

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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## Special permit approved for Lost Towns

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – A public hearing was held for Lost Towns Brewing Company regarding a special permit at the location of 44 East Main St.

The hearing was opened during the Aug. 21 planning board meeting as the applicants, Pam and Jim Spurrell of Lost Towns Brewing, came in to tell their story and their plan to come to town.

Vice Chair of the Planning Board, Chris Dimarzio, reminded everyone that the Chairman Ken Crosby was absent and if the board were to move to a vote on the special permit, it would require a unanimous vote of four.

Lost Towns Brewing was opened in Gilbertville back in 2018 and is considered a nano-brewery. The brewing

Please see **PERMIT**, page 3

## Overdose Awareness Day

### Candlelight vigil cast light on recovery

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – After the skies had opened up and brought much-needed rain last Friday evening, a vibrant rainbow stretched across Main Street, appearing to touch down at the Recovery Center of HOPE.

Standing under the rainbow was a gathering of community members who held a candlelight vigil honoring the memory of those who have

Please see **VIGIL**, page 7



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette  
During the candlelight vigil, a rainbow formed above those gathered, appearing to end near the Recovery Center of HOPE's two Main Street locations.  
LEFT: Randy Gratton spoke about the importance of gratitude in recovery.

## Sewer Commission heard report from Chief Operator

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Sewer Commissioners met on Aug. 27 and heard the report of their Chief Operator, Ralph Zebrowski.

The Sewer Chief Operator addressed the bar rack issues at the plant and has caused significant damage. Zebrowski does have someone looking into getting repair parts for the bar rack. The concern is that these parts for the bar rack the plant has may be obsolete.

Tighe & Bond is currently looking for a full replacement. Zebrowski is waiting on the outcome for both parts and a full replacement.

There was a meeting with Tighe & Bond about the scum pumps. Zebrowski informed the Sewer Commissioners that the work won't start until the end of the year, roughly around December. According to Zebrowski, the copper reduction is going well.

Please see **REPORT**, page 5

## Evening craft featured saltshaker button bouquets

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – This month's adult evening craft at the Ware Library featured saltshaker button bouquets.

This monthly craft activity featured another great turnout with many regulars returning to craft something new. Supplies were provided by the library and Regina

Diemand returned as the instructor for the adult evening craft.

The idea to make saltshaker button bouquets came about before the monthly adult evening crafts were first offered at the library. Diemand said Children's Room Librarian Cathy Goulet thought of the idea a while back and the idea in the works would soon become a fun craft activity.

With the monthly evening crafts going well and

Please see **BUTTONS**, page 6

## Winery hosted Fall Craft & Food Festival

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – It was a beautiful weekend as Hardwick Vineyard & Winery hosted its Fall Craft & Food Festival.

Owner John Samek described it as perfect fall and fair weather as the winery was excited to host this fair over the course of two days.

"Thank goodness we have good weather," Samek said.

Though this is the fifth annual Fall Craft & Food Festival at the Hardwick

Winery, this year marked a special moment in Hardwick Winery's history. It was 28 years ago, in 1997, Samek purchased the farm and its land that is now the home of Hardwick Vineyard & Winery off Greenwich Road.

Helping out with this year's festival was event coordinator/director, Gina Palazzo of Clay Bae by Gina. There were over 70 vendors this year along with food trucks and live music for visitors to enjoy as they visit the winery.

Please see **WINERY**, page 8



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago  
A family of crafters, left to right, Monique Pappas, Michael Pappas, Emily-Rose Pappas, Elijah Pappas, and Emma Pappas of Cricklewood Creations Gift Shop attended the Fall Craft & Food Festival this past weekend at Hardwick Vineyard & Winery.

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## Friends of Ware Senior Center announce fundraisers

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

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

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

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

## Holy Cross church hosts school supply drive

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

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

## Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – Come to the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Wednesdays for Story Time at 10:30 a.m. to meet and play, and then enjoy stories at 11 a.m. with art and science projects to follow.

### Short stories with David Payne

On Saturday, Sept. 6 at 11 a.m. come and enjoy “Anthropods”, 19 short stories by David Payne. Come meet the author who takes the common moment to blur the lines between what we know and understand.

Anthropods - objects and animals given human-like traits and feelings - are glimpses into worlds just on the edge of our own, some of them closer than others. “

### History and Legends through Song

On Saturday, Sept. 20 at 1:30 p.m., at the Town House, Jon Waterman will present “History and Legends through Song”. Inspired by his research, musician, songwriter, and history teacher Jon Waterman combines music, history, storytelling, original songs, a slide show, and something about the Quabbin.

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

For more information and to sign up to hold your place, email Director. paigelibrary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

## Flea Market on the West Brookfield Common

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church, 36 North Main St. has been hosting their Flea Market on the town Common for more than 50 years.

This year the Flea Market will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tell your friends and come out for a day of bargains and yummy a lunch.

New this year is a tag sale inside the church.

Come in for more bargains. Sellers of all kinds are welcome – flea folk, antique sellers, crafters, product vendors, and those emptying out basements and attics. No food vendors, please.

Spaces are available for \$40 for a 20 x 20 grassy spot. Vendors must bring their own tables and tents. The church will sponsor a food tent with grilled lunch, cold drinks and sweet treats.

Email Karen at fcofwbfleaemarket@gmail.com for an application or call her at 508-801-7692.

## Book Sale to be held on Sept. 6

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

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

# Are You Old News?



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



File Photo  
Last week's photo from 2023 showed 5-year-old Alex getting ready to ride the school bus for the first time before starting kindergarten at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School in Ware.

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

## Gilbertville library hosts painting workshop for teens/adults

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

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

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

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

This is fun, and has an ocean of possibilities, having instruction in expressive pastel strokes, blending, slurring, and layering. Additionally emerald pastel

pencils will be provided for details.

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

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

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

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

Dogs and cats from all towns are welcome.

Thanks to support from the Leicester Savings Bank Fund through the Greater Worcester Community Foundation and Petco Love, the Distemper/Parvo combo vaccine will be offered free of charge. Rabies vaccines will be available for \$12

for residents of Leicester, Rochdale, and Cherry Valley, and \$18 for residents of all other towns.

Microchipping will also be offered for just \$22.

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

Parking is limited, and a limited number of walk-ins will be accepted until

10:30 a.m. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged to ensure availability.

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

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

## OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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**Quabbin Wire & Cable Co., Inc.,**  
**10 Maple Street, Ware,**  
**will be performing its**  
**ANNUAL WATER FLOW TEST**  
**on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, beginning at 7 a.m.**

*Residents on Maple Street and in the general Maple Street area may experience rusty water from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.*

If you have any questions, please call the **Ware Water Department at 967-9620.**

**NOTICE**

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

**Dear Ware Water System Users,**

Please be advised that a rehabilitation project will begin on the Church Street Water Storage Tank (WST) starting **September 2, 2025**. The project will include painting the interior and exterior of the WST, as well as miscellaneous improvements. The project is an important way in which the Town is investing in the water system.

This is one of two water storage tanks that serve the town, the other one is on Anderson Road and will remain in service during this project.

The Church Street WST is scheduled to be offline until early **November 2025**. This alters the flow in our underground pipes, possibly causing discolored water from stirred-up minerals or sediment and lowering water pressure. Please note that the water remains **safe to drink**. If discoloration occurs, we recommend flushing your system by running cold water from an outdoor faucet or bathtub for several minutes until it clears.

Water system users can help minimize the impact of this project by conserving water while the WST is offline. Some conservation tips include:

- Taking shorter showers
- Running dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads
- Watering lawns and gardens less or during early morning hours to reduce evaporation

If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact the Ware Department of Public Works at **413-967-9620**.

*Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.*

Sincerely,  
**Department of Public Works and Water Commissioners**

## 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, Sept. 4

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

#### Friday, Sept. 5

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

### LUNCHESES

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

#### Thursday, Sept. 4

Stir Fry Pork over Rice, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

#### Friday, Sept. 5

Baked Haddock, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

## PMP joined Member Track Network

### Organization gives members access to tracks across North America

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

PALMER – Since last December, a group representing various racetracks across North America has been working together to create an incredible opportunity for their members.

The Member Track Network is a not-for-profit organization that connects private club racetracks through a standardized reciprocal member agreement, allowing club members to experience close to a dozen different tracks in the U.S. and Canada.

“So, our members can go to their track, and their members can go to our track,” said Al Sandy, Club Director at Palmer Motorsports Park.

Sandy said Palmer Motorsports Park was developed as a private club for members, and each year, members travel to

Indianapolis, Indiana for a conference and tradeshow. Here, various track owners get together and network, as well as share ideas.

Sandy said every year he introduces himself and proposes a reciprocal member agreement with the other track representatives. At last year’s conference, the owner of The Podium Club in Phoenix, Arizona approached Sandy about forming a not-for-profit network across the U.S. and Canada.

“Being not for profit, at present, my members can go to nine different tracks across the county and Canada and drive for free,” Sandy said.

Sandy said the Member Track Network will help to bring tourism to the communities surrounding Palmer Motorsports Park, and boost the local economy as network members will utilize restaurants, lodging and more while visiting the Whiskey Hill track.

“We’re going to be pulling people in with this,” Sandy said.

Sandy is joined on the Member Track Network board by Jayson Citron of The Podium Club in Phoenix, Arizona and Shawn Hayes of Atlanta

Motorsports Park in Georgia.

Currently, the Member Track Network includes access to the following tracks: Palmer Motorsports Park in Palmer; Rocky Mountain Motorsports in Alberta, Canada; NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, Kentucky; Motorsport Ranch in Cresson, Texas; MSR Houston in Texas; Lime Rock Drivers Club in Connecticut; Atlanta Motorsports Park in Georgia; The Podium Club in Phoenix, Arizona; the Autobahn Country Club in Joliet, Illinois; and Calabogie Motorsports Park in Ontario, Canada.

For more information, visit [www.membertracknetwork.com](http://www.membertracknetwork.com).

“It’s been a lot of fun, but it’s been a lot of work,” Sandy said of the organization’s creation. “I feel satisfied that I helped to form something that I hope will stick around.”

### About Palmer Motorsports Park

Palmer Motorsports Park has been rated “One of the top 10 road courses in North America” by Road & Track Magazine. Its unique setting and challenging road course

draws club members and visitors from New England and beyond for racing, research, recreational, and business-related activities.

