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WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

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Durant and Teabo vie for senate seat

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

Two candidates are running for the State Senate seat for the Worcester & Hampshire District at the upcoming Tuesday, Nov. 3 State Election.

Incumbent Peter Durant of Spencer is seeking reelection and he is being challenged by newcomer Shannon Teabo of West Brookfield.

A Meet the Candidates forum will be hosted by the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond, Ware Community Television and Turley Publications on Wednesday, Oct. 21. The forum will be broadcast on Ware Community Television (www.waretv.org), and an article will appear in the Oct. 29 issue of the Ware River News.

During the forum each candidate will be given the opportunity to answer questions and talk about themselves.

Below are the statements submitted by each candidate, explaining their reasons for seeking election to the State Senate.



State Sen. Peter Durant



Shannon Teabo

State Sen. Peter Durant

For the past three years, I have had the privilege of serving the 22 communities of the Worcester and Hampshire District.

In that time, we've made real, meaningful progress, and I'm running for reelection because there's still so much more we have to get done.

Please see **SENATE**, page 13



Volunteers helped the Hardwick Conservation Commission plant near the gazebo at Ware River Park.

Planting day *restores slope* at Ware River Park

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Conservation Commission and about 20 volunteers made quick work of restoring the slope by the Ware River Park gazebo at New Furnace Landing in Gilbertville this past Sunday.

The commission previously removed invasive plants in Ware River Park, including a large stand of Japanese knotweed which was growing around the gazebo.

The invasive Japanese knotweed grows quickly and aggressively and thrives in

Please see **PLANTING**, page 13



Elizabeth Lang-Holmes of Gilbertville volunteered at Sunday's planting day.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Halloween Spooktacular returns on Oct. 30

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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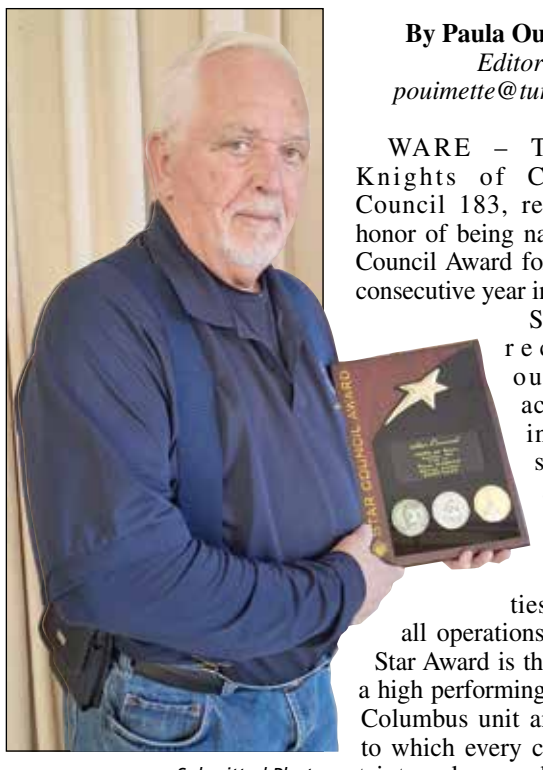
WARE – The Ware Knights of Columbus Council 183 has been busy preparing for one of the town's biggest nights of the year, the Halloween Spooktacular drive-thru event at Grenville Park, 73 Church St., on Friday, Oct. 30 from 6-8 p.m. (or when the last car drive through).

This rain or shine event is always held on the Friday before Halloween.

What started as a pandemic-safe alternative to the Halloween parade, has quickly turned into one of the most popular events in the region – and always

Please see **EVENTS**, page 2

KofC Council 183 receives Star Council Award



Submitted Photo
Ware Knights of Columbus, Council 183, received the Star Council Award for its fourth consecutive year. Grand Knight Paul Harper is shown holding the award.

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Ware Knights of Columbus, Council 183, received the honor of being named a Star Council Award for the fourth consecutive year in a row.

Star Awards recognize outstanding achievement in membership, insurance, council programming and activities and overall operations. Earning a Star Award is the marker of a high performing Knights of Columbus unit and the goal to which every council, district and assembly should strive.

Star Council, can be earned by completing criteria designed specifically for

Please see **AWARD**, page 15

SB meets with USDA director

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Chris Lyon, State Director of Rural Development for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, appeared before the Selectboard to talk about healthcare and economic development options.

"This is a big priority for us," Lyon said at the Oct. 6 meeting.

Lyon said the USDA is actively engaged in economic development, and recently awarded a grant to the town's Fire Department to purchase a brush truck.

Lyon said he is trying to bridge different groups to have them work together and find a solution to the region's needs, which include healthcare.

He said there are planning grants that could help revitalize the downtown area, as well as bring healthcare back to town following the closure of Mary Lane Hospital.

"We're beginning to build momentum," Lyon said.

Lyon said a town like Ware could become a hub for healthcare, given its central location between Worcester and Springfield.

Lyon said the USDA would be open to working with any healthcare entities to bring services back to town, including with Baystate Health.

"You can't not have healthcare in Ware," he said.

Michael Knapik, representing Baystate Health, was unable to attend the meeting.

FY 28 budget outlook

The Selectboard and Finance Committee held a joint meeting to discuss the outlook for the fiscal year 2028 budget.

Selectboard Vice-Chair Ken Willette talked about bringing a vote to a future town meeting about reversing a previously passed underride. He said the underride amount creates a gap in the budget each year that the town has to try and bridge.

Interim Superintendent of Schools Michael Wood said there is a need to invest in programs at the high school in order to keep students in the school district.

Finance Committee Chair Richard Fly said it is challenging in this financial climate to maintain services and meet growing needs. He said it is important to communicate the town's budget needs to the voters well before it reaches town meeting.

The board and committee will continue this discussion in November.

Town Hall hours

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said he met with department heads and Town Hall staff about reopening to the public on Wednesdays. He said

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 3



Election letters must be received by Oct. 20

The Ware River News welcomes readers to participate in this year's state election by writing letters to the editor for publication.

Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Ware River News, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to pouimette@turley.com by noon on Tuesday, Oct. 20 to be published in the Thursday, Oct. 22 edition. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

Letter writers need to provide their name and the town they reside in.

Please include a daytime telephone number (for verification purposes only) when submitting your letter. Your phone number will not be printed.

Ware Senior Center NEWS

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, 413-967-9645, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Sunday, Oct. 18
- 1 p.m. Domestic Violence Awareness Walk & Gathering, Veterans Park, Main Street

Monday, Oct. 19
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, Oct. 20
- 9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh
- 1 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Mobile Food Pantry, Grenville Park
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. $3 per class.
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Oct. 21
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori

Thursday, Oct. 22
- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Walking Club (weather permitting)
- 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
- 10 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Oct. 23
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.

All meals $3.50 unless otherwise noted

Required: call 413-967-9645 by noon on the business day before, to put you name on the lunch list.

Monday, Oct. 19

Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Onion Rings, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Oct. 20

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

Wednesday, Oct. 21

Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Oct. 22

Mild Chili over Rice, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Oct. 23

Baked Fish, Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Are You Old News?



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



File Photo
Last week's photo from 2022 showed Ned Kelly portraying Christopher Paige at the Hardwick Ghost Walk.

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

Town Clerk lists election information, early voting

WARE – All early voting will take place in the Ware Town Hall auditorium located at 126 Main St.

Parking is available on Main Street or in the parking lot directly across from the Town Hall. Accessible parking is available in the parking lot.

Dates and hours for all early voting are: Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 21 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 26 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 27 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 29 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, Oct. 30 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The last date to submit an application for vote by mail is Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 5 p.m.

The last date to register to vote for this election is Friday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. You may register online at www.mass.gov; in person at the Town Clerk's Office, 126 Main St. during normal business hours or by mail in voter registration postcards which are available at the U.S. Post Office in Ware or at the Town Clerk's Office.

Know before you go

Before voting, be sure to review the ballot questions as there are nine. All households received a red book from the Secretary of State in the last few weeks listing the nine questions as well as a summary and an explanation of what a "no" vote rather than a "yes" vote means.

Are you registered to vote? Have you sent in a vote by mail postcard? Which precinct are you in?

All of this information is available to you by checking on www.mass.gov under "Elections & Voting."

The Secretary of State has developed a website to help voters increase their information on elections, check it out as it is very useful and it may save you time when you arrive at the polling location.

Please direct any questions to Nancy Talbot, Town Clerk at 413-967-9648 extension 177.

Early voting/ state election information for Hardwick

HARDWICK – There will be early voting in person for the Nov. 3 state election at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building, 307 Main St., Gilbertville, on the following dates and times: Saturday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 19, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 28, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Thursday, Oct. 29, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. is also the last day and hour to register to vote for the Nov. 3 state election.

The deadline for vote by mail applications is 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 27.

In addition, absentee ballot applications are also available for those who will not be present on the day of the state election. That deadline is noon, Monday, Nov. 2.

Please contact Ryan J. Witkos, Hardwick Town Clerk at 413-477-6700 or clerk@hardwick-ma.gov for more information.

Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. list fall happenings

WARE – The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. are hosting several events and fundraisers to benefit the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road.

Lotto calendars

The friends November lotto calendars will be on sale now until Oct. 30 for $10 each.

Joint health presentation

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

RMV training

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

Holiday craft fair

Start your Christmas shopping early on Saturday, Nov. 14 the Friends are having a holiday craft fair at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins road from 9 a.m.-noon. The Friends will have a 50/50 raffle and a raffle table of gift baskets.

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

All the above are open to the public.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day Oct. 24

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, Oct. 24 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 available on the town's website, www.hardwick-ma.gov. The staff and volunteers reserve the right to price or reject other items not listed accordingly on site.

Dirty or soiled mattresses or box springs have a fee of $125.

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

EVENTS from page 1

for free. Grand Knight Paul Harper said the Knights have been holding a Halloween celebration for the town's youth for over 50 years.

"We've added more," Harper said of this year's event. "We've added more live acts. More decorations through the park this year."

Visitors to the Halloween Spooktacular will enter through the Upper Church Street exit, drive around the first baseball diamond, and exit through the main entrance.

Cars must enter Upper Church Street coming from the direction of Route 32. No cars will be allowed to enter the park coming from the direction of downtown.

Each child will receive a goody bag packed with treats at the end of the Halloween Spooktacular.

This event is drive-thru only; no foot traffic will be permitted in the park during the event. For those within walking distance of the park, the Quaboag Connector will be providing free trips through the drive-thru, staging at the Church Street apartment complex.

Costumes are encouraged and DJ Sonny Raine will play spooky Halloween music on radio station 91.1 FM.

The Halloween Spooktacular isn't just fun for children, and all ages are encouraged to drive through if they dare.

Anyone who would like to help the Knights fill goody bags in the basement of All Saints Catholic Church, 17 North St., on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. should contact Harper at 413-537-3422. Filling the bags takes about an hour.

Coats for Kids

After the Halloween Spooktacular is done, the Knights of Columbus continue to serve the community, with the Coats for Kids drive that will kickoff on Nov. 1.

Drop-off locations are at all three Ware Public Schools, St. Mary's Catholic Church, All Saints Catholic Church, the Sharpest Edge Barber Shop, the Monson Savings Bank branch on West Street and St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Gilbertville.

Donations of new (or gently worn and clean) coats, hats, gloves and mittens will be accepted. No boots or ski pants please.

Donations will be accepted Nov. 1-29.

Monetary donations can be made to Ware Knights of Columbus Council 183, P.O. Box 88, Ware, MA 01082. Please put "Coats for Kids" in the check memo.

On Saturday, Nov. 7 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Bruce Marshall of 97.7 FM will be hosting a live broadcast for Coats for Kids from Nat Falk, 64 Main St.

Nat Falk owner Charlie Lask will give anyone who donates a 10% discount off a purchase that day, and he will also donate 10% of his total sales to benefit the Coats for Kids.

Families in need of coats for their children can contact the School Superintendent's office at Ware Public Schools. Any extra coats received during Coats for Kids will be distributed to the town's food pantries.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!
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SLICED IN OUR DELI
USDA INSP. VIRGINIA HAM $3.99 lb
USDA INSP. MUENSTER CHEESE $4.99 lb
TAILGATE SPECIALS
USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS KOREAN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS $3.35
USDA INSP. KAYEM HOT DOGS 2 LB BOX $8.88 lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF STRIPLOIN WHOLE OR HALF CUT FREE $7.77 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP ROUND ROAST or STEAKS $7.69 lb
USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF $5.29 lb 5 LB BAG

USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG $1.77 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB $1.59 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN PEPPERIDGE FARMS CHOCOLATE FUDGE LAYER CAKE 19.6 OZ $3.99 ea
USDA INSP. FROZEN HEAT & EAT SHRIMP TOAST 12 PC TRAY $2.99 ea
USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 26/30 COUNT 2 LB BAG $15.99 ea

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Submitted Photo

LITTLE TUMBLERS DAYCARE VISITS FIRE STATION

On Oct. 7, Little Tumblers Daycare took its annual field trip to the Ware Fire Department as part of learning about fire safety. Shown in the photo are Shannon Mascitis, Mason Haley, Dylan Hinkley, Stuart Haley, Grant Ligawiec, Leah Chartier, Iris Currie, Adaline Guzik and Firefighter Mark Lagimoniere.

Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk this Sunday

WARE – On Sunday, Oct. 18, the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force will host its 11th Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk and Community Gathering.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. at Veterans Park on Main Street (or Ware Town Hall in case of rain).

State Rep. Todd Smola, District Attorney David Sullivan, and others will speak at the event. There will be a free children's bike raffle, free donuts and hot dogs, a photo booth, music, and children's art, all followed by a short walk through downtown Ware.



Domestic Violence Awareness Walk & Gathering

Sunday, Oct. 18 - 1pm
Veteran's Park, Main St., Ware

Reese McKeever, member of the renowned Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force, will emcee the event and students will lead the Walk.

Jesse Trzpit , who coordinates the High School Task Force, explained, "The Walk is such an important event not only for the community but also for the students because it creates a presence for everyone and lets victims know that they are not alone; there are supports out there, and ways to get help even when it may not seem like there is a way out. As a group, we like to come together in solidarity with everyone and we feel that even if we can help even just one person, we are working toward ridding the world of domestic violence."

Task Force members hope the Walk will raise awareness about domestic violence and local services available, especially in light of two recent domestic violence murders in nearby towns. Diane Opper of Belchertown was killed in March 2026, and Emma Pastercayk of Palmer was killed in May 2026 in a hotel room at UMass Amherst.

For those seeking help, local advocacy services are available through Behavioral Health Network in Ware at 413-967-6241. For those who use abuse, but want to change and become safe, a Call for Change Helpline can be reached at 877-898-3411. The Task Force can be reached on Facebook, at www.waredvtaskforce.org, or at wrvdvtaskforce@gmail.com.

Committee welcomes new athletic director

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Interim Superintendent Michael Wood introduced new Athletic Director Peter Millet to the School Committee.

At the Oct. 7 meeting, Millet said uniforms have been secured for all of the teams that require them, and he is working on ways to engage students in the athletic program.

"I want to make it the best athletic experience I can for the kids," he said.

He said one way to accomplish that is to embrace the school's mascot to show school pride.

Millet also talked about looking into establishing a co-op for track and field, similar to the co-ops for swimming and wrestling.

Millet said the athletic department has a surplus of old uniforms, and he discussed options including auctioning some of the jerseys off for charity or for other reuses. He said there are black football uniforms (which were donated to the school many years ago) that cannot be used by the team that could become surplus.

Millet will also be focusing on getting the athletic field banner program up and running to bring in additional revenue for the department.

Superintendent's report

Wood said he attended a joint meeting with the Selectboard and Finance Committee to discuss the fiscal year 2028 budget forecast.

Wood said the forecast predicts a roughly $2 million shortfall for FY 28, as well as an approximate $900,000 in revenue increases.

"Looking back, it's about where we were this time last year," Wood said.

Wood said he will work with Andy Paquette and the administrative team to create the first draft of the school district's FY 28 budget by December.

"We do have some building and rebuilding that we need to do," he said. "That's going to take some investment."

He said while enrollment isn't growing, the numbers are staying consistent. He said staffing levels are "close to being at the bone."

Wood said one possible area the school district could reduce expenses is busing. He said bus ridership is down this year.

"That's one area that we could look at," he said.

Wood said they can also look into cost savings for special education van transportation by reaching out to other companies.

"It's going to be difficult for us to look at reductions in the first pass," Wood said of the FY 28 budget.

MOU consideration

A motion to approve a memorandum of understanding for a column adjustment for teachers did not carry. Column adjustments relate to a teacher's educational credits from a bachelor's degree to a master's degree and the corresponding pay increase.

The committee will continue discussion of this topic at a future meeting.

Superintendent search committee

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said the committee received a lot of interest from people to serve on the superintendent search committee.

"So far we have 14 people that are interested. That's a pretty good number," Winslow said. "I think we're in the right direction."

The superintendent search committee was scheduled to hold its first meeting on Oct. 14. These meetings will not be open to the public.

Next meeting

Upcoming regular School Committee meetings will be held on Oct. 21, Nov. 4 and 18

WARE BOS from page 1

starting the first week in November, all departments will be fully opened again.

Beckley said there will be limited time slots were select departments can opt to close to catch up on work. He said another possibility is extending hours for one of the weeknights until 6, 7 or 8 p.m., and closing earlier on another day of the week, such as a Friday.

The Selectboard members were supportive of these changes to Town Hall public hours and Beckley will come back with a proposal for an extended hours weeknight.

