

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Vol. 138 No. 35 USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

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Good Neighbor Day



Raquel ran in the ball from the outfield during the first ever Good Neighbor Day celebration hosted by the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance, Healthy Quaboag and the Town of Ware.



Volunteers struck a thoughtful pose at the Good Neighbor Day celebration. Shown from left are Sawyer Blake, Andrew Shaw, Levi Ramirez and Maia Lamothe.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8.

First ever event brought fun and fellowship

WARE – The Quaboag Hills Substance Alliance, Healthy Quaboag and the Town of Ware held the first ever Good Neighbor Day celebration this past Saturday at Grenville Park.

The day began with a “kids versus adults” kickball game, complete with a free ice cream truck provided by Fidelity Bank.

At the game, people were able to create thank you

cards for their friends and neighbors, as well as browse resources available to them, including the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line and substance use support. They could also learn about

the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council and more.

Following the game, a movie night was held in the park with student volunteers passing out free popcorn.

DV task force prepares for 10th annual walk

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – This Sunday afternoon, the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force will be hosting the 10th annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk & Gathering, starting at Veterans Park on Main Street.

On Sunday, Oct. 5 at 1 p.m., members of the task force, the Ware Jr./Sr. High School Domestic Violence Task Force, survivors, allies, community members, state and local officials and more, will stand together to put an end to domestic violence and abuse.

Emceeding the program are members of the Ware Jr./Sr. High School Task Force, a group of nearly 30 students who work with their teachers Dan Orszulak and Jesse Trzpit alongside task force members.

Senior Maia Lamothe said she joined the high school task force when she was in her sophomore year of school.

When asked what motivated her to join the volunteer group, she said it was initially because a lot of her friends were already involved. At that time, there were only about 15 students in the high school task force.

Lamothe said this year, the students have been focusing on controlling behavior in relationships, and how to identify it. She said all of the high school students are given a written prompt and their answers are collected anonymously and shared.

“I learned that a lot of the things we wouldn’t think of as toxic or controlling,” Lamothe said. “It made me realize some things that seems normal or normalized are not normal.”

This includes romantic partners having access to their partner’s phone or social media, which is a controlling behavior.

“You’re entitled to your own privacy,” she said.

Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force Coordinator Monica Moran said the highest rates of domestic violence occurs with people between the ages of 16-24, which is why the high school task force’s efforts are so important.

Moran said about 150 teens have been a part of the high school task force since it was formed 15 years ago and that number continues to grow.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the Ware River Valley Domestic

Please see **WALK**, page 13

Selectmen held hearing for Cronin Road poles

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen had a public hearing on Sept. 25 regarding the installation of joint owned utility poles on Cronin Road.

During the public hearing, National Grid is looking for consent from the town to install five JO poles on Cronin Road and also relocate two poles on the same road. A representative from National Grid was in attendance and another was on zoom. The plan is to rebuild

and do some pole work that is part of a design phase on Cronin Road.

During the public comment segment, one resident had questions on poles to see if there were any changes done to the plans that were submitted by National Grid. A document was sub-

mitted a couple years ago and one resident asked if anything had changed in that time.

According to the representative, one pole is a free-standing pole and there is one pole listed as having a guide wire. National Grid representatives went over

each pole and the Selectmen had copies of the submission to review.

The Selectmen moved to a vote and approved the installation of the JO poles on Cronin Road.

Please see **WARREN BOS**, page 13

Select Board discussed solar lease negotiations

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – The Select Board met on Sept. 29 and had a discussion on the Kearsarge Solar lease.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano said she got a call from the company and said they submitted everything the town asked for to town counsel. Caggiano hopes she will hear more information prior to the next Select Board meeting.

This topic is still under negotiations as Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim addressed what he thinks are the current issues with the property the company is looking at. The proposed project is on a large piece of ground the town owns and Vollheim wants to know how much land the company would use and how much access the town would have.

The board members wanted to know if there is enough room for the town to do anything with the remainder of the land. Losing sand and gravel would be costly to the town as it could be mined.

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 13

School Committee met with booster club

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Don Swarts gave a presentation to the School Committee to talk about the role of the athletics booster club.

He said before 2004, there was a booster club at the school but it disbanded. He said the school also tried to run the concession stand, but it was not financially feasible.

Swarts said the current booster club was formed after that, with a number of volunteers to run it.

“The Ware High School Booster Club is an organization consisting of a group of volunteers that support all Ware High’s athletics,” Swarts read from the organization’s mission statement at the Sept. 24 meeting. “We plan and organize events that involve the community to benefit the students at Ware High School.” Swarts said early on in

2010, the booster club ran into an issue with the school when it came to ordering trophies and reimbursements.

“As of 2010, we opened up a booster club account at Country Bank and that’s where we’ve been ever since,” he said.

Swarts said the booster club is not a charitable organization, but they do accept donations to help support the club’s efforts.

Swarts said the booster club has also purchased uniforms for the school teams, but in 2011, the uniforms were not collected and the athletic department asked the boosters to purchase new ones again.

He said the superintendent at the time said the school district had enough money in the budget to cover the cost of new uniforms, and they haven’t bought any since.

Swarts said the booster

Please see **BOOSTERS**, page 5

Communities celebrated chief at retirement party

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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HARDWICK – A retirement party was held at Hardwick Crossing Country Club for recently retired Police Chief, James Ayotte.

Community members of Hardwick and New Braintree and law enforcement officers of various communities arrived to celebrate the career and retirement of Ayotte, who served as the police chief for the Town of Hardwick and New Braintree for over 15 years.

Ayotte has been involved in law enforcement for over 25 years and served on the Spencer Fire Department for over 10 years. Altogether, Ayotte has committed over 40 years of public service in his respected career.

His retirement party was a celebration of his



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume is shown alongside retired Police Chief James Ayotte and his citation from the House of Representatives recognizing his 40 years of public service.

accomplishments and remembering the mark he left on the towns he proudly served.

When asked about retirement Ayotte, who is

now 60 years young, feels it is time for a change. Though he is stepping

Please see **RETIREMENT**, page 7



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Submitted Photo

The Worcester Winds, a dectet of professional music teachers and musicians, will perform at the Stone Church Cultural Center on Saturday, Oct. 18.

Worcester Winds to perform at Stone Church Cultural Center Oct. 18

HARDWICK – Worcester Winds, a dectet of professional music teachers and musicians from Worcester County, will perform at the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville, on Saturday, Oct. 18 at 3 p.m.

Presenters Friends of the Stone Church will serve snacks at a reception following the concert. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the door or through Friends of the Stone Church website under the concert season listings at friendsofthestonechurch.org.

Conducted by Luis Torres, the group consists of two flutes, two clarinets,

two oboes, two bassoons, and two French horns. They will perform the “Barber of Seville Overture” by Gioachino Rossini, “Masques et Bergamasques” by Gabriel Fauré, “Serenade, Op. 104” by Solomon Jadassohn, “Excursion” by Patrick Glenn Harper (b. 1977), “On Music” by Arthur Sullivan by Robert Spittal (b. 1963), and “The Teddy Bear’s Picnic” by John Brattan.

Performers include Toni Brown, Deborah Cole, Lucy Colwell, Ray Cox, Glenn Godfrey, Meredith Lord, Brian Repeta, Judy Schmitz, Sarah Smongeski, and Jessica Stolecki. The groups’ web-

site is worcesterwinds.org.

FOSC is pleased to be participating in the Card to Culture program of the Mass Cultural Council, by extending discounts to EBT, WIC and ConnectorCare health plan insurance cardholders. Eligible participants may request up to two free tickets at the box office on the day of the event. Bring EBT, WIC or Connector Care health plan card for 2025.

This concert is funded in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which receives funding from the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Paige Memorial Library lists October events

HARDWICK – On Oct. 4, join yarn-loving crafters at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, to knit or crochet hats and mittens from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. to donate to local groups.

Join this lively group to use up extra yarn – yours and ours – to keep hands and heads warm this winter. For more information, contact Pam Hinckley at pahinckley@gmail.com.

Vaccine clinic

On Oct. 6 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. there will be a vaccine clinic by the Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition serving Oakham, Hardwick, and New Braintree and CVS Pharmacy featuring High dose/Regular dose Flu, Shingle, Covid, Pneumonia, and RSV vaccines. Call 508-892-7008 extension 124 to sign up. Bring your insurance card.

This clinic is wheelchair accessible and open to all at the New Braintree Town Hall.

If 20 people register to have vaccines in Hardwick, the LRPHC and CVS will have a clinic at the Paige Memorial Library.

Free information session

Come to the Paige Memorial Library on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. for a free information session with Local Death Literacy Specialist/End-of-Life Doula Laura Dusha Nelson to gently begin conversations about our own mortality. This is for people of any age, any health status, using “A Death Doula’s Guide to Living Fully and Dying Prepared” by Francesca Arnoldy which Laura is donating to the library for you to check out.

Learn about resources, ask questions to prepare, add clarity and peace to your lives by reflecting back, turning inward and planning ahead. Please register.

For more information visit www.thejourneybeforeus.com, email thejourneybeforeus@gmail.com, or call 802-734-0879.

reus@gmail.com, or call 802-734-0879.

Quabbin Days

Organized by the Friends of the Quabbin, Quabbin Days is a celebration of everything that makes the Quabbin Region extraordinary-its rich history, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant communities. The 12 watershed towns will showcase their unique charm during New England’s peak leaf-peeping weekend, Oct. 10-13.

For more information, visit <https://quabbindays.org/> Representing Hardwick, the Paige Memorial Library will be open on Saturday, Oct. 11 for those who want to tour our beautiful 120 year old library building which looks much as it did in 1905, and the Hardwick Historical Society will be open during their Ghost Walk which will

Please see **LIBRARY**, page 6

Are You Old News?



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

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 1989 showed Colin McNally of the Ware Little League Braves team firing a pitch at the plate in a game versus the Cubs. Andy Zajac correctly identified McNally in the photo.

Ware Senior Center news

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

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

ACTIVITIES Monday, Oct. 6

9 a.m. Tai Chi
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for an appointment.
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lisa

Tuesday, Oct. 7

9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
9-9:45 a.m. Meet with your state legislators at Town Hall.
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for an appointment.
9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
Birthday Party. Music by

Chet Kurr. Must call front desk by Monday, Oct. 6 at noon to be put on the lunch list.

1 p.m. Cornhole
5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Oct. 8

9 a.m. Tai-Chi
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Foot Nurse Allison Williams. Call 413-967-9645 for an appointment.
10 a.m. Scat
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Chair Yoga
12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, Oct. 9

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

Friday, Oct. 10

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Scat
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA

Brown Bag
11:30 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Chair Yoga
6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
Required: call 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, Oct. 6

Spaghetti and Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Oct. 7

Birthday Party
BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day, Music by Chet Kurr. Dessert and entertainment provided by The Friends of Ware Seniors Inc.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

Hot Dogs and Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Oct. 9

Chicken Fingers, French Fries, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Oct. 10

Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Potato Chips, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Wishing Well Charities to host Fall Fundraiser Nov. 1

WARE – Wishing Well Charities Inc. will hold its 5th annual Fall Fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 3-8 p.m. at Teresa’s Restaurant, 305 Palmer Road.

Nonrefundable tickets are \$45 and includes a delicious family style dinner and dancing fun with the live band JP & Friends. There will be a cash bar, cocktail hour, raffles and

silent auction. For tickets, call or text 413-204-0009 or 413-330-4013. For more information about Wishing Well Charities Inc. please visit its Facebook page.

Thank you to those that attended the Ware Comedy Show at Workshop 13 on September 27th!

We were confident that a comedy show in Ware would be a big draw and it was!

Thank you to WBCA and Beyond, Workshop 13, Ware Senior Center (we needed more seats) and super volunteer BJ. If you have any thoughts about the future of comedy in Ware please email colorblindguy@gmail.com



Headliner Dan Boulger, showed why he’s a top tier comedian!