Palmer Motorsports Park hosts a variety of events, including Porsche on the Mountain on Sunday, Oct. 5 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Porsche on the Mountain features everything Porsche from show cars to track cars, to race cars and project cars. Show car entry is \$35 (pre-registration required) and \$10 general admission.

Proceeds from this event benefit Homes For Our Troops. For more information and to register, visit [www.porscheonthemountain.com](http://www.porscheonthemountain.com).

The annual Trunk or Treat Car Show to benefit food pantries in Palmer and Ware will be held on Sunday, Oct. 26 and the popular Mustangs on the Mountain event is also set to take place in October to benefit the Central New England Equine Rescue.

For more information about Palmer Motorsports Park, visit [palmermsp.com](http://palmermsp.com) or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

## Ware Grange Kids' Corner explores weather on Sept. 6

WARE – The next Kids’ Corner at Ware Grange will be called “Weather” and will take place on Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

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

stories, songs and fun activities.

All types of weather are very important to the environment. Children will explore the different types of weather and how each plays their own part in making Earth beautiful.

Visit Ware Grange on Facebook or at [waregrange.org](http://waregrange.org) for more information.

### PERMIT from page 1

is done on site and features a taproom and an outdoor seating area.

In addition to on-site service, Lost Towns Brewing also sources out local ingredients and brews with local grains.

The brewery also hosts live music and open mics to connect with the community. Lost Towns Brewing has also helped raise money for charity organizations, including Homefront Strong.

“We’ve really enjoyed what we’ve done in our community,” Pam Spurrell said.

The brewery owners are looking to set up an opera-

tion in Ware but said they will continue production operations in Gilbertville. For food, they have small snacks and also partnered with Farmer Matt in New Braintree to deliver food that is ordered by customers of the brewery.

The Planning Board took comments from the public to see if there were any concerns. The Spurrells confirmed that the brewing will be conducted at the Gilbertville location. The board wanted to review the hours of operation the applicant was seeking to have on the site and reviewed a floor plan of the building.

“It seems like a good space,” said Richard Starodaj

of the planning board.

Building Commissioner Anna Marques had some concerns about the space regarding the entrance and future concerns such as signage and lighting on the property. Marques believes the entrances might have to be altered so they’re accessible.

Dimarzio asked if the brewery were to be placed in the building, would it have to be changed structurally. The board mentioned that signage and lighting would be a separate process. The board wanted to look more into the use and not so much signage and

lighting.

A representative of the owner of the building described the structure of the building and first floor access. Lost Towns Brewing does intend to continue to offer music and mostly has acoustic music with single or duet performers. On the floor plan, there is a description of a corner in the building where the musician space would be.

One resident asked if there would be any impact to the infrastructure of the building if the brewery would enter. The board didn’t see any issues and didn’t see a huge

issue of the water or sewer being impacted.

With no more issues addressed, a motion was made to approve the special permit for Lost Towns Brewing Company. The board quickly reviewed the findings to see if the applicant meets the criteria for a special permit. They also discussed any conditions that should be put in place.

The board feels the applicant is compatible with the existing use and has proven to be a good establishment based off its operation in Gilbertville.

“It’s a well-run establishment,” Dimarzio said.

There is one condition Dimarzio brought up that may be appropriate for this special permit. The condition is for noise and other nuisances associated with the sale of alcohol on the premise.

The board went to vote and unanimously approved the special permit for Lost Towns Brewing. The special permit will go to the Town Clerk and has to sit for 20 days. The permit won’t be viable until the end of the 20-day period.

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

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# viewpoints

## It's harvest time! How to cure and store for optimal longevity.



I harvested my garlic well over six weeks ago. It's been curing in my mudroom stems and all, first with a fan on it to speed the drying process.

Yesterday I cut the stems away and put the garlic fists that were left in mesh bags. Some will be seed garlic, in other words, it will be broken apart into planting cloves. The rest will be used for cooking all through the winter and hopefully into the spring.

It's so important to cure your vegetables well, both for optimal taste and for longevity.

As for garlic's cousin, the onion, there is a two step curing process. When three-quarters of the tops have fallen over push down the rest and let them stay in the ground a little while longer. Then, unearth the bulbs and lay them, tops and all, on the ground in the sun, turning occasionally.

When they turn completely brown cut the stems to one inch and spread them on screens single file in a warm and dry, well-ventilated area to cure further. They can rest in that location for up to two months, then store at temperatures close to 40 degrees.

Store apples, bananas, and tomatoes away from onions, these vegetables excrete ethylene gas as they ripen, causing onions to sprout prematurely. Use bulbs that have two centers first, they won't store well.

It is interesting to note that the same compound that starts the tears flowing when we cut

into onions- sulfur, is also a potent fungicide and bactericide. No wonder they store so well!

Potatoes are perhaps the most tricky vegetable to store. Curing them properly will help to prevent rot, premature sprouting, and toxic greening of the skin and flesh. By waiting a week or more after the plant has died before digging up the tubers, the skins will thicken and be less prone to injury during harvest.

Once they are dug, a week spent in a cool and totally dark space will further firm their skin and change sugars to starch, completing the ripening process. Never wash potatoes prior to storage! Gently brush off dirt and store in a single layer in the darkness at 55-60 degrees. Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Use any pitch-forked or shovel-marked spuds first, as damage to the skin will invite rot.

Harvest winter squash after vines have died back or prior to an impending frost. A pretty New England autumn scene is fields of pumpkins or colorful squash curing under sunny skies.

If you follow the farmers lead, just be sure to lift squash off the ground, and cover if rain or frost threatens. Two

weeks in the field or a sunny, well-ventilated space is sufficient for curing, at which point the skin should be hard enough to resist the dent of a fingernail.

Gently washing squash in a 10% bleach solution will help to prevent rot prior to storing at temperatures between 50 and 60 degrees.

The flavor of many of our favorite squashes only improves with age.

I remember my mom used to store our butternuts up off of the floor in our basement. I've heard of other people storing theirs under the bed in a spare bedroom.

For me, my mudroom serves as an all purpose storage area with mesh bags of onions and garlic hanging from hooks on a shelf, the squash on a small pallet on the floor. I have yet to have enough potatoes to store, but this year might just be the exception and I'll come up with a dark enclosure to store them well.

Get creative and you too will be enjoying the fruits of your labor through winter into spring!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

## SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

### I'm in poor health and need to know my Social Security options

#### Dear Rusty:

*I plan to stop working very soon.*

*My health is not good. I am 66 years old, born in June 1959, so my full retirement age is 66 years and 10 months. My wife passed away in March 2024 and she was collecting SS benefits when she died. I have no dependent children. In general, what benefits am I entitled to?*

**Signed: Unhealthy and Struggling**

#### Dear Unhealthy and Struggling:

Sorry to hear that your health is failing and that you will need to stop working soon. But do not fear, Social Security will be there for you. Here is some info to help you decide your next possible steps:

Since you will not reach your full retirement age until next year in April 2026, your earnings limit from working for this year is \$23,400 or \$1,950/month. The earnings limit will apply only if you decide to claim Social Security early (this year).

If you decide to take Social Security this year, your earnings from before you take SS won't count, but your monthly earnings for the remaining months of this year will be subject to the 2025 monthly limit (\$1,950). If your monthly earnings exceed that amount, you won't be entitled to SS benefits for that month, unless your total earnings for 2025 are less than \$23,400. If you don't exceed the annual limit, your 2025 Social Security benefits won't be affected by your work earnings.

Next year, the year you attain your Full Retirement Age, your earnings limit will be much higher about 2.5 times more or something more than about \$63,000. If your 2026 earnings up through March do not exceed that limit, then you can claim your SS benefits a bit earlier in 2026 before your FRA and your benefits won't be affected, except that your monthly benefit amount will be permanently reduced by .556% for each month you claim before your FRA.

For example, if you were to claim for your SS to start in January 2026, you would get 98.3% of your FRA amount. So, provided your work earnings won't exceed about \$63,000 between January and March 2026, you could claim effective January 2026 without worrying about Social Security's earnings test.

So, depending upon your health, you could claim SS to start in January 2026, likely without worry about the earnings test and would get about 98.3% of your FRA benefit. Or, health permitting, you could wait to claim SS starting in April 2026 to get 100% of the benefit you've earned from

a lifetime of working. Point is, you just need to be careful not to exceed Social Security's earnings tests prior to reaching your Full Retirement Age or SS will take away some of your benefits.

They "take away" by withholding future monthly payments as long as needed to recover what you owe. Worse case penalty for exceeding the 2026 monthly limit would be no benefits for any month you exceed about \$5,300 or a penalty of \$1 for every \$3 over the limit if you exceed the 2026 annual limit before your FRA.

You do, however, have another option as your wife's surviving spouse: You can claim your benefit as a surviving spouse prior to claiming your own SS retirement amount. But the earnings test described above (if you claim before your FRA) would also apply to your survivor benefits. So, again, your plans for working enter this decision. If you decide to stop working this year, you could, for example, decide to claim your survivor benefit this year and collect that until you reach your FRA in April 2026 when you would get 100% of your personal SS retirement amount. In fact, you might even decide to collect your survivor benefit longer, allowing your own SS benefit to grow until you are 70, at which time you would get about 25% more than your FRA amount. Indeed, if your survivor benefit is higher than your personal age 70 amount, you can just continue to claim the higher amount.

I suggest that when you decide that you must stop working full time, you contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 to discuss whether it is best to claim your survivor benefit from your wife first and delay claiming your own until a later time to get a higher amount. You can make an appointment to discuss your options with SS over the phone, before deciding when (and what) to claim. And, of course, if you have any further questions, we are always here to assist you with your decision.

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

## WARE RIVER NEWS TEAM



**EDITOR**  
Paula Ouimette  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)



**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Dan Flynn  
[dfflynn@turley.com](mailto:dfflynn@turley.com)



**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)



**STAFF WRITER**  
Ryan Drago  
[rdrago@turley.com](mailto:rdrago@turley.com)

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[www.warivernews.turley.com](http://www.warivernews.turley.com)

**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President



[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

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## OPINION POLICY

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

Send opinions to:  
Ware River News  
Letter to the Editor  
80 Main Street,  
Ware, MA 01082  
or via email to:  
[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

## Turley Election Policy

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

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



## A different kind of concierge medicine

The rise of concierge medicine shows no signs of slowing down. Frustrated with long wait times for appointments, waiting room delays and only brief conversations with their doctor, those who can afford it are shelling out hundreds of dollars each month for faster care and attention, 24-hour access and personalized health programs.

