

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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## CDA discusses use of gap funding

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Erica Johnson, Director of Community Development for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission updated the Community Development Authority about the town's Community Development Block Grant funding and use of remaining funds.

Funds leftover from projects covered by the CDBG, are returned to the town as cash or miscellaneous income, which can be applied to other needs that meet the required benefits of the grant program.

At the Aug. 14 meeting, Town Manager Stuart Beckley said this happens when homes that received CDBG funding for improvements are sold before the allotted timeframe, and the grant is paid back at a prorated amount.

"It goes into a miscellaneous account and becomes unfettered," he said.

Beckley said the town will not be receiving CDBG funding this year, and some of the projects included in the application, will not happen. This includes street repairs to the Summit Road area in Gilbertville, as the town of Hardwick was a joint applicant for this grant round.

Beckley explained that the town regularly participates in regional grants with the neighboring towns of Hardwick and Warren for roadways and housing.

Johnson said that even without receiving the CDBG grant, the state is awarding \$50,000 in gap funding for social services.

In its application for the social services end of the grant, the town of Ware had allocated about \$250,000 for social services, to be divided between The Literacy Project, Quaboag Valley Community Development

Please see **CDA**, page 6



Russ Sanderson makes a clean cut during the Lumberjack Contest.

## VOLUNTEERS

put the *'community'* in Hardwick Fair

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Considered the oldest fair in the U.S., it's no surprise the Hardwick Community Fair has deep roots which have connected families together for generations.

This year, the Fair was dedicated to the memory of longtime volunteer, Robert "Bob" Sanderson.

A volunteer for over 30 years, Bob was involved with the Lumberjack Contest on Friday nights, and even held the record in the cross-cut competition with his son, Eric.

"Bob passed away just before last year's Fair," Hardwick Community Fair Association's President Fay Butler said during the opening ceremony on Aug. 18.

Whenever an issue arose during Fair planning, Bob would always reassure Butler, "Fay, we'll figure it out."



Representing the East Quabbin Land Trust were (from left), Executive Director Cynthia Henshaw, Steve Brewer and Judith Jones

Now, Butler said, Bob's children are continuing the tradition.

Bob's wife Gina Sanderson, their children and grandchildren, all gathered by the flagpole on the

Common to accept the honor in his memory, and receive a citation

Please see **FAIR**, page 13



The floors to the main level of the Town Hall were sanded before being sealed.

## Friends group restores Town Hall floors

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Thanks to the effort of the Friends of Ware Town Hall and generous supporters, the upstairs floors of the Town Hall have been restored to their former glory.

The project began earlier this month with Sousa's Fine Floors of Sturbridge sanding the floors of the main level, as well as the floors in the entryway. After sanding was complete, several coats of polyurethane were applied to protect the wood.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said Sousa's Fine Floors of Sturbridge will be returning after Labor Day to complete the stage floor.

Funding for the project has been donated by the Friends of Ware Town Hall, Beckley said. The Friends raised about \$25,000 to complete the project.

This isn't the first time the Friends have helped the town maintain the iconic downtown structure, they've also contributed to having the upstairs restored, including painting.

The Friends were incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2017.

"Since that time, we were able to contribute toward the resto-

ration of the bells, the painting of the great room walls, and now, we are able to fully pay for the floor restoration through the community supporting our fundraising efforts," Friends of Ware Town Hall Treasurer Jane Desjardins said.

The Friends have also received support from local organizations, helping to make their dreams of preserving the 1885 brick building a reality.

"We thank the Urban Foundation for their generous donation which made this goal a possibility at this time," Desjardins said. "In addition, the Urban Foundation is also funding the restoration of a beautiful light post fixture on the west side of the building, we are so excited about that and so thankful for their support!"

Beckley said the town appreciates the efforts of the Friends, and their support of preserving the Town Hall.

"It's very important for the town to maintain its historic landmarks for present and future use," Beckley said.

Desjardins said the Friends are now focusing their next fundraising goal to be able to pay for the floor restoration in the balcony of

Please see **TOWN HALL**, page 6

## Flying High Dogs



Chaos makes an impressive catch at the Warren Public Library's Summer Reading finale held on the Common last Friday.

Summer Reading soars with K-9 frisbee show

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Mike Piazza and his Flying High Dogs traveled from the small peninsula town of Nahant to the Warren Public Library this past Friday for the Summer Reading program finale.

Joining Piazza were three of his dogs, Mojo, Oreo and Chaos. Each dog put on a dazzling display of speed, agility and athleticism as they performed tricks and caught frisbees thrown into the air.

Please see **DOGS**, page 7

## Bus tour gets kindergarteners ready



Alex gets ready to ride the school bus for the first time.

WARE – With the start of kindergarten at the end of the month, incoming students had the opportunity to get a preview of one of their first big milestones – riding on the school bus.

Last Thursday, staff at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School offered two information sessions to go over bus safety and rules, as well as a school bus tour around town.

The students learned about the importance of sitting appropriately in their seat, keeping food and drink in their backpacks, and talking to an adult if they have any issues on the bus. Traffic safety, and knowing when it's okay to cross the street getting on and off the bus, was also a focus.

SMK Principal Pamela

Please see **SCHOOL**, page 7

### Inside this edition:

- Viewpoints..... 4
- Sports..... 9
- Police/Fire..... 12
- Classifieds..... 13
- Public Notices..... 13



**SCHOOL**  
Middle schoolers get ready for back to school  
Page 2



**COMMUNITY**  
5K benefits foster dogs and cats  
Page 3



**SPORTS**  
Ware Soccer hosts summer camp  
Page 5

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# BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY ROCKS WMS



Members of the Ware Middle School Parent Teacher Organization met with families. Shown from left are Kim Senecal, Jackie Koczur and Melissa Esteves.

WARE – The sounds and smells of a summer barbecue filled the air, as students are Ware Middle School caught up with their classmates and school staff at the block party last Thursday.

Music played as students challenged each other to friendly games of cornhole, or passed a football while sharing the highlights of their

summer vacation.

Employees from Quabbin Wire & Cable Co., Inc. manned the grill as they do every year, cooking hamburgers for all who attended. Several organizations from the school district, and the community, were also on hand to share giveaways and information about services they provide, including Healthy Quaboag and Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance.

Members of the student-run Ware Middle School Leadership Council invited incoming middle schoolers to join the organization, which sets up dances, fundraisers and more to help raise money for field trips and activities.

The Ware Middle School Parent Teacher Organization was also there to welcome families and encourage them to volunteer to help organize and run a number of fun events throughout the school year.

The PTO typically meets the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the WMS Faculty Room, with the exception of October and February. Meeting dates are

**Ware Middle School Leadership Council members Symphony, Niki and Olivia welcomed incoming middle school students at the block party held last Thursday.**



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



Austin, left, and Regan are excited to enter the fourth grade and start their journey at Ware Middle School.



Scoutmaster Frank Bateman, joined by Scouts Lucas Shilling and Andrew Bonilla from Scouts BSA Troop 281 provided information about joining the organization.

School students (as well as elementary and high school students), is today.

Sept. 11, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 11, April 8 and May 13.

The first day of school for Ware Middle

## 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 1991 showed pilot Dick O'Riley, new owner of Ware Airport with his 1970 Citabria, a two-seater aerobatic plane. 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).

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# Paws in the Park 5K benefits foster pets

By Ryan Drago  
Correspondent

WARE – This past Saturday, Grenville Park hosted the Paws in the Park 5K organized by the Safe With Us Animal Rescue.

The event brought dozens of runners who wished to participate and support the organization's dogs and cats currently in foster care and some in need of medical care. Raffles and merchandise were also available prior to the run and used to spread awareness and support Safe With Us Animal Rescue.

Amongst some of the participants at Grenville Park, dogs were ready to partake in the 5K. Truly, there were paws in the park.

Leading this event was Co-Director and President of Safe With Us Animal Rescue, Lindsey Boulay. Along with several volunteers, Boulay was excited to set up at Grenville Park to expand the goals of their organization that is intended to support and rescue all breeds of cats and dogs.

Starting off as Patra's Pitty Project in 2017, the nonprofit animal rescue got more involved in fostering pets in numerous local areas. The organization was rebranded as Safe With Us Animal Rescue in 2020.

Boulay is proud to acknowledge that their organization strives to help as many animals as they can through generous donations, adoptions, foster care, and faithful volunteering.

"Over 1,600 dogs and cats rescued," said Boulay as of 2023.

It was announced prior to the run that Safe With Us had just rescued two more dogs that were found at Southbridge airport.

The event at Grenville Park was an effort to raise money for these dogs who are also in need of medical care. Many dogs and cats have been adopted through Safe With Us Animal Rescue, but fostering is an essential step to leading many animals to their forever home.

According to leaders and volunteers of Safe With Us, every cat and dog has their own story on how they got into foster care, and it can be a challenging process for them. However, it is a vital part of animal rescuing and is incredibly rewarding for the pets and the families who provide them with a



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago  
Safe With Us Animal Rescue President Lindsey Boulay (right) is shown with volunteers Shannon Flaherty (left) and Sarah Fernandez (center).



Two-legged and four-legged runners take off through Grenville Park.

home, food, water, and love.

Boulay and her volunteers enjoyed hosting the 5K at Grenville Park and hope to continue hosting more events in the area. During the run, music was playing, while snacks and a water booth were provided for the participants who generously donated to Safe With Us.

Their next event will be in September in the Cape area as

they do a lot of work with the Black Dog Tavern Company in Wareham, Mashpee, and Provincetown.

For more information, Safe With Us Animal Rescue can be contacted at Info@SafeWithUsAnimalRescue.org. To learn more about the adoption process, fostering, donations and volunteering, go to SafeWithUsAnimalRescue.org.

# School Committee approves increase to SMK principal's salary

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The School Committee continued discussion from their previous meeting regarding salaries for administrative positions in the school district that were below a competitive range.

Superintendent Michael Lovato asked the School Committee at its Aug. 16 meeting to increase Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School Principal Pamela Iwasinski's annual salary to \$112,000, and extend her contract to 260-days a year.

He said this will help make her salary more competitive with comparable positions. Currently, Iwasinski has a 210-day contract, which she had previously negotiated with the last superintendent.

"She's a value without question," Lovato said, adding that Iwasinski's work ethic is strong, and that she works well beyond her current 210-day contract.

This change would have all of the school district's principals on a 260-day contract.

Lovato asked that the School Committee table discussion about the High School principal's salary, while they search for a candidate to replace Eugene Rich.

The School Committee approved shifting Iwasinski's contract to 260-days and increasing her annual salary to \$112,000.

"I am so grateful, always," Iwasinski said. Ware Public Schools have been her "home away from home," for 15 years.

Iwasinski thanked the School Committee for working to try and bring her salary into a more competitive range with neighboring districts.

### Superintendent's report

Lovato said some big things are happening in preparation for the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

"We're in a pretty good spot for hiring," he said. Lovato said they are looking for one teacher in the entire district.

The High School needs a computer technology teacher, and Lovato and interim Principal Scott Slattery have been discussing ways to keep the position and find applicants. Lovato said there is also a need for paraprofessionals.

"Principals have been working hard and diligently to fill these positions," he said, and applications for paraprofessional positions have been coming in.

Lovato said the school district is preparing for the start of school for grades one through 12 on Aug. 24,

starting with teacher orientation on Aug. 21 and 22. Kindergarteners will start Aug. 30 and 31, depending on the alphabetical order of the student's last name.

"We're ready to go...our buildings are looking sharp, too," Lovato said. "Our grounds crew have done an amazing job." He added that the facilities team is "first class."

Lovato also credited the school district's principals for "doing an amazing job" over the summer, adjusting to changes and preparing for the school year.

Vice-Chair Brian Winslow asked Lovato to have the staff search for bee's nests prior to the start of school, especially around SMK, as this has been an issue in the past.

### Building walkthroughs

The School Committee will conduct buildings walkthroughs on Saturday, Sept. 9, starting at 9 a.m. at SMK, before touring the other two schools. This includes an inspection of outdoor areas and playgrounds.

### Next meeting

The next meeting of the School Committee will be held Wednesday, Aug. 30.

# Town Clerk lists Special State Primary, Election dates

WARE – The Town of Ware is a part of the Worcester Hampshire District and will be part of the Special State Primary and Special State Election to seat a State Senator for this district to replace Sen. Anne Gobi who resigned to take a position in the Healey cabinet recently.

The dates were set by Senate President Karen Spilka to be as follows: Special State Primary, Tuesday, Oct. 10 and Special State Election, Tuesday, Nov. 7.

The time for each election is set by state law and polls will be open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. There will not be Early Voting for either of the

above elections.

Vote by Mail is by request of the voter and no postcards will be sent out by the State Elections Division. A Vote by Mail application is on the town website, www.townofware.com under Town Clerk and the Vote by Mail application is also available to voters under www.ma.gov under the "Elections and Voting" tab.

