WARE RIVER NEWS

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Selectboard reviews RFP for water/ wastewater assets

By Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Representatives from Aquarion Water Company presented details from the sole request for proposal received by the town to purchase its water and wastewater assets.

Nick LaChance, director of Business Development, accompanied by President Donald Morrissey and Vice-President of Engineering and Planning Daniel Lawrence, came before the Selectboard on Aug. 22 to review the offer.

"There's been a significant amount of effort and consideration that's gone into the proposal that has been provided to the town and we feel that it provides a tremendous amount of value for the town as well as significant value to our existing customer base as well," he said. "We very much believe that the opportunity before you is a 'win-win' for the town."

LaChance said there are four significant areas to discuss, including the purchase price for the water and wastewater assets, at \$9.688 million; a rate freeze for at least 24 months upon the closing; retention of all employees; and transfer of all operation-

Please see **ASSETS**, page 13

Special municipal employee status removed from boards

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARREN - Board of Selectmen Chair David Dufresne said the discussion about "special municipal employee designation," came up at a previous meeting, with the question of why so many boards and committees hold the status.

At the Aug. 24 meeting, Vice-Chair Richard Eichacker said most of these designations date back to the 1990s, and the Board should review the need for such statuses each year.

should be a policy to review the

The Board reviewed current

special municipal employee designations, receiving requests to keep the designations from the Moderator, Plumbing Inspector and Town Clerk.

Town Clerk Laura Stockley requested the status for the town's election workers.

The Board and Town Clerk were unsure if this was necessary, and the Board opted to have the request reviewed by town counsel.

Moderator Dario Nardi said he only made the request in the event that his job in another municipality would impact his position in town. After dis-Dufresne agreed that there cussion, the Board determined that Nardi's outside job did not

Please see **WARREN**, page 11



Weekend event showcases agriculture and community

> By Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

WARE - For 76 years, the Ware Grange #164 has held its annual end of summer fair, featuring a mix of entries ranging from agriculture to arts and crafts, photography, fancywork, baked and canned goods and

This year, 70 people submitted entries to the Fair held Aug. 25-26, including 22 newcomers. Participants entered a total of 392

Please see **GRANGE**, page 7



Tristan Supka and Lori Perkins of Ware had fun at the Ware Grange Fair last Saturday.

The New Global Shaman

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago Adhi Moonien Two Owls of Littleton, New Hampshire was a first time vendor at this year's Powwow with her business, The New Global

Medicine River Powwow returns

By Ryan Drago Correspondent

HARDWICK - This past weekend in Gilbertville, the fields off River Run hosted many travelers who put together the annual Medicine River Charity Good Time Family Powwow.

The Medicine River Powwow is a charity powwow that welcomes everyone and showcases many traditions of Native American culture. Visitors come from all over to pitch their tents and park their campers to enjoy the whole weekend of festivities.

The organizers for the annual Medicine River Powwow are locals, Tony Hay and Mya Hay. The Hays appreciate the amount of support, volunteers, and participation that goes into the Powwow every year.

Tony Hay mentioned the incredible turnout the Powwow gets every year, with Native American vendors and local artisans coming from all over the United States and Canada. Many vendors are local to Massachusetts, but Hay mentioned vendors and visitors come from Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

One of the biggest benefits Hay alluded to while preparing for the first day was the amount of friendships he and his family have made throughout their time running the Powwow

"For 15 years, we gathered a great group of friends...offering

Please see **POWWOW**, page 11

Forensic audit OK'd to review finances

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Selectboard member Keith Kruckas said he asked for an audit update to be placed on the agenda to address "some serious issues" within the Town Hall regarding accounting and

At the Aug. 22 meeting, he said money was appropriated for new accounting software at a 2021 town meeting, and while he was in support of purchasing the software, he wanted to wait to install it until an audit was completed.

"Here we are, two and a half years later, we've still not had an audit and it is of huge concern to me, especially with the recent indictment and the potential for problems coming," Kruckas said.

Former Fire Chief Thomas Coulombe was indicted earlier this month for alleged embez-

Kruckas said a forensic audit needs to be conducted, at least dating back to the date the audit was requested about five years

He said there is a statue of limitations for the audit and "it seems to be a consorted effort to push time out so certain things aren't looked at."

'We owe it to the taxpayers of this town," Kruckas said. "Why hasn't it been done?"

Kruckas said the selectboard at the time the new software was approved, agreed that it wouldn't be changed until the audit was conducted.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the old system and materials are still there. He said the original purpose of the audit was to look for departmental or billing efficiencies.

Beckley said the Selectboard would have to say what the forensic audit is for in order to conduct one.

The Selectboard approved a motion made by Kruckas to conduct a forensic audit going back seven years and have it look at reimbursements, travel expenses, lack of receipts, handwritten bills, alcohol purchases and more, especially

Please see **AUDIT**, page 6

S.O.N.G. Stock 2023 rocks and rolls for kids

By Paula Ouimette

Editor pouimette@turley.com

BRIMFIELD - Since 1999, Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally, Inc. has been working to help children across the world; bringing their focus in recent years to the crisis in Ukraine.

This past Sunday, S.O.N.G., Inc. hosted its annual S.O.N.G.Stock festival fundraiser at Brimfield Winery,

featuring three popular local bands, silent auction, raffle, face painting, games and more. S.O.N.G., Inc. co-founder Wally Connor even brought his famous "ring swing," which has been a feature at S.O.N.G., Inc. fundraising events since the beginning, and sure to test your skills (and maybe even your

Frisbees were given as prizes to those joining in the pie eating contest. Bearing the S.O.N.G., Inc. logo, the frisbees were donated by a supporter, with printing provided by Dennis Craig of BT Copy & Printing

While S.O.N.G., Inc. (formerly Socks for Siberia) was founded to help children living in orphanages in Siberia, it has expanded to include orphans in numerous countries, including South Africa and Pakistan. S.O.N.G., Inc. also works with Wonderfund of Massachusetts, providing essential items for children involved with the Department of Childrens and Families.

S.O.N.G., Inc. co-founder Michele Connor said this event is the organization's major fundraiser for this year. Money raised helps the organization's mission as a whole, but this year's event will also help continue to bring care to the Ukraine/Poland border.

"This is mostly for the kids

Please see **S.O.N.G.**, page 12



off S.O.N.G.Stock 2023, held at the **Brimfield Winery** this past Sunday. The all-day festival featured three bands, a food truck, raffles, face painting, games, silent auction and more, all to benefit the work of Supporting Orphans Nationally & Globally, Inc.

Lisa Martin and

her band kicked

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should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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Ware River News

Robert and Beatrice Ouimette celebrate 61 years of marriage

(Janice) Ouimette of Ware; Willaim (Kerry) Ouimette of Ludlow. (Dana) Ouimette of Long Beach,

Happy 61st wedding anniversa- California; Lisa (Frank) Campanelli of ry to Robert and Beatrice Ouimette of Avon, Connecticut; Robert (Debbie) South Hadley from their children: Denis Ouimette of Woolwich, Maine: and Peter

Radio service for those with eyesight issues seeks volunteers

Valley Eye Radio, formerly Valley Radio Reading Service, started almost 50 years ago when a group of dedicated citizens wanted to help their family members, friends and neighbors who were struggling due to eyesight issues.

Since that time volunteer readers and passionate board members have continued what that small group started.

Valley Eye Radio provides accessible local news and information broadcasting service in the Pioneer Valley for those who can no longer read independently. Valley Eye Radio is dedicated to making sure that the lives of seniors, veterans and others who have vision challenges never feel

socially isolated, vulnerable, or feel like they are losing their quality of life because they can no longer read.

Today, Valley Eye Radio is using 21st century technology to be more accessible than ever, has more financial resources than ever, and needs new community members to join its board to help the radio define what its future growth should be for listeners and the growing numbers of people who will need the service in the next few years.

For more information about getting involved, please contact Executive Director Barbara Loh by calling 413-747-7337 or emailing bploh@valleyeyeradio.org.



Fall Fair returns to Meeting House Sept. 16

WARE – The annual Fall Fair will be held at the Ware Center Meeting House and Museum, 295 Belchertown Road on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Admission to the Ware Fair is free.

All are welcome to enjoy food, crafts, artisans, and music from Lori Brooks. The rain date Music by Lori Brooks is supported in part by

a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Make a bid at the silent auction, peruse the tables with their unique offerings, check out the

activities for kids at the nonprofit tables, and learn more about Ware's history in a tour of the museum. The Proprietors of the Ware Center Meeting

House and Museum are celebrating their 25th

year of service to the community. They were formed in 1998 to educate, entertain, and maintain this beautiful 1799 building. With the help of the Ware Historical Society and members of our community, the Proprietors have made many improvements, including replacing the roof, rebuilding the carriage shed with

lumber from the Ware-Gilbertville Covered

Bridge, painting inside and out, repairing plaster walls and ceilings, maintaining and improving the interior, restoring and stabilizing windows, replacing steps at the kitchen door, resettling the steps in front, repairing the dais and north wall, restoring the belfry and bell, repairing all the windows on the top floor and two of the windows on the lower level, painting the entire building, and overall keeping the place in good

The building's unique windows required attention and the Proprietors were blessed to get a donation from the Urban Foundation to complete the window project. Additionally, Pennington Painting donated time and materials in order to paint the entire building and Curaleaf donated \$3,000 to assist in the paint project.

The Fall Fair is another big fundraiser for the Proprietors, and all are welcome to attend.

This building is an integral part of the town's history: the first church, first town hall, first library, first cemetery. The Proprietors partner with the Ware Historical Society to give to the town free concerts on the green this summer, an educational day for third graders, the Ware Remembers event, and our open museum hours all summer long.



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Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

A grand opening for the Mass Central Rail Trail and dedication of the new kiosk at the entrance at Gibbs Crossing, 35 Palmer Road, Ware, will be held on Friday, Sept. 8 at 2 p.m. Shown in the photo is trail advocate Steven Hawk and members of Ware Scouts BSA Troop 7281. Hawk and the Scouts worked with volunteers to construct the kiosk to help bring visibility to the trail.

Trail grand opening, kiosk dedication

WARE - On Friday, Sept. 8 at 2 p.m., a grand opening celebration will be held at the Mass Central Rail Trail's entrance at Gibbs Crossing, 35 Palmer Road.

There will also be a dedication of a new kiosk constructed by Ware Scouts BSA Troop 7281, trail advocate Steven Hawk and a number of community volunteers.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate this vital recreational network.

South Coast III Trio opens concert season

HARDWICK – Friends of the osos who can execute the original Stone Church will present pianist Janice Weber with Sasha Callahan, violin and Leo Eguchi, cello, performing string trios by Haydn, Beethoven and Robert Schumann and Jhula Jhule by Reena Esmail at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17.

This delightful program presents masterpieces for strings and piano and an intriguing composition based on traditional Indian songs. A public reception will follow the concert.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at https://buytickets.at/ friendsofthestonechurch/738389. Youth under 18 and holders of the equivalent to Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture are admitted free.

Janice Weber graduated summa cum laude from the Eastman School of Music. Her interest in uncommon avenues of piano literature led to a world premiere recording of Liszt's 1838 Transcendental Etudes.

Time Magazine noted "Liszt later simplified these pieces into the still ferociously difficult Transcendental Etudes (1851 version) for fear that no one else could play them. There may now be several fire-eating piano virtunotes, but few can liberate the prophetic music they contain as masterfully as Janice Weber...'

She has appeared with the Boston Pops, Chautauqua Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Hilton Head Orchestra, Sarajevo Philharmonic, and Syracuse Symphony; and in solo performances at the White House and multiple summer fes-

Violinist Sasha Callahan received her bachelor's degree in violin performance from Rice University and her Master of Music from Boston University. She has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe and Japan and is a founding member of Willamette Valley Chamber Music Festival, Sheffield Chamber Players, the Lunaire String Quartet, and Kalistos Chamber Orchestra.

Her recent solo performances include Braham Double Concerto; a Bach program at the National Cathedral, and performances with the World Youth Orchestra, an international orchestra assembled to present concerts in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She appears fre-

quently in New England, including with the Portland (ME) Symphony, Rhode Island Philharmonic and New Hampshire Music Festival, the Boston Pops, and the Boston Ballet Orchestra.

Leo Eguchi, principal cellist of the New Bedford Symphony, has been described as "copiously skilled and confident" by The New York Times. His degrees include a bachelor's degree in music in cello performance from the University of Michigan and a Master of Music from Boston University.

Performing widely as a soloist, chamber ensemble and orchestra musician, Eguchi has had a varied performance career. Highlights include being a prize-winner at the 2021 ProCello International Cello Competition; several GRAMMYnominated recordings from Parma Records; an artist residency and solo performances in Kabul, Afghanistan; and opportunities to share the non-classical stage with the likes of Pete Townshend, Queen Latifah, Melissa Etheridge, Audra McDonald and many oth-

Eguchi is a strong advocate of new music and has premiered doz-

Please see **CONCERT**, page 6

Quabbin Superintendent gives update on HVAC chiller

By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK - Interim Superintendent of the Quabbin Regional School District Colleen Mucha and Director of Building and Grounds Kevin Clark updated the Selectboard on happenings in the school district.

At the Aug. 28 meeting, Mucha said all of the towns in the school district voted to pay for an HVAC chiller in the middle/high school this past spring. She said New Braintree and Oakham agreed to pay the costs up front, while Hardwick, Barre and Hubbardston would seek borrowing.

"After looking at our regional agreement and people at the meeting bringing up a concern...the towns that needed to borrow, their apportionment would change over the life and terms of the loan. So, if your student enrollment went up, you paid a little bit more...next year if your student enrollment went down, you paid a little bit less."

Mucha said the question was whether or not this was equitable for the towns that paid up front and those that sought funding. She said the school district's legal counsel suggested the towns enter into an intermunicipal agreement, keep apportionment matched to the enrollment of October 2022.

"All five towns have to sign off on it," Mucha said. "If all five towns don't sign it, it would fall back to the regional agreement."

Mucha also discussed guidelines for building improvements, which would provide a clear process for when work is being done on the school buildings.

Clark said this would ensure that if work is being done on a school building, a member of the school district's staff would be there to ensure no issues arise.

Mucha said the school district is

working with local fire departments to train students as EMTs and firefighters. She said the middle/high school also hosted a mini police academy over the summer, with 13 students participating.

Town Administrator's report

Town Administrator Nicole Parker said the first wastewater treatment plant is going out to bid soon for the town's wastewater upgrade project with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"It's moving along fantastically,"

Parker said the financial team is preparing to close out fiscal year 2023 by the end of the month.

She said the Greenwich Road drainage project is underway and she said to expect delays, and if possible, seek alternate routes.

Parker said they are looking at heating options for the Municipal Building, but for this winter they will have to stay with the existing system and be more diligent with

She said they are looking for an alert system that would notify police, fire, highway and town hall employees if the heating system is starting to fill up too much.

