

WARE RIVER NEWS

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These students had their new backpacks ready to start the school year.



Students were all smiles on the first day of school at St. Aloysius Catholic School on Aug. 27.

School is back in session

HARDWICK – Students arrived at St. Aloysius Catholic School on Aug. 27 to start the 2026-2027 school year. This is also the school's 11th academic year, after it was established

in a vacant school building located at 52 Church St., in Gilbertville. St. Aloysius Catholic School has grown to offer a private, faith-based education to students in preschool to grade eight.

For more information about the school, visit its website, staloysiuscs.com or Facebook page, or call 413-477-1268 Monday through Friday from 7:20 a.m.-3 p.m.



Submitted Photos

Students were eager to return to school after summer vacation.



Parents dropped their students off for the start of the 2026-2027 school year at St. Aloysius Catholic School.

Selectmen discuss proposed Right to Farm bylaw

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen had discussions with several departments regarding final drafts for proposed bylaws.

Thibodeau said many complaints come about from abutting neighbors of the farms who may not like the noise, odor or the equipment that comes from farming operations. With the bylaw, purchasers of abutting land near a farm would be notified.

The state drafted the Right to Farm bylaw as a measure of protection for farmers to avoid nuisance lawsuits related to these complaints.

If passed, this bylaw would protect farms currently in operation. The extent of operations for new farms would be limited.

“The zoning laws cannot be written to negatively affect an operational farm that’s in existence,” Thibodeau said.

The final draft of the bylaw will be recommended by the Board of Selectmen before going to town meeting for a vote. The final draft would also be reviewed by town counsel.

The board tabled the Right to Farm bylaw discussion until the Board of Health can present a final draft.

Thibodeau said the Use of Public Ways and Spaces and Sidewalk bylaw involves the obstruction of sidewalks.

Please see **WARREN BOS**, page 5

“
THE ZONING LAWS CANNOT BE WRITTEN TO NEGATIVELY AFFECT AN OPERATIONAL FARM THAT’S IN EXISTENCE.”

DANIEL THIBODEAU

During the Sept. 3 meeting, the Selectmen heard from representatives of the Board of Health and the Cemetery Commission regarding proposed bylaws including the Use of Public Ways and Spaces and Sidewalk and Right to Farm.

Chair of the Board of Health, Daniel Thibodeau, presented research he conducted that involves Right to Farm communities.

The Right to Farm bylaw is written to protect the rights of farmers from urban or urbanization of the community.

Pathfinder Technical welcomes new principal

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – As Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School reopens for the new year, the community welcomed Principal Jay Taylor to the staff.

Taylor has a diverse background in education, which has involved working in multiple roles as both a teacher and an administrator. He described himself as feeling honored and excited to be joining Pathfinder Tech.

“Each role taught me something different and helped shape who I am as

school leader,” Taylor said.

This week, Taylor is coming off of the late-week Professional Development ahead of students arriving at Pathfinder this past Monday. This served as Taylor’s opportunity to introduce himself to the staff, and discuss all the opportunities the school has to offer and why

he loves technical vocational education.

“People see relevance in their learning,” Taylor said. “Schools like Pathfinder Tech have the opportunity to change the trajectory of people’s lives.”

“Above all I have an uncompromising dedication to students. What works best

for students is the compass I bring to instructional leadership,” Taylor said. “My leadership style is being visible, being present, interacting with students and being available in hallways. My goal is to be the first person

Please see **PRINCIPAL**, page 7



Submitted Photo
Principal Jay Taylor

CANDLEPIN LEAGUE NEWS

Roll-A-Way hosts annual 9-Pin event

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – Roll-A-Way Lanes hosted a tournament this past weekend, which helped support the charity Candlepins for Cancer.

This was the second time the candlepin bowling center has hosted a “9-Pin” bowling tournament where over 30 bowlers across Massachusetts participated. A portion of the entry fees went towards Candlepins for Cancer, a charity that raises money for bowling families going through cancer treatments.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Left to right stands Greg Gouillart and Paul Grant representing Candlepin Bowling Network and Candlepins for Cancer, and Dan Josefiak of Roll-A-Way Lanes in Ware.

Hosting the tournament was Candlepin Bowling Network announcers Paul Grant and Greg Gouillart.

During pre-tournament announcements Grant talked

Please see **9-PIN**, page 3

FALL Craft & Food Festival

Annual event benefits restoration of historic building

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Vineyard & Winery hosted its annual Fall Craft & Food Festival this past weekend featuring more than 60 local crafters and vendors.

Please see **FESTIVAL**, page 8

Turley Photo
by Camren Robertson
Festive fall decorations were crafted from reclaimed wood by WoodBuilderBob.



Fire Dept. to hold 9/11 ceremony Friday

WARE – The Ware Fire Department will recognize the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks at a ceremony to be held on Friday, Sept. 11 starting at 9:55 a.m. All are invited and encouraged to attend. The ceremony will last approximately 30 minutes and attendees are asked to arrive 20 minutes before the start.

Jonah Knight presents 'New England Ghosts' on Sept. 21

WARE – Are you ready to get in the mood for Halloween? Storyteller and magician Jonah Knight will be presenting his “New England Ghosts” performance at the Ware Library on Monday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. Knight will be telling ghost stories from each of the New England states, with interactive enhancements to heighten the mood. All ages are welcome, but this program is geared for adults, so may be too spooky for some. No registration is required. For more information call 413-967-5491.

Ware Senior Center NEWS

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, 413-967-9645, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The thrift store is open each of those days from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations to the store are only accepted by Sue LaBarge, who can be reached by calling 413-544-1574.

- ACTIVITIES**
Monday, Sept. 14
 - 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch Birthday Party with music by Memory Lane. Call 413-967-9645 on Sept. 11 by noon to be put on the list**Tuesday, Sept. 15**
 - 9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh
 - 1-2 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Mobile Food Pantry at Grenville Park
 - 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class.
 - 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)**Wednesday, Sept. 16**
 - 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori**Thursday, Sept. 17**
 - 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
 - 9 a.m. Walking Club

- (weather permitting)

 - 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
 - 10 a.m. Line Dancing
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 12:15 p.m. Art Class**Friday, Sept. 18**
 - 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 - 10 a.m. Scat
 - 11:30 a.m. Lunch
 - 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
 - 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)
- LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.**
 All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
 Required: call 413-967-9645 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

- Monday, Sept. 14**
 Birthday Party
 Roast Pork Loin with Gravy, Baked Potato, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day
Tuesday, Sept. 15
 Brunch, Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausages, Corned Beef Hash, Dessert of the Day
Wednesday, Sept. 16
 Spaghetti with Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day
Thursday, Sept. 17
 Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Potato Chips, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day
Friday, Sept. 18
 Tuna Salad Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Trinity Episcopal celebrates 125th anniversary with dinner on Oct. 3

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church, located at the corner of Park and Pleasant streets, is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. A fundraiser dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3 in the Alfonso Banquet Room at Teresa’s Restaurant, 315 Palmer Road. Tickets are \$50 per person and include a social hour, family-style dinner and live music. Social hour begins at 5 p.m., and a dinner of chicken parmesan with ziti, salad, coffee and tea will be served at 6 p.m. Cash bar is available.

Raffle tickets will also be sold during the dinner. Raffle items include at least two handmade quilts made by the church ladies quilt group, and items donated by friends and local businesses. Entertainment will begin at 7 p.m. and has been graciously donated by local musicians, including Seth Newton. All proceeds from the evening will go toward physical improvement projects at the new Jubilee Ministries center, 80 Pleasant St., especially a handicap ramp and awning and other projects. This year is also the 45th

anniversary of the Jubilee Cupboard, which got its start in the church’s kitchen. Tickets can be purchased on Sundays at the church after services from 10:30 a.m.-noon; during church office hours Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; at Jubilee Ministries, 80 Pleasant St., on Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon; at Jeffery & Jeffery, 137 Main St., during regular business hours Monday through Friday; or by calling the church office at 413-967-6100. Tickets must be purchased by Thursday, Sept. 24.

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 2022 showed Susan Daly and Zachary Lopez enjoying the "Bringing aWAREness to Recovery Art Exhibition," in front of the recovery quilt that Daly handmade.

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

Paige library lists upcoming events

- HARDWICK – Summer** may be winding down, but not activities at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road. Experience a school-themed September Scavenger Hunt for items hidden throughout the library. Check off items on your scavenger sheet and pass it in to choose a school themed prize. Picnic at the Paige will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 11 a.m. Bring a picnic blanket and a lunch or a snack for yourself or to share. The library will provide a treat and participants will read a fun fall-themed book. Enjoy the company of others and the grounds of the library and Goddard Park Playground next door. A Soap Making Demo will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. Learn the basics of making your own Crock Pot Hot Process soap and discuss tools, materials, oils, safety, recipes and resources. No need to bring any materials.
- Drumming Circle** with Jafar Manselle and the Wendell Warriors will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. for adults and teens. Experience this joyous African drumming workshop and learn different tones on the drum so you can play with the Warriors. This activity is funded by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council. Rain date is Thursday, Sept. 24.
- Massachusetts Good Neighbor Day Book Hunt** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 11 a.m. There will be a friendly book hunt, where readers of all ages get to hunt outside and find books to keep.
- Ongoing programs**
 On Wednesday morning Story Hour and activities beginning with “getting to know you time” at 10:30 a.m. and story and activities at 11 a.m. Homeschoolers are welcome and can access books and materials through our library and through Interlibrary Loan.
- The Friends’ Book Sale** is ongoing. The Book Club and the Cookbook Club meet monthly. The Paige Writers meet every other week. Friends of the Paige Memorial Library, the Movie Committee, the new Hardwick Gardening Club, and the PML Volunteers are open to new members. The library would like to start a teen group where creative teens can come together and make art, discuss music and culture and relax. Those interested should contact the library. All are welcome to share ideas for books, the library of things, programs, speakers, or more. Please email, call or stop in. For more information, people may visit www.paigelibrary.com or Facebook, email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704. See the full calendar of activities at <http://www.paigelibrary.com/calendar-of-events/>.

Trinity Episcopal hosts talk about Lost Towns

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church, located at the corner of Park and Pleasant streets, will host a program about the Lost Towns of the Quabbin Reservoir by Ed Maxwell on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 4 p.m. This program is free and open to the public. A good-will offering will be taken to benefit the Proprietors of the Ware Center Meeting House. Tickets for the church’s 125th anniversary celebration dinner on Saturday, Oct. 3 at Teresa’s Restaurant will be available for purchase after the program. Tickets are \$50 per person and include a social hour, meal and live musical entertainment.

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ACCURACY WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to pouimett@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.

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‘Glow Ball’ lights up the night

Fundraiser benefits cancer research and programs

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

BARRE – The fun and bright event of Glow Ball returned to Felton Field this past weekend.

This annual fundraising event consists of youth and adults participating, and many are part of the Quabbin Area Little League.

Chris Lance said this event was first introduced last year and had a good turnout of 54 players. Last year’s event raised \$900 for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund.

The idea was inspired four years ago during a vacation Lance took and was developed by him and his son Lukas. Lance did a preliminary game of glow ball back in 2025 and soon the innovation became a six-team double-elimination tournament featuring everything that glows.

Glow Ball evolved into a highly engaging and distinctive adaptation of Wiffle Ball. The game is played under the night sky as the field was

glowing in multiple colors. The team uniforms glowed and gear also glowed.