It's understandable that, in our fractured health-care system, people would start looking for alternatives. There are some drawbacks to concierge care, however.

Many don't accept insurance, in order to keep their own costs low. You will still need to pay for insurance in case a serious illness or

injury requires hospitalization or a specialist. And not all concierge docs have hos-

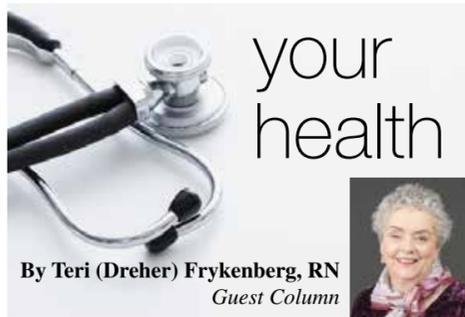
service, but a patient advocate goes above and beyond.

When you pay for a patient advocate, you can expect them to be there when you need them, anticipate your needs, cut through red tape and run interference with hospitals and insurance companies.

Here are some scenarios where I think the concierge services of a nurse patient advocate may exceed those of concierge doctors.

When an aging loved one is on their own: Very often, patient advocates are hired by family members trying to care for an elder who lives far away and may not have family close by. We are their boots on the ground, their eyes and ears, and their

Please see **HEALTH**, page 5



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN  
Guest Column



# Students return to school Aug. 27

From the desk of  
Quabbin Regional School  
District Superintendent  
Colleen Mucha

BARRE – On Wednesday, Aug. 27, the Quabbin Regional School District opened their doors to approximately 2,000 students from preschool through post grad.

Classrooms were decorated to create warm, inviting learning spaces. Administrators, teachers, and staff eagerly awaited their arrival.

Students were seen giving high fives and quiet smiles to their beloved adults as they entered the buildings. Admittedly, some had that first day, “I’m not ready to be awake” look. Even those students were quick to share a smile when they were welcomed and acknowledged.

Buildings and classrooms were sparkling clean and welcoming. Teachers filled the learning environments with color and some even adopted themes to set the stage for learning. Elementary students were greeted with common expectations for how to be safe, respectful, responsible students. They are all familiar with the positive behav-

ior programming and were excited to find out that this year there are some additional incentives.

Students at the middle high school level did a wonderful job arriving and navigating to their first block of the day. Staff was stationed everywhere. This made finding an adult very easy. The adults offered warm encouragement and directions when needed.

Students shared with one another what their “hopes and dreams” were for this school year. This allowed them to be thinking about what goals they may have for themselves, as well as what areas they’d like to learn more about. When I visited third grade, they were most excited about multiplication and division. While some of our older students wanted to “get better at writing,” “read more” or “complete my homework.”

The first few weeks of school are so very exciting and they can set the stage for the year ahead. This is when relationships and habits are formed. Encourage your student to connect with others and their teachers. This makes it easier for them if they need to ask questions or seek help. Students of all

ages do not always respond well to “What did you do in school today?” Instead ask a more specific question such as: What was something interesting that your teacher said today?

Please remember to reach out and connect with your child’s building principal or teacher should you have any concerns or questions. It is best to communicate early with any concerns so that we can work together to solve them.

We truly appreciate your support and are truly thankful for the opportunity to work with your children.



Elementary students gather around a brightly colored rug in their classroom.



Quabbin middle schoolers navigate the hallways to get to their classes.



These students pair up for a math exercise.

## Take-Out church supper planned for Sept. 19

WEST BROOK-FIELD – The George Whitefield United Methodist Church in West Brookfield will hold a Take-Out Chicken Dinner on Friday, Sept. 19.

Meals may be picked up curbside at 5 p.m. in front of the church at 33 West Main St., West Brookfield.

The meal will include chicken breast, baby potatoes, glazed carrots, roll and dessert for \$15 or two for \$25.

Reservations may be made by calling Elsa at 209-400-4429 or just come by and pick up dinner on your way home.

Proceeds will benefit the church and its missions.

## Sultana presents ‘History and Legends through Song’

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

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

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

“The Railroad in Song,” and “Popular Music and Veterans.”

The duo Sultana is Jon and Li Waterman, both lifelong musicians and songwriters. Jon is also a licensed history teacher in Massachusetts. He created “Live Music Making History Live” in 2018 with the belief that history and entertainment go together - throughout the ages, songs, stories and theater have included history, and history is - or should be - entertaining.

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

### HEALTH from page 4

go-between with the medical professions caring for their loved one.

When you feel the hospital medical staff isn’t hearing you: It’s not uncommon for patients and patients’ families to feel like their concerns are being overlooked or, worse, dismissed. A medically trained patient advocate speaks the language and can build bridges, mediate conflict and dial back the drama.

When your insurance claim is denied: Insurance documents can be wildly confusing. It helps to have someone on your side who can read through the mumbo-jumbo and explain whether an appeal may be successful. A patient advocate can also help prepare an appeal.

When a “simple” medical procedure turns into a nightmare: One of my clients was a 75-year-old gentleman who developed complications after a procedure. Unfortunately, the hospital and his physicians didn’t meet the standard of care, leading him to have a stroke, internal bleeding, dehydration and a host of problems. He became delusional after

days in the hospital and was given antipsychotic drugs. I was able to intervene with the care team, and his condition improved.

When a patient isn’t ready for discharge: Hospitals very often want to get chronically ill patients out of their beds and into a nursing facility. Sometimes this is the right thing to do, but sometimes it isn’t. A nurse patient advocate can evaluate a patient and work with the care team to make sure it’s the proper course, and then help with the transition.

When a college student with a medical condition is away from home: It’s unlikely that the typical 18- or 19-year-old has the maturity to advocate for themselves in a medical crisis. Parents may not be there to give their student the personal attention they may need to understand their treatment, speak with medical staff and schedule tests and appointments. A patient advocate in the student’s location can help.

When there’s no one to go with you to a doctor appointment: Doctor appointments these days can feel rushed, and often patients are confused about what they’re sup-

posed to do next, what medications are changing and what prescriptions need to be filled. Anyone can accompany you to an appointment to take notes, but if you’re on your own, a patient advocate can explain the details.

The most important aspect of a patient advocate’s “concierge service” is that they work for the patient, their client – not the hospital, not the insurance company. If you need help, find a board-certified patient advocate in your area by visiting Greater National Advocates (gnaow.org) or the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy (nahac.com).

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, is a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate and founder of [www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com](http://www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com), which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to *Turley Newspaper* readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at [Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com](mailto:Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com)

### REPORT from page 1

A reconstruction meeting was held and shared more good news regarding an upgrade to the chlorine system.

“Elimination of chlorine would be a very good thing for the Town,” Zebrowski said.

Chlorine is an expensive item according to the Sewer Commission.

As for the reconstruction meeting, Sewer Commission

Chair Travis Baker asked that the commission would be more involved and knowing what is being discussed in those meetings.

#### Revisions to sewer connection permit

Baker wanted to discuss the revisions to the sewer connection permit process. Baker said he has nearly completed the draft and wanted to know what requirements should go into the revision. Insurance

requirements were brought up in a previous sewer commission meeting. There were also special circumstances brought up as well.

The next meeting date for the Sewer Commission is Sept. 10.

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# Pathfinder offers meals at no cost for students

PALMER – Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School participates the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

As part of this program, all schools offer healthy meals every school day at no cost to the students due to the implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision for school year 2025-2026. Students receive breakfast and lunch at school without having to pay a fee or submit a household application.

### Non-discrimination statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET

Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling 866-632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA.

The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or fax: 833-256-1665 or 202-690-7442; or email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

### BUTTONS from page 1

supplies coming in for this craft, Diemand thought this was "a good time to do this." Supplies for saltshaker button bouquets include regular saltshaker containers, garden wire or floral wire, gardening foam, buttons, and felt.

Diemand researched some ideas on how these bouquets are made and saw a variety of good ideas her crafters can try out.

"There are different ways to do a project," Diemand said.

A lot of creativity was expressed by the crafters for this month's evening craft. Briella Fontaine was one of the crafters for this month's evening craft, who made a gorgeous saltshaker button bouquet with a focus on the color blue. The blue foam inside the shaker looked deceiving as if it was holding blue salt. The buttons were in various shades of blue with some green added in.

Another crafter, Mary, returned to the Ware Library and used heart-shaped buttons on her saltshaker button bouquet. Mary also cut out foam to make them look like pedals. The wire was used to hold up the buttons that looked like flowers growing out of the saltshaker.

It was another successful adult evening craft at the Ware Library. Next month's craft will be wine glass decorating. Diemand provided snacks for the crafters during the creation of saltshaker button bouquets.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

The Ware Library had another great turnout for the monthly adult evening craft.



A blue themed saltshaker button bouquet was made by Briella Fontaine.



Creativity was expressed during the creation of saltshaker button bouquets at the Ware Library.



Heart shaped buttons were used in this saltshaker button bouquet, created by Mary.



This craft featured buttons, floral wire, gardening foam, saltshakers, and felt.

# CNEER hosts Fall Festival at the Farm Sept. 27

WEST BROOKFIELD – Central New England Equine Rescue, 96 New Braintree Road, will host its annual Fall Festival at the Farm on Saturday, Sept. 27 from noon-4 p.m.

Come and share with CNEER over 20 years of community support rescu-

ing horses. There will be pony rides, face painting, pumpkin decorating, local vendors, delicious food, drinks and desserts.

Deux Amis will provide live folk and jazz music. The Hampden Mounted Police will also be present.

please recycle this newspaper



## VETERANS DAY SALUTE

Ware River News ~ November 6, 2025

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

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to [dflynn@turley.com](mailto:dflynn@turley.com) or drop off a photo to Ware River News, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082

All photos will be returned.