Parker said there was damage to the fields at the Paige Memorial Library caused by parking during the Hardwick Community Fair. The committee is working on getting a quote for repairs.

Firetruck

Selectboard Clerk Eric Vollheim discussed the need for a replacement firetruck. He said firetrucks are "exceedingly expensive" and that one of the Fire Department's two responding engines is out of code.

Vollheim said the Department has submitted a grant application to pay for a new firetruck, but won't know if they will receive it or not. Repairs to the firetruck would

cost \$8,000 and it's only valued at \$5,000.

"We should be putting money away every year, because we're always going to need...a new truck," Vollheim said.

Highway Department

The Selectboard approved the promotion of Zachary Barrett from Laborer to Foreman on the Highway Department. The Selectboard also approved a job description to be posted for an Assistant Superintendent for the Department.

Sewer abatements

Parker said the town's current policy requires sewer abatement to be applied within six months of receiving the invoice. She said other towns allow 30 days after receiving the invoice.

"I think it would be more prudent to do 30 days, so we keep it within the fiscal year," Parker said.

Appointment

Margaret Rising was appointed to the Council on Aging at the recommendation of Council on Aging member Ned Kelly, and the Senior Outreach Coordinator.

"She came highly recommended by the Council on Aging," Parker

The Board tabled appointing Elizabeth Cyran and Rick Romano to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Open meeting complaint The Selectboard acknowledged

receipt of an open meeting law complaint, as well as town counsel's response to the Attorney General's office regarding the complaint.

Special event

The Harwick Rod & Gun Club requested an extension of club hours on Oct. 14 for a precision rifle event to be held from 7-11 p.m. The Board approved the request.

Ware Senior Center news

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Thursday, Aug. 31`

9 a.m. New Senior Spring Walk Meet at Senior Center and wear comfortable footwear. Bringing water, sunscreen, bug spray and

energy snack are suggested. 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for

Beginners 10 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch 2:30 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Sept. 1

9 a.m. Tai Chi

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

1 p.m. Chair Yoga

1:30-3:30 p.m. Chair Massage (available by appointment only, call 413-967-9645; \$5 for 10 min6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5

LUNCHES DINE IN

All meals \$3.50 unless other-

Reservations required by calling 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.

Friday, Sept. 1

(774)397-6500

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



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, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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Life Together

'Mercy for me... Justice for you.'

Of course, we want to hold each other accountable when injustice takes place. Actions and words have consequences.

But our human nature is such that we are tempted to believe we cannot be accountable, and due to many mitigating circumstances, we want mercy. "Judge not that ye may not be judged."

"Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, when you do not see the log in your own?"

Remember when another kid hit you and you hit him back, and the teacher only sees you hitting back, and you get punished. Mercy is good when what you see is not what you get.

Who has shown you mercy? Who has unconditionally loved you, yet held you accountable? What is the face you see when you think of another person showing mercy?

Remember the parent who tells the child, "just tell me the truth and I will not spank you"? Then, the truth be told, the child gets spanked anyway.

What is this teaching? Mercy or jus-

When the foundation of a relationship is a lie, it is nearly impossible to work towards either justice or mercy; just too confusing. When the lie is the operating principle that drives chaos and mistrust, it is very difficult to move toward truth and reconciliation.

When a partner is unfaithful, what does it take to regain trust? When a confession of wrongdoing happens, the other needs to make a decision, and move toward justice or mercy.

Martin Luther tells a story of mercy: A judge announces to the guilty person that all of the evidence shows he/she is guilty and to be punished. But then, with the smack of the gavel the judge announces that in spite of the evidence, "you are free to go."

The liberated person is expected to change their behavior out of gratitude for the mercy, grace, given to her/him. "Do

unto others as I have done unto you." May we all experience mercy. May we all step up and be held accountable.

May we all build a beloved community through words and actions driven by our gratitude

Life Together is written by Rev. Dr. Randall K. Wilburn of Trinity Episcopal Church in Ware. With over 54 years as a parish minister, Wilburn is also an experienced marriage and family counselor. Life Together will deal with topics such as stress, grief, anxiety, healing and hope. To contact Wilburn, email rkeithw42@gmail.

com.





Orange-crowned warbler

I received an email this week from an Oakham resident, who saw a couple of warblers at Muddy Pond in Oakham.

He said they were very vocal and "chirping." He said at first, he thought they were Tennessee warblers, but then he noticed more gray on their head and neck.

They may have been orange-crowned warblers. The orange-crowned warbler is about five inches long and looks similar to the Tennessee warbler.

A distinguishing feature is the orangecrowned has yellow under tail coverts and the Tennessee, white. Drab is a term used to describe the orange-crowned warbler and is best identified by its lack of field marks. The orange crown patch is seldom visible as these warblers flitter about in

It has dull olive-green upper parts and pale olive-yellow underneath. In addition to the yellow under tail coverts it has faint streaking on the sides of the breast.

The female lays three to six cream colored eggs in a nest of bark strips and grasses, placed either on the ground or in a shrub. They eat insects and berries and inhabit dense thickets, forest edges and brushy fields.

Their song is a high-pitched chipping trill, which trails off at the end. The call is a metallic "chet."

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 5



Cherry tomatoes cracked? Mine are too.

I love it when my good friends pose me gardening questions.

Lots of times I turn the questions into columns. My friend Jacquie sent a text with a question about her cherry tomatoes.

She was curious if she could eat them even though they were cracked. Alas, I will delve a little deeper into this topic.

Tomatoes crack when the inside of the fruit expands at a rate that the outer skin can't support. Usually, a soaking rain after a period of drought causes this to happen.

This year we have had pretty constant precipitation, but the cracking happened anyway. As soon as the rain ended a couple days back, I went out to the garden and began picking my cherry tomatoes.

Anything that cracked in my hand or when I put it into the basket could be used.

Cracked fruit still on the plant that had started to heal over I decided to give to the chickens. I didn't want to risk eating fungus, mold or bacteria from fruit flies in the fruit that had scabbed over.

If you don't have chickens, the fruit is perfectly safe to add to the compost pile.

There is little you can do to stop tomatoes from cracking. Some people purposely pick almost ripe tomatoes prior to a storm, and let

TO THE EDITOR

Resident advocates for

AEDs in police cruisers

Short and sweet, Town Manager and Board

I asked about this years ago, and the answer

then was unacceptable. I asked again last year

and was told "yes" this would be happening

and that cost was not a factor, yet still we have

Minutes mean the difference between life

All basic CPR trainings have included AED

trainings for years. I have been a CPR instruc-

tor and have been so dismayed that this vital

piece of equipment has not been put in our

scene, and therefore it makes perfect sense that

A simple Google search shows all the sta-

I am begging that this to happen now.

Putting AEDs in public buildings and sports

fields is also important, but in order to have the

most benefit and impact, equip our trained first

For every minute that the heart is not pump-

they be equipped to truly save people's lives.

We all know that police are 99.9% of the time first to arrive at any home or accident

of Selectmen, make our citizens safety a prior-

ity and get AEDs (automatic external defibril-

lators) in every police cruiser, now.

true first responders with no AEDs.

vehicles.

tistics you need.

LETTER

them finish ripening on the counter.

You can also pick unripe tomatoes and place them in a bag with a ripening banana or an apple and the ethylene gas they release will induce ripening.

For this to work, the tomatoes have to feel softish and show slight coloration. You can also use this trick just prior to the last frost. Pick all of your unripe fruit and try it!

Taste is sacrificed here somewhat - think of a grocery store tomato but maybe a step above. I usually risk the inevitable cracking after a storm because the whole point of growing your own tomatoes is to eat them ripened

by the sun! There are a few varieties that are touted as being resistant to cracking. I have never grown

memory, that was truly crack resistant, but I am willing to experiment. You may wonder what I do with all the

a cherry tomato, at least in my most recent

tomatoes I pick. After separating out the bad tomatoes, I cut

the good ones in half, added a splash of olive oil, some garlic cloves and slivers of basil and set it all in a shallow roasting pan at 375 degrees. I moved them around every 20 minutes or so, taking the tray out in about an hour, after the skins had blistered.

You can either eat the roasted tomatoes this way, as a chunky topping for pasta or pizza or blend it into sauce. Add seasonings to your specific taste. It can be frozen either way.

Cherry tomatoes are also great dehydrated or sun dried. One summer years ago I sliced some and set them on a tray in the greenhouse at work.

The greenhouse was closed up for my annual weed and bug "fry." In a matter of two days, I had the tastiest little tidbits.

It's amazing how all that tomato flavor can be so incredibly concentrated in this round

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CYCLONES

DROUGHT

HAILSTORMS

HEATWAVE

disk! I stored them in a zip lock bag in the

Some people don't feel it necessary to refrigerate sun dried tomatoes, but I wanted to be extra cautious since I didn't use any sort of preservative on the fruit.

Dehydrators are all different. I think it took at least 8 hours for ours to produce that leathery, "done" texture.

Sun dried tomatoes are a great pizza topping, and can be blended into hummus or other savory dishes.

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 with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

OR WE COULD

JUST RETURN HOME

FOR A BACKYARD

COOKOUT.

Ware River News



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WEB



Publications, Inc

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OPINION POLICY

Send opinions to: Ware River News 80 Main Street Ware, MA 01082 or via email to:

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

ing, someone in "Sudden Cardiac Arrest", ambulance/fire responds, because 5-6 minthere is a 7-10% less survival rate. So, even

utes, we are then looking at less than half the chance of survival.

Catherine Buelow-Cascio



What about all the money Congress stole from Social Security?

Dear Rusty

Is there any way that Congress will vote to pay back the Social Security funds they took for their stupid reasons, and left IOUs in place

Because of the funds they took going back many years, we didn't have any decent Cost of Living Adjustments for a few years. In fact, there were I think three to five years that we didn't get any COLA. Please Rusty, can you find out if this is true or false? Help us seniors.

Signed: Resentful Senior

Dear Resentful Senior

I can assure you that I've fully investigated the allegation that politicians have squandered Social Security's money and found that charge to be, simply speaking, a myth. I've gone back and looked at Social Security revenues and expenses since the government first started collecting FICA payroll taxes in 1937 and found that every dollar ever collected for Social Security has been used only for Social Security purposes.

Over the years, various claims have been made that the money has been used for other things, but I've researched each of these charges and found them all to be false.

if the police are there within 2-3 minutes, the

chance of survival is already cut by potential-

ly 30%, but, much better than if we wait till

Where the misconception mostly originates is that any excess money collected from working Americans for Social Security is invested in "special issue government bonds," which pay interest, as mandated by President Roosevelt when Social Security began. As with any investment, a financial obligation instrument is given in return for dollars received.

Remember when we used to buy "U.S. Savings Bonds?" We'd use our money to buy those bonds, hold them and later redeem them for a higher amount than we paid.

That's exactly how Social Security contributions have always worked – excess money collected from working Americans is used to purchase special issue government bonds, which are held in reserve, earning interest, for future Social Security needs.

These special bonds reside in a Social Security Trust Fund and, as of the end of 2022, were worth about \$2.8 trillion.

Are these bonds "worthless IOUs" as some would claim? Hardly, since they are redeemable as needed to pay Social Security benefits.

Considering that, since 2010, Social Security's income from payroll taxes on American workers has been less than needed to cover benefits paid out, redemption of bonds held in the Trust Fund is the only reason that Social Security has been able to continue paying full benefits to every beneficiary. The Trust Fund is a financial safety net, which is now protecting all SS beneficiaries from having their benefits cut.

Problem is, unless Congress acts soon to reform Social Security's financial picture, the Trust Fund will be fully depleted in about 2033 resulting in about a 23% cut in everyone's monthly Social Security benefit. I'm

optimistic that will not happen (it would be political suicide) and, hopefully, Congress will act soon to reform Social Security and restore it to financial solvency and avoid a future cut in everyone's benefits.

Regarding Cost of Living Adjustment and the lack thereof for several past years, COLA is determined by the government's standard inflation measure, the Consumer Price Index. There were several years (2010, 2011, and 2016) in which the CPI showed no inflation so, therefore, no COLA increase was given.

Last year, due to soaring inflation, everyone got an 8.7% increase in their Social Security benefit, but that doesn't happen every year. FYI, the average annual COLA increase over the last two decades has been about 2.6%, although COLA for each year can be wildly different depending on each year's inflation measure.

In any case, the lack of a COLA increase in past years was not a result of any political chicanery, it was the result of low inflation during those years.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

www.warerivernews.turley.com PATRICK H. TURLEY **KEITH TURLEY**

DEANNA SLOAT

www.turley.com

publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Letters to the editor

should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest col-umn 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.

> Letter to the Editor pouimette@turley.com

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.

Submitted Photos



twirls, taps and leaps into 37th year

By Paula Ouimette

pouimette@turley.com

WARE - As summer fun comes to an end, children are getting ready to embark on their next adventure by slipping into their dance shoes for the return of fall classes at Dance Unlimited.

On Monday, Sept. 11, Dance Unlimited located at 23 West Main St., will kick off the 2023-2024 dance year, offering classes Monday through Saturday. Dance styles include ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, modern, hip hop, acro, Irish step, pointe, preschool combination classes, as well as adult

This year's dance season will feature a travel theme.

Now celebrating 37 years in the community, Dance Unlimited has been owned solely by Maribeth Royer since 2018.

Dance Unlimited's family tree can actually trace its roots back to 1962, when it was the St. George Dance Studio owned by the late Lauretta St. George Sorel, a teacher that passed on her love of dance to many generations in town.

"We treat all of our dancers the same," Royer said. "Pushing them hard and making sure they have fun. We encourage everybody to keep working...we're a pretty big family here."

Royer has been a dancer herself since she was 2 years old, and became a student teacher when she was in high school. When she went on to college, she didn't immediately have a major, but she had

decided to minor in dance. She went on to earn h College and is Dance Educators ography.

Wild turkeys and poults

three adult hens and over 12 poults

cross a road recently. As they made

their way across the road, I tried to

However, the young turkeys

moved quickly and often went

behind another poult or a hen. This

was the second time I saw the flock

Loon census

Preservation Committee of New

Hampshire held their annual loon

census. In their newsletter they

said, "During the Loon Census,

a total of 440 volunteers took to

121 lakes across New Hampshire

to count loons. In total, they doc-

umented 431 adult loons, 56 loon

chicks, and 2 immature loons. This

census coverage represents roughly

1/3 of the lakes that LPC biologists

On July 15, the Loon

I had to stop to let a flock of

BACKYARD from page 4

get an accurate count.

in the same general area.



Shown from left are the talented teachers at Dance Unlimited, Miss Mandy, Miss Jessica, Miss Linda, Miss Kristi, Mr. Brett, Miss Maribeth, Miss Jolene, Miss Kaylee and Miss Cora.

of America certified. Royer also earned a bachelor's degree in busi-

Born and raised in Ware, Royer first started at Dance Unlimited as a teacher in 2002, and started the studio's first competition dance. At that time, Dance Unlimited was owned by Linda Kenyon and Jolene St. Onge.