License approvals

The board held a public hearing to approve all-alcoholic beverage, common victualler and entertainment licenses for SML16 Enterprises, LLC doing business as The 136, located at 136 Pleasant St.

The 136 will be a neighborhood bar and restaurant with wood-fired cooking. Entertainment includes acoustic music as well as craft nights.

The applicant said there will not be any structural changes to the building, which was the former Snow's Restaurant.

The 136 will be open seven days a week, with hours from 11 a.m.-midnight. The restaurant is expected to open in February 2027.

Abutters to the property said they were excited about the restaurant opening, but shared concerns about potential noise from entertainment. The applicant assured the abutters that the entertainment would not impact people in the neighborhood.

The board approved the all-alcoholic beverage license and common victualler license for The 136. The entertainment license approval was tabled pending results from the Planning Board regarding conditions.

Pole hearing

The board approved the placement of a single ownership utility pole by National Grid at the intersection of South Street and Gilbert Court.

Appointments

Charles Eskett and Irene Eskett were appointed to serve on the Healthcare Advisory Committee and Tom Atkinson was appointed to serve on the Historical Commission.

Removal of member

The board held a joint meeting with the Ware Housing Authority to discuss the removal of member SK Robinson.

Authority members said Robinson has attended three meetings since 2025, and left meetings early twice. They said because of this, the authority was unable to maintain a quorum.

The authority sent Robinson a registered letter, but it was refused three times.

Ware Housing Authority Chair Frederick Daniels said there are a few individuals who have expressed interest in filling Robinson's seat.

The board voted to remove Robinson from his appointment to the Ware Housing Authority.

Water filtration system

A water filtration system kiosk, which could receive partial funding from the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant, was discussed by the Selectboard. One suggested location for the kiosk was at the town's Senior Center.

If installed, this kiosk would provide free water to the town's water users who have been impacted by discolored water.

The cost to install and operate the kiosk would be prohibitive and negatively impact the Water Department's budget.

"I don't think this is a solution right now," Willette said.

Selectboard Clerk John Desmond said something the town needs to focus on is replacing aging cast iron water pipes.

Sewer abatement

The Selectboard continued discussion about a sewer abatement for 22-28 Otis Avenue that began on Sept. 22.

Willette made a motion to approve an abatement in the amount of $500, which failed to pass by roll call vote. A second motion by Willette to abate $1,168.54 passed.

Trick or Treating hours

Trick or Treating will be held town wide on Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31.

Correspondence

Willette read a letter from a resident recognizing the work of Building Commissioner Anna Marques and Code Enforcement Officer John Prenosil

"Ware's fortunate to have two such dedicated professionals servings our community," the resident wrote.

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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.

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viewpoints

Letters to the Editor

Awareness Walk unites against domestic violence

To the editor,

On Sunday, Oct. 18, the 11th Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk and Community Gathering, sponsored by the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force, will take place at Veterans' Park in Ware, 1 p.m.

If it rains, we'll be inside at Ware Town Hall.

Students from the Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force will once again lead this family-friendly event.

Representative Todd Smola, District Attorney David Sullivan, members of the High School Task Force, and others will speak. There will be free hot dogs and donuts, a free children's bike raffle, exhibits, art for children, music, a photo booth and more.

Attending the Walk is a powerful and easy way to be part of the solution to domestic violence. Local services are critical, and we have domestic violence advocates out of BHN (413-967-6241).

But services alone are not enough. We need a community culture that stands up for respect, safety and equality in all relationships.

We need a community that together says we will not tolerate domestic violence. There is strength in numbers.

The more of us who participate in this Walk, the stronger our message will be. We hope you can join us!

Sincerely,

Jesse Trzpit
Jennie Simmons
Melissa Hutchins
Nancy Talbot
Jess Morin
Paula Kularski
Anthia Elliott
Mark Ames
Sue Lewandowski
Erin Ballard
Monica Moran
Deb Shepard
Jacquie Jock
Officer Somer Bren
Chief Gerald Millette
Jennifer Raiche
Sawyer Blake
Representative Todd Smola
Members and allies, Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force

Letter of support for Shannon Teabo

Allow me to share the main reason I am wholeheartedly supporting Shannon Teabo for State Senator for the Worcester and Hampshire District in Massachusetts.

Yes, Shannon gets high marks for her platform in my opinion. Affordability is her primary target.

Yes, she talks about how she will work to make healthcare more affordable and accessible. I like that she speaks of her struggles as a working mother and of her commitment to deliver affordable access to childcare.

I appreciate that, as a native of rural Central Mass, Shannon has experienced first-hand the results of funding shortfalls in our area. She is committed to helping create and support legislation that will more equitably distribute state funding for education to rural schools.

Furthermore, I am confident that Shannon will be a strong advocate for the local control of our environment in the face of corporations seeking profit over the well-being of communities. All of this is extremely important for Central Mass.

Now, let me tell you the main reason she will have my vote. I believe her! Shannon is genuine.

I have seen her humanity. Her deep sense of fairness. I have observed her selflessness.

I am exhausted by politicians who smile and publicly make promises simply to get elected; the type of political appointee that shows up only when there is a local issue from which they can benefit. It's dishonest.

In Shannon I see integrity and honesty. That is the most important reason I will vote for Shannon Teabo for State Senate on Nov. 3. I hope you will do the same.

With respect,
Eric von Bleicken
West Brookfield

When to wash and when not to wash, that is the question

in the Garden
by Roberta McQuaid

This is one of my more funnier titles, isn't it? It occurred to me that not everyone knows which fruits or vegetables should be washed prior to storage.

Just yesterday I was pondering this topic myself, wondering if my fresh picked apples should be washed before I stored them away in the fridge.

Read on to learn the answer to that question as well as the same for other crops. While we're at it I will provide additional tips to help achieve lengthy storage.

Apples should not be washed prior to storage. There is a protective waxy covering over the fruit that helps to increase its shelf life.

Experiments prove that washing it off caused the apples to spoil much more quickly. Placing unwashed apples in a plastic bag that is either left open or has perforations in it then putting the bag in the crisper drawer of the refrigerator will give them the best chance at longevity. This method provides both air flow and humidity.

Want to store carrots or beets? Use the same method.

You will have to cut back the greens first, however. If you leave them on they will pull moisture from the roots rendering them limp. Cut back to a half inch or so.

If your carrots or beets are super muddy it's best to let them air dry briefly to get some of the extra dirt off, but just like apples, that protective waxy layer should not be washed off. If you are hoping for a long storage life, it makes sense to go through your bags of produce to remove any that begin to rot so that they won't infect their neighbors.

There is something to be gleaned from the old adage "one bad apple spoils the whole barrel."

Likewise, never wash potatoes before putting them in storage! Gently brush off dirt and store them in a single layer in the darkness around 55 degrees.

Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Potatoes should not be stored in the refrigerator. It changes their texture and makes them prone to rot.

I think it's safe to say that we would never consider washing onions or garlic prior to storage. We should, however, gently brush off the dirt near the roots and bottom portion of the bulb. After onions are properly cured, store them at temperatures close to 40 degrees.

Place apples, bananas, and tomatoes away from onions, these vegetables excrete ethylene gas as they ripen, causing onions to sprout prematurely. Ethylene will also encourage potatoes to sprout.

Use onion bulbs that have two centers first; they won't store well. Garlic stems should be cut back to a couple of inches before storing for the winter in a cool and dry location in mesh bags or on slatted trays etc.

Softneck types of garlic have pliable foliage that lends itself well to braiding. In any case, allowing for good air circulation will ensure a long storage life.

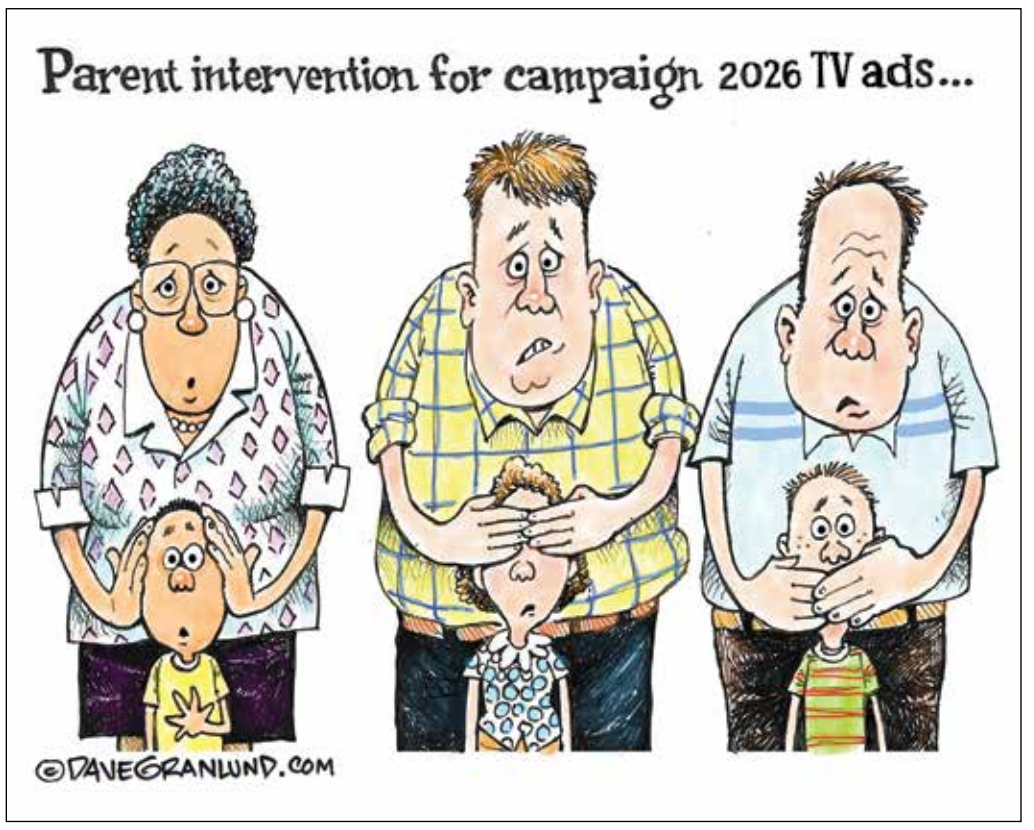
Keep your garlic fists intact; once broken apart, individual cloves do not keep as long.

Gently wash winter squash in a 10% bleach solution prior to storing at temperatures between 50 and 60 degrees; in this case it will help prevent rot.

The flavor of many of our favorite squashes only improves with age. The same advice for washing prevails for pumpkins and gourds.

As the harvest season continues, may these tips help to ensure that you get the longest possible storage life. A much deserved reward after all of your hard work!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



Ware River News

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Letter to the Editor
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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.

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

in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer


Dark-eyed junco

Every fall I look for the return of the dark-eyed juncos, also known as "snow birds" in the middle latitudes.

Over most of the eastern United States, they appear as winter sets in and then retreat northward each spring to breed. Other juncos are year-round residents, retreating into woodlands during the breeding season or, like those of the Appalachian Mountains, moving to higher elevations during the warmer months.

I have not seen any yet, but I keep an eye out for them. Often my first sighting of the year is along the side of the road when I spot their white tail feathers as they fly.

Dark-eyed juncos are little sparrows with gray plumage and white outer tail feathers and white underneath. Females and juveniles are slightly browner and duller.

They breed in forests including coniferous and deciduous types and can be found at elevations from sea level to over 11,000 feet. Typically, the female lays between three to six eggs per clutch. She usually lays one egg per day until the clutch is complete

Their diet primarily consists of seeds and insects, adapting to available food sources throughout the year.

Juncos are social birds, often seen in flocks during winter and they exhibit a distinctive hopping behavior on the ground. They flit about forest floors of the western mountains and Canada, then flood the rest of North America for winter.

They are among the most abundant forest birds of North America. They come to feeders and like many sparrows feed on the ground to glean seeds dropped there by other birds.

They prefer open, partially wooded areas with understory for cover. They also have a twittering call or trilling song. If flushed from the ground, they appear gray or dark brown overall with visible white outer tail feathers.

The dark-eyed Junco is one of the most common birds in North America and can be found across the continent from Alaska to Mexico, from California to New York. A recent estimate set the junco's total population at approximately 630 million individuals.

The oldest recorded dark-eyed Junco, originally banded in 1991, was at least 11 years, 4 months old when it was recaptured and rereleased during banding operations in the same state of West Virginia in 2001.

Large flock of sparrows

Recently, while driving to the bus stop to pick up my grandson, I flushed a large flock of sparrows along the side of the road. A large number of them flew across the road in front of the car. It happened quickly so I was not able to identify them. They were not juncos as they did not have white tail feathers

New bird feeder

A man, who attends meals at the Oakham Senior Center, built a feeder from tubing someone gave him.

He filled it with seed and put it outside. It took a few days for the birds to arrive, but he has a lot of birds coming to it now.

eBird sightings

Recent eBird sightings included a Cape May warbler on Oct. 6 in Belchertown and an American redstart and a black-bellied plover, both spotted in the northeast Quabbin area on Oct. 6.

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

Selectmen host pole hearings for Bemis Road

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Selectmen held two public hearings for multiple pole installments and relocations.

National Grid is seeking to install two single-owned poles on Bemis Road, approximately 625 feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Old Carriage Way and continuing approximately 1,500 feet in a northeast direction.

At the Oct. 1 meeting, contractor Michael McDonough, gave an overview of the project and its goals.

The goal is to improve the power grid and its reliability in the area. The project includes increasing the size of the wire that is currently on the power poles.

The process will include installing extra poles in between the existing poles to help support the wire. McDonough said these increases will keep the wire out of range for the purpose of public safety.

The board heard no objections from the public and closed the public hearing and voted to approve the petition as presented.

The second public hearing was for eight joint-owned poles on Bemis Road and relocate two JO poles on Bemis Road beginning at a point approximately 100 feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Old Carriage Way and continuing approximately 5,100 feet in a north direction.

McDonough said this is a larger project to improve the reliability of the grid and make sure the poles are at a standard that is safe for the public and the power itself.

The Selectmen asked to see a map of the project to determine pole locations.

McDonough said he believed the locations were marked with wooden stakes installed in the grass.

One resident asked about one pole that may affect the entrance to an extra piece of land he owns. The resident presented a map for the board to review.

Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair Derick Veliz identified a mix-up in location on the firm's project plan. The pole was found as an existing pole on the other side of the road that doesn't interfere with the landowner's right of way.

Town Administrator James Ferrera asked the project representatives to make sure the plans are submitted accurately.

The Board of Selectmen approved the petition.

QRSD operations

The Board of Selectmen heard an update from Quaboag Regional School District Superintendent Stephen Duff on district operations.

Duff first spoke about the merging of the two elementary schools at Warren Community Elementary School. According to Duff, the merger has gone well.

He said busing has been one of the main concerns regarding the merger and the district is trying to mitigate some of the areas to improve this. Duff thanked the Highway Department for its help in the lower parking area to make the bus and student pickup area well-functioned.

The district's Safety Committee has scheduled lockdown drills and fire drills.

Duff said safety is the school district's number one priority.

The district received a $200,000 grant from the Department of Energy Resources to replace heat pumps and mini splits at Quaboag Regional Middle High School.

Duff thanked Ferrera for securing a Green Communities grant for completing the building envelope at the elementary school.

The district also received a $50,000 Innovation Pathway grant for the district's MyCap planning. This is a pathway plan that starts in sixth grade and ends in 12th grade for students as their portfolios change year-to-year and identifies career and college pathways.

In partnership with the Fire Academy and the Warren Fire Department, the school district had a state earmark for $50,000. Duff said this will be used to create a training facility at Quaboag.

The Quaboag campus is about 41 acres of land, and the school is seeking to conduct a selective harvesting program on parts of the land to help bring in revenue and improve the land's health.

Duff said collaborations with North Brookfield continue and have been going on for the last few years. The subcommittee that was formed for the purpose of this collaboration will be meeting in October to work with the town of North Brookfield and discuss potential regionalization.

Duff shared rankings with the Board of Selectmen and said Quaboag is ranked 84th in Massachusetts and 11th best school in Worcester County.

FEMA award

The Board of Selectmen accepted an award for fiscal year 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Federal Grant through FEMA.

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie said this was a grant that was talked about extensively and was partially voted on and funded by the town voters.

Warren was one of five towns in Massachusetts that was awarded this grant. A town match is required.

"This grant was specifically written to hire two additional full-time firefighters," Lavoie said.

Once accepted by the Board of Selectmen, Lavoie has a 30-day window to accept the grant through FEMA's portal.

The town is getting about $231,000 and going to put in about $143,000 over the three-year period.

The board approved and accepted the award. Lavoie said this grant will help the Fire Department change some staffing levels.

Risk Management grant

The board accepted a fiscal year 2027 Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association Risk Management grant for the Sewer Department.

Ferrera said he offered all town departments to come forward for risk management projects. Chief Operator Scott Urban came up with a proposal and a need for safety equipment at the wastewater treatment plant.

The grant is in the amount of $9,310.42 with no match required.

Potential donation of land

The Board of Selectmen continued discussion on the potential donation of land to the town by Orrin and Cynthia Mason. This land is located off Brimfield Road after the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Ferrera sent out information to all departments to see if any had a need or use for the land that would benefit the town.

The Town Administrator received a response from James McKeon who shared some ideas, including utilizing the land for storage and also signage for the town, such as a "Welcome to Warren" sign.

Though they expressed appreciation for the offer, the board members voted to decline the acceptance of the donation of land.

Accepted contracts

The board voted to enter into a contract with Thomas E. Snowden, Inc., for the Senior Center HVAC Improvement Project. The bid came in at $222,000 for the project.