We received unsolicited encouragement from attendees such as:

“It was an amazing show! We were so excited to see a comedy show in our little town and we hope to see more in the future.”

Thank you Kim!



Openers included Mark Saulich, Corey Percival and Monica Carroll



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6th Annual Cars & Coffee held at McDonalds

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The 6th Annual Steven Hawk Cars & Coffee show was held this past weekend with a parking lot full of vintage and modern cars.

Coordinating the event is Frank Sapowsky who shared that this year's Cars & Coffee is dedicated to the memory of Larry Muniec.

Muniec was a big part of the car show community and had been involved in car shows in the area for over 10 years. Muniec was the owner of a 1957 marine blue and white Corvette and would bring it to car shows.

Muniec was also a proud Marine and served in Vietnam.

Generous donations from the event will go to an organization that Muniec was proud to support, the USO. Sapowsky said a donation of \$500 was sent to the Pioneer Valley USO. Muniec worked with Sapowsky and Steven Hawk during the annual Cars & Coffee event and was very passionate about cars and being a part of the show.

"He was very passionate about the show," Sapowsky said.

There were 12 awards being handed out in this year's Cars & Coffee show and each trophy was named after a sponsor of the show.

Over the years, the annual Cars & Coffee Show has grown in participation. The first show took place at Hawk's house and featured 15 cars.

Since 2022, the show has taken place at the Ware McDonalds due to the increased popularity of the car show as more folks entered their vehicles. This year, over 55 cars had entered and were judged based off body, paint, rarity, cleanliness, and uniqueness.

One of the judges for the show, Hawk, was excited to be back in Ware for the annual Cars & Coffee event. Hawk has been a fan of cars since he was a kid and recalls always going to various car shows with family and friends. Hawk and Sapowsky had entered cars into this year's show.

The 12 trophies were displayed on a table with the best in show trophy placed in the center. The trophy was named after one of the show's sponsors, Sherman Oil. Rolland Berthiaume and his 1957 Chevy Belair Sport Coupe



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Lynne and David Banks are shown alongside their blue 1965 Triumph TR4A that they have owned for 40 years and is a rare vehicle.

won the Sherman Oil Best in Show trophy.

Another award-winning vehicle in this year's Annual Cars & Coffee is owned by veteran car show enthusiast Joel "Joe" Milstead of Princeton. Milstead, age 82, has been involved with cars his entire life.

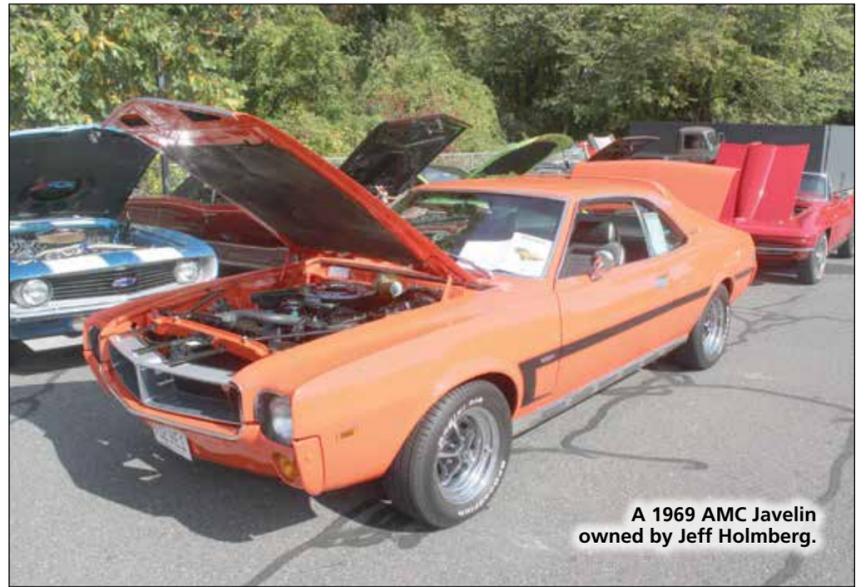
"65 years of cruising," he said.

Milstead brought his 1929 purple Ford Roadster, which he has owned for 65 years, a car he had back in high school. For many years, Milstead has traveled the entire United States and Canada to attend various car shows, hot rod runs, and other get togethers involving cars. Going to car shows has always been fun for Joe and according to him the best part is meeting many people from all over the country, Europe and Australia.

Milstead remembers the first car he ever owned, a 1931 Model A Ford pickup. This was Milstead's first time appearing at the Cars & Coffee show in Ware and thought the show was great to be a part of. Milstead and his Ford Roadster won the NAPA Award and said he plans to continue attending car shows throughout the U.S.

"I shall return," Milstead said.

The Cars & Coffee show featured many vintage and modern vehicles with many owners sharing stories back and forth. One unique story behind a unique vehicle was told by David and Lynne Banks. The couple owns a 1965 Triumph TR4A, a brand of car that faded away back in



A 1969 AMC Javelin owned by Jeff Holmberg.



A 1965 Ford Falcon wagon with an adorable stuffed polar bear in the passenger seat.



One of many Ford Mustangs that were parked in the McDonalds parking lot for the 6th Annual Cars & Coffee show.



Steven Hawk is shown alongside the 12 trophies and served as one of the Cars & Coffee show judges.



Mike Hebert of Ware is shown alongside his 1974 Dodge Challenger custom that he has owned for 20 years.

the 1980s.

The Banks have owned the car for 40 years and reminds them old memories. The car is similar to a 1972 Triumph that was used for the couple to go to senior prom. After the couple got married they purchased a Triumph TR6.

The current Triumph that entered into the Cars & Coffee show was bought by the couple in 1985. Inside the car was

a scrapbook of photos, notes and history behind the car and the couple who proudly own it.

David Banks said it was "a long process of restoring" this car, approximately three years. The time and work was worth it as the Banks proudly brought their blue Triumph to Ware during Cars & Coffee.

Sponsors for this year's show include Advance Auto

Parts, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Subaguru, Amherst Brad Matthew Jewelers, BP Welding, NAPA Auto Parts, Pools, Tombstone Trading McDonald's and Edgar Company, Inc., Sherman Oil, Machine Shop Kent Brothers Excavating,

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Sunday, Oct. 5 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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Oct. 11, 18, 25 & Nov. 1
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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Should my spouse be getting half of my Social Security amount?

Dear Rusty:

I was referred to you to ask a question about Social Security benefits.

I receive about \$1,700 a month from Social Security while my husband receives only approximately \$750 monthly. Is he entitled to file for half of my Social Security as a monthly benefit without touching my amount?

Signed: Curious Wife

Dear Curious Wife:

For information, spousal benefits are one of the most misunderstood areas of Social Security. A spouse does not always get half of their partner's Social Security benefit how much the spouse gets is determined by their age when the spouse benefit is claimed and it is always based upon both partner's Full Retirement Age benefit, regardless of when they actually claimed Social Security.

The partner with the lower SS benefit can only get half of the other spouse's FRA amount if that partner takes the spouse benefit at or after their personal SS FRA. And each spouse's FRA may be different depending on the year they were born. FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on the person's year of birth.

Here are two basic rules for a lower earning marital partner to get spouse benefits:

The lower earning spouse's FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of the higher earning spouse's FRA entitlement. FRA amounts are used, even if SS benefits were claimed earlier than or later than, full retirement age, and FRA amounts are frequently different than the monthly amounts actually being received.

If one spouse's FRA amount is less than 50%

of the other spouse's FRA amount, the difference between those two amounts can be added to the lower earning spouse's SS retirement amount, to become their spousal benefit. That may, or may not, equal half of the higher earning spouse's FRA amount.

So, if you claimed your Social Security exactly at your own full retirement age and your husband also claimed his Social Security exactly at his own full retirement age, then based on the numbers you provided your husband is likely entitled to about \$850 per month, instead of his current \$750. And that would not affect your own SS benefit in any way.

Your FRA entitlement would need to be more than twice your husband's FRA entitlement for him to receive a spousal boost from you. But if either of you claimed Social Security before (or after) your respective full retirement ages, your husband would not get 50% of your benefit.

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

Live in the moment but plan for winter!!

Hasn't the first week of autumn been beautiful weather-wise? Warm and sunny days will have us completely spoiled!

Summer annuals continue to bloom even as we harvest our pumpkins and corn stalks. But alas, while we are enjoying, we must simultaneously prepare for what inevitably will come.

My big task for today was deconstructing a combination planter so that I could (hopefully) overwinter the summer plants indoors. These included a Hypoestes (Polka dot plant), two Fuchsias, and an Ivy Geranium.

Over the years I've had good luck overwintering regular geraniums, Gerber daisies and fuchsias, but I have never tried ivy geraniums or the finicky polka dot plant. According to my research, ivy geraniums are handled in a similar manner as regular or zonal geraniums.

I typically overwinter them as a houseplant, in a bright sunny window. Sometimes they delight me with flowers through Christmas!

When I was trying to separate the plants from my big planter, though, the amount of roots I was able to get from the ivy geranium was honestly pathetic. The plant

looked big enough on top to fit in a ten inch pot, but the root ball, maybe enough roots to fit in a four inch pot.

sparingly if necessary, never letting the soil dry out completely.

When spring comes, gradually begin to introduce sunlight and the plant will commence growth. Once the threat of frost has passed the plants can go outside for the summer months. If last year's potting soil is "exhausted" of nutrients, carefully repot the plant into new soil.

Prune away any weak branches and give it some liquid fertilizer. For this situation, storage temperatures can go as low as 45 to 50 degrees.

My fuchsia extraction went much better than the geranium one did. I have equal roots to foliage and flowers. I am going to try and overwinter this plant in a northeast window, knowing that fuchsias don't like bright sun.

The last time I overwintered one of these I got the plant to live into the late winter, long enough to take a cutting. The offspring thrived! The mother plant looked pretty woody, but apparently, if I had waited a little bit longer and gave it a light fertilization, new supple growth would have ensued.

Please see **GARDEN**, page 13



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The Ware River News (USPS 666100) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



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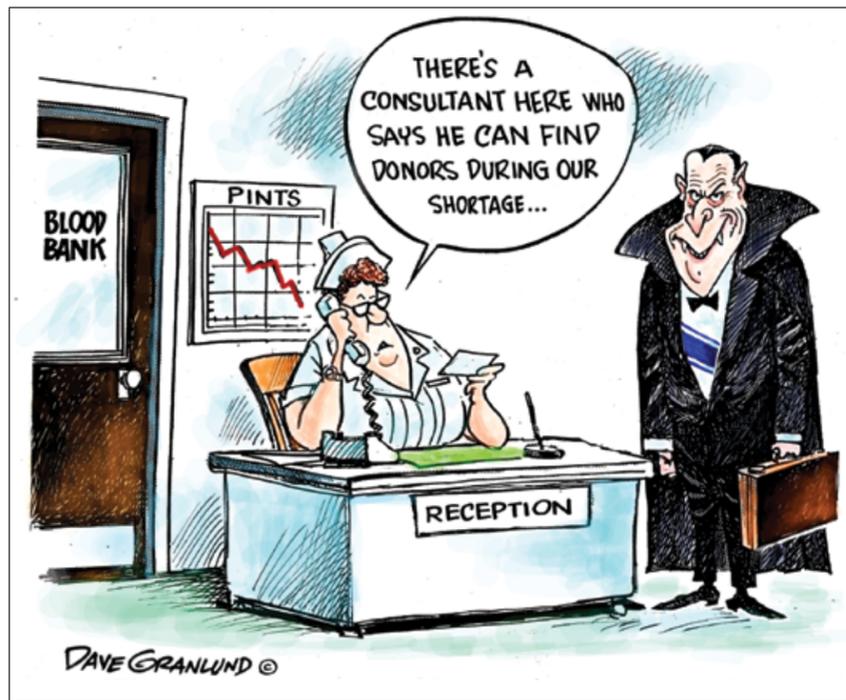
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or via email to:
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

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

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



Measles are a serious business

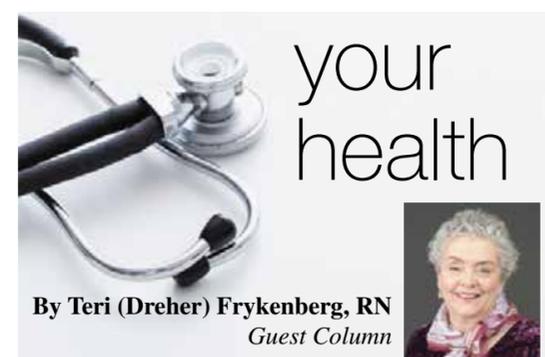
All it takes is one kid with measles to infect up to 18 others in their classroom. With school beginning soon, public health and education officials around the country are concerned about new outbreaks.

