pet Rock Adoption Agency." There were also cutouts of birdhouses for kids to build and decorate. There was plenty of paint and rocks provided by the Grange.

One station had furry

guests for kids to meet after story time and crafts. There was a friendly cat named Oliver, or Oli. There were also two cute guinea pigs named Boo and Ruby. There was also a lizard making an appearance as a guest pet.

For snacks, Terry Vaill made some interesting pet themed snacks for all the guests. These snacks had interesting names that Vaill looked up. There was one called "cat sushi" which consisted of rice crispy treats wrapped in fruit roll-ups and Swedish fish. There was chocolate cake that was designed to look like a cat's litter box. Vaill calls it "kitty litter cake."

Other snacks included cheese puffs nicknamed "cat tails," popcorn that was nicknamed "pupcorn," and chocolate cookie bites nicknamed

"cookies and cream puppy chow."

Both the kids and adults had a good laugh from the pet themed food. During story time, some kids brought their stuffed animal pets for the occasion. McNally had copies of pet themed books for kids to read during their visit to the Ware Grange.

The next Kids' Corner Workshop will be on Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. Kids will learn about all types of weather and how weather is very important to the environment. Ware Grange #164 is located at 297 Belchertown Road.

These fun kids' corner workshops are recommended for preschool and elementary school aged children.



Oliver is a cute cat who visited the Ware Grange.



Mackenzie with a certificate for kids to fill out after visiting the "Pet Rock Adoption Agency."



Pet themed treats made by Terry Vaill, including cat tails, pupcorn and cookies and cream puppy chow.



Ruby, an adorable guinea pig, was one of the pet guests during the kids' corner workshop at the Ware Grange.



This kitty litter cake was baked by Terry Vaill.



## VETERANS DAY SALUTE

Ware River News ~ November 6, 2025

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](mailto:dflynn@turley.com) or drop off a photo to Ware River News, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than Monday, October 13, 2025.

*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.*



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# Gardening in small spaces explained

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Ware Grange welcomed Chris Messier to present about gardening in small spaces.

Messier is based out of North Brookfield and has been gardening her entire life. This was her first workshop in many years.

She was the lead gardener for the center village garden at Old Sturbridge Village. When she used to do workshops regularly, they were focused on multiple types of gardening.

This workshop focused on small space and raised bed gardening. Messier encouraged gardeners to get creative and not feel limited just because they might have limited gardening space.

A book on Grow Bag Gardening was passed around the grange for gardeners to view tips on how to garden with the use of eco-friendly fabric pots or bags. Grow bags, plastic plots, unusual containers are all good options when gardening.

Messier brought in several samples that are viable to serve as a safe structure

for plants. As for grow bags, Messier said, “you can move them around.”

A hay feeder can be used for gardening and Messier also brought a board with a wide mouth ring designed to hold potted plants. Gardeners are encouraged to get creative and use organic items for gardening.

For raised beds and container gardening, gardeners must decide if they want to use metal beds or wooden ones. There are advantages to either one. Wooden beds are more earth friendly, and gardeners should use ones that are pest and rot resistant.

Other pest controls in the garden comes in the form of netting or scare balloons.

Messier did remind gardeners that sometimes your garden may have some company. In other words, animals, especially rabbits. Messier said she had one rabbit that was hanging out in her garden all summer.

Messier would share a checklist for gardeners to follow to help make their gardening experience better. Overall, Messier suggested every gardener enjoys what they’re doing.

Gardening is possible in small spaces, including on



Chris Messier gave a presentation on gardening in small spaces at the Ware Grange.



patios, balconies, raised beds, grow bags and various small spaces.

The presentation ended with a raffle as guests had an opportunity to win some grow bags that Messier brought.

The next adult gardening workshop will be on Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. and is about seed saving and food preservation.

A wooden board with a wide mouth ring capable of holding a potted plant is a good source of gardening in small spaces.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

# Jimmy Fund glow baseball fundraiser this Friday

BARRE – Quabbin Area Little League will host a Jimmy Fund Glow Ball Fundraiser on Friday, Aug. 22 at Felton Field with a rain date of Aug. 23.

Check in for team selection starts at 5 p.m. and games start at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person and includes glow gear and tournament entry. All ages are welcome to play.

Event highlights include the Glow Ball Tournament and food, snacks and drinks will be available for sale. All proceeds from this event benefit the Jimmy Fund Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

To register or to donate, please scan the QR code.

## Tip-A-Cop benefits Special Olympics Massachusetts

WARE – Hanna’s On Main, 81 Main St., is holding a Tip-A-Cop event on Friday, Aug. 22 from 5-9 p.m.

Local police officers will serve as celebrity hosts and servers, donating all “tips” to Special Olympics Massachusetts.