Registration deadlines are now 10 days prior to any election to change your party, change your voting address or simply to register to vote. The deadline to register to vote or change a party enrollment for the Special State Primary will be Saturday, Sept. 30 and the last date

to register to vote for the Special State Election will be Saturday, Oct. 28.

On both of these days you can register in person at your Town Clerk's Office until 5 p.m. People can also register ahead of time or change their party enrollment prior to the date of Saturday, Sept. 28.

See www.ma.gov under "Elections and Voting" tab for online registrations. There are voter registration forms at the U. S. Post Office on West Street or in the Town Clerk's Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy J. Talbot, Town Clerk at 413-967-9648 extension 103.

# Summer Jam takes the stage this Saturday

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Cultural Council is getting ready to set the stage for local talent with the first ever West Brookfield Summer Jam, a live performance spotlighting amateur musicians.

Bands, solo acts and more are welcome to take to the Great Hall

of the Town Hall on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 6-9 p.m. and get a feel for playing through a professional sound system in front of a live audience.

Interested musicians can sign up for Summer Jam by emailing wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com with

"Summer Jam" in the subject line. Please include your name, phone number, email address and band name (if applicable) as well as the number of band members.

Bring your instruments and your friends.

For more information about the

West Brookfield Cultural Council and other upcoming programs, find them on Facebook at "West Brookfield Cultural Council of MA," visit [massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/west-brookfield](http://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/west-brookfield), email [wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com](mailto:wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com) or call 508-867-3610.

# Ware Grange Fair returns Aug. 25-26

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair will be held on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 25-26 at the Grange Hall on Route 9 in Ware (297 Belchertown Road).

This year's Fair will feature exhibits, children's field events, face painting, a planting activity with the Girl Scouts, raffles, a

bake sale, chicken barbecue and auction. Exhibits may be entered on Thursday, Aug. 24 from 5-7 p.m. or Friday, Aug. 25 from 9-11 a.m.

For more information or details on exhibiting, visit [ware-grange.org](http://ware-grange.org) or call 413-284-1135.

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## QUABOAG HILLS SUBSTANCE USE ALLIANCE

### Addiction Recovery

The simple things I did every day to keep me sober!

By Suzanne Yerdon Lewandowski, M.Ed. 30 years sober, 28 years without smoking, 24 years eating disorder free

Recovery from addiction is hard. Very hard!

I thought I'd be different when I first emerged from treatment. The alcohol was out of my system, and I felt great.

I didn't need therapy or groups. Not me! Just let me go on with my life. I relapsed the very next day – just needed enough vodka to take off the edge. I needed that relief every day until I returned to detox two years later.

A few days out – relapse again. A year later, after a 12-hour black-out, I knew I had to change.

Addictions break up families, wreak havoc on finances, traumatize children, and create homelessness, joblessness, and often court-ordered restrictions.

The stress in early recovery is intense. There are so many things over which you have no control and overwhelming feelings can send you into relapse.

It is important to focus on what you can do, that very minute, when intense cravings invade your mind.

I now have the luxury of looking back on my long and complicated journey. There are simple, yet interconnected suggestions which can be done on a moment's notice while awaiting resolution of the "big stuff" such as regaining a license, finding a job, paying off fines, etc.

They will provide a sense of accomplishment that is vital in early recovery.

1. Sleep is essential in early recovery, especially during withdrawal, so the brain and body can begin to repair the disrupted circuitry. Going to bed at the same time every night will help you set a routine.

2. Eat a healthy diet and stay hydrated; both physical and mental health improve from a balanced diet.

3. Add exercise into your schedule to release endorphins and reduce stress. Movement also helps reshape your brain by decreasing anxiety, improving mood, and increasing quality sleep.

4. Take a hike and improve cardio-respiratory fitness. Additionally, creative juices flow more freely, and brainpower increases. Walking or hiking on uneven terrain will improve your balance. Scents, sounds and sights of nature have a calming effect on the mind.

5. Build connections with others to reduce loneliness and isolation. Having a support system, such as sober friends, counselling, and attending peer recovery support meetings such as AA, SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) Recovery, Refuge Recovery, and a range of other peer-led meeting options will reduce chances of relapse.

6. Rediscover past interests or create new passions. Hobbies improve emotional wellness by relieving stress and reducing emotional triggers.

Speaking of routine, create one. Get up at the same time every morning, even if you are not working. Move! Stretch. Eat breakfast. Take a walk.

Recommendations one through four within the first hour or two. Then fill in your day making connections and going to meetings.

These tips can help keep you even-keeled through this challenging journey of abstinence. For me however, sobriety truly progressed into sustainable recovery when I integrated #6 into daily life – rediscovered past interests.

My final sobriety came in the garden. Despite almost three decades of addiction, my athletic ability, creativity, and love for the

outdoors had never left me; these became the building blocks for my new foundation. As I faced life on life's terms, I filled in pieces one day at a time.

The picture of my future puzzle was evolving. Within six years I had become strong enough to quit smoking and end the eating disorder.

Years later I found my recovery so aptly encapsulated by Marilyn Barrett, author of "Creating Eden: The Garden as a Healing Place."

Come into the garden with me. Don't worry about not knowing your way: Your heart remembers, even if your head has forgotten.

When you were small and first had time to create your dreams, you were at one with the earth you played in and with each leaf, bird, and cloud you saw. This is the garden to which I invite you to return.

Imagine a place to which you can bring stress, sorrow, loneliness, and confusion and from which you can leave with a sense of resolution, understanding, and calm. Imagine a place where you can express your own unique nature, create beauty, grow pure food, and gain control over your life.

In my life, the garden has been such a place.

Marilyn so aptly wrote that the garden is a place for "clearing away anger, confusion, and pain, the trash of the past." She added this clearing "is a prerequisite to achieving inner peace, balance and harmony" and people "must sort through the emotional rubble of the past they have inherited, and they must get to the roots of attitudes and behavior patterns that have stunted their growth."

Now is a great time for being outside to deal with "the trash of the past" by remembering your strengths, creating a mindful place, and building resilience for your recovery journey. Try interweaving the different therapies (see below) into your puzzle when you feel stuck or restless.

Volunteering is another way to experience different options while learning new skills! This is how I found that special spark ignited new passions and a life that surpassed any dreams.

Animal-Assisted Therapy has been shown to reduce feelings of depression, anxiety, aggression, loneliness, while increasing a sense of calm and unconditional affection. Caring for an animal helps with feelings of purpose and responsibility.

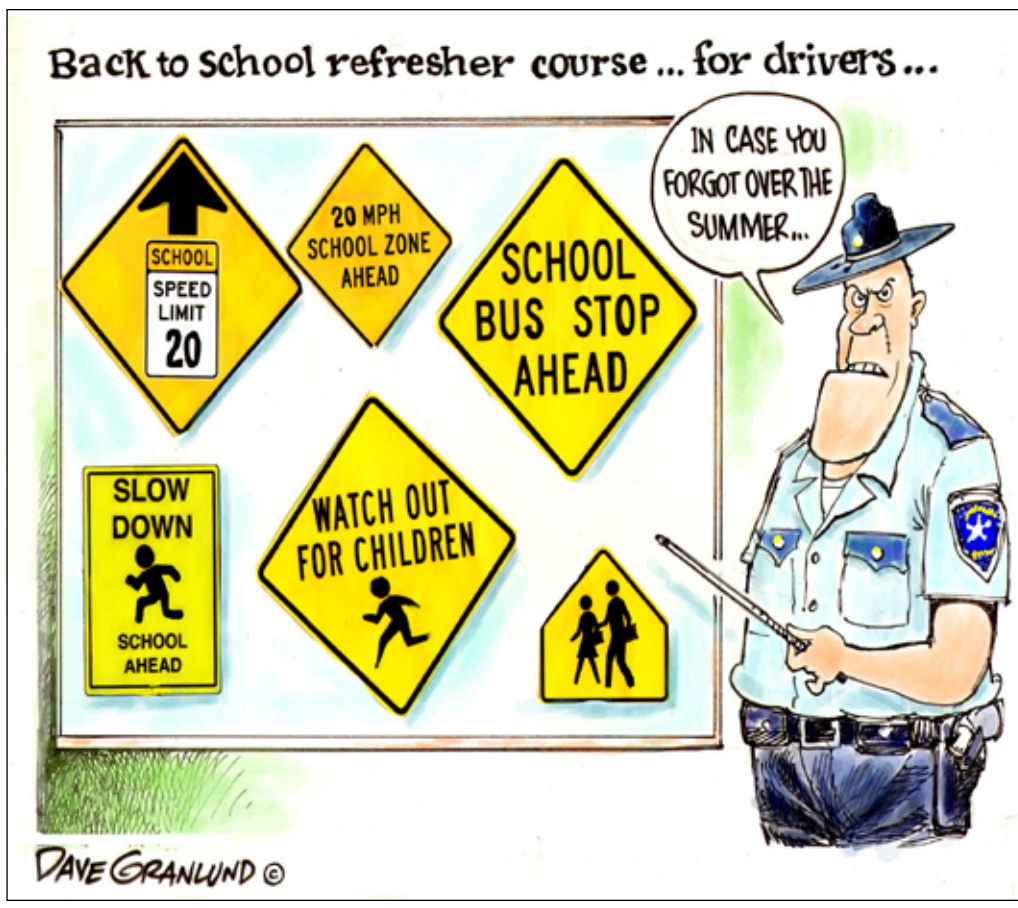
Art therapy helps patients express their emotions, improve self-esteem, manage addictions, relieve stress, improve symptoms of anxiety and depression and cope with recovery.

Horticultural therapy helps improve memory, cognitive abilities, task initiation, language skills, and socialization.

Music helps in addiction recovery in many ways; it boosts motivation, confidence, and self-expression while reducing physical pain and stress. Additionally, music helps with the emotional pain of past trauma when releasing repressed emotions that arise in sobriety.

The Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance <https://qhsua.org/>; is a regional coalition serving local communities located in Hampshire, Hampden, and Worcester Counties – the towns of Barre, Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, Hardwick, Hubbardston, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren, and West Brookfield. Join them by going to their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/QHSUA/> or website, [www.qhsua.org](http://www.qhsua.org).

If you or a loved one needs help for substance abuse, call the statewide helpline at 1-800-327-5050 (TTY: 1-800-439-2370); the phoneline is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; you can also go to the website at: <https://hub.helpline.ma.gov/findhelp>.



Marie, who gardens in Wheelwright, has harvested her potatoes and she's a little upset with the outcome.

"The potatoes have raised, warty areas all over them. In other places they are pitted. Is my soil infected with some type of disease or is there an insect that is causing these imperfections?"

My guess would be that you are fighting the scab fungus. It is most prevalent in soils that contain lots of decaying organic matter and remain wet for a considerable amount of time.

With all of the rain we had this summer there are many gardeners in the same boat, pun intended!

Although the fungus can remain in the soil for years, it is most active when the pH is between 5.7-7.5. With this in mind, rotate your potato crop from year to year.

Also, do not lime or apply wood ashes to the soil where potatoes are to be planted. If you amend the soil with compost or manure, be sure it is well-rotted.

Select seed potatoes that are certified disease-free and choose varieties that are resistant to the disease. Thicker skinned russet types as well as those with reddish brown skin seem to suffer the least amount of damage.

Check out the Moose Tuber section in the Fedco Seeds catalog ([www.fedcoseeds.com](http://www.fedcoseeds.com)) for a resistant variety that suits you.

Karen reads the column from her Brimfield home. She takes great pride in her new flower gardens!

"Some of my annual flowers are starting to look a little beyond hope. Should I pull out my snapdragons, bachelor's buttons and calendulas or will they rebound?"

All of the flowers you mention are cool loving annuals. By the heat of midsummer they are looking tired.

There are a few things that you can do now to help the plant send out more flowers

once the weather cools in early autumn.

First, deadhead spent flowers regularly. Lots of times this action will encourage the plant to initiate new growth from the base.

If it does, cut it back to that point and apply liquid fertilizer. In no time at all you should be delighted with a burst of new blooms.

Of the three that you mention, you will get the best response from calendula and snapdragon. I like to leave these in place and work my fall mums and kale around them.

It is time to harvest carrots from Lisa's vegetable garden and she's a little concerned that many of them are forked or bumpy.

"What causes this phenomenon?"  
Forked, bumpy or otherwise deformed carrots are likely the result of your soil type. Is it heavy clay or does it have lots of rocks in it?  
Carrots prefer loose, well-drained soil, that way their roots can grow straight down. What likely happened in your garden is that the carrots split to avoid a stone.

Before planting your seeds next spring, remove rocks and if necessary, sift the soil. You can also try growing carrots in a raised bed filled with screened loam or special raised bed soil mixes.

Overcrowded conditions can also cause roots to fork, so be sure you thin your seedlings carefully to about a thumb's width apart.

Overwatering can also cause forking. This year we didn't have control over much of that!