In the not too distant past, measles was considered "eliminated" in the U.S. because cases were almost unknown and 95 percent or more of Americans were vaccinated against it or had it in childhood. That herd immunity is slowly eroding, and our children are at greater risk of illness because of it.

Measles is one of the most contagious diseases out there, even more so than COVID and flu virus. It spreads through tiny droplets when people cough or sneeze, and can live in the air and on surfaces for up to two hours (think school desks, cafeteria tables, lab stations).

And while today's measles is no more dangerous than before, it can still result in pneumonia, encephalitis (brain swelling) and even death in very young children or those with immunocompromised systems. We've seen three deaths in Texas attributed to measles.

In addition, measles can



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

your health

leave someone with a weakened immune system, making them more susceptible to other infections.

Illinois generally has experienced herd immunity, with vaccination rates at or above 95 percent. The state has seen 10 cases of measles this year, some in Cook County and others in the southern part of the state. There's evidence, however, that vaccination rates are dropping in some Chicago schools and among kindergartners.

Massachusetts hasn't seen a single case – yet – because its citizens maintain a vaccination rate of about 98%. There's evidence, however, that the vaccination rate is not as strong among incoming kindergartners.

We all play a role in keeping our communities safe and healthy. The best way to keep

the measles away from your child is to make sure they've had two doses of the MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine, which has been proven safe and is 97% effective at prevention. Even if they do catch the virus, the illness is likely to be mild and short-lived.

That said, it's possible there will be children in your child's class who are unvaccinated and could well bring measles to school along with their homework and lunchbox. It will be easy for them to infect other unvaccinated children, causing an outbreak.

To help stop measles in its tracks:

If you're unsure of your immune status and believe you were exposed to the measles, consult your health-care provider right away. An MMR

immunity blood test can show whether you have measles antibodies. (If you were born before 1957, you likely had measles and enjoy "presumptive immunity.")

Consider getting an MMR booster shot, especially if you were immunized between 1963 and 1967. The vaccine used during those years was less effective because it was made from a killed rather than live virus. A booster is a harmless precaution, as long as your doctor says you are eligible to receive a live virus vaccine.

Regularly disinfect surfaces and common touchpoints, like door handles and light switches.

Keep your unvaccinated child home if any of these symptoms show up. It could be a cold or the flu, but it could also be measles. Symptoms usually appear seven to 14 days after exposure.

- High fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- White spots inside the mouth (Koplik spots)
- A red, blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads downward

Wait four days before going to a hospital to reduce the chance that the disease

will be transmitted to others.

As a registered nurse and someone who's worked in the medical field for most of my life, I advocate for science, not social media or crackpot theories about cod liver oil. (Cod liver oil, by the way, contains a lot of Vitamin A, which can be toxic in large doses, particularly with children.) Measles, once someone has it, is incurable – it has to run its course. It is a virus, not a bacteria, so it can't be treated with antibiotics.

Fall is approaching, and with it will come flu season and RSV season. Cases of COVID are already on the rise around the country. We are so lucky to live in an era in which vaccines can keep us and our children safe from some of the most common human diseases. Please take advantage of it.

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

Locals got crafty with Sharpie Tie Dye

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – For the last few years the Ware Library has offered the drop-in event known as Sharpie Tie Dye.

This past Saturday was the time for locals to bring something white to decorate with permanent markers as the main tool. The Sharpie Tie Dye event was started by Children's Room Librarian Cathy Goulet, who had the event held in the courtyard behind the Ware Library.

The weather was perfect for guests to create some tie dye apparel outside. The library provided all the markers, the tarps that were laid out on the courtyard, rubbing alcohol to help with the transition of making tie dye, and additional tools to help with drawing and decorating.

To help with the design of the tie dye, the library

provided cups and elastics to help hold the shirts and aprons together.

For a better surface to draw on the library provided cardboard panels for kids and adults to use and draw on their white T-shirts. There was a wide selection of colors when it came to the markers. The library received a donation of markers with more color options.

There were a lot of white T-shirts being designed, but there were other options folks brought and designed. One family brought a box full of white caps to decorate. The library provided white aprons for guests to design and were getting plenty of color added.

Gregory was one of the kids who attended Sharpie Tie Dye at the Ware Library and got creative by adding lots of color to his apron. Goulet went around the courtyard to help guests add

rubbing alcohol to their tie dye projects. Looking around the courtyard, Goulet thought everyone who came for tie dye did amazing work.

"It's a nice picture," Goulet said.



Gregory is shown working on his apron during the Sharpie Tie Dye event in the courtyard of the Ware Library.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Children's Room Librarian Cathy Goulet helped guests with adding the rubbing alcohol which helps with the design of tie dye.

After a fun afternoon of creating tie dye, guests got to explore their local library at 37 Main St. Every last Thursday of the month the Ware Library hosts Kids Bingo from 4:30-5:30 p.m. This is a free event where kids can play fun bingo games and enjoy prizes and snacks. Kids Bingo takes place in the reading room of

the Ware Library.

To celebrate Halloween the Ware Library is hosting the Spooktacular Pumpkin Decorating Party. This is a drop-in event where guests can bring their own pumpkin to decorate and come in costume. This event will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 4:30-6 p.m.

BOOSTERS from page 1

club then decided to use the money they raised to reimburse families for the athletes' usage fee.

"Some of the families couldn't pay that, so we said we'll reimburse you with our calendars," he said.

Swarts said the booster club raises money through the sale of calendars and concessions.

"Over the past 13 years we've sold \$186,440 in calendars," he said, which equals over 9,000 individual calendars sold.

Swarts said calendars are currently on sale now.

He said the money from the calendars is distributed to the prizewinners, used as repayment for athletes' usage fees, and the rest returned to the booster club's account for future purchases.

"45% of the money that

we raised is returned to the kids or the parents," he said.

Swarts gave a breakdown of the concession sales, which average about a \$6,000 net profit each year. The booster club has raised over \$77,000 in the past 13 years.

"In the past 13 years we've raised \$263,878.... we've returned to the kids and the parents, \$83,700," Swarts said.

Swarts also provided a list of purchases made by the booster club, including a score table, sound systems, pitching machines, football sleds, cheer mats, uniforms, user fees, basketball rebounder, shed, plaques, banners, trophies, football equipment, headsets, soccer balls, repairs to the weight room, scoreboards, nets, banquets, pompoms, transportation, field materials, grills, wrestling mats, and much more. All items purchased are then

donated to the school.

He said the booster club also covers the cost of the Ware/Palmer dinner for football players and donates to senior nights.

He said the booster club looks forward to continuing to work with the school.

Swarts thanked the club's volunteers who have made all of this possible to benefit the high school's athletes.

"We do it out of the love of the sports," he said.

Budget update

Andy Paquette of TMS, Inc. gave an update about the fiscal year 2026 budget to School Committee members.

He said when the budget was built, they used 70% of the current FY 25 reimbursement amount to determine how much would be received to help recover the costs of tuition for out of district special education placements.

He said they are now getting just over \$1.2 million in Circuit Breaker reimbursement.

"That will help because we have had some unanticipated tuitions that we've been fiscally responsible for," Paquette said.

Superintendent's report

Interim Superintendent Michael Wood said they are in the process of creating a professional development plan to go with the school district's strategic plan.

He said recent open houses have been well attended and that he enjoyed seeing the families and teachers interact.

Wood said they have welcomed Assistant Principal Ivy Peritz to the high school. He said she will primarily be working with grades seven and eight, but will cover the entire school.

"She's been instrumental even in the short time she's been here," he said.

Wood is working with School Resource Officer Jeannine Bonnayer to plan lockdown drills.

Wood said he met with town officials regarding the use of Memorial Field for the varsity baseball team. He said the field needs to rest and the team will likely play at another field.

"You should have a schedule, a rotation, of field rest," he said.

Wood said they need to create a capital plan to fix the school's fields, especially the drainage at the girls' softball field.

Wood said they still need to hire a computer science teacher and media specialist in the high school. He said right now they have been sharing staff with the middle school.

Wood said he is also working on a draft of the middle school vocational pathway policy, which is due on Nov. 1.

Regarding the school district's cell phone policy, Wood suggested the School Committee wait to finalize the policy until the bill has made its way through the state legislation.

Independent investigation

Winslow said the results of the independent investigation are in the process of being redacted, after which they will be shared with School Committee members.

Cell phone/dress code policies

The School Committee voted to table the approval of both the cell phone and dress code policies until a later meeting.

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Veliz honored during Latino Excellence on the Hill event

BOSTON – State Sen. Jake Oliveira (Ludlow-D) proudly recognized Derick R. Veliz, Vice Chair of the Warren Board of Selectmen, as his honoree during the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus's annual Latino Excellence on the Hill celebration at the Massachusetts State House.

The yearly event, held in the Great Hall, brings together legislators, community leaders, and advocates to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and to honor Latino trailblazers whose leadership and contributions continue to strengthen the Commonwealth. Each member of the Legislature is invited to nominate an individual from their district whose service reflects the values of excellence, perseverance, and community impact.

In selecting Veliz, Oliveira highlighted both his personal journey and his longstanding dedication to public service.

"Mr. Veliz's journey, from his early years in Guatemala to his career and years of public service, reflects the resilience and determination that enrich our Commonwealth," said Oliveira. "His distinguished service to the town of



Warren resident Derick Veliz (second from left) was recognized by state Sen. Jake Oliveira (left) as a Latino trailblazer in his community.

Warren, including two terms on the Board of Selectmen, where he served as Chair and now as Vice Chair, as well as his contributions on the Planning Board, exemplify the highest standards of leadership and commitment to community."

The recognition underscores Veliz's record of civic engagement and his role as

a leader whose work has had a lasting impact on the Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester District.

"I am incredibly grateful for Mr. Veliz's service and proud to recognize him with this well-deserved honor," Oliveira said. "His example stands as a testament to the vital contributions of Latino leaders across our region and

the Commonwealth."

The Latino Excellence on the Hill celebration remains one of the signature events of the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, reaffirming the importance of honoring the achievements and leadership of Latino residents during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Cemetery Commission approved use of perpetual care

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Cemetery Commission met on Sept. 16 and began discussing the chain link fence on the western path.

Cemetery Superintendent Jim McKeon said he heard from a neighbor of the cemetery and expressed interest in wanting to paint part of the chain link on the fence. Looking at the whole fence, McKeon believes it is best to have the whole fence and gates painted as parts are rusting.

McKeon described the size of the gates and thinks it's best to do the whole fence with fresh paint. The project would take up a lot of paint since there are 10-foot sections. The neighbor brought up doing the top rail but the Cemetery Commission agreed with McKeon that the whole fence should be done.

McKeon will look into the project further and discuss the project with the Highway Department. The superintendent wants to see if the town has sprayers for the paint.

Superintendent report

McKeon gave his superintendent report and said it has been a busy summer for the cemetery. A total of four cremations had taken place and there are upcoming cremations happening in September. Over the summer the cemetery had two full burials.

Bushes on the premises were trimmed and McKeon is trying to find out the condition of the drain valve in one of the older sections of the cemetery.