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

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

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### CLUES ACROSS

- Fairly large
- Barrels per day (abbr.)
- Cover the entirety of
- Leafy appetizer
- Showy ornament
- Norse personification of old age
- Athletes
- Closes tightly
- Attack via hurling items
- Where the reserves stand
- Sword
- Begat
- Damage another's reputation
- Northeast
- Turf
- For each
- Hours (Spanish)
- Western state
- One who offers help
- Flanks

- A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- Free from drink or drugs
- Tunnels
- Mature
- More dried-up
- News organization
- Steal something
- Forms one's public persona (abbr.)
- Female fish eggs
- Small petrel of southern seas
- Edible starches
- Historical
- In a place to sleep
- Horse grooms
- Off-Broadway theater award
- Chinese dynasty
- Resembling a wing
- Small projection on a bird's wing
- Of the Isle of Man
- Derived unit of force (abbr.)

- Plate for Eucharist
- Vipers
- Ancient city in Syria
- Slog
- Emits coherent radiation
- "Pollock" actor Harris
- Bleated
- Monetary units of Afghanistan
- Tooth doctor
- One who takes apart
- Commoner
- Beat poet Ginsberg
- Cave deposit material
- Home energy backup
- Begets
- Face part
- Frocks
- Hill or rocky peak
- Giving the impression of dishonesty
- About ear
- Male parents
- Popular grilled food

- Vaccine developer
- Not conforming
- Polite address for women
- 1970 U.S. environmental law
- Astronomical period of 18 years
- One who fights the government
- Center for Excellence in Education
- Watches discreetly
- An electrically charged atom
- Hymn
- Arabic given name
- Popular pie nut
- City in Zambia
- Species of cherry
- John \_\_\_\_, British writer
- Be next to
- Make angry
- Give birth to a lamb or kid
- Unhappy

# Baystate Health's Banko elected to MHA Board of Trustees

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Health President and CEO Peter Banko was elected to the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association Board of Trustees on Jan. 30.



**Baystate Health President/CEO Peter Banko**

MHA serves as the united voice for the commonwealth's hospitals, health systems, and healthcare providers.

"It is our honor to welcome Peter to the MHA Board at a critical time for the commonwealth's healthcare system," said MHA President and CEO Steve Walsh. "He brings a highly valuable national healthcare perspective to our mission, as well as a strong vision for the future of care delivery and patient access. We know he will bring the same compassion and ingenuity to MHA as he does to the Western New England region."

As part of the MHA Board, Banko will help support the recovery of local hospitals and health systems, all of which have absorbed a relentless series of pressures dating back to the beginning of the pandemic. The Board will advocate with a united front

to ease the capacity pressures, workforce shortages, and administrative burdens that are now challenging timely patient care across the commonwealth, and to restore financial stability to the state's most important sector.

In the coming year, MHA and its Board will also build upon Massachusetts' world-renowned legacy for healthcare innovation.

Its priorities will include advancing state-of-the-art care outside the hospital, reimagining what an empowered healthcare profession looks like, and closing patient care disparities in new and creative ways.

"We are blessed to have a health association that creates a bridge for collaboration and partnership amongst hospitals and health system leaders across Massachusetts," said Banko. "We are individually and collectively connected through our mission-driven care, and I look forward to working together to advocate for health and health care in New England and to find opportunities to advance care for our neighbors and caregivers in Western Massachusetts."

Under Banko's leadership, Baystate Health is building a clinically driven and physician-led health care system to deliver high quality and safe care and experience to its neighbors.

Through its strategic plan, Baystate seeks to be the economic and health pillar in New England, preferred destination to work and practice, and establish long-term financial resilience. The focus on returning Baystate to healthy growth affords the system the opportunity to remain an independent system and the ability to invest \$1.2 billion over the next six years in operations and growth.

Prior to joining Baystate Health in June 2024, Banko served as President and CEO of Centura Health across Colorado, Kansas, and Utah, including 17 years with Catholic Health Initiatives as Senior Vice President of Southeast Operations and national Chief Integration Officer, and President and CEO of St. Vincent in Little Rock, Arkansas. Previous senior leadership roles include CHRISTUS Spohn Health System in Corpus Christi, Texas, PhyAmerica Physician Group in Durham, North Carolina, and Saint Clare's Health Services in Denville, New Jersey.



Julianna Garcia, left, and Recovery Center of HOPE's Program Director Julie Lutz gave the opening remarks during the candlelight vigil.



Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger compared the rainbow to a bridge; connecting the community.

## Overdose Awareness Day

**VIGIL** from page 1

lost their lives to overdose in recognition of Overdose Awareness Day. The vigil also served as a beacon of hope for those on their recovery journey.

Prior to the moment of silence, Recovery Center of HOPE's Program Director Julie Lutz and community member Julianna Garcia gave some opening remarks, and spoke about the importance of honoring this day.

"Many of us have been touched personally," Lutz said of overdose loss.

Lutz said that even though the town of Ware has been underserved in its treatment of substance use disorder and addiction compared to larger towns and cities, it has still found a way to create a community based in care, compassion and consistency.

Those who work to help people in recovery in town are "lifelines," she said.

"They represent compassion in action," Lutz said.

Garcia said having a community is one of the key factors needed along the recovery journey, a path which nobody can walk alone.

"Even in darkness, there is light," Garcia said. "In grief, there is community."

The vigil featured a number of speakers from the community, including peer recovery coach from the Behavioral Health Network, Randy Gratton.

Gratton said it was an honor to speak about recovery, and something him and his family never thought he would do.

Gratton said a word used a lot in recovery is "gratitude," which he said is "cliché and overly used," but necessary in the recovery journey. Also important is the understanding and comfort that comes



Community members joined together for a moment of silence at Veterans Park last Friday evening in recognition of Overdose Awareness Day. A candlelight vigil was organized by the Recovery Center of HOPE.

with speaking to people who have had a shared life experience.

He encouraged everyone present to stop by the Recovery Center of HOPE or participate in one of its many programs.

"We can turn the worst nightmares into something positive," Gratton said.

Next to speak was Turley Publication Advertising Executive and Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond President Dan Flynn, who has been a strong community ally for the Recovery Center of HOPE.

Flynn said in his time spent visiting the Recovery Center of HOPE, he has learned a lot about recovery and the roadblocks that people face along their journeys.

Peggy Baxter of the United Church of Ware led a prayer before a moment of silence was held, which each person present holding a purple candle.

She spoke about suffering, endurance and character

building. All of these things help to produce hope.

"Today, we hold onto hope," Baxter said.

Public Health Nurse Kirsten Krieger, who served the town of Ware for several years, including working closely with those in recovery, pointed out the rainbow that had formed over Main Street. She said it seemed to represent a bridge, connecting the Recovery Center of HOPE to the community.

She spoke about her experience working with people in recovery from substance use disorder, and how important it is to not be afraid – and to help.

"You could be the one person that gets them to the place that says, 'I think I can do it,'" Krieger said.

Lutz then invited members of the community to remember loved ones lost to overdose.

"Your presence and care make a difference," she said. "Let us continue to honor those we lost."

## Ware Cultural Council seeks funding proposals for 2026

WARE – The Ware Cultural Council is accepting applications from organizations, schools, and individuals to apply for grants supporting cultural community activities for 2026.

The deadline for filing applications begins Sept. 2 and ends on Oct. 16, 2025.

This year the Ware Cultural Council will distribute \$11,900 in grants to fund artistic projects and activities, including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artistic residencies, performances in school, workshops, and lectures. The council thanks the Massachusetts State Legislature for providing

annual funds to each of the 351 local cultural councils in the Commonwealth.

For local guidelines and complete information on the Ware Cultural Council contact Aileen O'Regan at [wareculturalcouncil@yahoo.com](mailto:wareculturalcouncil@yahoo.com). Application forms are available on [www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org) - then scroll down and select Local Cultural Council Programs.

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

## ZBA seeks two residents to serve on board

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

The ZBA is a five-member board that hears and considers petitions for Zoning Variances and appeals of decisions of the Building Inspector.

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



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimet  
Peggy Baxter of the United Church of Ware led a prayer before the moment of silence.



Dan Flynn of Turley Publications and the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond spoke about the importance of community support.



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Stained glass creations made by Beth Montemagni of Creative Change Interior Decorating Stained Glass Creations.



Seashells, driftwood, and sea glass are used on frames and other crafts made by Crafty Besties.



Flannel paper towels and napkins made by Gail Modugno of Steerage Rock Stitching of Brimfield.

**WINERY** from page 1

This event benefited Hardwick Elementary School PTO, as well as a shed raffle to support Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School.

One of the new features in this year's festival is an ice cream truck from Crozie's Cones. The truck was parked over by the entrance of the winery and was not hard to find due to the tall ice cream cone decoration that is part of the ice cream truck.

Palazzo of Clay Bae by Gina has been doing craft fairs for five years, but this year's festival at Hardwick Winery will be her final craft fair. Clay Bae offers handmade polymer clay creations, such as jewelry and key chains. Clay Bae was set up under the gazebo and she had plenty of shoppers visiting her.



Gina Palazzo of Clay Bae by Gina attended this year's fall craft & food festival at Hardwick Winery.



Over 70 vendors arrived in this year's Fall Craft and Food Festival at the Hardwick Winery. Weather was perfect.



Clover the traveling cow from Old Sturbridge Village, who was featured in the Village's Cow Parade.



Plenty of dog bandanas were available made by Town Farm Crafts in Monson.



Crozie's Cones arrived in an ice cream truck. Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Palazzo said she may bring back Clay Bae sometime in the future.

"It's a solid maybe," Palazzo said.

For one vendor, its all in the family. The Pappas family is a first-time vendor at the Fall Craft & Food Festival and presented Cricklewood Creations Gift Shop. Monique, Michael, Emily Rose, and Emma are a family of artists, each featuring separate businesses and crafts all under the same roof.

Monique and Michael Pappas had other craft businesses prior to the creation of Cricklewood Creations. There is Pappy's Woodworks by

Michael Pappas and Creative Communications Art Studio by Monique Pappas. Creative Communications features illustrations, painting, ink, jewelry and other gifts. Pappy's Woodworking focuses on custom woodworking items.

The family decided to combine their businesses and will have a grand opening for Cricklewood Creations at 12 Cricklewood Drive in Leicester later this year.

"We're excited to have our opening this October," Monique Pappas said.

One interesting craft being sold during the festival was flannel paper towels, that are considered to be reusable,

These flannel paper towels are a multipurpose replacement for traditional paper towels.