One other suggestion: don't apply fresh manure to your seed bed - it too can cause the problem you speak of. Instead, add plenty of organic matter in the form of finished compost if you would like to increase your soil's fertility.

Test results could initiate some revisions to our fertilization and liming routine this fall, preparing the way for a healthier, more productive garden next spring and summer, and maybe even a few more peppers for Genevieve to enjoy!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

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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:  
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80 Main Street  
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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.

**SOCIAL SECURITY Matters**  
By Russell Gloor

### When should my wife claim Social Security?

**Dear Rusty:**  
My wife will be 65 next year, and her full retirement age is 66 years plus 10 months.

Can she collect 50% of my Social Security benefit at her full retirement age and then get her own higher personal amount at age 70? Her own amount at her full retirement age is \$1,100 per month but her age 70 amount is \$1,800.

My Social Security is \$2,300. Suggestions welcome.

Signed: My Wife's Helper

**Dear Helper:**  
Your wife cannot separate her spousal benefit from her personal Social Security retirement benefit – whenever she claims she will be automatically deemed to be filing for both her own benefit and her spousal entitlement. Thus, she cannot claim her spousal benefit first at her

Full Retirement Age and defer claiming her own SS retirement benefit until she is 70.

When your wife should claim is, essentially, a decision which should consider the urgency of her need for the money, her life expectancy, whether she will be eligible for a spouse benefit from you and whether she is working.

If your wife claims before her Full Retirement Age and is working, she'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much she can earn before some SS benefits are taken away. Social Security's earnings test goes away at FRA.

Average life expectancy for a woman your wife's age is about 87. If your current \$2,300 benefit is a result of you taking your Social Security at your full retirement age or earlier, then your wife will receive a small "spousal boost" from you.

If she claims at her Full Retirement Age, your wife's total Social Security payment will be 50% of the amount you were entitled to at your FRA and that will be her permanent amount, except for annual Cost-of-Living Adjustment increases.

However, from what you've shared, your wife's age 70 amount is considerably more than her maximum spousal benefit so, if her life expectancy is long, that suggests she may wish to consider waiting until age 70 to claim her own maximum benefit. By doing so, your wife will get more in cumulative lifetime bene-

fits if she achieves average life expectancy.

The unknown factor is your life expectancy because, as your widow, your wife will be entitled to 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death, instead of the smaller amount she is receiving on her own or as your spouse.

If life expectancy is long for both of you, then your wife maximizing her own benefit by waiting until age 70 to claim is a prudent choice. But if your, or your wife's, life expectancy is shorter, then your wife claiming at her Full Retirement Age would be a better decision.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

### Ding Dong School

The woman who created kid's television

By J. Mark Powell  
[jmarkpowell.com](http://jmarkpowell.com)

Before there was Sesame Street... Before there was Mister Rogers' Neighborhood... Before there was Romper Room... Before there was Captain Kangaroo...

There was Miss Frances and Ding Dong School. The show not only was the first in its genre, it literally created children's television – and set the bar very high, too.

Let's hop into the Wayback Machine and revisit 1952.

Television was brand new then. TV stations were launching all over the country and big, cumbersome TV sets were popping up inside more and more American homes.

Please see **HOLY COW**, page 6

# Summer soccer camp scores with area youth

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Ware Soccer Club continued its back-to-school tradition with its four-day Summer Camp at Memorial Field last week.

This was the Summer Camp's third year back after a hiatus, with interest in the sport increasing post-pandemic.

Attendance continues to grow at the Summer Camp, said Head Coach and Ware Soccer Club Board Member Herb Foley. This year was well attended, with 36 players signing up this year; and despite rainy weather, each child had a lot of fun and learned new skills.

"We're seeing a lot of new and familiar faces at the camp," Foley said.

Several of those familiar faces come in the form of coaches, including Ware Soccer Club alums Aaron Bateman and Jess Burke.

Bateman said this is his second year coaching, and he plays for the Ware High School soccer team. Having the Summer Camp active again has been a huge boost for middle and high school soccer programs, he said.

"In past years, we haven't had a lot of people on teams," Bateman said. "It grows the teams."

Burke, a recent graduate from Westfield State University and now a labor and delivery nurse, returned for her third year to help coach the Summer Camp.

Burke said she played soccer for Foley as a young child, and went on to play for Ware High School as well.

Despite her busy schedule and having just started her career, Burke said it's important for her to volunteer at the Summer Camp, and help teach younger players about the sport of soccer.

"I like that it's getting kids more involved at a younger age," she said, adding that it also gives children a chance to socialize and just have fun.

"It's great to get the kids making friends outside of school," Burke said.

For 11-year-old Whisper, scrimmaging against her friends is her favorite part of Summer Camp, which she has attended for two years.

With three years of soccer play-



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Ware Soccer Club held its annual Summer Camp last week.

ing experience on Ware Soccer Club's recreational and travel teams, Whisper does not shy away from competition.

"I always give it back," she said.

Three members of the Quaboag Regional High School's varsity soccer team also helped coach this year, Evelyn Doe, Lily Gianfriddo and Paige Leach.

Doe is a senior at Quaboag, and this was the first year she joined her friends and fellow teammates at the Summer Camp.

"Soccer camps like this bring a lot of kids together, and they realize how fun soccer can be," Doe said.

Gianfriddo is also a first-year coach and said she's been playing soccer since she was in kindergarten. She said the Summer Camp is a useful tool for young athletes.

"The kids can experience it and learn how to work together," she said.

Leach helped coach at last year's Summer Camp and agreed with Doe and Gianfriddo.

"It helps kids start to like soccer and find the fun in it before it gets super competitive," Leach said.

On the last day of Summer Camp, players enjoyed a pizza party, made possible by the generosity of local businesses, including Sunny Side Storage, Pioneer Valley Environmental, Country Bank, Ware Service Center, Brookside Mart, Lazer's Pizza, Soccer City and Woodland Massage Therapy and Wellness.

The sponsors not only helped to provide refreshments and T-shirts for each player, but they also



Players learned how to take control of the ball away from the opposing team.

helped the club purchase equipment.

Foley thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for allowing use of Memorial Field, as well as Norm St. Dennis, Quaboag's varsity girls' soccer coach for supplying a solid coaching crew year after year.

Ware Soccer Club is now gearing up for the fall soccer season.

Volunteers are always needed to help with coaching and more. Training is available for people that are interested in coaching.

For more information about volunteering, people may contact Foley at 413-221-1800. People may also visit [waresoccer.org](http://waresoccer.org) or find them on Facebook for registration information and updates.



Coaches (from left) Jess Burke, Evelyn Doe, Aaron Bateman and Herb Foley stand with the soccer players ages 9-12.



Coaches Lily Gianfriddo (left) and Paige Leach stand with soccer players ages 5-



Players practiced defending the ball.



Coach Evelyn Doe blocked a shot at the goal.

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23 West Main Street, Suite 1, Ware, MA 01082 • [qvcdc.org](http://qvcdc.org)

\*Up to a certain amount. You must meet income guidelines.  
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Many of the lots have perc tests, some have septic designs.

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Have a parcel to sell? I do have buyers waiting.

Contact Sue Como 413-531-9098

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# Musical festival on Aug. 27 helps children in need

BRIMFIELD – Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally (S.O.N.G.) based in Brookfield and Ware is sponsoring a music festival at Brimfield Winery, 35 Main St., on Sunday, Aug. 27, from noon-6 p.m.

“S.O.N.G. Stock 2023” is a family friendly music festival to benefit children orphaned by the conflict in Ukraine and foster children in Massachusetts. This event features live music all day by Secret Sage, The Lisa Martin Band and Peter J. Newland & RadioX.

S.O.N.G. is an all-volunteer,

nonprofit organization that has been providing care and support to orphaned children since 1999. By attending this event, you'll help S.O.N.G. make a much-needed positive impact on their lives.

In addition to the fantastic music, you can enjoy locally crafted wine from Brimfield Winery, locally crafted beer and cider. This event offers various fun family activities, including a pie-eating contest, sack races, face painting, other fun contests, and much, much more.

Don't miss the 50/50 raffle and

silent auction featuring Red Sox tickets, sports memorabilia, collectibles, original paintings, and many other treasures like two beautiful handmade quilts that have been donated by a very talented local artistic quilter.

Advance tickets are \$15 (\$20 day of the event) and children under 13 are free. Advance ticket purchases are automatically entered in drawings for special door prizes.

For tickets and more information, contact S.O.N.G. by emailing info@supportingorphans.org or

calling 413-813-8100.

Visit their website, supportorphans.org, and follow them on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for updates and to learn more about their Mission.

Lawn chairs, blankets, pop-up tents, and umbrellas are welcome. Parking is free. Please, no outside beverages or food and no smoking around the stage or anywhere attendees are gathered. No fires.

Food will be available for purchase. Well-behaved, quiet pets are welcome.

# Jazz BanjoFest set for Sept. 8-10

STURBRIDGE – The New England Jazz BanjoFest for 2023 will be held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main St., from Sept. 8-10 and is free and open to the public.

Allen Padwa, the festival organizer, said the festival features 4-string banjo music ranging from 1920s Dixieland jazz to 1970s pop. Performers include the Good Tymes Banjo Band from Swansea, co-sponsors of this festival; and Glenn Hankle and friends from upstate New York.

In addition to the banjo players who attend, the festival will have a

range of musicians playing piano, ukulele, mandolin, tuba, horns, reeds, and even a gut-bucket bass. All musicians are welcome.

The opening concert will kick off the festival on Friday, Sept. 8 at 8 p.m. A workshop will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9 and the festival show will be from 2-4 p.m. (15 minute time slots).

A Sunday morning Gospel+ jam will be held on Sept. 10 from 10:30 a.m.-noon. There are continuous jam sessions from Friday at 3 p.m. until Sunday at noon.

For more information, visit www.nejbf.com.



Workers apply the first coat of polyurethane.

## TOWN HALL from page 1

the great room as well as whatever is necessary to bring that area up to code.

“There is much more restoration to be done in the building after the balcony is finished, and we hope to be able to concentrate on prioritizing other projects in the near future,” she said.

Desjardins said the Town Hall

isn't just an impressive building that townspeople should be proud of, but it's also where town business is conducted. The Town Hall is one of the few remaining historic buildings in town, she said, and it is also the heart of the town.

“Many memories have been and still are being made there. We feel it is definitely worth preserving this beautiful building,” Desjardins said.

## CDA from page 1

Corporation's senior outreach program and the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force.

A first time homebuyers program, the lunch program at the Senior Center and emergency access lockboxes for senior citizen's homes were also selected to receive funding.

In addition to the \$50,000 in gap funding, Beckley said the town has \$39,000 in the miscellaneous account. This miscellaneous funding could be added to the gap funding for the town to apply toward social services.

“It's all town money, just different level of 'strings attached,’” Johnson said.

She said the state has the power to review and approve use of gap funding, but the miscellaneous funds have less strings.

Johnson said the amount of miscellaneous funds used to supplement the gap funding is at the discretion of the Community Development Authority. She said they can also add the gap funding to the 2021 grant round.

Social services that were approved for 2021 can all receive

the gap funding, including the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force, The Literacy Project, senior outreach and Planned Approach to Community Health from the Behavioral Health Network.

“There is a time frame,” she said, if the Authority decides to add the gap funding to the 2021 grant round. “It does have an end date.”

Johnson said currently, the 2021 grant round has been extended through December, but PVPC has requested to have it extended through June 2024.

“We do have time,” Johnson said, to use the gap funding.

Johnson recommended retaining some of the miscellaneous funding, in the event more money is needed to finish a housing project or to pay an engineer to do some more work on a project design.

“It's nice to have that money when smaller things happen and dip into that fund,” she said.

The Community Development Authority will continue discussion about how to use gap funding and miscellaneous funding at its next meeting. During this meeting, the various organizations seeking funding for social services will also be

present to discuss needs.

## Facade program

Johnson said it has taken a while to get the facade improvement program going, and it's been a few years since they've run this program.

She said as the PVPC has started putting contracts together, costs have increased.

“Everything is more expensive,” she said. “I know that this is going to continue.”

Johnson said the cost of glass, specifically, has risen considerably.

Beckley said there are some leftover funds from the downtown facade improvement program.

Johnson suggested waiting a while to spend the extra money from the program in case projects come in over the expected cost.

Johnson said every project covered under this program is reviewed by the Massachusetts Historic Commission, to make sure it doesn't change the historic nature of the buildings.

“That's the part that really takes the longest,” she said of the review process.

The program includes improvements such as signs and awnings,

which are covered by grants.

Larger projects, such as replacing windows, stairs and railings are loan funded. Loans are for 15 years, and business owners do not need to pay them back unless they move or sell within that time period.

Buildings receiving improvements through this program include 13 Church St. (Workshop13), 40 East Main St. (Weir River Brickmill), 91 Main St. (Hanna Devine's), 87 Main St. (Bijou Building), 95 Main St. (Dioguardi Jewelers), 13 North St. (S.O.N.G./ BT Copy Center) and 56 Pulaski St. (Limelight Dance Center).