Over in South Warren, McKeon is trying to keep the cemetery mowed consistently, and the historical

commission found a company to fix a row of stones. The Commission wanted to know more about the company who helps rearrange stones that are leaning.

Spraying stones is still continuing and McKeon is hoping to find the time for more stone spraying.

Cemetery Commission Chair William Brunk asked about clearing the stone wall from any overgrowth by the South Warren Cemetery. This type of project wants to be completed while the fall weather is still steady.

Perpetual care

The Cemetery Commission discussed the subject of paying for a repaving project in the flagpole area. In previous meetings, the commission was looking into a funding source to help pay for this paving project. Clerk Cindy Baxter brought up the source of perpetual care and it is possible for the commission to use funds from this source to pay for the project.

"The improving part is what we're talking about," Baxter said, who believes the Commission is leaning more towards perpetual care.

The use of perpetual care is to fix an area in the cemetery. The commission voted and approved the use of perpetual care for the paving around the flagpole area.

The Cemetery Commission will meet on Oct. 20 at 4 p.m. The Commission briefly talked about agenda items for their next meeting including correcting stones that are leaning, tree work, and continued maintenance to the cemeteries as the colder weather approaches.

Holy Cross church hosts school supply drive

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

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

LIBRARY from page 2

take place at 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 11 with a rain date of Oct. 12.

Author visit

On Saturday, Oct. 18 at 11 a.m., author David Payne will read from "Anthropods", a collection of nineteen short stories which blur the lines between what we know and understand and what is alien, foreign, and strange. Inanimate objects, figments of the imagination, a voice without a body, a spider weaving a web in a window.

These anthropods –

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

Story Time

Meet at the library on Wednesdays for Story Time at 10:30 a.m. to play and then enjoy stories at 11 a.m. with art and science projects to follow. Registration is not mandatory but it's extremely helpful in our planning and providing adequate materials

Pickleball at Goddard Park
Paddles and balls are

available at the Paige Memorial Library, next door to Goddard Park, and can be checked out during open hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information call the Parks and Recreation Committee: Gail Ann Anderson, Chair, 978-257-4107, James Broussard, and Kristin Doucas.

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



VETERANS DAY SALUTE

Ware River News ~ November 6, 2025

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

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

All photos will be returned.

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

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



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RETIREMENT from page 1

down from the role as Chief of Police, Ayotte feels the police department is in good hands under the leadership of newly appointed Chief Kevin Landine.

According to Ayotte, Landine has been a dedicated officer of the law and is a good fit for the role of Police Chief. Ayotte worked with Landine for 20 years and witnessed him work up through the ranks and was ready to take the role as Chief.

Landine said working with Ayotte was a privilege and was always a leader, making sure the police department was running well and trusted his fellow law enforcement officers.

"He trusted me and my role," Landine said.

Landine said Ayotte taught him respect and empathy towards people and is dedicated to continue to support the communities as Chief of Police and continue running the police department, which he describes as the "footprint of our town."

During his retirement party, Ayotte admitted many feelings of thanks and said its "overwhelming to see all the family, friends and member of both communities" who came out to celebrate him and his career.

Ayotte will always remember trying to inspire young kids and being involved in Christmas for Kids. He will miss his coworkers and members of the community.

Hardwick Town Administrator Justine Caggiano was one of many guests at Hardwick Crossing Country Club to give speeches during Ayotte's retirement party and said people in the town respected him as the Chief of Police.

William Tinker of the Hardwick Select Board said Ayotte was great and outstanding officer and chief for both the towns and is one of the hardest jobs a person can have.

"A good person you want as the chief," Tinker said.

Tinker also commented



James Ayotte is shown alongside retired police officer Mike Sweet.



James Ayotte (right) received a plaque from the New Braintree Select Board: Joe Chenevert, Dennis Letendre Jr. and Michael McQueston.

that the town is proud in having Landine as their newly appointed Police Chief.

Executive Director of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Mike Bradley attended Ayotte's retirement party and presented a watch to Ayotte during speeches. During Landine's speech, he talked about how Ayotte contributed to the police department and to the communities.

"He helped move the

department forward," Landine said.

Landine presented a plaque and clock to Ayotte, who briefly spoke and expressed much thanks for this acknowledgement.

Caggiano came up for

her speech and shared how she saw how the Town of Hardwick looked up to Jim. Ayotte was the kind of person who always wanted to check in with town staff. When talking about his 40 years of service, Caggiano feels this celebration of Ayotte is well deserved. Caggiano and the Hardwick Select Board presented a plaque commemorating Ayotte's years of service to the Town of Hardwick.

The New Braintree Select Board: Joe Chenevert, Dennis Letendre, Jr and Michael McQueston came up to present a plaque to Ayotte and shared some stories about working with Jim and his time in the Hardwick-New Braintree Police Department.

On behalf of state Sen. Peter Durant, Kim Mongeau attended the retirement party and presented Ayotte with a citation from the Senate.

State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume came up next to speak and mentioned he and Ayotte went through school together. Berthiaume said Ayotte made a big impression on the people and the towns he served and was presented with a citation from the House of Representative that recognizes his 40 years of service as a police officer.

The Hardwick Police Association had a funny gift to present to Ayotte, which was a photograph of a custom Glock. Ayotte posed with the photograph in laughter.

Landine came back up to thank everyone who attended the party and said this celebration is a "testament of who Jim was." Ayotte looks forward to enjoying his retirement and plans to enjoy life and wants to travel to new places.

"Non-stressful events... that is retirement," Ayotte said.

Friends of Ware Senior Center announce fundraisers

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

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

The Friends are also selling their lotto calendars

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

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

Library hosts craft supply swap on Oct. 18

WARE – Fall is here and what better way to enjoy the cozy fall weather than with crafts.

Do you have craft materials that you no longer use, or that are turning into a collection of "maybe someday" items? The Ware Library, 37 Main St., welcome you to swap those old/unused craft supplies out for new (to you) ones.

The library is hosting a Craft Supply Swap in the Reading Room on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Simply bring an item (or several)

and swap them for something else.

The Craft Supply Swap is free to the public and there is no registration required; just drop in.

The library is also accepting donations of any craft supplies in advance, both for the swap and for the library craft programs. Bring any supplies to the circulation desk.

Follow the library on Facebook for updates, call 413-967-5491, or email warelibrary1881@gmail.com with any questions.

Yard sale space available at Masonic hall on Oct. 4

BARRE – Be part of Barre's Town Wide Sale this Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Masonic Hall, 71 Pleasant St., will be on the map and there is space available for community members to sell their items. Reserve a space at the hall

for \$15 by calling Jane Whitmore at 978-413-0775 or Dolly Bacon at 508-826-7537.

During the Town Wide Yard Sale, the Barre Rainbow Girls and Cradle Rock will be selling hot dogs, drinks and baked goods.

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Olivia was safe at second base despite Sawyer Blake's attempts to get her out.



RIGHT: Maddy warmed up for the kickball game with a cartwheel.



Maddy prepared to kick the ball to get on base.

Good Neighbor Day



Levi Ramirez advanced to third base.



A thank you card station was set up for community members to write notes to their neighbors.



Levi Ramirez coached his teammates from second base.



Levi Ramirez pitched the ball.



Melissa Santiago, Community Relations Representative for Western Massachusetts for the Behavioral Health Help Line shared information and resources at her table.

Fidelity Bank intern Camron Cooper provided complimentary frozen treats during the kickball game.



Sage ran in a point for her team.



Levi Ramirez passed the ball to Andrew Shaw to get Penny out at first base



Andrew Shaw caught a fly ball.



Stuart Beckley kept his eye on his teammates as he ran to third base.

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Panthers edge Indians with 1-0 shutout

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE — Harper Brouillette is one of the eighth graders on the Palmer girls' varsity soccer team.

Just when it began to look like the Lady Panthers only meeting of the regular season with archrival Ware would end in a scoreless tie, Brouillette became the hero. She netted her team-leading fourth goal of the regular season with a little more than ten minutes remaining in regulation, giving the Lady Panthers a 1-0 non-league victory over the Lady Indians at Veterans' Field in Ware, last Tuesday night.

"Anytime that a young player can put the ball into the back of the net and give us a win it's a great thing," said Palmer head coach Celso Sandoval. "This is the first time that Harper has scored a goal against Ware as a varsity player. I'm very happy for her."

The Lady Panthers (2-4-1), who are members of the Pioneers North Division, had gone 0-4-1 in their previous five matches since posting a 2-0 shutout victory at Greenfield High School in the season opener.

"We've lost our previous two games by only one goal," Sandoval said. "We're a very young team and we've been slowly improving this year."

It has been more than five years since the Lady Panthers suffered a loss in the rivalry series.

"All of the players on both teams grew up playing soccer

with and against each other," Sandoval said. "I don't remember the last time that we lost to Ware in girls' soccer. It always feels great to beat them, especially on their home field."

While the Lady Panthers don't have any seniors listed on their varsity roster, it was the final time that the three Ware seniors played a regular season match in the rivalry series. The



Callie Cygan plays the ball off her chest.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Isabella Cotaj competes with a Palmer player for the ball.

Lady Indians three senior tri-captains are Isabella Cotaj, Olivia DiRienzo, and Madisyn Slattery.

"It's very disappointing not to celebrate a win against your rivals, especially for the three seniors," said Ware head coach Morgan Toelken. "The three of them

did the best that they could in tonight's game. We just couldn't put the ball into the back of the net."

The Lady Indians, who are in the Pioneer South Division, had a 2-5 overall record following their fourth consecutive setback. They won back-to-back games



Amelia Orszulak heads up the field.

against Hoosac Valley (2-1) and Springfield Central (5-1) at the beginning of the regular season.

Both teams had several scoring chances during the first 40 minutes of last Tuesday's contest, but it was still scoreless at halftime.

The Lady Panthers put a lot of pressure on Ware junior keeper Emily Jones (18 saves) during the first ten minutes of the opening half. Jones received plenty of support from her defense led by freshman Naomi Torres, sophomore Molly McGrail, sophomore Amelia Orszulak, and junior Reagan Jacobs.

Palmer freshman Anabelle Ladue had a shot attempt that sailed wide of the net and another one that deflected off the crossbar.

Palmer eighth grade goalie Cora Lachance only had to make five saves in posting her second career shutout in a varsity game.

"This is Cora's first

Please see **INDIANS**, page 11

Panthers fall in road match to Clinton

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CLINTON — Juniors Jacoby Dilling and Alijah Flint are the two players listed on Quabbin Regional boys' varsity soccer roster that Clinton head coach Alvaro DaSilva was the most concerned about entering last Thursday's Mid-Wach D match-up.

Flint, who's the Panthers starting goalkeeper, made several outstanding saves in the first half, Dilling, who's the Panthers leading goal scorer, assisted on a goal at the start of the second half.

It wound up being Quabbin's only goal, as the Gaels scored a 4-1 home win on a rainy afternoon.

"When we were preparing for today's game, we knew that number seven (Dilling) for Quabbin was probably going to be a factor. He can score from anywhere on the field. We wanted someone else to beat us other than him," DaSilva said. "The Quabbin goalie is also very good. He made a couple of incredible saves. The game was a lot closer than the final score indicates. Quabbin played very hard against us."

It was the first meeting on the soccer pitch between the two teams since the end of the 2023 regular season. Clinton (3-3-1) also won that contest by the same 4-1

score.

The Panthers had a 2-4-1 overall record following last Thursday's match, but they had gone 2-1-1 in their previous four games.

"I felt like we could have played a little bit better in today's game, especially during the first half," said Quabbin first-year varsity coach Bill Crowther. "We did move the ball a lot better during the second half. Alijah also did the best that he could to keep us in the game."

The three goals scored during the first 40 minutes of the match were by the home squad.

Senior Alejandro Pimentel, who received a pass from junior Samuel Medeiros, scored Clinton's first goal by putting a shot into the right corner of the net during the 12th minute.

Flint (15 saves) made a couple of saves before senior Bryan Costa put another shot into the net giving the Gaels a 2-0 advantage with ten minutes remaining in the first half.