The crafter behind these special paper towels is Gail Modugno of Brimfield. Modugno has been designing flannel paper towels for the last five years. Modugno is a retired educator and found a hobby she picked up after the pandemic.

"It's a hobby, and I enjoy it," Modugno said.

These flannel paper towels come in various styles and are 100% cotton flannel. These can be used as napkins, guest

towels, wash cloths, cleaning wipes and much more.

For a tasty treat, Cookies by Ray arrived at the Winery with the cookie trailer selling delicious gourmet style cookies of various flavors. One flavor that sold out fast was the strawberry shortcake. Ray's cookies were a hit as many guests lined up in front of the cookie trailer.

Another unique vendor was Creative Change. This crafter features interior decorating-stained glass creations. Beth Montemagni of Chicopee has been welding for 20 years and has been involved in art shows for the last 10 years. Montemagni says this style of art is her passion. Her first project was the design of a tree.

Her favorite project to make is memory lanterns, where folks can case a memory in glass. Montemagni draws out the project first before welding the stained glass. Her motivation is to craft something that is "unique and one of a kind."

**Special guest**

From the Cow Parade at Old Sturbridge Village is Clover the traveling cow. Clover travels throughout the region to advertise the cow parade at the village.



Cookies by Ray parked their cookie trailer for this year's craft fair and food festival. Gourmet style cookies were enjoyed.



Paws 4 Blue K-9 supports police K-9s in need.



Off the Hook Roadside Eatery was one of the food trucks in this year's Fall Craft and Food Festival.



Finn is a Husky-Shepherd-pit mix sporting a bandana from Town Farm Crafts.

Guests came up to meet nature of time within Old Sturbridge Village. The Hardwick Winery will be running the fall craft and food festival next year. Visit [www.hardwickwinery.com](http://www.hardwickwinery.com) for future events.

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<b>SLICED IN OUR DELI</b>	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHOCOLATE CREAM PIE 29 OZ ... <b>\$4.99</b> ea	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN BATTERED & BREADED FISH STICKS ..... <b>\$2.49</b> lb
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# SPORTS

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## Pioneers scrimmage as season nears



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Pathfinder scrimmages against Chicopee last week.

PALMER – Last week, Pathfinder Regional football had a scrimmage with Chicopee High School as the regular season approaches. The Pioneers are scheduled to open up the regular season against neigh-

boring rival Palmer High School next week. Pathfinder did have one final scrimmage on Sept. 5 against Bishop Guertin before facing the Panthers at Legion Field on Sept. 12 at 7 p.m.



Trevor Alexander hugs the football as he goes on a run.



Cassion Kowalik looks for an opening to go on a long rush.



Anthony Arventos heads up the field.



Dustyn Cook extends for a catch.

## Ware girls hit the soccer field

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARE—The Ware girls' varsity soccer team are members of the Pioneer-South Division. They're scheduled to play two games against league rivals Smith Vocational, SICS, McCann Tech, Hoosac Valley, and Springfield Central.

The Lady Indians, who won five games a year ago, are also slated to play six non-league matches.

One of the non-league home games that Ware head coach Morgan Toelken has circled on his schedule is against archrival Palmer on Sept. 23.

"We're really looking forward to hosting Palmer under the lights in late September," said Toelken following a recent practice. "It's one of the games that I've circled on my schedule. The girls also have it circled on theirs as well."

Toelken, who graduated from Ware High School in the 1990's, has also been an assistant softball coach during the past several years. He knows what the Ware-Palmer rivalry means to both communities.

"It doesn't matter what sport it might, whenever we play Palmer it's always a very big game," Toelken added. "People would probably show up if the two high schools were playing badminton against each other. A lot of the kids grew up playing sports with and against each other. The two football teams have been playing each other for almost 100 years."

A year ago, Palmer posted a 5-0 shutout victory against Ware during the regular season.

The two squads also met in the Western Mass. Class D quarterfinals with the Lady Panthers posting a 2-0 home win.

Toelken hasn't been able to celebrate a win in the rivalry series against Palmer since replacing Jerry Czub as the varsity soccer coach at the beginning of the 2021 regular season.

The Lady Indians will be playing another rivalry home match against Quaboag Regional on October 20, which will be the regular season finale.

"That's another game that's circled on my schedule," Toelken said. "Quaboag has always had a group of talented soccer players. We'll be hosting them as well this year."

The Lady Indians soccer team made the short bus ride to Warren last September and suffered a 4-0 loss.

The two football teams will be meeting for the 16th time at Quaboag on Thanksgiving Eve.

The Lady Indians are scheduled to open the regular season with two road matches against Hopkins Academy and Hoosac Valley before playing Springfield Central, a Division 1 team, in the home opener on September 11. The other teams in the Pioneer-South are in Division 5.

All of Ware's home matches will start at 7 p.m. this fall.

"The girls really enjoy playing home night games," Toelken said. "It also gives their families an opportunity to watch them play more often. We also usually have

Please see **WARE**, page 11

## Quabbin Panthers set to face Gardner in season opener

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Mike Besaw was an assistant football coach at several different high schools during the past 35 years. He had been the defensive coordinator at Quabbin Regional for the past two seasons.

Besaw will oversee his own football team for the first time this fall.

Last spring, Besaw was named as the new Panthers varsity football coach. He replaced Wayne Page, who was hired as the new coach at Grafton High School, which is his alma mater. Page is still a physical education teacher

at Quabbin.

"I've been dealing with a lot of different things that I never had to deal with when I was an assistant coach," Besaw said. "I think the coaching part is going to be easy, but I just have to make sure that I'm budgeting my time appropriately. Everything is going to be a new learn-

ing experience for me, but I'm really excited about this season. The players have been working very hard so far at practice."

The Panthers are scheduled to open the 2025 regular season on the road against Mid-Wach C rival Gardner High School on September 11.

Jason Bergman replaced

Page as the offensive coordinator.

"Jason has worked with coach Page during the past couple of years," Besaw added. "I'll still be the defensive coordinator, but I'll have some input on the offensive side. All the coaches work well together."

Quabbin will be playing at

Gardner in the season opener and they'll also be hosting the Wildcats on the night before Thanksgiving.

The Panthers home opener will be a non-league game against Quaboag Regional on September 19.

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 11

## Pioneers lock up with Panthers in scrimmage



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Evelyn Wood goes after the ball.

PALMER – Last week, both Pathfinder and Palmer girls soccer got together for scrimmage action with both teams preparing for the regular season. Pathfinder faced off with Lee High School earlier this week in the season opener for both teams. Coming up on Friday, Sept. 5, the Pioneers have their home opener on Commerce at 4 p.m. They will face Renaissance on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 4 p.m.



Makaela Tourville sends a pass away.



Megan Clark tries to clear the ball ahead of pressure.



Taylor Allen holds possession.



Addison Doktor attempts a save.

# sports

## Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

### Summer Edition

**EAST BROOKFIELD** – The Summer Retirees league concluded this past week at Bogey Lanes in East Brookfield.

After 14 weeks of league candlepin bowling a champion has been crowned. The CB's, consisting of Leo Doucette, Frank Kehir, Ron Moreau, and Dick Lindsay, finished in first place with a record of 67-45. In second place was the Army team, Nancy Landry, Elaine Lengowski, Carol Christiansen, and Tina Como, with a record of 65-47.

Air Force finished in third place with a record of 57-55. Coast Guard finished in fourth place with a record of 56-56. Green Berets finished in fifth with a record of 49-63 and Jar Heads finished in sixth with a record of 42-70.

This league took place every Thursday afternoon for 14 weeks during the summer. The league enjoyed coffee every week provided by Bogey Lanes.

In the final week, Army bowled against Coast Guard. In game one, Army defeated Coast Guard by a score of 388-379. In game two, Coast Guard won by a score of 398-366. The final game of the season was won by Coast Guard, 401-357. The final score was 1178-1111 in favor of Coast Guard.

The next match was Air

Force bowling against the CB's. In game one, C.B.'s won by a score of 415-366. In game two, it was a close match, but CB's won again by a score of 398-397. In game three, The CB's won again for a three-game sweep over Air Force, 409-400.

With eight points won in the final week, the CB's pull ahead and take first place to win the summer league. The final score was 1222-1163 in favor of CB's, the 2025 Summer Retirees league champions.

Green Berets bowled against the Jar Heads in the final week of league. In game one, Jar Heads were victorious by a score of 416-399. In game two, Jar Heads won again by a score of 432-382. Jim Messier of Jar Heads, who is supporting an 85 league average, broke the century mark with 100 in game two.

In game three, Green Berets won the last game by a score of 412-408. Jar Heads won total pinfall with a final score of 1256-1193.

#### Individual high scores

For the women, the top three high single games were Pat Bacon with 107, Linda Bonnayer with 105, and Doris Kingsley with a 104. For the men, Marc Vinciulla had the highest single game with a 144 and the highest series of 356.

Ron Moreau had the second highest single with a 123 and Dick Lindsay had the third highest single game with a 122. The high series for the women goes to Doris Kingsley with a 280.

## Jarvis gets first Modified win

**WINCHESTER, N.H.** – Add Joey Jarvis to the long list of first-time Modified feature winners at the Great Race Place. The second-generation hot shoe held off the best in the business to win the Aug. 23 604 Modified main event at Monadnock Speedway.

Super Street ace Dylan Zullo, also a generation star, moved closer to his first divisional championship by topping his Saturday night feature, and Super Modified blaster George Helliwell won his second SMAC 350 main event of the summer here on Back To School Night on the high banks.

Cameron Sontag won the Mini Stock feature, Gordon Farnum scored his third win of the summer in the Pure Stocks, and up-and-coming teen speedster Sofia Rego won for the first time in the Young Guns on Saturday.

Jarvis, no stranger to victory lane but still seeking his first Modified win at Monadnock entering Saturday's 40-lap feature, comes from a storied pedigree of Green Mountain State racers. Following in the footsteps of dad Peter, and uncles Dwight and Victor, he led all the way Saturday to score the win with Brian Robie glued to his bumper.

To earn the win, he held off the all-out challenges of previous 2025 All States Material Group Modified winners Brousseau, Leclerc, Patnode and then Robie. Trying the top groove lap after lap, the speedway's top

points man had to settle for second, inches behind the first-time winner. Patnode's big night aboard his Swanzy Oil ride brought him home third.