A contract with Chase Glass for the Translucent Window Panel Replacement Project at the Shepard Building was also voted on and accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

The Board voted to enter into two contracts with Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc.

One is for the Washington Street Neighborhood Infrastructure Planning Study. The town wants to look at this neighborhood to see if sewer, water or sidewalk improvements can be made.

The town selected Weston & Sampson for this study and is supported through Community Development Block Grant funds. Ferrera said this study can help set up the town for future construction projects within the Washington Street neighborhood.

The other contract is for the Summer Street Design Improvement Project and is paid through CDBG grant money.

The board voted to enter into a contract with Ludlow Construction for the Hillside Avenue Improvement Project. The company came in with the lowest bid.

Fall STM

A Special Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at Quaboag Regional Middle High School, 284 Old West Brookfield Road.

Warren author releases new novel

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Local author Ed Londergan has released his newest novel, "A Thousand Miles from Home", which follows main character Sam Parker and explores whether it's ever too late to confront the past, repair a broken family and find where you truly belong.

At a recent book release party held at the Warren Public Library, Londergan said this book is his first contemporary novel, as his previous works have been historical fiction.

Londergan spoke about the process to write "A Thousand Miles from Home", which he started many years ago under a different title.

"I wrote the first word of this seven years ago," he said. "It was then called 'The Farmhouse'. This took seven iterations and two different titles."

Londergan said he also cut about 40,000 words from the finished draft of the novel.

"It's amazing the process a book has to take," he said.

As the storyline for the novel began to evolve, Londergan made the decision to set it in the present day.

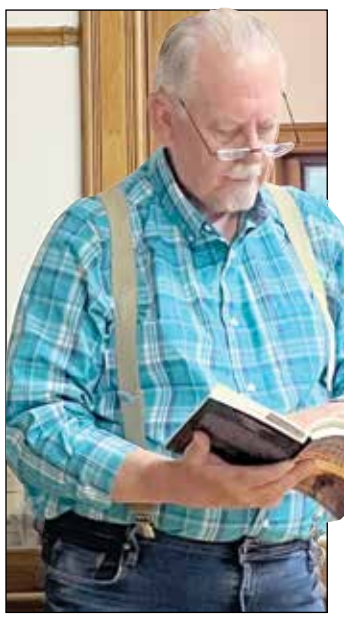
In the novel, Sam walked away from his family 12 years earlier in search of his place in the world. His years of wandering bring experiences he hoped to find and others he would rather forget.

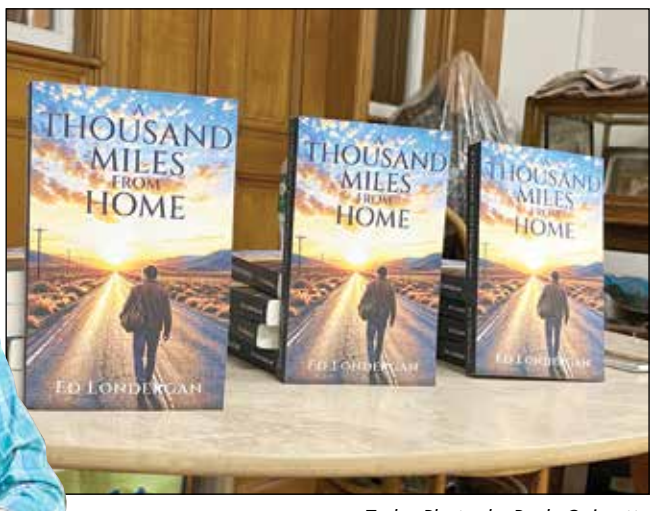
"Sam has to find himself after 9/11," he said. "It's about second chances,"

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

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

At the book release party, Londergan read a passage from "A Thousand Miles from Home" where Sam returned to his hometown and found his brother, Will, living at their grandmother's house.





Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

"A Thousand Miles from Home" is author Ed Londergan's first contemporary novel.

AT LEFT: Warren author Ed Londergan read from his newest novel, "A Thousand Miles from Home" at a book release party held at the Warren Public Library.

A lot has changed over the past decade, and Sam is confronted with great losses, as well as a discovery that changes his past, his present and his future.

Londergan shared writing tips for those in the audience who are also working on writing their own books. He said the author should write about what they know to make the story come to life.

Londergan said a lot of the scenes in his recent novel were inspired by the world around him – movies he watched, places he visited, etc.

He said he writes down a lot of the "random thoughts" he has throughout the day to potentially incorporate them into his writing. Many of these thoughts come when he is listening to music or driving in the car.

In terms of his writing habits, Londergan said he sits down to write when he feels like it.

"I kind of write when it moves me, and that can be anytime," he said. "Sometimes I write pages and pages, sometimes 12 words…it all depends."

Londergan is getting ready to release another novel next year, "Father

Please see **NOVEL**, page 15

Town Clerk lists state election information

WARREN – The state election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, with polls open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

The last day to register to vote for the state election is Saturday, Oct. 24 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ghosts & Legends with Jeff Belanger on Oct. 22

WARREN – It's an annual tradition for the Warren Public Library to host Jeff Belanger, and this year is no different.

Join the library on Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St., West Warren, for "Ghosts & Legends."

This ghostly multi-media program will take you on a journey through the haunts in your backyard, and around the world.

Pulling from Belanger's 25 years of research for his books, podcasts, adventures, and the various television shows he's worked on, join one of the nation's premiere storytellers for a trip through the unusual and the unexplained.

This program is free and open to the public, and was sponsored by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council.

Belanger is a storyteller, adventurer, journalist and one of the most visible explorers of the unexplained today. The author of over a dozen books published in six languages, he is also the Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of the PBS and Amazon Prime series New England Legends and the weekly New England Legends podcast.

He's the writer and researcher for the "Ghost Adventures" series, and he's been a guest on hundreds of television and radio networks and programs, including History, Travel Channel, Biography Channel, PBS, CBS Sunday Morning, NPR, BBC, and Coast to Coast AM.

WHS Class of 1976 plans 50th reunion

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

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

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

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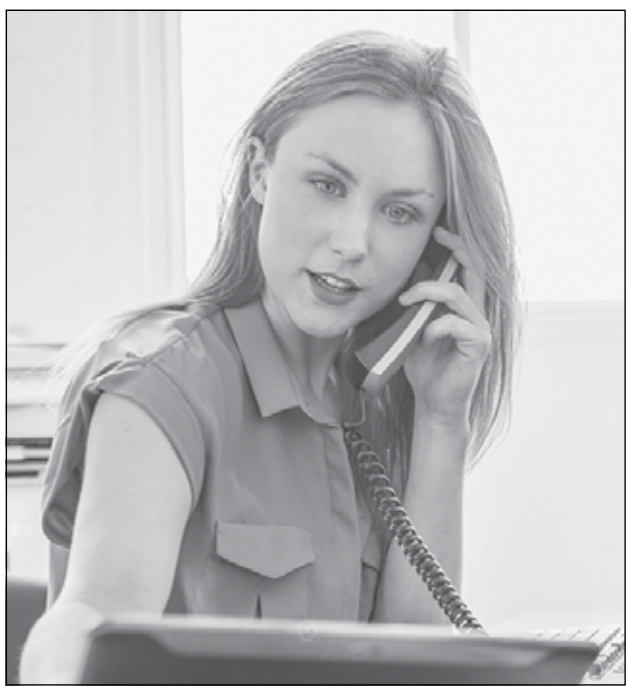
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Celebrate Women in BUSINESS week

Women-owned businesses are thriving

Women entrepreneurs are not to be underestimated. Data affirms that women-owned businesses are growing and thriving.

According to North One banking, women-owned firms account for more than 12 million businesses in the United States. In addition, the 2024 Wells Fargo Impact of Women-Owned Business Report, in partnership with Ventureneer, Core Women and Women Impacting Public Policy, found the number of women-owned business increased at a rate of 4.5 times between 2019 to 2023. Women-owned businesses are driving economic growth, and a deeper look at some of the numbers supports that notion.



Women-owned businesses are driving economic growth, and a deeper look at some of the numbers supports that notion.

• The Women's Business Enterprise Council says there are 12.3 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., which comprises about 40 percent of the total number of businesses.

• Women-owned businesses bring in nearly $2 trillion every year, says the National Women's Business Council.

• During the pandemic, women-owned businesses added 1.4 million jobs and $579.6 billion in revenue to the economy, says Wells Fargo.

• World Bank indicates that roughly one-third of principal owners of all businesses are female.

• WBENC advises that 64 percent of new women-owned businesses are started by women of color.

• Women's Business Enterprises Canada says more than 85 percent of buying decisions are influenced by women. The Canadian Minister of Small Business notes that women business ownership is growing. In 2023, approximately 18.4 percent of all businesses in Canada were majority owned by women, compared to 15.6 percent in 2017.

• According to Forbes, women-led tech companies achieve a 35 percent higher ROI. A Forbes study with First Round Capital, a venture capital firm, found female-founded businesses in their portfolio outperformed male-founded companies by more than 60 percent.

Women-owned businesses are making a large impact on North America and around the world. Such firms continue to employ millions of people and foster strong economies.



Did you know . . .

The typical small business may be even smaller than many consumers recognize. According to the 2022 Annual Business Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau, 49 percent of small employer firms with fewer than 500 workers have between one and four employees. An additional 16 percent of such firms have between five and nine employees. Such data indicates that nearly two-thirds of all small businesses feature nine or fewer employees. That might surprise many consumers, as might the findings regarding the nature of small businesses in relation to ownership. Though it's common to view small businesses as "mom and pop" operations, just 10 percent of small businesses in the United States were jointly owned and operated equally by spouses in 2021.

Strategies to manage and tame stress

Stress is a part of life. In small doses, stress can have a positive effect. But when stress is chronic, it can take its toll on the body and mind.

Stress can make people irritable and cause them to lash out at others. Stress also can contribute to high blood pressure and adversely affect sleep. When confronting chronic stress, individuals may have to take action to find relief. These stress-busting strategies can help.

• **Engage in physical activity.** The Mayo Clinic says any form of exercise can help relieve stress. Physical activity boosts chemicals in the brain and endorphins that help a person feel good. Exercise also can refocus attention so a person is not preoccupied with a stressful thought or situation.

• **Listen to music.** Music can be calming and serve as a distraction from stressful feelings. Simply listening to music can be a quick fix for a stressful situation and a bad mood.

• **Review your lifestyle.** It's easy to take on too much, but doing so can lead to feelings of being overwhelmed, says the Mental Health Foundation. Prioritizing some things over others and delegating when possible can tame stress.

• **Practice mindfulness.** Breathing and mindfulness exercises can be practiced anywhere. Research has shown that mindfulness can reduce the effects of stress and anxiety. Deep breathing and being in a quiet moment when stress peaks may help to reduce stress.

• Step away for a few minutes. If possible, step away from a stressful situation, whether it is a difficult project at work or a loud room with a lot of activity going on. Many people find commuting stressful. Changing the route to one that avoids busy roads, even if it takes a bit longer to get from point A to point B, might help.

• **Talk it out.** Sometimes connecting with others and sharing experiences can help to relieve stress. Keeping feelings in and fixating on a situation may exacerbate feelings of stress. Social situations that encourage talking and laughing can lighten a person's mental load, says the Mayo Clinic.

• **Don't turn to substances.** Alcohol and drugs may temporarily relieve stress, but this approach can lead to addiction and even worsen the physical and mental toll stress takes on the body.

Stress is a part of life, but finding ways to manage chronic stress is vital to long-term health.



CHANTEL BLEAU

ACCOUNTING SERVICES

413-967-8364

228 WEST STREET
WARE, MA 01082

Chantel Bleau started Chantel Bleau Accounting Services located at 228 West Main Street in Ware. She has been in business for more than 32 years.

Chantel is married to Trevor, and her family consists of son,. Bryan St. Germain; daughter-in-law, Lindsay St. Germain; grandchildren Theodore St. Germain and Pennelope St. Germain; son, Deryk St. Germain; daughter, Whitney St. Germain and granddaughter Virginia Bratloff.

Chantel earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting & Business Management.

Chantel Bleau Accounting Services offers Accounting, Bookkeeping, Payroll and Tax Preparation for individuals, businesses, and non-profits.

Chantel said "I have always liked puzzles and bookkeeping and tax preparation are puzzles to me. Making sure everything is in its place and accounted for," when asked about her career choice.

"We pride ourselves in customer service. We make sure all clients feel secure in using our services and we go above and beyond through travel to client homes and even just spending the time to get to know about our clients lives, not just their finances," said Chantel.

On her personal time, Chantel loves spending time with her family. "With three new grandchildren life has become an extreme adventure! We love to spend time camping at our place in Lake George," said Chantel.

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Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea has been an award-winning, top-producing REALTOR® with Century 21 for over 20 years. Dorrinda became a REALTOR® after a severe accident to her left wrist necessitated a career change.



Dorrinda shares, "What I enjoy most about being a REALTOR® is the people I meet every day—the nicest people who work well with me toward our goal of selling or buying a home. I have the honor of working with generations of people; I have sold homes to parents and am now selling to their children. The relationships built stay with families, and we become stronger than just friends."

Dorrinda has been awarded the Centurion Award five times and is now a member of the Centurion Hall of Fame for Century 21. She recently received the Customer Service Award, her latest recognition, and has consistently been a top producer throughout her career.

One of Dorrinda's passions is supporting Veterans programs. She states, "From every sale, I make a donation to Wounded Warriors and Tunnels to Towers programs. My Dad was a Korean War veteran and is my inspiration. He just passed, but his legacy lives on strong.

"This job is all about customer service, and I love helping my clients. I just had a current client who had lost his spouse, so I am taking care of every aspect of the sale. It's not just a sale; it's a friendship," Dorrinda explains.

Dorr inda is married to Ed Shea. In her free time, she enjoys Blues music and classic cars.

"I have the honor of working with generations of people, I have sold the parents a home and now I am selling their children a home. The relationships-built stays with families and we become stronger than just friends."

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Celebrate Women in BUSINESS week

How to create a greater work/life balance

A more even balance between professional and personal life is a goal for many individuals. The demands of work too often extend beyond traditional working hours, leaving many professionals to confront work-related challenges long after they've left the office or left the desks in their home offices. With work never more than a smartphone notification away, it can be hard to create and maintain work-life balance.

Work-life balance is rarely discussed in terms of individuals' overall health, but that could be a mistake. In fact, the organization Mental Health America® notes that when workers' lives are balanced and workers are happy, they are more productive, take fewer sick days and are more likely to remain in their jobs. Each of those things benefits workers and employers equally.

With so much to gain from creating a greater balance between work and life, professionals can consider these tips to do just that.

• Make a concerted effort to be an effective communicator. MHA notes the benefits of being honest with colleagues and superiors when challenges feel overwhelming. Open and effective communication can be a great way to solve work-related problems, but MHA urges professionals to remain calm and suggest practical alternatives when confronting such issues. Simply accepting more work or responsibilities when you already feel overwhelmed can tip the scales even further away from an even work-life balance.

• Establish manageable daily goals. MHA reports that research has found that individuals feel less stressed about work when they feel as though they have more control over it. Setting daily goals is a great way to achieve that sense of control, and this can be as simple as creating a daily to-do list.

• Seek alternatives to your working arrangement. Previously unthinkable working arrangements are now possible after companies were forced to confront pandemic-related changes to their operations. If you've found it impossible to create an equitable balance between work and life, speak with your supervisor about alternatives to your arrangement. Flex time and hybrid working are some measures that could ensure you have as much time for your personal life as your professional life.

• Unplug at the end of the workday. One of the simpler, though not necessarily easier, ways to create and maintain a greater work-life balance is to unplug at the end of the workday. Turn off work-related smartphone notifications at the end of the work day so you aren't tempted to work during those of times of day that you've earmarked for your personal life. Smartphones can be addictive, so unplugging could test your resilience. If possible, block work-related notifications automatically after a certain time each day so you don't have to turn them off manually. Once the blocking is automated, you might not think twice about all those missed emails.

There's no secret formula for establishing a healthy work-life balance. But various strategies can help professionals achieve greater balance between their professional and personal lives.

Extraordinary qualities women bring to business

Women continue to thrive in the workforce. Wells Fargo reports that, from 2019 to 2023, the growth rate of women-owned businesses outpaced the rate of men-owned businesses in relation to number of firms, rate of employment and revenue earned. LinkedIn also indicates there are 114 percent more women entrepreneurs now than there were 20 years ago.

Every business owner or employee brings something unique to the employment landscape and certain characteristics are universal, regardless of gender. Still, there are certain qualities that women bring to the workforce that can help businesses excel. Forbes indicates women employees offer traits that can help drive engagement, productivity, satisfaction, and various other attributes. The following are some of the traits women may bring to business.

Emotional intelligence: Women First Jobs says that women often bring high emotional intelligence to the table. Emotional intelligence involves understanding and managing emotions and the emotions of others. Women may be more inclined to understand different perspectives and to help resolve conflicts and build relationships.



The following are some of the traits women may bring to business.

Collaboration: Women employees often have traits that can foster collaboration in the workplace, such as reading non-verbal cues and willingness to take turns in conversations, indicates Forbes. This can help everyone collaborate more effectively.

Room for improvement: Women in the workplace continually seek opportunities for improvement, advises Sparklight Business. This can involve taking advice from other workers and peers. Women leaders embrace opportunities to do things better and work to improve their skills for the greater good.

Communication: The IWEC Foundation, which empowers women entrepreneurs, says women tend to be effective communicators and often make great leaders because of this trait and their ability to inspire others. Communication often is key to any relationship, whether personal or in a business setting.