There were glow sticks, face paint, fluorescent colors, glow-in-the-dark wiffle balls and glowing wiffle ball bats. The baseballs they used were specifically for Glow Ball and can glow for almost eight hours.

Blacklights were installed on the baseball fields at Felton Field to capture the visual effect of the glowing lights during Glow Ball.

This fun event was all inclusive, with no age restrictions, no prior skill level required and all necessary equipment provided.

The youth participating were ball players from T-ball and older and they were prepared for a game of Glow Ball. This year, four captains were selected and picked players from each age group.

Each game played was five innings or 35 minutes.

Lance said this year’s Glow Ball event was made possible thanks to the Little League parents coming together and for Foster Hill Transport donating all of the paint and many of the extension cords. Multiple people in the community also assisted



Shown is one of the glow balls that was used during the Glow Ball games at Felton Field.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

A neon squad of baseball players were ready to participate in this year’s Glow Ball event at Felton Field.

by lending more extension cords for the event.

One of the games was between the Bad News Bananas, captained by Dean Bowen, who was in his first year playing Glow Ball, and the Pink Panthers, captained

by Jay Pimental.

The Glow Ball tournament raised \$750 this year and will return next year. Funds came from player entries, donations, and concessions.

Lance’s plan is to make

Glow Ball an annual event in the area.

“The goal is to make this grow,” Lance said.

Many players also played wearing ball caps with the logos of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the

Jimmy Fund, and a message on the hat that said, “Strike Out Cancer.”

Glow Ball will return to Felton Field in 2027 on Aug. 20, with a rain date of Aug. 21.

9-PIN from page 1

about Candlepins for Cancer wanting to offer bowling tournaments to support both the charity and the bowling centers.

Candlepin bowling is a regional game of bowling that can be played throughout four of the six New England states and in the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

“Don’t you love candlepin bowling,” Grant asked before the tournament officially started.

Grant shared some statistics of what Candlepins for Cancer has accomplished since it was founded by Hall of Fame candlepin bowler, Alfie Johnson. 2025 was a record year for the charity as it paid out \$35,000 to bowling families.

So far, in 2026, Candlepins for Cancer paid out \$23,000, reaching a grand total of \$130,000 as of August of this year.

“The goal is to promote a tournament and help a family,” Grant said. “The bowling centers benefit, the bowlers benefit and the charity benefits.”

9-Pin is a fun game commonly played in candlepin bowling. If a bowler gets a nine drop after one roll, it’s an automatic strike. If a player has nine pins knocked down after two rolls, it’s an automatic spare.

In candlepin you get three rolls per frame, but in 9-Pin, if you knock down just nine

after the third roll, it is an automatic 10-box for the frame.

This unique way of scoring increases bowler’s scores, but the idea of the game remains the same, knocking down those candlepins.

The tournament consisted of two shifts with each shift having each player bowl 10 games of 9-Pin. Bowlers provided their current and highest league average to determine the 80% handicap for the tournament.

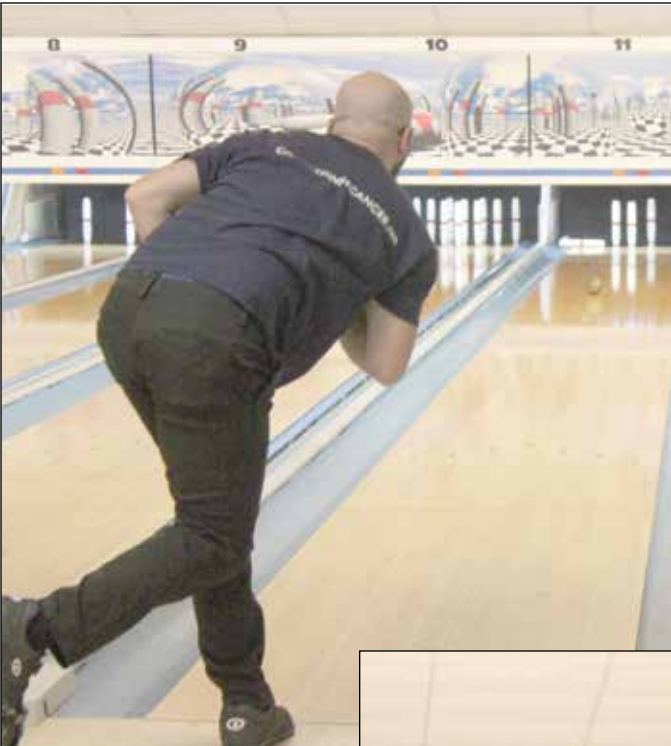
During the tournament, Candlepins for Cancer hosted a 50/50 raffle and also sold Candlepins for Cancer merchandise, such as towels and t-shirts.

The turnout was excellent and the tournament paid out the top seven scoring bowlers.

Finishing in first place was Justin Cocchi with a final score of 1740. Cocchi bowled five strikes in a row in one of his 10 games, on his way to a 199 game.

Craig Wester finished in second place with a score of 1671 and also scored in the 190s with 195 in one of his games. Aaron Fontaine, despite breaking a pin in practice, finished in third place with a 1650.

Cam Greene finished in fourth place with 1644, Mike Haring in fifth place with 1620, Will Hebert in sixth with 1597, and Nathan Fontaine in seventh with 1596. During the tournament, a total of \$1,000 was raised



a link to the documentary, “No Questions Asked” on YouTube.

Both shifts of the Roll-A-Way 9-Pin tournament can be watched on the YouTube channel, Candlepin Bowling Network.

Candlepins for Cancer accepts donations through Venmo or by check mailed to Candlepins for Cancer, 467 High St., Unit 8, Hampton, NH 03842.

LEFT: Aaron Fontaine attempted to make a spare on Lane 11 of Roll-A-Way Lanes in Ware.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

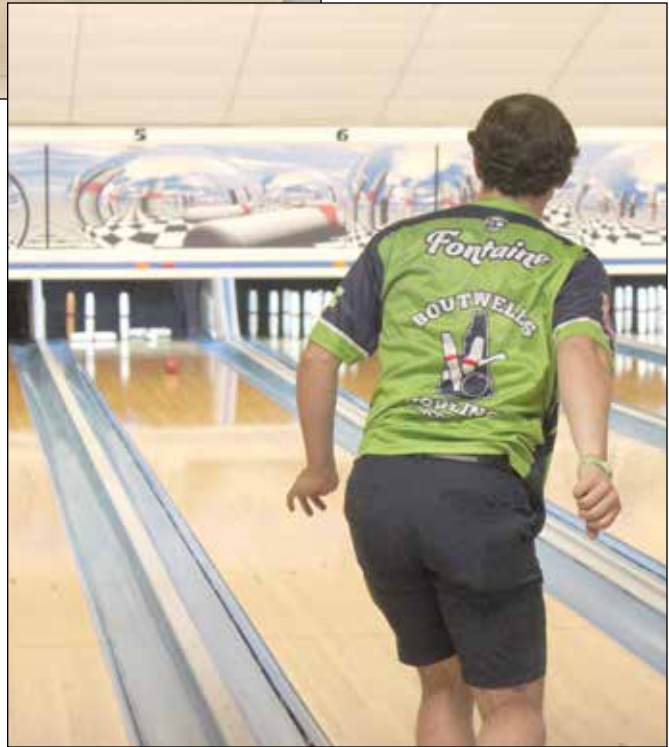
for Candlepins for Cancer.

Starting this fall, Candlepins for Cancer will be hosting a series of qualifiers for an upcoming bowling show in 2027. This event will feature six local qualifiers throughout New England.

The first set of qualifiers will be held at Roll-A-Way Lanes, 140 West St. on Oct. 10 and 11.

Registration for these qualifiers can be found at candlepins4cancer.com. Also featured on the website is

RIGHT: Nathan Fontaine observed his spare attempt during the 9-Pin tournament on Aug. 29 at Roll-A-Way Lanes.



Author presents at historical society’s annual meeting

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Hardwick Town House, 32 Common St. on Thursday, Sept. 17.

The guest speaker will be author Donald Duffy. He will speak about his new book; “Native Americans React to British Incursions”.

This book covers incursions in Central Massachusetts, the Connecticut River Valley, Connecticut Highlands, Quabbin, Petersham and other towns in this area.

His program will be followed by the Historical Society’s business meeting and election of officers for the coming year. Members and non-members of the Historical Society may attend this event although only members will be able to vote during the meeting.

Refreshments will be served.

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SOCIAL SECURITY
Matters
By Russell Gloor

Why change Social Security now?
It's a working 'Ponzi Scam.'

Dear Rusty:
Maybe everybody has the same reaction that I do to Social Security insolvency.
I do not understand a system that has been basically run like a Ponzi Scam since its inception; why have you decided (in 2026-2027) that now is the time to change a perfectly good Ponzi Scam.
In all reality, this began with Babylon. I'm sure that if you searched the meaning of the words "Babylonian money magic," you would understand what I'm talking about.
If this is as good as the Earth has, why would you mess with a perfectly rotten thing. Why would you decide to change currencies to some sort of fragile digital currency?
Signed: Skeptical Senior

Dear Skeptical Senior:
You touch on an item that the Association of Mature American Citizens Foundation has dealt with many times over the years, specifically the notion that Social Security has the characteristics of a Ponzi Scheme.
Our position in response to that notion is that Social Security was created and operated with full transparency with its financial status, formulas and long-term deficits completely and publicly documented and reported to the President and Congress annually.
Unlike the infamous Charles Ponzi, the government has a permanent pool of contributors through mandatory FICA and SECA (self-employment) payroll taxes and is designed to remain in operation infinitely as long as there's a taxpaying workforce.
Moreover, the Social Security system is overseen by Congress, specifically the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Government Accountability Office. The Social Security Administration is subject to routine hearings by these congressional overseers and maintains an independent Office of the Inspector General to ensure the integrity of its financial operations.
Contrary to Ponzi victims, all participants retiring from the workforce and their dependents recover their Social Security contributions via benefit payments, some more than others based on their level of participation in the system. Also, contrary to Ponzi Schemes, Social Security was designed as a social insurance system and has operated successfully in that mode for over nine decades.
What raises the notion of a Ponzi Scheme comparison these days is the looming insolvency facing Social Security just six years from now. This financial problem, however, has nothing to do with fraud.
Rather, it is a function of workforce demographics and the fact that Congress has long deferred corrective action on a problem that has been known for the past four decades.
We sometimes hear well intended, but sometimes uninformed comments from some Washington politicians invoking the Ponzi Scheme reference, but we believe that Congress is finally waking up to the urgency.
And we also believe Congress is now starting to move seriously to set a course for correction in time to ward off the impact of insolvency. AMAC is proud to be a part of the collective thinking currently surfacing, and our Social Security Guarantee is in play as a plan to be considered.
We invite you to review our SS reform plan (at <https://amac.us/social-security-guarantee>) and likewise to stay tuned to our Social Security Report website (<https://socialsecurityreport.org/>) where we post regular updates on a variety of matters pertaining to Social Security and retirement.
The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisor or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

in my
BACKYARD
By Ellenor Downer

Doug Moore of Belchertown took this photo of an osprey protecting its young from a red winged blackbird at Lake Wallace on July 17.
The osprey, also known as the fish hawk has the ability to dive into water to catch fish. It also has the ability to hover.
Ospreys are unusu-

al among hawks in possessing a reversible outer toe that allows them to grasp with two toes in front and two behind. Barbed pads on the soles of the birds' feet help them grip slippery fish. When flying with prey, an osprey lines up its catch head

