

# WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 137 No. 33

16 Pages

(Plus Supplements)

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

## Roses for Rescue

Otto Florist & Gifts' annual fundraiser helps animal rescues

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Since 2001, Michele Lariviere, owner of Otto Florist & Gifts, and her staff have hosted a rose fundraiser to benefit those in the community.

Up until 2015, Otto Florist & Gifts held the Shirley Batsie Memorial Rose Sale, selling roses by the dozen to benefit Mary Lane Hospital's cancer services. But after a fire that occurred two days after Valentine's Day caused Otto Florist & Gifts to move to their current location at 7 North St., and the closure of Mary Lane Hospital, the rose sale took a pause.

"We raised over a quarter of a million dollars," Lariviere said of the Shirley Batsie Memorial Rose Sale.

These challenges did not end the rose sale, however, and Lariviere and her staff looked for a new way to give back.

Please see **ROSES**, page 3

## Town wide tag sale fun for all

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer

WARREN – The residents of Warren and West Warren were ready for the town wide tag sale this past Saturday, with 50 households signed up to sell their assorted items throughout the day.

The town's Parks and Recreation Department had set up their own booth on the town common providing printed maps for \$2 and a list of addresses of the residents involved with the tag sale.

Despite occasional rain showers in the forecast, nothing could stop residents from hopping in their cars and exploring the town for any useful items. The town wide tag sale was still on, rain or shine.

Making up the Parks and Recreation Commission are Sue Ramsey, Lisa Boucher, Jess Sweeney and James McKeon. The Commission was proud to organize the event and promote future events in the town.

This tag sale offers a little bit of everything from household items, clothing, toys, furniture, antiques, tools, jewelry, crafts, kitchen appliances, and unique items. One of those unique items featured wood slabs.

These unique wooden designs are flat pieces of wood

Please see **TAG SALE**, page 7



Rev. Fr. Piotr Pawlus said a prayer while members of Ware Fire Department stood by.

## RESPONDERS OBSERVE 9/11

WARE – First responders from Ware Fire Department and Ware Police Department, along with local and state officials, members of the community, veterans and Scouts, observed a solemn ceremony to remember the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, this past Monday.

Fire Chief Jim Martinez said the ceremony, which marked the 22nd anniversary of the attacks, was intended to be "solemn and introspective."

As people gathered on the lawn by the 9/11 memorial, Martinez rang out "5-5-5" on the bell; the signal to call all companies home, one last time. Rev. Fr. Piotr Pawlus then read a prayer, remembering and thanking all who sacrificed their lives.

Deputy Chief Jeremy Boulrice read the firefighter's prayer before Martinez rang 5-5-5 again.

Martinez thanked those in attendance, but especially those who have "given their lives then and since."



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette  
Deputy Chief Jeremy Boulrice read a firefighter's prayer.



Fire Chief Jim Martinez rang out "5-5-5," the signal to call all companies home, one last time, followed by one minute of silence at this past Monday's commemoration of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks

## Girls on the Run program comes to Hardwick

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Get ready to lace up your sneakers, because Girls on the Run is coming to Hardwick Elementary School, starting Monday, Sept. 18.

Girls on the Run Worcester County Program Director Katie Esposito said this is the first year Hardwick Elementary School has participated in the program, but other schools within the Quabbin Regional School District, as well as surrounding school districts, have all hosted the program.

"Oakham Center School has done the program many times," she said, as well as Hubbardston Center School. "Ruggles Lane [Elementary School] started last year and it was huge. They were a very popular site."

Esposito volunteered as a coach for Girls on the Run and became a staff member about five years ago, at the urging of Executive Director Karen Spencer.

"We're moving so quickly," she said of the Worcester County program.

Esposito said Girls on the Run needs a minimum of eight elementary school-aged girls (grades three through five), with a maximum of 15 girls per team. More teams can be added as enrollment increases.

"A lot of times we have two teams," Esposito said.

There are two volunteer coaches per team, with Hardwick's site run by kindergarten teacher Kayleigh Laughlin and first grade teacher

Please see **GIRLS**, page 3



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette  
Mass Central Rail Trail volunteers and members of the community officially dedicated the town's segment of trail at the Gibbs Crossing entrance last Friday afternoon.

## Gibbs Crossing rail trail, kiosk dedicated

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

segment of the Mass Central Rail Trail at Gibbs Crossing this past Friday.

WARE – Many years of hard work, dedication and volunteer efforts culminated in an official "grand opening" of the town's

On Sept. 8, several community members involved with the trail's creation, upkeep, and the recently installed kiosk all gathered to cut the ribbon to officially incorpo-

rate the almost two mile length of trail into the town's network.

Spanning from Gibbs Crossing on Palmer Road to Robbins Road, the trail has seen a lot of improvements over the years, making it

Please see **TRAIL**, page 8

## Senior Center prepares for fun-filled fall

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – It was a full house at the Ware Senior Center this past Tuesday, as members from the community enjoyed a free pork loin lunch with musical entertainment, courtesy of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc.

President of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. Susan

LaBarge, said the group also provided free chances to win a "Taco Tuesday" basket door prize, which included a \$20 Big Y gift card.

"We wanted to have a free door prize to thank people for coming," LaBarge said.

The Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. also offered people a chance to win a prize every day in November, with the sale of their

Please see **SENIORS**, page 5



Three generations of a family enjoyed free lunch and entertainment at the Ware Senior Center this past Tuesday. Courtesy of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. Shown from left are Sue Hans, Suzette Hittle and Gloria LeBlanc.

### Inside this edition:

Viewpoints.....	4	Public Notices.....	15
Sports.....	9		
Police/Fire.....	12		
Obituaries.....	13		
Classifieds.....	15		



### EDUCATION

Local students earn HVAC/R certification

Page 7



### SPORTS

Quaboag football wins opening game

Page 9



### COMMUNITY

Grange hosts terrarium workshop

Page 14

Connect with us



WareRiverNews

Ware River News  
**OBITUARY  
POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be

submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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



Submitted Photo  
Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Robert Lavoie is shown with Christopher Heights staff April Kosuda, Activity Director (left) and Lorna Stone, Director Admissions/Marketing (right).

## National Ice Cream Sandwich Day

Frozen treats enjoyed across Quaboag Hills towns

REGION – Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce CEO Robert Lavoie has helped spread some cool refreshing treats all across the 15 town region.

“It began with a call from a generous donor, asking if I could help ‘relocate’ about 9,000 ice cream sandwiches in less than a week,” Lavoie said.

Pathfinder Tech in Palmer kept them in their walk-in freezer, and it was a fantastic plus for the Summer Youth Enrichment Program which runs every year during the month of July.

“As it happened, Friday, July 28 was the first excursion on my road trip. Dave Oliveira, long time Facilities Director at Pathfinder turned a meal cart into a makeshift cooler, enough room for about 1,600 ice cream sandwiches,” Lavoie said.

Day one was off to Summer Youth programs in local school districts. Starting in Palmer at the Old Mill Pond School. Derek Smola, Summer Youth Director, met Lavoie and we donated close to 800 sandwiches. From there, the process was repeated at the Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School in Ware.

The final stop that morning was at the Quaboag Regional School District in Warren, where Lavoie met Superintendent Steve Duff and his team, along with state

Rep. Todd Smola who was key in brainstorming the day.

“Ideas for Chamber and regional school partnerships for this upcoming year were discussed and look very promising for all! What a great new partnership,” Lavoie said.

After posting his trip on the Chamber’s Facebook page, a follower reminded him that coming up on Aug. 2 was National Ice Cream Sandwich Day.

“What could be better?” Lavoie said.

The second and final road trip was naturally on National Ice Cream Day and began with a visit to Christopher Heights assisted living in Belchertown, and from there to Ware where Lavoie met the team at Cedarbrook Village and did the same.

“All enjoyed the surprise sandwiches donated on National Ice Cream Sandwich Day,” he said.

As the day progressed, Lavoie made it to Holland, Wales and Brimfield Senior/Community centers throughout the Chamber’s 15 town footprint.

During this same period, local communities were holding their annual National Night Out events, honoring first responders.

“This is a great community summer event and QHMA was able to donate sandwiches to the North Brookfield, Palmer and Ware Police Departments to assist with the already popular event,” Lavoie said. “And to wrap up the donations, we popped in on the new Ludlow Veterans Center and were happy to donate to VSO, Eric Segundo and the Veterans he serves in their beautiful Ludlow facility.”

In total, the Chamber was able to facilitate the donation of over 6,000 sandwiches and another 2,600 plus were donated at the local National Night Out events.

“Much thanks to Pathfinder Tech for helping me with the logistics, this couldn’t have been possible without their support, ingenuity and spirit,” Lavoie said. “My first 60 days as CEO of the Quaboag Hills Chamber have been nothing short of fantastic!”

Make sure to follow the Chamber on Facebook and Instagram, and read about its happenings in your Turley Publications newspaper.

“You’ll see us at many events this fall and we’re just getting started in our 15 Town Region,” Lavoie said. “Can’t wait to meet you...where you are!”

**Our advertisers make this publication possible.**  
Let them know you saw their ad in the  
**Ware River News**

# Are You Old News?



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



File Photo  
Last week’s photo from 1991 showed Ware Middle School students competing in the David Carlson “look-alike” contest including (back row) Louis Cote, Danny Hills and Angela DeSantis; (middle row) Haley Juda and Don Dunbar; (front row) Audri Jurgensen and Celena Smith.

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

## Hospital review committee seeks input at visioning session

WARE – The Mary Lane Hospital Review Committee invites residents to attend a visioning session on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. at the Ware Senior Center at 1 Robbins Road.

The session will be led by HKT Architects who were funded by a State Community Planning grant. At the session, residents will be asked what they would like to see the 21-acre property used for in the future.

The property is currently owned by Baystate Health, which plans to vacate all uses by the end of the year and demolish the buildings. The site would then be re-developed.

The Committee, which conducted a survey last year, hopes to hear from residents about what types of uses would best serve the town such as businesses, homes, medical and recreation facilities.

## Ware Senior Center events

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

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

### ACTIVITIES Monday, Sept. 18

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Birthday Party Lunch

Dessert and entertainment courtesy of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc.

### Tuesday, Sept. 19

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

9:30 a.m. Quilting Club

10 a.m. Scat

5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

### Wednesday, Sept. 20

9 a.m. Tai-Chi

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

### Thursday, Sept. 21

9 a.m. New Senior Walking Club

Meet at Senior Center and wear comfortable footwear. Bringing water, sunscreen, bug spray and energy snack are suggested.

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners

10 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch  
1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

### Friday, Sept. 22

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Scat

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Chair Yoga

6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

### LUNCHES DINE IN

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted

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

### Monday, Sept. 18

Birthday Party  
Chicken Marsala, Baked Potato, Dessert\*  
(\*Dessert and entertainment courtesy of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc.)

### Tuesday, Sept. 19

Meat Lasagna, Mandarin Orange Salad, Dessert of the Day

### Wednesday, Sept. 20

Bacon Mac & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Dessert of the Day

### Thursday, Sept. 21

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

### Friday, Sept. 22

BBQ Pork Sandwich, Potato Wedges, Broccoli, Dessert of the Day

## Young Men’s Library Association news

WARE – September is Emergency Preparedness Month and the Young Men’s Library Association, 37 Main St., will be hosting Kirsten Krieger, the Quabbin Health District Public Health Nurse on Monday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. for a talk on Emergency Preparedness.  
Please call the Library at 413-967-5491 for

more information.

### New library hours

The Library is now open for increased hours. The new hours are Monday from noon-7 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., effective immediately.



### PHONE

413.967.3505

Fax: 413.967.6009

Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

### EMAIL

Advertising Sales

Dan Flynn

[dfflynn@turley.com](mailto:dfflynn@turley.com)

### Editor

Paula Oumette

[pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com)

### Subscriptions

[cgriswold@turley.com](mailto:cgriswold@turley.com)

\$31 per year pre-paid  
(\$36 out of state)  
Newsstand: \$1.00 per copy

### WEB

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

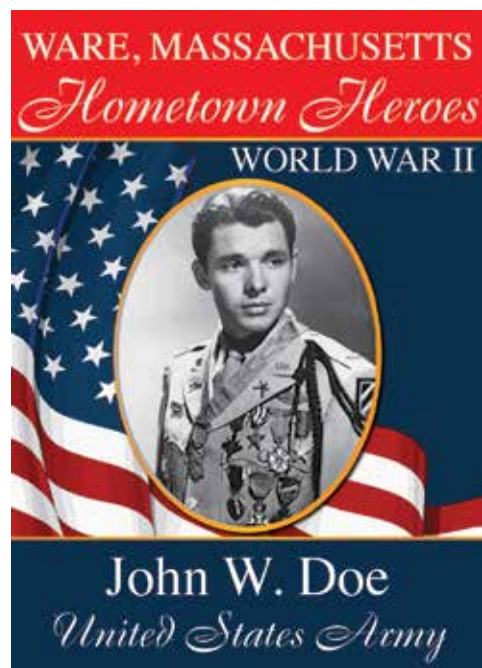
[@ Ware River News](https://www.facebook.com/WareRiverNews)

The Ware River News is published by  
Turley Publications, Inc. • [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)



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

## HOME TOWN HERO Pole Banners to Honor Ware Veterans



Name of Veteran \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is \$75 per side • Limited Quantity  
Make Checks payable to the Town of Ware

### Sponsor Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

For more information contact Dan Flynn  
413-297-5886 • email: [dfflynn@turley.com](mailto:dfflynn@turley.com)



DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS SPECIAL EVENT!  
Sponsored by  
**Otto Florist & Gifts**  
Oct. 13 & 14, 2023

**\$15.00 Per Dozen**

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:



(Belchertown Animal Relief Committee)



and

“More Than Just a Shelter”  
(Second Chance Animal Services)

Call (413)967-5381 to order (order by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>)  
or go online 24/7 to: [ottoflorist.com/special-events](http://ottoflorist.com/special-events)  
It's a WIN WIN!! Let's help the Animals!!

# Feel Good Fridays offer food and fellowship

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer

WARE – Every Friday morning, the Recovery Center of HOPE in Ware offers a delicious breakfast meal.

Offering flapjacks, coffee and fruit, the center gives every visitor a feel-good Friday. Other than light refreshments, the Recovery Center of HOPE offers fellowship to their community friends and neighbors.

The Recovery Center of HOPE is a safe and welcoming space to cultivate recovery as they support families and bring the growing recovery community together in 18 towns of the Quaboag Hills Region. The Center, which is a new organization that opened earlier this year, is run by and for people in recovery, their families, loved ones, and those who are allies of recovery.

Offerings at the Center include multiple pathways of recovery, health and wellness services. Other offerings include education and employment assistance, family support, recreation, navigation to local resources and providers and other activities.

Other support systems provided by the Center are guiding rides and transportation.

On mornings Monday through Friday, there is recovery support from the Belchertown and Ware area for those in need of transportation. Rides to clinics, treatments, providers, and other recovery support systems helps move people forward.

For ride information, referrals, and requests, the Center is located

at 52 Main St. or can be reached by calling 413-640-0816.

One guest joining the Center's Feel Good Fridays is Reverend Gregory Jones. Jones is the Social Justice & Spiritual Care Director at the Western Mass Training Consortium in Holyoke.

Sharing similar interests in serving and supporting their communities, Jones enjoyed connecting with members of the Recovery Center of HOPE. The Consortium's mission is to create conditions in which people who have faced marginalization, oppression, or otherwise felt invisible are better able to pursue their dreams and strengthen communities through voice, choice, and inclusion.

The Recovery Center of HOPE has a dedicated team of supporters and coaches. Part of the Center team is Susan Daley, the Peer Community Resource Navigator. After 30 years of working with insurance, Daley of Belchertown hopes to build relationships and knowledge of resources in both Hampshire and Hampden County as she looks forward to being a part of the Ware Recovery Center of HOPE.

Being new to the community of Ware, Daley insists that the new center is in the process of growing.

"The changes being made in the community are continuously growing," said Daley.