Kenyon still teaches pointe on Tuesdays and St. Onge teaches Saturday classes, ranging from combination classes to tap and Irish step, Royer said.

Dance Unlimited has many teachers on staff in addition to Royer, Kenyon and St. Onge, including Cora Paul, Kristi Kenyon, Brett St. Onge, Mandy Gaudreau, Kaylee Hinckley and Jessica LaFountain.

Royer said the staff at Dance Unlimited are fully educated and p.m. at the studio. licensed, with each one offering ciate's degree in dance from Dean their own distinct style for chore-

monitor annually, and as such, our

final population numbers for the

Loon fact

chick, adult loons often remove the

membrane from the first hatched egg and any attached large pieces

of eggshell from their nest. This

behavior has been widely docu-

mented here in New Hampshire,

both on LPC's Live Loon Cams

and by wildlife photographers, as

an article said, "The removal of

eggshell fragments from loon nests

may occur in part due to the asyn-

chronous hatch of the two chicks. Until the second chick hatches,

the loons brood their first chick on

and around the nest. While they

may take it into the water for brief

swims or to feed it, the first chick

ends up spending a lot of time on

the nest while the family waits for

the hatch of the second chick.'

In a recent newsletter from LPC

well as by biologists in the field.

After the hatch of their first

season will likely be higher."

"We're all very well-trained and able to teach our kids anything they want to learn," Royer said.

Paul is also a lifelong Ware resident, and has been dancing for 16 years, starting at Dance Unlimited when she was 13 years old. She earned her bachelor's degree in dance at Springfield College.

"It's so nice...I love it. It just feels like home," Paul said of teaching at the studio she grew up

Dance Unlimited is home to about 100 students, and has a 16-member competition dance team. Dancers come from Ware, Warren, Palmer, Belchertown and Gilbertville.

Auditions for the competition team are open to anyone, Royer said, with tryouts scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6 from 4:30-6

All dancers need to do in order to prepare for auditions Royer said, is "stretch, come on down, and

The article continued, "Loon

such, they blend in with their sur-

roundings on the nest. The egg

membrane and the inside of egg-

shells, in contrast, are a creamy

white color. That makes them

much more conspicuous and, if

left on the nest, could increase

the chance of nest predation.

Therefore, it is believed that in

removing egg membranes and large

eggshell pieces from the nest, adult

loons may be protecting their chick

and the second egg from being eas-

People may report a bird sight-

ing or bird related experience by

calling me at 413-967-3505, leav-

ing a message at extension 100,

emailing mybackyard88@aol.com

or edowner@turley.com or mailing

to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448,

ily noticed by predators."

Barre, MA 01005.

"We put dancers where they shine the most," Royer said. "We're all here to just come and have a good time and do your best."

Competition team dancers take a stage selfie.

Royer said the competition team competes at three dance competitions a year, and also participates in external workshops.

"After auditions, we work out schedules [with the families] and see what fits," she said of the competition season. The students also get to help pick out costumes and families host fundraisers to help cover the costs of dancing and competing.

"The parents here are great," Paul said.

At the end of the dance season, a recital is held for all dancers the weekend before Memorial Day at Ware High School. Dance Unlimited also offers summer



The Dance Unlimited cast of the 2023 recital "Dancing Through The

dance clinics starting in July.

The studio also recently held its first ever shoe and clothing swap, where gently used and outgrown dance wear (or "Dance Ware" as the staff at Dance Unlimited calls it) was passed on to younger dancers to help keep the next genera-

tion's toes tapping.

If anyone has any questions or would like to register for fall classes, visit www.danceunlimitedma.com. You can also follow Dance Unlimited on Facebook and Instagram.

Dancers hype each other up before

hitting the stage at a dance com-







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Healing Voices Project embraces National Overdose Awareness Day

Nonprofit, podcast continue to make an impact in community

> By Dalton Zbierski dzbierski@turley.com

National Overdose Awareness Day falls on Aug. 31, and the Healing Voices Project is looking to maximize its outreach.

The podcast and newly established nonprofit counter addiction in northern Connecticut and western Massachusetts by sharing stories of addiction, grief, recovery and courage. Through multimedia platforms, it provides education on prevention, intervention and treat-

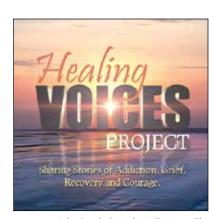
Led by Mike Tourville, a former Chicopee resident, the Healing Voices Project is establishing itself as a community leader.

"I don't want to be the tree that falls in the forest, and nobody hears it," Tourville said. "If this program has the potential to heal broken families and to save lives, is there anything really more important than that to share?'

The Healing Voices Project became an official 501(c)3 nonprofit earlier this month. The podcast began in 2021 and has reached the 50-episode milestone, featuring guests such as Dr. Peter Friedmann of Baystate Health, an expert in the field of substance abuse disorder, as well as Agawam Mayor William Sapelli and state Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield).

When launching the podcast, Tourville debated who he sought to reach and what guests could best deliver the best message. As more guests became involved, he received an unexpected positive reaction from others seeking to

The Healing Voices Project teamed up with the Hampden County Addiction Task Force, which reiterated to Tourville why the podcast is so valuable. He explained the importance of shar-



Submitted Photo by Mike Tourville The Healing Voices Project, a nonprofit and podcast, counter addiction in northern Connecticut and western Massachusetts by sharing stories of addiction, grief, recovery and courage.

ing information, as there are few similar podcasts broadcasting in the region.

"It's a great platform because you can share stories, and care providers can talk about what they're doing, [give] updates and the pros and cons of medically assisted treatments, and they can share different treatment options. So, they've been very eager to share their updates and information,' Tourville said.

Tourville said the podcast has booked guests through the coming months. The podcast addresses information such as what the first call you make should be if you discover a friend or loved one is struggling with addiction.

"I don't have a reason to contact this place until I do...Once I do, well which place do I call and why do I call this one instead of that one? This is the type of thing that we're doing," Tourville said, noting, "at least they have a 'what do you do now' answer."

Tourville said that uniformed people are more likely to make uninformed decisions, which can be detrimental to a person's healing, a family dynamic or a relationship because they handle it the wrong way.

Before the Healing Voices Project podcast launched, Tourville



Photo by The Independent Author Network Author and podcaster Mike Tourville, a former Chicopee resident, started the Healing Voices Project.

published "Voices from the Fallen: True Stories of Addiction, Grief, Recovery and Courage", which shares stories from community members affected directly and indirectly by opioid addiction. Following the 2021 book, Tourville felt a desire to continue the mission, and the podcast was established.

'We have parents who share their stories of what they dealt with, with their children going through this or sadly or even how they coped with the grief of losing something, which is helpful for people to hear that they're not alone," Tourville said.

On the Healing Voices Project website, at https://www.mtmedianetwork.com, one can donate to the program. Tourville explained why every dollar counts; he said his job is to facilitate a message and it takes a team to do it.

"The thing is I'm not an expert at social media, promotion, website management and YouTube editing so we need to get the message out through people who can actually enhance and bring that promotion to the people who need to hear it, and that takes on many paths." Tourville said.

One can listen to the Healing Voices Project podcast on YouTube.

Managing separation anxiety on the first day of school

– just about everyone, no matter what age, experiences the uncomfortable feeling at some point in their lives.

For kids returning to school, changing schools or for first-time kindergarten students, anxiety on the first day of school isn't a rarity and can often be prevented.

"First and foremost, parents need to manage their own anxiety over the separation, or any worry about their child's ability to handle it," said Dr. Bruce Waslick, chief, Child Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry at Baystate Health in a press release.

He noted that parents should make sure children can handle what will be expected of them in school, such as managing their own clothes when they use the bathroom.

For example, children might feel more confident if they have pants with an elastic waist rather than a zipper, and shoes with Velcro rather than laces.

In addition, make sure your child knows how to seek help from adults. Parents can help their children practice this with other adults such as neighbors, librarians, and store clerks, and can also role-play with their children.

Waslick noted parents should exude confidence in their child's

SPRINGFIELD - Anxiety ability to handle school and in the adults who will be taking care of him or her in the classroom.

> "Talk with your child to learn if he or she has any concerns about going to school. Address those concerns and provide reassurance by letting them know how proud you are. Let them know that they are not alone in their feelings, that many other children are experiencing the same concerns as they go to school for the first time," he said.

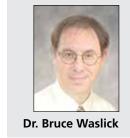
> Children can benefit from meeting their teacher and seeing their school beforehand, especially the classroom, bathroom and lunchroom. Some children feel less anxious if they can bring something special from home, like a small stuffed animal or even a picture of their parents.

> Additional tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics to help your child manage the first day of school include:

Point out the positive aspects of starting school to help your kids look forward to the first day of class. Talk about how they will see old friends and meet new ones, for example.

Find another child in the neighborhood your child can walk to school with or ride on the bus

If you feel it is needed, even



though your youngster is a bus student, drive your child (or walk with them) to school and pick them up on the first day. Get there early on the first day to cut down on unnecessary stress.

Also, when it comes time to drop your child off at school, Waslick said don't prolong the goodbye.

"Tell your child when you will return and try not to be a minute late," he said.

When first starting school, some children may return to problems they had at one time, but have since overcome, such as sleeping, eating, temper tantrums, thumb sucking, and others.

"Your child may simply need a little extra nurturing to support them at a time when they are stretching the boundaries of their independence. However, if the problem persists or worsens, consider discussing it with your child's pediatrician, who may suggest a mental health professional if needed," said Waslick.

For more information if your child is in need of behavioral medicine, talk to an intake coordinator at Baystate's confidential intake line at 413-794-5555.

CONCERT from page 3

ens of solo and chamber works by notable composers, including the work of Reena Esmail on this concert program. He teaches at Boston College and is the Assistant Conductor of the MIT Symphony Orchestra.

Weber is also "an American concert pianist who writes as well as she plays" according to The New York Times. Music fills the plots of her seven novels. Her characters without music in their lives fill the void with murder and

This concert is supported by

grants from the Cultural Councils of Hardwick-New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham and Petersham. Local Cultural Councils are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state

At home viewers may enjoy watching recordings of previous concerts through links on the Friends of the Stone Church website: FriendsoftheStoneChurch. org/music/.

About FOSC

Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. is a public charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015 and open to all. Its mission is to preserve and protect the Gilbertville Stone Church Cultural Center and to make it available as a place of community enrichment.

The Friends are currently in Phase 4 of stabilizing the stone tower, with major funding from the Mass Cultural Council's Cultural Facilities Fund. FOSC welcome donations toward the ongoing preservation project online at www. FriendsoftheStoneChurch.org or by mail to FOSC, P.O. Box 347, Gilbertville, MA 01031.

AUDITfrom page 1

from the Fire Department.

Citizen concerns

shared photos of flooding that has occurred on his property continuously. He said catch basins near his house are backing up and the water runoff is causing damage to

"My front yard looks like a lake," he said, adding that his basement sump pump runs almost "nonstop" after storms.

"I don't want to lose my home to this," he said of the flooding.

He said the water is washing off from the property across the street from him, bringing manure from the livestock into his yard. He said his driveway is also washing out and he has to clean manure off his vehicles constantly.

The resident reached out to Beckley, who informed him that the Department of Public Works Superintendent assessed the catch basins and determined that the lines needed to be cleared out due to possible clogging.

The lines have been cleared in the past, and they have alleviated the problem for a short time the resident said.

The resident said his Ring camera doesn't show the DPW Superintendent getting out of his vehicle when he drove by his house to inspect the catch basins.

The resident said he brought this issue to the town 50 days ago, and he still needs a solution.

Another resident on the road A Coffey Hill Road resident said there may need to be a barrier to prevent the manure from entering the catch basins.

> Selectboard members also discussed the flooding situation, and the hazards it presents.

> Kruckas said something needs to be done to address this safety issue. Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz said the water is "extremely deep," and expressed concern for winter conditions if the issues aren't addressed.

Ware Food Shop, LLC

The former Speedway gas station/convenience store located at 18 West St., now BP, has four gas tanks in the ground: two regular, one mid-grade and one premium. The old pumps had three different

The new owners of the gas station have replaced the pumps, and requested that the Selectboard approve their request convert the 8,000 gallon premium gas underground storage tank into an 8,000 gallon diesel tank, and also convert the 10,000 gallon mid-grade gas into a 10,000 premium gas tank. The mid-grade gas will be blended at the pump.

A representative from Ware Food Shop, LLC said diesel will be

available at pumps on both sides of the gas station. She said there are plans to expand into the adjacent

lot in the future. The Selectboard voted to approve the amendments.

Policy procedures update

Beckley said the policy procedures have been reviewed by the town's labor attorney Layla Taylor, and she is waiting for feedback from Selectboard Chair Caitlin McCarthy and Kusnierz

Kruckas asked what the consequences would be for elected and appointed officials violating the "code of conduct" as outlined in the updated policy procedures, adding that when people take their position under oath, they are swearing to uphold the duties of

that office. He said he believes that if an elected or appointed person violates the policy and is found guilty, that individual should be held financially responsible, rather than

"There should be consequences to the action...If there's an investigation and you get proved that you're lying or not telling the truth or doing one of these things that are in here, then that bill falls on that person," Kruckas said.

Kruckas added that he's seen a lot of town money "wasted on protecting people's friends and not the

The Selectboard voted to table the discussion as members continue reviewing the updates.

Zoning amendments

The Selectboard voted to forward the zoning amendments from a Route 9 property owner, to Planning Board as presented.

Kruckas said years ago, a lot of zoning changes occurred that people didn't know about. He said his property was involved in this change about five years ago, and he was able to change it back.

Kruckas said the Route 9 property should be "made whole" again and he was surprised it's taken this long to address.

"I think it happened to a lot of people," Kruckas said. "I don't think anybody was properly notified of it, because so many people never even knew the zoning change happened."

Town Manager's report

Beckley said ReSource Waste Services of Ware is finishing its state process and is ready to start hearings with the Board of Health.

The site assignment starts Sept. 27 and could continue Oct. 4, 11 and 18. These public hearings will be held at the high school audito-

Beckley thanked Kirsten Krieger, Public Health Nurse, for training 16 town staff for CPR and AED use.

"It was very well received, she's an outstanding trainer," he said. Beckley said Krieger will help purchase AEDs for the town's buildings and facilities.

Monthly brush and yard waste

drop-offs are ongoing at Robbins Road, and this will continue in September. Beckley said there will be weekly drop-offs starting in

Beckley said the cable relicensing contract is moving forward. Iown counsel has gotten a response from Comcast, and they are working on slightly increasing the fees and incorporating Webster Road into the coverage area.

Beckley said there is a program that gives senior citizens a 10% discount on basic rates.