Photo by Doug Moore
Osprey at nest

Teachable moments during preservation

I had far too many plans for a long weekend.
There were peaches to can, applesauce to make, peppers to roast and tomatoes to turn into sauce and salsa. Oh yes, and cabbage to ferment into sauerkraut.
Tis the season!
Someone once said that it is important to "make hay while the sun is shining." That is exactly what I did.
While I was at it I came across a few teachable moments, and that is what I want to share with you today.
Some of my peaches have brown rot and some had split pits. Brown rot is a fungal disease that leaves furry brown areas on the fruit.
It can spread fast. One day a small patch; the next day half a fruit is infected.
Much like with apple scab, sanitation will go a long way to aid in prevention. Your goal is to prevent disease spores from overwintering.
Throw out any fallen infected peaches. If peaches are clinging to the trees well after harvest, pick these "mummies" and get rid of them too.
Rake up leaves that may also carry the disease. If raking is unrealistic, mow under the tree to encourage the leaves to break down.
In late winter, prune to encourage good air flow, a paramount practice in disease prevention. Thin fruit to four to five inches apart. Applications of fungicide can assist, but I prefer the natural route as much as possible.
I encourage you to do your own research.
Split pit on peaches is new to me. It was like the pit was indeed split, and sometimes stuck in each side of the fruit. From there, rot can begin to take over.
Apparently split pit a physiological issue. Too

much rain prior to harvest could be the culprit especially since spring and early summer were somewhat dry.
I'll be sure to keep this in the forefront of my mind as I plan next year's garden. Soaker hoses and more organic matter may help.
As I was processing the tomatoes I stopped twice to save some of the seeds of two of my favorites. If you grew open pollinated, non hybrid tomatoes and plan to start your own seeds indoor next spring, you'd be silly not to save your own seeds!
Cut open a tomato – scoop out the goop and put it in a small jar with a few drops of water. Wait a few days until mold forms on top and then dump into a sieve and separate out the seeds.
Allow to dry on paper towel and then store in an envelope marked with the variety and date. You just saved yourself some cash, too!
The only thing I have to say about my cabbage is that I wish I had grown more of it. All of my Crucifers – broccoli, cabbage and kale worked out so tremendously well under insect netting that I will definitely grow it that way again next year.
No worms at all. Planting a few early cabbages and some later ones was smart to spread out the kraut.
Next year I'll just add a few more to my plot.
Alas, the harvest season is in full swing. I am so incredibly grateful for my garden and what I can preserve for use in the off season.
Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



WARE RIVER NEWS

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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:
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Palmer, MA 01069
or via email to:
pouimette@turley.com

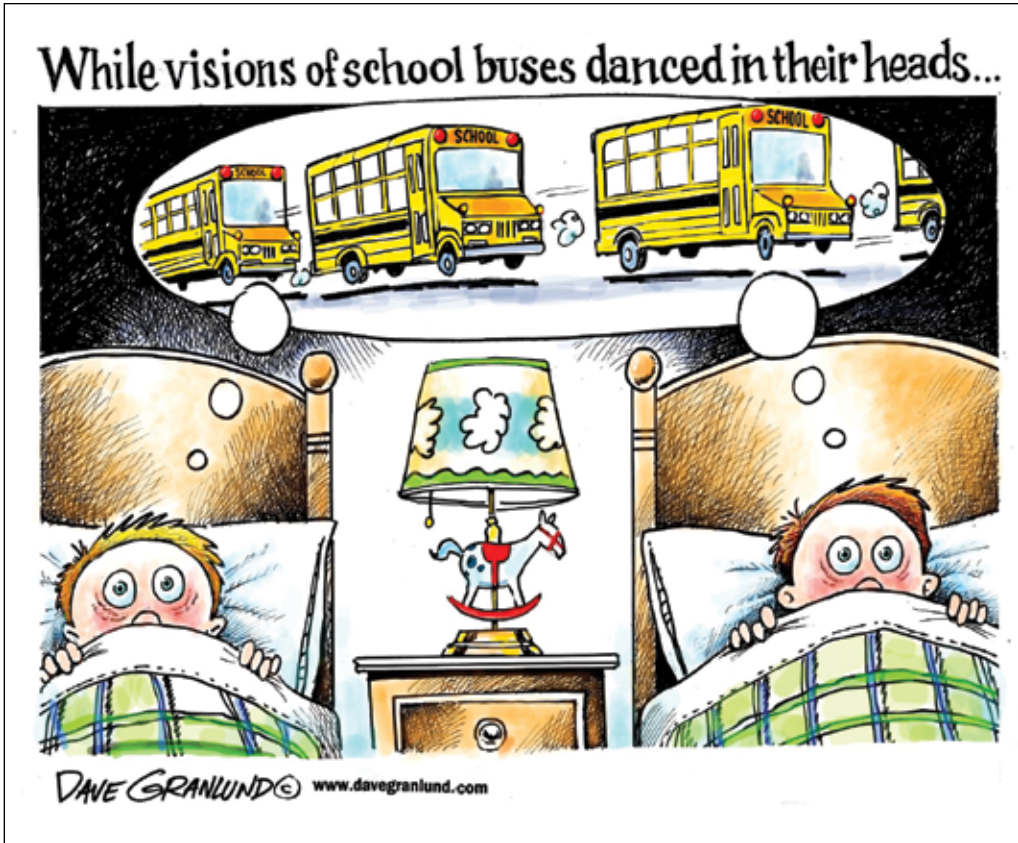
The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election
Policy

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

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

Note: Statements or allegations made during the public comment periods of municipal meetings are those of individuals and do not reflect the official views or positions of the public body, municipality, or this newspaper. Comments that are made are not checked for accuracy.



before making a catch was about 12 minutes.
The osprey readily builds its stick nest on manmade structures such as telephone poles, channel markers, duck blinds and nest platforms designed especially for it. Such platforms have become an important tool in reestablishing ospreys in areas where they had disappeared. In some areas nests are placed almost exclusively on artificial structures.
Osprey eggs do not hatch all at once. Rather, the first chick emerges up to five days before the last one. The older hatchling dominates its younger siblings and can monopolize the food brought by the parents.

If food is abundant, chicks share meals in relative harmony; in times of scarcity, young ones may starve to death.
These birds may log more than 160,000 migration miles during its 15 to 20-year lifetime. Scientists track ospreys by strapping lightweight satellite transmitters to the birds' backs.
The devices pinpoint an osprey's location to within a few hundred yards and last for two or three years. During 13 days in 2008, one osprey flew 2,700 miles from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts to French

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 8

The Stone Church Cultural Center announces '26-'27 concert series opening

HARDWICK – The Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, has announced its 2026-2027 concert season, opening on Saturday, Sept. 26th.

The series will feature four ticketed programs, in addition to four free concerts from the Weir River Jazz Ensemble and Weir River Concert Band. This is the first season with Artistic Director, Mary Mackenzie, at the helm.

“I am thrilled to be a new member of the Hardwick arts community, and part of my mission with the concert series is to share unique classical artists and programs with the community” said Artistic Director and soprano Mary Mackenzie in a press release.

“This season will feature familiar faces like pianist Diana Fanning from Vermont, performing a dynamic solo piano program featuring works by Beethoven, Czech composer Leoš Janáček, Debussy, and Chopin, and fan-favorite organist Peter Krasinski, who will be creating his own unique accompaniment to Buster Keaton’s innovative silent comedy, ‘The General’,” she said.

To open the season, Mackenzie will present “Wild & Tended” with pianist Matthew Jaskot.

“This program is my love letter to art song and its evolution, featuring some of my favorite German, French and American composers and songs that I have performed over the past 20 years,” Mackenzie said.

For the season finale, the Stone Church will present

“Voyages” by Grammy-nominated classical and world music artist David Krakauer and acclaimed pianist/composer/producer Kathleen Tagg.

Widely considered one of the greatest clarinetists alive, Krakauer has been praised as a key innovator in modern klezmer and a major voice in classical music. Tagg, an award-winning pianist, composer and producer, has performed on four continents, produced classical and multi-genre albums, had her work performed around the world, and is known for her distinctive sound mixing acoustic and electronic sounds, loops, samples and extended techniques.

“Voyages” brings together all aspects of their music making- influences range from interlocking African drumming patterns to jazz to Romantic symphonic music to minimalism to klezmer.

Season subscriptions and individual tickets are now available online from the Stone Church’s box office. www.friendsofthestonechurch.org

About Friends of the Stone Church

The Friends of the Stone Church is a charitable corporation and community group organized in 2015.

In 2023, FOSC took ownership of the former Gilbertville Trinitarian Congregational Church building which is now the Stone Church Cultural Center.

Its mission is to preserve and protect the historic 1872 Gilbertville Stone Church, and to facilitate the building’s use by, and service to, the community.

New book release with local author

Ed Londergan shares his novel on Sept. 24

WARREN – “A Thousand Miles from Home” asks whether it’s ever too late to confront the past, repair a broken family and find where you truly belong.

Author Ed Londergan will release his new contemporary novel, “A Thousand Miles from Home”, on Sept. 24. The Warren Public Library will host a book release on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m.

The novel follows Sam Parker, a man who walked away from his family twelve years earlier in search of his place in the world. His years

of wandering bring experiences he hoped to find and others he would rather forget.

After hitting rock bottom, Sam begins rebuilding his life and falls in love with the woman who helped save him. But an overpowering dream convinces him that his journey isn’t finished.

Sam leaves the woman he loves to complete the journey he began years before. When he reaches his destination, startling news turns his life upside down, reunites him with his estranged brother, and leads the two men toward a family promise neither wants to keep.

“‘A Thousand Miles from Home’ is ultimately a story about second chances,” Londergan said in a press

release. “Sam has spent years running – from his past, his family and, in many ways, himself. His journey asks whether it is ever too late to stop running, make things right and find your way home.”

Londergan is the author of “The Devil’s Elbow”, “The Long Journey Home” and “Unlike Any Other”. His fiction explores family relationships, hope, reconciliation, redemption and the resilience of the human spirit.

“A Thousand Miles from Home” will be available beginning Sept. 24 in paperback and ebook editions. Copies will be available for purchase at the library during the event, which is free and open to the public.

Pajama Storytime to be held at library

WARREN – Come to the Warren Public Library for a special nighttime edition of Storytime on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6:15 p.m.

Join the library staff for stories, songs, crafts, and snacks. Come dressed in your comfiest clothes, and bring along your favorite stuffed animal for a fun and cozy evening.

Children of all ages are welcome to attend, and no registration is required. This event is free and open to the public.

New England Hiking with Jeff Romano

WARREN – Join author Jeff Romano at the Warren Public Library on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. for a slideshow presentation highlighting hiking opportunities throughout New England.

The program will cover destinations in all six states with a focus on itineraries featured in his latest guidebook, an updated edition to “100 Classic Hikes New England”. Romano will share advice, provide insights, and answer questions on how and where to plan your next hiking adventure.

The program will also feature information on New England wildflowers, birds, wildlife, history, and conservation success stories.

Romano is a lifelong

New England resident who has been hiking for five decades. He is the author of four other guidebooks: “Hike the Park Acadia” (2021), “Day Hiking New England” (2015), “100 Classic Hikes New England, First Edition” (2010), and “Best Loop Hikes: New Hampshire’s White Mountains to the Maine Coast” (2006). When not hiking, Romano directs public policy activities for Maine Coast Heritage Trust, a land trust that conserves and stewards Maine’s coastal lands and islands. This presentation is free and open to the public. Please contact the Warren Public Library to register: 413-436-7690 or warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

Items wanted for time capsule

WARREN – To help preserve Warren’s history, the Warren Parks Department is collecting items for the next time capsule.