As part of the process of growth, an additional space in Ware is going along with the Recovery Center at 78 Main St.

Another member of the team is Peer Recovery Coach, Julie



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago  
Julie Lutz, left, and Susan Daley get ready to serve breakfast last Friday at the Recovery Center of HOPE, 52 Main St., Ware.

Lutz. Prior to residing in the western part of the state, Lutz worked for several recovery programs in the Boston area including the Cambridge and Somerville Programs for Addiction Recovery (CASPAR).

Lutz has now been a part of the Recovery Center of HOPE for two years and continues to support the community. During Feel Good Fridays, Lutz makes phenomenal flapjacks.

In addition to the RCH team is Interim Director, Maureen Babineau and Program Manager,

Abaigeal Duda.

## About Recovery Center of HOPE

The Recovery Center of HOPE is at 52 Main St. in Ware. Feel Good Fridays and Fellowship is on Fridays, at 10:30 a.m., following an All Recovery Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

The Recovery Center of HOPE is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

# Wheelwright wastewater treatment plant out to bid

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – Town Administrator Nicole Parker updated the Select Board about the town's ongoing wastewater treatment project.

At the Select Board's meeting on Sept. 11, she said the Wheelwright wastewater treatment plant went out to bid on Sept. 5, and bids are due back Oct. 18 at 9 a.m.

Parker said the town has already advertised for sub-bidders and general contractors for the Gilbertville wastewater treatment plant, which previously went out to bid.

Parker said the repayment and oversight for the project are still being discussed.

## CCC regulations hearing

Parker said there was a Cannabis Control Commission public hearing recently, regarding new draft regulations, adding that many cities and towns are opposed to this as the new regulations would impede the local jurisdiction.

Parker said the town only has one Host Community Agreement with a cannabis company at this time, but it's possible the 3% impact fee could be removed if the draft regulations go into effect.

## Visitor comments

Judy Kohn said there was a microburst or mini tornado that knocked down trees in the Greenwich Plains Road area,

bringing down utility wires, last weekend.

"I want to really commend Marty and the Highway Department of this town," she said, for clearing the debris, along with tree companies and utility workers.

## Vacancies

The vacant positions for the Highway Department have been posted, with full job descriptions on the town's website, www.hardwick-ma.gov.

## Heating system

Parker said the town is exploring heating options for the Municipal Building. R.J. McDonald is looking at the system this week, and she is waiting to hear from other contractors.

"We're going to have to deal with this heating system this year," she said.

## Trail of Treats

The Trail of Treats will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28 starting at 5:30 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, Oct. 29.

## Rail trail

Parker said there will be a ribbon cutting to officially open the new extension of the Mass Central Rail Trail on Tuesday, Sept. 26, at a time to be announced.

## Appointment

The Select Board will make an appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals at its next meeting, on Sept. 25.

## ROSES from page 1

"I needed another outlet to help where I could," Lariviere said. "For all of us here, our pets are our family."

Since 2017, Otto Florist & Gifts has held Roses for Rescue, offering a dozen high-quality roses for \$15. All proceeds from the rose sale will benefit BARC (Belchertown Animal Relief Committee) of Belchertown and/or Second Chance Animal Services in East Brookfield.

Those purchasing roses will be able to select which rescue they would like their donation to benefit directly, or split the donation between the two.

Helping animals in shelters "gives warmth to our hearts," Lariviere said, adding that many shelters are facing a significant increase in costs as the number of animals being rescued climbs.

"There are so many that have been displaced from the floods down south," she said, with the local shelters working to find homes for them.

Lariviere said she has adopted two pets from animal shelters, as have many of her staff. Jacky Perrot said she enjoys caring for her two "Pittie grandkids" alongside her human grandchildren.

"We're pretty excited and happy people support this wonderful event," Lariviere said.

Pre-order for the Roses for

Rescue fundraiser is required, and open until Oct. 1. Forms are available at Otto Florist & Gifts' location on North Street, or on the website.

Checks should be made payable to Otto Florist & Gifts with "Roses for Rescue" in the memo. Credit card orders can be accepted by phone by calling 413-967-5381.

Payment and completed order form can be sent to Otto Florist & Gifts, 7 North St., Ware, MA 01082.

There will be three pickup locations for the roses, including Otto Florist & Gifts on Oct. 13 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; BARC, Belchertown Animal Control, 165 George Hannum Road, Belchertown on Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; and Second Chance Animal Services, 372 North Main St., North Brookfield on Oct. 13 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.-noon.

Large orders of 10 dozen roses or more will receive free, local delivery.

Many rose colors will be arriving, and due to the volume of orders, Roses for Rescue cannot guarantee specific colors. Large orders will contain multiple rose colors.

For more information about Roses for Rescue, call Otto Florist & Gifts at 413-967-5381 or visit www.ottoflorist.com.

# Public forum seeks feedback on digital equity

WARE – The Ware Council on Aging knows that people in the community have different experiences when trying to use the internet or computers.

The Council is committed to helping promote "digital equity" - the ability of all residents to have access to the internet and to feel capable and confident using it.

A live, in-person open forum

will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road from 1-2:30 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

As part of the statewide Internet for All initiative, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute created a survey to collect information about how households throughout the state access and

use the internet. Together with the Western Mass. Alliance for Digital Equity, the Council is reaching out to residents to make sure that their perspectives and experiences are included in the state plan.

With significant federal funding coming soon, the Council wants to make sure that money is available to meet the needs identified by people in our region.

## GIRLS from page 1

Melissa Jones.

"When we're at schools, the first thing we do is try to find teachers or others from the school to be volunteers," Esposito said, adding that Girls on the Run is usually asked by the school to offer the program to their students.

Parents are also welcome to coach, she said. All Girls on the Run coaches are also CPR certified.

Girls on the Run is more than just a running program, Esposito said, its focus is about teaching girls to stand up for themselves, be better friends, communicate effectively and embrace differences.

Esposito said Girls on the Run uses a social and emotional curriculum to teach girls how to run, but it's really more of a tool to build confidence, something that

girls tend to struggle with as they approach adolescence.

"We're coaching the curriculum and using running to teach the curriculum," she said.

Esposito said girls don't have to be runners to participate in Girls on the Run, and that walking is also okay.

"We always say you can hop, skip and jump. You don't need to push these girls to run," she said, adding that by the end of the 10-week program, all of the girls will have built their skills as runners.

"It's not a competitive thing. At the end, you set a lap goal and talk about the theme," Esposito said.

The Girls on the Run program will be held at Hardwick Elementary School Sept. 18 through Dec. 4, meeting on Mondays and Thursdays

after school from 3:15-4:30 p.m. for grades three through five. In the event of rain or inclement weather, the program will be held inside the school.

The program fee is on an income-based sliding scale, ranging from \$25 to \$175, but no girl will be turned away due to lack of funds.

"We don't turn any girl away, we're constantly fundraising all year long," Esposito said.

The 10-week program ends with a celebratory 5K event on either Dec. 2 or 3 (date to be determined later).

Girls on the Run is for students of all physical abilities, including

# Warren library hosts annual book sale

WARREN – The annual book sale will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on the front lawn of the Warren Public Library, 943 Main St.

Stop by and grab some bargains; there will be hundreds of books, DVDs, Audiobooks and CDs for sale. Gift items will also be on sale.

seasoned athletes, to those who have never tried sports before.

Girls really find their self through running, Esposito said.

"They're looking at their own goals through this whole lens and happy with themselves," she said.

For more information or to register, visit www.gotr-worc.org or contact Esposito at katie.esposito@girlsontherun.org.

Volunteer coaches are also needed, and interested people can apply at www.pinwheel.us/volunteer/signup/Fall23Coach. All coaches must pass a background check before participating in Girls on the Run training.

**LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER**  
Call For Information  
**413-813-2391**  
Leave Message  
Check Out Facebook at  
**Denise Dubowski**  
Save Up To 25% OFF  
Retail Prices

**Junk & Bulk Trash Removal**  
  
**Clean Out Solutions**  
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts  
Shed, Pool & Arthur "Skip" Gervais  
Hot Tub Removals (774)397-6500

Our advertisers make this publication possible.  
Let them know you saw their ad in the  
**Ware River News**

**Marine Corps League Detachment 140**  
would like to thank everyone who contributed to their scholarship program.  
**This year over \$3,000 was raised for local seniors entering college.**  
Your generosity is very much appreciated.  
*Thank you for your support.*

**McNeely Tree Service**  
Insured • References  
• Hazardous Tree Removal  
• Stump Grinding  
• Bobcat Work  
• Lot Clearing • Storm work  
• Furnace Wood  
• Firewood \$300/cord  
• 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR  
• Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted  
H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

**NESCO SALES INC.**  
**COMPLETE AUTOBODY CENTER**  
Your Safety is Our Top Priority  
RS #1688  
• All vehicles are sanitized before and after repairs  
• Pick-Up & Delivery Services Available  
• Collision Specialists  
Call Us to Arrange a Free Estimate following Social Distancing Guidelines  
We Handle ALL Insurance Claims  
91 State St., Bondsville, MA **283-6403** www.nescoautobody.com

**GUNS WANTED**  
"I come to you" & "buy your guns" right on the spot  
I buy all types of firearms and firearm related items  
• Pistols • Rifles • Shotguns • Revolvers •  
Any age or condition  
Fully Licensed to engage in the gun trade  
**VERMONT GUNBROKER**  
Licensed Gun Dealer in All New England States  
James Cook **802-558-9363**  
vtgunbroker.com



# Country Bank event raises \$15,750 to fight childhood cancer

## Worcester Police beats Worcester Fire 14-3 at annual game

WORCESTER – To launch Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September, the second annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic, presented by Country Bank at Polar Park on Aug. 27, raised \$15,750 for Why Me & Sherry's House, a Worcester nonprofit that provides resources and support to children battling cancer and their families.

The Worcester Police Officers defeated the Worcester Firefighters 14-3 in nine innings.

As the home team, the Worcester Fire Department selected Why Me & Sherry's House to benefit from this year's event in honor of retired Fire Captain Mark Wyco, who lost his daughter Bridget to childhood cancer in 1996.

After the game, the Worcester Red

Sox and Country Bank presented the check for \$15,750 to Rebecca Kuczarski, the Executive Director of Why Me & Sherry's House.

They also presented the 2023 Paul Scully Most Valuable Player Award to Officer Ty Sterner, a southpaw who allowed just two hits and one run in six innings pitched.

The Worcester native, who has served in the Worcester Police Department for two years, was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the 23rd round of the 2014 Major League Baseball June Amateur Draft from the University of Rhode Island. However, a pair of Tommy John surgeries cut his professional baseball career short.

As the M.V.P., Officer Sterner won a Country Bank jersey, four V.I.P. tickets to a future WooSox game - at which he will be honored with the opportunity to throw a Ceremonial First Pitch - and a gift card to The Mercantile Restaurant.

"There was an extraordinary feel-

ing at this year's event," said Dr. Charles A. Steinberg, President of the Worcester Red Sox and the WooSox Foundation in a press release. "Our first responders are the heart and soul of Worcester, and we believe this friendly but competitive game will continue to grow into a civic treasure. We thank our friends and founding partners at Country Bank for collaborating with us yet again on what has become one of the most fun - and impactful - events of the year."

"Country Bank is honored to partner with the Worcester Red Sox Foundation in presenting the Police vs. Fire game," said Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank. "We have been a longtime supporter of the Police and Fire Departments across the many markets we serve. The critical work these departments do each and every day truly makes a difference for our communities. It is also our privilege to support Why Me

Please see **CANCER**, page 6



Submitted Photo

The second annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic, presented by Country Bank at Polar Park on Aug. 27, raised \$15,750 for Why Me & Sherry's House, a Worcester nonprofit that provides resources and support to children battling cancer and their families.

## SENIORS from page 1

lotto calendar. For \$10 a calendar, your name is entered in a daily drawing with prizes ranging from \$25-50 a day, with a Thanksgiving Day jackpot of \$300.

"We're timing it just right for the holiday season," LaBarge said.

Lotto calendars are available during open hours at the Senior Center, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. have a drop box to place tickets and payment.

You can also purchase lotto calendars from Friends members. Calendars will be sold through the end of October, and you don't need to be a senior citizen to purchase them.

You can take your lotto calendar winnings to the Thrift Store, which is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. The Thrift Store has household items, decorations, baking and dining items, DVDs, CDs, shoes and clothing, pocket-books, greeting cards and more; making it a perfect one-stop shop for gift giving season.

It's not just lunchtime that draws a crowd at the Ware Senior Center, there are countless daily activities and crafts that people can participate in, including Tai Chi, scat, whist, pitch, chair yoga, quilting, scrapbooking, exercise classes, Knit-Crochet-Laugh and new this year, walking club.

Council on Aging member Cheryl Haigh said the walking club meets every Thursday, weather permitting, and explores the beautiful trails around town including the Mass Central Rail Trail at Gibbs Crossing and Upper Church Street,



Linda Pellissier and Beverly Anthony sold lotto calendars on behalf of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. The lotto calendars are available at the Ware Senior Center now through the end of October. Prizes will be pulled every day in November, ranging from \$25 to \$50. A special Thanksgiving Day jackpot will earn one lucky winner \$300.

as well as Grenville Park.

"We walk slow and talk," Haigh said, adding that walking club members enjoy socializing as much as they enjoy walking.

The walking club always stays together as a group, and caters that week's walk to the participants' abilities.

Haigh said the walking club has about six regular members, who will walk to the end of the trails and back, but others drop in from week to week.

To join the walking club, meet at the Ware Senior Center,

1 Robbins Road, before 9 a.m., to drive to that week's location. Walking club members leave promptly at 9 a.m.

Haigh said the walking club will continue each Thursday, for as long as its members want to, going into the fall and winter.

Scrapbooking took a brief hiatus for the summer, but has returned Tuesday nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m., for \$3 a class. Participants should bring 10 photographs and scissors, and the rest will be provided by LaBarge and Terry Skaza.

The Friends of the Ware Senior



Mary Gage and Lorraine Fulton were in charge of the door prize offered by the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc. The two enjoyed a free lunch of pork loin, baked potato and veggies, courtesy of the Friends of the Ware Senior Center Inc.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette  
Stephen George played a variety of classic hits.

available to meet the digital and internet needs identified by people in the region, Zienowicz said.

On Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m.-noon, the Council on Aging will host a listening session to hear from local residents, business owners, health and social service providers, and others involved in helping older adults to find housing in Ware.

For more information about the Ware Senior Center, stop by during open hours, or call 413-967-9645.

Center Inc. will be celebrating all September birthdays, with a special lunch on Monday, Sept. 18, complete with dessert and entertainment provided by DJ Shrek. The meal includes chicken marsala, baked potato and corn.

Reservations are required by Friday, Sept. 15 by noon by calling 413-967-9645. The cost of the meal is \$3.50 per person.

In addition to dessert and entertainment, the Friends will also offer a raffle table and 50/50 raffle.

Ware Senior Center Executive Director John Zienowicz said the Senior Center will also be offering flu shots, and a mobile dentist, as well as many other services. The mobile dentist will be accepting MassHealth.

A forum on digital equity will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 20, from 1-2:30 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

With significant federal funding coming soon, the Council on Aging wants to make sure that money is

## NOTICE

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

**CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY**

**FALL MENU COMING**

*Check Out Our New Specials!*

Please call 774-449-8333 for reservations, take-out or reserve online 308lakeside.com

Open 7 days a week Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sun 11-8; Fri & Sat 11-9  
Please visit our website or Facebook page for our full menu.

308 MAIN STREET  
EAST BROOKFIELD  
774-449-8333  
308 LAKESIDE.COM

Find us on Facebook

Join us

We'll Match your Savings\*

What are your dreams?

FINANCIAL Fitness Club

Starts this October. Improve your financial health and earn while you learn.

Call 413-497-4407

The Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club

Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation

Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation

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

\*Up to a certain amount. You must meet income guidelines.