## CDBG spring application

Johnson said it is not clear at this time, whether or not there will be a March application for the CDBG program.

## New members

The Community Development Authority welcomed its three newest members at the meeting: Kathleen Deschamps, Denise Blodgett and Shayne Pedercini.

These three were appointed to the five-member Authority at a July Selectboard meeting, joining Danielle Souza and Brandy Brusco.

## HOLY COW from page 4

Judith Waller was public service and educational programming director at WNBQ-TV in Chicago. Most local stations produced hours of their own programming daily, way more than they do today.

As Waller was talking with her boss one day, he noted that with the Baby Boom in full swing there were more than 235,000 pre-school

children in the Chicago area. Then he pointedly asked, “What are you going to do about it?”

Waller rolled into action. She devised a nursery school program to teach kids watching at home. Because viewers would be little people, the show utilized six cameras that shot from angles toddlers would see.

All props would be easily recognizable to little children.

Auditions were held for the program's host. Frances Horwich was one of the educators who tried out for the gig.

A woman of a certain age with a kindly disposition, she headed a local college's education department. She lacked showbiz experience, but had once taught nursery school.

While the thought of being alone on set for a full hour each

day scared her, she thought, “Why not?” and gave it a try. She was soon hired to be “Miss Frances,” then successfully negotiated to own the rights to the show.

When the producer's 3-year-old son was told each episode would begin with an old-fashioned teacher's desk bell ringing, he blurted out, “Ding Dong Show!” and so they had the program's title.

A pilot episode was filmed. One horrified station executive said the show was so bad it would kill television and make TV viewers listen to radio again.

So, it was decided to air the program just once.

WNBQ didn't issue a press release announcing it or promote it in any way. They figured they'd let it die of its own embarrassment.

And so Ding Dong School debuted on Thursday morning, Oct. 2, 1952.

Primitive by today's hi-tech standards, it began with closeup of Miss Frances' hand ringing the aforementioned bell, followed by a cheesy studio organ playing the show's equally cheesy theme

song. Miss Frances sang in a warbly voice that was better suited for a little country church choir than television:

“I'm your school bell, ding dong ding; boys and girls all hear me ring. Every time I ding dong ding, come with me to play and sing.”

Then she jumped into the lesson. Miss Frances talked like she was speaking to actual children.

“How are you, boys and girls? What are you doing today? (Pause.) Really? That's good!”

WNBQ's big brass cringed for an hour until the show ended. No one expected what came next.

The station's switchboard was flooded with more than 150 calls in 45 minutes as parents told how their kids loved the program. That was nothing compared to the tidal wave of enthusiastic fan mail that followed.

Ding Dong School instantly became part of WNBQ's morning lineup five days a week. It was such a hit, NBC picked it up in 1953 and broadcast it nationally.

Miss Frances even became a TV star. More than 12,000 children

and parents attended a promotional event in Boston.

She was stopped by adoring fans 18 times daily. When she and her husband flew to Florida for a vacation, kids on the plane recognized her – and sang the show's theme song over and over all the way to Miami.

Likely making it history's most miserable flight for the passengers.

But TV is a cutthroat business. Despite its success, NBC cancelled Ding Dong School in 1956 for the more lucrative The Price Is Right.

The show continued in syndication until 1965.

Miss Frances eventually moved to Arizona where she dabbled in local public television until her death in 2001 at age 94.

Children's television is one of broadcasting's few success stories; and it's largely due to the huge influence of a single teacher and her little bell.

*Holy Cow! History is written by novelist, former TV journalist and diehard history buff J. Mark Powell.*



# VETERANS DAY SALUTE

Ware River News ~ November 2, 2023

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**DOGS** from page 1

Piazza has five dogs in total, all Border Collies and also, all cousins. They all come from the same breeder in Tennessee, he said.

"They are the most intelligent breed of dog and can learn tricks very quickly," Piazza said.

Piazza was first introduced to the breed when he adopted a Border Collie, and began competing with her in K-9 frisbee competitions. That dog still holds records in the sport, he said.

Mojo was the first to display his skills, which include a backflip, rolling over, crawling, standing on his back legs and hopping, playing dead, and jumping through a hoop.

Piazza said Border Collies need exercise every day, and a lot of it.

"Mojo goes to the beach every day to practice," Piazza said.

Piazza and his Flying High Dogs have performed at a variety of major sporting events, including the NFL and NBA games, minor league baseball and college half-time shows.

Getting to throw out the "first pitch" for Mojo at the Summer Reading finale, was Noah.

Piazza's show involved participation from both children and adults in the "Dog Olympics" including a "dizzy adult" contest, where adults had to spin around until they were dizzy and throw a frisbee. Winning in the children's game was Max and in the adult's game, Norman.

Oreo, the youngest of the three dogs performing that day, was next up to show off her talents.

Piazza shared training tips with those in attendance, including using soft frisbees and limiting practice time to two minutes at a time. He recommends starting training using a tennis ball, working up to a frisbee.

Piazza said he's considering getting a new puppy next year, and asked the children if they had any suggestions for names. Their suggestions included Valerie, Max, Superman, Rizz, Sydney, Milo, Obsidian, Furnace and Axel.

The third and final dog to perform was Chaos, who has been clocked at 36 mph, a record-setting speed for a Border Collie, with the breed averaging between 20-30 mph.

The Flying High Dog show



David throws another frisbee for Chaos, who is shown returning the previously thrown frisbee.

ended with Chaos and Oreo facing off to see which dog could catch three frisbees first, as adults and children took turns throwing.

At the end of the show, Library Director Kimberly Kvaracein announced the Summer Reading "super readers." Winning tickets to The Big E in the grand prize drawing was super reader Max.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Mojo soars through the air to catch a frisbee.



Mojo seems to take flight as he races to catch this frisbee.

# Ready to learn



Older siblings were eager to help.



Kindergarteners and their families were welcomed to Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School to learn about bus safety and rules.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette



One of the school buses leaves Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School, taking families on a tour of the town.

**SCHOOL** from page 1

Iwasinski told families that communication is key to making sure all students are safe riding the bus.

"We do want it to be a positive experience," she said.

Once all of the students felt confident about the rules of the bus, they joined their families outside to climb aboard the big yellow buses and set off on their new adventure.

Kindergarten at SMK has a staggered start, with students whose last names start with A-M beginning on Aug. 30 and students whose last names start with N-Z beginning on Aug. 31.

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# SPORTS

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## Fall leagues get update by PVIAC

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

The fall preseason has started this week, and with it, alignments for fall leagues have been updated. Full realignment typically takes place every four years, but has happened more frequently due to the pandemic and the introduction of the new state tournament.

In Western Massachusetts, due to the geographic diversity throughout the region, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association makes leagues based on the competitiveness of a school in a given sport, sometimes regardless of what division they play in at the state level for tournament.

For example, in the updated Kurty-Fielding Division for girls soccer, South Hadley, a Division 4 and smaller school, is in a crowded league with larger schools like Agawam, Wahconah, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Pittsfield.

The Central League features one of the top teams in Western Mass. once again. Monson is a part of the league, along now with Palmer, which has had a couple of very successful leagues. Chicopee, Southwick, and Granby are also a part of the league, along with larger schools in Amherst and Northampton. Northampton was defeated by Monson in an independent game last year.

Ware joins the Pioneer North League and will now meet twice this year with Easthampton, St. Mary's, Frontier, Mahar, and even Holyoke.

Holyoke was dropped from the Central League after a couple of disappointing years.

The top league in the region is the Combs League, and features Minnechaug, Belchertown, East Longmeadow,

Please see **LEAGUE**, page 11



## Rivalry returns to 'primetime' slot in schedule

The crisp air of late fall will once again be the backdrop for Palmer vs. Ware football.

File photos

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

**PALMER** – For nearly a century, the Palmer vs. Ware high school football matchup is widely anticipated, a highlight, and a spectacle for the two small, neighboring communities.

While the rivalry has always meant a lot to the two schools, and the players, it did lose just a bit of its hype for the past several years when schedule makers moved the game from being last on the regular season schedule, to the first league game.

That change has been rectified this season, as changes to the schedule were made and Palmer and Ware will once again face each other last in the regular season on Saturday, Oct. 28.

Palmer and Ware, which have been part of the Tri-County Conference in the past, are currently a part of the Intercounty North and also face Franklin Tech, Athol,



The game has now been moved back to the rear end of the schedule.

Mahar, and Greenfield during their regular season typically has featured regular season conference schedule. The football schedule for the

Please see **RIVALRY**, page 11

## Popular clinic returns for Quabbin hoopsters

**BARRE** – The summer basketball leagues may have ended but the interest in skill acquisition and development certainly has not.

The popular Roots Basketball Clinic returned to the Quabbin gym to find an enthusiastic and very diverse number of participants eager to their improve individual skills and knowledge.

Clinicians Geoff Billingham and Tim Sheridan are no strangers to Quabbin as both have hosted numerous clinics in the past. Billingham is currently the North Middlesex Varsity girls basketball at North Middlesex Regional High School in Townsend and has an extensive basketball background and experience.

"It's both fun and challenging to work with the Quabbin players because they make us work hard and each one expects to leave our clinics having become a better prepared player," said Billingham.

Tim Sheridan is currently an assistant coach at Leominster High School and he has been to Quabbin many times as both a clinician and player. The former Wachusett High School standout center played his AAU basketball with Quabbin coach Dennis Dextrateur and has won numerous AAU championships and competed for the AAU National Championship in Orlando, Florida. With Billingham's experience as a point guard at the collegiate level and Sheridan mastering the big men the players receive a high-level training workout with two adept and qualified specialists.

Seventeen players from the grade 6 all the way up to seniors at the high school participated in the two-hour training regimen. Two recent Quabbin graduates from the basketball program,

Please see **CLINIC**, page 11



Quabbin guard Jaxon Warburton demonstrates both the intensity and focus needed to complete his skill drill under a watchful eye of his instructor.

Submitted photo



Justin Bonsignore picked up his first Thompson Speedway in four years last week.

## Bonsignore rolls to 13th career Thompson win

**THOMPSON** – Justin Bonsignore hadn't won at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park since 2019, but Wednesday night, he reminded everyone on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour why he leads all active drivers with wins at the oval.

Bonsignore's Kenneth Massa Motorsports team sent him off pit road first after a pit stop around halfway, then Bonsignore held off the charges of Doug Coby, then Ron Silk through multiple restarts to score his 13th career Thompson win. The victory tied Bonsignore for second all-time in Thompson wins with Ted Christopher, only trailing Mike Stefanik, with 15.

The victory was also Bonsignore's third of the 2023 season (Riverhead, Loudon) and his

10th top-five finish in 11 races this season.

"After we won seven out of eight here, then the runs we started having were a bit frustrating for us," Bonsignore said of Thompson. "The car was really good. We missed it a little bit, too tight on the first set of tires, but on the second set, it fired off so well. This is a really big confidence booster. This is my favorite track – and to bounce back like this and to lead half the race... it was a total team effort to win this one."

Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team will be heading to Langley Speedway in Virginia for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race on Saturday, Aug. 26.

## St. John's captures PVSSL men's championship

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**LUDLOW**—Aiden Casinghino was a senior captain of the Tantasqua Regional boys varsity soccer team in 2018. Braylon Casinghino was a senior captain of the Warriors soccer team a year ago.

The brothers had never been teammates on the same soccer team until this summer.

The duo helped the top-seeded St. John Heating & Cooling celebrate an exciting 2-1 victory over the second-seeded Villa FC in the men's championship match of the prestigious Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League held at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Saturday night.

"Because I'm a few years older than my brother, we never played on the same soccer team in high school," said Aiden Casinghino, who also played soccer at Springfield College. "Winning the men's championship title is fantastic, especially having the opportunity to play on the same soccer team with Braylon. We fought very hard for the entire 80 minutes."

St. John Heating & Cooling (10-1 regular season record), who was previously known as Griffin's Café, lost to the Lusitano Red, 1-0, in last year's finals. They also captured the men's title in 2016 and 2019.

"We've been able to win the summer league title every three years. There wasn't a summer league season in 2020 because of COVID," said St. John Heating & Cooling co-coach Jon Remillard,



St. John's took home the PVSSL Men's Championship this year.

Turley photos by David Henry  
www.sweetdogphotos.com

who's from Palmer. "We have some younger guys on this year's team who worked very hard. It feels great to win another title."

Remillard shared the coaching duties with Jaime Prickett, who lives in South Hadley.

Following this year's championship match, Aiden Casinghino received the MVP award.

"Winning the championship game means a little bit more to me than receiving the MVP award," he said. "The MVP award should go to the entire team because everyone has worked very hard this summer. The championship cup trophy is the only one that matters."

Please see **MEN'S**, page 11



Aiden Casinghino takes a shot.