Residents interested in placing something in the time capsule can reach out to the Warren Parks Department or visit the table set up during the Farmers Market on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the common. The deadline for submitting a contribution to the time cap-

sule is Sept. 27.

The time capsule will be sealed during the farmers market on Saturday, Oct. 31. The time capsule will be placed underneath the gazebo.

For more information or wanting to submit an item for the time capsule, reach out to the Warren Parks Department on their Facebook page, email at parksandrec@warren-ma.gov, or call 413-436-5701 extension 118.

WHS Class of 1976 plans 50th reunion

WARE – Ware High School Class of 1976 is planning its 50th reunion celebration to be held on Oct. 17 at Teresa’s Restaurant.

Class alumni have reached out to many, but are still in need of contact information

for many other classmates.

If you have not yet been contacted, or you know someone who needs information or for other questions, text or call Michelle (Nowak) Higney at 413-237-5854.

WARREN BOS

from page 1

According to Thibodeau, people have left items out on the sidewalk, year-round. He said there is a state law where people are not supposed to impede pedestrians from accessing the sidewalks.

Another common issue is people parking their vehicles on the sidewalk.

The Board of Health is looking to implement additions to the current regulations on sidewalks and public ways.

Board of Selectmen Chair Richard Eichacker asked how

the proposed bylaw would impact restaurants placing dining tables on the sidewalk. Thibodeau said there are exemptions for restaurants.

The Cemetery Commission discussed a proposed bylaw limiting “green burial practices” in Pine Grove Cemetery and South Warren Cemetery.

Cindy Baxter of the Cemetery Commission said there has to be a designated area for green burials, which involves bodies being buried up to three feet deep. This type of burial practice could cause health concerns, according to Baxter, if there

is runoff in the area.

Thibodeau also addressed the rules and regulations of home burials. Marker stones need to go in cemeteries according to the state law.

The Board of Selectmen and the Cemetery Commission reviewed a sentence in the bylaw draft, which stated, “The Warren Cemetery Commission fully limits green practices.” The board and commission members discussed if the bylaw should include the word “limit.”

The Cemetery Commission can set its own requirements, including limiting green burial practices.

Board of Selectmen Clerk Raymond Kopacko said the commission needs to establish its own rules and regulations about the type of burials that are allowed in the cemeteries.

Town Administrator James Ferrera said the commission could set a moratorium on green burials.

The proposed bylaw may have to be looked over by town counsel to make sure the regulations are accurate. The board tabled discussion of this bylaw.

Cutter Park redevelopment

Ferrera and Sue Ramsey of the Parks & Recreation

Commission had a discussion with the board about the redevelopment efforts at Cutter Park.

Ferrera has worked with the commission on a design for the park, which the town received a grant for.

One of the main focuses at Cutter Park is providing accessible parking. Ferrera said the park is used quite a bit and the parcel used for parking is owned by the neighboring condominium association, a private entity.

Both Ferrera and the commission had discussions with representatives of the association about a potential agree-

ment to purchase the land.

“To make the park right, you need parking,” Ferrera said.

Ferrera said there needs to be paved parking by Cutter Park.

Though the design plans are completed, preliminary planning is still happening and the project is expected to be constructed in phases.

Original painting

The board voted to accept a donation from the West Brookfield Historical Commission of a framed, original Jacob Knight painting of the town.

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Saturday, September 26th

7pm-11pm

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Ware Comedy Show returns to Workshop13

Enjoy a night of professional quality comedy in downtown Ware

WARE – Workshop13 is excited to announce the return of Ware Comedy Show, a Colorblindguy comedy event.

This 21+ show takes place at 13 Church St. on Saturday, Sept. 26. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$20 thanks to the support of the Ware Cultural Council and can be purchased in advance at www.workshop13.org.

Comedy fans can expect a night filled with original material, quick wit and memorable performances.

Returning as host is Boston Comedy Festival winner Dan Boulger.

Boulger headlined last year's Ware Comedy Show and left audiences thoroughly impressed with his relaxed



Hilary Price

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

Headlining this year's show is Jake Silberman, a nationally touring comedian whose sharp wit, unique perspective, and exceptional crowd work have made him a favorite with audiences across the country. Silberman 's abil-



Avery Quinn

ity to find humor in everyday life and connect with a crowd ensures a performance that is both intelligent and hilarious.

The opening acts are equally impressive.

Avery Quinn has headlined venues throughout New England and regularly performs at the Comix stage at Mohegan Sun. His animated style and commanding presence immediately capture an



Jake Silberman

audience's attention.

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

Together, these performers create a lineup loaded with talent, originality, and the creative material that defines

great stand-up comedy.

About Workshop13

Workshop13 is a dynamic center where arts, culture, and community converge – expanding access to the arts and nurturing creativity and self-expression in the rural region.

For more information visit workshop13.org, or call 413-277-6072.

Grange hosts gardening workshop on Sept. 11

WARE – Ware Grange's next gardening workshop, "Plant Propagation and Simple Stem Cuttings," will be held on Friday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

The presenter will be Roberta McQuaid, author of the weekly "In the Garden" column for Turley Publications.

Attendees will learn about the various types of plant propagation. Seed sowing, simple stem cuttings and even grafting will be covered in a broad sense.

This time of year we often take stem cuttings of tender plants to overwinter. Bring your own potted plant (geranium, coleus, fuchsia, Rosemary, mint, etc.) to share cuttings with others or take cuttings from some of the plants we provide.

Everyone will leave with a cutting(s) in a pot that can be rooted at home.

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

Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. list upcoming fall happenings

WARE – September is the time of year to start thinking of the fall season and the last days of summer.

Brown Bag Sale

The Thrift Store at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, has a Brown Bag Sale for \$10. The store provides the brown bag and you fill it with summer clothing and shoes.

The Thrift Store is open to the public Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-noon.

Lotto calendars

The friends November lotto calendars will be on sale now until Oct. 3 for \$10 each.

End of summer party

Monday, Sept. 14 will be the end of summer/birthday party with a luau theme.

Wear your tropical top and

after the party there will be a game of spin the wheel with many prizes and the final winner will receive \$50 cash.

Ladies Tea Party

Monday, Oct. 5 there will be a Ladies Tea Party, from 2-3:30 p.m., so wear your wide brimmed hat. There will be door prizes and everyone will go home with a goodie bag.

You must sign up to attend the tea party by Sept. 28 by calling Sue LaBarge 413-544-1574.

Joint health presentation

Friday, Oct. 16 there will be a very informative presentation joint health from Ortho MA Orthopedic Urgent Care in Wilbraham regarding joint pain and arthritis and what can be done to protect your joints, manage everyday aches and when to seek

orthopedic care.

RMV training

Thursday, Nov. 5 MassDOT will do a presentation on RMV training on how to make that "driving decision." Discussion will be on topics relating to age concerns, Massachusetts license policies, ID cards, license surrender and local transportation options.

Holiday craft fair

Start your Christmas shopping early on Saturday, Nov. 14 the Friends are having a holiday craft fair at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins road from 9 a.m.-noon.

To reserve a table, you must call Sue LaBarge 413-544-1574. Deadline to register for a table is Nov. 10.

All the above are open to the public.

EQLT celebrates opening of new accessible trails on Sept. 16

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will celebrate the completion and formal opening of two new all-persons accessible trails with two public-access ribbon-cutting events, in Ware and New Braintree, on Wednesday, Sept. 16.

The first event, starting at noon, will mark the formal opening of the Grenville Park Connector Trail between Grenville Park and the Mass Central Rail Trail Church Street segment in Ware. Officials from the Town of Ware and representatives from EQLT will host the event.



The second event, starting at 2 p.m., will take place at the end of McEvoy Road in New Braintree, which marks the start of the newest segment of the MCRT. Representatives of EQLT will host the ribbon-cutting celebration, and guests and members of the public are invited to continue on a group walk on this new 1.5-mile section following the ribbon-cutting and welcoming remarks. Parking will be marked near the trailhead off of McEvoy Road.

For more information about EQLT, visit www.eqtl.org.

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ONLINE AT: WARERIVERNEWS.TURLEY.COM

Trinity Episcopal offers sewing class on Sept. 15

WARE – Trinity Episcopal Church, corner of Park and Pleasant streets, will host a sewing class on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 6-8 p.m.

The fee is \$5 and materials will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Participants will learn to sew by hand or with a machine. Join the class to become familiar with hand or machine sewing and leave with a finished project.

Fee free to bring your own machine and something to mend.

Call 413-967-6100 to reserve your spot.



VETERANS DAY SALUTE

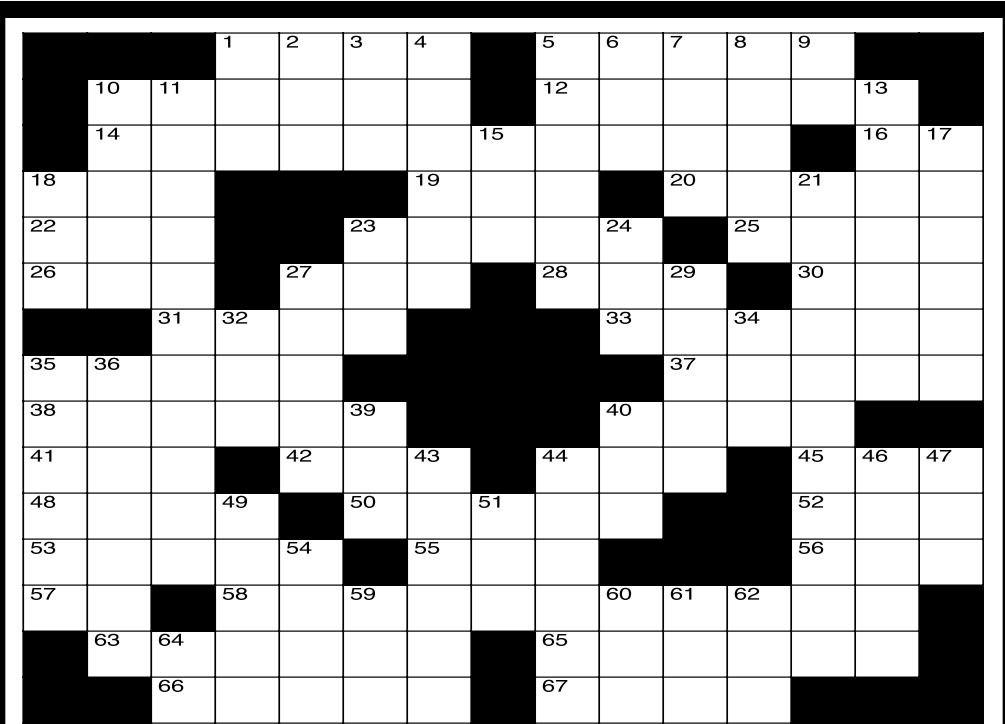
Ware River News ~ November 5, 2026

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

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

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

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



CLUES ACROSS

- Longtime Vogue editor
- Wintour
- A Spanish title of respect
- A way of looking
- Properly
- Rolled steel
- Not down
- Law degree
- Consume food
- Intermediate ecological stage
- Old world, new
- Dispense justice
- Stiff hair-like structure
- Ethiopia
- Cool!
- Father
- An enthusiastic devotee of sports
- Holm oak
- Be united
- Rattling breaths