The Quaboag Valley CDC is an equal opportunity employer lender and provider and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, family/parental status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender identity (including expression), sexual orientation, marital status, income derived from public assistance programs, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation, for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN ..... <b>\$2.22</b> lb USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SPARE RIBS ..... <b>\$1.99</b> lb USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN PORK LOIN END CHOPS.... <b>\$1.89</b> lb SLICED IN OUR DELI VIRGINIA HAM ..... <b>\$4.44</b> lb USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS KOREAN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS ..... <b>\$3.35</b> lb USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK TENDERLOIN ..... <b>\$2.49</b> lb USDA INSP. STORE MADE TERIYAKI MARINATED BEEF BLADE STEAKS ..... <b>\$6.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBEYE STEAKS ..... <b>\$8.99</b> lb USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS ..... <b>\$7.99</b> lb USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF ..... <b>\$3.79</b> 7 LB BAG USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER ROAST or STEAKS ..... <b>\$4.79</b> lb USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG..... <b>\$1.95</b> lb USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS & SKINLESS TRAY PAK CHICKEN TENDERLOIN ..... <b>\$1.99</b> lb USDA INSP. HATFIELD BACON 1 LB..... <b>\$3.99</b> ea USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN 21/25 COUNT RAW SHRIMP 2 LB BAG ..... <b>\$9.99</b> ea	90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3 www.90meat.com We reserve the right to limit quantities.
--	--	---

SALE DATES: 9/14/23-9/20/23 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

# Family farm participates in fall fair

Mimi's Coffeeshouse hosts local crafters and vendors

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – Mimi's Coffeeshouse of Hardwick recently hosted The Family Farm Education Center at a fall fair with other creatives, live music, and delicious cheese burgers.

There were yard games set up and lots of space for fun and fellowship.

One of the vendors present had their tables filled with handmade body care products such as soaps, hair products, hand sanitizer, and lotion, as well as homegrown and dried spices.

The Family Farm Education Center, located at 833 New Braintree Road in Oakham, is directed by Jen Keeney and co-directed by Beth Cogoli, a mother-daughter pair. Their farm runs a variety of programs designed for children and adults with a wide variety of neurodiversity.

"We started the farm in 2020 because we wanted neurodiverse people to have something meaningful and to have a space to learn life and job skills," Keeney said. "We want to empower them to reach their full potential."

The nonprofit organization has a large number of volunteers that work on the farm performing a variety of tasks including making the bath and body products and spices sold at the booth, baking, cooking, gardening and other agricultural work, and taking care of their many animals.

The farm allows those who volunteer to be involved in the running of it in some way. The people who go to the farm can also volunteer to package products as well as learn to make them.

The products made at the farm are made out of all-natural ingredients, and are free of gluten, parabens, sulphates, phosphates and animal products. Not only are there body care products, but they also have a wound care salve, bug spray, chapstick, pet shampoo and sugar scrubs.

They have held a variety of educational programs and have held classes teaching about bees and other pollinators, as well as a feature on the farm's bunnies and ter-



Jen Keeney (left) and her daughter, Beth Cogoli (right), directors of The Family Farm Education Center in Oakham, sold their products at Mimi's Coffeeshouse of Hardwick's first ever fall fair.



The Family Farm Education Center offered a variety of homemade body care items

rarium-making.

Everything sold at the craft fairs goes to supporting the farm, and they are currently trying to build a classroom so that programs can continue through the winter and on rainy days.

All animals on the farm are rescued, and there are many different kinds to interact with and care for.

They include goats, sheep, pigs, ducks, geese, chickens, turkeys, rabbits, cats and dogs.

The farm has one very special white turkey named Gibby who gives hugs.

You can find the farm on Facebook for opportunities to attend future events, as well as to see what they offer on the farm.



Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

The Family Farm Education Center offered homegrown spices.



The Family Farm Education Center offers a variety of programs designed for children and adults with a wide variety of neurodiversity.

## Hardwick Crossing Tournament winners listed

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Crossing Tournament Committee held its second annual two ball invitational golf tournament over Labor Day weekend, with 60 golfers participating.

Taking top spot in the first division, after a three-hole playoff was the team of Kevin St. Laurent and Nick Fluegge at -16. Second place honors went to John Soltys and Peter Opacki also at -16.

Opacki made an eagle 2 with one hole to play propelling his team to a tie for first and into the playoffs.

In the second division, propelling their team to first place with three natural birdies in the final five holes was the team of Ryan Balicki and John Petracone, with a finish of -13. Second place honors, after lapping the field with a blistering second day round of 10 under par went to the team of Chip Wetherell and Chris Midura at -12.

In the third division the steady play of Gene Varney and Nelson Malin took the top slot at -13. Second place went to Walter Combs and Mike Paske at -11.

First place in the woman's division with a blistering last nine holes of seven under par went to the team of Janet Neffinger and Diane King at -13. Second place with a solid second day round of nine under par went to Carole King and Amanda Pierce at -11.

Third place went to Kathleen Soltys and Debbie Juda with a strong finish at -9.

The Committee thanks Tom Gareau, Ken Jurczyk, Lyle and Joyce Plante, Kathleen and Gary Soltys, Hardwick Crossing golf club and staff and the participating players for making this tournament a success.

## Ware students earn Dean's list at HCC

HOLYOKE – Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's list.

A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. Deana Marie Gaudet, Theresa Marie Sutton, both of Ware, have earned Dean's list honors for the summer 2023 semester.

## Church hosts tag sale Sept. 23

NORTH BROOKFIELD – A tag sale will be held at Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, 133 North Main St., on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

There will be plants (indoor and outdoor), puzzles, books, clothes, kid's stuff, kitchen and household items, treasures, and more. Name your own price.

The rain date is Sept. 30.

## Fall Fair at Meeting House this Saturday

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

Admission to the Ware Fair is free.

All are welcome to enjoy food, crafts, artisans, and music from Lori Brooks. The rain date is Sept. 17.

Music by Lori Brooks is supported in part by a grant from the Ware Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Make a bid at the silent auction, peruse the tables with their unique offerings, check out the activities for kids at the nonprofit tables, and

learn more about Ware's history in a tour of the museum.

The Proprietors of the Ware Center Meeting House and Museum are celebrating their 25th year of service to the community.

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

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

## Vendors wanted for CNEER fall festival

WEST BROOKFIELD – The Fall Festival at the Farm will be held at Central New England Equine Rescue, 96 New Braintree Road, on Saturday, Oct. 14 from noon-4 p.m. Students from Ware High School will be assisting visitors with parking.

Vendor space is still available, and people should call 413-265-3270 for more information about signing up.

For more information about CNEER, visit [cneer.com](http://cneer.com) or follow them on Facebook.

## Listening session hears housing needs of seniors

WARE – Does Ware need more or different housing types to serve the needs of an aging population?

Voice your opinion at the Ware Council on Aging's listening session at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m.-noon.

Like many other communities, Ware is seeing an increase in the percentage of people over the age of 65 compared to other age groups as people are living longer and having fewer children.

With technical assistance from the Pioneer Valley Planning

Commission, the Town is developing a Senior Housing Plan and wants to hear from local residents, business owners, health and social service providers, and others involved in helping older adults to find housing in Ware.

The Ware Senior Housing Plan will analyze current conditions and provide recommendations for ways that the town can achieve a mix of housing types to accommodate people who want to stay in Ware as they age but may wish to downsize into housing that is more affordable or requires less maintenance.

### BACKYARD from page 4

#### Wild turkeys

It seems wild turkeys are everywhere. I have seen groups of three or four Tom turkeys and much larg-

er groups of hens and their poults. Several times I stopped while a large flock of hens and youngsters crossed the road.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by

calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing [mybackyard88@aol.com](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

### CANCER from page 5

Sherry's House with this year's donation to assist them in the great work they do for Childhood Cancer."

At the inaugural game Sept. 26, 2022, \$15,680 was raised for the Manny 267 Foundation, which honors and celebrates the life of the late Worcester Police Officer Emmanuel "Manny" Familia, who

made the ultimate sacrifice June 4, 2021, when he heroically dove into Green Hill Pond to attempt to save a drowning teenage boy.

In its first two years, the event raised \$31,430 for local causes that hit home for Worcester's first responders.

Country Bank is one of the WooSox' 21 founding partners. The WooSox Foundation and Country Bank also collaborate

on the "Most Valuable Teachers" (MVTs) program, which recognizes extraordinary teachers in the region, as well as the "WooStars" program, which rewards nonprofits driving social change across Central Massachusetts.

So far in 2023, the WooSox Foundation has donated \$88,760 toward the effort to conquer cancer.

# Glenda's

**Saturday, Sept. 16th ~ 8pm-12am**  
**Triple Tree** Classic Rock

---

**Wednesday Nights ~ 7pm-10pm**  
**Mix Tape Music Bingo/Prizes!**

---

**Friday Nights ~ 8pm-11pm**  
**Karaoke**

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491

*Upcoming Events*

**Saturday, Sept. 30th**  
8pm-12am  
**A.S.B.**

---

**EVERY SUNDAY**  
**DARTS**  
LUCK OF THE DRAW  
5:30pm • All Welcome

**"WHERE THE FUN IS"**  
OPEN EVERYDAY AT NOON  
199 N Brookfield Rd, East Brookfield, MA 01515  
(508) 867-6629  
[www.bogeylanes.com](http://www.bogeylanes.com)

Bowling, leagues, mini golf, arcades, birthday parties, snack bar, beer & wine  
**Summer fun, for everyone!**

### SCHOOL VAN DRIVERS

Monson - Palmer \$19.50/hr.

**WE WILL TRAIN & LICENSE YOU FOR SCHOOL START!**

Paid sick time, Paid FMLA, Paid holidays,  
Work the school schedule, split shifts.

**JP MCCARTHY BUS**  
email [jobs@mccarthybus.com](mailto:jobs@mccarthybus.com)  
text or call 413-544-8737



Frank Fuselli



Alex Raymond



Jacob Palmer

## Local students earn HVAC/R certificates

OXFORD – Frank Fuselli and Jacob Palmer, both of Ware, and Alexander Raymond of Hardwick, completed their HVAC/R Certificates from Technology Learning Center in Oxford.

During the program, they completed courses in oil and gas heat, A/C, and refrigeration. All three graduates obtained their Massachusetts Oil Burner Technician Licenses and

Universal EPA certifications. Additionally, Raymond completed courses in Facilities Maintenance and received his AWS Welding Certification.



Submitted Photo  
Standing in front of Tech High on Elliot Street are committee members for the Sept. 23 Every Class Tech Reunion (from left) Mike Borecki '72, Dawn Duncan '71, Matt Villamaino '67, Paul Montefusco '69, Joan Learned '56, Walter LaBroad '47, and Margaret McCormick '74

## Springfield Tech High School hosts 'every class' reunion Sept. 23

SPRINGFIELD –The spirit and camaraderie of Springfield's Tech High School is alive and well as they gear up for another exciting reunion on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Elks Lodge, #61 at 440 Tiffany St. from 3-8 p.m.

The reunion is open to all tech classes.

An outside barbecue will be held rain or shine under the lodge's pavilion and will include hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, salads, vegan options, dessert and

more. Cash bar.

Free parking and handicap accessible.

A fun-filled afternoon will include DJ and dancing, cornhole and bocce games, raffles and time to reminisce with friends over the years and make new friends as well.

According to committee chair Mike Borecki, "Tech High was a great school, and many lifelong friendships were forged back then. It's our dream for everyone

to have fun and to keep the Tech Spirit tradition alive for many years to come."

Seating is limited and tickets are \$25 each, available on a first come, first served basis. Open seating. For tickets call Mike Borecki '72 at 413-351-6572, Margaret McCormick '74 at 413-531-4763, Dawn Duncan '71 413-896-3930, or Matt Villamaino '67 at 413-896-2206.

### TAG SALE from page 1

that display organic character. Often used as tables, bench tops, desks, dining tables, wood slabs are pure solid pieces of tree that can be used for multiple purposes.

On Summer Street, the residents selling these wood pieces had live edge pine slabs, small and large. Live edge slabs are pieces of wood that still have the natural edges of the tree.

In addition to the unique wood slabs, Avon bottles were for sale. These collective decorative bottles are made of various materials such as glass, porcelain and plastic.

They were often filled with fragrances, lotions, and other cosmetics. What makes these bottles so unique is their creative designs.

One booth had the reusable bottles in the designs of cars, trucks, animals, boxes, people, signs, houses, and other figurations.

Throughout the town, kids were involved with the town wide tag sale by helping out their parents and guardians.

One booth featured kids at work by offering a lemonade stand for the customers. Several booths had kids trying to sell some old toys, clothes, shoes, bicycles, books, electronics and various types of games.

The Parks and Recreation is currently seeking more assistance and



These beautiful trunks were offered for sale last Saturday.

volunteers. In other words, trying to recruit "Friends of the Parks".

A friend of the parks is any volunteer willing to help with the setting up of activities that are sponsored by the Parks and Recreation. More friends of the parks would help the department to further expand the activities offered throughout the year.

"We're always looking for assistance in Parks and Rec.," said Boucher.

For anyone who would like to volunteer, you can contact Parks and Recreation at [parksandrec@warren-ma.gov](mailto:parksandrec@warren-ma.gov).

[warren-ma.gov](http://warren-ma.gov).

Upcoming Parks and Recreation events include the Haunted House at the Shepard Municipal Building Gym at 48 High St. on Friday, Oct. 27, Saturday, Oct. 28, and Mon. Oct. 30 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

For the holidays, Warren's Annual Tree Lighting will take place on the common Friday, Dec. 1. In case of bad weather, the date will change to Dec. 2 or Dec. 8. For volunteering, crafters, vendors, or donations contact Parks and Recreation.



Tag sale shoppers could find something for everyone, including jewelry lovers.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago  
Collectible Avon bottles were a big draw.

## MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!

Begin a new journey of happy and healthy living at Cedarbrook Village.

DISCOVER YOUR COMMUNITY!



Our Assisted Living program meets the individual needs and preferences of each resident to support and preserve independence and enhance quality of life. The care you need for the life you want.

Call **413-758-5377** to schedule a visit!

INDEPENDENT LIVING

ASSISTED LIVING

MEMORY CARE

Cedarbrook Village at Ware

An Everbrook Senior Living Community

73 South Street • Ware, Massachusetts 01082 • [cedarbrookvillage.com](http://cedarbrookvillage.com)

# CAR SHOW

SPONSORED BY THE  
**CLOWNING FOR KIDZ FOUNDATION**  
*Meeting the Needs of Children!*

**Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023**  
9am-2pm

VEHICLE ENTRY \$ 15 • SPECTATORS ★ DONATIONS APPRECIATED

**Ware High School**  
RT. 32, WEST STREET, WARE, MA 01082  
SHOW IS OPEN TO ALL MAKES AND MODELS  
TROPHIES FOR THE TOP 30 VEHICLES • MUSIC • FOOD  
MORE INFO CONTACT: JIM ALLARD AT 413-250-8599

[WWW.CLOWNINGFORKIDZFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.CLOWNINGFORKIDZFOUNDATION.ORG)



Cub Scouts from Ware Family Pack 520 pose with Officer Jeannine Bonnayer at their car wash fundraiser at NAPA Auto Parts last Saturday.

WARE – Cub Scouts from Ware Family Pack 520 held a car wash fundraiser last Saturday at NAPA Auto Parts on West Street, to help raise money for registration fees and activities.

The Cub Scouts enjoyed a visit from Ware Police Officer (and School Resource Officer) Jeannine Bonnayer, making sure to give her cruiser a thorough cleaning.

# CUB SCOUT'S

*enjoy good, clean fun*



Cub Scouts and their adult leaders make sure Ware Police Department's cruiser was spotless.



Jayvian washes Officer Jeannine Bonnayer's mirror.



Ayden from Ware Scouts BSA Troop 7281 helped the Cub Scouts at their fundraiser by selling meat sticks and candy bars



Ware Family Pack 520's Committee Chair Rich Starodoj cleans the roof.



Mass Central Rail Trail advocate Steven Hawk poses with Selectboard Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz.

**TRAIL** from page 1

more accessible to trail users of all abilities.