# sports

## Blue Sox season ends in opening round

HOLYOKE – Earlier this month, the Valley Blue Sox won their division and went after the New England Collegiate Baseball League championship. The Blue Sox won back-to-back titles in 2017 and 2018, but have not gotten back there since.

Unfortunately, history would repeat as the Blue Sox were defeated by the Bristol Blues two games to one in a best-of-three series.

The Valley Blue Sox season has come to an end after falling to the Bristol Blues 10-3. After winning the first game of the quarterfinals series, the Blue Sox were shutout in game two and defeated in game three at home, allowing Bristol to advance to the semifinals.

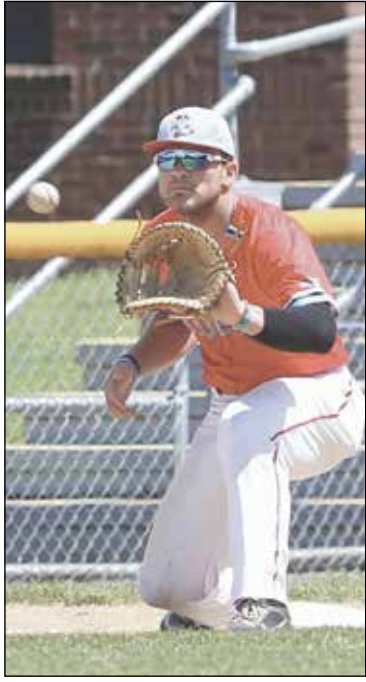
The Blues piled on the scoring early, putting up six runs in the first three innings. An RBI groundout in the first, a throwing error and RBI single in the second, and a sacrifice fly and RBI single in the third allowed the Blues to take the lead 6-0.

Dillon Ryan started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching three innings allowing six runs and striking out two batters.

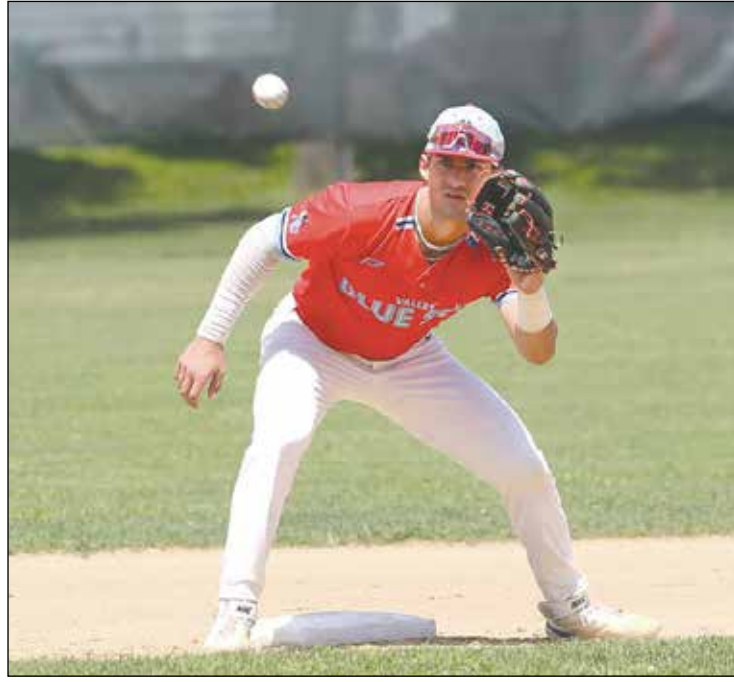
Joe Dooley took over for Ryan in the top of the fourth, pitching four innings allowing four runs with one strikeout.

Bristol added a run in the top of fifth following an RBI double, another in the sixth off an RBI double, and two more in the seventh after a sacrifice fly and RBI groundout to go up 10-0.

The Blue Sox put a run on the board in the bottom of the seventh after Jeff Pierantoni



Matthew Bergevin gets the out at first.



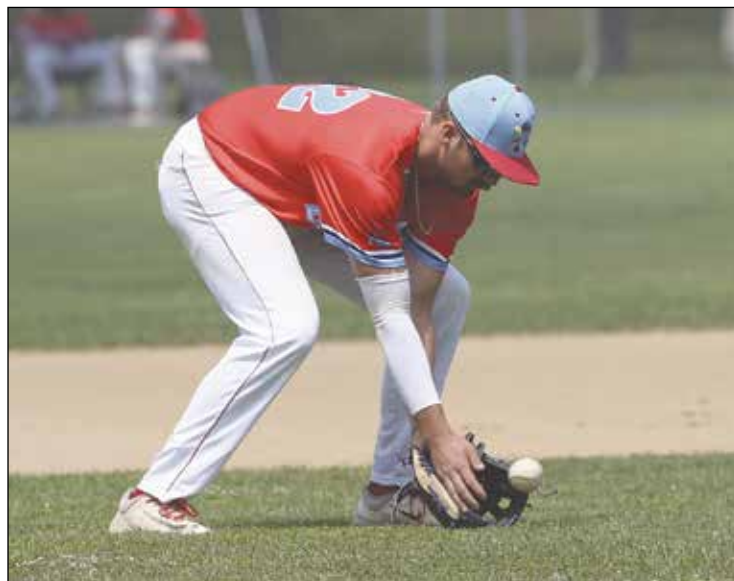
Michael Zarillo prepares to catch a ball on a steal attempt.

hit an RBI single to score Matt Bergevin.

Brendan Yagesh relieved Dooley in the top of the eighth, pitching a scoreless frame with three strikeouts.

Valley added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth following an RBI single from Michael Zarillo to score CJ Willis and Bergevin.

2023 All-Star Michael Weidinger got the ninth for the Blue Sox, striking out two batters during his clean inning.



Zach Ketterman fields a grounder.

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# Turleysports

## Athlete of the Month

**Molly McGrail**  
WARE HIGH SCHOOL

McGrail was one of several members of Ware's 7-8 girls basketball team that played this past summer at Spec Pond. Ware made the playoffs again this season.

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

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Member FDIC

**RIVALRY** from page 9

tured seven or eight regular season games, starting with two or three independent games, followed by the five conference games.

Palmer and Ware have remained in the same conference for several years. Ware has enjoyed just a bit more success in recent years, and have had the better of the rivalry between the two teams for the past decade. But Palmer has also been competitive from year-to-year, including making the first state tournament in 2021.

This year, Palmer and Ware will have their historic 97th annual matchup. But instead of facing each other in late September-early October when the leaves are changing color, they instead will match up as the leaves have nearly all fallen, and children are preparing their Halloween costumes.

The most fun part of having the rivalry game on the final week of the season is that the conference title could be on the line in the game. At that point, Ware and



File photo

The teams will face each other on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 1 p.m.

Palmer will have played their other conference games and may look for a key piece of momentum, a conference title, heading into the state playoffs.

Ware has made the state playoffs each of the last two years since the new tournament was estab-

lished. Heading into this year's game, Ware holds a five-win advantage at 48-43-5. They have won the last six games against Palmer, and nine of the last 10. Last year, Ware shut out Palmer 21-0 on Oct. 1, 2022.

**Thunderbirds announce signings for 2023-24 season**

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds announced today that they have signed forwards Mitchell Hoelscher and Steven Jandric, as well as defenseman Austin Osmanski, to one-year AHL contracts for the 2023-24 season.



In 20 games. In 31 games with Springfield, he added eight points (2g+6a). A native of Prince George, B.C., Jandric skated collegiately for five seasons, accumulating 114 points (35g+79a) in 161 NCAA games with the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (2017-20), the University of Denver (2020-21), and Merrimack College (2021-22).

Osmanski, 25, saw 30 games of action last season in Springfield, posting six points (1g+5a), 28 penalty minutes, and a +1 rating. A native of Buffalo, N.Y., the 6-foot-4, 215-pound defenseman was selected by his hometown Buffalo Sabres in the seventh round (189th overall) of the 2016 NHL Draft.

**NECBL announces all-league selections**

SOUTH HADLEY - The New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) is proud to announce the 2023 All-NECBL teams. The honors were voted on by all 13 on-field managers of NECBL franchises. Only regular season statistics and performances were taken into consideration during the selection process.

The list includes 47 players across three teams: the All-NECBL First Team, the All-NECBL Second Team and the All-NECBL Honorable Mention Team. Each is composed of one player at each non-outfield position (C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B), three outfielders, one designated hitter,

Please see **NECBL**, page 12

**MEN'S** from page 9

While Aiden Casinghino is a midfielder, his younger brother was the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Braylon Casinghino will be a goalie for the Western New England University men's soccer team in the fall. He was in the spotlight throughout the entire second half of the championship match.

"It has been a lot of fun playing on the same soccer team with Aiden," Braylon Casinghino said. "Watching him receive the M.V.P. award was awesome. He just put us on our backs and got the job done. We came out firing on all cylinders in tonight's game."

The Western New England University men's soccer coach is Devin O'Neill. His two sons, Sean and Shay are listed on the St. John Heating & Cooling roster, but they didn't play in the championship match. The O'Neills were outstanding soccer players at Belchertown High School.

Aiden and Braylon Casinghino, who live in Brimfield, are really looking forward to being teammates with their younger brother, Cole, next summer.

Cole Casinghino is entering his senior season as a member of the Tantasqua boys' varsity soccer team, which is coached by Matt Guertin.



Mason Perham kicks the ball away for Villa FC.



Nick Bellak sends a pass away.



Mike Lima, of Ludlow, sends a free kick across the field.



Cam Rigney, of Wilbraham, dribbles up the field.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Jed Theilman settles a ball.

"We're hoping Cole will be joining our summer league soccer team next year," said Aiden Casinghino, who has been playing in the PVSSL for the past five years. "It has been a lot of fun playing in this soccer league."

At the start of the summer league season, Braylon Casinghino replaced Mark Tiffany, who's also from Belchertown, as the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Villa FC (9-0-2 regular season record) posted a 4-0 shutout victo-

ry over St. John Heating & Cooling at the beginning of the summer league regular season.

"I only missed two games during the regular season and our loss against Villa was one of them," Braylon Casinghino said. "I think it would've been a little bit different outcome if I had been there."

Troy and Matt Remillard were also key members of the St. John Heating & Cooling soccer team.

All three of the Remillard's were outstanding soccer players at

Palmer High School.

It didn't take St. John Heating & Cooling very long to score a goal in the finals.

During the fifth minute of the opening half, Byron Peabody, who also graduated from Palmer High School, fired a rebound shot into the lower left corner of the net past Villa goalie Mike Tranghese, who played soccer at Monson High School, giving St. John Heating & Cooling a 1-0 lead.

Ten minutes later, they took a

2-0 lead following a goal by Jed Theilman, who's from Amherst. Aiden Casinghino was credited with the assist.

Villa FC cut the deficit in half following a goal by Deandrae Brown, which was assisted by Anthony Basile.

Brown played college soccer at UConn a couple of years ago.

Villa FC had six corner kicks and several other scoring chances during the second half, but Braylon Casinghino managed to hold onto

the one goal lead for St. John Heating & Cooling.

"Braylon is a tall goalie," said Jon Remillard, who has been playing in the adult soccer league since 2010. "The players on the opposing team are afraid of him and I'm very glad that he was a member of our team this summer. I hope he has a good year at Western New England. He's a very good goalie. We do have several brothers playing for our team this year, which made it a lot of fun."

**CLINIC** from page 9

Aidan Welch and Mark Halaby were also on hand to work with both coaches and also with the younger players. The clinicians were as excited to have Welch and Halaby back on the hardwood as they themselves were to return to Quabbin.

Welch is preparing to enter his freshman year at Quinsigamond Community College where he will play basketball and understands that work habits and training are a continuous effort year-round. The guard has never missed a clinic in his high school career and he certainly brought that strong message to the younger players that attended.

"Grapejuice is high intensity and a competitor that knows his skill level must continue to bet better and that's what he's all about and why he is here" stated Billingham, who used the former Quabbin captain and now alumnus as a demonstrator along with Halaby.

The clinic emphasized plenty of shooting and motion offense. It got very competitive in the second half of the clinic with one-on-one and two-on-two competitions which the players enjoyed as they were able to apply some newly acquired skills.

Barre Recreation is the sponsor of the Roots Basketball Clinic and has been for many years. Once the summer leagues are over the clinic program can begin with clinician John Leonard from Villanova/UMass and Bob Catalini with his Basketball Skill Development Program also being scheduled by Barre Recreation.

The response and number of participants has been outstanding and summer league coach Tim Hay has seen the improvement in his team and the competitive level. However, as Tim Sheridan observed, "We have much more work to do and being here at Quabbin with the great attitude and work ethic these players demonstrate each session is why we enjoy coming and



Submitted photo

Roots Basketball clinician Geoff Billingham has important advice to offer fifth grader John Cook during the recent basketball clinic held at Quabbin.

working with each of them". The next clinic is already being planned and will bring former NBA draft pick and Manhattan all-time leading scorer John Leonard to the Quabbin hardwood.

with SICS and Northampton. South Hadley will be part of the Moriarty League, and will once again match-up with Frontier, Easthampton, and Mahar. Southwick and Lenox will also be in the league this year.