Organization and planning: Women may excel at organizing and planning. Women can look at things with a detail-oriented eye and recognize flaws in plans even before getting started. This means women can be in charge of distributing workloads or organizing the schedules of others.

Adaptability: Even though it is a cliche, women tend to be natural multi-taskers. Handling multiple jobs at the same time means women can adapt to changing situations.

Generally speaking, there are some inherent characteristics women may possess that can make them viable assets as business owners or leaders in their fields.

Caitlyn R. Garceau, RMA

Practice Manager - Hakim Medical, PC



Caitlyn lives in Ware with her husband, Nick, and 2 children, Addyson and Zander, along wth quite a few pets and farm animals.

Caitlyn started working as a file clerk/medical receptionist in May 2006 for Hakim & Safi, MD's and quickly moved to medical assisting and assisting Dr. Hakim with surgical procedures. She took over as Practice Manager of Hakim Medical, PC in October 2020, totaling 20 years of service.

She has certification in RMA-American Registry of Medical Assistants and Basic Life Support (CPR and AED), American Heart Association

What do you like best about your career?

"My career brings me so much joy and a sense of fulfillment in helping patients and making genuine connections with them. I also work with the most amazing people! Our practice is like one big family, full of encouragement and gratitude for one another," said Caitlyn.

When not working, she enjoys spending time with family, friends, and pets as well as baking, dancing, and supporting her children by being their biggest fan at dance competitions and sporting events.

HAKIM MEDICAL

Michael H. Hakim, MD

182 West Street, Ware MA 01082

413-967-5562 OPT 1

Diane Vadnais, REALTOR®

RE/MAX Connections



Diane has called Palmer home for 52 years, and its small-town charm is something she could never leave behind. "Everywhere I go, I run into friends and familiar faces from across the generations, and we pick right back up as if no time has passed. It's a wonderful feeling to call this community home," said Diane.

When asked why she got into the field, Diane said, "I've always loved houses and could spend hours looking at them. I also love people and getting to know them. Real estate has brought those two passions together, and I've truly fallen in love with my career."

"My favorite sale was of a little cottage on Forest Lake. The seller has since become one of my dearest friends, and we still get together for coffee often," said Diane

"Always remember that there are no emergencies in real estate, just deadlines with extensions, said Diane. "And the right home will always show up."

Diane has a passion for community engagement. "I volunteer at the Swift River Club as often as I can, whether that means helping clean up after an event, running the children's holiday party, or simply showing up to lend support. I'm also involved with the Three Rivers Chamber and the WBCA (Ware Business and Civic Association), and I've helped with community events such as Christmas on the Common, Stuff a Bus, and Celebrity Bartending, among others," said Diane.

On her off time, you will find Diane often walking her dog, Murphy, through the villages of Palmer and Ware. "Whenever I get the chance, I love getting out on the water to paddleboard," said Diane

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Celebrate Women in BUSINESS week

Dhillon Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

Celebrating 16 years of practicing dentistry in Ware, Dr. Navkiran Dhillon and her 10-member staff at Dhillon Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, located at 173 West St., offer their patients the very latest in state-of-the-art technologies and techniques in a small-town, family-friendly environment.

A native of India, Dr. Dhillon earned her DMD degree from Boston University in 2009, and worked briefly as a dental assistant at an Ohio practice before relocating to Ware. She cares deeply about her patients' oral health, and she will work closely with them to discover the care options that best suit their personal needs.

Some of the new techniques include digital radiography, intraoral cameras, soft tissue lasers, CEREC restorations, gum grafting, bone grafting, implants, implant supported dentures, same-day teeth, same-day crowns, same-day root canals, C.T. scans, and more. Making use of these advanced technologies, Dr. Dhillon explained, assures that the exact problem being experienced by the patient is identified and treated.

She and her staff welcome children as young as 2 in order to establish a friendly, trusting atmosphere. She encourages toddlers to explore the office, look at the implements, have their teeth brushed and take a ride in the big dental chair. Finally, the young patients are invited to select a prize from the Treasure Box. Dr. Dhillon emphasizes the importance of having young children receive regular dental care. "It's important to expose them to the environment in order to alleviate any fear," she said. "And after their first visit, children are usually eager to return."



Dr. Navkiran Dhillon, BDS DMD MAGD
Only 2% of all dentist have earned degree

Dr. Dhillon and most of her staff have received COVID-19 vaccines, and all necessary precautions have been implemented to ensure a safe environment. A fogger is used before and after each visit, and all areas are regularly and thoroughly sanitized. Additionally, patients are screened prior to appointments with medical questions and temperatures taken.

Whatever your dental needs, the experienced professionals at Dhillon Family Dental & Cosmetic Dentistry will meet them. You may even get to pick a prize from the Treasure Box!

173 West Street, Ware, MA • 413-277-7086
dhillonfamilydental.com

Mary C. McGovern, MBA
Country Bank President & Chief Executive Officer



Mary McGovern brings more than 37 years of financial services experience to her role as President and Chief Executive Officer of Country Bank, where she is proud to be the institution's first female leader. A results-driven executive, Mary is recognized for her authentic leadership style that blends innovation, collaboration, and compassion.

Since stepping into the role, she has embraced opportunities to inspire others and elevate women in leadership, from speaking engagements to mentorship. She currently serves on the boards of the Massachusetts Bankers Association, the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, and the Massachusetts Housing Authority, extending her impact beyond banking into community well-being.

Mary has helped Country Bank earn Women Led Business and Top Workplaces recognitions, along with the No. 1 spot in Massachusetts on Forbes' Best-in-State Banks list. She has also been honored by the Worcester Business Journal and Hannaford Supermarkets, and was named a Women Empowered 2026 honoree by Scouting America. At the heart of it all, Mary remains dedicated to advancing Country Bank's mission and empowering our team members, customers, and communities to thrive.

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HANNA'S ON MAIN



Pictured are KIm Craig, Executive Chef and Gail Craig, Owner of Hanna's on Main

Gail Craig, *Owner*

Gail Craig has spent over 4 decades in the food service business including many years at the renowned Hilltop Steak House in Saugus. Moving to Charlton in 2016, Gail and her husband Dennis, saw the opportunity tp purchase the empty restaurant on Main St. in downtown Ware.

"We had always wanted to open a family restaurant and found this spot to achieve more than what we could have hoped for," said Gail. "I love the customers and from a service aspect, we treat every customer like they are in our living room or at our table. We want everyone to feel like they are at home."

Gail is married to husband, Dennis, and has three daughters, Kerri, Stephanie and Kim.

Kim Craig, *Executive Chef*

Kim graduated from Johnson & Wales University in 2013 with a degree in Culinary Arts and Business & Entrepreneurship. Kim started working at Legal Seafood and spent five years with them, opening three locations.

When the opportunity to work with her mom in a family restaurant became a reality, Kim embraced the role of Executive Chef. "I have the opportunity to design the food choices offered on the menu," said Kim. "I use a lot of homemade recipes, some even family based with tradition."

"I developed my love for cooking by always being in the kitchen as a little girl with my mom. She would always let me cook. When she was cooking for 40-50 people over, I was a part of it and I loved it" said Kim.

"My favorite part of the job is the community. We are ready to react to any specific need of a customer. We just had a gluten intolerant guest, and I was able to whip up a creative dish that she enjoyed and was grateful for the effort," said Kim. "Feedback is important and we have a lot of people that support us, giving us ideas for new items, commenting on past choices. It's a warm feeling when customers just take the time to talk and really want us to succeed."

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KENO

Courtney Letendre

GENERAL MANAGER



Courtney, Matt and Grace Letendre at a Hardwick Crossing function.

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Courtney Letendre stands proudly with her daughter Mariah on her graduation.

For Courtney Letendre, running Hardwick Crossing Country Club is more than a career—it is a business she puts her heart into every day. With 17 years of experience as a general manager, Courtney brings a love of hospitality and a commitment to creating a welcoming experience for everyone who visits.

At Hardwick Crossing, her responsibilities extend across the entire property. From golf operations and the restaurant to special events and weddings, Courtney oversees every part of the business. Her role requires balancing daily operations, supporting staff, coordinating celebrations, and keeping the many moving parts of the club working together.

Located at 262 Lower Road in Gilbertville, Hardwick Crossing offers a nine-hole golf course, a public restaurant, and space for weddings and special events. With views overlooking the course and outdoor dining, the property brings together recreation, hospitality, and celebration.

Hardwick Crossing offers a perfect venue for hosting weddings and receptions, just contact Tracy Rook, wedding coordinator.

As a woman in business, Courtney takes pride in leading a property with so many different responsibilities. Seventeen years after beginning her career as a general manager, that passion continues to guide her work. For her, success means more than keeping the business running; it means building a place where people enjoy gathering, celebrating, and making memories.

Celebrate Women in BUSINESS week



Pictured are Lauren Jeffery, Jessica Morra and Chris Jeffery.

Christine Pekala Jeffery was raised in Monson, graduated from The Cooley Dickinson Hospital School of Nursing and worked at Mary Lane Hospital.

In 1976 she married Reid C. Jeffery. They have 2 children, Reid Jr. and Jessica. After Virginia Jeffery retired in 1983 began working at Jeffery and Son Deputy Collectors and later became President of Jeffery and Jeffery Inc.

Christine is active in mission and ministry at Trinity Episcopal Church in Ware. Member of MA Collector/Treasurer's Association, National Altar Guild Association, Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce and Clowns of America Inc. She enjoys walking on the beach at Cape Cod and expeditions and adventures with Reid.

Jessica Jeffery Morra born in Ware, graduate of Wilbraham Monson Academy 00' and Union College 04'. Married to Robert Morra in 2010 and moved to Belchertown. They share two children, Annabelle and Jameson. She has been working at Jeffery & Jeffery Inc full time since 2004, but in reality, it has been in her blood since the day she was born. In her free time, she is busy shuttling her kids to their many activities. She also enjoys playing pickleball and relaxing watching family movies.

Lauren E. Adamczyk Jeffery, born in N.C., raised in Ware. Lauren worked in the insurance industry prior to joining the family business in 2008. Lauren married Reid C. Jeffery Jr. in 2001 and they share 4 children. In her spare time Lauren enjoys gardening, cooking, is a expert seamstress and doing construction at her father's business.

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Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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Jeffery & Jeffery Inc. was founded by Virginia Marland Jeffery in 1969

Rose Doldoorian
LIFT FOR LONGEVITY

2 Vernon Street, Ware • 774-230-4765
flowfitnesspersonaltraining.com



Rose Doldoorian is an ACE Certified Personal Trainer and Behavior Change Specialist with over 10 years of experience in the field. Rose's gym, Lift for Longevity is a personal and small group training facility that opened in Ware in January 2026 and has since helped over 120 clients! Our mission is to help adults 40+ feel healthy, fit and strong so that they can live a long, active and fulfilling life. We provide personalized training in a welcoming, supportive community where every fitness level is honored! We're especially passionate about helping beginners build confidence, find a routine that works for them and discover that getting stronger is achievable and enjoyable!

With an education from Syracuse University in Health and Exercise Science and Nutrition, along with experience working in many different fitness settings- from physical therapy clinics to large gyms to owning her own gym—Rose brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion to the gym floor. "Lift for Longevity is not just about building muscle- we are about building lifelong strength to help you do all the things you want to do, for as long as possible" says Rose, founder of Lift for Longevity.

Outside of the gym Rose enjoys being active outdoors and spending time with her husband Joe, their son JJ and their 3 dogs!

Lift for Longevity is located at 2 Vernon Street in Ware and offers both personal training and small group training classes Monday through Saturday! For more information about Lift for Longevity and to see if we would be a good fit for you, check out our website liftforlongevity.com or email Rose at rose@liftforlongevity.com





Katie Gagner

and the team at Trucordia Insurance are dedicated to helping individuals, families, and businesses protect what matters most. From our Ware office, we provide personalized guidance, comprehensive coverage reviews, and insurance solutions tailored to each client's unique needs.

In 2020, Moulton Insurance Agency joined Trucordia Insurance, combining the hometown service our community has trusted for decades with the resources of a national organization. Today, our clients benefit from access to a broader array of top-rated insurance carriers, providing more choices and competitive coverage options.

Katie has been with the agency for 17 years and has earned both the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and Certified Insurance Service Representative (CISR) designations. In addition to serving local clients, she now leads Personal Lines Operations for Trucordia throughout New England. Katie is a Director for the Ware Business and Civic Association and serves on several insurance carrier advisory councils. She resides in Belchertown with her husband, Jeff, and their sons, Coleman and Clay.

Today, Trucordia Insurance offers solutions for virtually every insurance need, including home, auto, business, life, pet, Medicare and senior health, final expense, travel, and cyber insurance.

At Trucordia Insurance, we remain committed to the personal relationships, trusted advice, and exceptional service that have made us a valued part of the surrounding communities. Contact Katie and the Trucordia team to learn how we can help protect what matters most to you.

Trucordia

Formerly known as Moulton Insurance Agency now a business unit of Trucordia Insurance Services

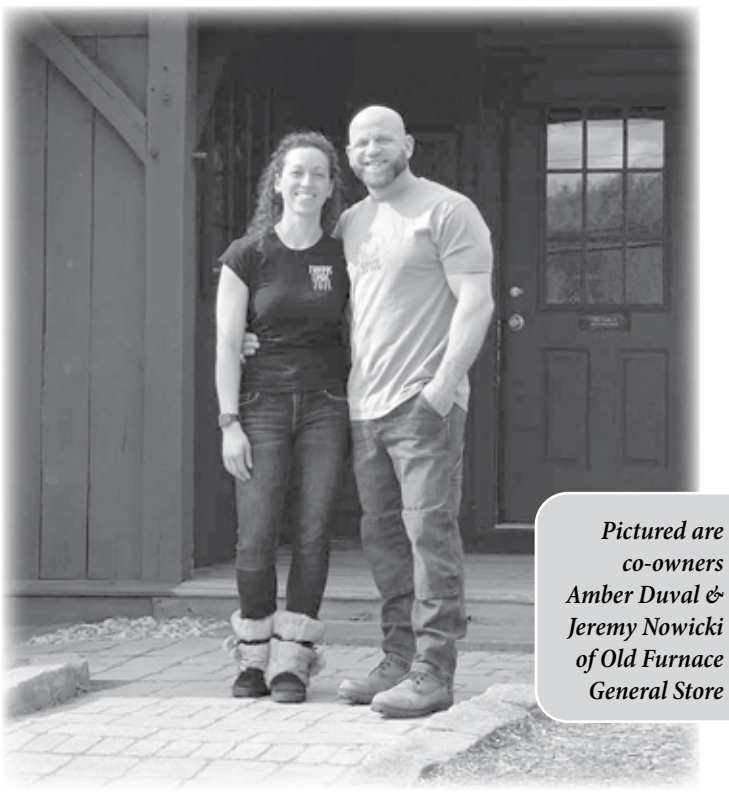
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Old Furnace
General Store

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Pictured are co-owners Amber Duval & Jeremy Nowicki of Old Furnace General Store

My name is Amber Duval and I grew up in Barre.

Growing up, I was an avid gymnast and dancer. After graduating high school, I obtained an Associate's degree in fashion design from Bay State College & an Associate's degree in the certified occupational therapy program.

My sisters and I owned and operated, Dance Revolution, in Barre for a number of years, teaching dance to all ages. I went on to work in the plumbing and heating trade for R.J. Duval & Sons. I became a certified personal trainer, group fitness instructor and manager of the group fitness program at a gym. As the years moved forward, I became a licensed loan officer assistant & mortgage processor.

After losing my brother in 2017, my family and I started a non-profit organization called Joe's Journey for Recovery. Joe's Journey was setup to bring awareness to substance abuse through community outreach.

After years in the mortgage industry, my fiancé, Jeremy Nowicki & I, decided we wanted to do something different. We saw an opportunity at 1839 Lower Rd Hardwick, decided to purchase the property & open Old Furnace General Store. OFGS has been open for 3 ½ years and is your one stop shop for local products, beer, wine & liquor, and all of your grab & go needs.

Futuristically, we will be expanding the store to offer more diversity of products to the community.

Sun. 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. ▪ Mon.- Thurs. 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. ▪ Fri. 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. ▪ Sat. 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.



Eagle Hill School students participated in the Connecticut River Conservancy's 30th annual Source to Sea initiative. The students worked to clean up sections of the Mass Central Rail Trail and Ware River Park in Gilbertville.



Eagle Hill School students are shown at the gazebo at Ware River Park in Gilbertville.

Source to Sea cleanup at Ware River Park



Students collected bags of trash from the area around the Mass Central Rail Trail in Gilbertville.

Submitted Photos



A student carried out litter and an old tire that was dumped near the trail.

HARDWICK – On Oct. 3, a group of 20 Eagle Hill School students descended upon the Ware River Park and the Gilbertville section of the Mass Central Rail Trail to clean up along the river and trail.

The cleanup was between the Ware River Park gazebo and the Ware River Park overlook as part of the 30th annual Connecticut River Conservancy's "Source to Sea" initiative.

Source to Sea is a four state community event spanning the length of the 410-mile Connecticut River Watershed that runs through the states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Since 1997, groups of volunteers have come together to remove trash from local rivers in support of clean water and healthy habitats throughout the Connecticut River Watershed of which the Ware River is part of.

All trash is tallied to add to the overall data-base tracking the cleanup effort. To date, over 15,000 tires and 336,000 beverage containers have been collected totaling over 1,200 tons of trash.