SMAC's Helliwell, setting a Monadnock lap record for 350 Super Mods at a mind-bending 11.348 seconds, started the night's 50-lap main event up front and rocketed off to win by a country mile.

"I hate to lose, and I've done a lot of it," Helliwell quipped in victory lane. At Monadnock Speedway, though, all he's done is win. Along with his Saturday speed record, he was perfect at two-for-two this summer on the high banks. Matt Seavey kept him in sight to finish second Saturday, and Matt Riley was third.

Erik Smith led early in the Twin State Truck Services Super Street feature but top gun Dylan Zullo, who'd settled for second a week earlier, wanted more. Charging to the front from the top groove on lap five, Zullo took the lead and quickly sped off into the night to solidify his spot atop the points parade.

Chris Riendeau, victorious seven days before, worked his way through the strong field to claim second on lap 24 but, by then, Zullo was far ahead. Smith finished his impressive performance in third, with JD Stockwell and Hillary Renaud completing the potent top five. After a post race inspection, Riendeau was disqualified for an

upper control arm infraction placing Zilinski into fifth.

Kevin Clayton, and then Dick Lamotte, both set a fast pace early in the Fabian Fuels Mini Stock feature but Cameron Sontag took charge on lap 13 and never looked back en route to the top prize in the high speed rear-wheel versus front-wheel-drive battle for the win.

With Sontag making Saturday's night's win look easy, Owen Zilinski blasted into second on the final lap to edge Louie Maher for the runner-up hardware. Timmy Paquette was fourth on the night, and Kevin Clayton - he the division's champ a quarter century ago - came home fifth.

Saturday night's win moved Sontag up to second in the 2025 points chase, now only four markers behind John Fultz, who finished pitside for 14th on the night.

Markus O'Neil was first to the front in the Brattleboro Towing and Recovery Pure Stock feature, but Kyle Kenny - victorious with ease the night before at Claremont - was shooting for a weekend sweep. And, back in row four, Gordon Farnum had plans of his own.

Kenny took the lead on lap five, bringing Dominick Stafford with him, and Farnum seized third the next time around. Diving under a turn-four lapper on the 21st go-round, Farnum was back

Please see **RACE**, page 11

## Quabbin Fall League expands to six teams

**SOUTH HADLEY** – After successful recruiting, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League has reached a decision to expand this year's fall league to six teams.

With the expansion, there are still some open roster spots for players who are age 28 and older. The league is set to get underway with its Sunday schedule beginning on Sunday, Sept. 7.

All players in the league will get to experience an eight-game slate with the cost in the range of \$45 to \$60 depending on the number of players on the team. The cost reflects paying for insurance, umpires, baseballs, and fields.

Primary fields being used this fall include Mittineague in West Springfield and Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley, with a third field being finalized this week.

Players potentially interested in participating in the league this year, don't wait to sign-up.

Go to [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org) and click on the registration page. If you have more questions, you can contact the league's co-coor-

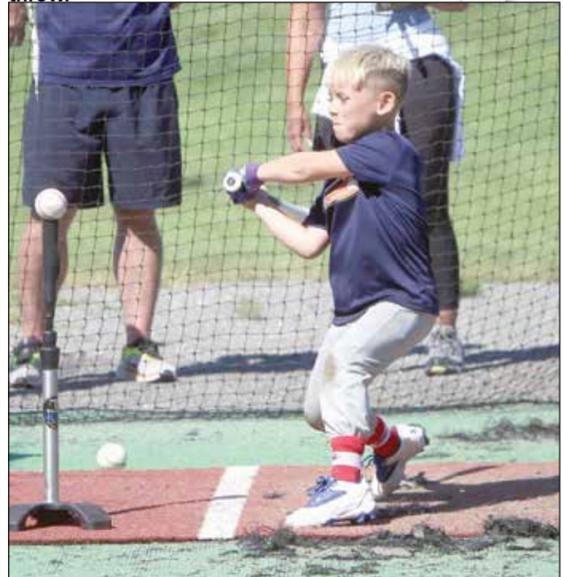
Please see **FALL**, page 11

## Former minor league brings regional camp back



Turley photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)  
Sam Lacasse works on his pitching.

**RIGHT:** Parker Duquette winds back for a throw.



Luke LaChappelle eyes the ball as he swings.

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**WILBRAHAM**—There were many different sports camps held throughout Western Massachusetts this summer.

The last one was called the Summer Sendoff Baseball Camp, which took place on the baseball fields at Spec Pond in Wilbraham during the third week of August and featured players from all over the region. The

camp director is Dustin Brisson, who played Minor League Baseball for the Boston Red Sox.

"This is our second year holding the baseball camp and it has been absolutely incredible," Brisson said. "All of the kids have been great. They understand that this isn't just a normal day camp, it's a skills camp. They're learning different things about baseball every day."

Brisson, who was born in Florida,

played college baseball at the University of Central Florida from 1997-2000. He was drafted by the New York Mets and the Miami Marlins before signing with the Red Sox.

He advanced to Double A before his professional baseball career came to an end due to an injury.

"I was blessed to have the opportunity to play professional baseball," said Brisson, who also owns Forge Athletics. "I'm doing what I can to give back."

During one of his college baseball games in Orlando, Brisson hit a long flyball down the right field line. The base umpire was Don LaValley, who's from Chicopee.

LaValley ruled that the ball was foul, but it was a home run. LaValley told the campers that story at this year's camp.

"I've known Don since I was playing college baseball," Brisson said. "We're good friends now."

About 45 youth baseball players between the ages of 7-15 from Wilbraham and the surrounding communities attended the baseball camp. The campers were split up into groups depending on their age.

"Once we know how many kids will be coming to the camp, we like to put them

in groups depending on their age," Brisson said. "We just want to make sure that the kids are in the appropriate skill level. It's hard to put eighth or ninth graders with third or fourth graders. I want them to have fun and learn some new things at the same time. They're learning for some of the best coaches in the area."

A couple of the camp instructors were Chade Shade, who was the first-year head coach of the Springfield College baseball team, Dan Gomez, who's the head baseball coach at Western New England University, and Terry Doyle, who coaches baseball at New England College which is in Henniker, NH.

Minnechaug Regional varsity baseball coach Mike Netkovich also worked at this year's camp.

"This is an outstanding baseball camp for the kids," Netkovich said. "Dustin is a great guy, and he has an outstanding baseball resume. I'm glad that I was able to help at this year's camp. I never attended a camp like this one when I was a kid."

Ray Fagnant, who grew up in Chicopee and is the Boston Red Sox Northeast Regional Scouting Supervisor, also helped at the camp.

A few of the different sta-



**Rick Colon practices his technique behind the plate.**

tions were hitting, fielding, and throwing.

One of the older campers was Nolan Witek, who's from Wilbraham.

"This baseball camp is a lot of fun," said Witek, who's a sixth grader. "This camp will prepare me for my baseball tryouts for the Wilbraham Falcons in a couple of weeks. Baseball is my favorite sport."

Brisson was also aided at the camp by his wife, Kasey.

"My wife is the backbone of the organization," Brisson said. "She keeps everything in order. I appreciate all the support from many different people that I've received running this camp."

Brisson and his staff are already looking forward to holding the baseball camp again next summer.



Alex Nunlist takes a swing.



Eli Olbrych frames up a pitch.

# Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 25-Sept. 2, the Ware Police Department responded to 40 miscellaneous calls, 12 administrative calls, eight traffic violations, 16 emergency 911 calls, five motor vehicle accidents, six harassments, one theft/larceny, one trespass, one fraud/deception, one damage/vandalism, two structures, six animal calls and 50 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

**Monday, Aug. 25**

8:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Warren Road, Citation/Warning Issued  
 3:24 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Investigated  
 3:29 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, Palmer Road, Investigated  
 4:20 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered  
 5:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued  
 5:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 5:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued  
 6:08 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, West Street, Advised  
 8:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 9:30 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Sky View Drive, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Aug. 26**

2:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 3:09 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

**Wednesday, Aug. 27**

8:27 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, North Street, Services Rendered  
 10:53 a.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, South Street, Report Made  
 4:09 p.m. Abandoned 911

Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled  
 5:49 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised

**Thursday, Aug. 28**

4:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 7:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Criminal Complaint Request  
 4:12 p.m. Traffic Incident/ Crash, West Street, Report Made  
 4:21 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gould Road, Services Rendered  
 9:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 10:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued

**Friday, Aug. 29**

9:41 a.m. Damage/ Vandalism, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered  
 10:30 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled  
 2:50 p.m. Fraud/ Deception, Hillside Village, Services Rendered  
 8:18 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Walnut Street, Services Rendered  
 9:51 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Dispatch Handled

**Saturday, Aug. 30**

11:01 a.m. Trespass, South Street, Advised  
 1:01 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Moriarty Road, Advised  
 3:58 p.m. Structure Fire, Doane Road, Extinguished  
 4 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, North Street, Dispatch Handled  
 5:53 p.m. Structure Fire, Otis Avenue, Investigated  
 10:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation/ Warning Issued

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

9:56 a.m. Electrical Hazard, South Street, Services Rendered

*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.*

5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 7:26 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, Park Street, Advised  
 7:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 8:28 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled

**Monday, Sept. 1**

10:14 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled  
 11:02 a.m. Gas Leak/ Odor, Palmer Road, Investigated  
 3:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled  
 4:50 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Services Rendered  
 7:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 7:29 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

**Tuesday, Sept. 2**

6:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued  
 7:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued  
 8:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/ Warning Issued

Regional, and Tyngsborough. "Because Grafton joined the Mid-Wach, they realigned the Divisions," Besaw said. "This will be the first time we'll be playing Tyngsborough since I've been coaching here. I just want to have a chance to win every game that we play. We do have a strong senior class."

The Panthers senior co-captains are Adam Adams and Wes Sanderson.

Adams, who was the Panthers back-up quarterback last season, is slated to be the starting QB replacing Jaxon Warburton, who graduated in June. He was also a wide receiver and a defensive back.

"Adams started a couple of games last year because Jaxon was injured," Besaw said. "He's another year older and is an outstanding athlete. He's going to be a threat both running and passing."

Sanderson is a running back.

Another running back is senior Chase Talbot.