- Supermarket chain
- Provided with a quality
- Samoan monetary unit
- Swiss river
- Hill (Celtic)
- Have already done
- ATM company
- Syngman ___, Korean president
- Very willing
- Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- Food listings
- Bachelor's place to crash
- Big Blue
- Sports magazine
- Relating to a place north of south of the equator
- Female follower of Bacchus
- A type of laugh
- Slovenly women
- Large jug

CLUES DOWN

- Boxing's GOAT
- Zero
- Midway between north and northeast
- Concurred
- Added flavor
- Amount of time
- Eggs of parasitic insects
- S-shaped moldings
- Atomic #45
- ___ d'art: small artistic item
- A godparent's "kids"
- Nocturnal burrowing lizard
- Hit lightly
- Aircrafts
- Witness
- Alluding to something
- Take to the limit
- Baglike structure in a plant or animal

- Start over
- Administered
- Romanian monetary unit
- Unit of liquid capacity
- Equips with weapons again
- Disney town
- Female deer
- Title of respect
- A place to go rafting
- A way to conclude
- Type of television
- Georgia rockers
- Leonhard ___, Swiss mathematician
- Slang for gun
- River in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bar bill
- Small, gray-headed crow
- Frozen water
- Norwegian krone
- Commercial

Kids' Corner workshop explores healthy food Sept. 12

WARE – The next Kids' Corner workshop at Ware Grange will be "Healthy Foods" and will take place on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

Kids' Corner workshops are led by preschool teacher, Jen McNally, and teach children about nature and the environment through stories, songs and fun activities. This workshop will help children understand the connection between diet and health. They will discover how putting the right kinds of foods into their body can help keep them healthy.

They will also explore the food groups and the importance of fruits and vegetables. Visit Ware Grange on Facebook or at waregrange.org for more information.

Recovery Resource Fair will be held Sept. 17

WARE – The Recovery Center of HOPE will host its third annual Recovery Resource Fair, "Recovery Without Permission: A Punk Recovery Fair" on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 2-6 p.m. at Recovery on Main, 78 Main St.

This fair celebrates individuality, paving your own way and community care. There will be DIY arts and crafts, homemade food, local supportive resources and music.

All are welcome to attend this family friendly event.

ENCHANTED BY NATURE

Kids' Corner workshop joins fun and learning

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The Kids' Corner Workshop held during the annual Ware Grange Fair hosted an enchanted nature party.

Kids' Corner Workshop instructor Jennifer McNally returned to host another workshop which had 20 kids enjoying their time at the Ware Grange. The focus of this workshop consisted of fun and learning about nature.

Children got to work on some hands-on textures related to nature. Crafts consisted of wood designs, rock painting, shell art, magic wands and pin wheels.

The children's events were sponsored by Subaguru.

The enchanted nature party ended with a series of field games. McNally and her daughter Mackenzie began by holding up a limbo stick for the limbo contest.

Over a dozen kids got as low as they could for the limbo contest and Miles won a ribbon.

Another fun game involved water balloon tossing. Children worked in team to successfully pass the water balloons around without them dropping and popping.

After the toss game, the field games with a quick water balloon fight.

The next Kids' Corner Workshop will be on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. and will be about healthy foods.

Children will learn the connection between diet and health and identify how putting the right kinds of foods into their body can help keep it healthy. They will also learn about the different food groups and the importance of fruits and vegetables.

The Ware Grange is located at 297 Belchertown Road. More information can be found at www.waregrange.org.



Miles received a ribbon for winning the limbo contest.

Children participated in a limbo contest during a series of field games during the Kids' Corner Workshop and Ware Grange Fair.



ABOVE: After a water balloon toss game, children grabbed some water balloons for a quick water balloon fight.

Turley photos by Ryan Drago



LEFT: Children learned about nature during the workshop and got to paint rocks.

PRINCIPAL from page 1

that welcomes every kid into the building."

"It used to be if you didn't fit into this box that the school system expected, then you'd be 'discarded' to a vocational school," Taylor said. "Nowadays, it's the place where everyone wants to be."

Taylor shared a story from his own background as an illustration of what vocational technical schools like Pathfinder are for.

"When I was young, I wanted to be a lawyer forever, everyone knew that," Taylor said. "I went to college as a prelaw student, and organically had a conversation with a professor who said he used to be a lawyer making millions in New York City, but never had time for his family. He said teaching was the best thing."

"At the time, I thought maybe law wasn't for me," Taylor continued. "Sophomore year, coming home for Thanksgiving, I announced I didn't want to be a lawyer anymore, and would maybe become a teacher someday."

Taylor proceeded to switch majors to political science as an easy way to transfer credits. He was able to obtain a highly coveted internship for Senator John Kerry and worked in his Western Massachusetts office, where he performed

clerical duties, ranging from opening letters, responding to emails, writing proclamations and putting everything through Kerry's auto-pen.

"It was awesome," Taylor said. "They actually asked me to stay on even after I graduated."

After graduation, Taylor didn't know what to do with his degree until he happened to run into a friend at a social gathering who was a substitute teacher at Taylor's old high school.

"I absolutely loved it," Taylor said. "I was the substitute everyone requested."

That summer, Taylor encountered another friend, who was in charge of Duggan Middle School in Springfield, and invited him to teach English. After teaching at Duggan for a year and passing his Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure, Taylor moved to a middle school in Chicopee, where he taught social studies to seventh and eighth grade.

In Chicopee, Taylor worked as a soccer coach for the high school, and applied to teach social studies at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, the local vocational technical school. Taylor said this is when people started recommending that he apply to be an administrator.

"I left Chicopee to work in Westfield as the supervisor of social studies, where I supported all the social stud-

ies teachers in grades five-12 by doing evaluations," Taylor said. "It was good, but I didn't work with kids anymore. I really wanted to be able to work with kids and also be an agent for change."

This is when Taylor decided to pursue a position as assistant principal, which he filled at Lawrence School in Holyoke after the COVID-19 pandemic. Taylor then moved to Baird Middle School in Ludlow when the principal resigned.

He described being "vol-untold" by the superintendent to take on the responsibility of supporting the interim principal.

"I got a lot of pressure to throw my hat in, and was offered the position," Taylor said. "I loved it at the middle school. It was a great learning experience and took a lot of hard work."

Taylor described the early days at Baird as "really dysfunctional and unorganized," but he was able to put systems in place to support learning and restore calmness to building.

"Through hard work, that building dramatically changed," Taylor said. "Now people go to the building and say it's one of the quietest middle schools. People are smiling when they had never smiled before."

Taylor said he was able to work together with the staff at Baird to improve the culture at the school.

"I really liked that, and the kids were great," Taylor said. "But I had itching to get back into high school and specifically vocational school. Since I taught at Chicopee Comp, I had always enjoyed working there, and I loved that kids were able to see the relevance in their learning through vocational schools."

Besides the increased relevance of technical programs, Taylor also appreciates the strong connections that vocational schools have with their communities. He has said that teaching at the high school level feels more rewarding and impactful for the students.

"Every single place I've worked has been a meaningful experience, but most gratifying for me, personally, has been the high school level," Taylor said. "Vocational schools like Pathfinder provide opportunities to seriously change the trajectory of someone's life. When you graduate from a school like Pathfinder, you're not just career-ready, but also college capable."

Having worked at multiple vocational technical schools, Taylor said that Pathfinder has a unique advantage by serving nine

different communities in the area.

"Chicopee Comp (and other vocational technical schools) all have great instructors, administration, students, and communities they serve, but Pathfinder has a broader availability to service students," Taylor said. "We pull in students from all different towns, so we have more diversity economically and socially. We have the opportunity to create these cultures and bring people together, that's something I'd say Pathfinder has an advantage in that sense."

Taylor also spoke about the cutting-edge equipment at Pathfinder, saying that the school "offers the best materials and resources for our students."

"I got my first tour of the building with the Head of Maintenance, and I felt like a kid in a candy store going through the tech programs and seeing the tools," Taylor said.

Though he said talking about himself was "the most uncomfortable part" of his day, Taylor shared a little bit about his home life. His wife, Dr. Elizabeth Taylor, also works in education, in the field of school psychology.

"I absolutely love her,

she's the best," Taylor said. "The best Professional Development I get is at dinner table, talking with her."

The Taylors live in Feeding Hills with their two children, Catherine, age 10, Matt, age 8, and their black labrador, Shep. Taylor said Matt, who shares his name with his father but goes by his middle name, is an athlete who plays hockey, lacrosse and soccer, and Catherine, nicknamed "The General," seems to have inherited his drive to be a lawyer.

"I'm deeply affected by my family and take any chance I get to spend time with them. They're the anchor in my life, and I love them more than anything," Taylor said.

Pathfinder Tech is about to start offering classes in medical assisting at its Cold Spring Campus in Belchertown. Taylor mentioned the school is considering expanding its offerings to include things like veterinarian studies and criminal justice.

If you'd like to know more about what Pathfinder Tech has to offer, you can visit their website at PathfinderTech.org.

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Crafters and vendors were set up for two days at the Hardwick Vineyard & Winery for the Fall Craft & Food Festival. This year's festival benefitted the restoration of the historic Paige Building on the common.



Turley Photos by Camren Robertson
Shoppers visited Twisted Rose Curiosities' tent.



Shoppers looked at a variety of items made from foraged materials at Roots and Remains.

FALL Craft & Food Festival



Hampden County Hexenbrut performed this past Sunday at the Fall Craft & Food Festival.

FESTIVAL from page 1

Held on Sept. 5 and 6, this year's event helped to raise money for the restoration of the historic Paige Building on the common.

Built in the 1743 by the Warner family as a tavern and store, the build-

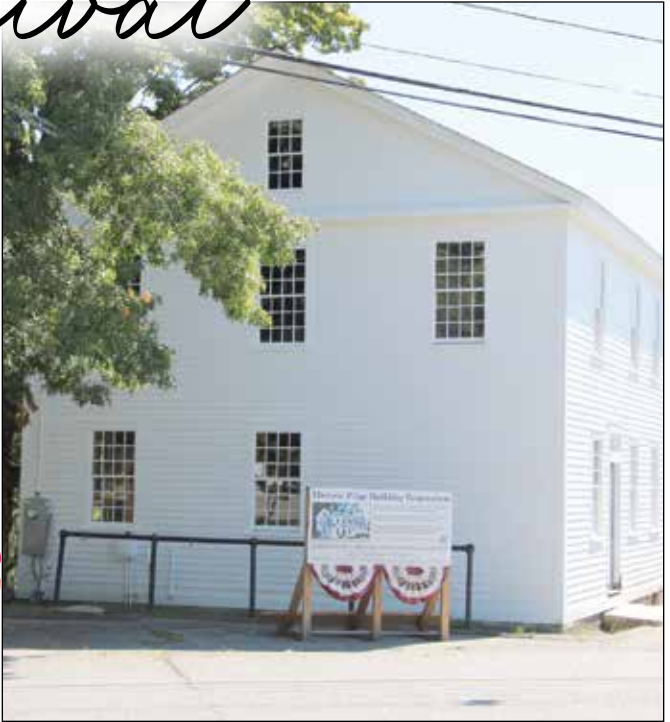
ing was the first home of the Hardwick Farmers' Cooperative Exchange. It has also been used for Scouting, 4-H and the Hardwick Community Fair.