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# public safety

## Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 10-19, the Ware Police Department responded to 38 miscellaneous calls, 24 administrative calls, 15 traffic violations, 11 emergency 911 calls, five motor vehicle accidents, four harassments, six thefts/larcenies, one damage/vandalism, six animal calls and 45 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

**Sunday, Aug. 10**  
12:49 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Could Not Locate  
11:16 a.m. DUI/Impaired, West Street, Advised  
10:29 p.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Services Rendered

**Monday, Aug. 11**  
6:10 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Webb Court, Services Rendered  
12:56 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Advised  
5:45 p.m. Traffic Violation, North Street, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Aug. 12**  
6:16 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Ross Avenue, Services Rendered  
10:15 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Services Rendered  
6:28 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Old Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled  
8:46 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered  
9:27 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Services Rendered

## Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 11-18, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 62 building/property checks, 35 directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, one traffic control, five emergency 911 calls, five citizen assists, three assist other agencies, one motor vehicle investigation, five complaints, one missing person, one threat, two harassments, three animal calls and seven motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

**Monday, Aug. 11**  
4:15 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Spoken To  
8:50 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

**Tuesday, Aug. 12**  
8:09 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Transported to Hospital  
12:44 p.m. Assist Other Agency, School Street, Officer Handled  
7:17 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Birch Street, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Aug. 13**  
2:01 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Services Rendered  
5:10 p.m. Traffic Violation, West Street, Arrest Made

**Thursday, Aug. 14**  
7:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper North Street, Citation/Warning Issued  
10:10 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Hillside Village, Advised  
6:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Gould Road, Citation/Warning Issued

**Friday, Aug. 15**  
1:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Arrest Made  
11:44 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Upper Church Street, Services Rendered  
2:22 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Criminal Complaint Requested  
5:10 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Palmer Road, Services Rendered  
10:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Criminal Complaint Requested

**Saturday, Aug. 16**  
4:11 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled  
5:08 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, High Street, Investigated  
10:41 p.m. Lost Person, North Street, Services Rendered

**Sunday, Aug. 17**  
1:37 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, King Street, Services Rendered

**Wednesday, Aug. 13**  
7:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled  
11:53 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Dispatch Handled  
1:24 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Bridge Road, Negative Contact

**Thursday, Aug. 14**  
3:06 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled  
4:30 p.m. Assist Other Agency, High Street, Officer Handled

**Friday, Aug. 15**  
9:35 a.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Unfounded  
6:41 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
7:27 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7:41 p.m. Missing Person,

*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.*

8:38 a.m. Damage/Vandalism, Otis Avenue, Report Made  
3:36 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made  
5 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Services Rendered  
9:17 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Vernon Street, Dispatch Handled  
10:35 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Otis Avenue, Investigated

**Monday, Aug. 18**  
1:20 p.m. Trespass, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered  
3:41 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Aug. 19**  
2:45 a.m. Theft/Larceny, North Street, Investigated  
7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued  
12:59 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Prospect Street, Dispatch Handled

Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled  
7:59 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

**Saturday, Aug. 16**  
11:08 a.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Town House, Services Rendered  
1:58 p.m. Threat, Breen Road, Services Rendered  
4:33 p.m. 911 Misdial, Greenwich Road, Dispatch Handled  
8:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Hardwick Road, No Action Required

**Sunday, Aug. 17**  
10:17 a.m. Harassment, Lyman Road, Report Taken  
9:33 p.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled  
11:49 p.m. Harassment, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled

**Monday, Aug. 18**  
2:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Report Taken

## Warren Police Log

During the week of Aug. 3-9, the Warren Police Department responded to 182 building/property checks, seven community policings, 16 emergency 911 calls, two safety hazards, one larceny/theft, two frauds/forgeries, one missing person, four parking issues, one complaint, two animal calls and 14 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

**Sunday, Aug. 3**  
2:12 a.m. Safety Concern, Keys Road, Negative Contact  
9:44 a.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Officer/Chief Advised  
10:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
2:03 p.m. Welfare Check, Old West Warren Road, Report Filed  
2:26 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Officer Took Call  
4:28 p.m. Bleeding, Spring Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
5:27 p.m. Serve Warrant, Bacon Street, Arrest(s) Made  
Arrest: Delia A. Murphy, 58, Warren

Warrant; Warrant; Warrant; Warrant

**Monday, Aug. 4**  
6:33 a.m. Missing Person, Keys Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
10:35 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
6:36 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

**Tuesday, Aug. 5**  
5:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed  
10:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Coy Hill Road, Criminal Complaint  
1:52 p.m. Fraud or Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed  
6:10 p.m. Seizures, Bacon Street, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Aug. 6**  
7:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning  
8:32 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Keys Road, Transported to Hospital

**Thursday, Aug. 7**  
5:29 p.m. Gas

Odor, Parkview Street, Investigated  
8:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
9:04 p.m. Falls, Southbridge Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal

**Friday, Aug. 8**  
9:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Reed Street, Written Warning  
11:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
11:07 p.m. Parking Issues, Liberty Street, Citation Issued  
11:11 p.m. Parking Issues, Liberty Street, Citation Issued

**Saturday, Aug. 9**  
1:28 a.m. Parking Issues, Otis Street, Citation Issued  
6:33 a.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Bacon Street, Transported to Hospital  
9:13 a.m. Noise Complaint, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party  
10:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Investigated  
11:03 a.m. Parking Issues, Otis Street, Investigated

## Better Business Bureau offers tips to help recover from a scam

Scammers are generally after one of two things; they either try to steal your money now, or they try to steal your identity now to steal money from you later (or to pretend to be you to steal from others).

necessary in notify the appropriate agencies.

In Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has advice for protecting yourself from identity fraud and how to report it.

Monitor your online accounts (banking, credit card, app payment services, etc.) at least weekly to make sure you recognize all the charges.

Change your passwords regularly and don't use the same password for multiple sites.

After you've taken care of yourself, report the scam to BBB Scam Tracker to help warn others and to provide additional information that may be useful to law enforcement.

If a company you do business with has suffered a data breach, don't panic. Check the company's website or look for an email with instructions on what you should do to follow up. Many companies offer free credit monitoring after a data breach, or have other concrete measures.

With so many major data

breaches in the past decade, consumers should assume their data has been compromised in some way and take the same precautions as those who know they've been scammed.

If you've lost money to a retailer because of undelivered merchandise or are being told you must pay more in order to receive an item, there are several options:

If you used a credit card, contact the credit card company using the number on the back of your card and dispute the charges. If you used a debit card, contact the banking institution immediately to report the loss (use the number on the back of your card).

If you used a third-party app (PayPal, Venmo, etc.), contact them for instruction on next steps.

If you don't get satisfaction through these means, file a complaint at BBB.org and they will try to help you.

If you were responding to an ad on social media (Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, etc.), report the ad or business and tell the social media channel exactly what happened.

**COUGARS** from page 9  
said Owen Stevens, who was the head coach of the Quaboag summer league team. "We got into early foul trouble, and we had to approach things a little bit differently than we normal-

ly do. We also started off very slow offensively, which killed us."

Stevens was assisted by Ryan Fernandez.

A couple of years ago, Stevens and Fernandez were teammates on the Quaboag summer league team, which

lost to Millbury in the finals.

Grafton, who went 3-6 during the 2025 summer league, advanced into this year's finals after upsetting second-seeded Quabbin in the semifinals two nights later. It was the second consecutive year that Grafton

played in the championship game. They lost to Burncoat last year.

Quaboag won the regular season match-up against Grafton.

"We played a different Grafton team tonight than when we faced them earlier in the season," Stevens said. "I think most of their varsity players also play in a league at Crompton Park in Worcester. It's difficult to beat a team when you really don't know what to expect from them. We still had a very good season."

One of Quaboag's biggest wins of the Auburn League regular season came against Ware.

"We beat Ware by about 15 points, and we played very well against them," Stevens said. "Some of the players on my team also play AAU basketball with the Ware players. It's always a big rivalry game whenever

we play Ware."

Grafton scored the first eight points of the quarter-final game and were leading 13-5 with a little more than eight minutes left in the opening half.

The Quaboag points were scored by Jacob Toomey, who picked up his fourth personal foul early in the second half.

Toomey was one of the Quaboag starters against Grafton, along with Isaac Cowher, Kadin Dufalt, Jacoby Labillois, and Jack Stevens. Their two reserve players were Jackson McGarry, and Kaleb Vankcleef. All seven of the Quaboag players are incoming seniors.

The Cougars leading players this summer were Tommey, Cowher, and Stevens. The trio have been members of the varsity squad since they were sophomores.

Owen Stevens was team-

mates on the varsity basketball team with his younger brother two years ago.

"It was a lot of fun being teammates with my younger brother," Owen Stevens said. "I do appreciate it a little bit more now."

Owen Stevens was a freshman member of the men's Track and Field team at Franklin Pierce University last year. He transferred to UMass-Amherst and is planning to join the Minutemen men's track team.

Quaboag was trailing Grafton, 28-17 at halftime. With less than ten minutes left in regulation, Quaboag was only trailing, 39-33, following a Toomey jumper.

Then Labillois scored five unanswered points, which closed the gap to 46-40 with 29 seconds left.

Quaboag couldn't get any closer than that.



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## Rudolph J. Krol, Jr., 96

WARE – Rudolph John Krol, Jr., passed away peacefully at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center in West Brookfield on Monday, Aug. 18, 2025, at the age of 96.



Rudy was born in Ware on Aug. 25, 1928, son of the late Rudolph J. Krol, Sr., and Jennie D. (Janas) Krol.