The Hardwick Conservation Commission was pleased to collaborate with the students and faculty of Eagle Hill School to help keep the Ware River Park clean. The students were very enthusiastic and worked hard to collect as much trash as they could.

During the cleanup they separated trash from items that could be recycled. Items collected were numerous plastic cups and straws, nip bottles, vape pen cartridges, cigarette butts, all kids of beverage cans and bottles, several tires, trash bag full of Styrofoam and a gas grill dumped on the Rail Trail.

They filled up a back of a pickup truck with the trash and took it back to Eagle Hill School to be weighed and properly disposed of.

The grand total of trash collected by the group weighed 480 pounds.

Source to Sea is driven by a passion and deep commitment to clean water, healthy habitats, and resilient communities. Through advocacy, restoration, and events, the aim is to advance a mission to protect and restore the Connecticut River for the benefit of current and future generations.

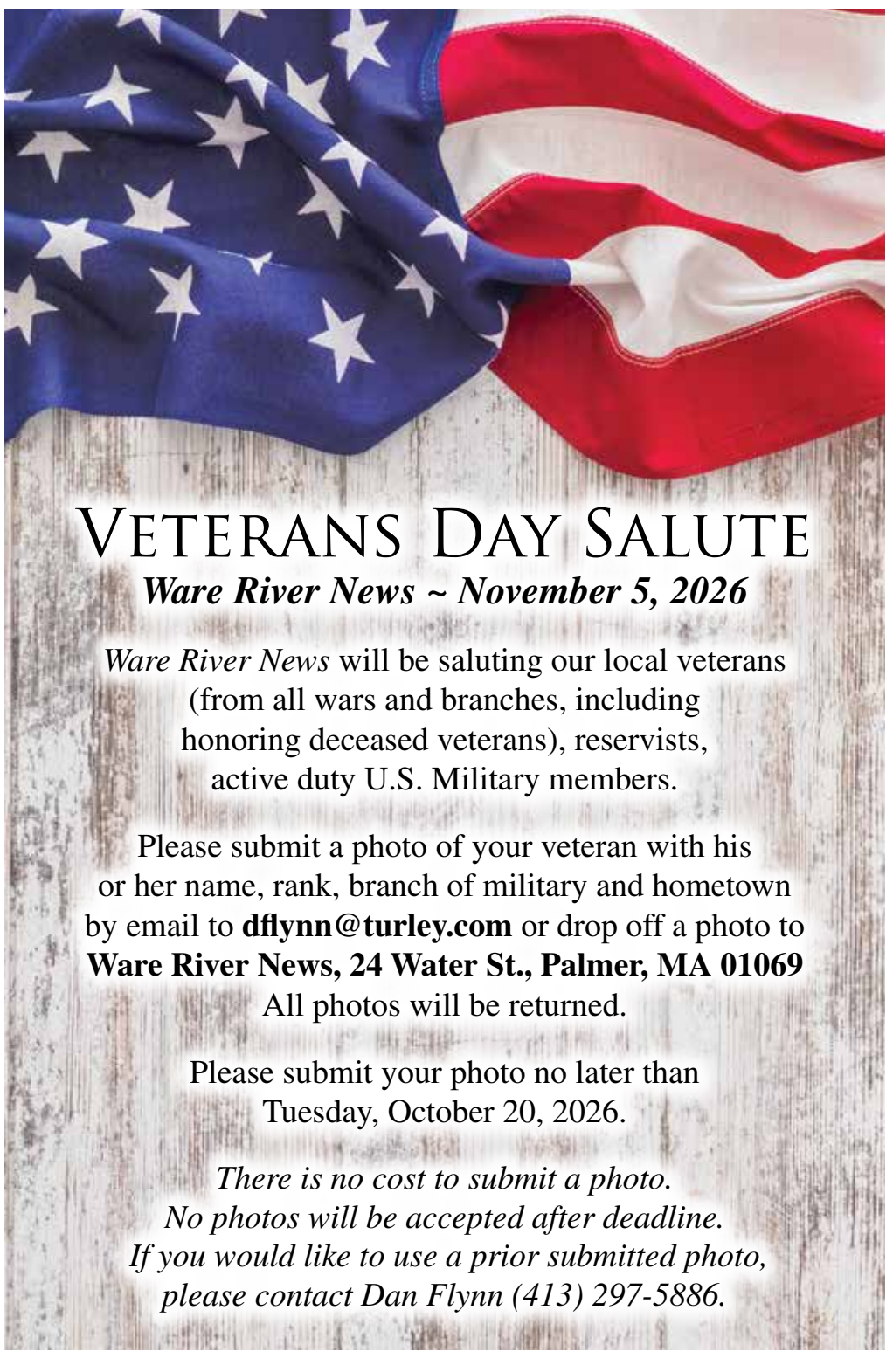
This group from Eagle Hill joined 2,000 other volunteers this year working to make the world a safer and more beautiful place to live.



An Eagle Hill School student showed his Pioneer pride while loading trash collected in the back of a truck.



Students picked up trash along the Danforth Brook.



Veterans Day Salute

Ware River News ~ November 5, 2026

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

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

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

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

Send Us Your Community Holiday Events

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events FREE OF CHARGE in our Dazzler Supplement which will be published November 19, 2026.
Total circulation of 85,000 which reaches over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.
Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

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Description _____

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Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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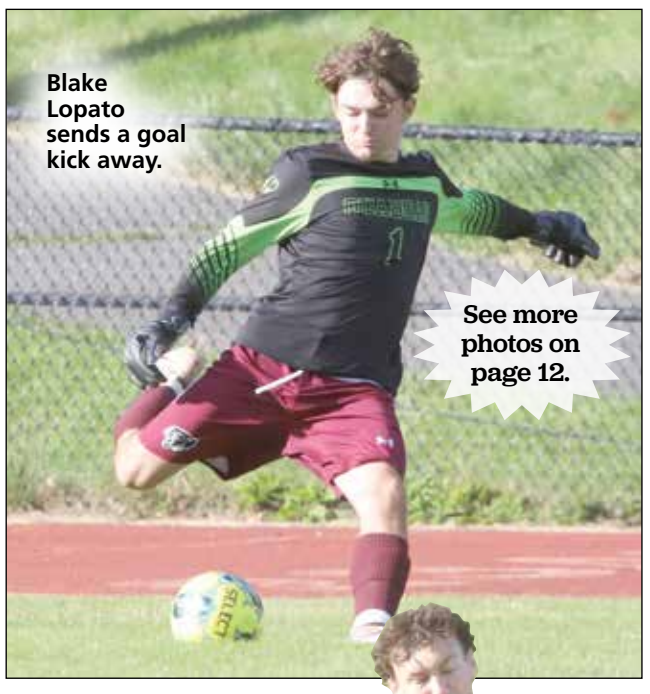
Deadline for Calendar submissions is October 28.

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:
Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
***Be sure to indicate "Dazzler" in the subject line of your email.**

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SPORTS

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Blake Lopato sends a goal kick away.

See more photos on page 12.

Cougars fall at home

WARREN – Last Friday afternoon, Quaboag boys soccer was defeated by Burncoat 2-0. The Cougars had won their first game of the regular season over Abby Kelley early last week, and are now just 1-7-1 on the regular season. Quaboag is back in action on Friday, Oct. 16 against Monty Tech at 4 p.m. on the road.



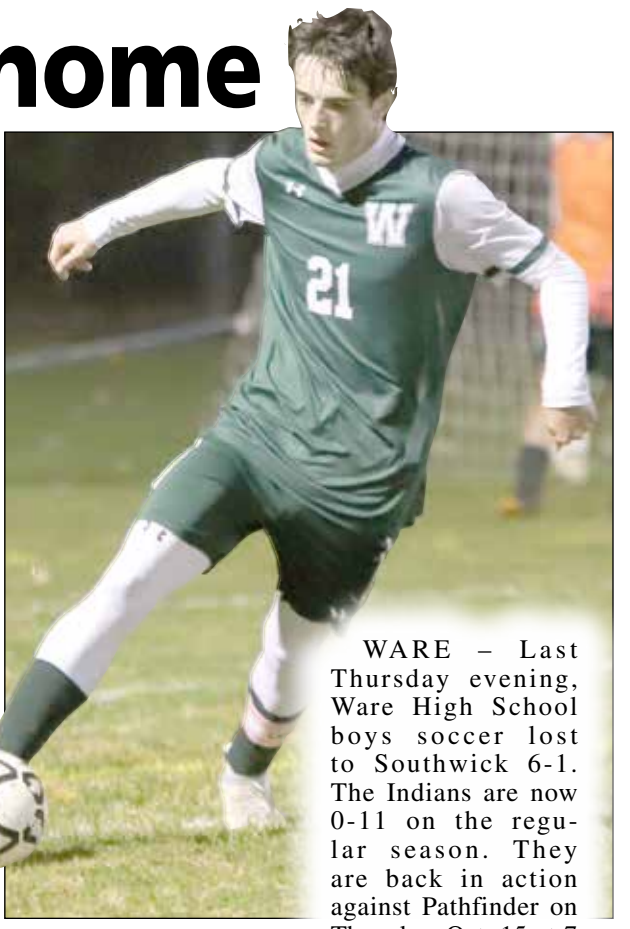
Christian Marshall clears the ball out of the defensive end.



Liam Sloan tries to pass through a block.

Indians fall at home





Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Finnegan DeMarco fights for possession.

Aaron Bateman hustles up the field after making a play on defense.

WARE – Last Thursday evening, Ware High School boys soccer lost to Southwick 6-1. The Indians are now 0-11 on the regular season. They are back in action against Pathfinder on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. at Legion Field in Palmer.



Mason Gagne punts the ball away.



Jaedon Warren turns play around after taking possession.



Aaron Gasque tries to settle the ball near the middle of the field.

Panthers shut out West Boylston

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—For the first time in six years, the Quabbin boys' varsity soccer team is on track to finish the regular season with a .500 record or better.

A convincing 5-0 victory over Mid-Wach (D) rival West Boylston at Alumni Field last Tuesday afternoon moved the Panthers within two wins of securing their first .500-or-better regular season record since 2020. The Panthers had a 6-2-1 overall record and a 4-1-1 league mark following their third shutout victory of this fall. They're also seeking to make their first appearance in the Division 3 state tournament.

"We only need two more wins to qualify for the state tournament for the first time," said second-year Quabbin head coach Bill Crowther. "If we do earn a postseason berth, I'll be thrilled for the entire team, particularly the four seniors who have helped lead this group. It's been an exciting season so far."

Quabbin finished the 2020 campaign with a winning record, but the postseason tournament wasn't held that season due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.



Turley photo by Jeffrey Haynes

Jacoby Dilling collides with the goalie after sprinting towards a potential shot.

The Panthers finished the 2019 regular season with an 8-7-1 overall record and earned the No. 8 seed in the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament. Their season ended in heartbreaking fashion, however, with a 3-2 penalty-shootout loss to ninth-seeded Northbridge in a first-round match at home.

This year's team was ranked 44th in the MIAA Division 3 state tournament power rankings that was released on October 9. The top 32 teams in each division automatically qualify for the state tournament, along with the other teams, who finish the regular season with a .500 record.

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 12



The Pathfinder offense lines up to start a play.

Pioneers football suffers loss to South Hadley



Trevor Alexander makes a punt.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY—Since the MIAA implemented its current postseason format in 2021, the South Hadley Tigers have played two road games in the state football tournament.

In 2021, South Hadley dropped a 35-0 decision at Winthrop High School in a Division 6 first-round state tournament game. Two years later, after moving down to Division 7, the Tigers suffered a 39-8 first-round loss at West Bridgewater.

The members of this year's South Hadley football team are determined to secure a home game for the first time in the state tournament.

Please see **FOOTBALL**, page 12

sports

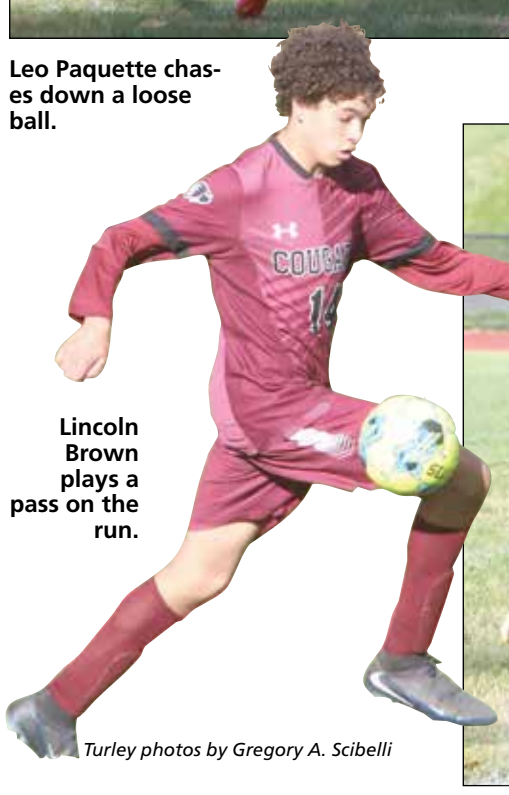
COUGARS FALL AT HOME



Leo Paquette chases down a loose ball.



Hunter Dodson passes ahead of a defender's pressure.



Lincoln Brown plays a pass on the run.



Connor Sray takes a free kick.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

FOOTBALL from page 11

The Tigers improved to a perfect 5-0 following a convincing 34-0 non-league home victory over the Pathfinder Tech Pioneers, last Thursday night.

"One of our goals this season is to host a playoff game," said South Hadley sophomore quarterback Nolan Soderbaum. "We take practice seriously, and we're a confident team. We know that we can beat these teams."

Soderbaum is following in the footsteps of his older brother, Griffin, who was the Tigers starting quarterback a year ago.

South Hadley, who has outscored its first five opponents, 203-14, were ranked fifth in the MIAA Division 7 power rankings that was released on October 9. It puts the Tigers in position to potentially host a state tournament game.

Unlike the soccer or field hockey state tournaments, only the top 16 teams in each of the eight football divisions qualify for the state playoffs.

"We still have a long way to go," said South Hadley head coach Brian Couture. "We're going to be playing a road game against a tough Holyoke team next week. We then play at Lee, who's undefeated, before hosting a very good Easthampton team. We don't finish the regular season with an easy schedule."

Despite dropping to 3-2 overall, Pathfinder Tech was ranked 14th in the Division 8 power rankings.

"Regardless of what the scoreboard says, the kids kept battling until the end," said Pathfinder Tech head coach Bill Darling. "This is also a very good learning experience for us. We still need to get to a level where we can compete against very good football teams like South Hadley."

The Pioneers four seniors, who are hoping to play in a state tournament game for the first time, are Peyton Kularski, Franklin Webster, Chase Fett, and Emerson Boronski.

The only other meeting on the gridiron between the two squads was a non-playoff game in 2024. The Tigers posted a 27-9 win in that contest.

The Tigers won the coin toss in last Thursday's game and deferred until the second half.

South Hadley senior Brody Keller recovered a fumble at the Pioneers 22 yard line on the second play of the game.

It looked like the home team had scored a touchdown on a 15-yard dash into the end zone by senior Lincoln Belsky, but it was nullified due to a holding penalty on the home team.

The Tigers wound up turning the ball over on downs.

Belsky finished the game with 109 rushing yards on 13 carries. He did cap off a quick five play scoring drive, which covered 44 yards, with a one yard rushing touchdown with 4:48 left in the opening quarter.

The extra point attempt was no good.

A little more than a minute later, the Tigers had another rushing touchdown called back due to a holding penalty.

"Our offense struggled a little tonight, but hey, hopefully this is our bad game of the season," Couture said. "Every team has one and we got fortunate tonight."

With 27 seconds left in the first quarter, senior Chase Pecia scored a 23-yard rushing touchdown giving the Tigers a 13-0 lead. Senior Cooper Wall made the extra point attempt.

The Pioneers offense, which is led by junior quarterback Grayson Griswold, was forced to punt three times in the second quarter. They didn't pick up a first down until the third quarter.

Soderbaum, who has thrown 13 touchdown passes this season, connected with Keller for a 24-yard TD reception with 9:52 remaining in the opening half.

"Nolan is only a sophomore," Couture said. "From what we thought at the beginning of the year and what we have right now with him is incredible. It looks like he's been playing on this team for four years. He has great leadership."



Turley photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Matthew Carney makes a tackle.

The Tigers held a commanding 27-0 halftime lead following an eight yard touchdown run by senior Noah Hambley with 14 seconds left in the second quarter.

Hambley is also a guard on Tigers basketball team. He only needs 16 more points to join the elite 1,000 point.

Belsky took the direct snap on the two-point conversion play and walked into the end zone.

The South Hadley defense set-up the only touchdown of the second half.

With 3:37 left in the third quarter, sophomore Ryder Mayer tipped a pass, and it was picked off by junior Adrian Garcia at the Pioneers 34.

Four plays later, Soderbaum threw his second TD pass to Pecia for 12 yards.

It was an enjoyable evening for the home team and its supporters.

Knights take victory over Pathfinder boys

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—For the second straight season, the Holyoke boys' varsity soccer team came away victorious in its second regular-season showdown with Bi-County East rival Pathfinder Tech.

The Purple Knights struck twice in the first 10 minutes and then withstood a challenge from the Pioneers to earn a 3-2 victory on Oct. 5 at historic Legion Field in Palmer.

"We played two competitive games against Pathfinder last year. Our first meeting of this season ended in a tie," said Holyoke head coach Cam Rivest. "We were able to take an early lead in tonight's game, and we didn't let it slip away like we've done a few times this season."

Holyoke didn't have very much trouble posting a 5-0 home shutout over Pathfinder Tech in their second meeting of last season.