According to the Hardwick Historical Society's summer 2025 newsletter, the building was

purchased from the town by the Paige Building Friends, a nonprofit group formed by citizen volunteers. The Paige Building Friends intend to restore the building to provide space for the purposes of agriculture, education, history and community use.



Crocheted stuffed animals were available, including this strawberry cat.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette
The Paige Building on the Hardwick Common is being restored by the Paige Building Friends. Proceeds from the Fall Craft & Food Festival benefitted this effort.



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BACKYARD
from page 4

Guiana, South America.

The oldest known osprey was at least 25 years, two months old and lived in Virginia. It was banded in 1973 and found in 1998.

Glossy ibis

On July 13 Doug Moore saw a glossy ibis at Lake Wallace. They expanded their range over the past century from the southeastern United States to include much of eastern North America.

At a distance the glossy ibis looks uniformly dark, but a closer look in sunlight reveals deep maroon, emerald, bronze and violet feathers.

Large flock of grackles

I saw a large flock of grackles in late August. I did not count them, but there were at least 50, probably more.

They flew from one side of the road to the other. I stopped the car and waited for them to safely pass. There were stragglers and some flew behind the car as well as in front of it. Seeing them reminded me that the fall migrations are happening or at least the birds are gathering in flocks to make their journeys south.

Some species of birds travel long distances to their winter habitat. Ospreys are just one of many that travel thousands of miles.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edown-er@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

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SPORTS

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Indians looking for deeper run in 2026

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—Entering the 2026 high school soccer campaign, Ware girls' varsity coach Morgan Toelken is hoping that his squad can qualify for the Division 5 state tournament for the second consecutive year.

The Lady Indians other team goals are to compete for a league title and qualify for the Western Mass. Class D tournament.

"Our top two goals are to compete for a league title and qualify for the state tournament," said Toelken during a recent interview. "We would also like to qualify for the Western Mass. tournament. I think the goals are attainable for this group of players."

Ware, who are members of the Pioneer South Division, finished with a 7-10-3 overall record a year ago. After losing to Hopkins Academy in the Western Mass. Class D quarterfinals, the Lady Indians defeated the Codman Academy Charter School

of Dorchester, 4-0, in a Division 5 preliminary round home match. They then lost at Whitinsville Christian in the round of 32.

The three players who graduated from last year's squad are Olivia DiRienzo, Isabella Cotaj, and Maddy Slattery. Cotaj scored a team-high 13 goals last season.

One of the Lady Indians returning starters is senior goalie Emily Jones, who recorded more than 200 saves as a junior.

The anchors of the Ware defensive unit is senior Reagan Jacobs and junior Amelia Orszulak, who's also an outstanding basketball player.

"Amelia is an amazing two-sport athlete. She and Reagan will be the anchors of our defensive unit," Toelken said. "I'm also looking for good things from Emily Jones, who's our returning goalie."

The other two seniors listed on the Lady Indians varsity roster is Mila Markham, who's a defender, and Reese

Please see **WARE**, page 10

Committee announces next Hall induction

BARRE – Tickets for the 11th Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame Induction are now available for the Nov. 7 ceremony to be held at Teresa's Restaurant, 315 Palmer Road, Ware, MA. A social hour will begin at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the induction ceremony.

Seven individuals and a pair of championship teams will be honored. Dating back to the first induction in 2002, this will bring the total number of individual inductees to 72 in addition to 11 teams.

The induction class includes Louis Panaccione '75, Eugene Rich '95,

Matthew Brunelle '08, Stephany Halfrey '15, Thaddeus J. Gumula Contributor and Athletic Director, Coach Cheryl Adams, Coach Debra Spinelli, 1979 Field Hockey Team and 1998-99 Boys Varsity Basketball Team.

Tickets are \$50 and may be obtained by calling Hall of Fame Chairman Ted Gumula at (413) 348-0414 or through the mail by contacting: Quabbin Regional Athletic Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 874 Barre, MA 01005. The last date to purchase tickets will be Oct. 23. All checks must be payable to Quabbin Regional School District.



Taylor Allen is pressured by an opponent.



Kayleigh Peters is closely pressured.



Abigail Carmody gets ready to make a big kick.

Pathfinder girls soccer gets going

PALMER – Last Thursday afternoon, Pathfinder girls soccer had its preseason scrimmage, taking on cross-town rival Palmer High School. The two teams are both gearing up for the regular season. Pathfinder was set to open the season on Thursday, Sept. 10, taking on Lee at home. The Pioneers are on the road Monday afternoon, Sept. 14 at Commerce at 4 p.m.



Ellyana LaValley keeps play moving up the field.



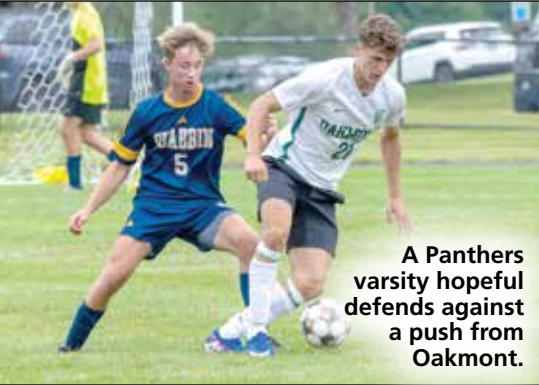
Aubrey Ortiz sends the goal kick away.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

LEFT: Eudyn Wood takes a free kick.



The Panthers go for the header.



A Panthers varsity hopeful defends against a push from Oakmont.



ABOVE: Quabbin goes for possession in Oakmont's end.

RIGHT: Quabbin was in preseason action last week with Oakmont.



Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes

Panthers set for regular season

BARRE – The Quabbin Regional High School boys soccer team tuned up for the regular season by hosting Oakmont last Thursday after-

noon. The Panthers were scheduled to open the regular season earlier this week on the road at Uxbridge. They will remain on the road on Sept. 10 against

West Boylston at 3:30 p.m. and stay on the road for three more games. Their first game is not until Thursday, Sept. 24 at 4 p.m. against Clinton.

sports

Dirt Dogs take Pioneer Valley championship



Andres Conde delivers a pitch for the Knights.

SOUTH HADLEY – On Aug. 22 at Beachgrounds Park, after trailing earlier in the game, the Dirt Dogs came back to defeat the Knights 7-5 to sweep a best-of-three game championship series to win the Pioneer Valley Baseball League’s title for 2026. This was the first year of Pioneer’s merger with the Quabbin Valley Baseball League. The merger included the addition of the Blue Jays to bring the league to six teams. The Dirt Dogs had Pioneers best record of 19-2 in the regular season and the Dirt Dogs went on to win five consecutive games in the double elimination playoffs. The Knights went 16-4 in the regular season and were defeated in winner’s bracket of the playoffs by the Dirt Dogs. They would go on to beat the Wolves 2-1 in 11 innings in the elimination final to make it to the championship series for a rematch with the Dirt Dogs. The Dirt Dogs won the championship opener 18-4 at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke on Aug. 18. Pioneer will have a four-team fall league for the first time, which begins on Sept. 12.



Tory Buck takes a swing and fouls off a pitch.



Pete Moulin sends a pitch away for the Dirt Dogs.



Tom Burzynski leads off first base.



Matt Morin sends a throw to first.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

T-Birds announces series of promotional themes for new season

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds are excited to unveil a stacked promotional and theme schedule for the 2026-27 AHL season, marking the 100th anniversary of professional hockey in the City of Firsts. This year’s promo calendar blends fan-favorite traditions with new giveaways and never-before-seen surprises sure to delight T-Birds fans of all ages. “As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of professional hockey here in Springfield, we take immense pride in knowing this game has been a staple of our community for a century—and in the atmosphere we’ve cultivated for fans of all ages,” said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. “Our mission has always been to create traditions and marquee nights that people look forward to year after year—blending pop culture, meaningful community initiatives, and inventive, spirited experiences that make every game memorable. Thanks to our incredible fans, the Thunderdome has grown into one of the most electric environments in the league, and that passion and deep connection to our fanbase continues to fuel everything we do.” Once again this season, fans should note that all Saturday home games will kick off with 6:05 p.m. puck drops, along with one

Wednesday night matchup on March 10. Paid parking will continue to be available throughout the season at the nearby Convention Center CarPark, and The Landing—the outdoor plaza next to the CarPark—will be open and activated for select nights during the season. Fans seeking free parking can still take advantage of the MGM Springfield garage. The puck drops on Saturday, Oct. 10, with Opening Night presented by MGM Springfield as the T-Birds welcome the Laval Rocket to town as head coach Steve Ott and captain Chris Wagner leads their squad into an exciting new season. Ahead of puck drop, fans can stop by The Landing for the Community Bank N.A. season-opening Block Party, presented with support from the Springfield BID, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., featuring live music by Fever, food & drink, and plenty of energy to launch another unforgettable season. The T-Birds are poised to celebrate an 11th consecutive Opening Night sellout inside the Thunderdome. In addition to the appearances and themes below, fans can expect to see specialty jerseys corresponding to the following themes: Teddy Bear Toss, Heritage Night, Ice-O-Topes Night, Pink in the Rink, and St. Patrick’s Day.

WARE from page 9

McKeever, who’s a midfielder. McKeever scored a couple of goals and had a couple of assists a year ago. Rounding out the junior class are Alexandra Marceau, Callie Cygan, Carlea Foley, and Molly McGrail. Sophomore Josephine Galeckas is one of the midfielders. The other members of the Lady Indians varsity squad are sophomore Gloria Cotaj, sophomore Gabrielle Kaczuwka, sophomore Thanishka Cordero, sophomore Naomi Torres, freshman Emily Koczur, and eighth grader Emilia Sullivan. “I think we have a bunch of talented players on this year’s roster,” Toelken said. “I’m looking forward to the start of the regular season.” The other members of the Pioneer South Division are Smith Vocational, S.I.C.S., Springfield Central, McCann Tech, and Hoosac Valley. “We’ll be going to make a couple of long bus rides to the Berkshires,” Toelken said. “We haven’t developed any league rivals yet because the players don’t know each other very well.” The Lady Indians, who went 5-3-2 against their league opponents a year ago, were scheduled to host Hopkins Academy in a non-league contest on Tuesday night.

“Hopkins is a very good soccer team. They lost to Granby in last year’s Class D finals,” Toelken added. “That game is going to be a big test for us.” Two other non-league opponents for the Lady Indians are the Quaboag Lady Cougars and the Palmer Lady Panthers. Both of those matches will take place on the road. The match against the Lady Panthers is scheduled to be held under the lights at historic Legion Field on October 21. It’ll also be the only meeting between the neighboring high schools at the varsity level this fall. Palmer head coach Celso Sandoval and Toelken are good friends, so it’s become a very friendly rivalry game during the past several years. “Celso and I text each other a lot during the off-season,” Toelken said. “Our j.v. teams held a preseason scrimmage against each other. Since there won’t be a football game between the two high schools this year, we’re trying to make the soccer game at the end of the regular season a bigtime event. All the kids on both teams know each other very well.” The Lady Indians first-year junior varsity coach is Cameron Wood, who graduated from Palmer High School. He was the j.v. coach for the Indians boys’ soccer team last year.