Rudy received his elementary education at the former St. Mary's School, where he served as an altar boy and was a member of the St. Mary's Drum and Bugle Corp. Rudy was a 1946 graduate of Ware High School. He was always proud to tell his grandchildren and great-grandchildren that he graduated with nine letters in baseball, football and basketball.

Rudy enlisted in the United States Army on Sept. 28, 1946, and was Honorably Discharged on March 16, 1948, with the rank of Technician Fourth Grade Sergeant. While in the Army he served with the Army Corps of Engineers which included a deployment to Korea.

Rudy returned to Ware and continued his education at Hemphil Heavy

Equipment and Diesel School of Long Island, New York. It prepared him for a long career as a heavy equipment operator and construction supervisor with an emphasis in bridge construction.

Rudy was a proud life-long native of Ware, the grandson of John Krol, he grew up working in the family owned J.K. Bottling and then Coca Cola Bottling business with its humble start on Marjorie Street in Ware, later moving to East Street, in what is now Guzik Motors, and at Krol's Orchards of West Brookfield, a business he eventually owned and operated as a producing apple and pear farm, for many years in addition to his primary work in the construction field.

Rudy also enjoyed his years spent in local government, serving on the Ware Finance Committee and as a Water Commissioner, during his long lifetime in Ware. He was a member of the former White Eagle Society and Social Club of Ware, the Weir River Club and the American Legion Post as well as the VFW.

Predeceased by his former wife, Gloria (Ciejka) Krol, his son Patrick and grandson,

Joseph Girard. Rudy leaves behind his son, Stephen Krol and his wife, Laura of Poulsbo, Washington, daughter, Brenda Park of Ware, daughter Carol Girard and her partner, Jeff Moulton of Ware. He also leaves behind his grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Candace Girard, Jocelyn Girard and her son Elias, Andrew Girard; Jessica Bolduc and her daughter, Audrey, Leslie Little and her husband Greg, and sons, Justin and Jett; Olivia Krol and Annika Krol, Patricia Krol and Patrick Krol, Jr. and Mark Martinez.

The family would like to thank the staff and new friends Rudy made in his later years at the Ware Senior Center for the kindness and support they provided. Additional thanks to the staff at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care who made his final days comfortable and peaceful.

A Graveside Service with Military Honors and Prayers of Committal will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025, at 10 a.m. in St. Mary's Cemetery (Our Lady of LaSalette Section) Ware.

Funeral Services and Arrangements are under the direction of Cebula Funeral Home, Ware. For more information and an online guest book, please visit: [www.cebulafuneralhome.com](http://www.cebulafuneralhome.com).

## Shirley M. Ratcliffe, 82

WARE – Shirley Mae (Grout) Ratcliffe of Ware, passed away peacefully at Cedarbrook Village at Ware on Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2025, at the age of 82.

She was born in Ware on Aug. 29, 1942, daughter of the late Irwin M. Grout and Celia (Dziok) Grout. Shirley graduated from Springfield Trade High School and worked for Tambrands, Hampshire Woolen, and Diamond National of Thorndike. She retired from Diamond National after more than 30 years on the job.

She was a participant of St. Mary's Parish and proudly served as a lector for many years. Shirley also volunteered in the kitchen and on the grounds during many a Carnival. She also happily attended Bingo and was a caller on occasion.

She enjoyed spending time with her family, but she had a great love for her yellow and red sports cars, Honda and Harley motorcycles, and moped. Shirley Mae was the second born of six children.

She is survived by her brother, Robert Grout, and his wife Mary Lee of Leeds, her sister Linda C. Flamand, and her husband Richard of Ware, and her sister, Rebecca Grout, of Ware. She is also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews. Predeceased are her husband, Douglas Ratcliffe, her brother, Harry Grout of Ware, and her sister, Gloria Jean Maynard of Ludlow.

Calling hours will be held Monday, Aug. 25, 2025,

from 5-7 p.m. at Cebula Funeral Home, 66 South St., Ware. A Funeral Mass will be held Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025, at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 57 South St., Ware. Everyone will meet directly in the church on Tuesday morning. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, South Street, Ware.

Funeral Services are under the direction of The Koziol Family of Cebula Funeral Home. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: [www.cebulafuneralhome.com](http://www.cebulafuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Fund or Breast Cancer Fund.



## Elaine Patricia Wdowiak, 87

WARE – Elaine Patricia (Riendeau) Wdowiak, age 87, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Aug. 7, 2025, after a long period of declining health.

She was born in Ware on May 10, 1938, daughter of the late Rene and Mary (Szczepanek) Riendeau.



Elaine was raised and educated in Ware, a graduate of Ware High School class of 1956. It was during a high school football hayride that she met the love of her life, Ronald Wdowiak, and they were married on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 1959.