Granby is part of the Schmid League this year, and Ware is a crowded Bi-County League that features eight teams.

Pathfinder, which now co-ops with Palmer, is in the Tri-County League again this year.

Football leagues did not see any major changes. The AA still fea-

tures the same six teams, including Minnechaug and Holyoke. Agawam is part of the Suburban South, and South Hadley, Ludlow, and Chicopee are in the Suburban North again this season.

Belchertown will compete in the Intercounty South, and Palmer and Ware are part of the Intercounty North along with Greenfield, Mahar, Athol, and Franklin Tech. Pathfinder remains in the Tri-County.

**LEAGUE** from page 9

Longmeadow, Ludlow, West Springfield, and Westfield.

In boys soccer, there are not a lot of big changes, though the Churchill League, which features Agawam, Westfield, and Pope Francis, and Pittsfield, will add Hampshire Regional and Mt. Greylock of Williamstown.

Dropped the Holley League is Chicopee Comprehensive. Chicopee, Holyoke, and Monson are also a part of that league along

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# public safety

## Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 15-22, the Ware Police Department responded to 29 miscellaneous calls, 48 administrative calls, seven traffic violations, 21 emergency 911 calls, 11 animal calls, three harassments, four thefts/larcenies, two assist other agencies, four motor vehicle accidents, one breaking and entering, three safety hazards, three damage/vandalisms and 20 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

### Tuesday, Aug. 15

7:02 a.m. Safety Hazard, Belchertown Road, Services Rendered  
2:12 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pulaski Street, Report Made  
3:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monson Turnpike Road, Unfounded  
8:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

### Wednesday, Aug. 16

7:15 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Malboeuf Road, Investigated  
2:28 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Report Made  
6:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Advised  
6:58 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Unfounded  
7:12 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Mattson Boulevard, Dispatch Handled

### Thursday, Aug. 17

7:05 a.m. Safety Hazard, Church Street, Investigated  
7:48 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
2:27 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Advised

4:12 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised  
5:57 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Main Street, Services Rendered

### Friday, Aug. 18

8:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper Church Street, Citation/Warning  
8:41 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Sygiel Road, Investigated  
10:22 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Convent Hill Road, Advised

1:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Citation/Warning Issued  
2:10 p.m. Warrant Service, East Street, Arrest Made  
Arrest: Mark Martinez, 48, Ware

Warrant of Apprehension  
2:28 p.m. Check Well Being, Osborne Road, Investigated  
2:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Investigated  
5:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Vehicle Towed  
6:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Vernon Street, Investigated  
6:56 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Hillside Village, Investigated  
9:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Arrest Made  
Arrest: James Gumbleton, 38, Chicopee  
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No

### Saturday, Aug. 19

1:08 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dunham Avenue, Investigated  
3:17 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, No Address, Dispatch Handled  
5:13 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Services Rendered  
6:43 p.m. Indecency/Lewdness,

West Main Street, Could Not Locate

### Sunday, Aug. 20

6:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

10:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Vehicle Towed  
Summons: Stella M. Oles, 57, Ware

Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle  
2:04 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, West Street, Investigated

2:24 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Cottage Street, Report Made

5:43 p.m. Suspicious Package, Church Street, Report Made  
5:46 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Unfounded  
9:25 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dale Street, Services Rendered

### Monday, Aug. 21

2:21 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Investigated

8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pulaski Street, Citation/Warning Issued

2:18 p.m. Check Well Being, West Street, Investigated  
6:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Summons; Juan A. Cruhigger, 33, Springfield  
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

6:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Services Rendered

6:52 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Richfield Avenue, Services Rendered

## Warren Police Log

During the week of Aug. 15-22, the Ware Police Department responded to 29 miscellaneous calls, 48 administrative calls, seven traffic violations, 21 emergency 911 calls, 11 animal calls, three harassments, four thefts/larcenies, two assist other agencies, four motor vehicle accidents, one breaking and entering, three safety hazards, three damage/vandalisms and 20 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

### Tuesday, Aug. 15

7:02 a.m. Safety Hazard, Belchertown Road, Services Rendered

2:12 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Pulaski Street, Report Made

3:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monson Turnpike Road, Unfounded

8:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

### Wednesday, Aug. 16

7:15 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Malboeuf Road, Investigated

2:28 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Report Made

6:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Advised  
6:58 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Unfounded  
7:12 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Mattson Boulevard, Dispatch Handled

### Thursday, Aug. 17

7:05 a.m. Safety Hazard, Church Street, Investigated

7:48 a.m. Safety Hazard, West Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

2:27 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Advised  
4:12 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised  
5:57 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Main Street, Services Rendered

### Friday, Aug. 18

8:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Upper Church Street, Citation/Warning

8:41 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Sygiel Road, Investigated

10:22 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Convent Hill Road, Advised

1:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Citation/Warning Issued

2:10 p.m. Warrant Service, East Street, Arrest Made  
Arrest: Mark Martinez, 48, Ware  
Warrant of Apprehension

2:28 p.m. Check Well Being, Osborne Road, Investigated

2:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Investigated

5:56 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Vehicle Towed  
6:56 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Vernon Street, Investigated  
6:56 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Hillside Village, Investigated

9:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Arrest Made  
Arrest: James Gumbleton, 38, Chicopee  
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No

### Saturday, Aug. 19

1:08 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dunham Avenue, Investigated

3:17 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, No Address, Dispatch Handled

5:13 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Services Rendered

6:43 p.m. Indecency/Lewdness, West Main Street, Could Not Locate

### Sunday, Aug. 20

6:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

10:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Vehicle Towed  
Summons: Stella M. Oles, 57, Ware

Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle  
2:04 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, West Street, Investigated  
2:24 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/

*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.*

Mischief, Cottage Street, Report Made

5:43 p.m. Suspicious Package, Church Street, Report Made

5:46 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Unfounded  
9:25 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Dale Street, Services Rendered

### Monday, Aug. 21

2:21 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Investigated

8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pulaski Street, Citation/Warning Issued

2:18 p.m. Check Well Being, West Street, Investigated

6:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued

Summons; Juan A. Cruhigger, 33, Springfield  
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

6:32 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Convent Hill Road, Services Rendered  
6:52 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Richfield Avenue, Services Rendered

## Exhibit brings 'aWAREness to Recovery'

WARE— On Aug. 31, Overdose Awareness Day, the "Bringing aWAREness to Recovery" exhibition will open from 4-6 p.m. at ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St.

Light refreshments will be served, and remarks given that recognize that, while marking the opening of the art show that looks ahead to September and Recovery Month, hold space for those in the community and our lives, who have been lost to substance use disorder.

This exhibition is a partnership between the Recovery Center

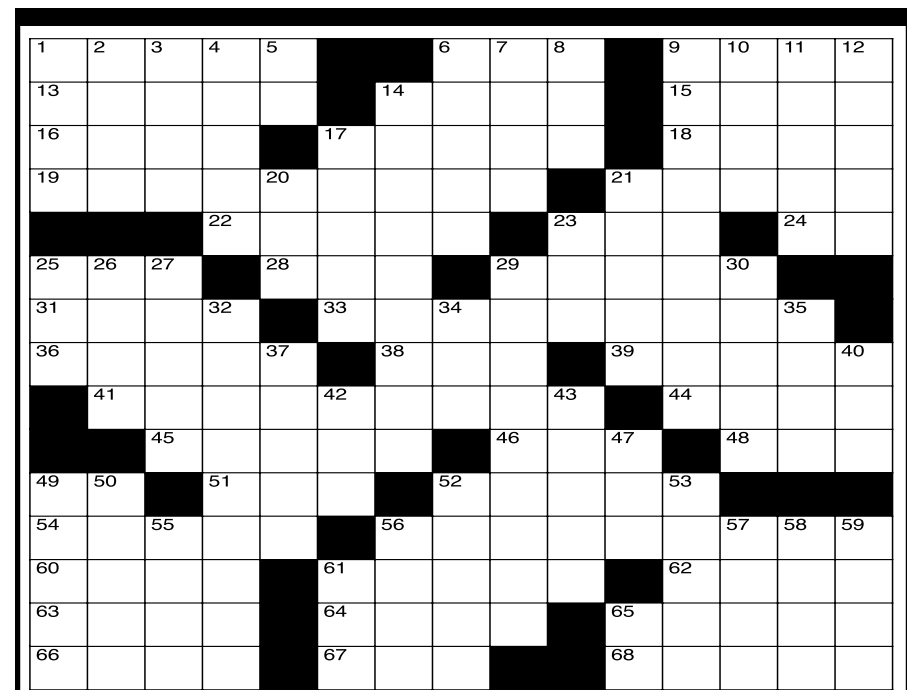
of HOPE and ArtWorks Gallery/Workshop13, a cultural arts and learning center located in Ware.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. RCH is a program of the Western Massachusetts Training Consortium and was founded by the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance. This exhibition celebrates a positive view of recovery to reduce stigma, a serious obstacle in the way of people seeking treatment

or other help for substance use disorders.

Artists share not only their artwork but also their statements that speak to the challenges and rewards of recovery. These are displayed alongside the artworks in the gallery and are captured in an exhibition booklet that is distributed to participants and visitors to the gallery.

The "Bringing aWAREness to Recovery" exhibition will be open until Sept. 17, on Saturdays and Sundays only from 1-5 p.m.



### CLUES ACROSS

- Russian painter
- Very fast jet
- Philippine municipality
- Intestinal
- Small freshwater fish
- Algerian coastal city
- Vomit
- Famed astronomer
- Ghanaian currency
- Improved the condition of
- Int'l association of interpreters
- Infections
- Dish made with lentils
- Thou
- Former CIA
- Unit used to compare power levels
- Members of Pueblo people
- Myanmar monetary units
- Polished
- Signed a contract

- Nothing
- Once-ubiquitous department store
- Neural structures
- Thick piece of something
- Slang for trucks with trailers
- Longing
- Senior officer
- Levels of frequency
- Bird's beak
- Move rapidly downwards
- Koran chapters
- Stretches out
- Top of the human body
- A Chinese temple and Indian town are two
- Fertility god
- Sea eagle
- Dry
- Zodiac sign
- "Horizon Call of the Mountain" character
- Have the ability to
- Take somewhere

### CLUES DOWN

- "Iron Man" actress Leslie
- Wings
- Adjust the spacing
- They're usually locked
- Atomic #43
- Wise individuals
- Horse mackerel
- Pearl Jam's debut album
- Confines
- Colorless crystalline compound
- Unsatisfactorily
- Plant of the parsley family
- Determines time
- Causes the birth of
- Small ornament on a watch chain
- Richly decorated cloth tapestry
- Vito Corleone was one
- Igbo musical instrument
- Put in harmony
- Japanese alcoholic drinks
- Tinseltown
- Closes tightly
- Songs sung to one's lover
- One thousandth of an inch
- Small drink of whiskey
- Political divisions in ancient Greece
- Helps little firms
- Baby's eating accessory
- Very long periods of time
- Small block of wood
- Town in Surrey, England
- Enquiry
- Murdered
- Bura-\_: Chadic language
- Crater on Mars
- Socket
- Make
- Stony waste matter
- Partner to cheese
- Pound

think  
OUTSIDE  
of the  
BIG  
BOX  
SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY  
BUSINESSES

## Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 14-21, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 79 building/property checks, 50 directed/area patrols, eight traffic controls, 14 emergency 911 calls, five radar assignments, seven citizen assists, five complaints, two assist other agencies, one illegal dumping, one property damage, two motor vehicle investigations, three motor vehicle accidents, two animal calls and 11 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

### Monday, Aug. 14

1 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Pine Street, Dispatch Handled

1:10 p.m. Illegal Dumping, River Run, Report Taken

2:14 p.m. Assist Citizen, Turkey Street, Officer Handled

2:26 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Church Lane, Dispatch Handled

3:16 p.m. Assist Citizen, Turkey Street, Officer Handled

4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
4:39 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered

### Tuesday, Aug. 15

7:56 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

10:11 a.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled  
3:36 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street,

Transported to Hospital  
10:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Failure to Stop, Prouty Road, Investigated  
10:29 p.m. Disabled Motor Vehicle, Out of Town, Investigated

### Wednesday, Aug. 16

6:36 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital

3:09 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Muddy Brook Road, Transported to Wing

### Thursday, Aug. 17

5:29 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Street, Officer Handled

8:21 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

### Friday, Aug. 18

12:09 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Merge

12:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Services Rendered

1:08 p.m. 911 Misdiagnosed, Hardwick Road, No Action Required  
6:35 p.m. Parking Complaint, Hardwick Fair, Officer Handled

7:30 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Services Rendered

9:16 p.m. Parking Complaint, Barre Road, Services Rendered  
9:18 p.m. Property Damage, Petersham Road, Officer Handled  
10:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued

### Saturday, Aug. 19

4:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Upper Church Street, Officer Handled

6:37 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

8:29 a.m. Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered

4:11 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Barre Road, Spoken To

7:58 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, River Run, Services Rendered

### Sunday, Aug. 20

12:39 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Gaudet Road, Transported to Hospital

4:05 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Turkey Street, Negative Contact

4:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, No Action Required

6:41 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Joslyn Road, Spoken To

8:05 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lower Road, Transported to Hospital

### Monday, Aug. 21

12:16 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Sessions Road, Spoken To

## The Library Loft

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Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books.  
We accept books only in good, clean condition.