Beckley said the information technologies department had an intern this summer, and she has been working on redesigning the website and updating departmental pages. He said the new website will be easier to search and navigate.

The intern and website designer are also incorporating Americans with Disabilities Act approved

"It will be a much better up-todate site," Beckley said.

Beckley said the town has hired a laborer in the Parks and Cemetery departments, as well as an assistant in the Building Department.

Beckley announced that Administrative Assistant Kristen Jacobsen from the Planning Department has given notice that she is leaving her position.

Dumpster issues

Kusnierz said a dumpster on Parker Street is impeding traffic and making it difficult to travel along the road. He said the dumpster is rusted and leaking on the sidewalk as well.

Kruckas said he brought up this issue six months ago, saying the dumpster blocks the sidewalk and

Appointments

Sherry Pasternack was appointed to the Ware Cultural Council through Sept. 1, 2026, effective Aug. 31.

Nancy Talbot was appointed to be the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority representative for the town, a position she has held pre-

Contract amendments The Selectboard approved the

amended contracts for Fire and Administration Unions in open ses-

Approvals

The Selectboard approved a special event permit for the Fall Fair at the Ware Center Meeting House on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m.-3

Also approved were a series of one-day liquor licenses for Workshop13: Sept. 1, The Word -Open Mic Poetry from 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Sept. 8, Open Mic Night -Music from 6:30-10 p.m.; Sept. 22, preview of Northeast Fine Arts exhibition from 6-8 p.m.; Sept. 23, opening reception of Northeast Fine Arts exhibition from 1-5 p.m.; Oct. 6, The Word - Open Mic Poetry from 6-10 p.m.; Oct. 15, Cultural Performance by Bomba de Aqui from 4-9 p.m.; Oct. 20, Open Mic Night - Music from 6-10:30 p.m.; and Oct. 21, The Big Takeover Concert from 6-10:30

Child Find Quaboag Regional School District

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require districts to annually attempt to identify and locate every qualified (individual with a disability) attending the Quaboag Regional School District. If you suspect your child or a child in your care may have a disability or physical or mental impairment and is in need of an evaluation, please contact the Director of Student Support Services at 413-420-1994.

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Tristan Supka and Lori Perkins of Ware had fun at the Ware Grange Fair last Saturday.



Sylvia Isham of Ware took second place with this stunning sunflower.



Marilyn Obrzut of West Warren took first place for her jolly holiday gourd.



GRANGE from page 1

entries; 281 for adults and 111 for youth.

Earning special rosettes for their entries were Roger Mlynarski of West Warren, Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources - Special Agriculture Rosette -Adult, sweet corn; Lukka Hastings of Palmer, Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources - Special Agriculture Rosette - Youth, chicken eggs; Roberta McQuaid of Hardwick, Massachusetts State Grange - Special Agriculture Rosette - Adult, floral arrangement; Scout Taricano of Brimfield, Massachusetts State Grange - Special Agriculture Rosette -Youth, wildflower "Save the Bees" arrangement; Kelly Trim of Ware, Ware Grange Fair - Special Rosette for an Outstanding Non Agriculture Entry - Adult, themed scrapbook; and Emma LaPointe of Ware, Ware Grange Fair - Special Rosette for an Outstanding Non Agriculture Entry – Youth, painting.

Established in 1888, Ware Grange is one of about 40 Granges across the Commonwealth, with members from Ware, Palmer, Hardwick and other surrounding towns; and even as far away as Florida.

Randall Vaill Jr., secretary of Ware Grange, said that even though the State and National Granges have seen a decline in membership over the years, Ware Grange is "holding steady."

'We would love to get some more folks involved," Vaill said of the family organization.

The Ware Grange Fair is a major fundraiser for the organization, and it provides affordable family fun, including games of chance such as "Lucky Duck," "Balloon Pop" along with games of skill, like the bubble gum blowing contest and pie eating con-

Running the games were Grange member Lauren Vaill and soon-to-be member John Ventura, along with dedicated volunteer Sara Fosberg, all from Palmer.

Tickets for the chicken barbecue, held on the second day of the Fair, always sell out quickly.

Offering a chance to plant some seeds and receive a dolphin-shaped multipurpose camping tool, was Girls Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts Membership Service Specialist Angelica Rodriguez. She also shared information about Girl Scouts, and how people can get involved in the organization that aims to "make the world a better place."

Winning his first ever pie eating contest this year, was 9-year-old Drew Obrzut of East Brookfield, who attended with his grandmother. He credits his victory to the deliciousness of the homemade blueberry pie, which is his favorite kind.

Hazzy McNally, age 16 of Brimfield, has been face painting for three years, offered free designs to fairgoers this past weekend. She has shared her talent at a number of parties, festivals

and even Old Home Day in her town. In addition to the Fair, the Ware Grange hosts a number of hands-on, educational programs throughout the year, made pos-

sible by a grant from the Massachusetts State Grange. "Agriculture and education are the roots of the Grange," Vaill

Coming up in October, the Ware Grange will sponsor its annual pumpkin carving night for local families, that includes a spooky Halloween story.

About Ware Grange

Ware Grange meets on the third Monday of most months at the Grange Hall located at 297 Belchertown Road.

The organization supports education by donating dictionaries to third grade students in Ware schools each year. It also sponsors a program for local children to learn about the history of schools and education in Grange Hall, which originally was the town's two-room schoolhouse in the 1800s.

For more information, visit waregrange.org, email waregrange@comcast.net or find them on Facebook at Ware Grange #164.



Angelica Rodriquez of Girls Scouts of Central & Scout Taricano of Brimfield earned the Western Massachusetts was on hand with a seed Massachusetts State Grange Special Agricultural planting activity and information about the Girls



Rosette for her wildflower arrangement.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette Photography was a popular category for



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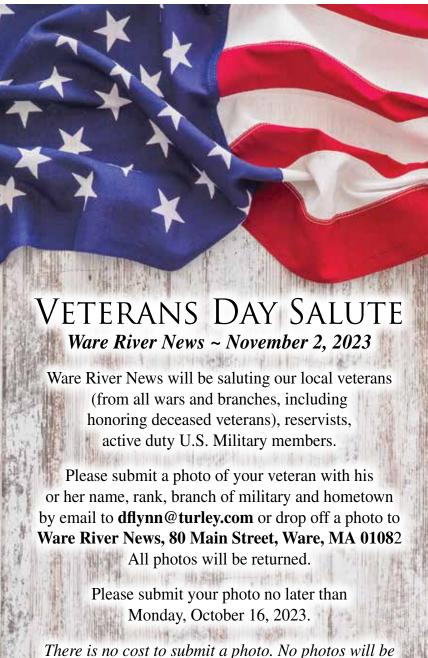
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accepted after deadline. If you would like to use a prior

submitted photo, please contact before to October 10th.



Shown in front of the new sign at the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building are from left, Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Richard Eichacker; Warren Rural Improvement Chair Linda Cunningham; grandson of Charles E. Shepard, David Shepard; Board of Selectmen Chair David Dufresne and Board of Selectmen Clerk Derick Veliz.

Building marks 30 years with new sign and bench



WARREN - Today, Aug. 31, marks the 30-year anniversary of the original dedication of the Charles E. Shepard

To honor this anniversary, an updated sign and a new memorial bench were recently installed at the Municipal Building.

Submitted Photos by Derick Veliz

Back row from left are Board of Selectmen Clerk Derick Veliz; Town Administrator Jim Ferrera; Vice-Chair Richard Eichacker; and **Board of Selectmen Chair** David Dufresne. Front row from left, Warren Rural Improvement Chair Linda Cunningham; and grandson of Charles E. Shepard, David Shepard

PVPC secures grant for preservation projects

This month the National Park Service named the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's 501(c)3 subsidiary - the Pioneer Valley Regional Ventures Center, Inc. - as one of only 13 awardees nationally to receive a Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant.

The \$750,000 grant will allow the state-designated regional planning agency to work with the Ventures Center to develop a subgrant program and select individual projects in rural communities for physical preservation projects that will contribute to economic vitality.

It is the first time a Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant has been awarded to a Massachusetts organization.

Using its 501(c)3 subsidiary, the Pioneer Valley Regional Ventures Center, PVPC staff will provide subgrants to competitively selected preservation and rehabilitation projects on National Register-listed anchor historic buildings in 40 communities with less than 12,500 residents in Hampden and Hampshire Counties and West Central and Southwest Central Worcester

The PVPC's Perseveration Works in Western Mass Bruhn Competitive Subgrant Program's focus is on projects that will support the revitalization of National Register-listed anchor historic buildings that are significant to the community and, when rehabilitated, will contribute to local economic development.

Subgrant awards of up to \$100,000 will be given to work in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties to conduct pre-planning; roof repair or replacement; exterior rehabilitation such as painting, repointing, or historic siding restoration; structural repairs; window and door restoration; and life safety improvements to include fire suppression and ADA compliance.

Eligible owner-applicants will be private, public, or nonprofit. There will be no match required.

Applications will be evaluated based on population, regional distribution, variety of project type, community and economic development potential, pre-planning to determine project needs, and the capacity of the active, local working group.

A Preservation Restriction will be required on a property that receives funding.

These grants mark the fifth year of funding for the program honoring the late Paul Bruhn, executive director of the Preservation Trust of Vermont for nearly 40 years.

The Pioneer Valley is the state-designated regional planning agency for the 43 cities and towns of Hampden and Hampshire Counties.

Parks and Rec. host fireworks and tag sale

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 (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/fyGaw-

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



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Kennedy looks for new additions to **Tri-County** next season

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—While Mike Kennedy was a three-sport athlete at Holyoke High School forty years ago, his favorite sport has always been baseball.

Kennedy was a member of Holyoke's 1985 state championship baseball team.

"We defeated Boston College High School in the Division 1 baseball state finals," said Kennedy, who played first base. "It was a fun experience, especially being a group of city kids. Baseball has always been my favorite sport."

Holyoke, who defeated B.C. High, 4-2, in the state championship game, finished the 1985 season with a 24-1 record. They squeaked a 1-0 victory over Minnechaug Regional in the Western Mass. finals.

After graduating from High School, Kennedy was a member of the PeoplesBank baseball team in the Tri-County League for the twenty four years. During that time, PeoplesBank won eight Tri-County League championship titles.

Kennedy recently completed his first season as the President of the prestigious Tri-County League. He took over the reins from Don LaValley.

"This is my first year as the league President," Kennedy said. "I think it was a very successful

Kennedy has received a lot of support and his right hand man is Eric Emet

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







Ware had a tough season last The Indians have a tough task in The girls hope to rebound with a





Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Robert Williams, Jr. winds up for



Silas Patel gets set to swing.

Pioneers practice

BELCHERTOWN - At Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown, Pathfinder golf is getting ready for the regular season. The Pioneers are currently scheduled to open up the season on Thursday, Sept. 7 with a home match against St. Mary's at 3 p.m.

Pioneers prepare for regular season

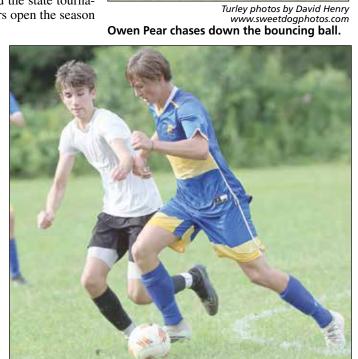


Gavin Peters tries to make a nifty play in the air.

PALMER - On Monday afternoon, Pathfinder boys soccer, which now co-ops with Palmer High, got one of scrimmages in with a matchup against nearby Granby. Pathfinder has been a regular contender for both Western Mass. and the state tournament since merging with Palmer. The Pioneers open the season on Sept. 6 at Hampden Charter at 4 p.m.



Kenny Broullette plays the ball off his knee with pressure coming.



Seth Mitchell slants away from an opponent.

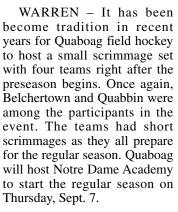
Cougars host annual scrimmage session



Kendall Lariviere starts a drag after a whistle.



Isabelle Burgess meanders toward the opposing goal.



Hanna Nemeroff sends a free hit away.





Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com Amarie Martino converges with an opponent.

Panthers set to make an impact



Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com Haley Ayer sends a pass

season. The Panthers saw their first fall preseason action at Quaboag last Saturday morning. Their regular season opener is on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at Narragansett.



Violet Kelley is all focus as she watches her hit away.



Olivia Breault dribbles up the

Fall VARSITY SPORTS 2023 SCHEDULE 2023

Ware High Schoool

FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 8	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	Narragansett	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Drury	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Greenfield	1 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Athol	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Mahar	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Away	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 28	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Wednesday, Nov. 22	Away	Quaboag	6 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

	CLIV		
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Home	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Hoosac	4:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 14	Away	Putnam	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Commerce	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Westfield Tech	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Drury	7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Home	Taconic	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Away	McCann Tech	4:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Putnam	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Commerce	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	Westfield Tech	6 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Away	Drury	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Away	Taconic	4:30 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Hopkins	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Easthampton	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Mahar	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Holyoke	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Home	Frontier	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Easthampton	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Home	Granby	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	SICS	11 a.m
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Mahar	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Holyoke	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	St. Mary's	7 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Away	Frontier	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Home	Smith Academy	7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Home	Quaboag	7 p.m.

GOLF

Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Hampsnire	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Palmer	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Away	Chicopee Comp	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Frontier	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Southwick	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Hampshire	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Away	Northampton	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Home	Amherst	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Home	Hopkins	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Frontier	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	South Hadley	3 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Belchertown	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Chicopee	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Turners Falls	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	Palmer	3:30 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

GINLS VOL	LC I D <i>i</i>	~LL	
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Home	Monument Mtn	5:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Holyoke	5 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Away	Sci-Tech	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Putnam	5:15 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Granby	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Away	Mt. Everett	5:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Taconic	5:15 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Franklin Tech	5:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Home	Chicopee	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Monument Mtn	5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	Athol	12 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Holyoke	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	Sci-Tech	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	SICS	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Putnam	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	Mt. Everett	5:15 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Belchertown	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	Taconic	6:30 p.m.