Elaine leaves her husband, Ronnie; her daughter Cheryl (Kenneth) of West Brookfield, her sons Gary (Greg Rodnicki) of Ocala, Florida, and Bruce (Dorota Bolaske) of Ware. She was a devoted Grammy to seven grandchildren: Andrew Wdowiak, Harlie Wdowiak, Travis Prouty, Bryce Wdowiak, Evona Bolaske, Adam Bolaske, Ania Bolaske and two great-grandchildren; Weston and Aubrey Wdowiak. She also leaves behind Leslie Wdowiak,

two step-granddaughters, Nicole Chalke and Danielle Pfahler and four step-great

grandchildren: Reagan, Autumn, Frank and Fred, and a brother, David Riendeau of Arizona. She was predeceased by her brothers, Richard and Roger Riendeau. After graduating from high school, Elaine attended Wilfred Beauty Academy in New York City and then joined her Aunt Flo working at Rose's Beauty Shop in Ware. She was also employed at the Ware IGA, Belchertown/Monson Developmental Centers and Country Bank (Three Rivers Branch).

When Elaine left the workforce, she and Ronnie joined forces to run their own "daycare" for three of their grandchildren, often stating that it was the best and most rewarding job they had.

Elaine enjoyed traveling and cruising, enjoying trips to Sanibel, Aruba, Alaska and the National Parks to name a few. Her favorite vacations were the yearly trips to Maine with Ronnie, her children and grandchild-

dren, where they enjoyed the beach; playing soccer, wiffle ball and cornhole; and searching for sea glass.

Elaine took immense joy in spending time with her loved ones, hosting holidays and family celebrations. She made everyone that she met feel like family. It was time spent with family and friends that brought her the most pleasure in life.

The family invites all who knew and loved Elaine to Celebrate Her Life. Calling Hours will be held on Friday, Aug. 29, 2025, from 4-6 p.m. in Cebula Funeral Home, 66 South St., Ware. A Funeral Mass will be offered on Saturday, Aug. 30, 2025, at 10 a.m. in All Saints Church, 17 North St., Ware. Elaine will be laid to rest in New St. William Cemetery, Ware following the mass.

Funeral Services are under the direction of The Koziol Family of Cebula Funeral Home. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: [www.cebulafuneralhome.com](http://www.cebulafuneralhome.com). In lieu of floral offerings, please make memorial donations to the Ware Sports Boosters, P.O. Box 1441, Ware, MA 01082.

## Paul R. Gauthier, 87



GILBERTVILLE – Paul R. Gauthier, 87, of Gilbertville, died on Saturday, Aug. 9, 2025 at home. Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 S. Barre Rd., Barre..

## Alfred C. Graves, 84

RUTLAND, VT – Alfred C. Graves, 84, of Rutland, Vermont died Aug. 13, 2025, at the Rutland Healthcare Rehabilitation Center.

He was born July 31, 1941, in Ware, the son of Elwin Clesson and Claire (Dubuque) Graves.

After receiving his degree from divinity school, he was a parish priest from 1967 to 2006 and served the Springfield area. Following his retirement, he moved to

Vermont and made many good friends while first residing in the Wallingford House and later at the Bardwell House in Rutland.

He was predeceased by his two sisters, Charlotte Banas and Lorraine McCabe.

The private graveside service was held Friday, Aug. 15, 2025, in East Clarendon Cemetery. Tossing Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Theodora M. Trudeau, 97

WEST SPRINGFIELD/WARE – Theodora M.

Teddy was quite adventurous, which she carried on to even earning her pilots license when she was 51. She loved her large family of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



Trudeau, 97, a long-time resident of Ware, died on Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2025, in Pioneer Valley Heath & Rehabilitation Center in South Hadley.

She leaves her sons, James Trudeau and his wife Janet of Florida, Thomas Trudeau and his wife Halina (Helen) of Ware, Christopher Trudeau and his wife Jane of Belchertown, and Alan Trudeau and his wife Susan of Maine, as well as seven grandchildren, Alicia, Erik, Jillian, Derek, Tamara, Andrea, and Owen, and seven great-grandchildren, Luca, Forest, Isla, Rosalyn, Demitri, Ashley, and Evelyn. She was predeceased by her husband, Alexander in 1989.

She was born in Ayer, daughter of the late Albert W. and Christine (Bernier) Durépo.

She loved the nature and beauty of the Quabbin, where she would walk the trails with her grandchildren. She remained healthy and active, and lived independently up until a few months ago.

She was a former long-time member of All Saint's Church in Ware.

A Graveside Service for Teddy will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025, at 11 a.m. in New Saint William Cemetery, Belchertown Road, in Ware.

Charbonneau Funeral Home is assisting her family with her arrangements. An online tribute page is available at [charbonneaufh.com](http://charbonneaufh.com).