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NECBL from page 12

three starting pitchers, two relief pitchers and one closer. In the case of ties, some positions may include additional honorees.

Making the second team was Valley Blue Sox DH A.J. Guerrero.

Guerrero led the Blue Sox in hits (42), RBIs (23), finished second in runs (21), third in batting average (.298) and led the league in doubles (11) in 141 at-bats. His best performance of the season came on July 26 when he went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored, leading Valley to an 8-3 victory.

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# Hardwick Community Fair Rosette and Blue Ribbon winners

**HARDWICK** – The 2023 Hardwick Community Fair Rosette (\* Best in Class) and Blue Ribbon winners are as follows:

**4-H:** Sadie Russell\*, Aubrey Savino, Summer Keddy, Abbie Russell, Carter Keddy and Annie Russell

**Art Youth:** Bria Duncan\*, Owen Twarog\*, Cordelia Grandinetti\*, Erik Duncan, Hannah Fanelli, Oliver Langlois, Molly Hamm, William Wentworth, Camilo Brens, Katy Twarog, Eden Fanelli, Sophia Pascale, Elena Johnson and Isabelle Wentworth

**Art Adult:** Jenni Dimauro\*, Ellie Shea, Laura Grunweg, Jennifer Mott and Mike Begin

**Baking Youth:** Madeline Boyko, Michaela Jo Dias, Silas Stukuls-Barrieau, Otto Raymond, Reese Jamieson, Sofia Serrano, Allie Kolenda, Hannah Beaulieu and Marin Goddard

**Baking Adult:** Mary Ward\*, Blanche Carlson, Jennifer Purcell, Jessica Bennett, Rita Latulippe, Heidi Reed, Jennifer Dimauro, Alice May Lowell, Sara Doubleday, Lauren Butkiewicz, Lindsay Richards, Harriet Pindell, Chloe Nadon and Vickie Morin

**Cattle Overall Champion Female of Show - All Breeds:** Diana Andrews\*

**Beef Showmanship:** Ethan Leiton, Emmarie Samia, Meiah Petruzzi and Matthew Sicard

**Dairy Showmanship:** Lauren Olson, Wyatt Gates and George Gates

**Angus:** Diana Andrews  
**Ayrshire:** Monica Howe  
**Belted Galloway:** Meiah

**Beef/Beef Cross:** Dominic Sicard

**Dairy/Beef Cross:** Ethan Leiton, Matthew Sicard and Aubrey Savino

**Brown Swiss:** Megan Howe, Sara Doubleday, Michael Cronin and Neal Monson

**Hereford:** Meiah Petruzzi  
**Holstein:** Abbie Russell, Sadie Russell, Charlie Gates and Amanda LaPete

**Jersey:** Annie Russell, Sadie Russell

**Scottish Highland:** Emmarie Samia

**Conservation Youth:** Zoey Salvatore\*, Veyron Montoya, Magnus Montoya and Devon Bjorklund

**Conservation Adult:** Seth Peets\*, Rachel Perry, Chris Eldredge, Liz Hanson-Cronk, Harriet Pindell, Jim Freeman, Carolyne LaPointe, Amy Vessella and Travis Mankin

**Crafts Youth:** Michaela Jo Dias\*, Rhett Rollet, Eden Fanelli, Hannah Fanelli, Justin Vinsky, Nicholas Dias, Bria Duncan, Emma LaPointe, Erik Duncan, Josh Vinsky, Elena Johnson, Addyson Garceau and Marilyn Richards

**Crafts Adult:** Harry Comerford\*, Rachel Perry, Kay Flick, Lisa Cohen, Patti Schaaf, Nancy Brown, Helen Tarr, Valerie Granger, Lee Ann Brown, Jim Freeman and Amanda Lapete

**Domestic Arts Youth:** Myria Dobisch\*, Alice Gelineau and Hannah Beaulieu

**Domestic Arts Adult:** Roberta McQuaid\*, Marilyn Frost, Pam



From row from left are Bria (Art), Sadie (4-H), Michaela Jo (Crafts), and Cordelia (Art). Back row from left are Myria (Domestic Arts), Sophia (Scarecrows), and Zoey (Conservation & Nature Photography, Eggs, and Photography).



From left are Becky Bottomley (Home Canning); Halley Stillman (Fruits & Vegetables); Mary Ward (Baking); Julie-Anne Croft (Flowers); Laura Grunweg (Literary); and Bob Desilets (Art).

Submitted Photos by Neil J. Halin Photography

Hinckley, Sheryl Blancato, Valerie Granger, Maura Shea, Lisa Cohen, Dawn Thistle, Harriet Pindell, Alice May Lowell, Ellie Shea, Theresa Malboeuf, Lauri Amidon and Irene Prouty

**Eggs Youth:** Zoey Salvatore\* and Justin Vinsky

**Eggs Adult:** Becky Bottomley, Aaron Graves and Kim Mongeau

**Field Crops:** Dana Prouty\*, Gary Lefevre, Katie Crockett (largest sunflower), Mark Korzec and Sophia Serrano

**Flowers Youth:** Carter Keddy\*, Noah Currier, Hannah Fanelli and Summer Keddy

**Flowers Adult:** Ashley Gardner, Roberta McQuaid, Marlo Meier, Linda Keddy, Rose Wentworth,

Nina Coffman, Faith Stillman, Heidi Reed, Dana Prouty, Sherry Johnson, Meg Haight, Robin Prouty, Julie Ann Croft, Jill Havrilla, Harriet Pindell and Virginia Rich

**Fruits, Vegetables & Herbs Youth:** Josh Vinsky\*, Mary-Kate Pacek, Emily Beaulieu, Bria Duncan, Henry Beaulieu, Dylan Mace, Josh Vinsky, Braiden Hutchins-Bowles, Jace Hutchins-Bowles, Bennett Kolenda, Carter Keddy, Allie Kolenda, Jackson Currier, Ellie Frost, Noah Currier and Summer Keddy

**Fruits, Vegetables & Herbs Adult:** Curtis Stillman\*, Roberta McQuaid, Becky Bottomley, Faith Stillman, Meg Haight, Natalie Imbier, Stacey Hill, Steve Mitus,

Abbie White, Nan Wolverton, Warren Johnson, Red Stillman, Ian Kelly, Linda Jaskariak, Judi Korzec, Susan Bagdonas, Lisa Dibara, Jill Havrilla, Mary Ward and Ryan Witkos

**Home Canning Junior:** Bennett Kolenda, Ellie Frost and Piper Hager

**Home Canning Adult:** Becky Bottomley\*, Sara Doubleday and Honey Shea

**Horseshoes:** John P - singles; Billy Purcell and John P - doubles

**LEGO's:** Joseph Pacek\*, Xavier Latulippe, Vivian Michalski, Ryan Bottomley and John Pacek

**Literary Competition Youth:** Michaela Jo Dias, Bria Duncan,

Maria Hamm and Hannah Beaulieu  
**Literary Competition Adult:** Laura Grunweg\*, Abbie White and Richard Wronski

**Photography Youth:** Kayla Stafford\*, Zoey Salvatore\*, Josh Vinsky\*, Veyron Montoya, Eden Fanelli, Finn Nydam, Lily Nydam, Sophia Pascale and Danie Sullivan

**Photography Adult:** Bob Desilets\*, Rachel Montoya (Best Photo taken at the 2022 Hardwick Community Fair), Rachael Beth Hager, Stacey Hill, Harriet Pindell and Lee Ann Brown

**Scarecrows Youth:** Sophia Pascale\*, Joseph Pacek, Sadie Russell, Angelo and Anthony Camp

**Scarecrows Adult:** Jenni DiMauro\* and Rachel Perry

## FAIR from page 1

from the House of Representatives from state Rep. Donnie Berthiaume.

The Hardwick Community Fair was the first thing Bob introduced her to when they started their life together, Sanderson said of her late husband.

"We would come every single year on Saturday," she said. "He made sure he saw everything."

Sanderson said nothing made her husband happier than stopping to talk to friends and neighbors at the Fair, and that he was proud to "pass the torch" for the Lumberjack Contest on to their children.

Former state Sen. Anne Gobi said family tradition is what the Hardwick Community Fair is all about.

"Nothing says 'small town America' like the Hardwick Fair," she said.

No tradition can continue without the efforts of volunteers like Bob and the Sanderson family, and for 261 years, Hardwick has found a way to not only continue past tradition, but also create new ones.

Fred Schaaf has been volunteering at the Fair for the past few years, continuing a tradition his father, Jeff, started years before.

"My dad was involved [with the Fair] and I grew up here," he said. "I had friends working the Fair one year and that's when I got involved."

Schaaf said he's usually running the cotton candy booth, a popular attraction for fairgoers of all ages.

"I know what I'm doing most of the time," Schaaf said jokingly.

Schaaf recruited his friend Matthew Erickson to help him this year, and Erickson said he plans to return next year.

Schaaf's parents are both still involved with the fair, with his father taking home four second place ribbons for his nature photography and garlic, and his mother, Patti, earned first place for a necklace she made.

Ellary White, Audrey Larson and Sadie Ouimette have all attended the Hardwick Community Fair for as long as they can remember, if not longer.

Now entering their freshman year of high school, the trio of friends (who met at the Get Up and Dance studio in Gilbertville as toddlers), have turned one of their favorite Fair activities into volunteer hours; helping to run the children's obstacle course.

The friends agreed that the rope swing was, and still is, their favorite part of the course.

This year marked the 46th Running of the Road Race, featuring a 5.7 mile challenging course that loops around the historic Common, complete with it's own "Heartbreak Hill" that gives the Boston Marathon route some friendly competition.

Race organizer Megen Talbot

took over from longtime organizer Chris Hinckley several years ago and said this was the best weather they've ever had for running, as it is typically hot and humid.

Talbot has raced the course herself many times, and said the race sees a lot of return runners each year; those trying to reach a personal best, or beat the seemingly untouchable course records set by John Panaccione in 1985 (28:19) and Karen Enright in 1989 (34:16).

This year's top finisher, Henry Domnarski of Palmer finished with a time of 31:05.

Organizing the race is a lot of work, Talbot said, but she knew she had to keep the tradition going.

The Hardwick Youth Center was established nearly 40 years ago, providing the town's youth with a fun, safe and free place to enjoy time with their friends.

Youth Commissioners Angelique Broussard and Emily Cartier said they've been manning a booth at the Fair for four years, offering a variety of games for people to take chances on.

Proceeds from the booth help to raise money for the Youth Center.

Serving about 45 youth in the community, the Youth Center offers a "home away from home" for school-age children through young adults. The Youth Center also goes on field trips outside of town, including a Worcester Railers hockey game, a haunted visit to 13th World, seeing the Christmas lights at McCray's Farm, bowling, pinball and much more.

Cartier said the Youth Center is currently planning a trip to Six Flags New England.

Several Youth Center members, including Morgan and Theo, helped out at the booth all weekend. Having the youth involved with the Fair is important for keeping the Youth Center strong, Broussard said.

"Other kids can see these kids helping, and see how much fun they have," Broussard said.

Being a town built by agriculture, the Fair highlights some essential trades including blacksmithing and stone cutting.

Randy Noble has been demonstrating at the Fair for as long as he's been working with stone, since 1978.

Noble sets up each year alongside the stonewall that surrounds the cemetery near the Town House, a stonewall that he worked to level many years ago.

"I have a lot of walls I've built around town," Noble said.

Hardwick is known for its impressive stonewalls, many of which are wide and flat across the top.

Some of the stonewalls, including one at the upper cemetery just past the Common, feature a split stone laid end-to-end, after a massive stone is split down the middle and parted.

The nicer stone walls taper on the ends, Noble said, and one stone



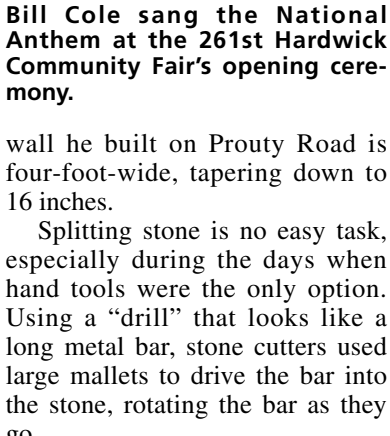
This year's Hardwick Community Fair was dedicated to the memory of longtime volunteer Robert "Bob" Sanderson. His family members wore matching T-shirts and accepted a citation from the House of Representatives.