During the 34th minute, a shot attempt by sophomore Brayan Villegas, who assisted on Costa's goal, took a high bounce on the wet grass and went into the net past the Panthers keeper.

"We're a young team

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 12



Kynlee Miller makes the backhand stop.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Stephanie Swistak receives a pass.



Jose Hescocock keeps the momentum going up the field.



Lexi Kelly makes a defensive play and heads up the field.



Lexi Gauthier makes the stop.

Cougars suffer three straight defeats

WARREN — Last week, the Quaboag Regional High School field hockey suffered a 5-1 defeat against Northbridge. It was the third straight as they also suffered losses against Nipmuc and Blackstone Valley. The Cougars are now 2-4-2 on the season. The Cougars will travel to Leicester on Friday, Oct. 3 at 3:30 p.m. On Tuesday, Oct. 7, the Cougars will have a rematch against Nipmuc on the road.

Offense soars in Pathfinder boys soccer win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER — The weather might have been a little bit gloomy last Wednesday afternoon, but it was all sunshine for the Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity soccer team.

Led by senior Adonis Dupre, the Pioneers overcame an early 1-0 deficit to defeat the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School Dragons, 7-1, in a non-league home match.

"They scored an early goal against us, but we weren't really nervous about it," Dupre said. "We were able to take control of the game very quickly after that."

It turned out to be a very memorable afternoon for Dupre, who finished the home contest with a career-high four goals and two assists.

"I've never scored four goals in a game before," said Dupre, who recorded his first hat-trick in another one-sided home match against Drury High School last October. "I'm very grateful to have this opportunity to play for this soccer team."

Dupre is one of the

Please see **PATHFINDER**, page 10

sports

Middle school girls soccer action



McKenna Rengo sends the ball ahead of an opponent.



Adalyn McHugh makes her way through a pair of defenders.



Kayla Despres takes the ball and heads toward the opposite end.



Ayla Clark heads off a defender.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Maggie Leander makes a quick pass.

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin Regional Middle School girls soccer was in action, facing off with Fitchburg. The Panthers will next be in action on Monday, Oct. 6 against Murdock High School on the road at 4 p.m.



Hazel Serra advances forward after evading a defender.

Robie, Zullo crowned champs at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. - Monadnock Speedway closed out its 55th summer of racing Saturday, with a huge crowd cheering as solid car counts in seven unique divisions battled for the final points and bragging rites earned during the long and successful summer of excitement on the high banks of the Great Race Place.

Along with Weekly Racing Series championships and memorable high finishes atop the 2025 divisional points parades to be decided at the speedway's 2025 season finale at the storied quarter-mile, the Teddy Bear Pools and Spas Triple Crown final event, postponed by rain a week earlier, was at stake too.

Longtime pace truck driver Leo Martin led the All States Material Group 604 Modifieds to the green for the final time Saturday, Andrew Brousseau and Joey Jarvis, both 2025 feature winners, sat up front. But not for long.

Blasting off from fourth on the grid, Leary was in front before lap one was completed, and he'd never look back en route to victory. Having early set fast time with a lap of 12.207 seconds, Leary was untouchable.

Ty Leclerc kept him close until giving way to Robie, who'd started at the back after missing qualifying, on lap 32 but Leary would not be denied. Robie's strong run netted him the 2025 track championship as well the Teddy Bear Pools crown, and Leclerc ended his season in third.

A year ago, Chris Riendeau had a magical season en route to the Monadnock Speedway

Super Street championship. This summer, that magic belonged to second-generation ace Dylan Zullo.

Firing from row three in the Twin State Truck Services 50-lap main event, Zullo took the lead from JD Stockwell Saturday and soared off to his sixth win of the season and, with it, his first career track championship. Justin Beecher's runner-up finish earned him the Teddy Bear Pools title, and Stockwell held strong for third.

Cameron Sontag closed out his Fabian Fuels Mini Stock season with a flourish Saturday. Taking the lead from Claremont regular Dick LaMotte on lap 18, the Sterling, Mass. hot shoe outran Jon Fultz to the checkers and his second win of the season.

Fultz's second-place run earned him his first Monadnock track championship and the Teddy Bear Pools & Spas Triple Crown championship, and Julia Kendall was a strong third in the season finale.

Markus O'Neil led early in the Brattleboro Towing and Recovery Pure Stock feature, but he had a swarm of potent challengers flying in his shadow, none more ominous than the dynamic duo of Kyle Kenny and Carlos Grenier as the 20-car field went to war.

Kenny held the duce spot by lap five, but Grenier had plans of his own. Gordon Farnum's bid for four wins in a row fell by the wayside in a lap-three caution, and Grenier - crowned champion of Claremont's Ridge Runners the night before, took charge on lap 13 and

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Extra roster spots open in fall baseball league

SOUTH HADLEY – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League fall session is underway with just two games played. Due to injuries and other obligations, a small number of roster spots have opened up on teams and the league would like to add a few more players for the remainder of the fall campaign.

Games are Sundays at 10 a.m. for the remainder through Nov. 2. Anyone interested in registering can go to www.quabbinvalley-baseball.org and click on the registration link. There are six games remaining in the season and the fee to play in the remaining games will be prorated for any player who joins. Players looking to join should be age 28 or older. For more information or to ask any questions, contact Greg Scibelli at GScibelli22@yahoo.com.



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Roster takes shape for T-Birds



SPRINGFIELD – St. Louis Blues President of Hockey Operations and General Manager Doug Armstrong announced today that the Blues have assigned 18 players to their AHL affiliate, the Springfield Thunderbirds, including forwards Nikita Alexandrov, Sam Bitten, Hugh McGing, Matthew Peca, Juraj Pekarcik, Dylan Peterson, Simon Robertsson, Jakub Stancl, Sam Stange, Nikita Susuev, and Christopher Wagner, along with

defensemen Michael Buchinger, Quinton Burns, Marc-Andre Gaudet, Samuel Johannesson, and Anthony Kehrer, and goaltenders Will Cranley and Vadim Zherenko.

The T-Birds open their preseason slate on Friday, October 3, when they visit the Providence Bruins at 7:05 p.m. at Amica Mutual Pavilion. They host their lone preseason game on Sunday, October 5 at the MassMutual Center, with puck drop set for 3:05 p.m.

PATHFINDER from page 9

four players listed on the Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity soccer roster who attends Palmer High School, which is located about a mile down the street. They're allowed to play for the Pioneers, who are coached by David Wilson and Joe Bouchie, as part of a co-op.

"I love playing soccer and I wish that we had our own soccer team at Palmer High School, but I'm very thankful for this co-op," added Dupre, who joined the varsity soccer team as a freshman. "When I was a freshman, I didn't realize that Palmer had a co-op with Pathfinder, so I joined the soccer team a couple of games into the season. I've improved a lot during the past four years."

The other three players from Palmer High School listed on this year's Pioneers varsity soccer roster are

senior Jaleel Roman, junior Owen Pear, and freshman Abees Castillo-Clotter.

Dupre, Pear, and Roman are the Pioneers captains, along with junior Cayden Bousquet.

While the other three captains were selected by the coaching staff prior to the start of the regular season, Dupre was named as a captain before his team's road match against Bi-County East rival Ware on September 18. That match ended in a 2-2 draw.

During the winter, Dupre is a member of the Palmer boys' varsity basketball team, but soccer has always been his favorite sport.

The home victory against the Dragons improved the Pioneers overall season record to 3-4-1. They had gone 0-3-1 in their previous four matches, which were all played on the road.

The Pioneers have qual-

Owls football keeps winning

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University scored a pair of touchdowns on blocked punts on the way to a 31-22 win over Worcester State University in a Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference football win at Alumni Field on Saturday afternoon.

Westfield improves to 2-2 overall and 2-1 in the MASCAC, while Worcester is 0-3, 0-2 in the MASCAC.

Owls were led by 110 yards rushing from first-year fullback Manny Mengata, and got six catches for 88 yards from wide-

out Will Brewster.

The two offenses were rarely the headline grabbers in the game as five of the scores came from the two teams' defenses and special teams.

Westfield led 10-0 with 46 seconds left in the first half after a 27-yard field goal from Andrew Currier and then a 6-yard TD run from Aiden Fausek.

But Worcester got themselves on the board on the ensuing kickoff, as the Lancers' Gavin Hatfield took the kick at his own two yard line, juked his way to the left side of the field

and outran everyone for a 98-yard TD return.

The Owls looked to get instant revenge, blocking the extra point try with Andrew Lovell picking up the loose ball and running it back for an apparent 2-pt conversion for the Owls, but two flags flew on the play negating the score. The Lancers second chance at an extra point was foiled by a bad snap.

Westfield marched the ball down the field on the next possession to give Currier a chance for a

Please see **OWLS**, page 11

In a span of two minutes, the Pioneers went from trailing 1-0 to taking a 3-1 lead.

Dupre began the scoring spree with a shot attempt that deflected off the hands of freshman goalie Grace Rachele (7 saves) into the right corner of the net tying the contest at one.

Junior Brody Wetnicka, who had been a defender, was a starting midfielder for the first time against the Dragons (2-4). He was credited with the assist on Dupre's first goal of the match.

About a minute later, Dupre fired another shot into the back of the net giving his team a 2-1 lead.

Then Castillo-Clotter, who assisted on the Pioneers' second goal, scored the first of his two goals thirty seconds later. Dupre was credited with the assist.

The Dragons had a couple of scoring chances late in

the first half, but the Pioneers held a 3-1 halftime advantage.

Castillo-Clotter netted his second goal of the match, which was assisted by junior Ian Sauri-Neves, on a floater that landed in the left corner three minutes into the second half.

Then Dupre delivered a pass to Wetnicka, who blasted a shot into the back of the net extending the Pioneers advantage to 5-1 during the 49th minute. It was also Wetnicka's first goal in a varsity game.

Pathfinder Tech's final two goals of the match were scored by Dupre, who entered this week's action with a team-leading eight goals.

Roman, who assisted on Dupre's final goal, scored four goals in the first eight regular season matches.

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OWLS from page 10

47-yard field goal try at the buzzer, but the kick was wide left and the Owls took a 10-6 lead into the half.

Worcester grabbed the lead, 13-10 after Cam Goodrich got a charity hop on a Westfield State fumble and scooted 72 yards for a TD early in the third quarter. Westfield answered a few minutes later, as Nick Gauger broke through the line to block a lancers punt, and Tafari Proctor scooped the ball up and returned it seven yards for an Owls touchdown and a 17-13 lead.

A couple of series later, Worcester took advantage of another short field after an Owls fumble, capping a 5-play, 35-yard drive with a 2-yard touchdown run from Jermaine Norfleet to grab a 20-17 lead.

Westfield answered early in the fourth quarter, marching 75 yards in 10 plays with Mengata punching it in from nine-yards out to take a 24-20 lead after Currier added the extra point.

Westfield built the lead to 31-20 after pinning the Lancers back in their own end, and forcing a punt from tight formation with ball at their own 1 yard line, Westfield's Budder Ferreira not only blocked the punt, but smothered it in the end-

zone for the touchdown with 8:37 left in the game.

The Owls had the opportunity to run the clock out late, but after a 3-and-out in their own end, the punt snapped sailed out of the back of the end zone for a Worcester safety to trim the lead to 31-22.

Westfield sacked Worcester State quarterback twice on the ensuing possession, and ultimately forced Worcester to turn the ball over on downs and the Owls ran out the clock for the win.

Westfield State's defense held the Lancers to just 92 yards of total offense, and -43 yards on the ground.

The Owls sacked Ayotte six times for a total loss of 46 yards with Ferreira and Aydan Verba each racking up 1.5 sacks, and Chase Goldberg, Justyn Gardener and Emerson Ysnardi each getting home for a sack as well.

Westfield held Worcester to 12 first downs on the day and the Lancers were 1-12 on third downs.