"Wes and Chase are returning running backs," Besaw said. "Luke Salvadore was another running back, but he graduated. We had a three-headed monster in the backfield."

Salvadore will be a member of the Union College football team, which is a

Division 3 school located in Schenectady, New York.

Travis Wells was another senior listed on the Panthers 2024 football roster. He'll be playing football at Assumption University in Worcester, which is a Division 2 school.

"It's always nice to see your players play football at the college level," Besaw said. "Both of those guys spent a lot of time in the weight room and are very good kids."

The other seniors listed on this year's Panthers football roster are Owura Ankoma-Mensah, Trevor Boissaneau, Trace Davin, Joe Flynn, Ian Haupt, Austin Holmes, Jaymeson Pina, Parker Proulx, Anthony Quartarone, Quin Reynolds, Eric Serrano, and Xavier Wade.

Reynolds, Holmes and Davin, along with Talbot and Adams are the Panthers leaders defensively.

The Panthers motto is BTL (Be the Leader).

"I just want my players to be the leader in the community, the classroom, and on the football field," Besaw said. "I want them to be outstanding citizens and positive role models wherever they might be. The kids are taking it to heart."

The Panthers' other assistant coaches are Jeyson Sanchez, Sean Costello, and Eddie Guertin.

banks champ Andrea St. Amour rebounded from two in-race brush-ups to come home fourth, and Chris Chambers was fifth.

Sofia Rego, who wrecked a month ago in a Doug's Auto Body Young Guns event, is getting used to her

new ride. In fact, she has it fully figured out. Saturday, the teen pilot swept both her heat and feature races to score her first win. Previous 2025 winners Maya Bell and Hunter Duquette were second and third,

# Warren Police Log

During the week of Aug. 16-23, the Warren Police Department responded to 188 building/property checks, 104 community policings, 12 emergency 911 calls, one safety hazard, one complaint, two threats, one property damage, two motor vehicle accidents, one animal call and 18 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

**Saturday, Aug. 16**

2:10 a.m. Stroke, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital  
 4:01 p.m. Threats, Keys Road, Call Transferred

**Sunday, Aug. 17**

6:18 p.m. Diabetic, Constitution Avenue, Transported to Hospital

**Monday, Aug. 18**

7:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning

**Tuesday, Aug. 19**

3:54 a.m. Disturbance/ Disorderly, Keys Road, Peace Restored  
 3:31 p.m. Threats, Yankee Drummer Drive, Call Transferred  
 5:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle

Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning  
 7:01 p.m. Suspicious Person, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed

**Wednesday, Aug. 20**

9:06 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital  
 12:44 p.m. Property Damage, School House Drive, Report Filed  
 3:10 p.m. Sick/ Unknown, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital  
 5:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

**Thursday, Aug. 21**

7:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 1:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Quaboag Street, Written Warning  
 6:14 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital  
 8:11 a.m. Falls, School Street, Transported to Hospital  
 7:25 p.m. Complaint, Old Douglas Road, Investigated  
 9:10 p.m. Chest Pain/

Heart Problem, East Road, Transported to Hospital

**Friday, Aug. 22**

1:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Arrest(s) Made  
 5 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
 11:42 a.m. Sick/ Unknown, Chapel Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal  
 12:37 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital  
 12:45 p.m. Overdose/ Poisoning, River Street, Report Filed

**Saturday, Aug. 23**

10:40 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised  
 12:45 p.m. Safety Concern, Main Street, Report Filed  
 7:08 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Yankee Drummer Drive, Transported to Hospital  
 7:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Main Street, Report Filed  
 9:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Main Street, Report Filed

# Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 25-31, the Hardwick/ New Braintree Police Department responded to 85 building/property checks, 56 directed/area patrols, six radar assignments, seven traffic controls, 10 emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, two assist other agencies, two investigations, four complaints, two fires, one harassment, four animal calls and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

**Monday, Aug. 25**

9:57 a.m. 911 Fire/Other, Ruggles Hill Road, Services Rendered  
 10:04 a.m. Assist Citizen, Unknown Location, Taken to Family/Guardian  
 11:30 a.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled  
 2:48 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Referred to Other Agency  
 2:51 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Birch Street, Patient Refusal

8:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Written Warning

**Tuesday, Aug. 26**

8 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Thresher Road, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Aug. 27**

4:27 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Services Rendered  
 6:22 a.m. 911 Hang-up/ Abandoned, Gilbertville Road, Officer Handled

**Thursday, Aug. 28**

2:24 a.m. Safety Hazard, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered  
 6:44 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital  
 12:28 p.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Negative Contact  
 12:55 p.m. Disturbance, Main Street, Spoken To  
 10:23 p.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Referred to Other Agency

**Friday, Aug. 29**

8:15 p.m. Harassment, Barre Road, Services Rendered

**Saturday, Aug. 30**

8:29 a.m. Investigation, Barre Road, Officer Handled  
 4:19 p.m. 911 Fire/ Other, Barre Road, Services Rendered  
 8:20 p.m. Complaint, Lower Road, Officer Handled

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

4:05 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Broad Street, Officer Handled  
 11:50 a.m. Disturbance, Barre Road, Spoken To  
 1:37 p.m. Assist Citizen, Barre Road, Services Rendered  
 3:20 p.m. 911 Investigation, Brook Road, Report Taken  
 3:44 p.m. 911 Lockout, Barre Road, Dispatch Handled  
 6:48 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Greenwich Road, Negative Contact

**QUABBIN** from page 9

The series between the two teams is currently tied 1-1.

Two years ago, Quaboag spoiled Quabbin's home opener with a 14-6 win.

The Panthers posted a 34-0 shutout victory at Quaboag in week three last year.

"Quaboag has played very hard against us the past two years," Besaw said. "We were able to win last year's game, but it was close until we broke it open in the second half."

Quabbin's other three non-league games are against Leicester, West Boylston, and Oxford.

West Boylston is the three-time defending Division 8 state champions. The Lions head coach is Mike Ross.

When Ross was the head football coach at Worcester North, Besaw was a member of his coaching staff.

"Mike and I have a very good relationship," Besaw said. "I'm really looking forward to that game, but their offense is very difficult to stop."

The Lions use the double-wing formation.

The Panthers like to spread things out offensively.

The Panthers' other league opponents are Groton-Dunstable, Narragansett

**RACE** from page 10

where he'd finished a week earlier, at the front and off to his appointed stop in victory lane.

With Kenny and Stafford both rock solid to complete the top three, 2024 high

**WARE** from page 9

a lot of other student-athletes at our night game."

The three seniors listed on the Lady Indians varsity soccer roster are Isabella Cotaj, Olivia DiRenso, and Madi Slattery.

"We had seven seniors last year and only three this year," Toelken said. "Our senior night ceremony will be a little bit shorter, which will be nice."

The seniors are captains, along with juniors Reese McKeever, and Emily Jones.

"I like having at least one or two juniors as captains because it keeps some sort of continuity for the following year. This is the most captains we've had since I've been coaching the varsity team," Toelken added. "Madi Slattery is our returning captain this year."

The five captains play different positions.

Slattery, who's a center midfielder, is a three-sport varsity athlete just like her two older brothers. Cotaj is a striker, DiRenso, is an outside midfielder, McKeever is a defensive midfielder, and Jones has replaced Abby McQuaid as the starting goalie.

"We'll have leaders

spread throughout the entire field," Toelken said. "They can talk to their teammates and tell them what to do during the game."

Jones was the back-up goalie a year ago.

"Emily is a very talented goalie," Toelken said. "She reads the field very well. She just needs to be a little more aggressive."

Cotaj scored six goals a year ago and was the Lady Indians leading scorer.

The other two juniors are Mila Markham and Reagan Jacobs, who'll be switching from outside back to inside back this year.

"It's a big change for Reagan," Toelken said. "There is a lot more open space outside, and you have to deal with a lot more players playing the inside position. She's been working very hard at practice."

Rounding out the Lady Indians varsity roster are sophomore Callie Cygan, sophomore Carlea Foley, sophomore Alexandra Marceau, sophomore Molly McGrail, sophomore Amelia Orzulak, freshman Thanishka Cordero, freshman Josephine Galeckas, freshman Gabrielle Kaczuwka, and freshman Naomi Torres.

**FALL** from page 10

dinators at gscibelli22@yahoo.com or ikhandfield@gmail.com

The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an over-28 baseball league playing games during the spring and summer in Western Massachusetts. The league recently expanded to offer an over-28 fall league to allow players in the age range to face like competition during the fall months. There were four teams last year, and the league is expanding due to higher interest in its second year.

The tradition of fall league is to play with wood bats only. The league has nine-inning games and participants are guaranteed time in the field for at least four innings.

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# public notices

## Healey-Driscoll Administration awards \$3.3 million in literacy grant

BOSTON – The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced today that it is awarding \$3.3 million in Partnership for Reading Success - Massachusetts III literacy grants to 25 school districts and collaboratives.

The PRISM III grant recipients include the Ware Public School District, \$18,000.

These grants will help school districts implement lasting improvements in English language arts and literacy instruction for grades four-12 through the evaluation, selection and implementation of high-quality instructional materials.

“Massachusetts has the best education system in the country, but we know more needs to be done to ensure all of our students have the tools they need to be lifelong readers and learners,” said Governor Maura Healey. “Today’s grant awards are a key piece of our administration’s commitment to making sure our school districts have the resources and support they need to improve literacy among their students.”

“Ensuring every student has access to high-quality, evidence-based instruction in literacy is essential for

Massachusetts students and families,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “Through PRISM III grants, we are providing more students the support they need to excel and thrive in the future.”

In the first year of PRISM III, grant recipients will engage in one of three tracks based on their readiness: preparing to evaluate and select materials, purchasing selected materials, or deepening implementation of materials already in use. All grantees will receive leadership coaching from a DESE-approved PRISM curriculum and instruction coach to analyze current curriculum and instruction systems and to support the establishment of a PRISM Curriculum Council.

Recipients can also use the grant for professional learning and for substitute coverage or stipends to compensate educators for their time in support of grant activities.

“We know that there are students across all grade levels struggling to read. The Healey-Driscoll Administration continues to maximize every opportunity to promote evidence-based literacy teaching and learning, from Literacy Launch to

our new high dosage tutoring initiative. The PRISM III grants build on these efforts, investing in the literacy skills of older students,” said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler.