Back in the middle of September, the two squads battled to a 1-1 draw.

Following their second meeting of this season, the Purple Knights had a 3-5-2 overall record, while the Pioneers saw their overall record drop to 7-3-1.

"This is a difficult loss for us," said Pathfinder Tech head coach Dave Wilson. "We were just flat tonight. This was a game that we should've won. Give them all the credit."

Pathfinder was ranked 22nd in the MIAA Division 5 state power rankings that were released on October 9.

Holyoke, who graduated seven players from last year's squad, defeated Mohawk Trail Regional, 5-2, on the road and posted a 4-2 home win versus Ware.

The Purple Knights scored their first goal against the Pioneers during the third minute of the opening half when senior Nayan Tabin unleashed a shot from about 25 yards out. The ball deflected off the right post before bouncing into the net past sophomore goalie Elijah Hodge (5 saves) for an unassisted goal.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Owen Marion chases down a loose ball.

Five minutes later, Holyoke junior Isiah Frazer received a pass from senior Xevier Davila before scoring a break away goal by firing a shot into the right corner of the net.

After failing to convert on a couple of corner kicks, the Pioneers sliced the deficit in half when senior Cayden Bousquet, who

Please see **SOCCER**, page 18

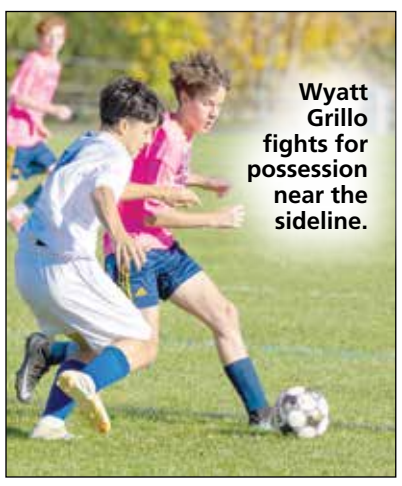


Cayden Bousquet turns play around after getting possession.

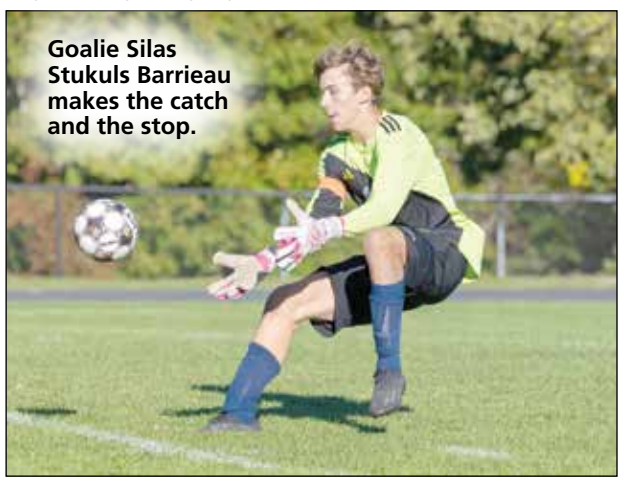


Joseph Cook chase down a loose ball through defenders.

Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes



Wyatt Grillo fights for possession near the sideline.



Goalie Silas Stukuls Barrieau makes the catch and the stop.

PANTHERS from page 11

The Panthers senior tri-captains are Logan Bruley, Jacoby Dilling, and Owen Twarog, who's sidelined with an injury.

"Not having Owen on the field is a huge loss for us," Crowther said. "He's a center midfielder and he's a physical player. He was also our second leading goal scorer behind Jacoby."

Dilling entered the match with 15 goals and 4 assists for a total of 19 points.

"Jacoby has the nose for the goal," Crowther said. "Teams are double-teaming Jacoby, but he's still scoring goals. We always try to hide him on the field.

Bruley is also the Commander of Quabbin's ROTC program.

"Logan is an outstanding leader," Crowther added. "He anchors the defense."

The other Quabbin senior is Nate Cruz, who scored a tap in goal at the start of the second half against the Lions (0-8-1).

Junior goalie Silas Stukulus Barrieau, who was recently named as a team captain by Crowther, made only five saves in the shutout.

"This is Silas first season as our fulltime goalie," Crowther said. "He was a defender last year and was our most improved player. He has been doing a very good job this year and I love having him back there."

Barrieau received plenty of support from his defensive unit, which is led by junior Jake Doty, junior Abe Brown, sophomore Greyson Mullins, and Bruley.

While the Panthers seniors are leading the way this fall, the younger players have also been doing their part. Four sophomores contributed with either a goal or an assist in the Panthers second home win of the regular season. Gavin Rivard and Nate Gingras each scored a goal. Gingras was also credited with an assist. Bobby Tobin also chipped in with an assist, while Joseph Cook added two assists.

"We do have the pieces," Crowther said. "I just want to continue to develop the younger players for the future."

The Panthers recorded an 8-2 win at West Boylston at the beginning of the regular season.

"We also beat them soundly in our first meeting and this could've been a potential trap game for us. It's something that we've talked about," Crowther said. "We won the first meeting of last season against West Boylston without much trouble, but we tied the second meeting. We must be ready to play every game."

The Lions had several scoring chances during the opening 40 minutes of the match, but the Panthers held a 2-0 advantage at halftime.

The Panthers got on the scoreboard for the first time during the 17th minute. Dilling fired a shot on goal from the right side, which deflected away from junior goalie Alex Silver. Rivard, whose father, Jeremey, is the Panthers junior varsity soccer coach, knocked home the rebound shot.

Two minutes later, Dilling, who also plays basketball, fired a low shot into the right corner giving the home team a 2-0 lead.

The Panthers pulled away during the second half with goals from Cruz, Gingras, and Dilling.

Quabbin was scheduled to begin this week's action with back-to-back non-league home games against Quaboag Regional and Worcester Tech before facing league rival Gardner in another home match at 5pm on Thursday.

The Panthers players and coaching staff are also looking forward to playing first place Clinton in a very important road game on October 20.

Candlepin League NEWS

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Bondsville League

WARE – The Bondsville League at Roll-A-Way Lanes has completed five weeks of league candlepin bowling.

Spare Parts took a commanding lead in the west division and has the best record in the league with 25-10. Cannonballs are in second place, first in the east division, with a record of 22-13.

To kick off October, the defending champions Fire Mountain bowled against Ironmen. In game one, Fire Mountain defeated Ironmen by a score of 500-452.

Filling in on Fire Mountain was Chris Geoffrion who began with 114. Rick Trott and Gary Delisle had scores of 107 and 104.

In game two, Ironmen defeated Fire Mountain 456-446. Steve Swistak of Ironmen scored 111 for his team.

In game three, Fire Mountain won by a score of 465-461. Delisle finished with 105 and a three-game series of 316.

The final score was 1411-1369 in favor of Fire Mountain.

Cannonballs bowled against Zeke's Freaks during week five. In game one, Cannonballs defeated Zeke's Freaks by a score of 461-433.

Game two also went to Cannonballs with a score of 489-416. The Cannonballs won game three, 511-458, for a three-game sweep over Zeke's Freaks.

Micah Hinckley of Cannonballs finished the match with 112 in game three. The final score was 1461-1307 in favor of Cannonballs.

The Pincesses bowled against Slow Burners during week five. In game one, Pincesses held onto the lead to win by one pin, 470-469.

Scott Radisic of Slow Burners had a strong showing in game one with 118. Keith Ferenz bowled over his league average with 98.

In game two, Pincesses won again by a score of 456-442. Jane Cho of Pincesses had a strong game over average with 89.

In game three, Slow Burners won by a score of 463-460. Radisic finished with 101 and a series of 307. Ferenz finished with a solid game of 95.

Pincesses won total pinfall with a final score of 1386-1374.

Spare Parts bowled against Spare Tires during the first league night of October. Game one went to Spare Parts with a score of 498-457.

Steven Daniel of Spare Parts would lead his team to a decisive victory by starting with 130.

In game two, Spare Parts won by a score of 479-442. Daniel scored 115 and his teammate Alexxia Bell scored 108.

In game three, Spare Tires won by a score of 473-457. Tony Burke of Spare Tires scored 104 to end the match and secure two points for his team.

Daniel finished with 110 and a three-game series of 355. Spare Parts won total pinfall with a final score of 1434-1372.

Rollies bowled against Night Hawks during week five. In game one, Night Hawks won by a score of 447-446.

Sue Horton had the high-

Please see **CANDLEPIN**, page 15



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Native plants and trees were planted on slope to the Ware River by the New Furnace Landing gazebo.

PLANTING from page 1

disturbed areas along riverbanks and roadsides. The knotweed forms dense thickets that pose a significant ecological threat to riparian areas.

With the invasive plant removed, it was essential for the Conservation Commission to restore the habitat with native plants.

In the weeks leading up to the planting day, 10 volunteers installed compost sleeves along the slope, where the plants would be placed, and students from Eagle Hill School removed trash as part of the Connecticut River Conservancy's Source to Sea cleanup.

The restoration project included planting native herbaceous plants such as goldenrod, asters, lupines, butterfly milkweed and more. Willow, dogwood, elderberry and buttonbush were planted further down the slope to help create a root base and prevent erosion.

In total, about 30 different plant varieties were planted.

"It was a great success," Conservation Commission member Becky Bottomley said. "People really like coming out and helping."

Joining the commission to complete this project was Landscape Interactions of Greenfield, owned by Evan Abramson.

"We've been working with the Conservation Commission for about a year and a half," Abramson said.

He was joined at the planting day by his colleague, Genevieve Goldleaf.

Rich Glidden of R.N. Glidden Landscaping Service of New Braintree will be hydro seeding the slope with a wildflower mix before covering it with a winter wheat cover crop to protect the seeds over the winter.

Bottomley said people visit Ware River Park a lot, and this project will help make it both sustainable and beautiful.

"And good for pollinators," she said.



Amber Teitgen of Gilbertville placed plants in the compost.



This 1921 license plate was found by Richard Romano during the planting day.



Native plants to attract pollinators were placed near the top of the slope.

SENATE from page 1

My public service started in local government, when I sat on the Finance Committee and became a selectman in my hometown of Spencer, after years as a small business owner. That's where I learned the struggles of a small town, what town budgets look like from the inside, and what happens to that budget when Beacon Hill issues a mandate but doesn't pay for it.

I took those lessons to the State House in 2011 as a state representative, and on my very first day, a tornado ripped through the towns I represented. I learned very quickly how diverse and complex this job is, and that more often than not, the issues find you, not the other way around.

Since that day, through 12 years in the House and now in the Senate, I have been on the ground every day working for the people I serve.

Sometimes that means helping families who never expected to need it. When homeowners across the district found themselves at risk of losing their homes to foundations crumbling from pyrrhotite-tainted concrete, I championed legislation to help them, and we passed it through the Senate unanimously.

I am pressing hard for it to become law. We're also working on PFAS contamination in the water supply of several of our towns, and a lack of healthcare options in the western part of the district.

I take watching over your tax dollars seriously, which is why I continue to push for the legislative audit voters demanded. I'm also working toward a fairer formula for towns with PILOT agreements, where large shares of state-owned land leave them with a fraction of what full taxes would bring in.

And I've put that Spencer lesson to work pushing back when Beacon Hill oversteps. When one town didn't adopt the zoning the MBTA Communities Act requires, the state moved to withhold funding from the Wachusett Regional School District, punishing students in five towns for a decision none of their school committees made. I called that out publicly, and the administration reversed course.

If the state will do that to one school district, it will do it to yours.

The same goes for towns facing state decisions they never asked for. In Oakham, a developer is seeking state approval for a large battery storage facility, and the process has moved forward even though, as we've argued, eight of the nine required permits were never applied for.

I'm fighting it, because a town's future should be decided locally, not with an unaccountable board in Boston.

I also sit on the recently formed school funding commission, specifically to fight for aid that's fair to every community.

This year I sought full funding for Rural School Aid, which the state's own study showed our smaller districts need. It failed strictly along party lines.

Our towns need a senator who will stand up for them even when Beacon Hill's leadership won't.

Every session, Beacon Hill rolls out something it calls new, and far too often it reaches your wallet as another tax, another fee or another unfunded mandate. Our communities don't need more of that, no matter who's selling it.

There's plenty of work still to finish. I'm not asking you to trust a promise.

I have a record of showing up and delivering for this district, and I'm proud of it. I'd be honored to have your vote.

Shannon Teabo

I'm a mother, a Central Massachusetts native, and a first-time candidate for State Senate in the Worcester and Hampshire District.

I am running because our district needs a senator who answers to them and who lives with the same bills and worries as her neighbors.

I am a community member and an organizer, and have spent my time getting neighbors together around the issues that affect daily life in our towns. That work taught me that problems get solved when people speak up and someone is willing to listen.

I grew up in Northborough, graduated from Algonquin Regional High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Worcester State University.

I have worked in the service industry, customer service, a veterinary hospital and human services. Those jobs showed me how many people keep our communities running while stretching budgets of their own.

Seven years ago, my husband and I settled in West Brookfield, for the rural beauty and a place to raise our family.

Like many families here, we feel the cost of living every month. Groceries, heating, childcare, utilities, and healthcare take a bigger bite out of each paycheck, and I hear the same thing from my neighbors.

That is why affordability is the center of my campaign. I want working families, seniors and young people to have a fair chance at a stable life in the towns they call home. I support stronger oversight of utility companies, including limits on yearly rate increases and more transparency when increases are proposed.

I want more help for households struggling with heating costs and with staying cool as summers get hotter. I want Massachusetts to invest in affordable childcare, improve access to healthcare, and bring down prescription drug costs.

No one should have to choose between filling a prescription and paying another bill.

In West Brookfield, we have seen what happens when the state does not keep up. West Brookfield Elementary School closed at the end of June. Residents voted down a Proposition 2½ override in May, and the Quaboag Regional School Committee voted unanimously to close the school and send our students to Warren Community Elementary.

Up to 30 staff positions were cut across the district.

Towns like ours keep going back to voters with overrides to pay for essential services, and every override lands on neighbors who are already stretched.

Boston and the State House must be accountable to the specific needs of rural districts like ours. I will fight for more local aid and for reform of the formula the state uses to distribute it, so it reflects the real circumstances of small, rural towns.

I support investment in public education, affordable housing, roads and bridges and reliable water infrastructure. The communities that help protect the Quabbin and Wachusett watersheds, which supply drinking water to millions of people, deserve the resources to maintain their own infrastructure.

I support new technology that comes with protections for workers and local communities, so residents are never left paying for decisions made by powerful corporations. I believe government should be open about what it is doing, answer for the results and respond when people call.

What can I offer voters? A fighter and advocate for this district.

I am a working mother who organizes with my neighbors, raising my family in a small town and dealing with these costs myself. I have no political career to protect, and I will never forget who sent me to Boston.

When a bill about heating costs, childcare, or local aid comes up for a vote, I will know what it means for a household like yours, because it means the same thing for mine.

If you want a state senator who knows what it costs to live here and knows how to bring people together, I would be honored to have your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3. To learn more or get in touch, visit teaboforsenate.com.

public safety

Ware Police Log

During the week of Sept. 30-Oct. 5, the Ware Police Department responded to 14 miscellaneous calls, 13 administrative calls, 12 traffic violations, 14 emergency 911 calls, seven disturbances/nuisances, three suspicious/wanted, one theft/larceny, three assist other agencies, two trespasses, eight harassment/stalk/threats, one breaking and entering, one smoke investigation, one safety hazard, two motor vehicle accidents, two animal calls and 22 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Wednesday, Sept. 30

1:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

5:58 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Doane Road, Services Rendered

9:16 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled

9:29 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Park Street, Advised

12:32 p.m. Breaking and Entering/Burglary, Church Street, Services Rendered

2:30 p.m. Safety Hazard, Bacon Road, Services Rendered

3:56 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, East Street, Advised

4:02 p.m. Police Response, West Street, Services Rendered

5:35 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, Advised

6:09 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Cottage Street, Advised

8:14 p.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Assist Given

10:29 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, West Main Street, Advised

11:13 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Buckley Court, Investigated

11:44 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Richfield Avenue, Services Rendered

Thursday, Oct. 1

1:15 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Otis Avenue, Assist Given

5:40 a.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, Eagle Street, Vehicle Towed

10:26 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, King Street, Services Rendered

2:13 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Old Belchertown Road, Dispatch Handled

4:46 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Main Street, Arrest Made

4:52 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

7:46 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Gilbert Court, Investigated

Friday, Oct. 2

1:51 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Greenwich Plains Road, Civil Complaint

6:41 p.m. Smoke Investigation (Outside), West Main Street, Investigated

7:15 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pine Crest Circle, Advised

11:11 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised

Saturday, Oct. 3

4:10 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Shady Path, Investigated

6:50 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Eagle Street, Advised

8:29 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Greenwich Road, Advised

11:38 a.m. Transport Service, North Street, Transport Complete

Arrest: Benjamin W. McCullough, 34, Belchertown

Cocaine, Trafficking in 18 Grams or More, Less Than 36 Grams

1:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made

4:39 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Services Rendered

5:46 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Fisherdick Road, Advised

7:41 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, Investigated

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.