Quaboag Regional

FOOTBALL

IOOIDALL			
Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Ludlow	6:30 p.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Quabbin	7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	North	3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Oxford	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Southbridge	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Home	David Prouty	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27	Away	Bartlett	6 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Wednesday, Nov. 22	Home	Ware6 p.m.	
- ·		-	

BOYS SOCCER

Away	David Prouty	6 p.m.
Home	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Home	Bartlett	5:45 p.m.
Home	Grafton	4 p.m.
Away	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Away	Montachusett	3:30 p.m.
Away	Millbury	6 p.m.
Home	South	3:30 p.m.
Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Home	Uxbridge	7 p.m.
Away	Bay Path	8:30 a.m.
Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Home	Auburn	6:30 p.m.
Away	Oxford	6 p.m.
Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Home	Keefe Tech	4 p.m.
Home	Quabbin	2 p.m.
Home	Trivium	3:30 p.m.
	Home Home Home Away Away Home Away Home Away Home Away Home Home	Home Southbridge Home Bartlett Home Grafton Away Auburn Away Montachusett Away Millbury Home South Away Leicester Home Uxbridge Away Bay Path Away Northbridge Home Auburn Away Oxford Away Tantasqua Home Keefe Tech Home Quabbin

GIRLS SOCCER

Wednesday, Sept. 6	Home	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 8	Home	Doherty	6 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Away	Bartlett	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Grafton	6 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16	Away	Assabet	11 a.m.
	Valley Te	ech	
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Millbury	7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Home	Leicester	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Uxbridge	7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	Auburn	10 a.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Home	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Granby	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Notre Dame Aca	d. 3:45 p.m
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Worcester	7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Away	Ware4 p.m.	
Saturday, Oct. 21	Home	Quabbin	12 p.m.
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FIELD HOCKEY

Tl 1 C 7		N-4 D A	.1 1	
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Notre Dame Acad.4 p.m.		
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	North Brookfield 3:30 p.m		
Thursday, Sept. 14	Home	Grafton	3:30 p.m.	
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Montachusett	4 p.m.	
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Doherty	3:30 p.m.	
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Quabbin	3:30 p.m.	
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Leicester	6:30 p.m.	
Thursday, Sept. 28	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.	
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Northbridge	4:45 p.m.	
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Auburn	3:30 p.m.	
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Bay Path	3:30 p.m.	
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	W.Springfield	7 p.m.	
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.	
Monday, Oct. 16	Away	Burncoat	3:30 p.m.	
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Away	Palmer	4 p.m.	
Saturday, Oct. 21	Home	Tantasqua	10 a.m.	
Monday, Oct. 23	Away	Oxford	3:30 p.m.	
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Home	Shepherd Hill	3:30 p.m	

GOLF

<u> </u>			
Monday, Aug. 28	Home	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Away	Bartlett	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Grafton	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Millbury	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Away	Oxford	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Quabbin	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Auburn	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Oxford	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Bartlett	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Bartlett	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Away	Ware3:30 p.m.	
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Quabbin	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	David Prouty	3:30 p.m.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Wednesday, Sept. 6	Home	Auburn, Millbu	ıry 3:30 p.m
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Wednesday, Sept. 6	Home	Auburn, Millb	ury 3:30 p.m
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Southbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Leicester	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Tantasqua	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Northbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Uxbridge	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Oxford	3:30 p.m.

Quabbbin Regional

FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	David Prouty	6:30 p.m
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Murdock	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Ayer Shirley	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Oxford	7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Narragansett	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27	Home	Littleton	7 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Wednesday, Nov. 22	Home	Gardner	6 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Home	Maynard	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 14	Away	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 23	Home	Tyngsborough	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Maynard	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Tyngsborough	5:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19	Home	Fitchburg	6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Quaboag	2 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

dires soccer					
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.		
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Littleton	4 p.m.		
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Away	Maynard	6 p.m.		
Thursday, Sept. 14	Home	Tahanto	4 p.m.		
Thursday, Sept. 21	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.		
Saturday, Sept. 23	Home	Tyngsborough	1 p.m.		
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Away	Oakmont	7 p.m.		
Thursday, Sept. 28	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.		
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Gardner	5 p.m.		

Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Maynard	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Away	Tahanto	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Home	Bromfield	6 p.m.
riday, Oct. 20	Away	Fitchburg	4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 21	Away	Quaboag	12 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY

Wednesday, Sept. 6	Away	Narragansett	6 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	North Middlesex	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Marlborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	Westborough	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Home	Sutton	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Hopedale	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Away	Oakmont	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	North Middlesex	k 4 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Marlborough	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 9	Home	Leominster	12 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Away	Westborough	6 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Notre Dame Acad	. 3:45 p.m.

GOLF

			
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Away	Clinton	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Tyngsborough	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Athol	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Lunenburg	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Away	Littleton	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Home	Quaboag	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Away	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Home	Bromfield	3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2	Home	Oakmont	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	Tyngsborough	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 5	Away	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 9	Home	Clinton	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Littleton	3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Quaboag	3 p.m.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	0111111	
Thursday, Sept. 7	Away	Leominster	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	Hudson	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Away	Littleton	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Lunenburg	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Oakmont	3:30 p.m.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Thursday, Sept. 7 Wednesday, Sept. 13 Wednesday, Sept. 20 Wednesday, Sept. 27 Wednesday, Oct. 4 Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home Away Away Away	Leominster Hudson Littleton Lunenburg Bromfield	3:30 p.m. 4 p.m. 4 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Home	Bromfield	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11		Tyngsborough	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18		Oakmont	3:30 p.m.

Pathfinder Regional

FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 8	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	Athol	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	SICS	6:30 p.m
Friday, Oct. 6	Home	Monument Mtn	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Home	Drury	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20	Away	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27	Home	Smith Voc.	7 p.m.
Nov. 3/4	TBD	Week 9 - TBD	TBD
Nov. 10/11	TBD	Week 10 - TBD	TBD
Thursday, Nov. 23	Away	Belchertown	9 a.m.

BOYS SOCCER (co-op with palmer) Wednesday, Sept. 6 Away Hampden 4 p.m

		Charter	
Friday, Sept. 8	Home	Athol	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Home	PVCA	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Home	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Away	Smith Voc.	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Home	PVCIC	4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 22	Away	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Duggan	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Home	Hampden	4 p.m.
		Charter	
Saturday, Sept. 30	Away	Athol	1 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Away	PVCA	4 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6	Away	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	PVCIC	4 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16	Home	St. Mary's	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Home	Duggan	7 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

Tuesday, Sept. 5	Home	Greenfield	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	Gateway	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Home	Pioneer	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Away	Athol	6 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 15	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Home	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	Sizer	4 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25	Away	Greenfield	3:30 p.m
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Away	Gateway	6 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Pioneer	4 p.m.
Thusday, Oct. 5	Home	Athol	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Home	Renaissance	4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Home	N.Brookfield	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13	Away	Franklin Tech	4 p.m.

GOLF

GOLF			
Thursday, Sept. 7	Home	St. Mary's	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11	Away	Central	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Away	Westfield Tech	3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18	Home	Mohawk	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 21	Home	McCann Tech	3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 28	Home	SICS	3 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 29	Away	Mohawk	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Away	St. Mary's	3:30 p.r
Thursday, Oct. 5	Home	Central	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Home	Westfield Tech	3 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12	Away	McCann Tech	3 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Away	SICS	3:30 p.r
Thursday, Oct. 19	Home	Athol	3 p.m.

Owls picked fifth in preseason poll

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University football has been picked to finish seventh in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference in the league's annual preseason coaches' poll.

Westfield finished with 19 points. Defending conference champion UMass Dartmouth headed the poll with 63 points and seven of the nine first place votes. Coaches may not vote for their own teams in the polling process.

The Corsairs were followed by Bridgewater State with 53 points, WestConn with 47 points and one first place vote, and Framingham State with 46 points and the other first-place vote. Plymouth State was fifth with 41 points, followed by Mass Maritime (29 points).

Westfield points).
Westfield anked ahead of Worcester State (19)

and Fitchburg State (10).

The Owls return a solid nucleus of veterans, which includes leading rusher Jordan Smith (Coventry, Conn.), quarterbacks Gabriel Fernandez (Holyoke, Mass.) and Colby Pires (Milford,

Mass.).
On the defensive side, top tackler Tyler Cooley (Randolph, Mass.) and defensive lineman Cade Nelson (Shrewsbury, Mass.) headline a large group

of returnees in the front seven.

The Owls have been in preseason camp since Aug. 11. They will kick off the regular season with a non-conference game at Anna Maria on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 12 noon.

Foursomes needed for charity golf tournament

AGAWAM – Registration and signups are currently open and underway for the Sixth Annual "Shoot Fore The Stars To Cure Cancer" Golf Tournament to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. In the first five years, the event has raised over \$15,000 for cancer research. The four-person scramble event will take place on Monday, Sept. 18 at Wintonbury Hills Golf Course in Bloomfield, CT. The event will be an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be prizes up for grabs (Closest to Pin/Long Drive) along with a putting contest. Entry fee covers golf, lunch and dinner. Please contact ShootFOREtheStarstoCureCancer@gmail. com more information. We hope you can join us.

TRI-COUNTY from page 9

"Eric has been a very big help to me," Kennedy said. "He has kept my head above water in my first year as President.

In his role as the T.C.L. President, Kennedy presented the 2023 championship trophy to PeoplesBank player/manager Joe Ferry.

Top-seeded PeoplesBank didn't have very much trouble sweeping second-seeded Chicopee Falls Tigers in the best of three championship series.

PeoplesBank captured the T.C.L. championship title for the tenth consecutive year, and for the 18th time since 1995.

While PeoplesBank has been the dominant team in the T.C.L. during the past 30 years, there were only five other teams in the league this summer.

Kennedy is looking to add a few more teams before the start of the 2024 season.

"My main goal is to add a few more teams," Kennedy said. "I would like to have at least ten teams in our league during the next couple of years. I want this league to get back to where it used to be."

The three teams that dropped out of the T.C.L. following the 2022 season were Pa'Lante, Easthampton and Teddy's Bear Pool.

On a positive note, 413ATC was a first-year member of the T.C.L. this summer. They finished in third place behind PeoplesBank and the Chicopee Falls Tigers in the regular season standings. They were swept by the Tigers in the semifinals.

"The 413 team had a bunch of young players," Kennedy said. "For being a first-year team in this league, I thought they had a very good season."

Kennedy is hoping more of the high school and Legion baseball players will join the Tri-County League during the next couple of years.

"What we really need to do is to get the younger baseball players from the area to play in this league," he said. "Most of our current players are older."

older."

The other three T.C.L. teams this summer were St. Joesph's, DiFranco Realty, and the

Longmeadow Cardinals.

The Tri-County League teams play their games on some of the best kept baseball fields in Western Massachusetts

Massachusetts.

PeoplesBank homefield is MacKenzie Stadium

in Holyoke.

The Chicopee Falls Tigers play their home games at historic Szot Park

games at historic Szot Park.

The 413ATC home field was at Westfield State University and St. Joesph's has played their home games at St. Joe's Ballpark in Thorndike for many

years.

"All of our baseball fields are high quality," Kennedy said. "Most of the fields have lights, which is always a bonus."

While PeoplesBank will be looking to add another championship title to their collection in 2024, all the other Tri-County League teams will be looking to knock them off the top of the mountain.





Campsites were set up for the weekend.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago Medicine River was ready to host the two-day annual Medicine River Charity Good Times Family Powwow.

POWWOW from page 1

something a little different, a little special," said Hay.

The Medicine River Powwow features many traditional events including the women's cast iron skillet toss, potato dance, Mother's Honor Dance, Red Road Meetings, community fire and storytelling, and drumming.

Drum shows are very popular at the powwow with numerous groups participating. This year, three groups of drummers attended the annual Powwow.

Out of New Hampshire is the group Heavy Rain. Out of Massachusetts and Canada is Sacred Earth Singers. Out of Quebec, Canada is L'Esprit Des Vents- Spirit of the Winds, an all-female drum group.

Along with the entertainment, a new addition to the Medicine River Powwow is a food truck provided to serve their visitors.

When the Powwow arrives, the most important idea the Hays hope to share is to have everyone feel welcome and grow their community.

"Our event is all inclusive, everyone is equal, and we're interested in building our community," said Hay.

The Powwow is a fun gathering event to learn about many Native American traditions and cultures. Tony and Mya plan to continue their tradition by having the event in what they believe is a kind com-

"The local public has been very kind to us," they said.

One regular vendor at the Powwow was Glenn Bentz and his Haudenosaunee living history. Bentz of New York is a sage, a teacher of old ways. His program, Haudenosaunee involves the teachings of his native culture that he has been doing for 25 years.

One of his main subjects of the program includes teaching about the first five native nations that date back to 1124 A.D. The confederation brought together the tribes of Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, and Mohawk.

Bentz is of the Seneca tribe and has ancestors going back seven gen-

Along with his teachings, Bentz displayed many old trade items. These items including furs, weapons, and tools were items traded with European settlers.

The teachings by Bentz involve a lot of history and life lessons; many Bentz hopes his students will take into consideration.

"Always take into consideration every decision you make, think of the seven generations ahead. What effect will it have on them," said Bentz. A great learning experience that is part of the Medicine River Powwow.

The Powwow also supports funds for Angel's Answer, Inc. out of Ware. The annual Powwow takes place every fourth weekend in August and will be back in Gilbertville next year.

Medicine River can be found on Facebook and can be contacted via email at Medicineriver@comcast.

Summer Jam takes the Great Hall stage

Local talent shines at all-ages open mic concert

> By Paula Ouimette Editor pouimette@turley.com

WEST BROOKFIELD -Seasoned musicians Wild Thyme set the stage as the opening act during West Brookfield Cultural Council's first ever Summer Jam concert this past Saturday.

Local musicians from West Brookfield, Ware, New Braintree, Rutland, Paxton and beyond performed a variety of music that spanned genres and decades.

Opening with a rendition of Bob Seger's "Mainstreet", Wild Thyme rocked the house with classic hits covering the 1970s to the

For Ware resident Karen Gallant, performing for an audience has been a lifelong dream.

"It's kind of a bucket list thing," she said.

Gallant has only been performing on stage for a year, starting at an open mic hosted by Cultural Council member Amy "A.J." Kiernan at Lost Towns Brewing

in Gilbertville. Gallant is part of Water Bear with Kiernan.

'We play at Lost Towns all of the time," Gallant's bandmate Richard Kszaszcz, also of Ware, said. "It's just a lot of fun and it's nice to play out."

Kszaszcz has been a musician for 50 years and he was happy to sit in with Wild Thyme alongside Gallant for the Summer Jam, and even joined them at a concert on Lake Wickaboag the week before.

Playing at an open mic like the Summer Jam is a lot more fun than playing professionally Kszaszcz said, who used to be a wedding singer.

Next to take the stage was Paxton-based band Invisible Ink.

Made up of 12-year-olds Charlie Palumbo, Nick Beaudoin, Jake Erickson and Jack Cross, Invisible Ink has only been performing together since January. This was their sixth performance in front of an audience, having also played at a talent show, a party, and a few events.

Invisible Ink performed a mix of grunge to pop-punk, with songs like "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana and "All the Small Things" and "Dammit" by Blink-

High school sophomore Cecelia



West Brookfield musicians Jeff Robbins and Janet Baskowski have been performing together for at least 25 years.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette Karen Gallant and Richard Kszaszcz, both from Ware, sit in on per-

Potts of New Braintree may only be 15 years old, but her powerful vocals rivaled the artists she covered, from Adele to Kelly Clarkson and Evanescence.

cussion with Wild Thyme.