Bill Cole sang the National Anthem at the 261st Hardwick Community Fair's opening ceremony.



Lori Merriam joins her son in the tractor parade.



wall he built on Prouty Road is four-foot-wide, tapering down to 16 inches.

Splitting stone is no easy task, especially during the days when hand tools were the only option. Using a "drill" that looks like a long metal bar, stone cutters used large mallets to drive the bar into the stone, rotating the bar as they go.

"When I first started, they drilled this way," Noble said.

Noble also had an assortment of antique stone cutting cools, many of which were found in his uncle's barn.

Blacksmith Jennifer Petrila first became interested in the trade during a third-grade field trip to Old Sturbridge Village. When she returned home, she started making knives, working her way up to latches.



Kristen Coltey Wentworth and Todd demonstrate the sport of rabbit hopping.



Turley Photos by Mary Whitelaw  
Sadie Russell took second place with her Holstein heifer.

could forge, he took her under his wing.

"He said, 'your horse skills suck, but your blacksmithing is awesome,'" Petrila recalled.

Petrila improved her horse skills, and was able to trim, black-

smith and shoe a horse in as little as 30-45 minutes.

She shared advice on how to communicate with horses, and said horses are either your best friend, or they want nothing to do with you.

"It's a relationship that's trans-

formative," she said. "The level of engagement is different."

Petrila no longer shoes horses, as she has found through decades of experience that being barefoot is best. She continues to be a blacksmith, and travels all over demonstrating her talent.

The invention of the tractor took a lot of the farming workload off of horses and oxen, and the Fair always has an impressive display of different makes and models spanning the decades.

Lori Merriam of West Brookfield has been coming to the Fair for at least 14 years, and this year her family brought five tractors to enter the show and parade. Four are International Harvesters and one is a Massey-Harris.

Her oldest child is "all about" tractors she said, and he drove his own in the parade this year (with Merriam perched behind him).

The Fair helps the younger generation get in touch with their local, natural roots she said, and shows that agriculture is "still out there."

Agriculture is strong and growing in Hardwick, with the debut of the Farmers Guild of Hardwick and the return of rabbits to the Fair.

Central Mass Rabbit Breeders Network is new to the Fair this year, led by Hardwick resident Kristen Coltey Wentworth. The highlight of the booth being a rabbit hopping agility show featuring Todd, a Rhinelander; and Mushu, a Britannia Petite.

Rabbit hopping is a new sport in the U.S., with rabbits hopping over a course of jumps, similar to equestrian show jumping.

"Rabbit hopping is mainly for fun," Wentworth said, and it originated in Europe.

Wentworth began working with rabbits when she was in 4-H at 10 years old. Her first ever show was at the Barre Fair, and her second was the Hardwick Community Fair. Now, her three children, Isabelle, William and Rose each show their own breed of rabbit.

"My kids are second generation rabbit showers," Wentworth said. "Everybody shows a few rabbits."

Wentworth shows the English Spot, Isabelle shows the Havana, William shows the Rex and Rose shows the English Lop. Isabelle's Havana even won Best in Show at the Bolton Fair.

Wentworth plans to make the Hardwick Community Fair a new tradition for her family, and keep rabbits an integral part of the Fair.

"We will definitely be back," she said.

## About the Hardwick Fair

The 262nd Hardwick Community Fair will be held Aug. 16 and Aug. 17, 2024. For more information, visit [hardwick-fair.com](http://hardwick-fair.com) or follow the Hardwick Community Fair on Facebook and Instagram.

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## PALMER OFFICE

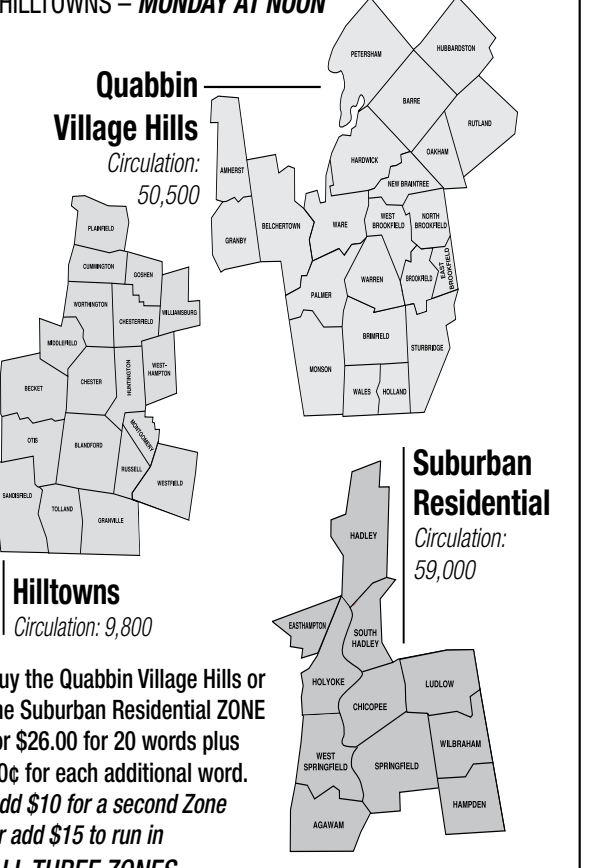
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**TO: Adam E. Inman:**  
A petition has been presented to this court by DCF Lowell, seeking, as to the following child, **Ariel L. Coelho**, that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition.

You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: **10/12/2023 at 09:00 AM Hearing on Merits (CR/CV)**

You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you.

**If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter to a trial on the merits and adjudication of this matter.**

For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at (978)745-9660.

WITNESS: Hon. Kerry A. Ahern, FIRST JUSTICE. DATE ISSUED 08/03/2023  
Judith M. Brennan, Clerk Magistrate  
08/24, 08/31, 09/07/2023

### TOWN OF WARE Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE SP-2023-05

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **THURSDAY, September 7, 2023 at 7:30 PM** on the application of Melink Solar Development, for a Special Permit for annual renewal (SP-2022-08) of an approved large scale solar facility under Section 4.8.3, of the Zoning Bylaw, 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 Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members 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: 45 Greenwich Plains Road, Ware, MA.** Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 13457, Page 159. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel 22-0-12 & 22-12-1. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

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**  
Ed Murphy, Chairman  
08/24, 08/31/2023

### Hardwick Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board per Hardwick Zoning Bylaw, Sections 3.2.6.1.1, 5.2 and 9.0 will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:45PM** at the **Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01301**

This Hearing is regarding the application for Site Plan Approval by Patrick D. Rondeau of Valley Solar for a residential ground mounted 10kW solar installation at 694 Main Street in Gilbertville. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>  
Hardwick Planning Board  
Jenna Garvey, Chair  
08/17, 08/24/2023

# Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

## Police Officer Opening FULL TIME

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time Police Officer. Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights, and holidays.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services. It is preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferences include an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, serve in the US military, or experience as a Police Officer.

The Patrolmen's contract provides an education incentive and a candidate with prior experience may also be considered to start at a higher step rate of pay.

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than **Friday, September 8, 2023**, to the attention of **Lt. James Early, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083** or [early@warren-ma.gov](mailto:early@warren-ma.gov).

THE TOWN OF WARREN IS AN EOE.

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# Youths find enrichment at Pathfinder's Summer Program

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – This week, Pathfinder concludes its Summer Enrichment program, a three-week long program that offers five-day courses on fundamentals of the various vocational programs that Pathfinder has to offer.

The program invites kids entering fourth to eighth grade to sign up for individual weeks of Advanced Manufacturing, Art, Auto Body and Automotive Technology, Biking, Baking and Junior Chef, Beauty School, Biking, Drama and Theatre, Electrical, First Responders, Fishing, Plumbing, Woodworking, and the Robotics Battleship.

“What they do essentially is they spend all the morning up till lunch in their technical area,” said Principal Brenda Turner. “Then in the afternoon there are fun games and activities and crafts...all sorts of things.”

Among these games are sports like kickball and obstacle courses.

“The National Guard’s been coming every Wednesday with an inflatable obstacle course, so the kids are out on the front lawn doing that,” Turner said.

“It’s a little bit of a combination for the students, they’re getting exposure to that technical area, trying their hand at some of the skills, using some of the tools and equipment,” Turner said.

“It’s nice, too, because they interact with each other,” said Vocational Director Amy Skowrya. “We have a lot of repeat students who come back, so they make friends and they get to see each other and spend time together.”

Zac Button, normally the History Teacher and Basketball Coach, has been involved with the Summer Youth Enrichment Program.

“It’s been a great summer so far, the kids have been having an awesome time,” Button said. “They’ve been making some really great products and things, they’ve had a lot of fun.”

Button said that the first week of the program had 140 kids, and then 136 for the second week, and then the last week had 115.

“I would like to think that this job is a bit more relaxed for them, a bit more light-hearted and fun,” Button said. “We don’t have a curriculum that we’re trying to meet, we don’t have testing that we’re trying to focus on, so it’s educa-



Laura Rogers (left) helps Genasis Rodriguez in Pathfinder's kitchen.

tional, yet recreational at the same time, which is great. It’s more about not only just learning the basic skills in these areas, but also socializing.”

“I’ve seen kids meet people they’ve never met before and become fast friends, exchanging information, whether it’s to play video games online together, or go to the beach with their families,” Button said. “So, it’s not just educational, but it’s also really some great social networking that we see here. Watching young people meet like this and form friendships is fun to see.”

On Monday, July 24, the First Responders class was visited by a helicopter from UMass Memorial Medical Center.

“We have life flight, and we have the ambulance crew here, so we’ll be talking to them about CPR, Heimlich, stuff they do on a regular basis,” explained Officer Rick Wahlers, who Principal Turner described as “a staple” of the school and the program.

Wahlers described how Monday would focus on Emergency Medical Services training, followed by police canine training on Tuesday, fire safety training on Wednesday, and then police training for things like fingerprinting and patrol procedures on Thursday, followed by tours on Friday.

“We’ll give them a tour of the police station, they can meet people that are in there, get to see the facility, how they work, check everything out there, and then we go to all the fire stations, see the



Youth attending the program answered questions about the fundamentals of wiring.

firefighters at their stations, and how that stuff works,” Wahlers said.

“We go to the ambulance garage, check that out, so they get a tour of everything,” Wahlers said. “We’ll include everybody, and then they can interact with the firefighters there and talk to them at their stations, and then we’ll van



Program attendees gather around the helicopter to listen to a lecture by flight nurse, Stacy.

Turley Photos by Marcelo Gusmão



Culinary students learn to make pasta from Pathfinder's Nutrition Director Anthony Bishop.

them up, come back, and that’s the week.”

After landing their helicopter on the lawn in front of the school, the crew told the class about what they do, and what protocols they have to

follow, such as the minimum number of staff required to tend to an emergency.

The Summer Youth Enrichment Program serves as a great sampling of the various vocational programs

that Pathfinder has to offer, with in-depth courses that, at best, can put a child on the path to a career they’ll be passionate about – and at worst, provide some fun activities to try out over the summer.

## HCC offers free line cook training

HOLYOKE— The Holyoke Community College is offering free training classes in line cook skills offered through the Office of Workforce Development office.

The free line cook training starts in September and is for anyone interested in developing new skills.

Classes will be held in person at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St.

For more information about

the programs, please visit [hcc.edu](http://hcc.edu).

Class times are as follows: Line Cook a.m. Training, Sept. 18-Oct. 20, Monday from 9 a.m. to noon and Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Line Cook p.m. Training, Sept. 18-Nov. 9, Monday through Thursday from 5-9:30 p.m.; Line Cook a.m. Training, Oct. 30-Dec. 8, Monday from 9 a.m.-noon and Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

## Warren Parks and Rec. host fireworks and tag sale Sept. 9

WARREN – The Parks & Recreation will host the annual fireworks at Quaboag Regional Middle High School, 284 Old West Brookfield Road, on Saturday, Sept. 9.

Musical entertainment will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the fireworks will go off at dark. Refreshments will be available to purchase, with the proceeds benefiting student groups at the High School.

The Parks & Recreation will

also host a town wide tag sale on Sept. 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., rain or shine. Register by Sept. 1 to get your location on the map; the cost is \$10 per map location.

Maps will be sold for \$2 on the common starting at 8 a.m., the day of the tag sale.

People can register their location for the town wide tag sale online at [unipaygold.unibank.com](http://unipaygold.unibank.com) (search Warren Parks & Recreation) or

mail checks payable to “Town of Warren/Parks & Rec” to Warren Parks & Rec, P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083. If mailing a check, please also register at <https://forms.office.com/r/fyGawceS9T>.

For more information or notice of weather cancellations, follow Warren Parks Department on Facebook.

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

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