9:12 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Cottage Street, Could Not Locate

Sunday, Oct. 4

12:44 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Warebrook Drive, Dispatch Handled

5:45 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Glendale Circle, Advised

10:56 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monson Turnpike Road, Services Rendered

Monday, Oct. 5

8:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Street, Criminal Complaint Request

8:56 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Park Street, No Action Required

9:41 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Could Not Locate

10:06 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Coffey Hill Road, Dispatch Handled

2:37 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Road, Investigated

4:06 p.m. Indecency/Lewdness, Aspen Street, Report Made

7:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, West Street, Services Rendered

8:04 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Dispatch Handled

9:23 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

10:50 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Fisherdick Road, No Action Required

Warren Police Log

During the week of Sept. 13-19, the Warren Police Department responded to 83 building/property checks, five community policings, 13 emergency 911 calls, one suspicious activity, two safety concerns, one harassment, one threat, four complaints, two larcenies or thefts, one fraud or forgery, three animal calls and three motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, Sept. 13

6:07 a.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital

10:15 a.m. Harassment, Moore Avenue, Officer Spoke to Party

2:44 p.m. Neurological/Head Injury, Old West Brookfield Road, Transported to Hospital

8:58 p.m. Threats, Moore Avenue, Report Filed

10:58 p.m. Explosive Incident, Ware Road, Investigated

Monday, Sept. 14

2:20 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Crescent Street, Officer Spoke to Party

6:29 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, School Street, Transported to Hospital

7:12 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Southbridge Road, Mutual Aid Transport

11:39 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Mass Pike, Referred to Other Agency

6:32 p.m. Complaint, Richardson Street, Investigated

Tuesday, Sept. 15

7 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Milton O. Fountain Way, Transported to Hospital

7:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning

8:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

12:14 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Report Filed

1:39 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed

3:11 p.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Information Given

10:15 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bacon Street, Investigated

10:41 p.m. Noise Complaint, Bacon Street, Negative Contact

Wednesday, Sept. 16

1:07 a.m. Fall, Comins Pond Road, Transported to Hospital

7:36 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital

8:49 a.m. Power Lines/Wires, Brimfield Road, Investigated

11:59 a.m. Larceny or Theft, Southbridge Road, Report Filed

6:01 p.m. Trauma, Southbridge Road, Transported to Hospital

10:55 p.m. Fall, Crouch Road, Transported to Hospital

Thursday, Sept. 17

12:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning

Friday, Sept. 18

7:54 a.m. Safety Concern, Main Street, Report Filed

10:32 a.m. Fraud or Forgery, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed

1:04 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Little Rest Road, Transported to Hospital

4:44 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Winthrop Terrace, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, Sept. 19

8:58 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital

Towns launch shared Housing and Care Navigator to support recovery

WARE/BELCHERTOWN – The towns of Belchertown and Ware have partnered to launch a shared Housing and Care Navigator position to support individuals affected by opioid use disorder.

Funded through a combination of local opioid settlement funds and a Municipal Matching Grant from the Mosaic Opioid Recovery Partnership, the initiative reflects the towns' shared investment in recovery and housing stability. The position will be administered by the Western Massachusetts Training Consortium's Recovery Center of HOPE, and will expand access to housing and recovery support for residents in both communities.

The initiative was developed in response to community needs identified through surveys, listening sessions, and the ongoing work of each town's Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Committee. Across the region, access to safe and stable housing emerged as a critical barrier to sustained recovery and overall well-being.

Guided by this feedback and the collaborative leadership of local partners, including Gail Gramarossa of Belchertown and Emily Kirby of Ware, the communities created the Housing and Care Navigator position to address these challenges.

The Housing and Care Navigator will work directly with residents to reduce barriers to housing stability and recovery. Support may include help building housing readiness, navigating public benefits, connecting with basic needs resources, obtaining vital documents, or accessing emergency rental assistance.

The navigator will also strengthen collaboration among local partners working at the intersection of housing instability, opioid use, and recovery.

The communities have selected Lisa Roossien to lead this important initiative. Roossien brings more than a decade of experience in peer recovery support, program development, grant writing, and community-based service delivery, along with a strong commitment to expanding access to recovery resources in Western Massachusetts.



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Shown from left are members of the grant team: Julie Lutz, Maureen Babineau, Lisa Roossien, Emily Kirby and Gail Gramarossa.

"I am honored to support my neighbors through this exciting partnership. As a person with lived experience, I understand how critical it is for people on the recovery journey to have access to stable housing, coordinated care, and a strong sense of community. I am excited to work alongside residents, local organizations, and community leaders to help individuals access the resources they need to heal and thrive," said Roossien, Housing and Care Navigator.

Guided by the voices and experiences of residents affected by the opioid crisis, Belchertown and Ware are advancing community-centered solutions that promote recovery, stability, and well-being.

Through strategic investment, strong partnerships, and a shared commitment to meeting people where they are, both communities are building more accessible pathways to support and long-term recovery.

Housing and Care Navigation will be available on Mondays at Belchertown Town Hall and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the Recovery Center of HOPE in Ware. Thursday evening hours in Belchertown will also be offered at a location to be determined.

Community members and partners who would like to learn more about the initiative or connect with the Recovery Center of HOPE are encouraged to stop by at any time to say hello or visit www.recoverycenterofhope-ware.org.

About the Recovery Center of HOPE

The Recovery Center of HOPE is a peer-led community in the Quaboag Hills for and by people who identify as being in or seeking recovery, their families, and allies. RCH creates a safe space where individuals from all recovery pathways can connect, access support, and navigate recovery resources.

The center is a program of the Western Massachusetts Training Consortium, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a 50-year legacy of social justice and community-based advocacy.



Ware Christmas for Kids seeks donations

WARE – The Ware Police Department and the Ware Fire Department are commencing the 23rd annual Ware Christmas for Kids Program for the 2026 holiday season.

The departments are seeking financial assistance to help fulfill the needs of children in Ware. Monetary donations can be dropped off at the Ware Police Department, 22 North St., or mailed to Ware Christmas for Kids, c/o Ware Police Department, 22 North St., Ware MA 01082.

Checks should be made payable to: Ware Christmas for Kids.

For more information, call 413-967-3571 extension 327.

Notice of public comment period extension for MWRA application

The Massachusetts Water Resources Commission hereby gives notice pursuant to MGL Chapter 21 Sections 8B - 8D, and 313 CMR 4.00, Interbasin Transfer Act and Regulations, that the public comment period for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's Regional Water Supplier Donor Basin Application is being extended to Oct. 28.

Section 4.10 of the Interbasin Transfer Act regulations enables a Regional Water Supply System to file an application that allows the Water Resources Commission to evaluate and approve criteria applicable to the Donor Basin separately from criteria applicable to the Receiving Area.

MWRA, as a Regional Water Supply System, has filed a Donor Basin application pursuant to section 4.10 for the supply of an additional 20 million gallons per day on average to accommodate the expansion of its service area to multiple public water systems. The MWRA's sources are located in the Chicopee River and Nashua River Basins.

Copies of the application are available for review at the Clapp Memorial Library in Belchertown, the Bigelow Free Public Library in Clinton, and on the Interbasin Transfer Act applications webpage. Copies of the application may also be obtained by contacting Vanessa.Curran@mass.gov.

The Commission will be accepting comments on the substance of the application (whether the application is consistent with the environmental criteria set out in the Interbasin Transfer Act, such as impacts on the fisheries, recreation, and the aquatic ecosystem of the donor basin). The Commission will also be accepting comments on the process by which a regional water supplier may apply to the Water Resources Commission for an Increase in the Present Rate of Interbasin Transfer under section 4.10.

Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Oct. 28.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic submittal, via email to Vanessa.Curran@mass.gov. Written testimony may also be mailed to: Water Resources Commission, Attention: Vandana Rao, EOEEA, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114.



Send us your photos!

warerivernews@turley.com

DA honored with Leadership in Wellbeing Excellence Award

NORTHAMPTON – Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan was honored by Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, Inc. with the Leadership in Wellbeing Excellence Award during LCL's annual James A. Brink Dinner at the Harvard Club in Boston.

The award recognizes leaders within the Massachusetts legal community who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to advancing employee wellbeing, psychological safety, and a healthy workplace culture within their organizations. LCL created its Wellbeing Excellence Awards to recognize individuals and legal employers that have made meaningful efforts to support wellbeing and foster healthy and supportive workplace environments. LCL is a Massachusetts nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting wellbeing and resilience within the legal community.

Sullivan accepted the award and thanked Cynthia Von Flatern, Chief of the Northwestern District Attorney's Office Appellate Unit, and Emily O'Neil, Director of the Victim Witness Unit, who co-chair the Office's Health & Wellness Committee.

The Health & Wellness Committee works to promote a healthy, supportive workplace by developing programs and initiatives that encourage employee wellbeing, strengthen connections among staff, and provide resources and opportunities for employees to prioritize their physical and mental health.

"I am honored to receive this recognition, but this award is really a reflection of the commitment of the people throughout our office who understand that supporting one another and creating a healthy workplace makes us stronger as an organization," Sullivan stated in a press release. "I am particularly grateful to Cynthia and Emily for their leadership of our Health & Wellness Committee and for the work they do to make employee wellbeing a priority."

Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – A Halloween costume swap will be held at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 11 a.m.-noon.

Drop off costume pieces that you or your family members are not using and take home new-to-you pieces that others brought in.

Jewelry making

Think Pink on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m. for a jewelry making class in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

National Grouch Day

Thursday, Oct. 15 is National Grouch Day at the library from 2-7 p.m. Come moan, sulk and complain among friends.

Leave a vinegar message for all to read. Come have a horrible time and munch unpleasant snacks, compete in a complaining contest and generally dislike each other's company.

Ed the Wizard

Ed the Wizard presents magic and fun, Saturday, Oct. 17 at 2:30 p.m. brought to you by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council and the Libraries of Hardwick at the Hardwick Town House, 40 Common St.

Ed the Wizard brings awe and excitement with vanishes, sleights of hand, and humorous hi-jinx. Easy magic effects will be shared; learn to perform for family and friends.

Needle felting

Needle felt a mushroom on Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. Come make a cute felted mushroom decoration perfect to sit on a shelf or hang.

All materials provided. A $3 donation will help cover material costs.

Halloween tattoos

Come in for a Halloween tattoo during library hours Oct. 27, 28 and 29. Get a spooky, temporary glitter tattoo.

First-come, first served, so this activity will be available as time permits.

Face painting

Face painting at the Paige Memorial Library will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Liz will be ready with her brushes, so come get your face painted for Halloween.

A donation will help cover material costs. Sign up for a spot ahead of time by emailing or calling.

Appointments are available every 10 minutes.

Trail of Treats

The Paige Memorial Library will be at the Trail of Treats on the Hardwick Common – Saturday, Oct.31, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Ongoing programs

Join the Paige Memorial Library for Wednesday morning Story Hour and activities beginning with "getting to know you time" at 10:30 a.m. and story and activities at 11 a.m. Homeschoolers are welcome and can access books and materials through our library and through Interlibrary Loan.

The Friends' Book Sale is ongoing. The Book Club and the Cookbook Club meet monthly.

The Paige Writers meet every other week. Friends of the Paige Memorial Library, the Movie Committee, the new Hardwick Gardening Club, and the PML Volunteers are open to new members.

The library staff would like to start a teen group where creative teens can come together and make art, discuss music and culture, and relax. Anyone interested should let the library staff know.

Share ideas for books, the library of things, programs, speakers, or more. Please email, call or stop in.

For more information, visit www.paigelibrary.com, find the Paige Memorial Library on Facebook, email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

CANDLEPIN from page 13

est game for Rollies with 108. Darryl Sinclair had the highest game for Night Hawks with 106.

In game two, Night Hawks won by a score of 471-464. Lee Robinson of Night Hawks scored 132 and Sinclair 110.

Brandon Lane of Rollies scored 111 and Horton scored 118.

In game three, Rollies won by a score of 479-463. Lane finished the match with 135 for a series of 342.

Robinson scored 100 for a series of 335. The final score was 1389-1381 in favor of Rollies, who won three points and Night Hawks won four.

Flaming Bowling Balls bowled against P&J Meats during week five. In game one, Flaming Bowling Balls won by a score of 454-424.

Ryan McCarthy of FBB bowled a 111 to start the match. Game two, went to P&J Meats with a score of 448-420.

Shaun Midura of P&J Meats was the only bowler over 100 in game two with 102.

In game three, FBB won by a score of 501-425. Three out of four bowlers of FBB broke 100 with Don Paulus at 100, Brandon Haley at 118 and Ryan McCarthy at 101.

The final score was 1375-1297 in favor of Flaming Bowling Balls.

NOVEL from page 5

Bob's Biker Bar", inspired by the Countryside Pub in Warren.

Londergan is also working on writing the sequel to "A Thousand Miles from Home" which is titled "Down Every Road".

About the author

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

"A Thousand Miles from Home" is available in paperback and eBook editions from retailers including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bookshop.com and booksamillion.com.

In Loving Memory of

Joseph A. Supczak

October 16, 1914 – June 3, 2010



Fifteen years have passed since you left us.
Gone but never forgotten. We miss you!!

Joseph & Doris Supczak's children

obituaries

Warren Chester Reed Jr., 75

CLEARWATER, FL – Warren Chester Reed Jr., 75, passed away on Sept. 30, 2026, surrounded by his family at Mease Countryside Hospital in Safety Harbor, Florida.



Born on Feb. 15, 1951, in Springfield, Warren was a skilled carpenter and spent many years working for several construction companies and local contractors.

Warren enjoyed life on his own terms. He loved to sing, dance, shoot pool, throw darts and horseshoes, hunt, snowmobile, fish at the Quabbin Reservoir, play cards, and enjoy a drink with good company.

Some of his best years were spent in Massachusetts, where he tended a large garden and enjoyed sitting under his carport or in his famous "Shop" with family, friends, and his dogs, Bear and Titus.

He loved summer days spent barefoot by the pool, grilling, and having fish fries with friends. He also enjoyed annual vacations in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, where he visited family, caught crabs, and ate Pier French Fries and Bill's Pizza.

He leaves behind his wife of 49 years, Theresa Casey Reed; his daughters, Sonya (Michael) Paske of Palm Harbor, Florida, and Lesley (Scott) Kanehl of Clearwater, Florida; and his grandchildren, Jayde Wetteland, Landon Kanehl, and Addyson Kanehl. He is also survived by his sister, Donna Berthiaume-Incantalupo, along with several nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents, Warren C. Reed Sr. and Marie Ange Pelletier; his sisters, Alice Lorenz, Elizabeth "Betty" Jones, and Patricia McCarthy; and his brother, Lester Reed.

Warren packed a great deal of living into his 75 years. His life was filled with music, gatherings, laughter, travel, family, friends and a little bit of mischief now and then. He lived his dash his way and leaves behind memories and stories that will continue to be shared for years to come.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Sylvan Abbey Funeral Home, 2853 Sunset Point Road, Clearwater, FL 33759, on Nov. 1, 2026, from 2-3 p.m., and all guests are invited to continue in fellowship at a catered reception following the service.

Death notice

Reed Jr., Warren Chester
Died Sept. 30, 2026
Services Nov. 1, 2026

Ware River News

Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary,** costing $275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

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

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

United Church to hold take-out turkey dinner

WARE – The United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will hold a take-out turkey dinner on Monday, Oct. 19 starting at 4:30 p.m. until food runs out.

Drive up to the Church Street side of the church and a runner will take your food order and bring it to your car. The cost is $15 per meal and includes turkey with all the fixings, potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, roll and dessert.

No reservations necessary. For more information, people may call the church at 413-967-9981.

AWARD from page 1

each division of the Knights of Columbus.

Grand Knight Paul Harper said in addition to earning the distinction for the past four years, Council 183 also received the honor in the 1970s.

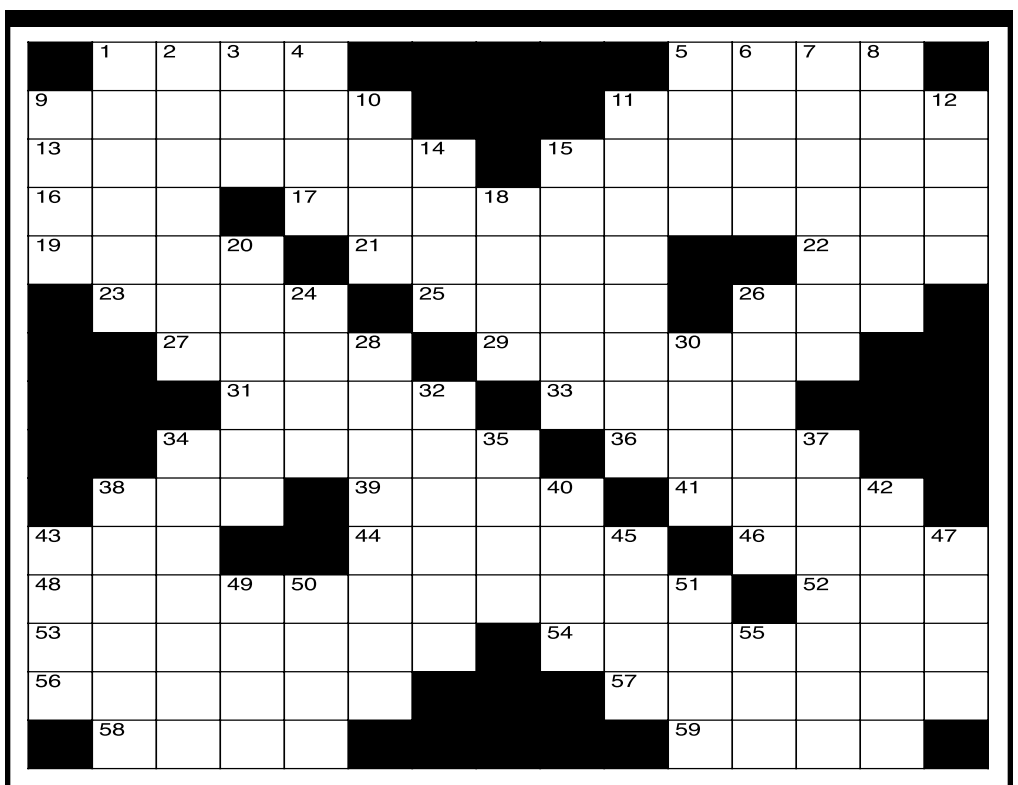
"It's a big to do," Harper said. "It's a hard thing to obtain."