## Death notices

**Gauthier, Paul R.**  
Died Aug. 9, 2025

**Graves, Alfred C.**  
Died Aug. 13, 2025  
Services Aug. 15, 2025

**Krol, Jr., Rudolph J.**  
Died Aug. 18, 2025  
Services Aug. 23, 2025

**Ratcliffe, Shirley M. (Grout)**  
Died Aug. 19, 2025  
Services Aug. 26, 2025

**Trudeau, Theodora M.**  
Died Aug. 12, 2025  
Services Aug. 27, 2025

**Wdowiak, Elaine P. (Riendeau)**  
Died Aug. 7, 2025  
Services Aug. 30, 2025

## OBITUARY POLICY Ware River News

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

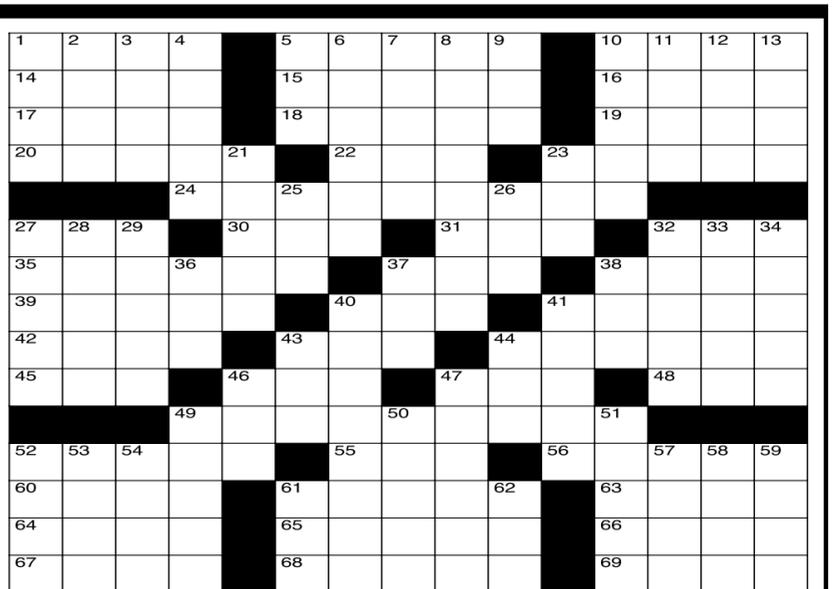
The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com). Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## Holy Cross church hosts school supply drive

WARE – Holy Cross PNCC is collecting school supplies to be donated to students at local Ware schools.

Donations can be brought to Holy Cross PNCC, 61 Maple St., on Sunday mornings during the 8 a.m. Holy Mass, after Mass in the Church Hall, or anytime to the rectory located on the right side of the church.



### CLUES ACROSS

- Mongolian politician
- Coconut palms
- Rounded knob
- Japanese city
- Covers in soft material
- Walk around
- Ancient region in Syria
- French painter
- Grandmother
- Cow part
- Rocky peak
- Secret plan
- Sings to one's lover
- More (Spanish)
- Father
- Chinese philosophical principle
- Hat
- In agreement
- A person's brother or sister
- Evil spirit
- Monetary units
- Partner to cheese

### CLUES DOWN

- Two-toed sloth
- Cooking ingredient
- Iranian city
- Publicly outs
- Steep-sided hollow
- Spoke
- General law or rule
- Extravagantly theatrical
- Very fast airplane
- Arm bones
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- \_\_\_ fide: legitimate
- Gemstone
- Counsels
- Top exec
- Cool!
- Touch lightly
- Extract money via taxation
- Dyes
- Cloying sweetness
- Soft drinks
- Capital of Guam
- Chemical compound
- The bill in a

- restaurant
- Car mechanics group
- Late comedian Newhart
- Health care for the aged
- Wise individuals
- A passage with access only at one end
- Trim
- Former OSS
- The upper surface of the mouth
- Edible lily bulbs
- Type of reef
- Vaccine developer
- Mottled citrus fruit
- A place to store lawn tools
- Rare goose native to Hawaii
- Hollywood pig
- Musician Clapton
- Take a chance
- Spanish soldier
- Mark Wahlberg comedy

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## HELP WANTED

**Town of Blandford**  
Town of Blandford is hiring a **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
to the Assessors. Duties include administrative support for daily operations of the Assessors' office. Pay: \$18-\$20/hr, based on experience. Communication, customer service, organizational, and tech skills required. Send cover letter and resume to: **dhopson@townofblandford.com.**

**Town of Blandford**  
is seeking a fulltime **ASSISTANT TREASURER/COLLECTOR.**  
Pay range \$29.50-\$37.50/hour.  
Please visit our website for full job description.  
Submit resume to **Administrator@townofblandford.com**