A member of her school's chorus since eighth grade, this was Potts' first time performing alone

Potts is planning to go into musical theater for her career and she said her dream role would be JD in "Heathers" the musical.

"It is so good," she said. Longtime friends and West

Brookfield residents Janet Baskowski and Jeff Robbins have been playing together for "years and years," or at least a quarter of a century.

With Robbins on mandolin and Baskowski on guitar, the two performed a mix of folk and bluegrass, including "Wichita", "Buckskin Baby" and "Steel Rails".

The two friends have performed together on the bandstand on the Common, as well as at the Asparagus Festival, and they were eager to join Summer Jam. 'We just wanted to encourage

others and show our support," Robbins said, adding that it's not the music that makes an open mic event great, it's the community.

Several more acts took the stage, each one bringing their own

unique style and talent to Summer Jam well into the evening.

About the Cultural Council

The Cultural Council is made up of Rebecca Fay, Amy Kiernan, Susan Rowden, Diane Vayda, Jane Higgins and Amy Dugas, and more community involvement is welcomed.

The Cultural Council has sponsored more than 30 events and programs for the current grant cycle, ranging from poetry to drumming circles to gardening. The Cultural Council is also sponsoring musicians at the Farmer's Market on Wednesdays on the Common.

The Cultural Council has sponsored a yo-yo show, a juggler, a poetry and jazz series, and has recently kicked off a Coffee and Wood Concert Series at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library.

The Coffee and Wood Concert Series continues Sept. 21 with Rod Abernethy; Oct. 19 with Kemp Harris; and Nov. 16 with The Sea, The Sea.

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, email wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com or call 508-867-3610.



Invisible Ink performed songs by Nirvana and Blink-182.



sang some powerhouse ballads.

WARREN from page 1

require the status and moved to remove it.

The Board decided to have town counsel review whether or not the Plumbing Inspector would need the designation.

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie presented a request as well. He said on-call firefighters could need the designation, as some serve on boards or committees also, or they may have an outside business.

Lavoie said the designation would not apply to full time staff.

Town Administrator James Ferrera said town counsel confirmed that the designation should not be granted to the town's full time employees.

The Board will have Lavoie's request reviewed by town counsel as well, to see if the designation can cover just on-call firefighters, rather than the whole department.

The Board removed special municipal employee status for the Moderator, Planning Board, Sewer Commission, Cemetery Commission, Board of Health, Building Inspector, Dog Officer and Council on Aging.

Maintaining special municipal employee status until further review by town counsel are the Plumbing Inspector, Fire Department and election workers.

Dufresne said any board or

committee in need of the status should present the request to the Board in writing.

Board of Health vacancy

Ferrera read a response from town counsel, that said the vacant position on the Board of Health could be filled by James McKeon, who also holds positions on the Highway Department, Emergency Management and the Community Emergency Response Team.

He said there is a process to follow in order for this to happen, but the town counsel's opinion was that this person was qualified to serve.

Dufresne said there is another application for the vacancy. received from Joseph Kondrat.

Dufresne said he doesn't want to take away from any of McKeon's other roles in the town, which he dedicates a lot of time and effort to.

'Jim does a ton in town," Eichacker agreed, adding that Kondrat has shown continued interest in becoming involved with the

The Board agreed that both would be good candidates to fill the vacancy and thanked them for showing interest.

The Board voted to appoint Kondrat to fill the vacancy until the next election, at which time anyone can run for the position.

Police report

Police Chief Gerald Millette said the Department received 2,362 calls for service, including 109 incident reports, 18 total arrests, three protective custodies, 172 motor vehicle stops and 65 citations, during the month of July

He said July also saw a string of motor vehicle break-ins. He recommended that residents lock their doors, and urged them not to leave their keys in the vehicle.

Millette said he took a tour of Behavior Health Network's Family Resource Center on Main Street in

"They provide a lot of services," he said, including support groups, parenting programs, assessment and referral services. He said they will also help secure food and clothing for families.

On Sept. 9 from noon-3 p.m. the Police Department will host a car seat inspection and installation on the Common. There will also be a prescription drug take-back that

Town Administrator's report

Ferrera said a previous resignation from the Board of Health (received during the Aug. 17 meeting) was rescinded as of this meeting day. He said the office hours will be modified, and will now be open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

He said the town's financial team has been working with VADAR Systems to get the software program up and running in the next few months.

"It will be just an ongoing process," he said. Ferrera said the financial team

is also working to close out fiscal Ferrera is also meeting with

Rural Affairs Director Anne Gobi about the needs of Warren as a rural community. Ferrera updated the Board on possible grants the town could apply for, including regional

grants, Community One Stop for Growth, Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association and more.

Levee compliance Dufresne said the berm to the

levee was not reestablished as required by the Army Corps of Engineers. A letter will be sent to the mill complex owner requesting that the work be completed in a set timeframe.

He said the asphalt will need to be removed, and loam applied to the barrier, matching the rest of the terrain.

The Board approved sending a letter requesting the work be completed within 90 days.

Drinking on gazebo

Dufresne said while attending

Articles 28

an event, his attention was drawn to a number of empty alcohol bottles around the gazebo on the Common. He said that himself and McKeon removed the bottles.

Dufresne said there may be a need to add more lights, or motion lights, on the gazebo to prevent drinking. He also requested more police surveillance of the area at

Draft of job description

Ferrera presented an updated job description for the Building and Planning secretary's position, which hasn't been updated since

"It's quite old, and definitely needs some updating," he said.

Ferrera looked at comparable positions in other towns and created an updated draft for the Board of Selectmen and Planning

review. The Board approved the draft, and authorized the position to be posted.

Board to

and 30

Ferrera said the Town Clerk received a letter from the Attorney General's office regarding bylaw changes approved at the town meeting.

He said the Attorney General suggested that articles 28 and 30 be reviewed by town counsel. He said town counsel saw no reason for any changes to the articles.

Tax taking

Ferrera said the town has received ownership of 71 Pine St., through tax taking. The parcel does not have a house on it anymore.

Ferrera said there are a number of properties in tax taking that the town could potentially auction off.

Anyone who attended

NEW SALEM ACADEMY There will be an

ALL SCHOOL REUNION

Saturday, September 9th 5-9pm Orange Legion, 40 Shays Hwy. Call 508-867-3203 for reservations

Pay \$20 at the door but we MUST have a head count to the caterer by Sept. 3rd

REMINISCE WITH YOUR CLASSMATES!!!

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 22-29, the Ware Police Department responded to 29 miscellaneous calls, 40 administrative calls, 13 traffic violations, 17 emergency 911 calls, nine animal calls, five harassments, four thefts/larcenies, four assist other agencies, eight motor vehicle accidents, four frauds, one safety hazard and 14 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, Aug. 22

10:17 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, North Street, Advised

1:06 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Osborne Road, Services Rendered 2:03 p.m. Abandoned/Found Property, East Street, Investigated 2:47 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Main Street, Services Rendered

4:54 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Church Street, Advised

Summons: Caseyleigh Winot, 25, Spencer Larceny Over \$250 from +65/

Disabled 5:19 p.m. DUI/Impaired,

Palmer Road, Taken/Referred to 5:38 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/

Threat, Richfield Avenue, Advised 6:27 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street, Investigated

6:40 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Highland Village, Advised

7:04 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Hillside Terrace, Advised

7:31 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Parker Street, Services Rendered 9:03 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Knox Street, No Action Required

9:05 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Belchertown Road, Could Not

9:45 p.m. Safety Hazard, West Main Street, Investigated

Wednesday, Aug. 23

1:53 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gould Road, Advised

12:46 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered

3:47 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Old Belchertown Road,

4:44 p.m. Animal/Injured/ Hunted, Pleasant Street, Services

Rendered Summons: Italo Passos, 22,

Animal, Cruelty to; Animal,

5:13 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Avenue, Advised Crash, West Street, Services

9:23 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, North Street, Vehicle Towed

Thursday, Aug. 24

10:13 a.m. Smoke Investigation, Monson Turnpike Road, Could Not Locate 5:52 p.m. Warrant Service, Otis

Avenue, Arrest Made Arrest: Darrion Bucknam, 19,

WMS Warrant

6:21 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/ Threat, Dale Street, Advised

Friday, Aug. 25

1:55 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made 4:37 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Main Street, Report Made 5:42 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Storrs Street, Dispatch Handled 6:42 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Belchertown Road, Unfounded

Saturday, Aug. 26

10:50 a.m. Administrative, North Street, Services Rendered Arrest: Kaylee Brown, 18,

Vernon, Connecticut Breaking and Entering for Misdemeanor; Trespass

Arrest: Rockeem S. Handfield, 20, Ware

WMS Warrant; Breaking and Entering for Misdemeanor; 3:03 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted,

West Street, Report Made 7:54 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/

Threat, Otis Avenue, Advised 9 p.m. Warrant Service, North

Street, Arrest Made Arrest: Jeremy A. Huston, 48,

WMS Warrant

10:56 p.m. DUI/Impaired, Main Street, Arrest Made Arrest: Angela L. Valle, 47,

OUI-Liquor or .08%, 2nd Offense; Leave Scene of Property Damage; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle

Sunday, Aug. 27

2:47 a.m. Disturbance/ Nuisance, Highland Street, Investigated

4:27 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, Dispatch Handled 4:48 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Spring Street, Dispatch Handled 8:24 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Third

9:51 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/

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.

1:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation/Warning

1:26 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Services

4:13 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Walnut Street, Services Rendered 4:31 p.m. Drugs, Main Street, Report Made

Summons: Cassandra R. Kelly, 32, Ware

Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Uninsured Motor Vehicle: Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID

5:28 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick, Verbal Warning Issued

Monday, Aug. 28

2 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Springs Street, Could Not Locate 3:28 a.m. Traffic Violation,

West Street, Vehicle Towed Summons: Sherry J. Bateman,

54, Hardwick License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

11:46 a.m. Fraud/Deception, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered 1:50 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, North Street, Services Rendered

2:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued

4:31 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Assist Given 6:22 p.m. Fraud/Deception. North Street, Advised

8:55 p.m. Assist Other Agency, West Main Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Aug. 29 2:07 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

During the week of Aug. 13-20, the Warren Police Department responded to 253 building/property checks, 132 community policing, 20 traffic enforcements, two radar assignments, 30 emergency 911 calls, three frauds/forgeries, one complaint, one threat, one harassment, one property dispute, one missing person, one vehicle fire, three motor vehicle accidents, three animal calls and 50 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Aug. 13

10:39 a.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Officer Spoke to Party

5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued 8 p.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Main Street, Report Filed

Monday, Aug. 14

12:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Walkeen Koziol Road, Citation Issued

1:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

5:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation Issued 6:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued 9:40 a.m. Neighbor Dispute,

Brimfield Road, Referred to Other Agency 11:32 a.m. Threats, A Street,

Information Given 12:44 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Old West Brookfield

Road, Report Filed 1:11 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Southbridge Road, Transported to

Hospital 2:51 p.m. Unwanted Party, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed

2:52 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Reed Street, Officer Spoke to Party 3:08 p.m. Lost/Disoriented

Person, Brimfield Road, Returned to Family/Guardian 3:30 p.m. Unconscious/

Unresponsive/Syncope, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital 3:50 p.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdial/Abandoned, Old West

Brookfield Road, Information Taken 6:42 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, Winthrop Terrace,

Transported to Hospital 7:50 p.m. Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed

S.O.N.G. from page 1

affected by the conflict in Ukraine, now in Poland," Michele said.

11:13 p.m. Bleeding, Pleasant Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, Aug. 15

4:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued 4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 7:32 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report

7:58 p.m. Hypertensive, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital

9:21 p.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle, Brimfield Road, Report

Wednesday, Aug. 16

4:09 a.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Spring Street, Transported to Hospital

6:12 a.m. Chest Pain/ Heart Problems, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital

9:36 a.m. Vehicle Fires, Mill Street, Investigated

2:01 p.m. Swollen Liver, Main Street, Transported to Hospital 5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Southbridge Road, Citation Issued 5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire, North Street, Report Filed

7:34 p.m. Swollen Leg, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital

7:53 p.m. Falls, Old West Brookfield Road, No Fire Service Necessary

Thursday, Aug. 17

4:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Citation Issued 7:54 a.m. Medical Alarm, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

8:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire, Parkview Street, Report Filed

9:21 a.m. Harassment, Winthrop Terrace, Report Filed 9:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Citation Issued 9:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

10:37 a.m. Missing Person, Brimfield Road, Located/Found

Main Street, Citation Issued

Stop, Boston Post Road, Criminal

Complaint

Summons: Jon J. Rose, 38, Brookfield

Unregistered Motor Vehicle 12:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire, Main Street, Report Filed

3:17 p.m. Allergic Reaction, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

5:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written

7:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Citation Issued

Friday, Aug. 18

6:44 a.m. Suspicious Person/ Vehicle, Main Street, Report Filed 11:52 a.m. Bleeding, River Street, Transported to Hospital

2:36 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Winthrop Terrace, Officer Advised 3:24 pm. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 3:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning

3:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

8:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Pursuit, Main Street, Information

Saturday, Aug. 19

12:56 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Brook Road, Transported to Hospital

4:38 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Central Street, Criminal Complaint Summons: Daniel Silva, 21,

Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 8:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle

Pursuit, West Brookfield, Referred to Other Agency 9:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 11:18 p.m. Disorderly Conduct, Washburn Avenue, Report Filed 11:45 p.m. Headache/Cancer

to Hospital

Patient, Chapel Street, Transported

Sunday, Aug. 20 12:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop,

Main Street, Written Warning 2:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint Summons: Marshall I. McCord

Turley Publications is looking for a "hands on" energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community

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Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our

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Proficiency in Associated Press style

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it • Equally comfortable writing hard news, features
- and event coverage · Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced,

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to



Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com

We invite you to join us

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm

This group will be held in zoom, is

Michele said her husband Wally has been to the border three times on his own, and they've gone once together.

Wally said a fifth trip is being planned for Oct. 1, to bring immediate relief for children whose parents were killed in the war or bombed out of their homes. Thanks to previous efforts, the children in Poland's orphanages are "pretty settled," he

Making the trip from Florida for the event were Michele's sister and S.O.N.G., Inc. supporters Kathy Small and her husband Perry Small. When the organization first started out, Kathy could be found "clowning" around along with her puppet, wearing a clown suit sewn by her

late mother. Now, Kathy and Perry make the trip each year for this event, oftentimes accompanied by a spider-

web-slinging superhero. "It's really awesome to see all of the changes," Kathy said of the growing organization and the event.

The three featured bands at

the event have all helped support

S.O.N.G., Inc.'s mission for a num-

ber of years, some right from the Peter J. Newland and RadioX have been there since the beginning,

Newland said.