This includes a MassTrails Grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation to improve drainage, slope and surface materials from the trail entrance at Gibbs Crossing to Westbrook Avenue, a section of trail that was impassible for most of the year prior to these improvements.

In addition to grants, the town received donations from the Edward and Barbara Urban Foundation, as well as local funding and donations.

The Gibbs Crossing trail entrance also features a new kiosk constructed by volunteers, Mass Central Rail Trail advocate Steven Hawk and members of Ware Scouts BSA Troop 7281.

Hawk, a quadriplegic wheelchair user, utilizes the trail from his home daily to go shopping at Walmart, or take his dog Bella for a walk.

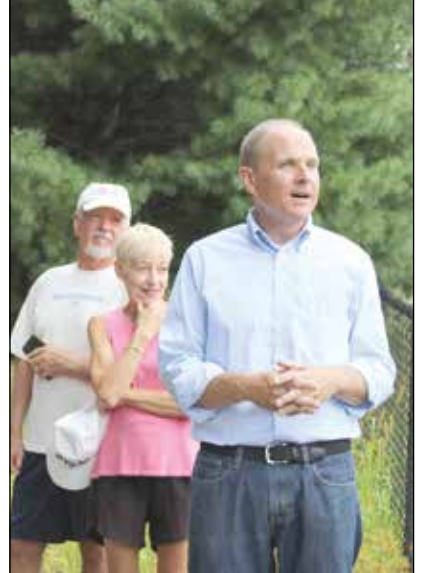
"It's really important to celebrate all of the people that made it happen," Town Manager Stuart Beckley said.

Beckley credited members of the trail committee, as well as town leaders who had "great vision" over the years to develop the Mass Central Rail Trail. He also thanked those who enjoy the trail and use it regularly.

"We're really thankful for the growing number of people using the trail," Beckley said. "It's been really exciting."

State Rep. Todd Smola thanked Hawk for his efforts to promote use of the trail, especially as a safe passage connecting neighborhoods to major shopping centers.

Smola said trails are important for all members of the community, and



State Rep. Todd Smola talks about the importance of the rail trail to the community.

they are a great way to get people outside and embrace "the beauty of western Massachusetts."

"We have a fine appreciation for what our outdoor life gives us," he said.

Smola said there are more projects ahead to continue expanding rail trails throughout the commonwealth.

Mass Central Rail Trail representative Elizabeth Johnson said the train used to carry Calvin Coolidge every day before the Hurricane of 1938 caused catastrophic damage. She said five bridges still need to be replaced to connect the rail trail, estimated at a cost of \$150 million.

Johnson said she was happy to attend the trail's official grand opening, and share the town's joy over its completion.



Mass Central Rail Trail representative Elizabeth Johnson spoke about the history of the rail trail.

Benefit for  
 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute The Jimmy Fund

# MONSON FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Veterans Field  
 Monson, Massachusetts

September 16, 2023 • Noon to 10:00 pm  
 \$10 per person • \$5 Military/Senior • Children under 12 Free

## The 2023 Food Truck & Music Festival

is one day event featuring three awesome bands, Cooper Jones, Savage Brothers and Trailer Trash. Great food, beer & wine garden. Wine slushies, domestic and craft beers will be available. Inflatables, face painting, corn hole, games, Magic Show. And two \$500 lottery ticket basket drawings. Loads of fun for everyone, invite your friends and family, bring your lawn chairs or blankets and dance all day.

**Jordyn Doyle, Local Performer**

*Please note that backpacks and coolers are prohibited*

## ARMAND A. THIBERT

- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- PAINTING & DECORATING
- RENOVATIONS & REMODELING



**(413) 245-7181**

Wallpapering All Types • Holland Rd., Wales, MA

**THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!**  
**THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!**

Spread the word that the best place to get your fall decorations is the **Sturbridge Federated Church** in Sturbridge, MA where the finest pumpkins & gourds will be on sale from **September 23rd - October 31st**

Open:  
 Sundays-Fridays 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
 Saturdays 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit **Navajo Nation** as well as various local and regional charities.



# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

MISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

## Storms don't dampen win for Indians



Ware's defense pursues a ball carrier.

**WARE** - It was a sloppy night all over Western Mass., but Ware and Easthampton managed to get their game in, stopping before it was finished with the Indians up 20-0. Due to thunderstorms and lightning, the game was called and considered completed with Ware getting its first win of the season. Gavin Sawabi had 63 yards receiving and Talan Molina had 94 yards on the ground to lead the Indians. Ware is on the road for the next three games, facing Narragansett, Drury, and Greenfield in consecutive weeks.

Gavin Sawabi starts a run up the field for the Indians.

Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com



A trio of Ware players get the tackle.



Jadrien Berthiaume takes the ball over the goal line.

## Ware stays in match, but falls to Holyoke

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**HOLYOKE**—Last Thursday's Central Division girls volleyball match between Ware and Holyoke was very close from start to finish.

The Purple Knights, who began the regular season with a loss at Mount Everett, celebrated a 3-1 (25-17, 24-26, 25-13, 28-26) victory over the Lady Indians in their home opener.

"The outcome of this match could've gone either way," said longtime Holyoke head coach Paula Conway, who also coaches the boy's squad in the springtime. "I'm very happy with the way my players played, and we were able to pull it out. Everyone worked very hard."

Holyoke was led by senior Yeseida Micolino with 12 kills, 12 digs, and 12 aces.

Junior Nayshaliz Gonzalez had a match-high 26 digs for the home team.

Senior Aliessa Cotto had 29 of the Purple Knights 32 assists.

Junior Yohadlie Pabon chipped in with nine kills and 11 digs.

The Lady Indians, who defeated Monument Mountain in their season opener, were looking to finish the first week of the regular season with a 2-0 record under first year head coach Becca Hurlburt.

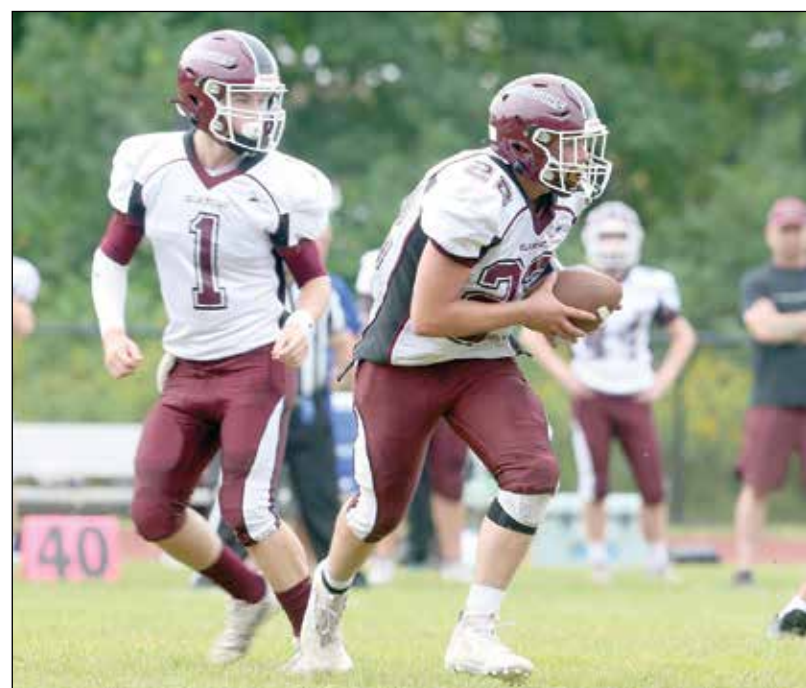
"I thought we played well in tonight's match," said Hurlburt, who graduated from Ware High School in 2015. "We're an inexperienced team



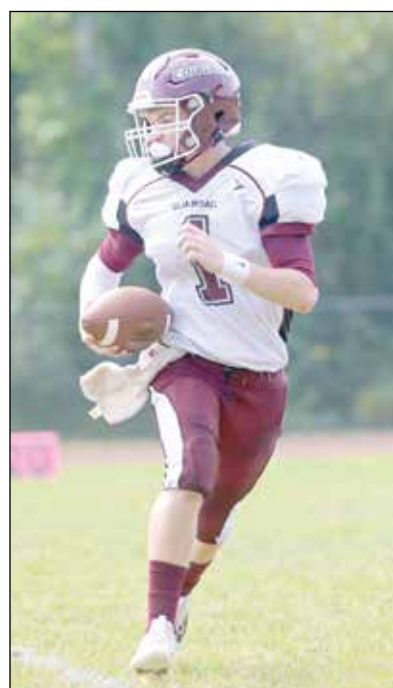
Kenyce Crump side bumps the ball back over the net.

and playing in a close match like this one is really going to help us a lot. We're looking forward to playing Holyoke again at our gym."

Please see **VOLLEYBALL**, page 10



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Cam Evans takes the handoff from Jacob Cacace.



Jacob Cacace scrambles for an opening to run.

## Panthers mow through Oakmont in season opener

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**BARRE**—The Quabbin girls' varsity soccer team posted a 5-0 shutout victory over Oakmont Regional in a home match at the beginning of last season.

It was a much closer affair when the Mid-Wach C rivals faced each other at Alumni Field in this year's season opener.

The Panthers held a 2-0 lead in the middle of the first half before the Spartans came storming back.

The visitors from Ashburnham scored a goal late in the first half. They also netted the only goal of the second half and the contest, which took place on a very hot afternoon, ended in a 2-2 draw, last Tuesday. "We would have liked to have won today's game, but a tie is better than a loss," said Jamie Cook, who's beginning her eighth season as the Quabbin girls varsity soccer coach. "The hot weather was a factor, but my girls fought hard until the final whistle. We just couldn't score another goal."

The Panthers finished with a 5-9-2 overall record a year ago. They lost at Oakmont in the second meeting of the 2022 regular season.

"We didn't have a winning season last year," said Cook, who graduated from Quabbin Regional in 1996. "We're hoping to have a much better season this year."

Cook, who was a center midfielder during her varsity soccer



Bella Smith looks to make a pass to an open teammate.

career, was inducted into the Quabbin Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016.

One of the Panthers four co-captains this season is junior Brooke Austin, who netted five goals as a center midfielder a year ago.

Austin made her first start in a varsity match as a goalie against Oakmont.

"We needed a goalie, and Brooke has no fear back there," Cook said. "She's one of our captains and is a very good team leader."

Austin, who also plays basketball, took over the starting goalie duties from Skyler Rudinski, who graduated in June.

The other three Quabbin

Please see **SOCCER**, page 10



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Hunter Griswold scrambles before making a pass.

## Pathfinder stuns Palmer in season opener

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**PALMER**—Pathfinder Tech senior quarterback Hunter Griswold played a lot of football games at historic Legion Field during the five years that he was a member of the Palmer Cowboys youth football team.

Griswold will probably always remember his first varsity football game at Legion Field.

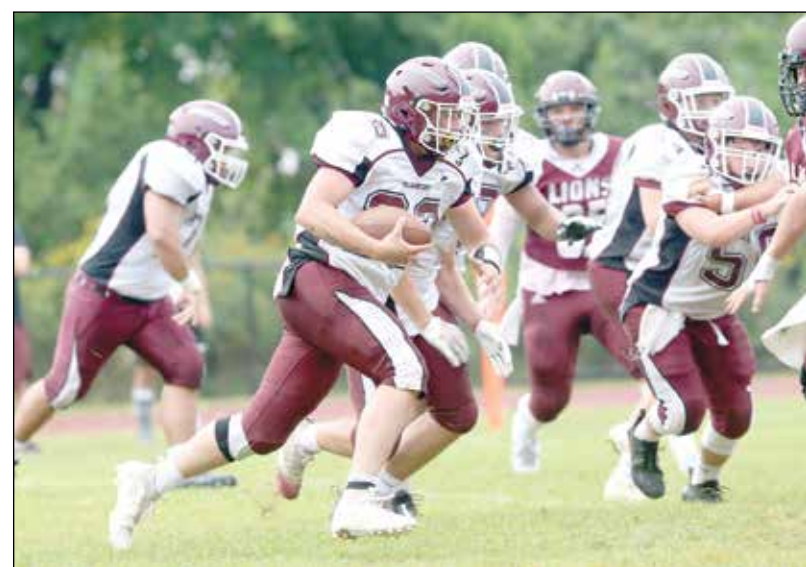
Griswold threw a pair of touchdown passes and he scored two rushing touchdowns, as the Pioneers began the 2023 campaign with a 33-6 non-league victory over the Palmer Panthers on a hot and humid day, last Saturday.

"I played in a lot of youth football games on this field for the Cowboys, but this was my first varsity football game here," said Griswold, who lives in Monson. "Winning a game on this field is just the best feeling in the world. We played very well as a team and we're hoping to have a winning season."

The previous two meetings between the cross-town rivals took place at St. Joe's Park.

The Panthers outscored the Pioneers, 42-6 in those games.

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 10



Cam Evans heads to the run on a carry.



Tyler Withers looks to make a tackle.



Jack Morgan makes a tackle for the Cougars.



Turley photos by Ray Duffy  
Abigail Falconi scores her second goal of the match for the Panthers.

# sports

## Coby, Tommy Baldwin Racing earn Granite crown

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Doug Coby and Tommy Baldwin Racing returned to NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour competition on Saturday night at Monadnock Speedway and they were celebrating after 150 laps in New Hampshire.

Coby finished fifth in the Winchester Fair 150 in the Mayhew Tools 7NY, but the finish was enough for the team to capture the second annual Whelen Granite

State Short Track Cup championship crown.

The Cup, which included three races at Monadnock Speedway, Lee USA Speedway and back at Monadnock on Saturday night, saw Coby grab three finishes inside the top-six, including a win at Monadnock in May. By winning the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup, the team collected at least \$5,000 in bonus awards.

Coby returned to action

Saturday for the first time since Thompson Speedway in August. Team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. announced a cancer diagnosis and the team stepped back from full-time competition and missed the last two races. They couldn't pass up returning to chase the Granite State Short Track Cup crown.

"Just to be here with our family and Tommy battling cancer, I mean, he's a warrior," Coby said. "He told us from the beginning that

he was going to fight through this and he's been courageous enough to share his battle and everything on social media, which is uncommon. To be here as the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup champions, it just means a lot. We've got a great group of guys and Tommy really wanted to be here to do this. This one is for Tommy Baldwin."



Emma Zalesky reaches out to keep the ball in play with a bump.

## Community Caravan postponed by weather

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds announced last Friday that the third installment of the T-Birds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin' has

been postponed due to potential inclement weather this weekend. A rescheduled date will be announced in the future.

The previous two events featured an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, including a Dunkin' Taste Truck, street hockey activities, and various food options.

Fans can reserve their seats to be part of the Thunderbirds' hockey action for the 2023-24 season by calling (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or visiting [www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com](http://www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com).



## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.



## Railers schedule released, first game Oct. 22

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) announced today the team's 2022-23 regular season schedule.

The Railers will begin their fifth ECHL season in Worcester on Saturday, Oct. 22 vs. the Adirondack Thunder at 7:05 p.m. at the DCU Center. Worcester is slated to play 36 regular season home games at the DCU Center.

A printable schedule is available at [www.railershc.com](http://www.railershc.com).

30 of the 36 Railers home games will be played on the weekends with 20 of the 30 occurring either Saturday or Sunday. The Railers will welcome nine different opponents to the DCU Center during the seven-month regular season which runs Oct. 22 through April 16.

Worcester will host a season long five-game homestand (Dec. 9 to 18) and will embark on season

long six-game road trip (Nov. 23 to Dec. 4). Worcester's 72-game regular season schedule comes to an end on April 16 with a 3 p.m. start vs. Adirondack in Glens Falls, NY at the Cool Insuring Arena.

The 2022-23 Worcester Railers HC promotional schedule will be released later this summer. Idaho will make their first trip to the DCU Center this season. Full breakdown of opponents this season:

### SOCCER from page 9

co-captains are senior Hannah Baxter, senior Amy Stauder, and junior Bella Smith.

"We don't normally have four captains every year," Cook said. "It was just an anonymous vote by the players."