## HELP WANTED

**SQUIER & CO.** is looking to hire an oil truck driver. \$40,000-\$60,000 full time. Squier will provide CDL school for the right candidate! **Email: squieroil@verizon.net. Call 413-267-3184** or visit us at 5 Squier Ave., Monson, MA. Monday-Friday.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILBRAHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Wilbraham Housing Authority seeks highly qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director. Responsibilities include the administration of 69 Chapter 667 Elderly housing units and 9 Chapter 705 Family housing units. The Executive Director reports to a five-member Board of Commissioners. Work schedule shall be a minimum of 22 hours per week during normal business hours, flexible as needed. The estimated salary range \$46,177.00 To \$54,326.00 is based on the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities' Executive Director Salary Schedule. The ideal candidate must have two years' experience in a housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances and maintenance systems in public or private housing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required. Willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from an approved organization desired, and may be substituted as a property manager or similar classification by a nationally recognized housing or real estate organization such as an EOHLA-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program or HUD. Two-year full time post-secondary education in a related field may substitute for up to one year of experience. Applications will be accepted until 12pm, August 29, 2025. Please submit cover letter, resume and contact information for 3 references to: **Mr. Peter Manolakis, Chairman Executive Director Search Committee, Wilbraham Housing Authority, 88 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095. Contact: Peter Manolakis (413) 519-8195**  
*Wilbraham Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

## The Town of Huntington is seeking a part-time Town Hall Floater/Select-board Administrative Assistant/Assistant Town Clerk.

\$20-\$22 per hour based on experience. 15 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Position is open until filled.  
*Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

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or call: 413-283-8393

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5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
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## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



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

### FOR RENT

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

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**  
**FRIDAY AT NOON**

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**

# 78th Ware Grange Fair will be held Aug. 23

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

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

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

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

at 1:30 p.m. The show begins at 2:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

The barbecue can be enjoyed outside under the tent, and take-out is also

available. Reservations are required by calling 413-284-1135 or emailing waregrange164@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

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

# Second Chance to host low-cost pet vaccine clinic on Sept. 13

LEICESTER – Second Chance Animal Services is returning to the Leicester community with another low-cost pet vaccine clinic on Friday, Sept. 13, from 9 a.m.-noon at Endless Pawsabilities, 880 Pleasant St., Rochdale.

Dogs and cats from all towns are welcome.

Thanks to support from the Leicester Savings Bank Fund through the Greater Worcester Community Foundation and Petco Love, the Distemper/Parvo combo vaccine will be offered free of charge. Rabies vaccines will be available for \$12 for residents of Leicester, Rochdale, and Cherry Valley, and \$18 for residents of all other towns. Microchipping will also be offered for just \$22.

"Vaccines are a critical tool in preventing the spread of dangerous and sometimes deadly diseases in pets," said Lindsay Doray, Chief Development Officer of Second Chance. "We're proud to offer this clinic to help protect the health of pets and the people who love them."

Parking is limited, and a limited number of walk-ins will be accepted until 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged to ensure availability.

Pet owners can register online at [www.secondchanceanimals.org/scasconnect-worcester/](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org/scasconnect-worcester/) to reserve a spot and help ensure a smooth clinic experience. All dogs must be on leashes and cats in carriers for everyone's safety.

For more information about Second Chance Animal Services and their mission to provide affordable veterinary care to help pets stay healthy and in their homes, visit [www.secondchanceanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org).



# Sultana presents 'History and Legends through Song'

HARDWICK – On Saturday, Sept. 20 the musical duo Sultana will bring "History and Legends through Song" to Paige Memorial Library at 87 Petersham Road at 1:30 p.m.

The program consists of songs, history and slides about fascinating historical or legendary people and events. The show will feature some songs about

Massachusetts history.

Other subjects in the show may include ancient Mesopotamia, a character from Arthurian legend, the Old West and a renowned radio broadcast. "History and Legends through Song" is part of the series "Live Music Making History Live." The other shows in the series are "The Roots of American Popular Music,"

"The Railroad in Song," and "Popular Music and Veterans."

The duo Sultana is Jon and Li Waterman, both lifelong musicians and songwriters. Jon is also a licensed history teacher in Massachusetts. He created "Live Music Making History Live" in 2018 with the belief that history and entertainment go together - through-

out the ages, songs, stories and theater have included history, and history is - or should be - entertaining.

The program is supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

# public notices

## Town of Ware Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2025-09

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting and Site Plan Review Authority, will hold a Public Hearing during the scheduled meeting on **THURSDAY, September 4 at 7:00pm**, on the application of **Fieldcrest Brewing Company LLC** for the principal use of a microbrewery and winery, under Zoning Bylaw Section 4.2, Use Table, and 2.2, Definitions, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Board of Selectman's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of mem-

bers of public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

**SITE LOCATION: 11 East Main Street, Ware MA.** Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 15020, Page 267. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel 57-0-96. Zoned: Millyard (MY).