The Lancers were led by Lance Williams, who caught 11 passes for 83 yards, and Ayotte finished the day 16-30 for 135 yards and two interceptions.

Westfield will be back in action next Saturday, hosting Anna Maria in a MASCAC conference game at 12 noon at Alumni Field.

INDIANS from page 9

year playing for the varsity team and she's still learning," Sandoval said. "She's been improving in every game, which is very exciting."

In the middle of the first half, Cotaj fired a shot from the right side, which was saved by Lachance.

The Lady Panthers had a very good scoring chance late in the half when junior Addyson Petrashewicz weaved around a couple of defenders before taking a shot which was saved by Jones, who made six of her saves during the first half.

Petrashewicz, who's the only junior on the varsity team, is the Lady Panthers captain. She also anchors the defensive unit along with eighth grader Shiloh Kibbe, eighth grader Lainey Haley, and sophomore Lillian Pronovost.

Brouillette, who is the Lady Panthers leading goal scorer this season, had several shots on goal during the first 20 minutes of the second half. She finally broke the ice with a breakaway shot that



Emily Jones smothers a save.



Madisyn Slattery pushes a pass away ahead of an opponent taking control.



Naomi Torres eyes a teammate up the field as an opponent looms.

sailed into the back of the net during the 67th minute.

"We had a lot of shots before Harper finally scored late in the second half," Sandoval said. "She's a very hard worker just like all the other players on the team."

The only goal of the match was assisted by Ladue

The two rivals could face each other again in the Western Mass. tournament and in the Division 5 state tournament.

RACE from page 10

never looked back.

Kenny's second-place finish earned the talented young Green Mountain State pilot his first career track championship, and O'Neil's rock-solid night's work brought him home third, just ahead of Kyle Boniface and Jimmy Zellman. Grenier captured the Teddy Bear Pools & Spas Triple Crown championship.

Travis Hollins earned the 2025 Six Shooter championship by the slimmest of margins. Entering Saturday's season finale, he trailed 2024 champ Michael Yeaton by two points, then pulling even with his heat race win to be dead even as the feature went green.

Hollins led all the way in the Six Shooter main event, holding off the hard charging Yeaton to win his first career championship. With Yeaton second, Josh Brigham was third in Saturday's 25-lapper.

Matt Robinson took the lead on lap 11 of the Pro V8 Sportsman feature and sped off to his first career win on the high banks. Scott Riggleman - a regular at Wall Stadium in New Jersey, was second, and Stephen Dubois came home third. The exciting full-fendered division will compete eight times next summer on the high banks.

Sofia Rego led all the way in the final Doug's Auto Body Young Guns event of the year. It was Rego's fourth victory in the youth division. Maya Bell was second Saturday, and seven-time 2025 winner Hunter Duquette was third, before later scoring a top ten finish in the Pure Stocks.

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public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Sept. 21-28, the Ware Police Department responded to 26 miscellaneous calls, 13 administrative calls, eight traffic violations, 19 emergency 911 calls, eight motor vehicle accidents, five harassments, two thefts/larcenies, one trespass, one structure fire, one gas leak/odor, one breaking and entering, four safety hazards, seven animal calls and 45 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, Sept. 21
 1:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 6:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 8:15 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, North Street, Investigated
 9:48 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, West Street, Report Made
 10:54 a.m. Safety Hazard, Benham Avenue, Services Rendered
 12:13 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Morse Avenue, Services Rendered
 2:37 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Main Street, Services Rendered
 5:31 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Crescent Street, Dispatch Handled

Monday, Sept. 22
 2:56 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, High Street, Dispatch Handled
 5:47 a.m. Safety Hazard, Babcock Tavern Road, Services Rendered
 6:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 9:36 a.m. Warrant Service, Church Street, Arrest Made
 12:01 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Sept. 23
 6:13 a.m. Safety Hazard, King Street, Investigated
 10:10 p.m. Assault, Main

Street, Services Rendered
 10:25 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Investigated

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 4:35 a.m. Disturbance, Mountain View Drive, Arrest Made
 10:10 a.m. Drugs, Otis Avenue, Report Made
 11:22 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Warebrook Avenue, Services Rendered
 5:21 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Services Rendered
 7:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Walnut Street, Investigated
 9:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Main Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 9:47 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Quarry Street, Dispatch Handled

Thursday, Sept. 25
 4:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Criminal Complaint Request
 5:18 a.m. Traffic Collision, West Warren Road, Services Rendered
 7:37 a.m. Gas Leak/Odor, West Street, Services Rendered
 8:38 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
 12:59 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Services Rendered
 4:09 p.m. Disturbance, Otis Avenue, Criminal Complaint Request
 7:43 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Osborne Road, Dispatch Handled

Friday, Sept. 26
 7:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
 1:41 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Otis Avenue, Dispatch Handled
 2:12 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, North Street, Report Made
 2:25 p.m. Assault, West Street, Services Rendered
 3:35 p.m. Abandoned 911

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.

Call, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered
 5:33 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Main Street, Services Rendered
 5:33 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Highland Village, Advised
 6:54 p.m. Theft/Larceny, West Street, Investigated

Saturday, Sept. 27
 4:48 a.m. Disturbance, Otis Avenue, Arrest Made
 8:46 a.m. Structure Fire, Otis Avenue, Extinguished
 10:04 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, East Street, Dispatch Handled
 6:03 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Highland Village, Services Rendered
 7:03 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
 7:30 p.m. DUI/Impaired, West Street, Advised
 8:35 p.m. Assault, North Street, Services Rendered

Sunday, Sept. 28
 12:24 a.m. Trespass, Pine Crest Circle, Investigated
 8:26 a.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
 1:30 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, East Street, Report Made
 1:45 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Clifford Avenue, Services Rendered
 5:27 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Services Rendered

Barre Road, Services Rendered
 5:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:05 p.m. 911 Disturbance, High Street, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 8:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Report Taken
 6:21 p.m. Complaint, Fleming Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 25
 3:25 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 5:41 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard
 7:03 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:34 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Telephone, Officer Handled
 3:15 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ruggles Hill Road, Services Rendered
 4:10 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham

Road, Officer Handled
 7:40 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Sept. 26
 7:14 a.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Services Rendered
 7 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

Saturday, Sept. 27
 8:29 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:38 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
 9:37 p.m. Investigation, Main Street, Spoken To

Sunday, Sept. 28
 9:23 a.m. Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:54 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Duhamel Court, Services Rendered

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of Sept. 22-29, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 51 building/property checks, 28 directed/area patrols, five radar assignments, one traffic control, 11 emergency 911 calls, one citizen assist, one assist other agency, two complaints, one investigation, one harassment, five safety hazards, one motor vehicle accident, three animal calls and seven motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Sept. 22
 11:49 a.m. Harassment, Telephone, Officer Handled
 2:48 p.m. Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered

Tuesday, Sept. 23
 8:38 a.m. Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled
 8:56 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
 3:39 p.m. Safety Hazard, Mellon Road, Services Rendered
 4:42 p.m. Safety Hazard,

Barre Road, Services Rendered
 5:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Vehicle Towed
 6:05 p.m. 911 Disturbance, High Street, Services Rendered

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 8:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Lower Road, Report Taken
 6:21 p.m. Complaint, Fleming Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, Sept. 25
 3:25 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
 5:41 a.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Removed Hazard
 7:03 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
 9:34 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Telephone, Officer Handled
 3:15 p.m. Safety Hazard, Ruggles Hill Road, Services Rendered
 4:10 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham

Road, Officer Handled
 7:40 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Old Petersham Road, Transported to Hospital

Friday, Sept. 26
 7:14 a.m. Safety Hazard, Fiske Road, Services Rendered
 7 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Officer Handled

Saturday, Sept. 27
 8:29 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Greenwich Road, Transported to Hospital
 2:38 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Church Street, Citation Issued
 9:37 p.m. Investigation, Main Street, Spoken To

Sunday, Sept. 28
 9:23 a.m. Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Transported to Hospital
 10:54 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Duhamel Court, Services Rendered

Warren Police Log

During the week of Sept. 13-20, the Warren Police Department responded to 222 building/property checks, 19 community policings, 12 emergency 911 calls, one complaint, two safety hazards, one fire, two motor vehicle accidents, two animal calls and 33 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Saturday, Sept. 13
 3:25 p.m. Breathing Difficulty, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
 4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 6:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Sunday, Sept. 14
 5:13 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Old West Brookfield Road, Report Filed
 8:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 8:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Monday, Sept. 15
 4:01 a.m. Overdose/Poisoning, Bacon Street, Transported to Hospital
 10:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 11:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Columbus Avenue, Criminal Complaint
 11:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

11:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
 12:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

1:16 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

1:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

2:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

2:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

2:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

3:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

3:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

3:59 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Gilbert Road, Transported to Hospital

4:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

4:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

5:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

5:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

6:19 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

6:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

9:04 p.m. Safety Concern, Bemis Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Tuesday, Sept. 16
 4:12 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, South Street, Report Filed

1:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

6:17 p.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, Sept. 17
 8:55 a.m. Suspicious Person, Main Street, Report Filed

6:15 p.m. Noise Complaint, North Street, Investigated

7:20 p.m. Falls, Mechanic Street, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Sept. 18
 3:52 a.m. Overdose/Poisoning, Washington Street, Transported to Hospital

9:47 a.m. Seizures, South Street, Transported to Hospital

2:42 p.m. Miscellaneous Fire, Crescent Street, Investigated

6:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Maple Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

Friday, Sept. 19
 6:01 a.m. Seizures, Reed Street, Transported to Hospital

8:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Criminal Complaint

10:10 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Brook Road, Investigated

6:15 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Crescent Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

7:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Hawkes Road, Mutual Aid Transport

Saturday, Sept. 20
 9:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued

4:54 p.m. Sick/Unknown, North Street, Ambulance Signed Refusal

8:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

8:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Fire Dept. open house is Oct. 4

WARE – The Ware Fire Department will hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join the firefighters for some fun and education. There will be station tours, apparatus tours, gear demo, handouts and information and arts and crafts.

This year the Ware Fire Department will be collecting donations for Second Chance Animal Services. Donations of food, treats, toys, old blankets and towels are greatly appreciated. For a list of shelter needs, visit www.secondchanceanimals.org/wish-list.

Maddie's Dogs will be at the station during the open house offering food and refreshments.



BBB warns of loan processing company scam

Scammers are at it again, posing as representatives from loan processing companies to trick consumers into sharing personal information, first using the name Jessica, now Evelyn from "Lending Union's west coast branch" (Lending Union is not a real company).

This advanced fee loan phishing scam often comes in the form of harassing phone calls and voicemails. The caller insists they need to verify minor details, such as your income, to finalize your loan application. While the message may sound convincing, it's a ruse to steal your private information.

How the scam works

You receive a call or voicemail from someone claiming to be from a loan processing team. The caller says they've been trying to contact you about your loan application and need to verify some final details to complete your approval, although, more than likely, you never applied for a loan. They provide a call-back number and application ID to make the message seem legitimate.

The voicemail emphasizes urgency, requesting you call back before a specific deadline to finalize the loan.

The Better Business Bureau has received over 500 Scam Tracker reports about "Jessica" and over 1,000 about "Evelyn" indicating that scammers are aggressively targeting consumers. People report receiving multiple calls per day, often from different phone numbers but with nearly identical voicemail scripts.

Realistically, there is no loan, and returning the call could lead to scammers collecting sensitive information, such as your Social Security number, bank account details, or other personal data.

Tips to avoid this scam

Verify the company's legitimacy. If you're contacted about a loan application you don't recall submitting, hang up and do your research. Look up the company name online and contact them directly using verified contact information.

Never share personal information with unsolicited callers. Scammers often ask for details like your Social Security number or bank account information. Avoid sharing sensitive information over the phone unless you initiate the call.

Watch for red flags in voicemails. Be wary of messages with vague details, generic names, or urgent demands for a call-back. Scammers often use scripted messages to target as many people as possible.