In the middle of the first half, Austin made a diving save on a shot attempt from Oakmont freshman Jada LeBlanc. The ball bounced away from her and Stauder, who's a defender, cleared the ball away before it crossed over the line.

The other Panthers defenders are junior's Samantha Carlson, Sydney Gagne, and Angelina Felicano.

A couple of minutes later, Quabbin sophomore Abi Falconi, who was a member of the varsity squad as a freshman, fired a shot into the right corner of the net past Oakmont senior Gabby Romano.

"Abi is a solid striker," Cook said. "That was a great scoring play by her."

Smith, who's also listed as a striker, was credited with the assist on Falconi's first goal of the 2023 regular season.

Quabbin took a 2-0 lead during the 22nd minute.

The scoring play began following a long pass by Austin to Falconi, who scored her second goal on a breakaway shot into the left corner of the net.

With less than five minutes remaining in the opening half, Oakmont sliced their deficit in half on a breakaway goal by freshman Kaighdyne Garlisi.

The Spartans tied the score following a corner kick goal by junior



Hanna Baxter passes the ball up the field



Brook Austin makes a great save.

Molly Horgan a little more than five minutes into the second half.

In the middle of the second half, Falconi fired a shot that sailed high over the crossbar.

The score was still tied 2-2 when

the referee blew his whistle for the final time.

The second meeting of the regular season between the two squads is slated to take place at Oakmont on Sept. 26.

### VOLLEYBALL from page 9

Hurlburt, who coached the Ware junior varsity volleyball team last year, replaced Norris Leeman as the varsity coach.

Freshman Carly Brown led the Lady Indians with nine kills.

"Carly played an outstanding game," Hurlburt said. "She just owned the net."

Senior co-captain Kira Gennett had five kills, while senior Kaley Campbell, who's also a co-captain, finished with three kills and a team-leading seven assists.

Ware's largest lead of the opening set was 5-1.

The home team then responded with a 7-2 run giving them the lead for the first time at 8-7 following a couple of unforced errors with sophomore Ashantylis Calderon handling the serving duties.

The score in the first set was tied several times.

With the score knotted at 16-16, the Purple Knights took control of the set by reeling off seven unanswered points. Senior Kelsy Brainard had a kill and a block during that stretch.

Holyoke took a 1-0 lead in the match following an ace by Mercolino.

Ware built a 16-7 lead in the second set following back-to-back kills by junior Kenyce Crump (4 kills) and Brown.

The Lady Indians largest lead of the second set was 20-10 before Holyoke came storming back.

With the help of a 9-1 run, the Purple Knights managed to close the gap to 21-20.

Ware kept the lead with a kill by Campbell, but Holyoke took the lead for the first time at 23-22 following back-to-back aces by senior Deniangeliz Luna.

The Purple Knights led 24-22 before the Lady Indians managed to even the overall match at 1-1 by scoring the final four points



Kaley Campbell sets the ball straight up.

Turley photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)

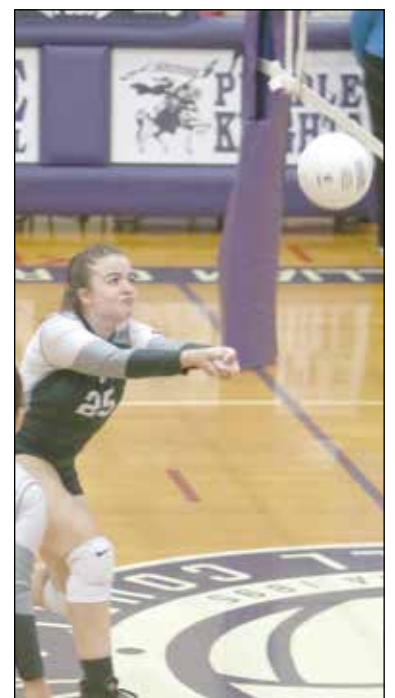
of the second set with sophomore Maeve Stevens doing the serving.

"Winning the second set was very important for us," Hurlburt said. "They made a run, but we managed to hang onto the lead."

Holyoke quickly regrouped in the third set. They managed to build a double digit lead and took a 2-1 lead in the match. Neither team was able to pull away in the fourth set.

There were more than 15 ties before the Purple Knights sealed the deal by scoring the final three points of the set and the match with Mercolino doing the serving.

The two teams are scheduled to meet again on October 2 at Ware High School.



Danielle Dean lunges to keep ball going.



Carly Brown gets the first hit after a serve.

### PANTHERS from page 9

"We haven't beaten Palmer in several years," Griswold added "I know most of the Palmer players. It's something that I can talk about for the rest of my life."

The last time that Pathfinder defeated Palmer on the gridiron was a 17-14 win at Legion Field in 2015.

Andrew Roman was the Panthers starting QB that season.

Just like Roman, Griswold is an outstanding three-sport athlete.

"You can't say enough good things about Hunter," said Pathfinder head coach Bill Darling. "He's an amazing athlete. He always gets the job done with his legs, and his arm. He's a very good weapon for us."

It was also a memorable day for Darling, who graduated from Palmer High School in 1988. His daughter, Alyssa, scored more than 1,000 career points during her career as a member of the Lady Panthers varsity basketball team.

"Every time you win a football game, it's always very special," Darling said. "This is a very big win for us."

After the Panthers offense turned the ball over on downs on their opening series, senior Dylan Cominoli recovered a fumble at midfield for the visitors. Cominoli also had an interception late in the second quarter.

"Dylan anchors the middle of our defense," Darling said. "He's just a fantastic young man on and off the field."

Freshman running back Anthony Arventes capped off the Panthers seven play scoring drive with a one yard TD run with 3:30 remaining



Miguel Velasquez runs into the crowd.

in the first quarter. The extra point attempt was wide left.

Two minutes into the second quarter, Griswold completed a 56-yard touchdown pass to sophomore wide receiver Jarrett Skowrya.

"Jarrett knows how to get open," Griswold said. "Whenever he's open, I always try to hit him with a pass. They were playing man coverage on my first TD pass."

Junior Matt Grossi made the extra point attempt giving the Panthers a 13-0 lead.

The Panthers got the ball right back when Griswold intercepted a pass thrown by Palmer sophomore QB Matt Santos.

During the Panthers third scoring drive, Griswold carried the ball three times for a total of 38 yards. He avoided being sacked a couple of times before capping off the nine play drive with a 15-yard touchdown

run with 2:14 left in the first half. "I was able to escape the defense a couple of times, which was very important," Griswold said. "Scoring my first rushing touchdown on this field felt awesome."

Grossi's extra point gave the Panthers a commanding 20-0 lead.

Palmer senior Andrew Menard gave the home fans something to cheer about by intercepting a pass late in the first half.

With 8:38 remaining in the third quarter, Griswold tossed a 15-yard TD pass to Skowrya, who made a diving catch in the back of the end-zone.

Grossi's third PAT gave the Panthers a 27-0 lead.

Griswold scored his second rushing touchdown on a three-yard scamper with 4:23 left in the third quarter.

Palmer freshman Dylan



Jarrett Skowrya takes control after making a reception.

Holbrook blocked the extra point attempt.

The Panthers finally got on the scoreboard in the middle of the final quarter when Santos threw a 10-yard TD pass to sophomore Dylan Doherty, who made a juggling catch.

Santos completed a couple of passes to Menard during the scoring drive.

Sophomore Hunter White also carried the ball a couple of times.

"Scoring a touchdown was something positive for us," said Palmer head coach Matt Marciniac. "We're going to keep working hard."

While Pathfinder Tech will be looking to celebrate another victory at Athol High School on Friday night, Palmer will be looking to get into the win column at Quaboag Regional.

**\$12.50 Each**

## Digital Photos

**TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.**

Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications.  
Go to [newspapers.turley.com/photo-request](http://newspapers.turley.com/photo-request)



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Finalists in the singer and songwriter contest at Deep Roots Distillery are from left, John Wayne, Erin Fournier, Eric Troy, Simone Marie, Shawn Crimmins, Julie Jules and Serena May.

# Deep Roots Distillery hosted singer and songwriter contest

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer

STURBRIDGE – Deep Roots Distillery set the stage for a singer and songwriter contest over the course of the summer, ending with the finale this past weekend.

Contests took place on June 24, July 29, Aug. 19, with the finale on Sept. 9. Hosted by Amanda Meli and David Herrera, the finalists of each event met for one final performance in front of three judges and to have an opportunity to win three different prizes.

Seven finalists arrived at Deep Roots Distillery to perform their songs. Each singer/songwriter got to perform two songs with one song being an original song, but preferably both.

The three judges consisted of Matt Herring, Sharon Meli, and Mark Thayer. Thayer is one of the cofounders of Signature Sounds, a recording studio based out of Connecticut that was founded back in 1982.

The three prizes consisted of a cash prize of \$500 from Meli Entertainment, a recorded music video of one of the artists' original songs with RyGuy Digital, and \$350 plus studio time with Mark Thayer of Signature Sounds.

Co-host, Amanda Meli has her own entertainment and event service business, Meli Entertainment and has been performing open mics and other music events throughout local communities including Palmer, Ware, Hardwick, Monson, Brookfield, and South Hadley. Meli enjoys going to numerous music events in the local areas and wishes to expose the talent in the area.

"This area seems underrepresented," said Meli.

Wanting to offer something for songwriters, Meli offered a platform for aspiring singers and songwriters in the genres of rock, country, soulful, R&B, acoustic and jazz. Every finalist at the finale was a solo act and every singer had their own original songs to share.

"It's all about just performing your song," said Meli. An opportunity the singer-songwriter contest gave to those who have the desire to play the songs they wrote themselves.

The first performer was Serena May Kilsmith on acoustic guitar. Kilsmith is also part of a folk-rock trio band called Mama Kilsmith.

Kilsmith writes and sings the songs, Jake Killoy provides the rhythm and engineers the sound. MacKenzie Vogel is all about playing that bass while also lending her vocal talents and harmonies.

The next performer was Shawn Crimmins on acoustic guitar.

Eric Troy performed his original songs "Colorado" and "Get out of Dodge" on his guitar. John Wayne also performed on guitar with his songs "Reaching Out" and "Luckiest Guy".

Changing up the instruments was Simone Marie on her piano. Back to the guitar was Eric Fournier with one entertaining song about getting a new bed.

To wrap up the finalists was Julie Jules with her two songs playing the ukulele.

The judges would meet in another room to determine the three winners of the singer-songwriter finale, while the performers praised each other on a job well done.

After a long discussion, the judges came to an official decision. Shawn Crimmins was the winner of the recorded music video with RyGuy Digital; Eric Troy won \$350 and Studio Time with Mark Thayer of Signature Sounds; and the \$500 prize from Meli Entertainment went to Simone Marie.

For more events, visit Meli Entertainment and Event Services on Facebook and check out Amanda Meli Music on Facebook and Instagram.

Deep Roots Distillery, USA is located at 559 Main St. For events upcoming at Deep Roots Distillery, visit [www.deerootsdistilleryusa.com/events](http://www.deerootsdistilleryusa.com/events).



Shawn Crimmins was the winner of the recorded music video with RyGuy Digital.



Simone Marie won the \$500 prize from Meli Entertainment.



Eric Troy performed his original songs "Colorado" and "Get out of Dodge" on his guitar. Troy won \$350 and Studio Time with Mark Thayer of Signature Sounds.



Submitted Photo

The Davis family gathered recently to celebrate the dedication of the Robert S. Davis Wing, formerly the South Wing, at Baystate Medical Center.

# Baystate Medical Center dedicates new wing in honor of Robert S. Davis

SPRINGFIELD – The Robert S. Davis Wing at Baystate Medical Center, formerly known as the South Wing, was recently dedicated in a ceremony honoring the life of Robert "Bob" Davis, who passed away in 2021.

The Davis family, along with friends and community members, gathered for the ceremony held in the D'Amour Family Healing Garden at Baystate Medical Center in recognition of the philanthropic support from The Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation toward new Operating and Interventional Procedural Rooms at the hospital.

The Robert S. Davis Wing houses a portion of this new surgical space as well as the Pediatric Procedure Unit, Sadowsky Center for Children, Baystate Medical Center inpatient pharmacy, and

two floors of patient rooms.

"The Davis family has helped us create a modern surgical department which will provide patients with a better experience, accommodate new methodologies, and attract top clinical talent," said Dr. Mark A. Keroack, president and CEO, Baystate Health, during the ceremony.

Keroack called the Davis family's decision to dedicate the space in memory of Robert, the second of four Davis children, particularly poignant because of the time Robert spent at Baystate Medical Center during his final year receiving care and dialysis treatment.

"He experienced first-hand the medical advances at Baystate, especially in the last year of his life," said Robert's niece, Laurel Davis Ferretti, "and we are so

grateful for that care."

The dedication of the Robert S. Davis Wing is the latest investment in Baystate Health from the Davis family, whose philanthropy focuses on improving the quality of life for residents in Hampden County. Prior investments include the award-winning Davis Family Heart and Vascular Center and the Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit—the only NICU in western Massachusetts.

For the Davis family, the dedication was a fitting way to remember Robert and support local healthcare.

"Robert just liked mankind," said John Davis. "For him, this honor was the right thing."

For more information on the Baystate Health Foundation, visit [www.baystatehealth.org/Giving](http://www.baystatehealth.org/Giving).



## Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

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

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

### Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

### Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



**OPPORTUNITY**

## newspaper correspondent

Turley Publications seeks **Experienced Writers/Journalists** to produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

- **Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines**
- **Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo**

Send writing samples with resume to

**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

# VETERANS DAY SALUTE

## Ware River News ~ November 2, 2023

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

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

Please submit your photo no later than **Monday, October 16, 2023.**

*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 before to October 10th.*

# public safety

## Dog safe after being trapped in hot car

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – A dog is safe after being trapped inside a hot car in the Big Y parking lot recently, requiring a police rescue.

The dog had been showing signs of heat exhaustion, according to reports; the dog’s owner, Brookfield resident David Gouin, has been charged with animal cruelty.

The incident occurred around 2 p.m. on Aug. 28, at which point Palmer Police had responded to a call from a concerned citizen who reported discovering a dog panting in a car in the parking lot of Big Y.

The car’s windows had been opened by two inches, but this was not enough to prevent the temperature inside the car from rising to inhumane levels, reports indicate. The witness reported that they had waited for the owner of the car for at least 30 minutes.

Officer Joshua Wood, who responded to the scene, said that it was about 86 degrees that day, and that it was likely over 100 degrees within the car. Wood described going to Big Y to look for the owner, but found that they were

unable to make an announcement over the intercom.

“We tried to get in without breaking the window,” Wood said. “It was open just enough that I could squeeze my hand in on the passenger side, but I couldn’t unlock the door from the inside.”

With the approval of his commanding sergeant, Wood used his baton to break the window of the car and rescue the dog.

“We took the dog out of the car, and it was covered in sweat,” Wood said. “Dogs don’t sweat, so having sweat on the skin was concerning.”

The dog was initially hesitant to walk, but Wood was able to use a leash that was in the car to guide the dog to the police cruiser, where air conditioner helped to cool down the dog.

Gouin, the owner of the vehicle and the dog, returned shortly after, according to reports. The officers confirmed that Gouin was the owner of the vehicle; police said that Gouin, the dog, and the vehicle were all then detained into custody.

“As far as I know, the dog is doing good, still in the care of animal control,” Wood said. “This is the first time that I had to smash a window to save a dog.”

Gouin was charged with animal

cruelty and arraigned the following day, with a court date set for Nov. 15.

“If you see an animal or a baby in a vehicle and it’s locked and you feel it’s suffering, call the police,” Wood said. “Technically, you can also smash the window. We prefer you call us and let us respond on scene, but the law says you’re allowed to smash the window.”

Hot weather can be devastating for animals and children left in vehicles.

“My best advice is don’t bring your dog to any store,” Wood said. “If you have a passenger to sit back in the vehicle that’s always preferred, but check the owner manual of your vehicle; some vehicles can run the air conditioner even when the car is off.”