"I grew up in a family that believed in community service," the Monson-based songwriter said. Newland said he met the Connors

through his brother, who worked

with Wally. When he first heard about S.O.N.G., Inc.'s mission, he knew he had to be part of it, donating his

band's performance every year. Newland and Radio X performed an original set of songs which he described as a "cross section of American music." Newland is also a founding member of the band FAT, which just celebrated 55 years of making music.

Also donating their time at

S.O.N.G.Stock were the Lisa Martin

Band and Secret Sage. Martin is a Ludlow songwriter who performs a variety of folk, rock,

11:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, 12:06 p.m. Property Dispute, Ir 40 Ludlow Carpenter Road, Officer Spoke to License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; License not 12:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle in Possession S.O. N. 50/50 AFFL



Megan Stapleton of Monson gets ready to paint faces. Stapleton has supported this event for many years.

country and blues and Secret Sage is a central Massachusetts group that has been performing for over a decade.

Secret Sage got its start with S.O.N.G., Inc., Wally and Michele

said, with some of the band's members performing with the organization for 16 years. All of the bands at S.O.N.G.Stock have gifted their

tunes and talent to the organization,

as they have every year. "They donate their time and help raise money for the kids," Wally

Wally thanked Brimfield Winery for being "big supporters" of

venue for this event for the past four

"It's a beautiful venue and we

appreciate them a lot," Wally said.

About S.O.N.G., Inc.

For more information about S.O.N.G., Inc., its mission or ways you can help, visit supportingorphans.org, email info@supportingorphans.org or call 413-813-8100. You can also find them on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, or stop by S.O.N.G., Inc., located at 13 North St., Ware.

Monetary donations can be mailed to S.O.N.G., Inc., c/o North Brookfield Savings Bank, 9 Gilbert S.O.N.G., Inc. and providing the St., North Brookfield, MA 01535.

obituary

Weir River Concert Band gets ready for 19th season

Band will begin rehearsals for its 19th season on Sept. 6 at the Stone Church Cultural Center in Gilbertville.

The band rehearses from 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings from September through June. The band performs two concerts each season; a Christmas concert in December and a concert of traditional, pop and marches for concert band in

The band also provides live music for the Memorial Day and Veterans Day parades in Ware.

The Weir River Concert Band (originally the Ware Community Band) was formed in February of

Former Ware High School Band Director John Sacco formed the band at a time when instrumental music was no longer being offered in the Ware school system. He con-

The Weir River Concert tinues to conduct the band entering its 19th season.

The band was created to give musicians of all ages and abilities a place to learn and grow as musicians. The band has included members from the ages of 11-90 over

The group consists of musicians from the surrounding area; from Rutland to Monson and places in

The Weir River Concert Band mission statement is "to give musicians of all ages and playing levels a place to improve their musicianship in an accepting and enjoyable atmosphere. It is also our mission to provide enjoyable, quality performances for the people of the surrounding communities."

The Weir River Concert Band has been fortunate to join forces and collaborate with the Stone Church Cultural Center. After the COVID outbreak, the band was not able to use the Ware High School as a rehearsal/concert venue.

The Stone Church graciously provided the band with a place to rehearse and hold performances. They have also taken on much of the responsibility of making the concert happen.

The Weir River Concert Band would like to extend an invitation to musicians in the area to come join the fun. The only requirements are that you have your own instrument, you are able to read music (at any level), are willing to attend rehearsals on a regular basis (the band understands that things can sometimes interfere, and that's okay), and want to have some fun while improving your musical abil-

If you would like to join, please contact Joanne Meegan by email at jomeegan@comcast.net.

Holden, 74

Lillian M.

HARDWICK - Lillian M. (Champagne) Holden of Hardwick, died on Monday, Aug. 21, 2023, at

her home, surrounded by her loving family, at the age of 74. She leaves

her sons, Glen and his wife Reneé along with their children, Ben

and Rachel of Pomfret Center, Connecticut, Jason and his wife Donna and their son, Ty of Hardwick, and Joshua of Portland, Manie and his children Hudson, Bryce and Jemma. She also leaves her daughter Amber Muller and her daughter Jade of Ludlow, as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband of 54 years, Charlie, in September 2022, and earlier by her brothers, Paul J. and Michael Champagne. She was born in Ware, daughter of the late Paul E. and Ellen M. (Bolger) Champagne.

Lillian owned the Country Clipper

Death notice

Holden (Champagne), Lillian M. Died Aug. 21, 2023

Barber Shop for over 20 years. She also was the long-time tax collector for the Town of Hardwick.

Together with her husband Charlie, they owned the Gate 43 Bait and Tackle Shop in Hardwick. She enjoyed crocheting and reading, and was a member of the Tuesday Morning Bowling League.

She was also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 36 in Ludlow, Vermont where she and Charlie had a summer cabin.

A private burial will be held in the Hardwick Center Cemetery at a later date. A Celebration of Life for both her and Charlie will be held in the In lieu of flowers, memorial dona-

tions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at: http://www. woundedwarriorproject.org Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30

Pleasant St., in Ware is assisting her family with arrangements. An online guest book is available

at charbonneaufh.com

Ware River News Obituary POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices &

Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to:

obits@turley.com.

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

New Braintree Library to hold story time

New Braintree Public Library, 45 Memorial Drive, is offering their next story time programs on Monday, Sept. 11 and Monday, Sept. 25, both at 9 a.m.

This reading and crafts pro-

NEW BRAINTREE – The gram for preschool children is held twice a month on Mondays at the library On Monday, Sept. 11, the story will be "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr and John Archambault and Monday, Sept. 25 will feature "Perfect Square" by

Parental supervision is required. People may call the library at 508-867-7650 during regular business for more information.

ASSETS from page 1

al and compliance risks from the town to Aquarion.

With cash and other current assets, including paying off some long-term debt, pensions, other post-employment benefits and other liabilities, would bring the town's net proceeds to \$9.993 million.

LaChance said all of the town's water and wastewater staff are "incredibly valuable" and they would "welcome them with open arms" onto Aquarion's

He said licensed operators and staff are becoming

'We see tremendous value in your employees," LaChance said. "They would receive equal or better compensation and benefits...that's incredibility important for their livelihoods."

According to a rate study by Tighe & Bond, from 2021 to 2030 the town's water rates are projected to increase to \$734 a year, which is about a 100% increase, LaChance said. With Aquarion, the rate is projected at \$580 a year.

Following the review and recommendation of the Selectboard, information sessions would be held prior to a town meeting vote and approval of the agreement.

Morrissey, who has been with the company for close to 30 years, provided background about

Aquarion and the water industry. He said Aquarion is the largest water utility in New England, and about the seventh largest in the U.S.

Morrissey said most water and wastewater is run by municipalities, but over the past decades there has been an increasing trend where municipalities are privatizing these assets.

We've been in business for some 166 years. Morrissey said, serving about 800,000 people across three states. He said they are based primarily in Connecticut, but they have been expanding more into Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Aquarion operates in Dover, Millbury, Oxford, Plymouth and Sheffield and has about 365 employees.

Since 2011, Aquarion has acquired 87 public water systems with more the 34,000 connection serving

about 100,000 people, he said. "This really is a partnership," Morrissey said.

Morrissey said the water industry today is more complex and requires a lot of technical expertise, which is why many municipalities are seeking privatization.

Customer service is important, and he said according to a survey, almost 95% of Aquarion's customers report that they are satisfied or extremely satisfied with the service they receive.

"Another important value of Aquarion is our focus on employees," he said. "Many of our employees they tend to come to Aquarion, and they stay."

He said Aquarion's employees are also involved with the community, including volunteering with local

'We're essentially embedded in the communities based upon the services we provide," Morrissey said. He said environmental stewardship is a top priority

for the company as well.

Lawrence explained the challenges the town's systems are facing with staying compliant and maintaining infrastructure.

newspaper correspondent

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OPPORTUNITY

He said the average daily demand for the water system is .53 million gallons per day, which is down from the last five years. Residential gallons per capita per day is 43.

Lawrence said this means the town's population is staying steady, leaks in the system are reduced, and there is sufficient supply for the future. Unaccounted for water totals 8.2%.

"Not every water system can say that," he said.

He said the concerns are long-term compliance, reliability and emerging contaminants. These contaminants include fluorinated components, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), lead and copper.

Lawrence said the operating team has "done well" and kept the system in compliance, but there are needs

for improvement to the system's infrastructure. He said five wells feed the wastewater treatment plant and a sixth well has its own treatment plant.

"The system is solid and we're looking forward to the opportunity to work on it," Lawrence said.

The wastewater facility was rated for two million gallons per day, but it was downgraded by the state to one million gallons.

Lawrence said the average daily flow is .582, which matches the daily water use.

One of the things Aquation would focus on with wastewater would be removing rainwater and groundwater from the flow, which accounts for about 200,000 gallons. Lawrence said they would hope to remove

Rainwater and groundwater entering the system still has to be treated, which means an increase in the

Lawrence said the wastewater system was built in the 1800s and there are a lot of vitrified clay pipes, which are prone to leaks. He said there needs to be a yearly program that includes inspecting these pipes and the system's 595 manholes.

While the wastewater treatment facility is in compliance, Lawrence said there are improvements they

can make, including safety for operators and operation.

Feedback from Selectboard

Selectboard member Jack Cascio asked what the concerns of customers were in the independent survey which gave Aquarion a 95% satisfaction level.

Morrissey said taste and odor of water and communication were areas that water users had less satisfaction with in the survey, which looks at all water utilities as a whole.

Cascio asked if towns could ever "buy back" the water and wastewater assets from Aquarion. Morrissey said yes, and explained that this is normally done through an imminent domain proceeding or the town's charter.

Selectboard member Keith Kruckas asked what the potential costs would be to provide water and wastewater for town buildings and departments, the schools and town pool. More information about these costs will be provided after a study is completed.

Selectboard Chair Caitlin McCarthy asked how the privatization would affect their town's access to Community Development Block Grants. Lawrence said it would help the town's application because it would provide "in-kind" funds.

Lawrence added that Aquarion would also look at the town's future paving plans to decide if the infrastructure under that road needs to be repaired.

"It's a cooperative discussion," he said. McCarthy spoke on behalf of the Selectboard and said it is important to have public information sessions and give residents and chance to ask questions. An information session will be held in the high school

auditorium at a later date. McCarthy explained that by accepting the RFP, the Selectboard is not locking into any type of agreement, but allowing the town to continue the discussion and explore the questions raised.

More information about the proposal is available on townofware.com.

Ride Like an Animal Motorcycle Run is Sept. 9

SPRINGFIELD—The Foundation for Thomas J. O'Connor Animals will be holding its annual Ride Like an Animal Motorcycle Run on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control & Adoption Center at 627 Cottage St. Kick stands up at 10:45 a.m. with the ride leaving at 11 a.m. for a scenic ride through western Massachusetts.

The event wraps up with a celebration at the Ludlow Elks located at 69 Chapin St., from noon to 3 p.m. Guests will enjoy live music, great food, vendors, and raffles.

Pre-registration is now open and runs through Aug. 31. A \$30 registration fee includes an event t-shirt, wrist band, entrance to the after party, and Participants interested in the after party only can

register online for \$15 and receive admission and a meal coupon. Children under 12 are free.

Pre-registered riders are guaranteed an event T-shirt. Register online at https://secure.lglforms. com/form_engine/s/V0wocgELADiDSAav4FyYpQ.

Proceeds from the Ride Like an Animal Motorcycle Run go directly to the Foundation for TJO Animals to benefit animals in need at the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption

Event sponsors include Fontaine Community Foundation, Florence Bank, Keller Williams Western Mass Collision, Bacon Wilson, Greater Springfield Credit Union, and Hazen Paper Co.

More information is available on www.tjofoundation.org, by emailing info@tjofoundation.org or by calling 413-306-5161.

DEADLINES In observance of Labor Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**

To advertise, place your ad no later than NOON Friday, September 1 – Thank you! A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION

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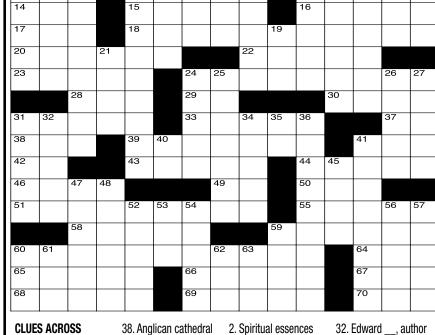
We are celebrating our

20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons. Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons. Hours:

Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.





CLUES ACROSS 1. Midway between east 39. Aircraft part and southeast 4. At right angles to a ship's length

business partner __ de plume 15. Accomplished soccer coach 16. Bone cavities 17. __ juris:

9. William Penn's

independent 18. Popular Philly sandwich 20. Northern Ireland

county 22. Performing artist 23. S S S 24. Lacks flavor

28. Commercials 29. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord) 30. Qatar's capital

31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta 33. Popular footwear 37. Indicates position

60. Creative 64. Sun up in New York 65. Made angry 66. Relieves 67. Brooklyn hoopster 68. Seasonsings

41. Before

42. Blood group

gland 49. Technological

50. Male parent

51. Dissociable

55. More cold

capital

59. Blood disorder

43. Secretory organ

44 .Fencing swords

46. The small projection

of a mammary

advancement

58. Cape Verde Islands

70. Attempt **CLUES DOWN** 1. Occur as a result of

69. Movable barriers

2. Spiritual essences 3. Representative 4. Entering 5. Nobel Prize-winning

physicist 6. Midway between northeast and east 7. Consumed 8. Tablelands

9. Kids' craft accessory 10. Not known 11. Sound directed through two or

more speakers 12. A major division of geological time 13. Wild ox 19. Shock treatment

21. Turner and Lasso are two 24. Genus of flowering plants

25. Relating to ductless glands

26. Stock certificate 27. Satisfies 31. Places to enjoy a

36. Shabbiness 40. TV personality Roker 41. Triangular upper part of a building 45. Speed at which you

and writer 34. "__ but goodie"

a liter

35. One hundredth of

47. Offend 48. A reference point to shoot at 52. Forays

53. Biblical city 54. Blatted 56. Northern sea duck 57. Shabby (slang)

59. Allege 60. Tax collector

61. Whereabouts unknown 62. Chinese philosophical

principle 63. Indicates equal

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Legislators hope to head off more attempts to ban books

By Michael Harrison Correspondent

LUDLOW — A proposal that could have created a book banning policy in local school libraries may have stalled last spring, but a pair of state legislators with shared roots have introduced a bill intended to stay ahead of any future

The legislation, SD.2679, titled "An Act protecting against attempts to ban, remove, or restrict library access to materials," was referred to the Joint Committee on Rules on July 6. Its sponsors, Sen. Jake Oliveira and Rep. Aaron Saunders, both said they are confident it will proceed on a track that will lead to an eventual public hearing.

"The situation in Ludlow was unfortunate to say the least, but we shouldn't have to wait for the next time opponents of First Amendment freedoms attack another one of our towns,' Saunders said.