In order to achieve the Star Council Award, a council must earn the Father McGivney, Founders' and Columbian Awards while meeting strict operational and safety compliance criteria.

"Receiving the Star Council Award is a tremendous honor for our entire membership," Harper said. "It reflects the hard work, dedication and charity of our brothers who live out our core principles of charity, unity and fraternity every single day in service to our parish and community."

Council 183 is known for supporting the community in a number of ways, from its annual Tootsie Roll drive to support people with intellectual disabilities, to grilling up hot dogs at countless events from National Night Out to the Domestic Violence Awareness Walk & Gathering being held this Sunday, Oct. 18 at 1 p.m. at Veterans Park.

If there's an event happening in town, you can almost guarantee the Knights will be there to support it.



CLUES ACROSS
1. Difficult
5. Coarsely ground corn
9. A group of similar things ordered one after another
11. Loved Romeo
13. Something to solve
15. Pelvic areas
16. Informal debt instrument
17. Ineffective
19. A device attached to a workbench
21. Related on the mother's side
22. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"
23. Astronomer Sagan
25. C. Utah city
26. Turkey
27. Informal terms for money
29. Awakens
31. Those who favored Prohibition
33. Blabbed
34. Looked through
36. Rhode Island rebellion
38. A type of "cast"
39. One's duty
41. Where golfers begin
43. Make a mistake
44. Semitic Sun god
46. Ancient Greek City
48. Removed someone's head
52. A place to stay
53. Unwise
54. Most unnatural
56. "Dennis" is a notable one
57. Ointments
58. Examination
59. Leaked fluid

CLUES DOWN
1. Brave
2. A state of excitement
3. Jest at
4. Sandwich store
5. Chapter of the Koran
6. Dismounted from a horse
7. Small vehicle
8. Irked
9. A disreputable man
10. Monetary unit of Samoa
11. A list of woes
12. Weight unit
14. Alone, single
15. Broadway legend Bernadette
18. Monetary unit of Serbia
20. Worn by exposure to the weather
24. A body of traditions
26. Students seek one
28. Hydrophilic amino acid
30. Nasal mucus
32. Branch of U.S. Congress
34. Swinish
35. Russian assembly
37. Grant an exemption to
38. Set up in advance
40. Satisfy
42. Felt
43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
45. Witnesses
47. Strong insects
49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland
51. Cheerless
55. Unhealthy

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

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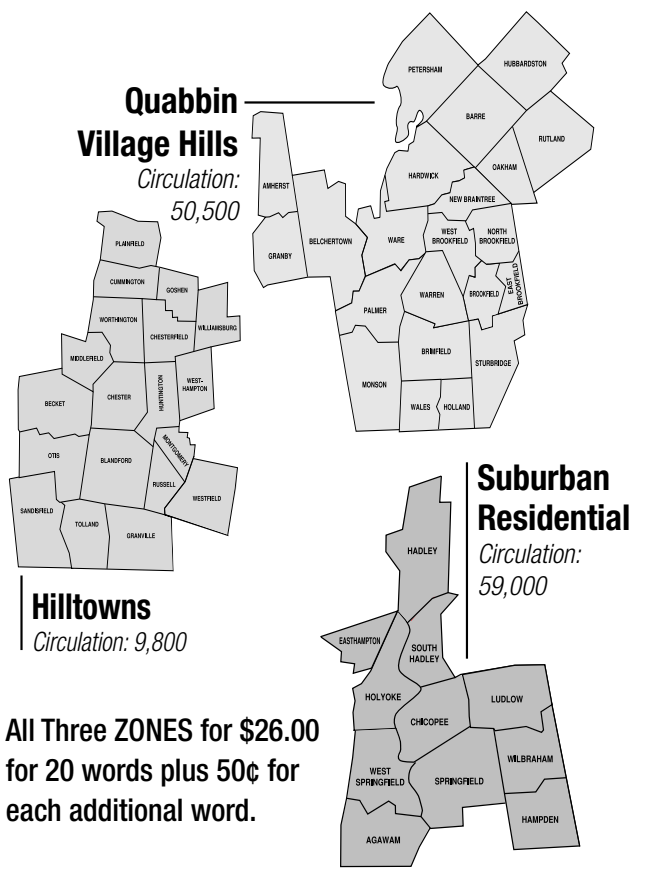
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NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 9 Laurel Drive, Ware, MA 01082

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Todd M. Allard to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC dba Mortgage Master, and now held by **PennyMac Loan Services, LLC**, said mortgage dated October 27, 2016 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12449, Page 252, as affected by a Loan Modification dated July 21, 2022 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 14671, Page 139; as affected by a Loan Modification dated August 18, 2024 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15243, Page 347; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com LLC dba Mortgage Master to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC by assignment dated September 23, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 13400, Page 170; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** November 5, 2026 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon situated, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the northeasterly line of Laurel Drive, at the southeasterly corner of Lot 7 as shown on plan hereinafter described;

THENCE North 24° 33' 20" East, along said Lot 7, 120 feet to land formerly of Greenacres Supply, Inc.;

THENCE South 61° 23' East, along last-named land, 110 feet to an iron pin at the northwesterly corner of Lot 5 as shown on said plan;

THENCE South 24° 33' 20" West, along said Lot 5, 120 feet to an iron pin;

THENCE North 61° 23' West, along said Laurel Drive, 110 feet to the point of beginning.

BEING Lot 6 as shown on a plan of land recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 82, Page 92.

SUBJECT to an Easement to Massachusetts Electric Company recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds on November 14, 1972 in Book 1671, Page 227.

SUBJECT to an Easement to NET&T dated June 23, 1971 and recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 1598, Page 232.

BEING the same premises conveyed to Todd M. Allard by deed of Anita M. Jamilowski, said deed being recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds on October 27, 2016 herewith.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 20, 2016 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12449, Page 248.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND ($5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for
PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
10/08, 10/15, 10/22/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRIAL COURT
DEPARTMENT
WORCESTER, SS
WINCHENDON
DISTRICT COURT
DOCKET NO. 2663CV000204

TO:
EDDIE CABRERA

WHEREAS a civil action has been filed against you in our District Court by DNCS, Inc., Plaintiff, wherein said Plaintiffs demand judgment enter against you for breach of contract and numerous other counts arising from the lease of a vehicle and subsequent motor vehicle accident of said vehicle, in an amount to be determined at trial. All that is set forth in the Plaintiffs Complaint filed in said Court on May 20, 2026.

Accordingly, we COMMAND YOU if you intend to make any claim or defense, that on or before **November 4, 2026** or within twenty (20) days from said day, to file your written appearance and written answer and other lawful pleadings to be served upon John M. Dombrowski, Esq., Dombrowski, Aveni & Bunnell, P.C., 6 Grove Avenue, Leominster, MA 01453, and also file your written appearance and written answer and other lawful pleadings in the Office of the Clerk of Court at Gardner District Court, 105 Matthews Street, Gardner, MA 01440 and further that you defend against the suit according to law if you intend any defense, and that you do and receive what the Court shall order and adjudge therein.

Hereof fail not, at your peril, or as otherwise said suit may be adjudged and orders entered in your absence.

It appearing to this Court that no personal service of the Complaint has been made on the Defendant, Eddie Cabrera, after diligent search to lawfully make service, it is ORDERED that notice of this suit be given to you by publication of an attested copy hereof in the WARE RIVER NEWS, a newspaper published in Worcester County, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, once a week for three successive weeks, the last publication to be at least twenty days before said return date of **November 4, 2026**

Hon. Mark A. Goldstein
Justice
Gardner District Court
Entered: 9/10/26
10/01, 10/08, 10/15/2026

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **For My Littles LLC** to **Manomednet LLC,** dated **11/30/2022**, and recorded with the **Hampshire County Registry of Deeds** in **Book 14747, Page 9** of which mortgage the undersigned is the present for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at **Public Auction** at **11 A.M.** on the **12th day of November 2026**, on the mortgaged premises located at **23-27 West St., Ware, MA** the premises described in said mortgage:

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The land in said Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, on the Northerly side of West Street, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin set in the Northerly line of said West St., said pin being at the southeasterly corner of land now or formerly of Mary M. Madigan and at the southwesterly corner of the premises herein conveyed;

Thence North 15 degrees, 30 minutes, 27 seconds West along the Easterly line of land of said Madigan one hundred and seventy and 94/100 (170.94) feet, partly along a stone wall, to an iron rod at the intersection of stone walls;

Thence North 86 degrees, 32 minutes, 39 seconds East along land now or formerly of Martha and Isabelle Bothwell and Thomas D. Moriarty, et ux, seventy and 27/100 (70.27) feet, partly along a stone wall and partly along a concrete retaining wall to a drill hole at the southwesterly corner of land now or formerly of George W. Christman, et ux;

Thence South 8 degrees, 31 minutes, 28 seconds East thirty-seven and 93/100 (37.93) feet along a stone wall and land now or formerly of Wilfred Briere, et ux, to an iron pin at a corner of stone wall;

Thence, South 80 degrees, 47 minutes, 11 seconds East along a stone wall and land of said Briere eight and 3/100 (8.03) feet to land now or formerly of Henry D. Jock, et ux;

Thence South 18 degrees, 51 minutes, 25 seconds East along said land now or formerly of said Jock one hundred and six and 71/100 (106.71) feet, following a fence, to a point in the Northerly line of West St;

Thence South 58 degrees, 4 minutes, 28 seconds along the Northerly line of West St. seventy-eight and 13/100 (78.13) feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 11,510 square feet.

Subject to any conditions, covenants, and restrictions of record insofar as the same are in force and applicable.

Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagor by deed dated **11/30/2022** and recorded in Book **14747**, Page **5**.

TERMS OF SALE

1. **Deposit Required:** A deposit of **$10,000.00** by certified check, bank treasurer's check, or cashier's check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale.

2. **Balance of Purchase Price:** The balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified or bank check within **thirty (30) days** from the date of sale at the offices of the Mortgagee's attorney, **Kevin Walkowski, 3333 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095**, upon delivery of the Mortgagee's Deed.

3. **Encumbrances:** The premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, water and sewer charges, betterment assessments, and any prior liens, easements, or encumbrances having priority over the mortgage being foreclosed.

4. **Reservations:** Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

MANOMEDNET LLC
Present Holder of Said Mortgage
By its Attorney:
KEVIN WALKOWSKI, ESQ.
3333 Boston Rd., Wilbraham, MA 01095
508-901-1208
10/01, 10/08, 10/15/2026

Town of Hardwick
Legal Notice

Under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 166, and any additions or amendments thereto; please be advised that at their meeting on **Monday, October 26, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.**, at the Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA 01031, the Hardwick Select Board will consider a request to give permission to Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc, to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Greenwich Road- National Grid to install 1 SO pole on Ware Greenwich Road beginning at a point approximately 673 feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Gaudet Road.
10/08, 10/15/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No.
HS26P0618EA
Estate of:
Halina Emilia Olearczyk
Also known as:
Halina E. Kupiec,
Halina E. Olearczyk
Date of Death: 07/06/2026
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Violette J. Rozkuszka of Ware** and **Darek S. Olearczyk of Somers CT**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Violette J. Rozkuszka of Ware and **Darek S. Olearczyk of Somers CT** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
10/15/2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 000863
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Carisa M. Szloch

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

NewRez LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Ware, numbered 181 Osborne Road**, given by **Carisa M. Szloch to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for NewRez LLC**, dated **January 16, 2020**, and **recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13522, Page 260**, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **November 16, 2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on October 13, 2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
10/15/2026

Town of Ware
Historical Commission
Public Hearing Notice

The Ware Historical Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:05 p.m.** at the Ware Town Hall meeting room, 126 Main Street, Ware. At the hearing, the Commission will review the demolition of a residential building at 41 Fisherdick Road, Assessors Map 21, Lot 41. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated. All interested parties are invited to attend.
10/15/2026

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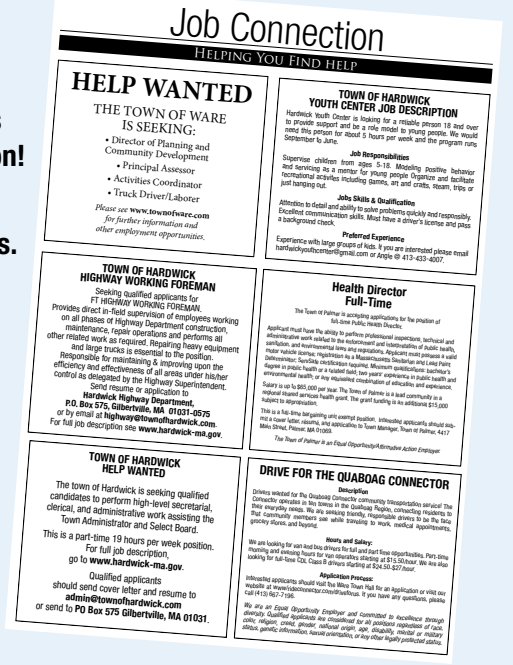
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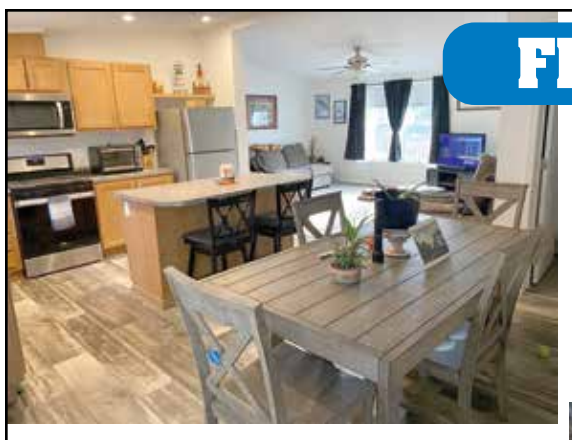
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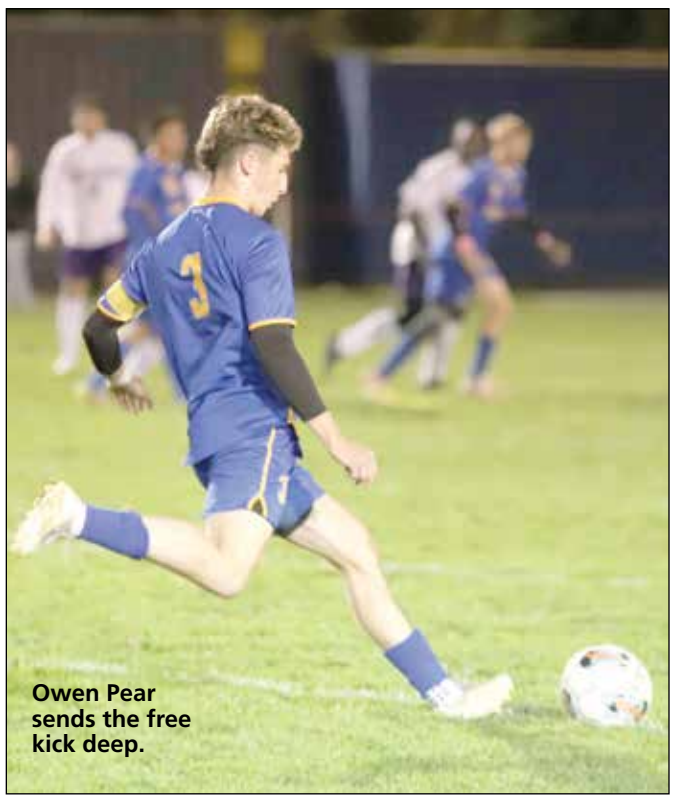
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Owen Pear sends the free kick deep.

SOCCER from page 12

leads the Pioneers with 24 goals this season, dribbled down the left side before delivering a shot into the right corner past junior keeper Rikendy Jean (11 saves). Senior Brody Wetnicka was credited with the assist.

In the middle of the first half, Jean made a diving save on a shot attempt taken by sophomore Abees Castillo-Clotter, which enabled the Purple Knights to keep the one goal lead.

Castillo-Clotter is one of three Pathfinder Tech players who attend Palmer High School, joining seniors Owen Pear and Dylan Holbrook. The three players suit up for Pathfinder Tech through a co-op between the two neighboring high schools.

Bousquet came close to finding the equalizer on two occasions late in the first half, but Holyoke held on to a slim 2-1 lead at halftime.

The trio of Castillo-Clotter, Bousquet, and sophomore Owen Marion had shots on goal during the first five minutes of the second half.

Seven minutes after halftime, Holyoke regained a two-goal cushion. Following a throw-in from the left sideline by Tabin, Davila found the back of the net for his first goal of the season.

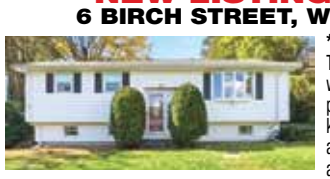
In the middle of the second half, Pathfinder Tech closed the gap again when Bousquet scored a rebound goal.

Just like in the first half, the Pioneers were unable to score the tying goal, as the Purple Knights players enjoyed their bus ride home.


Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Brodey Williams is pressured by a Holyoke paper.

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