Avoid calling unknown numbers back. Resist the urge to call the number back. Returning calls to unknown or suspicious numbers could connect you to scammers or result in unexpected fees.

Check for scam reports. Look up the phone number or details of the voicemail online. Many victims post about similar scams to warn others.

Report suspicious activity. If you believe you've been contacted by a scammer, report the incident to BBB Scam Tracker at BBB.org/ScamTracker.

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.

PANTHERS from page 9

and it's difficult to make a second half comeback," Crowther said. "We did make a couple of adjustments at halftime.

The only senior listed on the Panthers roster is Collin Lindley, who's a center back.

The Panthers other three starting defenders against Clinton were sophomore's Silas Stukuls Barrieau, sophomore Abraham Brown, and Jake Doty.

Trailing by three goals at halftime, the Panthers broke the ice two minutes into the second half following a free kick goal.

Dilling, who had scored a goal in five consecutive games, booted the ball into the box from the sideline in front of the Panthers bench. Sophomore Matt Labrousse tapped the ball into the net past junior goalie Noah Gates (5 saves).

About five minutes later, Dilling sent a corner kick into the box where a shot by

sophomore Jake Doty was saved by Gates.

The Panthers didn't have very many other scoring chances.

With two minutes remaining in regulation, Pimentel scored his second goal, which sealed the Gaels second home win of the season.

Quabbin will be looking to even the season series when they host the Gaels on October 21 at 3:45 pm.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day Oct. 18

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 8 a.m.-noon.

This event is open to the residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. A recycling center sticker is not required.

Please note, there are fees per item charged to cover the cost of hauling and processing. Cash or check payment to "Town of Hardwick" accepted.

Prices are as follows: mattress/waterbed mattress/futon, \$30; couch, \$30;



sleeper sofa bed/pullout couch, \$40; loveseat/upholstered chair, \$25; pool table, \$25; wall unit cabinets, \$20; large entertainment center, \$20; sink, \$15; ceiling fan/upright fan/box fan, \$10; toilet, \$20; carpeting/foam carpet backing, \$15; kitchen/

dining table, \$15; bookcase/bureau, \$15; trash compactator, \$10; wooden chair/end table/coffee table/night stand, \$12; car seat (baby/child), \$7; bulk Styrofoam (bagged), \$5; and suitcases, \$5.

The staff and volunteers reserve the right to price or reject other items not listed above accordingly on site.

For more information, people can email recycling@townofhardwick.com or stop by the Hardwick Recycling Center during open hours. Volunteers are also needed during the Bulk Waste Collection Event.

WALK from page 1

Violence Task Force's formation.

With strong partnerships with the Ware, Warren and Hardwick police departments, as well as resources agencies, faith organizations, businesses and more, the task force members have helped 318 survivors escape abuse. Of that number, 28% reported to be Ware residents.

Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force member Melissa Hutchins said domestic violence is an issue that has an impact on the community as a whole, not just the survivors.

"It's a community issue," she said. "It's a social issue."

Since its formation, the task force has worked to share information and resources to community members about domestic violence, and educate survivors about laws related to abuse.

Hutchins said this year, the task force members have visited libraries, playgroups and more to read and share books about consent geared toward younger children.

Lamothe said domestic violence is something she and her peers have become more aware of since reaching high school, and they have learned

that it is more than just physical abuse.

A recent change in abuse laws is the inclusion of coercive control as a form of abuse, which is now automatically included in the language of abuse prevention orders.

"I think it is the most significant legal change in 20 years," Moran said of the law.

About this year's walk

In honor of the 10th anniversary of the Domestic Violence Awareness Walk, the task force has included a community gathering to recognize the work that has been done to make the communities healthier and safer.

In addition to a number of featured speakers, the event will include a free child's bicycle raffle featuring two bicycles donated by Walmart thanks to the efforts of Ware Police Chief Shawn Crevier. The Hardwick Police Department will be securing bicycle helmets as well.

Behavioral Health Network's Family Resource Center will have a kid's table and the Ware Knights of Columbus Council 183 will offer hot dogs, chips and drinks. Music will be provided by Lori Brooks and face-painting will also be available.

"Come out and join us and help make people safer," Moran said.

About the task force

The Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force currently serves Ware, Warren and Hardwick. The mission of the task force is to prevent and respond to domestic violence in these towns with community-led, community driven initiatives.

The Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force is funded by a grant awarded to the Town of Ware by the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Community Development Block Grant Program, by the Massachusetts Office of Rural Health, and by donations from the community.

Task force members are a group of over 300 community members, survivors, and representatives from local and county agencies that have been at work preventing and ending intimate partner violence since 2000.

For more information, visit www.waredivtaskforce.org or follow the task force on Facebook.

HARDWICK from page 1

Harry Comerford of the Planning Board commented on how important the land is for the town and how it could benefit financially having this lease agreement if it is approved.

"Money seems evident here," Comerford said.

The concern is how much access the town will have and what the parcel sizes are for the equipment that Kearsarge will use. The space consists of 48 acres of land, and the town wants to know how much the company will take up.

Comerford commented again on how a lease could lead to the town having a good revenue source for years to come.

"This could be a good revenue source for the town now and maybe in the future," Comerford.

Bill Cole of the Planning Board commented and wanted to know what the size of the parcels are and hopes the lawyers of both parties can work out an agreement. The town does want to retain some rights to the land, especially if there is an opportunity to generate income from other possibilities.

"What do we give up by doing that," Cole asked referring to the town possibly leasing land.

Select Board Vice Chair William Tinker reminded the public that the town has not reached a final lease agreement yet as negotiations are currently ongoing. The Select Board is not voting anytime soon on this matter and any lease agreement that comes up in the future would still have to be finalized.

"We're not at a final lease agreement," Tinker said.

The board members would like to investigate the blueprints and dimensions of what the company is using and that could help the town see what the bar-

riers are between the potentially leased land and the remainder for town use. One idea shared was to lease the land, but also have a right of way passage so the Highway Department can still collect sand and gravel.

Caggiano said the board has copies of the blueprints to review as they're still in the early stages of this discussion regarding Kearsarge Solar.

Vacant town buildings

The board had a discussion on vacant town buildings. The Paige Building was almost purchased, but the process is currently on hold, and the title portion is unclear. Vollheim said the town is in the process of trying to clean up the situation of the title.

Based off this information, Select Board Clerk Jeffrey Schaaf thinks nothing will be done with the Paige Building this year. When asked if there are any records of the title of the building, Caggiano said there is a huge folder about the subject that the board can review.

Conditions of several vacant buildings are a concern, and it is a long "wait and see" type of situation.

Unemployment invoice

Caggiano talked about the unemployment invoice that the town has taken. The Town Administrator is looking to see if the board would approve to take money out of the Sewer Enterprise account to pay this invoice. Caggiano did inform the board that the Sewer Superintendent is aware of this topic.

The board voted and approved the unemployment invoice for \$21,305.61 to come out of the Sewer Enterprise account.

Town Administrator's report

Caggiano shared her

report and mentioned that there has been interest expressed in some of the vacant properties in town. The town is still in the process of fixing financial errors from past years and Caggiano has attended various meetings.

Various job postings have been advertised, and the town is hoping to fill those positions soon.

Caggiano also talked about setting up the public forum for the Memorial Park Study project. Caggiano will continue to give reports on a monthly basis.

Select Board roundtable

The Select Board talked about attending Police Chief James Ayotte's retirement party at Hardwick Crossing Country Club. All members agree that he will be missed.

"Hardwick was very fortunate to have him," Tinker said.

For goal setting, the Select Board first heard from Schaaf who said he'd like to see the board do some more planning.

Schaaf believes there are businesses in Gilbertville that could use some more help. For example, more street parking for visitors. There should be more promotion in some development of properties that are in the area.

"Downtown Gilbertville could be made into a destination," Schaaf said.

There could be ways to continue and encourage to make things better for these existing businesses and lead to further development.

Caggiano commented and mentioned that there are towns that have a community development committee. The town could look into having some sort of board or community planning. The focus is thinking of some vision for the town.

Michael David Skowyra, 73

WARE – It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Michael David "Scubby/Mike Bass" Skowyra.

He passed peacefully with some close friends by his side on Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. Scubby was 73 years young.

Mike graduated from Ware High School, he was a member of the Class of 1969. His sport of choice in high school was football.

After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Massachusetts National Guard. He followed in his dad's "footsteps" by becoming a licensed electrician. Scubby spent his whole career at UMASS Amherst.

Mike enjoyed gardening, camping, playing the slots, lottery tickets, fishing, snowmobiling and other outdoor activities. He was

a daily reader of the Boston Globe, where he followed his favorite New England professional teams.

Mike was a "Gold Card" member of the Weir River Social Club.

Mike was predeceased by his loving parents, David S. Skowyra and Theresa Mae Rose (Charbonneau) Skowyra. He will be missed by his many friends who had the pleasure of sharing times in his life.

Scubby will be laid to rest next to his parents on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 at 11 a.m. in Mount Carmel Cemetery, Ware.

Funeral Service is under the direction of Cebula Funeral Home, Ware. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: www.cebulafuneral-home.com.



WARREN BOS from page 1

Moment of silence

The board had a moment of silence for Sewer Plant Chief Operator Ralph Zebrowski, who passed away on Sept. 11 and Ann Tuttle, who passed away on Sept. 9. Both individuals made significant contributions to the town.

Dog licensing fees

The board heard from Town Clerk Laurie Stockley who made a request to increase the dog licensing fees. Stockley has reached out to various departments about fines and fees that may need to be changed and came across the current fees for dog licensing.

Stockley compared prices to other surrounding towns and found out that the fees for Warren haven't been increased in many years. Stockley explained the various fees depending on if pets are spayed or neutered. This change would be for the 2026 licensing period.

The board voted and accepted the recommendation for the dog licensing fees.

Appointments

The Selectmen appointed Deborah Young to the position of Animal Control Officer for a one-year term. Young has over 30 years of experience and is currently the Animal Control Officer in Brookfield. Ryan Davis was appointed to the position of alternate Animal Control Officer for a one-year term.

Bryce Douglas was appointed as a Special Traffic Constable until June 30, 2026. This was a request from the Police Chief and Douglas had participated at the junior fire academy pro-

gram at Quaboag Regional High School. Douglas has been with the Warren Fire Department for a couple years and is looking to help out the Town more.

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie spoke highly of Douglas and his time at the Fire Department and is also a certified EMT.

"He has been a great addition to the department," Lavoie said.

The board appointed Douglas to the position of Special Traffic Constable.

Brandon Hill was also appointed to the position of Special Traffic Constable and is currently an applicant for a vacant police officer position at the Warren Police Department. Hill had served as a part-time and full-time police officer in East Brookfield for five years and is looking for a new opportunity.

Comments and concerns

During comments and concerns Chairperson Richard Eichacker shared a follow up related to the public safety complex discussion. At the last Selectmen's meeting Jim Fountain brought up the idea of the town possibly considering the bank building in the center of Warren to be possible location for the Police Department.

Eichacker said he called the engineer Fountain spoke to and had some additional information to share with the board.

"The engineer did not do a real structural assessment. In other words, opening walls or ceiling to try and really look to see how the building was constructed," Eichacker said.

Eichacker did mention that this engineer has done assessments in the past but is retired. Based off

Death notice

Skowyra, Michael David "Scubby"
Died Sept. 26, 2025
Services Oct. 9, 2025

OBITUARY POLICY

Ware River News

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

this information the board thinks this engineer is probably not certified anymore. Eichacker also mentioned that the retired engineer didn't do any asbestos or lead testing.

It may be impossible to bring the bank building up to standards. However, Eichacker believes the best thing to do is to get a study done if the town really wants to consider the bank building. The town could vote on getting a study done.

Selectmen David Dufresne wants an idea of what the building would cost the town to purchase and how much it would cost to modify the building to get to current standards. More about the bank building was discussed during the Public Safety Complex informational meeting, which was held at the Quaboag Regional Middle High School auditorium on Sept. 27.