"The real value of this library protection bill is that it is a proactive measure that will provide our public libraries with a measure of protection against book banning

According to Oliveira, "I've found attempts to put in place policies that could lead to book bans growing across the country for some time, but once it arrived here in Ludlow, I knew it was time to take immediate action."

Last spring, after prior public discussions over the appropriateness of certain books in Ludlow schools, School Committeeman Joao Dias made a motion during a meeting to enact a new policy that could have removed a pair of young adult novels - "Crank" by Ellen Hopkins and "Looking For Alaska" by John Green – and possibly dozens of other titles from school libraries.

The motion did not receive a second and never came to a vote.

Neither Dias nor any other Ludlow School Committee member responded to a group email sent to all of their official accounts seeking comment. Committee member and



Turley Photo by Michael Harrison Copies of "Crank" by Ellen Hopkins and "Looking For Alaska" by John Green borrowed from shelves at Hubbard Memorial Library last week. Those are two of the books that could have been removed from Ludlow school libraries if a proposed policy was approved last spring.

Secretary Jeffrey Stratton, reached by text, declined to comment.

Committee Vice Chair Sarah F. Bowler did not respond to a text. Ludlow Superintendent of Schools Frank Tiano did not respond to a voice message left on his extension at the district office.

During discussions earlier this year, Dias said he modeled his policy proposal on one he read about online when it was enacted by the Central Bucks School District in Pennsylvania. That policy has since been challenged in a federal lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union.

"These attempts, like the proposed Ludlow School Committee policy ripped off the internet from a school district in Pennsylvania, could censor age-appropriate materials because of a political or xenophobic viewpoint," Oliveira said.

"What's happening in our public schools could easily happen in our public libraries. I am proud to partner with Rep. Aaron Saunders to protect our libraries from these attempts to censor books. It's a

strong bill that I'm incredibly proud to sponsor. I'm prepared to champion it until we get the results needed to protect our literature and free thought from extremists pushing a fringe political agenda."

The two legislators behind SD.2679 are Ludlow natives. Oliveira still resides there while Saunders resettled his family in Belchertown. Both said they want to head off any statewide movement toward censorship in school and public libraries.

Oliveira, who served 12 years on the Ludlow School Committee before he was elected as a state representative in 2020, also has a background in higher education, serving as assistant executive officer of the Massachusetts State Universities Council of Presidents.

Saunders is a former Ludlow Select Board member, former chief of staff to state Sen. Gale Candaras and is a co-founder of Loophole Brewing. He also served on the staff of former U.S. Senator John

Oliveira, who was first elected



Jake Oliveira **Aaron Saunders**

to the School Committee in 2009, said he recalls past discussions over

"During my time on the committee, removal of books in school libraries started to bubble up in Ludlow when national politicians began making this a wedge issue," he said.

"When a challenge to certain books in a school library was brought to the attention of the school committee, we followed our district polities and formed a review committee with parents, teachers, administrators and librarians to review the challenged books. I sat on that committee and read personally the challenged material and shared it widely with friends with children and the committee determined unanimously that most materials were age-appropriate."

Oliveira said his background in education "certainly informs my position, but this goes far beyond

The bill he filed with Saunders 'focuses on our public libraries,'

"I have been working with colleagues in the legislature on other legislation focused on our public-school libraries. This legislation is needed across the commonwealth because it's about protecting not only our students' education but also free thought, freedom of expression, diversity and marginalized communities that the proponents of the proposed book bans can't accept."

Both said they have received positive feedback from constituents and fellow legislators.

"The book banning effort in Ludlow was a wake-up call to ensure that the Legislature is doing everything it should to protect our public libraries," Saunders said.

"The bill Senator Oliveira and I filed will help provide those pro-

According to Oliveira, "Since these aggressive attempts to put in place narrow-minded policies have been proposed, I have received messages of concern from parents, students, teachers, community members and colleagues from across the state. I have received an overwhelmingly positive response from constituents and from members of the State Library Board of Commissioners. They want to see books kept on the shelves at our public libraries and schools.'

He added that, "Book bans are nothing new. They are ways to suppress free thought and have been employed by Communist China, the Soviet Union, and Nazi Germany."

Kristin Santos, youth services assistant at Hubbard Memorial Library, said she's aware of the proposal the school committee ultimately did not vote on and the controversy over "Crank" and "Looking For Alaska", which she said have been increasingly checked out by local adults.

"People do come into the library to check out books that are being questioned to see what's going on inside and decide for themselves if they are appropriate for their own children," Santos said.

The mother of a local middle school student herself, "I didn't read 'Crank' - I listened to 'Crank' because I didn't have a lot of time to sit down and read the novel, but I listened to it to make my own decisions on the book," Santos said.

"You can read a part of a book but that doesn't mean you understand the whole book. I need, by myself, to make those decisions for my child."

She declined to share her personal opinion of the book.

Quabbin Visitor Center lists free upcoming events

BELCHERTOWN - The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center will offer several free programs in September and October

The Quabbin Interpretive Services program operates the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, offering public and school education programs, teacher workshops, and general information about DCR's water supply resources and watershed management, the history of the Quabbin Valley and wildlife of the area.

Staff members are available to assist with visitor information and services. An automated telephone system, 413-323-7221, provides 24 hour access to current information on fishing, hunting, programs, rules and regulations, and public access.

All ages are welcome to these events. Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass. gov with questions or to be added to the mailing list

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Quabbin Watershed. Space is limited.

To register for any of these events, visit www.mass.gov/ locations/quabbin-reservoir/ events.

Late Summer Meadow Visit

An easy 1-mile Late Summer Meadow Visit will be held at Quabbin Park on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

This hike will walk along the Spillway Road to a small meadow across from the Boat Cove. The walk is easy, but the road along the Spillway is heavily trafficked, so caution is advised.

Participants should meet at the Middle Entrance Parking

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 15

THURSDAY, September

7, 2023 at 7:30 PM on

the application of Melink

Special Permit for annu-

al renewal (SP-2022-08)

of an approved large

scale solar facility under

Section 4.8.3, of the

Zoning Bylaw, and pur-

suant to MGL Chapter

40A. Pursuant to Chapter

22 of the Acts of 2022,

this hearing will be con-

ducted in person and via

remote means, in accor-

dance 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:

45 Greenwich Plains

Road, Ware, MA. Said

premises being further

described in deeds record-

SITE LOCATION:

public notices

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION CARE AND **PROTECTION** TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS 21CP0233SA

Trial Court of Massachusetts **Juvenile Court** Department, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **Essex County Juvenile Court**

56 Federal Street Room 2001 Salem, MA 01970 (978)745-9660

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 her 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 rep-

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

by given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit

Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on THURSDAY, September 7. 2023 at 7:05 PM on the application of James Mosher, for a Special Permit for the construction of a two family home under section.4.1.1, 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 NOTICE is here- 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:

> SITE LOCATION: Lee Rd, Ware, MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 14474, Page 54. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 35-10-8. 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

Legal Notice Town of Ware Board of Health Site Assignment **Modification Public** Hearing

accordance Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Sections 150A and 150A½ and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 310 CMR 16.00 "Site Assignment Regulations for Solid Waste Facilities," the Ware Board of Health will commence a public hearing on Wednesday. September 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the library of the Ware Junior Senior High School, 237 West Street, Ware, MA 01082 for the proposed modification of the existing site assignment of the facility located at 198 East Street, Ware, MA 01082. It is expected that the hearing

ple dates. The existing site assignment for 8.9 acres of the 25.1-acre parcel is for a C&D Recycling/ Processing Facility at a maximum rate of 750 tons per day and 214,500 tons per year operating from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday and 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturdays. The proposed modification to the site assignment is for a

will continue over multi-

a maximum capacity of catch basin cleaning residuals and Bulky Waste. The proposed hours of operation are from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. No changes are

of 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The proponent and operator is: ReSource Waste Services of Ware LLC. Its address is 198 East Street, Ware, MA 01082.

The Department of **Environmental Protection** has issued a Report in which it determines that the above described place is a suitable place for the proposed facility modifi-

Copies of the Department of Environmental Protections Report on Suitability and the suitability criteria (310 CMR 16.00) are available for copying and examination along with the application at the office of the Ware Board of Health at the Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Copies are also

Please check

the accuracy of

C&D Transfer Facility at available at the Library at 37 Main Street, Ware, up to 1,400 tons per day MA. The documents are and 393,200 tons per year, also available on the Town Solar Development, for a and to accept and trans- of Ware website at townfer street sweepings and ofware.com. The Board of Health will accept written com-

ments on this appli-

cation and Party and

Participant Registration Forms for this hearproposed to the existing ing until September 22, 2023. Comments and Saturday operating hours Registration Forms may be mailed or delivered to the Board of Health Office at 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 or emailed to acrete@townofware.com. The written comment period may be extended

> of Health. Per Order of the Ware Board of Health Jennifer McMartin, MSN,

Michael Juda John Desmond, MSE 08/31/2023

at the discretion of the

Hearing Officer or Board

Town of Ware Notice of **Public Hearing Planning Board** LEGAL NOTICE SP-2023-06

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on

ed in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 13457, Page 159. **NOTICE** Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel 22-0-ERRORS: Each advertis-12 & 22-12-1. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

01082.

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



PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

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

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon,

Fridays noon for Monday holidays. visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

your legal notice sion (i.e., date, time, spelling). the requested

publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands.

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This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the

EARLY DEADLINES In observance of Labor Day, **PUBLIC NOTICES EARLY AD DEADLINE** Place your public notice no later than 2 pm

Friday, September 1

- Thank you!

Students complete Active Bystander Training

Two Quabbin Regional School District students completed Training Active Bystanders this week, and are ready to bring the message to their peers.

The Health Equity Partnership of North Central Mass supported this fun and exciting opportunity youth program.

TAB empowers bystanders and gives them the competencies they need if they decide to take action when they witness something they troubling. TAB helps participants to:

analyze situations where harm may be occurring, recognize when they are bystanders, evaluate the consequences for everyone involved and interrupt harm doing and generate positive actions by others

TAB was developed in 2006 by Quabbin Mediation of Orange. TAB has



feel is unfair or wrong or These two Quabbin Regional School District students Lillian, from left and Chrissy completed Training Active Bystander recently.

> become the work of many thousands of people in the Massachusetts' North Quabbin area and beyond.

> Quabbin Mediation is deeply grateful to all those volunteers, who have given so much of themselves to make the program a success.

QUABBIN from page 14

Lot (https://goo.gl/maps/2xFhXUWcU7H8fmae8).

Exploring the North Side – Gate 33 Join DCR staff to explore the North

Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 33 on a 3.2-mile moderate hike on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

This out and back hike is on Ouabbin's north side of the watershed. Participants will be walking down to the water on a dirt road through the forest.

The hike begins at Quabbin Reservoir's Gate 33. The parking area for Gate 33 is located on Route 122 in the town of New Salem (https://goo.gl/ maps/2N6meqSmz7hfVM3k7).

Soapstone Mountain Hike

A 2.7-mile difficult hike up Soapstone Mountain will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

This scenic hike will begin at Gate 37 and follow an easy woodland road before branching off to a short but very steep hike up the mountain. The hike is challenging and has points which require climbing over large rocks, however the summit is one of the best views of Quabbin Reservoir.

To locate Gate 27 from Route 122 in New Salem, take Monson Turnpike Road and follow to Gate 37 (https://goo. gl/maps/ddrjNHaAL8cXi5sC7).

full-time (29 hours) Town benefited position.

website www.warren-ma.gov.

townadministrator@warren-ma.gov.

Exploring the North Side – Gate 35 A 5-mile moderate hike explor-

ing the North Side of the Quabbin Watershed via Gate 35, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m.-1:30

This out and back hike is on Quabbin's north side of the watershed. Participants will be walking down to the water on a dirt road through the forest.

The parking area for Gate 35 is located at the end of Old North Dana Road in the town of New Salem (https:// goo.gl/maps/x3djiRBJCMEbduif7).

Quabbin's Hidden History: **Webster Road**

A 2.5 mile easy walk will explore Quabbin's Hidden History on Webster Road on Sunday, Oct. 22 from 1-3 p.m.

Quabbin's ghost towns are hiding in plain sight - if you know where to look. This two-hour guided interpretive walk will teach you how to read the natural landscape as you uncover clues that reveal the hidden history of Webster

Explore old cellar holes and historic stone walls, get to know some native and invasive plants, and learn more about the families who lived in the town of Enfield a hundred years ago.

Meet at the Hank's Meadow parking lot (https://goo.gl/maps/4RiEq17PC-

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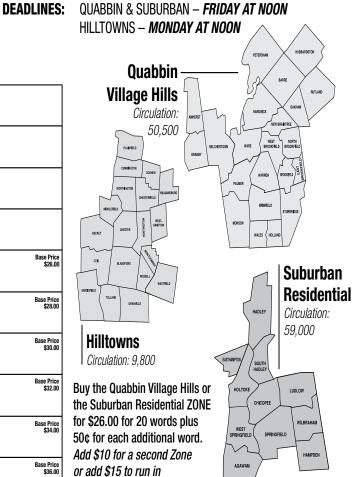


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25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00	27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00	35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
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Planning/Building Secretary

The Town of Warren is seeking qualified applications for the position of Secretary to the Planning/Building Department. This position is a permanent

Monday through Thursday schedule with occasional evening meetings. The successful candidate will perform clerical duties and provide excellent

customer service in the Town's Planning and Building Department. The pay

scale ranges from \$18.36 to \$24.67/hour based on relative work experience and educational background. For a full job description please visit the Town's

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Jim Ferrera, Town Administrator,

The Town of Warren is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Resumes will be accepted until Friday, September 15, 2023.

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.

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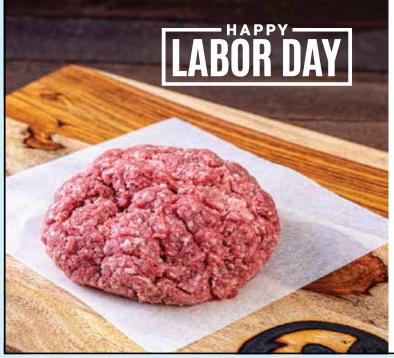
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Celebrate Labor Day with sizzling savings at Farmer Matt's. Enjoy 15% off beef, pork, and chicken on orders over \$100. From steaks to chops and chicken, our farm-fresh delights are perfect for grilling. Fire up the grill and indulge in the best flavors with Farmer Matt's Labor Day special. Order online at FarmerMatt.com with code "Labor Day" or show ad in-store at 860 West Brookfield St., New Braintree.





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Raise a Glass to our Pop-up Beer Garden

Thurs. August 31 from 4:30 - 7:00 PM

Join us for a refreshing experience at Farmer Matt's pop-up beer garden. Savor locally-crafted brews infused with local ingredients and great live music. Cheers to a fantastic time.