In other news, on behalf of the Palmer Police Department, Wood also advised the public about a series of motor vehicle break-ins that the department has responded to.

“Last weekend we had a string of break-ins in vehicles on Stimpson Street, Emery Street, and Foster Street,” Wood said. “Also in Ware, Hardwick, and Barre.”

## Hardwick Police Log

*During the week of Sept. 4-11, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 50 building/property checks, 52 directed/area patrols, 10 traffic controls, five emergency 911 calls, five burglaries, one stolen motor vehicle, eight radar assignments, one scam, one property damage, two complaints, three motor vehicle investigations, two assist other agencies, five citizen assists, 20 safety hazards, two utility issues, two animal calls and nine motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.*

**Monday, Sept. 4**  
9:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Petersham Road, Officer Handled  
10:18 a.m. Complaint, North Road, Investigated  
4:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated  
8:44 p.m. Scam, Barre Road, Officer Handled

**Tuesday, Sept. 5**  
3:09 p.m. Assist Other Agency, East Hampshire District Court, Spoken To  
7:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Citation issued

**Wednesday, Sept. 6**  
11:33 a.m. Utility Issues, Hall Road, Officer Handled  
11:50 a.m. Utility Issues, Hall Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
12:51 p.m. 911 Fire/Auto, Lyman Road, Services Rendered

**Thursday, Sept. 7**  
6:17 a.m. Stolen Motor Vehicle, Out of Town, Services Rendered  
6:27 a.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering) North Road, Investigated  
6:56 a.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), North Road, Merge  
7:14 a.m. Burglary (Breaking

and Entering), North Road, Merge  
7:23 a.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), North Road, Merge  
7:39 a.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), North Road, Merge  
10 a.m. Assist Citizen, Greenwich Road, Spoken To  
7:52 a.m. Assist Citizen, Prouty Road, Dispatch Handled  
9:19 p.m. Disturbance, Barre Road, Spoken To  
9:33 p.m. Disabled Motor Vehicle, North Street, Investigated

**Friday, Sept. 8**  
9:56 a.m. Property Damage, New Braintree Road, Spoken To  
1:45 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Officer Handled  
4:30 p.m. Assist Citizen, Police Department, Officer Handled  
6:52 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Thayer Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
6:53 p.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Removed Hazard  
6:56 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard  
7:06 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard  
7:22 p.m. Safety Hazard, Turkey Street, Removed Hazard  
7:23 p.m. Safety Hazard, Taylor Hill Road, Removed Hazard  
7:24 p.m. Safety Hazard, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Removed Hazard  
7:25 p.m. Safety Hazard, Old Greenwich Plains Road, Removed Hazard  
7:27 p.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency

7:36 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
8 p.m. Safety Hazard, Taylor Hill Road, Removed Hazard  
8:09 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Greenwich Road, Spoken To  
9:12 p.m. Safety Hazard, Upper Church Street, Taken/Referred to

Other Agency  
9:20 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ruggles Hill Road, Removed Hazard  
9:27 p.m. Safety Hazard, North Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
9:47 p.m. 911 Safety Hazard, Spring Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
9:52 p.m. Safety Hazard, Delargy Road, Removed Hazard

**Saturday, Sept. 9**  
12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
3:43 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Out of Town, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
7:46 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
8:20 a.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
8:25 a.m. Utility Issues, Thayer Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
10:57 a.m. Complaint, Taylor Street, Negative Contact  
11:26 a.m. Safety Hazard, Main Street, Officer Handled  
1:05 p.m. Safety Hazard, Upper Church Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency  
4:25 p.m. Investigation, Petersham Road, Officer Handled  
10:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Spoken To

**Sunday, Sept. 10**  
12:47 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Church Lane, Spoken To  
3:54 p.m. Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Services Rendered  
4:06 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, North Street, Officer Handled  
10:41 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital

## Warren Police Log

*During the weeks of Aug. 20-31, the Warren Police Department responded to 378 building/property checks, 165 community policing, 20 traffic enforcements, three radar assignments, 12 emergency 911 calls, two frauds/forgeries, seven complaints, two threats, three harassments, two vandalisms, one larceny/theft, two motor vehicle accidents, four animal calls and 124 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.*

**Sunday, Aug. 20**  
12:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
2:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Marshall I. McCord Jr., 40, Ludlow

License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; License not in Possession  
8:23 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Manning Road, Transported to Hospital  
11:01 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Southbridge Road, Report Filed

5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Chad R. Richardson, 43, Monson  
Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle

**Monday, Aug. 21**  
5:40 a.m. Vomiting, Spring Street, Transported to Hospital  
4:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Trudeau Drive, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Jeannette L. Martino, 47, Florence  
Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No  
5:23 p.m. Falls, Milton O. Fountain Way, Ambulance Signed Refusal

**Tuesday, Aug. 22**  
2:16 p.m. General Weakness, River Street, Transported to Hospital  
4:45 p.m. Noise Violation, Main Street, Report Filed  
6:47 p.m. Noise Violation, Bemis Road, Investigated  
8:32 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Report Filed

**Wednesday, Aug. 23**  
10:30 a.m. Threats, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
3:37 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
4:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Spring Street, Written Warning  
4:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Ware Road, Written Warning  
4:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
5:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Vehicle Towed  
5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
5:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

**Thursday, Aug. 24**  
6:38 a.m. Vandalism, Old Douglas Road, Area Search Negative  
11:56 a.m. Fraud/Forgery, Coy Hill Road, Officer Advised  
4:35 p.m. Serve Warrant, Reed Street, Prisoner Bailed  
Arrest: Hector M. Cruz Diaz, 45, Warren

Warrant  
5:56 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital  
6:14 p.m. Threats, Reed Street, Report Filed

**Friday, Aug. 25**  
5:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
10:47 p.m. Harassment, Unknown, Report Filed  
11:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

**Saturday, Aug. 26**  
12:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
12:20 a.m. Disorderly Conduct, Mechanic Street, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Amanda B. Hucksins, 40, Brookfield

Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Leave Scene of Property Damage; Marked Lanes Violation  
12:20 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Hit and Run, Southbridge Road, Report Filed  
8:31 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
8:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued  
9:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
9:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
9:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
10:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
10:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
10:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
11:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
11:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
2:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Report Filed

Summons: Haily M. Coburn, 18, Southbridge  
License Suspended. Operate Motor Vehicle With; Speeding in Violation Special Regulation  
5:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning  
10:36 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle, Main Street, Investigated

**Sunday, Aug. 27**  
12:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Bridge Street, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Codey L. Palmer, 26, Warren  
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle with; Inspection/Sticker, No  
3:57 a.m. General Weakness, South Street, Transported to Hospital  
7:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire, Main Street, Report Filed  
9:10 a.m. Vandalism, Brimfield Road, Report Filed  
12:07 p.m. Harassment, Cutler Road, Officer Took Call  
3:35 p.m. Larceny/Theft, Main Street, Report Filed  
4:04 p.m. Harassment, Cutler Road, Report Filed  
4:27 p.m. Complaint, Bemis Road, Officer Advised  
5:18 p.m. Complaint, Comins Pond Road, Officer Spoke to Party  
5:22 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Brimfield

*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.*

Road, Transported to Hospital  
8:31 p.m. Body Aches/Confusion, Spring Street, Transported to Hospital

**Monday, Aug. 28**  
12:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
9:35 a.m. Breathing Difficulty, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital  
11:31 a.m. Complaint, Bragg Road, Information Taken  
11:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning  
2:35 p.m. Complaint, Southbridge Road, Officer Advised  
4:14 p.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed  
8:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning  
8:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning

**Tuesday, Aug. 29**  
1:18 p.m. Complaint, Milton O. Fountain Way, Information Taken  
3:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning  
4:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Brookfield Road, Written Warning  
9:50 p.m. Falls, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital  
9:52 p.m. Community Policing, Main Street, Criminal Complaint  
Summons: Robert J. Glackner, 66, Warren  
Town Bylaw, Consuming or Possessing Open Alcohol Container; Disturbing the Peace; Witness/Juror/Police/Court Official, Intimidate  
11:13 p.m. Vomiting, Cronin Road, Transported to Hospital

**Wednesday, Aug. 30**  
11:15 a.m. Fire Investigation, Washington Street, Investigated  
3:19 p.m. Fraud/Forgery, Spring Street, Officer Advised  
3:34 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Main Street, Transported to Hospital  
6:16 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital  
6:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning  
8:16 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital

**Thursday, Aug. 31**  
11:06 p.m. Seizures, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital

## September is campus fire safety month

STOW –Gov. Maura Healey has declared September to be campus fire safety month in Massachusetts, and fire officials are reminding students, parents, and others to be sure their living spaces have working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms, and that they know two ways out in an emergency.

State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine said 2,608 fires occurred in student dormitories, fraternities, and sororities in Massachusetts between 2018 and 2022. These fires caused six civilian injuries, 11 fire service injuries, and more than \$3 million in damage.

Fire officials are especially concerned about fire safety in apartments and other types of off-campus student housing, where two college students died in

separate, unrelated fires in 2013.

“Fire safety is vitally important whether you live in a dorm, apartment, single-family home, multi-family dwelling, sorority, or fraternity,” said Davine. “Everyone should have working smoke and CO alarms on every level of their residence and know two ways out in an emergency. In the event of a fire, don’t waste precious time retrieving personal belongings - get out, stay out, and call 9-1-1.”

Davine also noted that fire safety precautions should remain in place all through the year. Windows, doors, and stairways should always be clear of boxes, furniture, bicycles, and anything else that might hinder an escape. Fire doors should never be blocked or propped open.

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms must remain operational all year long, as required by law.

“If your rental doesn’t have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, insist on them,” said Hyannis Fire Chief Peter J. Burke, Jr. who serves as president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. “Landlords are required to provide them, but don’t spend a single night unprotected in the meantime. For the price of a pizza, you can go to a hardware store and pick up smoke and CO alarms that could save your life. Choose photoelectric smoke alarms with sealed, long-life batteries. Test them once a month to be sure you’re protected, and never, ever disable them.”

Please see **SEPTEMBER**, page 13

## Governor Healey appoints Margot Botsford as State Ethics Commission Chair

BOSTON –The Honorable Margot Botsford (retired), formerly an Associate Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, has been appointed by Gov. Maura Healey to the State Ethics Commission and designated by Healey as the Commission’s Chair.

Botsford succeeds former Chair Maria J. Krokidas.

Botsford was appointed to the Supreme Judicial Court in 2007 by Gov. Deval Patrick and served until her retirement in 2017. Previously, she served for 18 years as an Associate Justice of the Superior Court, a position to which Gov. Michael Dukakis appointed her to in 1989.

Prior to her service on the bench, Botsford was an Assistant Attorney General under Attorney General Francis X. Bellotti, an Assistant District Attorney in the Office of Middlesex District Attorney Scott Harshbarger, and

a Law Clerk to Supreme Judicial Court Justice Francis J. Quirico. Botsford also practiced law in the private sector.

Botsford, a magna cum laude graduate of Barnard College, received her law degree from Northeastern University School of Law and holds a master’s degree in public administration from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Botsford is a trustee emerita of Northeastern University, has taught at the Northeastern University School of Law, and has served on the university’s governing boards.

Among Botsford’s professional awards and honors are Judicial Excellence Awards from the Massachusetts Conference of Trial Attorneys, the Haskell Cohn Distinguished Judicial Service Award from the Boston Bar Association, the Boston

Bar Association President’s Award, the Barnard College Distinguished Alumna Award, and honorary degrees from Northeastern University School of Law and New England Law Boston.

The State Ethics Commission is a non-partisan, independent state agency which administers, provides advice and training concerning, and civilly enforces the conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws.

There are five Commissioners: three, including the Commission Chair, are appointed by the Governor, one is appointed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and one is appointed by the Attorney General. No more than two of the Commissioners appointed by the Governor, and no more than three Commissioners overall, may be from the same political party.

*Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?*

**We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.**

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

# obituaries

## Donald G. Nickerson, 90

WARREN – Donald G. “Nick” Nickerson of Warren, died peacefully on Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023, surrounded by his loving family at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center after a brief illness, at the age of 90.

He leaves his wife of 70 years, Claire A. (Wirf) Nickerson of Warren; a daughter, Deborah Tonelli and her husband Norman of Westerly, Rhode Island; two sons, Timothy Nickerson of Warren and Jeff Nickerson and his wife Sharon of North Brookfield; four grandchildren, Melissa Vadnais, Allyson Manganello, Tyler Nickerson and Conor Nickerson, as well as three great-grandchildren, Timothy, Rachel, and Julian Letourneau.

He was predeceased by his parents, Lawrence and Jenny (Griggs) Nickerson, his sister, Shirley Staples, and his brother David Nickerson.

After graduating from Warren High School, Nick enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served at 8th & I barracks in Washington, D.C. supporting ceremonial duties at Arlington National Cemetery. He was then deployed to Korea where he received the Purple Heart for his wounds received in heavy fighting at Bunker Hill.



After his proud service, he returned home and married his high school sweetheart Claire Wirf and started a family. Nick worked for American Bell Telephone Company for 42 years.

Along with his father and brother he started “Nickerson’s Par 3” golf course in Warren, where many memories were made for his family. People from all around the area recall the golf course fondly.

After retirement, Nick continued to work for his brother Dave and his son’s business, CBIS in West Brookfield, as a special projects Manager until COVID when he worked from home.

Nick was a dedicated public servant for the town of Warren serving for many years as Fire Chief, Constable, President of the Warren Ambulance Squad, and also serving for many years on the Board of Selectman. He also served as Chairman of the Master Plan Committee among many other committees.

Nick was one of five town residents who were honored with being Purple Heart recipients reflected by having his name is on the Purple Heart Memorial in West Warren. He always looked forward to the Purple Heart Breakfasts held each year by the

Warren Veterans Council.

In June of 2022, Nick was honored to have been selected as a recipient of “Honor Flight” being flown to Washington, D.C. for the day to visit all of the war memorials dedicated to those who served during our Country’s conflicts. Accompanied by his son Jeff, it was an unforgettable experience that he was so very proud to be part of.

Nick was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. His greatest joy was spending time with his family.

He loved Christmas and would shower gifts on the family. He never stopped working, taking pride in his home and landscaping and always helping out his family and others at a moment’s notice.

The family offers their sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center for the excellent care they provided to Nick and their compassion in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital at [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org) or to Honor Flight Connecticut at [www.honorflightct.org](http://www.honorflightct.org).

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

## Philip L. Rondeau, 69

PASADENA, MD – Philip Leo Rondeau, of Pasadena, Maryland, passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 4, 2023.

Born on July 4, 1954, in Ware, Phil was the second son and third child of Leo Oliver Rondeau and Rita Estelle Bolduc Rondeau.

A USCG 50-Ton Master Captain with decades at the helm, Phil was preparing to push off on his catamaran “Blue-Sky” to enjoy retirement with the love of his life and wife, Nona Kay Wollenschlager Rondeau.

Phil graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Western New England College. He enjoyed sharing stories from his first job supporting his father’s milk processing company but went on to complete a very successful career in the

insurance industry spanning four decades.

As a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter specializing in commercial insurance, he was known for his technical detail and lively debate with an empathetic but firm style that was appreciated by all who had the opportunity to work with him or be mentored by him.

Quick-witted and with a sly sense of humor, Phil enjoyed life with exuberance with his wife, family, and friends.

Sailing was a huge part of his life. Phil was a 20-year member of the United States Sail and Power Squadron, most recently affiliated with the Annapolis Squadron

achieving the rank of Navigator. Phil is survived by his wife, Nona Kay Wollenschlager Rondeau; his three siblings George H. Rondeau and Suzanne Kresser Rondeau, both of Massachusetts, and Helene W. Rondeau of Maine; two nephews Kevin and Erik Kresser; two great-nephews and one great-niece in Massachusetts. He is preceded in death by his parents.

A celebration of Phil’s life will be held in October at the Eastport Yacht Club. Phil’s ashes will be interred in a private ceremony at Funk’s Grove Cemetery in McLean County, Illinois.