A complete copy of the application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under Recent Filings. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

WARE PLANNING BOARD 08/14, 08/21/2025

**Town of Ware Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing**  
The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** pursuant

to the Wetland Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a Notice of Intent (NOI) by Deborah Ernest for removal of 3 oak trees in jeopardy of falling onto home, fence and deck at 8 Lower Cove Road, Ware, MA. Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org> 08/21/2025

**TOWN OF HARDWICK BOARD OF HEALTH PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 111, Section 31, the Hardwick Board of Health will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 6:45 P.M.** at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA. The purpose of this hearing

is to receive public comment on proposed Regulations Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Other Public Places. These regulations are intended to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke in Hardwick and to better protect the public health of its residents.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Copies of the proposed regulations may be requested at Town Hall or by emailing [boh@hardwick-ma.gov](mailto:boh@hardwick-ma.gov). 08/21, 08/28/2025

**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. HS25P0459EA Estate of: Nancy M. Ayers Also known as: Nancy M. LaBonte, Nancy Marie Ayers Date of Death: 06/22/2025 CITATION ON PETITION**

## FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Lisa LaBonte of Ludlow, 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: **Lisa LaBonte of Ludlow, 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 09/17/2025.** 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 affi-

davit 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. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 12, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**, Register of Probate 08/21/2025

# Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

## Town of Warren JOB OPENING

### HIGHWAY HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

*Do you enjoy working outdoors? Would you like to be part of a thriving, friendly and dedicated team?*

The Town of Warren Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the full-time position as a Driver/Laborer/Machine Operator. The Town of Warren is committed to equal opportunity, encourages diversity and inclusion, and believes that a positive culture of inclusion in Town governance contributes to the town's overall qualities as a great place to live and work. We welcome all to apply.

**Salary:** Starting at \$24.78 per hour  
**Hours:** M-Thurs., 6:00am – 4:00pm – April 1 – Nov 30  
M-F 6:00am – 2:00pm, - Dec. 1 – March 31

**Overtime is required for:** emergency calls including during snow and ice storms. Required Licensing/Certification: Possession of a valid 2B Hoisting license and MA Class B CDL.

**Applicants:** To be considered for this vacancy, please submit a cover letter and resume by no later than **4 pm on Thursday September 4th, 2025.** Resumes will be accepted via email to [jeremy.olson@warren-ma.gov](mailto:jeremy.olson@warren-ma.gov), or dropped off to: Town of Warren Highway Dept., 87 Brimfield Rd, Warren, MA 01083 or mailed to Warren Highway Department, P.O. Box 628, Warren, MA 01083.

For a complete job description please visit the Town's website [www.warren-ma.gov](http://www.warren-ma.gov)



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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

**Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.**

**visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**

## EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of LABOR DAY, the Classifieds have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE.**

To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON**

### Thursday, August 28

Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

## EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of LABOR DAY, **PUBLIC NOTICES EARLY AD DEADLINE**

Place your public notice no later than **NOON**

### Thursday, August 28

– Thank you!

# Traveling touch tank arrives in Hardwick



Sally from the Mystic Aquarium showed kids seashells and other aquatic items during the Traveling Touch Tank event at the Hardwick Town House.

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**HARDWICK** – The Paige Memorial Library welcomed the Mystic Aquarium’s Traveling Touch Tank this past weekend at the Town House.

This program was supported by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. This event was the grand finale to the 2025 summer reading program.

The Mystic Aquarium features various aquarium life in their traveling touch tank. This program includes interactive learning and has been around for over 20 years.

Sally and Sam of the Mystic Aquarium arrived at the Town House to present the animals of the aquarium. Both Sam and Sally are educators and conservation workers who help inspire protection and conservations of the native species that live in New England waters.

“Inspire protection and conservation,” Sally said.

The most common animals featured in the traveling touch tank are lobsters, horseshoe crab, sea whelks, clams, sea stars, mud snails, hermit crabs,

spider crab, and sometimes green crab. Sam was in charge of showing the wildlife in the touch tanks, while Sally showed various types of seashells and even teeth from a Baleen whale. Sally also had underwater sea sponges for guests to check out, as well as bones from various sea life.

Sam showed various aquatic life that was hanging out in the touch tanks including a spider crab, a species of crab known for having long legs. Kids got to pet the aquatic life as Sam shared information about each species.

Paige Memorial Library Director Julie Bullock showed kids some fun craft activities. There were coloring pages featuring aquatic life and books



Sam from the Mystic Aquarium shared information about animal life that hangs out in the Traveling Touch Tank.

about sea life that can be found at the library.

For more fun programs at the Paige Memorial Library, call 413-477-6704 or email director. paigelibrary@verizon.net.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Books and coloring pages featured sea life.



These small touch tanks featured various aquatic life such as lobster, sea stars, and various shellfish.

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