Several site options have been identified, and the study was conducted by Tecton Architects. Town officials will be looking to hear input on location, building, and affordability from the residents of Warren.

GARDEN from page 4

Live and learn.

Aside from a part sunny window, fuchsias can also be overwintered out of the main living space, following my recommendations above.

The polka dot plant is another story all together. The roots were massive and the top growth the same. Although the plant looked diminutive at purchase, there was no saying that now. It became the "hog" of the pot.

I pruned both the roots and the top growth, cutting it back to healthy growth just a four inches tall, settling on an eight inch pot for the three original cuttings that made up the one

plant. I don't have high hopes for overwintering, because, I guess, this plant has always been a finicky one as a seedling in the greenhouse.

It looks dry so you water it, only to find out it has root rot and now you've killed it.

My research indicates that overwintering temperatures should be warmer than what you would use for geraniums or fuchsias. We are talking 65 to 75 degrees. Another point of interest is that the plant likes humidity.

Putting the pot in a tray of wet gravel will provide some humidity to the immediate area and may help, especially since winter air tends to be dry. Indirect light is best for these plants

as well. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Be adventurous, by trying to overwinter some annuals. You just may make it a little easier on your wallet come spring, especially if your favorites are growing strong right in your own house!

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

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HOLE SPECIALIST. Ludlow MA is looking to hire machine shop assistant. Good mechanical abilities and basic blueprint reading required. Full and part time positions available.
Email Bob@HoleSpecialists.com

PART TIME SNOWPLOW DRIVERS NEEDED

Part time snowplow drivers are needed for the Town of New Braintree for the 2025-2026 season. Positions available for both CDL and non-CDL License.
If you are interested, please contact
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public notices

WARE MA JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHILLER REPLACEMENT WARE, MASSACHUSETTS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the "Ware Junior Senior High School Chiller Replacement" will be received by the Town Manager at the Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 until 2 p.m. local time on November 6, 2025 at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Sealed Bids must have outer envelope marked as "Ware Junior Senior High School Chiller Replacement". Sealed Sub-Bids from Sub-contractors addressed as referenced above will be received by the Town Manager at Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 until 2 p.m. local time on October 30, 2025 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. Sub-Bids with the required Bid deposit will be received for the following items of work:

Subtrades Electrical Work

The work generally consists of replacing an air cooled chiller, chilled water pumps, controls, and ancillary equipment. Power wiring will be disconnected and reconnected. The circuit breakers serving the chiller, pumps, and controls will be replaced. The security fence enclosing the chiller will also be replaced. **Bids shall be on a lump sum price as indicated in the Bid Form.**

All Bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 44A - 44J inclusive as amended.

In accordance with Section 44D of Chapter 149 of the General Laws of Massachusetts as amended, the prospective General Bidders and Filed Sub-Bidders must submit with their Bid, a certificate of eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), showing that the Bidder has been approved to bid on projects of the size and nature as advertised herein. Prospective General Bidders and Filed Sub-Bidders must also submit an updated statement summarizing their record for the period between the latest DCAMM certificate and the date of the Bid submittal. The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the General Bidder shall be for the category of work defined as "HVAC". The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the Filed Sub-Bidders shall be for the category of work for which they are submitting a Bid.

Bidding Documents may be obtained electronically from the Tighe & Bond website at: http://www.tighebond.com/Projects_Out_to_Bid.php

Prospective bidders must complete a one-time registration process on the web site in order to receive log-in credentials. Bidders must log in to the web site to download bidding documents for the project. Bidders will be added to the "planholders" or prospective bidders list upon downloading the bidding documents for the project.

A bid deposit shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Commissioner of Department of Workforce Development under the provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Contractor, before Bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Minimum

Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed Work under this Contract. Federal Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the United States Department of Labor under the Davis-Bacon Act also apply to this project.

A non-mandatory pre-Bid conference will be held at Ware Junior Senior School, 237 West Street, Ware MA on October 21, 2025 at 10AM. This is not a mandatory pre-bid conference, but all prospective bidders are encouraged to attend. Bidders attending the pre-Bid conference should meet and check in at the main entrance. A photo ID will be required.

Owner reserves the right to waive any informality in, or to reject any or all Bids, or to accept any Bid which in their opinion, is in the public interest to do so.

TOWN OF WARE, MASSACHUSETTS

Consulting Engineer: Tighe & Bond, Inc. 53 Southampton Road Westfield, MA 01085 413-562-1600

10/02/2025

Notice of Public Hearing Ware Zoning Board of Appeals LEGAL NOTICE

V-2025-03

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Zoning Board of Appeals, per the powers given under M.G.L Chapter 40A, will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, October 22nd, 2025 at 7:00 PM** on the application of Christopher Gagnon, for a Variance (V-2025-03). The applicant is requesting variance relief from the setback and placement requirements for an accessory structure (garage) under Section 5.2.2.A, of the Zoning Bylaw, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025,

this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Zoning Board of Appeals as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Town Hall, Ware, MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via zoom. Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

SITE LOCATION: 19 Woodland Hts, Ware MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 7078, Page 137. Property is also identified as Assessor's Parcel # 10-0-74. Zoned: Suburban Residential (SR).

A complete copy of the application can be found at the Town Clerk's office and on the Planning & Community Development Department website under Recent Filings. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated.

Ware Zoning Board Of Appeals
S.K Robinson, Chairman
10/02, 10/09/2025



Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500

Docket No. HS25P0604EA Estate of: George Emil Chrabaszcz Also known as: George E. Chrabaszcz Date of Death: 06/26/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Glenn A. Larzazs, of Ware, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Glenn A. Larzazs, of Ware, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/22/2025.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day,

action may be taken without further notice to you. **UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Diana S. Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 19, 2025

Mark S. Ames, Register of Probate

10/02/2025

TOWN OF WARE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Ware Selectboard will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 6:45pm**, in the Selectboard's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to determine if the property at 92-102 Main Street, Ware, MA is dilapidated, dangerous, unsafe or otherwise constitutes a nuisance, in accordance with MGL Chapter 139, Section 1, and to take any action thereto. The Selectboard will receive comments from interested residents at the hearing, or residents may send written comments to the Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Nancy Talbot
Selectboard Chair

10/02/2025

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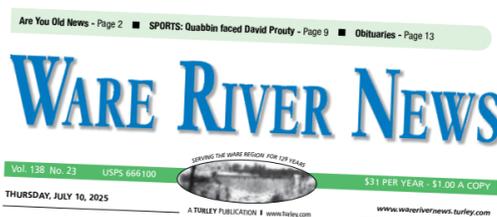
Advertising Deadlines:

October 27 & November 3

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

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Great AMERICAN MUSCLE Car Show

First ever car show pays tribute to U.S. horsepower

By Paula Oulmette
Editor
poulmette@turley.com

PALMER - Car enthusiasts celebrated our nation's independence and America-made horsepower at the first ever Great American Muscle Car Show held at Palmer Motorsports Park this past Saturday.

Hundreds of American muscle cars were on display at the track, ranging from hot rod and go-karts, to popular "pony cars" such as Mustangs and Challengers.

This event was sponsored by Steve Ford Lincoln and Palmer Motorsports Park. Airing with EMPERORFORDANCE, The Valley's Classic Hot 97.7 gave a live broadcast from the car show and played music for all to enjoy.

Please see **CAR SHOW**, page 6

ConCom held public hearing

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE - The Conservation Commission met on July 1 for a public hearing for a lot off Conestoga Road.

Pursuing the project on Lot 2B of Conestoga Road, the Professional Land Surveyor for Land Planning Inc., Ryan Hill. The project consists of moving into the lot and there is a stream on site that needs to be conserved for access. Hill said the purpose of wanting to cross the stream is to provide the house on site with septic.

The land surveyor's goal is to still protect the wetlands and reduce disturbance areas. The project also features the installation of a safe driveway on the lot.

The commission pulled a map of the lot on their screen and shared their main concerns. Conservation Chair Joyce Eichacker circled some of the impacted areas on the map and wanted to have a description of what the house would look like.

The house is going to have a walkway to access the porch and a walkway to the walk-in basement. There are also a plan to install an infiltration system for the roof runoff and a groundwater recharge.

The Conservation Commission had documentation to show with the Hill that is required information. One of the items is a reputation checklist, a documentation check, and a document where researchers are encouraged to follow and document when

Please see **HEARING**, page 5

Selectboard, residents discuss the use of trust funds

By Paula Oulmette
Editor
poulmette@turley.com

WARE - Several residents attended the July 1 meeting to ask the Selectboard to reconsider its vote in support of buying the one of the Lewis Gilbert Trust under current trustee, Bank of America, with Baystate Health as its beneficiary.

Friends of Mary Lane Hospital members Cindy Allen Boucher and Cathy Cavio, along with several other residents, spoke in support of naming the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts as the new trustee.

Boucher said Bank of America made a decision on April 6 to turn the foundation has some urgent care components to it.

Hospital Review Committee Chair Howard Trietsch said for the last four years, the committee has worked to bring health care back to town. He said the recent proposal by Baystate Health to open a site in town needs the trust fund money in order to move forward.

"This is an opportunity to bring healthcare back to Ware," he said. "We have a real plan. It is a small, a lean funding. It is Convenient Care, which by their definition has some urgent care components to it."

Open meeting law complaint
Selectboard Chair Nancy Talbot read the Selectboard's response to Boucher's open meeting law complaint filed against the board's executive session vote regarding the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

The Selectboard members voted to release the dis-

Please see **FUNDS**, page 5

Wingmasters visit Hardwick for Summer Reading

HARDWICK - A very special program was held on June 23 at the Town House in Hardwick.

Native American Artifacts and Birds of Prey by Julie Collier of Wingmasters and the Paige Memorial Library with funding from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council.

Native Americans revered birds of prey for their hunting prowess. To invoke the spirit of these powerful predators, Native people followed the ancient tradition of wearing or carrying bird of prey feathers. They also admired the noble beauty of raptor feathers, from the black and white tail feathers of juvenile feathery of hawks and falcons, patterned with arrow-

head-shaped markings.

The strong connection between raptors and Native Americans suggested this program which combines artifacts and both explains and shows how different

Please see **WINGMASTERS**, page 12

Residents discuss concerns about rail trail usage

By Paula Oulmette
Editor
poulmette@turley.com

WARE - Selectboard Vice-Chair Josh Kusnetz said he was contacted about concerns regarding access to the Mass Central Rail Trail in the area of Oakledge Circle.

At the Selectboard's July 1 meeting, Kusnetz said a resident shared his concerns and video footage of ATV, dirt bikes, golf carts and unleashed animals entering private property. He expressed his own concerns about someone being hurt by the use of motorized vehicles on the trail.

He said these motorized vehicles do not belong on the trail, and he said the placement of gates near Oakledge Circle would help to prevent this type of unauthorized use.

Please see **TRAIL**, page 3

Questions needed for 'Meet the Candidates' forum

WARE - Ware Community Television and the Ware River News will be hosting a "Meet the Candidates" forum prior to

At the July 1, the Selectboard appointed Somer Bren to serve as a full-time police officer on the Police Department. Bren is shown with Police Chief Shawn Cavio.

Please see **TRAIL**, page 3

Dan Flynn
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WATERWHEEL REALTY
Paul Varney Sr.
 Real Estate Broker and Owner
 paulraymondvarney@gmail.com

978-355-4438
 978-355-3454

Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. **Asking \$335,000.** A 2.5% commission will be paid to the buyers' broker. MLS # 73433198

Brand New Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 37 Gauthier Rd., Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home features an open kitchen/living room concept, perfect for family gatherings. Two large bedrooms on opposite ends of the home. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet and large attached bathroom. Just off the kitchen is a laundry area with door leading to back deck and yard. There is a monthly HOA fee of \$675 per month which includes water, sewage, rubbish removal, and taxes. All exterior and interior doorways are 36" wide. **Asking \$265,000.** A 2.5% commission to be paid to buyers' broker. MLS # 73397436

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
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