## Trinity Church welcomes Ask Me Now on Oct. 1

WARE – Ask Me Now will perform a free concert at Trinity Episcopal Church, located at the corner of Park and Pleasant streets, on Sunday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m.

A mission offering will be taken for Dismas House and Farm, a ministry for those who were formerly incarcerated.

Ask Me Now was formed in 2018 as a conduit for performing much loved favorites from greats like Fats Waller, Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, Bessie Smith, Cole Porter, Diana Krall and Stevie Wonder.

The quartet specializes in delivering interesting arrangements and treatments to time-tested favorites and lesser-known gems. They play a wide variety of jazz standards, blues, swing, ballads, Brazilian and something they call “sophisti-pop” for your listening pleasure.

Each individual performer is renowned for their unique talents.

Vocalist Frances Rahaim, originally from Ware, fronts the quartet. With her sophisticated, sultry voice, engaging smile and unique stage presence, Rahaim draws her audience in – connecting.

Each performance is a memorable, intimate experience.

Dominic Poccia, on reeds, has played in jazz groups in western Massachusetts for more than 40 years and has recorded with local bands and performed back up for several well-known bands such as the Temptations, Martha Reeves, Mary Wilson, Paul Winter and Steve Davis. He has toured twice in Russia.

Bassist, Don Baldini, formerly had a professional career as a studio musician in Los Angeles has toured and performed with some of the “greats” - Frank Sinatra, Johnny Mathis, Peggy Lee, Tony Bennett, Helen Reddy, Paul Anka, Nancy Wilson, Teddy Wilson, Andy Williams and Henry Mancini.

Pianist/arranger James Argiro comes with vast experience in all phases and aspects of music creation, production, and the performing arts.

He has been affiliated with dozens of stars in all media. Much of his career was spent in Hollywood television and recording studios and as a staff member on many television variety shows, including Sonny & Cher, Tony Orlando & Dawn.

For more information about this group go to: [askmenow.live](http://askmenow.live).



Submitted Photo  
Ask Me Now will perform a free concert at Trinity Episcopal Church on Sunday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m.

## Priscilla M. Holcomb, 83

CHICOPEE – Priscilla M. (Webb) Holcomb, of Chicopee, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023, at Baystate Wing Memorial Hospital in Palmer, MA, surrounded by the love of her family, at the age of 83.

She was the loving wife of Donald T. Holcomb Jr. and the daughter of the late William and Genevieve Webb Sr. She was born on Aug. 26, 1940, in Ludlow, grew up in Bondsville, and lived in Ware for many years before moving to Chicopee six years ago.

She was a graduate of Palmer High School. After following separate paths for many years, Priscilla and Donald (high school sweethearts) were married in 1984 and blended their families.

For 25 years, Priscilla drove school buses in the Ware School District for J&J Bus Co. and later in the Pathfinder School District for First Student Bus Company. She took her responsibilities as a school bus driver seriously.

She was dedicated to ensuring that the generations of children that rode on her bus got from home to school and back safely.

She enjoyed seeing and feeding all kinds of animals, the ocean, decorating and cooking for the holidays, babysitting her grandchildren, holding her great-grandchildren and most of all caring for and loving all her family.

There is no denying that you saw her entire life in all that she had and all that she did. Her home was filled with many family photos, items from the ocean, cardinals, teddy bears and all the things that made her happy.



## Death notices

**Holcomb (Webb), Priscilla M.**  
Died Sept. 2, 2023  
Services Sept. 17, 2023

**Nickerson, Donald G.**  
Died Sept. 3, 2023

**Rondeau, Philip L.**  
Died Aug. 4, 2023

The eldest of seven, Priscilla was also preceded in death by her sister Maureen Brown and her brother William Webb Jr.

She is survived by Donald, her loving husband of 39 years; their eight children: John (Shirley) Powloka Jr. of Springfield, Debra Koehler of Vista, California, Judy (Paul) Ainsworth of Monson, Julie (Scott) Slattery, Kimberly (Matt) Gallagher and Dawn Carr of Ware, Lori Holcomb of Oswego, New York and Paul (Diane) Holcomb of Bondsville; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; four siblings: Russell (Irene) Webb, Peter Webb, Barry (Debbie) Webb and Cathy (Russell) Whigham; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

We are comforted knowing that Priscilla is at peace after a long, heart-breaking period of physical and mental decline inflicted on her by dementia. Priscilla Holcomb knows who Priscilla Holcomb is again.

Memorial services for the family will be held at the Second Baptist Church in South Hadley on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, her family requests that memorial donations be made in her name to any one of the following: Dakin Humane Society, 171 Union St., Springfield, MA 01105; the Dementia Society of America or Second Baptist Church, 589 Granby Road, South Hadley, MA 01075.

## WARE RIVER NEWS OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**  
Let them know you saw their ad in the **Ware River News**

## SEPTEMBER from page 12

Working alarms, clear exit routes, and a practiced plan for using them are crucial for when a fire breaks out, but students can also take steps to prevent them from starting in the first place:

There is no safe way to smoke, but if you must smoke then do it responsibly. Don’t flick cigarettes on the ground, where they can smolder and ignite debris, or grind them out on porches or steps. Use a heavy ashtray on a sturdy surface and put it out, all the way, every time.

Always plug appliances such as air conditioners and space heat-

ers into wall sockets that can handle the current, not power strips or extension cords. Don’t overload outlets with multiple devices.

Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never leave a space heater unattended.

Don’t leave pots and pans unattended on a lit stove top, and keep flammable items away from burners. In the event of a grease fire, smother the flames with a lid and then turn off the heat. Cook only when you’re alert, not when you’re drowsy or impaired.

Never leave candles burning unattended. Extinguish them before leaving the room. Even better,

switch to battery-powered candles. Use the charging equipment provided by the manufacturer and disconnect it when the device is charged. Charge phones, laptops, e-cigarettes, e-bike batteries, and other devices on a hard and stable surface - never a bed, couch, or pillow. If you notice an unusual odor, change in color, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises, stop using the device right away. If it can be moved safely, move it away from anything that can burn and call the local fire department.

For more fire safety tips for both on and off campus, visit [www.mass.gov/dfs](http://www.mass.gov/dfs).

think  
**OUTSIDE**  
of the  
**BIG BOX**  
SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY  
BUSINESSES

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Type of crayon
- 7. Fashion accessory
- 10. Most cerebral
- 12. Incline from vertical
- 13. Dependent on
- 14. Broken in
- 15. Strongly desires
- 16. Mounted soldier
- 17. Ad \_\_\_: when necessary
- 18. Cattle
- 19. Ottoman military commanders
- 21. \_\_\_ student, learns healing
- 22. Composed in poetic meter
- 27. Promotional material
- 28. Where people live
- 33. Sodium
- 34. Embarrassing

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Living quarters
- 2. Horizontal passage
- 3. Attacks
- 4. Vietnamese
- 5. Offensive
- 6. Confined (abbr.)
- 7. Book of Esther antagonist
- 8. Port in Yemen
- 9. CNN’s founder
- 10. Type of bulb
- 11. Prepare
- 12. Promoted
- 14. Dinner jackets
- 17. Partner to cheese
- 18. Nebraska city
- 20. Human gene
- 23. Pays no attention to
- 24. Lowland South American plant
- 25. Blood group
- 26. Mauna \_\_\_, Hawaiian volcano
- 29. Atomic #37
- 30. Unit of electrical resistance
- 31. Jeweled crowns
- 32. Nastiest
- 35. Traditional cars need it
- 36. Bowler hat
- 38. Robust
- 40. Not straight
- 41. Stony waste matter
- 42. Have an interest in
- 43. Jacob \_\_\_, journalist
- 44. Maintains possession of
- 45. Swiss river
- 46. Average cost of market goods
- 47. Spanish soldier: El \_\_\_

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

**The Library Loft**  
Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

*We are celebrating our 20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.*  
Thanks to our wonderful “friends,” volunteers and patrons.

**HOURS:**  
Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm  
Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am - 4pm • Sat. 10am - 2pm

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE**

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

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library



Participants in the Ware Grange's terrarium workshop made several unique creations.

# Grange hosted terrarium garden workshop

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer

WARE – The Ware Grange continued their season with helpful gardening workshops and introduced one about terrariums.

Returning to the Grange is presenter, Allison Rosendale, the presenter of the pollinator garden workshop held earlier in the year.

Rosendale displayed numerous samples of terrariums. The most common ones she displayed are open and closed terrariums.

The purpose of the workshop is to set up gardeners for success on easily making and keeping their terrariums strong.

Terrariums are miniature gardens housed inside small and usually sealable glass containers. They're mostly self-sustaining with the plants watering themselves through transpiration and condensation.

Rosendale pointed out that terrariums, opened or closed, are easy to make if set up right and can easily be modified. The plants themselves can always be changed throughout the seasons.

"Pluck it out and put something back in," said Rosendale.

What's unique about terrariums is they are a beautiful, engaging, and creative way to keep plants in the home. The creative aspect brings gardeners to add decoration to their terrariums.

Some of Rosendale's suggestions include gravel, decorative moss, and a soil mix.

Terrariums need fertilizer to feed the plants just like any ordinary plant. Another useful source for useful plant growth is earthworm castings.

Rosendale had a bag of the organic fertilizer and suggested that all gardeners use gloves if using earthworm castings.

As for storing the terrariums, there are several options displayed at Ware Grange. The most common containers are jars, bottles, fish tanks; pretty much anything clear.

"With a bigger container, there is more space to play around," said Rosendale.

When maintaining the plants in the terrarium container, Rosendale pointed out that trimming your



Many people chose to make open container terrariums.



Some workshop participants used closed container terrariums.

plant makes it grow more. For keeping the plants clear from dirt, always take a brush to clean the dirt off.

After the presentation and the demonstration, spectators joined Rosendale and began designing their own terrariums. Some went with open, and some went with closed.

Either way, the gardeners had fun creating their own terrariums. An engaging activity and the ones who designed their own terrariums got to take them home.

The final workshop at Ware Grange will be on Friday, Oct. 13, and it will talk about fall tasks for your garden.

For a fun Halloween activity, the Grange will have pumpkin carving as a fun family activity; bring your own pumpkin to carve on Monday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. For the kids, there will be a Halloween story by storyteller, John Porcino.

Expect to enjoy some delicious refreshments during the event at Ware Grange Hall.

To learn more about the Grange or want to become a member, visit Ware Grange at 297 Belchertown Road. You can also visit their Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/WareGrange164](http://www.facebook.com/WareGrange164) or contact them via email at [waregrange@comcast.net](mailto:waregrange@comcast.net).

The Ware Grange meetings take place every third Monday of most months.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Participants added a variety of stones to the bottom of their terrarium containers.

# State launches free community college program

WELLESLEY – Holyoke Community College President George Timmons joined Gov. Maura T. Healey recently to launch MassReconnect, the administration's new program establishing free community college for Massachusetts residents aged 25 and older.

The announcement event, held at MassBay Community College, was attended by representatives from the Healey administration and Department of Higher Education, as well as the presidents of the state's 15 community colleges.

"MassReconnect will be transformative for thousands of students, for our amazing community colleges, and for our economy," Healey said. "It will bolster the role of community colleges as economic drivers in our state and help us better meet the needs of businesses to find qualified, well-trained workers. We can also make progress in breaking cycles of inter-generational poverty by helping residents complete their higher education credentials so they can attain good jobs and build a career path. Our administration is grateful for the partnership of the Legislature to move forward on this critical program that will make our state more affordable, competitive and equitable."

The state is investing \$20 million in MassReconnect for the first year of implementation. The funding covers the full cost of tuition and fees and includes an allowance for books and supplies for qualifying students.

Additionally, each community college will receive \$100,000 to support student and community program awareness, staffing, and program administration.

"This is an exciting moment for HCC and all Massachusetts community colleges," said

Holyoke Community College President George Timmons. "Our college's financial aid and student affairs teams have been working diligently to prepare for MassReconnect and to guide students through the process of enrolling at HCC. MassReconnect will enable our community colleges to do more of what we do best, which is serve students from all ages and all backgrounds, and provide them with an exceptional education that leads to employment and, ultimately, a stronger economy and thriving region."

MassReconnect starts immediately. There is still time for students to enroll for the fall 2023 semester.

Qualifying students must be enrolled in at least six credits per semester in an approved program of study leading to an associate degree or certificate at one of the Commonwealth's 15 community colleges and complete the 2023-2024 FAFSA. There is no deadline to sign up.

Fall semester I classes at HCC begin Tuesday, Sept. 5, but there are also two additional flexible fall start dates, on Sept. 25 and Oct. 30.

For more information about MassReconnect at HCC, please go to: [hcc.edu/massreconnect](http://hcc.edu/massreconnect).

To qualify for MassReconnect, students must be 25 or older on the first day of their classes and be a permanent Massachusetts resident for at least one year at the start of the enrolled term. The program is limited to residents who have not previously earned a college degree (associates or bachelor's) who enroll in at least six credits per semester in an approved program of study leading to an associate degree or certificate at a community college.



**THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICES THAN DURING**

# TOTAL MARKET COVERAGE WEEKS

Whether you're a long-standing customer, or someone looking for a guaranteed advertising market, increase your exposure for two consecutive weeks in the

## Ware River News

Ware • Warren • West Warren  
Gilbertville • Hardwick • Wheelwright

Publication Dates:

**October 27 & November 3**

The Ware River News will be directly mailed to over 9,900 households for two consecutive weeks!

Advertising Deadlines:

**October 26 & November 2**



**Call Dan today at 413-967-3505**

## NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Ware River News, please email [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

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

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**

Let them know you saw their ad in the

**Ware River News**

## JOB OPENING

# STAFF WRITER

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

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

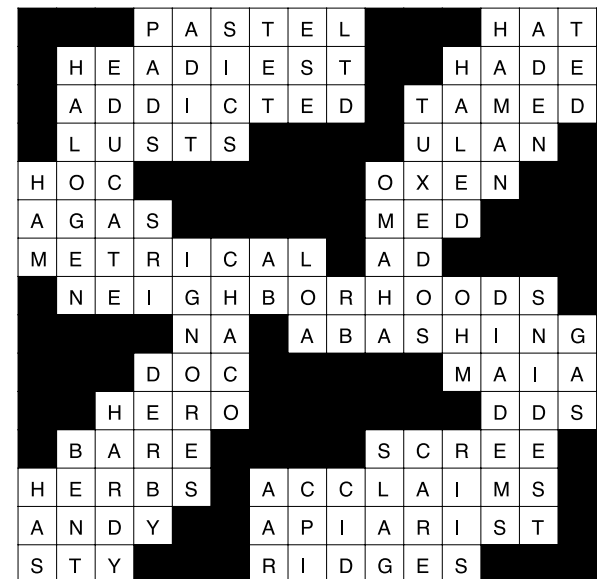
If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

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

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

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

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

### FOR SALE

#### FIREWOOD

**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)82-0178

**!!!SEASONED!!!!** Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood (413)348-4326.

#### WANTED

**LOOKING FOR A KITTEN** I would like a kitten. I will pay money if you are charging for it. Call (413) 544-0418

### SERVICES

#### A B Hauling and Removal Service

**2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\***  
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.** Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing** - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

### SERVICES

#### MASONRY

**FINE STONE MASONRY** And all masonry repairs and restorations including:stonewalls, retainer walls, chimneys, foundations, buildings, pool surrounds, steps, walks, patios. All masonry is performed by master mason Paul Dowd, Barre, MA. Call 978 257 8237. Email paul.dowd51@gmail.com

#### STOP WET BASEMENTS

**ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING**  
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

### SERVICES

#### SAW STUMP REMOVAL

SAW STUMP REMOVAL  
413-213-5470

SAW STUMP GRINDING  
Call for a Free Estimate, Veteran Owned, Fully Insured  
413-213-5470

### HELP WANTED

**"PART TIME TAILOR NEEDED FOR POLICE & MILITARY UNIFORMS** Email [solutions@blue-tactical.com](mailto:solutions@blue-tactical.com) to find out more."