Racing heats up Stafford

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT – With Stafford Motor Speedway approaching its final races of the 2026 season, drivers are quickly running out of time to either establish themselves as a championship contender, or make a move up in the standings before the season ends. Here is a division by division breakdown of how each of Stafford’s five weekly divisions has played out thus far in 2026:

SK Modified@ Division

Stafford’s premier weekly division sees Keith Rocco on track to claim a fifth career track championship. A fifth SK track title would tie Rocco with Bob Potter for the second most in Stafford history, trailing only the late great Ted Christopher with 9 SK titles. Todd Owen kicked off the 2026 season with what was his first SK Modified@ feature win since Sept. 2024. Owen, defending SK track champion Jon Puleo, and Tyler Chapman all took turns holding the SK point lead in the early stages of the season, but Rocco’s consistency sees him currently holding a 66-point advantage over Puleo with Marcello Rufrano and Owen tied for third, 86 points behind. Rocco took the point lead for the first time following the July 10 feature event and he has not relinquished the lead since. Rocco heads into the Sept. 4 Paradiso Insurance LM 50 program riding a streak of 10 consecutive top-8 finishes, but all it would take is one bad night for Rocco for his comfortable 66 point margin to disappear.

Late Model Division

Stafford’s Late Model division is the tightest championship fight going at Stafford with the top-8 drivers spread less than 50 points, or one race win, apart. Five different drivers have each held the Late Model point lead at some point during the 2026 season. Chris Buffone opened the season with a victory in the NAPA Spring Sizzler and after losing the point lead to Kevin Gambacorta and then Chris Meyer, Buffone was back on top before Adam Gray took over the lead following the June 12 feature event. Gambacorta would swap the lead with both Gray and Meyer once more before Gray went back into the lead following the July 10 feature event and he has held the lead ever since. Much like Keith Rocco in Stafford’s SK Modified@ division, Gray is racing for what would be a fifth career Late Model track title at Stafford. Meyer goes into the final 4 races trailing Gray by 10 points, Gambacorta is third 24 points behind, Wayne Coury, Jr. is fourth, 34 points behind, Michael Bennett is fifth, 40 points behind, Darrell Keane and Buffone are tied for sixth 42 points behind and defending track champion Paul Varricchio, Jr. is eighth, 46 points behind.

SK Light Division

Stafford’s SK Light division has seen its 2026 season evolve into a story of two dominant seasons. Chris Matthews opened the

season with a victory in the NAPA Spring Sizzler and looked like he would have things on cruise control as he posted podium finishes in the first 7 races with 1 win, 5 second place, and 1 third place finish among those 7 races. Although Matthews has added 3 more wins to his season total since that streak, he has also finished outside the top-15 five times since then and he has fallen to 4th in the standings, 66 points behind Nick Anglace. Anglace has been the other hot SK Light driver during the 2026 season, racking up 7 wins over the first 17 races. Anglace’s win total trails only Ryan Waterman, who has 10 wins in the Street Stock division, for the most feature wins at Stafford this season. Former SK Light champion Tyler Barry has quietly kept himself in contention for a second track title, holding the point lead himself for several weeks before Anglace took over the top spot in the standings. Barry has yet to win a race in 2026, but he is the co-division leader with 11 top-5 and 14 top-10 finishes this season. Barry goes into the Sept. 4 race 20 points behind Anglace with Daltin McCarthy, who scored his first career SK Light victory earlier this season, sitting third, 42 points behind.

Limited Late Model Division

Jason Lafayette opened the Limited Late Model season with victory in the NAPA Spring Sizzler, which vaulted him into the early season point lead. Lafayette would hold the point lead until the middle of June when Jeremy Lavoie took over the top spot. Lavoie and Lafayette traded the point lead several times with former track champion Rich Hammann also taking the lead for a week before Lavoie went back to the front, where he remains going into the Sept. 4 feature event. Lavoie is seeking what would be his fourth career track championship in the Limited Late Model division and he leads Norm Root, III, who is still looking for his first win of the 2026 season, by 10 points. Lafayette and Hamman are currently tied for third in the standings, 28 points behind Lavoie.

Street Stock Division

The Street Stock division has been a one-man wrecking crew in 2026 as Ryan Waterman has absolutely dominated the competition. Waterman has amassed 10 wins over the first 16 races this season to see himself 48 points clear of Brent Gleason in second place. Waterman has been so dominant this season that he has finished 15 of the 16 races this season in the top-4 with the lone blemish on his record a 17th place finish in the July 31 feature event. Gleason has yet to win this season but he is the only driver to have recorded a top-10 finish in each of the first 16 races. Jason Raymond is currently third in the standings with 3 victories and he is 58 points behind Waterman. The only other driver within 100 points of Waterman is PJ Evans who is fourth in the standings, 96 points behind.

The deadline for submissions for this sports section is the Monday before publication by noon.

To send in information, contact Sports Editor at 413-283-8393, send an e-mail to sports@turley.com or send it through the mail to: Turley Publications c/o Sports Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069



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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Aug. 18-24, the Ware Police Department responded to 21 miscellaneous calls, 23 administrative calls, 16 traffic violations, 13 emergency 911 calls, three harassments/stalks/threats, six disturbances/nuisances, five suspicious/wanted, two thefts/larcenies, one trespass, one fraud, two motor vehicle accidents, seven assist other agencies, one safety hazard, six animal calls and 14 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, Aug. 25
11:40 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Greenwich Road, Advised
5 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Dispatch Handled

Wednesday, Aug. 26
8:35 a.m. Assault, Old Belchertown Road, Advised
2:01 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Gareau Avenue, Services Rendered
2:21 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Old Belchertown Road, Served in Hand
4:46 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Appears Secure After Check
5:04 p.m. Traffic Violation, Route 32, Investigated
5:27 p.m. Traffic Violation, East Street, Investigated
5:29 p.m. Warrant Service, Otis Avenue, Arrest Made
Arrest: Charlene Greenwood, 59, Ware
WMS Warrant
5:44 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Eagle Street, Services Rendered
8:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Upper Church Street, Investigated

Thursday, Aug. 27
1:47 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Morse Avenue, Advised
6:36 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Could Not Locate
8:21 a.m. Police Response, Main Street, Canceled En Route
11:26 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Shoreline Drive, Dispatch Handled

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Aug. 31-Sept. 7, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 59 building/property checks, 21 directed/area patrols, 14 radar assignments, 10 traffic controls, seven emergency 911 calls, nine citizen assists, one threat, three complaints, three suspicious activities, one disturbance, four animal calls and six motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Aug. 31
12:46 p.m. Assist Citizen, Taylor Hill Road, Services Rendered
4:06 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
6:18 p.m. Fire/Alarm, Barre Road, Services Rendered
6:39 p.m. Threat, Main Street, Officer Handled

Tuesday, Sept. 1
9:38 a.m. Assist Citizen,

12:36 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Services Rendered
2:21 p.m. Traffic Violation, Maple Avenue, Investigated
5:38 p.m. Weapons/Firearms, Monson Turnpike Road, Unfounded
7:53 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Shoreline Drive, Dispatch Handled
8:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: John R. Mogle, 58, Ware
OUI-Liquor or .08%, 2nd Offense; Lights Violation, Motor Vehicle

Friday, Aug. 28
9:51 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Park Street, Services Rendered
11:49 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
12:28 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate
12:49 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Laurel Drive, Assist Given
12:52 p.m. Fraud/Deception, North Street, Report Made
6:55 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Otis Avenue, Assist Given
7:04 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Church Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Leon Hallwilliams, 30, Ware
Default Warrant
8:35 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, No Action Required
9:34 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Report Made
11:06 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Pleasant Street, Could Not Locate

Saturday, Aug. 29
6:27 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fisherdick Road, Services Rendered
9:19 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Williams Street, Report Made
9:20 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Williams Street, Dispatch Handled
9:42 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Fisherdick Road, Dispatch Handled

North Road, Officer Handled
10:40 a.m. Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Officer Handled

Wednesday, Sept. 2
5:35 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Czesky Road, Transported to Hospital
11:14 a.m. Assist Citizen, North Road, Officer Handled
4:28 p.m. Assist Citizen, Sullivan Avenue, Officer Handled
5:04 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Lower Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 3
6:42 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Railroad Lane, Transported to Hospital
12:08 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Main Street, Services Rendered
4:41 p.m. Fire/Alarm, Church Street, Investigated
5:54 p.m. Complaint, Hardwick Road, Unfounded
6:39 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Jackson Road,

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.

Sunday, Aug. 30
8:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Palmer Road, Advised
9:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Palmer Road, Advised
9:35 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Dispatch Handled
2:02 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, High Street, Assist Given

Monday, Aug. 31
5:50 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Monroe Street, Advised
5:52 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered
6:29 p.m. Traffic Violation, West Main Street, Investigated
7:47 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Greenwich Plains Road, Investigated

Tuesday, Sept. 1
1:12 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Morse Avenue, Advised
10:12 a.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Main Street, Could Not Locate
10:21 a.m. Safety Hazard, Coffey Hill Road, Services Rendered
1:08 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Otis Avenue, Report Made
5:53 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Otis Avenue, Advised
6:37 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Main Street, Services Rendered
7:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Webster Road, Dispatch Handled
11:48 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Street, Dispatch Handled

Peace Restored
8:37 p.m. 911 Gunshots, Main Street, Negative Contact

Friday, Sept. 4
3:41 p.m. Assist Citizen, Lyman Road, Spoken To
4:03 p.m. Speeding Complaint, North Road, Spoken To
10:08 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Officer Handled

Sunday, Sept. 6
3:26 p.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
9:04 p.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Lower Road, No Action Required

Warren Police Log

During the week of Aug. 9-15, the Warren Police Department responded to 194 building/property checks, four community policings, 13 emergency 911 calls, three suspicious activities, six thefts/larcenies, one trespass, two safety concerns, three complaints, two animal calls and 16 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Aug. 9
1:34 a.m. Fall, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
11:53 a.m. Unwanted Party, Main Street, Report Filed
2:46 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Winthrop Terrace, Information Given
4:19 p.m. Smoke Investigation, Comins Pond Road, Investigated
6:25 p.m. Safety Concern, Comins Pond Road, Information Given
7:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:18 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bemis Road, Investigated

Monday, Aug. 10
12:21 p.m. Trespasser or Prowler, Cronin Road, Officer Spoke to Party
12:41 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Old West Brookfield Road, Information Taken
6:51 p.m. Complaint, North Street, Area Search

Fire departments earn high emergency response reporting rate

STOW – The Department of Fire Services announced that Massachusetts fire departments have achieved the fourth-highest reporting rate in the country for the National Emergency Response Information System. Ninety percent of Massachusetts fire departments have reported more than 1.3 million apparatus responses to more than 788,000 incidents. This achievement reflects the state's commitment to leading the nation in public safety data collection and will help local and state officials make informed decisions about operations, policies, fire prevention messaging, grant applications and budget proposals and updates to fire and life safety codes. A project of the U.S. Fire Administration and UL's Fire Safety Research Institute, NERIS provides unprecedented public access to incident response data through its newly launched public website. Unlike its 50-year-old predecessor, which required a lengthy data validation process, NERIS allows users to view near-real-time incident data from cities and towns across the country and conduct independent analysis using doz-

Negative
Tuesday, Aug. 11
9:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:13 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital
12:39 p.m. Fall, East Road, Transported to Hospital
12:42 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Comins Pond Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:04 p.m. Fall, Keys Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:38 p.m. Complaint, North Street, Officer Spoke to Party
11:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Report Filed