“The PRISM III grants are designed to help districts build sustainable structures to make lasting improvements in literacy success for secondary students,” said Pedro Martinez, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. “This is an important investment in our secondary students.”

Literacy, particularly early literacy, is a priority for the administration. Healey created Literacy Launch, a multiyear strategy to promote high-quality, evidence-based reading instruction so our youngest students can read and read well.

Through her Fair Share supplemental budget, Healey also expanded high dosage early literacy tutoring to help students in kindergarten through third grade build foundational reading skills. This school year, 272 schools in Massachusetts will receive free, high-dosage early literacy tutoring.

## Dakin Humane Society received grant for license plate program

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society is happy to announce that they are a recipient of a 2025 grant in the amount of \$14,500 from the Massachusetts “I’m Animal Friendly” license plate program.

The grant will support low-cost spay/neuter services offered at Dakin’s Community Spay/Neuter Clinic, one of the largest in New England, which has conducted more than 134,000 surgeries since its 2009 opening.

Jinx, a 2-year-old tabby who lives in Holyoke, recently benefited from the MAC grant. His person Alisha turned to Dakin for help with his neuter surgery at the recommendation of her friends.

“My son first brought Jinx to us from Illinois, and now we’re all very attached to him,” she stated. “Jinx is doing great, and he’s still a bit feisty, as always. We really appreciate the support we got in helping our boy.”

“We’re incredibly grateful for our long-standing partnership with the



Massachusetts Animal Coalition,” said Meg Talbert, executive director at Dakin. “Thanks to their continued generosity, pets like Jinx are able to receive high-quality care at our Community Spay/Neuter Clinic. It means they can return home to their families healthier and happier, without the risk of unplanned litters or preventable health issues. The ‘I’m Animal Friendly’ license plate program doesn’t just support our mission to deliver effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them - it truly saves lives.”

The “I’m Animal Friendly” license plates are a program of the Massachusetts Animal

Coalition. Funds are granted annually to organizations that demonstrate a need for funding and provide low-cost spay/neuter services. Through this year MAC has awarded almost \$3,300,000 to many deserving organizations.

About MAC and “I’m Animal Friendly” program

The Massachusetts Animal Coalition is a statewide, non-profit organization comprised of animal welfare professionals and individual volunteers. The organization is dedicated to providing the Massachusetts animal welfare community with informational and financial resources, opportunities for professional growth, collaboration, and networking to improve the welfare of companion animals in our state.

MAC’s “I’m Animal Friendly” license plate program helps fund spay and neuter programs across the state. These charitable plates are available through the Massachusetts RMV and are tax deductible. [www.petplate.org](http://www.petplate.org).

### Ware Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 6:30pm** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) by Paul James, for the removal of trees at his property located at 9 Lakeview Cir. Ware, MA 01082. Assessors Map ID 50-0-18. Said hearing will be held in the Selectboard Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main St. Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413-967-9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association’s (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org> 09/04/2025

### Hardwick Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board per Hardwick Zoning Bylaw, sections 3.2.2.k., 4.1.3 and 6.5 will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 6:45PM at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA.**

The Hearing is regarding the application for a **Special Permit** by Lynne and John Blanchette to construct a Common Driveway at 1144 Petersham Road. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>

Hardwick Planning Board  
William Cole, Chair  
09/04, 09/11/2025

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Division Docket No. HS25P0515EA

**Estate of: Theresa Gloria St. Pierre Also Known As: Theresa G. St. Pierre Theresa G. Goulet Theresa Gloria Goulet**

**Date of Death: April 23, 2025 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Paul A. St. Pierre of Ware, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Paul A. St. Pierre of Ware, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 09/04/2025

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **PATRICIA A. SWISTAK to SPENCER SAVINGS BANK**, dated August 21, 2013 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds (the “Registry”) in Book 51404, Page 158 (the “Mortgage”), of which Mortgage the undersigned (the “Mortgagee”) is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of the Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at the mortgaged premises located on or near 2186 Main Street, West Warren, Massachusetts (the “Premises”), all and singular the premises described in the Mortgage, to wit:

“The land in Town of Warren, Village of West Warren, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

#### FIRST PARCEL

**BEGINNING** on the northerly line of Main Street in said West Warren at a corner of land now or formerly of Cornelius Mahoney;

Thence easterly on line of said street 50 feet to land now or formerly of The Thorndike Company;

Thence northerly by land now or formerly of said Company 127 feet, more or less, to land now or formerly of Frank F. Marcy;

Thence westerly by land of said Marcy and land now or formerly of William Clark 50 feet to land of said Mahoney;

Thence by land of said Mahoney, southerly 127 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

#### SECOND PARCEL

**BEGINNING** on the northerly line of the Warren Cotton Mills at a point situated N. 79° 15’ W., 42 feet from a stone point at the northeast corner of land of said Company;

Thence on line of land of said Company and other land of Lorraine T. Methote northerly 79° 15’ W., 128.5 feet;

Thence by land of said Company N. 3° W., 104 feet to an iron pin;

Thence easterly by land now or formerly of Charles Guilette 85.5 feet;

Thence by land now or formerly of Joseph Brunell and land now or formerly of Jeremiah Sheehan southerly 160 feet, more or less to the place of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to Peter F. Swistak and Sibyl T. Swistak by deed of Lorraine T. Methote dated July 20, 1960 recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 4136, Page 266, Peter F. Swistak having died on March 7, 2008. BSPC in Bk 42817 253”

The description of the Premises contained in the Mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The Premises, together with

all improvements encumbered by the Mortgage, are to be sold and conveyed subject to all leases, tenancies, occupancies, mortgages, restrictions, covenants, orders of conditions, easements, encroachments, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments or liens, federal and state tax liens, other liens or claims in the nature of liens and existing encumbrances recorded prior to the Mortgage and/or otherwise having priority over the Mortgage, if there be any.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A non-refundable deposit of TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS is to be paid by certified or bank cashier’s check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale, the balance to be paid by certified or bank cashier’s check and deed to be taken by purchaser within thirty (30) days of the sale at the offices of Seder & Chandler, LLP, 339 Main Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, attorneys for the Mortgagee.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation on the date and at the time and place appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation on the date and at the time and place appointed for the adjourned sale.

In the event of the failure or inability of the purchaser to perform and to purchase the Premises in accordance herewith, the Mortgagee reserves the right (but is not obligated) to accept, subject to the Memorandum of Sale, the second highest bid for the Premises, without further advertisement and without further notice to other bidders or persons. In the event that the Mortgagee offers the Premises to the second highest bidder and such person declines either to purchase the Premises at the second highest bid price or to sign the Memorandum of Sale, then the Mortgagee may elect (but is not obligated) to exercise the rights of the second highest bidder under this paragraph and to purchase the Premises at the second highest bid price, without further advertisement and without further notice to other bidders or persons.

Other terms to be announced at the time and place of sale.

CORNERSTONE BANK f/k/a SPENCER SAVINGS BANK Present holder of said Mortgage

Jennifer L. Conrad, Esq. SEDER & CHANDLER, LLP 339 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 757-7721 Attorneys for the Mortgagee

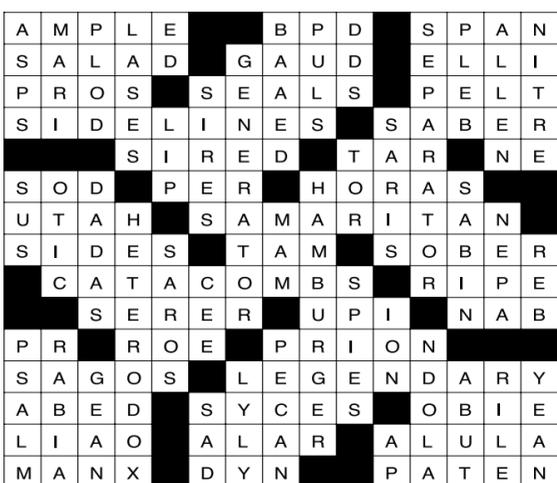
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## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

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



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

# Job Connection

## HELPING YOU FIND HELP

## Full-Time Police Officer

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time Police Officer. Applicants do not have to be academy trained, but academy trained are preferred. 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 of pay.

Resumes and cover letters will be accepted until position is fill to the attention of Lt. Kyle Whitcomb, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or [Whitcomb@warren-ma.gov](mailto:Whitcomb@warren-ma.gov).

*The Town of Warren is an EOE.*

# Register for Rotary's annual TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K & Fun Walk

STURBRIDGE – The Rotary Club of Sturbridge has announced that pre-registration is now open for its popular TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K, and Fun Walk, which is slated to return on Sunday, Oct. 26, according to club president and race director Klaus Hachfeld.

"To pre-register for this year's event, just go to get-merged.com, and type 'Sturbridge' in the search field in the upper right-hand corner," said Hachfeld. Participants who pre-reg-

ister by Oct. 21 will get a free 2025 TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K T-shirt.

All activities begin at the OSV Education Center on Old Sturbridge Village Road (not to be confused with Old Sturbridge Village Academy at the main entrance to the village). Parking will be available in the Education Center lot.

The family-friendly event offers two timed races, including a 5K Trail Run & Fun Walk, and a 1K Pre-Teen Run. In the spirit of the season, participants are encour-



aged to come in costume. The event also includes free children's game starting at 9 a.m. at the Education Center. The timed 1K Pre-Teen Run (\$20 registration) starts

at 9:15 a.m. This is for the 12 and under crowd, and the course is accessible for anyone with mobility challenges.

The timed 5K Trail Run (\$35 registration) & Fun Walk (\$30 registration) will start at 10 a.m. using Old Sturbridge Village Road and the Arbutus Park Trail in the Leadmine Mountain Wildlife Conservation Lands.

An awards ceremony will follow at 11:15 a.m. starting with a competition for best Halloween costume for all registered runners and walkers. Judging will be by popu-

lar choice.

On-site registration will also be available starting at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the race.

The Trek Sturbridge Halloween 5K and Fun Walk is a Sturbridge Rotary Club fundraiser, with all profits going to the organization's community needs projects. For additional information, or to sign on as an event sponsor, email the race director at laserklaus@gmail.com. Or visit the Sturbridge Rotary Club website at https://sturbridgerotary.com.

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