**WANTED: PART-TIME TYPIST/SECRETARY**, for an author in town. Speed not a factor. Reading poor hand-writing is. Please call 917-373-2143.

### HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF PALMER: TOWN PLANNER** Town of Palmer is seeking qualified candidates for a full-time, 32.5 hours Monday 8:30am - 7:30pm, Tuesday through Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm. The position works under the general supervision of the Town Manager in cooperation with the elected Town Planning Board. Please go to [www.townofpalmer.com](http://www.townofpalmer.com) for a full job description. Send resume and cover letter to [rmcnu@townofpalmer.com](mailto:rmcnu@townofpalmer.com) or to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Salary commensurate with experience. This position requires a Bachelor's Degree in planning or related field and five years' experience in municipal planning, or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Strong interpersonal, written, and oral communications skills and a working knowledge of MS Office and ArcView GIS. The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA employer.

### REAL ESTATE

#### FOR RENT

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein 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 advertised 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.

### REAL ESTATE

#### FOR RENT

ALL real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and/or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised 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.

### EXCAVATING

**ELIOT STARBARD EXCAVATION** 35 yrs of happy customers. 508-882-0140

### WANTED TO BUY

**ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED** Buying Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860)874-8396

### PAINTING

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING** Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508)867-2550

**KEEP IT PAINTING -** Klems excellent exterior painting. Interiors too. Specializing in all aspects of quality painting and staining. 25 years experience. Free consultation. Steve (413)477-8217

**WE DO LLC** Painting interior, exterior and drywall repair. We treat your home like our own homes. Fully licensed and insured. Call WE DO today for a free estimate ask for Mac (413)344-6883

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST** Decks, Porches, Doors, Windows, Repairs, Cement repairs, asphalt repairs, stone and BBB approved Vinyl Fence Tim (413)563-2229

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-MODELING** Kitchens, baths, Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

### JUNK REMOVAL

**A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL**  
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.  
We load it & take it.  
413-531-1936  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

### LANDSCAPING

**A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE**  
Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arborvite Installed  
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand  
Storm Clean-up  
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal  
Insured  
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

### TREE WORK

**DL & G TREE SERVICE.** Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

**H & H TREE SERVICE** All phases of tree care. Call Dave 413-668-6560 day/night.

**Neilsen's Advanced Tree Maintenance.** Offering Residential and commercial Tree Work. Quality work, reasonable prices, Fully Insured Call Ron Neilsen (413)813-5778

### JUNK REMOVAL

**ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL**  
Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.  
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

### STUMP GRINDING

**DL & G STUMP GRINDING** Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

### Classified Advertising DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON  
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

Read your local newspaper online at [www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – FRIDAY AT NOON  
or call: 413-283-8393 HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.50
27	Base Price \$30.00	28	Base Price \$31.00
29	Base Price \$31.50	30	Base Price \$32.00
31	Base Price \$33.50	32	Base Price \$34.00
33	Base Price \$35.00	34	Base Price \$36.00
35	Base Price \$37.00	36	Base Price \$38.00
37	Base Price \$39.00	38	Base Price \$40.00
39	Base Price \$42.00	40	Base Price \$43.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price \$10.00  
Add a second ZONE \$5.00  
Add a third ZONE \$5.00  
Subtotal  
x Number of Weeks  
TOTAL Enclosed

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
 Quabbin  
 Suburban  
 Hilltowns

Include additional words

## public notices

#### NOTICE OF AUCTION

The contents of the following storage units:  
Brian Goodridge:  
Building 2, Unit 22  
Outdoor  
Bryan Losaw  
Building 6, Unit 4  
will be sold for non-payment on the premises of Country Corners Storage, 50 Greenwich Road in Ware on **Saturday, Sept. 23 at 10:00 am**  
Tel 413-967-6095  
09/14, 09/21/2023

Contract Documents may be obtained electronically by emailing Tammy Martin at [accountant@warren-ma.gov](mailto:accountant@warren-ma.gov).  
A performance bond with a Surety Company or Sureties satisfactory to the Town will be required of the successful bidder for the complete and faithful performance of the Contract.  
Bids must be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a Bid Bond, Certified Check, or a Treasurer's or Cashier's Check issued by a responsible Bank or Trust Company, payable to the Town of Warren in the amount of five (5) percent of the minimum total bid (FY24 plus FY25). Said bid deposit shall become the property of the Town of Warren should the bidder fail to execute the contract and provide a satisfaction bond within fourteen (14) days after he has been officially notified.

Bids are subject to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 30.  
The award is contingent upon the appropriation of funds. Bidders may be requested to waive the right to the 90-day withdrawal period.  
The Town reserves the right to reject any or all

Proposals, to waive irregularities and/or informalities in any Proposal, and to make an award in any manner, consistent with law, deemed in the best interest of the Town.  
Town of Warren  
Board of Sewer Commissioners  
09/14, 09/21/2023

**Town of Warren, MA Invitation for Bids HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ROAD MATERIALS**  
The Chief Procurement Officer is seeking qualified bids for the purchase of road materials and services listed below for the Town's Highway Department. Specifications may be obtained in the Town

Accountant's Office at the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street starting on September 6, 2023.  
To obtain a copy of the invitation for bid please email [accountant@warren-ma.gov](mailto:accountant@warren-ma.gov).  
Sealed bids are due in the Town Administrator's Office, by **Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 11:00a.m.**, where they

will be publicly opened and read. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject all bids not in the best interest of the Town of Warren.  
Bids will be opened and accepted for the following highway materials...  
Crack Sealing, 3/4" Washed Stone, 1 1/2" Washed Stone, Rubber

Chip Seal, HMA In Place, HMA Picked Up, HMA Handwork, HMA Sidewalk Overlay, HMA Sidewalk Reconstruction, Tack Coat, 12-inch Perforated ADS Pipe.  
09/14, 09/21/2023

## Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

### Job Opening

#### Three Rivers Fire and Water District Full Time Fire Chief Position Available

**Interested Candidates Should Submit A Letter of Interest To The Three Rivers Prudential Committee**

**Note – A complete list of requirements as well as salary and benefits is available to interested applicants who submit a letter of interest to the Three Rivers Prudential Committee at the following**

[TRFDprudential@gmail.com](mailto:TRFDprudential@gmail.com)

### \$28/HR PART TIME- UNBENEFITTED SUPPORT STAFF

The Quabbin Health District, a MGL Chapter 111, Section 27A District comprised of the towns of Belchertown, Pelham, and Ware is accepting applications for an **18 hour/week part time, un-benefitted, Support Staff Position** to support Quabbin Health District staff in administrative duties, projects, and assisting in health inspections to promote and protect the public health of its residents in the Quabbin Health District.  
Occasionally required to attend local board of health meetings, work evenings and weekends.

Minimum qualifications include a high School Education. Associate degree; or Bachelor's degree in science, public health or related field preferred. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. We train on the job for all inspectional related work!

For a full job description please visit <http://quabbinhealthdistrict.com> for more information, or to apply for the position please send request or resume with cover letter to Administrative Assistant, Betty Barlow.

Email to [bbarlow@townofware.com](mailto:bbarlow@townofware.com) or mail to  
Quabbin Health District ATTN: Betty Barlow; 126 Main Street, Ware MA, 01082.

**SECTION 1 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDDERS**  
Transportation and Transfer of Liquid Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Town of Warren, Massachusetts  
Sealed bids for the Transportation and Transfer of Liquid Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge between the periods of October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2026, will be received by mail to the Office of the Town Administrator, 48 High Street, P.O. Box 609 Warren, MA 01083 until September 28, 2023, at 1:00p.m. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time. Proposals must be made upon forms included herein. Proposals must be delivered in a sealed envelope plainly marked for the appropriate bids.  
The Proposal Form, Specifications, and

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

# Your BUYLINE CONNECTION

**DON'T BUY TIL YOU SEE US!!!**  
**#1 VOTED APPLIANCE STORE**  
**IN WORCESTER COUNTY!!!!**

**1,000s OF APPLIANCES!**  
**E BIKES IN STOCK!**  
**ALWAYS FREE DELIVERY**  
**BEST PRICE**  
**FAST DELIVERY OR PICK UP**  
**GIANT TOY DEPT!!!**

**WHITCO TOY & BIKE**   
**12 MONTHS 0% FINANCING** **140 Main St., Spencer** **508-885-9343**  
**www.whitcosales.com**  
 Open: Mon. thru Sat. 10am-8:30pm; Sun. 10am-7pm

**\$650,000 NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
 Beautiful oversized executive ranch with a gorgeous private country setting!! The main level of this expansive home offers a cabinet packed kitchen with a large center island, pantry & storage closet, mud room, open concept family room, formal dining room, formal living room with a fireplace and built-in cabinets, 4 nice sized bedrooms & 2 full bathrooms! The lower level offers an in-law suite with a private entry door, a very modern white kitchen with a center island, peninsula and dining area, living room, large bedroom and the 3rd full bathroom! The lower level also offers a huge bonus room, storage room and another room which is used as finished basement space for the main house! This home also offers central heat & air, 2 car attached garage with storage above, gorgeous newer oversized 1 car det garage/barn plus an additional detached 2 car garage and a storage shed. Fenced yard & impeccable grounds with lots of privacy & gardens! Great access to the MA Pike! Impressive property!!



**YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**

**EXIT**  
 EXIT Real Estate Executives  
 130 W. Main Street  
 Spencer, MA 01562

**Michelle Terry**  
 Broker/Owner  
**michelleterryteam.com**

*When we do more you will make more!!*

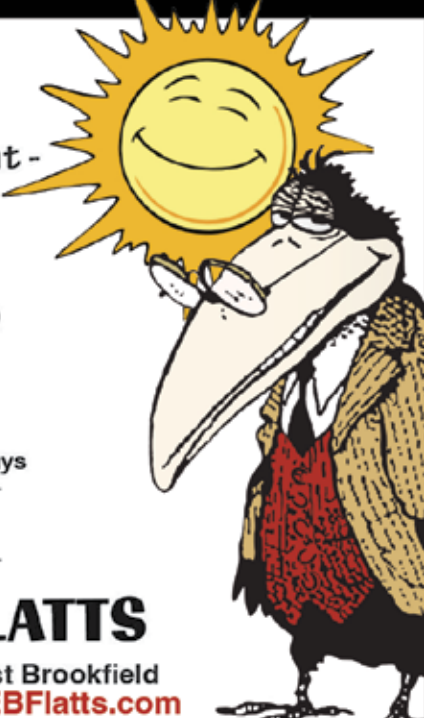
**GIVE US A CALL TODAY! 508-202-0008**

**OPEN**  
 - Mon, Tues, Fri, Sat -  
 7 am - 2 pm  
 - Sundays -  
 (Serving Breakfast Only)  
 7 am - 1 pm

**Closed**  
 Wednesdays & Thursdays

Dinner Hours temporarily on hold

**E.B. FLATTS**  
 245 W. Main East Brookfield  
 508-867-6643 **EBFlatts.com**



**REAL ESTATE IS LOCAL.**  
**You need a Local Expert!**  
**Call me if you are looking to**  
**Buy or Sell a Home!**



**CENTURY 21**  
 Century 21 North East  
 109 West St., Ware  
 Ready to Buy or Sell? Call Me!  
 1-978-434-1990

**ARMY OF 1**  
**WATER FILTRATION**  
**774-200-0225**  
**WE'RE LOCAL!**

- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- SERVICING ALL EQUIPMENT
- SERVICE PLANS AVAILABLE
- WELL TANK & PUMP SERVICE

**James Morse - Cell: 774-200-0225** **www.armyof1waterfiltration.com**

**U-PICK**  
**HONEY CRISP NOW AVAILABLE**  
**MACINTOSH & GALA**  
**CIDER DONUTS**  
**RAGGED HILL ORCHARDS**

Open Daily 9-5 • 508-867-2187  
 Ragged Hill/John Gilbert Rd., W. Brookfield  
**www.raggedhill.com**

Directions From Rte 9, take Pierce Rd. to Ragged Hill Rd. or take Snow Rd. to Wickaboag Valley Rd. to Ragged Hill Rd.



**Support Your Hometown Businesses**  
**SHOP LOCAL**

**WHERE EVERYONE GOES FOR THEIR PIECE OF THE EARTH!**  
**LANDSCAPE STONE**  
 ALL SIZES  
 White • Blush • Blue • Brown • Purple  
 Red • Lt Gray • Dark Gray

**SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING**  
 Construction Stone • Title V Septic Sand  
 Concrete Sand • Chicken Coop Sand • Utility Sand  
 Chip Stone • Stone Dust • Silt • Crushed Gravel  
 Crushed Asphalt • Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

**Homeowner Friendly • No Minimums**  
**PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!**

**Bond**  
 98 North Spencer Road,  
 Route 31N, Spencer, MA  
**508-885-6100**  
**508-885-2480**  
 Sand, Gravel & Asphalt  
**www.bondsandandgravel.com**

**CIDER IS IN!!!**  
**APPLES ARE IN!**



**Our Donuts Are Famously Delicious!**

**FREE**  
**1/2 Dozen**  
**Cider Donuts**  
 WITH THIS COUPON AND PURCHASE  
 GOOD TUES. THRU THURS. ONLY TP

**VISIT THE FARM FOR:**  
 • Honey • Cheese  
 • Jams • Early Apples  
 • Maple Syrup

**Southbridge Road, Warren, MA**  
 5 min. from Sturbridge - 148 N. Follow Signs  
 Open 10am-6pm  
**(413) 436-7122**  
**www.breezelandSORCHARDS.com**

**MICHAEL Toomey**  
 & Associates, Inc.  
**Real Estate**

East Brookfield | Maryellen Brunelle | 774-230-1419  
 Oakham | Irene Caruso | 774-696-9794  
 Worcester / West Brookfield | Macey Gaumond | 413-233-8967  
 Spencer | Zac Leach | 508-277-5209  
 Holden | Sarah Mahoney | 774-245-1218  
 Barre | Dan Mankin | 760-617-0548  
 Leicester | Lee Martinelli | 774-253-0364  
 Paxton | Scott Moss | 508-847-6330  
 Spencer | Amy Ekleberry Perro | 508-769-7025  
 Brookfield | Meghan Robidoux | 508-414-2518  
 North Brookfield | Mike Toomey | 508-951-6460

**Serving all your Real Estate needs!**

**Adventure tours of Warren**  
 Share the Adventure with us!



**12-Night Eastern Caribbean Cruise**  
**April 7-19, 2024**

Oct. 21.....**Mrs. Doubtfire at PPAC**..... \$99  
 Nov. 4.....**Book of Mormon**..... \$120  
 Nov. 18.....**Vermont Country Store**..... \$79  
 Dec. 30.....**Moulin Rouge!**..... \$125  
 Jan. 12-14.....**NYC Weekend**..... \$469

**Share the Adventure with us soon!**  
 For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357  
 or email **adventuretours@att.net**  
 or go to **www.adventuretoursofwarren.com**



**Farmer Matt**  
 FARM-FRESH + LOCAL

**NATIONAL CHEESEBURGER DAY Week**

SEPT. 18 IS NATIONAL CHEESEBURGER DAY, BUT WE'RE MAKING IT 4 DAYS.  
 Sept. 14-17, upgrade your Farmer Matt burger to a double FREE. If you want to make your own burger, take 20% off our burger patties.

Shop online or in-store.  
**FarmerMatt.com**

FarmerMatt.com  
 860 West Brookfield Rd.  
 New Braintree, MA

**Farmer Matt**  
 FARM-FRESH + LOCAL

860 West Brookfield Rd., New Braintree, MA  
 FarmerMatt.com | (508) 980-7085

**Pop-up BEER GARDEN**  
 at Farmer Matt's  
 CRAFT BEER, CIDER, & SELTZER



**Raise a Glass to our Pop-Up Beer Garden**  
**Saturday September 16, 2023**  
**12:00 - 8:00 PM**

Join us at our pop-up beer garden for a refreshing experience at the farm. Savor locally crafted beer, cider, and seltzer infused with local ingredients and great live music.