Wednesday, Aug. 12
12:21 p.m. Fall, Constitution Avenue, Mutual Aid Transport
7:50 p.m. Safety Concern, Comins Pond Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Thursday, Aug. 13
10:44 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Presidential Circle, Transported to Hospital
2:04 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Winthrop Terrace, Mutual Aid Assist
3:07 p.m. Welfare Check, Sarty Road, Officer Spoke to Party
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning
11:36 p.m. Larceny/

Theft, Cronin Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, Aug. 14
11:13 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
1:43 p.m. Trauma, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital
4:29 p.m. Larceny or Theft, A Street, Report Filed
4:42 p.m. Medical Alarm, Southbridge Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
8:48 p.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Dunham Road, Investigated
9:28 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed

Saturday, Aug. 15
8:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
9:52 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital
12:12 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Reed Street, Report Filed
4:53 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital
6:22 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, South Street, Confirmed Accidental/Misdial
7:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
11:44 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Main Street, Negative Contact

ens of data fields. “Adopting an entirely new data reporting system was a seismic shift for fire departments across the country,” said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine in a press release. “They have done a phenomenal job of adapting to NERIS and bringing Massachusetts to the nation’s forefront. I also want to recognize our staff for helping to bring the state’s fire service onboard in a matter of months. The data that local fire departments are reporting will support funding requests, effective resource allocation, commu-

Please see **RATING**, page 13

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Position Details:
• Approximately 5-7 hours per week
• \$20.35 per hour
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Interested candidates should email **admin@oakham-ma.gov** for further information and town employment application.
The Town of Oakham is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WARE JOB OPENING
Part-Time Custodian

The Town of Ware is seeking applicants for the position of custodian. Duties include cleaning restrooms, sweeping, vacuuming, and mopping floors, cleaning windows, taking out trash and restocking supplies. Part-time, non-benefited, \$17.50 per hour, 12 hours per week.
Job applications can be found on the Town of Ware website **https://www.townof-ware.com** under Human Resources, at the Ware Town Hall, or e-mail your application or resume to **resumes@townof-ware.com**. AA/EOE

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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RATING from page 11

nity risk reduction efforts, and much more.”

NERIS rolled out in geographic phases throughout 2025. Most Massachusetts fire departments began transitioning to the new system in October and several volunteered to serve as early adopters, including Belchertown, Beverly, Bourne, Dudley, Gill, Greenfield, Huntington, Pittsfield, Sandisfield, Springfield and Walpole.

The new system replaces the National Fire Incident Reporting System and its Massachusetts-level system, the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System. Under the former systems, it could take months to obtain reliable incident and response statistics.

NERIS will also help local, state, and regional agencies understand the impact of large-scale events and prepare for increased emergency activity during major celebrations, disasters, and other incidents.

This summer, NERIS implemented a “special incident modifier” to collect information about emergency responses related to World Cup matches, watch parties and other gatherings.

During that event period, Massachusetts fire departments reported 65 related incidents across six cities and towns, including 31 medical calls, 25 service calls and two elevator rescues.



A granite bench was recently installed near the boat launch at Grenville Park in Ware, dedicated to the late Michael Domey Sr. of Gilbertville. The bench recognized his service as a veteran, Knights of Columbus member, coach and Scouter.

WARE – A granite bench was recently installed at Grenville Park, overlooking the Ware River, in memory of the late Michael Domey Sr., of Gilbertville.

This bench recognized his service and commitment to the community in a number of roles; as a veteran, a member of the Knights of Columbus, a coach and a Scouter.



A memorial bench for Michael Domey Sr. was installed near the Ware River and second baseball diamond in Grenville Park.



Turtles were sunning themselves on a log at Grenville Park. The turtles could be viewed from the bench dedicated to the late Michael Domey Sr.

Ware Cultural Council announces start of 2027 grant cycle

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

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

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

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

For more information, email wareculturalcouncil@yahoo.com.

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Ware River News

public notices

Town of Warren Public Hearing Pole Petition

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 166, Section 22, a public hearing for consent to install 2 SO Poles on Bemis Road beginning at a point approximately 625’ ft north of the centerline of the intersection of Old Carriage Way and continuing approximately 1,500 feet in a northeast direction; Install new SO Pole P28-84,~30’ west of P28; Install new SO Pole 21-50, ~ 112’ southwest of P 21. Copies of the petitions are available for viewing during normal business hours in the Selectmen’s Office prior to the hearing. This hearing will be held on **Thursday, October 1, 2026, at the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street, 1st Floor, Selectmen Meeting Room, Warren, MA 01083 at 6:00PM or by remote participation via Zoom. Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84297540904?pwd=P9YKPFRCdQDKwGJFIop0oFJEsMNk.1>** Meeting ID: 842 9754 0904 Passcode: 191841

Richard Eichacker
Chair Board of Selectmen
09/10, 09/17/2026

Town of Warren Public Hearing Pole Petition

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 166, Section 22, a public hearing for consent to install 8 JO Pole on Bemis Road and relocate 2 JO Poles on Bemis Road beginning at a point approximately 100’ feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Old Carriage Way

and continuing approximately 5,100 feet in a north direction; Install new JO Pole 30-50, ~ 117’ north of P31. Install new JO Pole 28-50,~113’ north of P29; Install new JO Pole 25-50,~112’ north of P26; Install new JO Pole 23-50,~115’ north of P30. Install new JO Pole 12,~116’ north of P13; Install new JO Pole 29-50,~137’ north of P30; Install new JO Pole 26-50,~124’ north of P27; Install new JO Pole 24-50,~112’ north of P25; Relocate JO Pole 22,~15’ southwest; Relocate JO P15,~15’ north. Copies of the petitions are available for viewing during normal business hours in the Selectmen’s Office prior to the hearing. This hearing will be held on **Thursday, October 1, 2026, at the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street, 1st Floor, Selectmen Meeting Room, Warren, MA 01083 at 6:00PM or by remote participation via Zoom. Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84297540904?pwd=P9YKPFRCdQDKwGJFIop0oFJEsMNk.1>** Meeting ID: 842 9754 0904 Passcode: 191841

Richard Eichacker
Chair Board of Selectmen
09/10, 09/17/2026

Hardwick Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board per Hardwick Zoning Bylaws (2025), sections 1.4 (Definitions), 3.2.4.r (business uses) and 4.0 (Special Permit), 5.0 (Site Plan Review) will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 6:45PM** at the

Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA.

The Hearing is regarding the application for a **Special Permit**, including site plan review by **Mark Filgerleski, Jr** to establish an **Ice Cream Stand at 550 Lower Road, Rte 32**. 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
09/03, 09/10/2026

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 26 SM 002840 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: **Michael Flood; Linda Ann Flood** and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCAF Acquisition Trust

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ware, numbered 11 Grove Street, given by Eleanor Mercure, Michael Flood and Linda Ann Flood to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Cross-Country Mortgage, LLC, dated February 8, 2022, and recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 14449, Page 93, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated May 1,

2025 and recorded at said Registry in Book 15452, Page 221 and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before October 19, 2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on September 2, 2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
09/10/2026

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION

The Gilbertville Water District intends to file an application for federal financial assistance with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service. Funding for the project will be under the Rural Utilities Service, Part 1780, Water and Waste Loans and Grants (CFDA 10.760). The project includes replacement of the District’s existing water tank with a new tank at the end of Prospect Street in Gilbertville, MA along with an extension of the existing

water line on Prospect Street to the new tank. Work will all be associated with the construction project. Any comments regarding this application should be submitted in person to the Gilbertville Water District at our monthly meeting at the Gilbertville Public Library on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm or mailed to Gilbertville Water District, PO Box 97, Gilbertville, MA 01031.
09/10, 09/17/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Department of Environmental Protection Wetlands Program Notice of 401 WQC Application and Variance

Notice is hereby given that New England Power Company (NEP), 170 Data Drive, Waltham, MA 02451, seeks a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) and Variance for the Central to Western Massachusetts Energy Improvement Project/E5/F6 Asset Condition Refurbishment Project located within Millbury, Auburn, Leicester, Spencer, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Ware, Belchertown, Pelham, Shutesbury, Leverett, Sunderland, Deerfield, Conway, Shelburne, and Buckland, MA.

NEP plans to replace existing structures, improve access to structures, reconductor the lines, replace existing shieldwires with optical groundwire, and perform vegetation management activities within the existing transmission corridor. A Variance is requested for temporary construction matting and permanent structure foundations within wetlands located within 400 feet of the high water mark of the Quabbin Res-

ervoir.

Additional information may be obtained from Theresa Portante, BSC Group, Inc., 1 Mercantile Street, Suite 610, Worcester, MA 01608, (617) 896-4509, tportante@bscgroup.com.

Written comments on the 401 WQC and Variance should be sent within twenty-one (21) days of this notice to:

MassDEP Wetlands Program – Major Projects and Policy Unit
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
christina.y.wu@mass.gov

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department’s Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.
09/10/2026

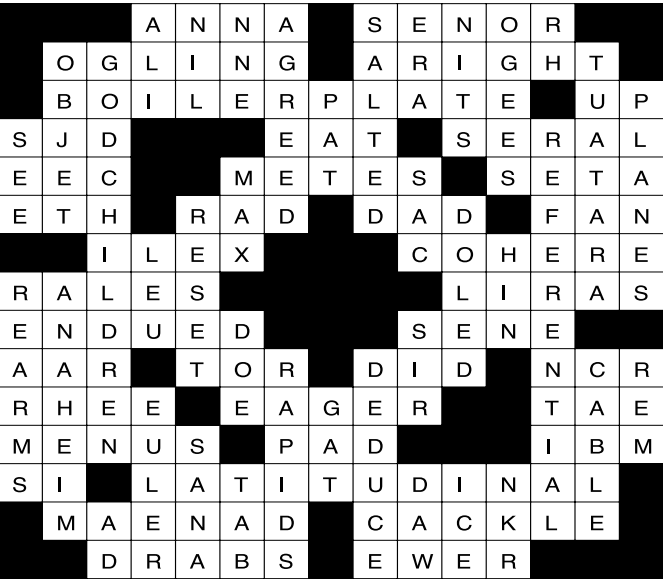
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OBITUARY POLICY

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



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- 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

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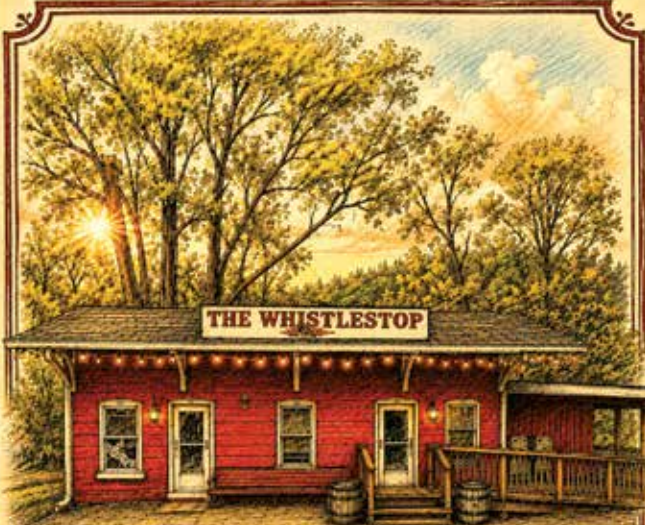
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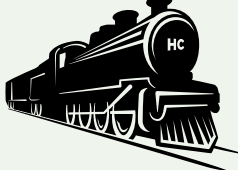
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