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Domestic Violence Awareness

Walk brings safety, justice and peace for DV survivors

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – The Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force has been a voice for survivors of abuse for over 25 years, and this past Sunday, its members sent a clear message to the community – we must stand together.

On Oct. 18, the task force held its 11th annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk and Community Gathering at Veterans Park. The ceremony and walk were led by members of the Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force.

Acting as master of ceremonies was student Reese McKeever, who thanked everyone for supporting the walk and she recognized local and state officials in attendance.

McKeever drew attention to a table that was set up at the park, carefully set with plates, glasses, centerpieces and place cards. Each place card had the name and story of person who lost their life due to domestic violence.

“This year it includes two people from our nearby towns of Amherst and Belchertown,” McKeever said.

The first speaker was state Rep. Todd Smola, who said the task force not only brings awareness to domestic violence, but it helps to educate future generations.



Members of the Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force led the 11th annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk and Community Gathering through downtown Ware this past Sunday.

“We know how challenging these situations are,” he said. “There is help...it’s our job to be on the frontlines.”

Smola said he wanted survivors to know that there are resources that are available to help them and that the task force is there to “make sure you get the help that you need.”

Smola said there is no greater community than Ware that steps up against domestic violence.

“Our mission is to try and make sure there is never a victim again,”

Please see **DV WALK**, page 6



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Students showed support for healthy relationships.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Julie Bullock (right) explained a book to Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School third grader Brynn during the annual Ware History Tour at the Ware Center Meeting House & Museum and Ware Grange Hall.

SMK students take town history tour

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – Third grade students at Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School recently participated in the Ware History Tour, a long-standing tradition made possible by members of the Ware Historical Society and Proprietors of the Ware Center Meetings House.

On Oct. 16, students arrived in buses at the Ware Center Meeting House & Museum and the Ware Grange Hall, for tours and lessons in what life was like for the early inhabitants of the town, including the children.

Lynn Lak, a member of the Ware Historical Society and Proprietor of the Ware Center Meeting House, as well as the chair of the Historical Commission, welcomed students from

the front step of the meeting house. The students were then divided into small groups to visit the various stops along the tour.

Lak brought her first group of students upstairs into the sanctuary space of the meeting house, where she explained how church services were an important part of life in the 1800s.

She explained that the sermons could be quite lengthy, and how a pole (outfitted with a feather on one end) was used to tap or tickle sleeping churchgoers awake.

Comfort was important during these long services, and two coal stoves provided heat from the back of the sanctuary to the front via pipes. The pipes are no longer there, by Lak showed the holes where they would

Please see **HISTORY TOUR**, page 15



Station Loop Ramble

Annual run/walk event celebrates 15th year

By Paula Ouimette
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NEW BRAINTREE – The East Quabbin Land Trust hosted its 15th annual Station Loop Ramble this past Sunday – a family-friendly event that high-

lights the beauty of the Mass Central Rail Trail.

More than 75 participants took to the trails to compete in the 5 Mile Classic or the 5K Run/Walk. Prior to these events, about a dozen younger runners competed in a 200-foot dash and a quarter-mile run.

The top male and female finishers for the 5 Mile Classic were Nathaniel Henshaw with a time of 29:59 and Abigayle Goudreau with a time of 39:26. The top male and female finishers in the 5K were siblings Walker Larson (19:10) and Hazel Larson (26:06).

Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette
Thomas Garwood and Calia Rich took off to compete in the 5K race at the East Quabbin Land Trust's 15th annual Station Loop Ramble held this past Sunday. Garwood finished with a time of 36:33 and Rich finished with a time of 26:43.

Other results are as follows for the 5 Mile Classic: Mike Keleher, 30:45; Rain Wilbur, 31:00; Matthew Twarog, 31:52; Jeremy Zglobicki, 33:30; Michael Siok, 34:54; David Larson, 35:55; Simon

Please see **RAMBLE**, page 8

Seniors celebrate Italian American heritage

By Paula Ouimette
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WARREN – Staff and volunteers at the Warren Senior Center provided a home-cooked chicken parmesan luncheon to diners last week in celebration of Italian American heritage.

Lunch Coordinator Paula Fitts led the kitchen crew on Oct. 15, and together they served a sold-out dining room a meal complete with the main dish of chicken parmesan, pasta and salad. Town Administrator James Ferrara provided cannoli made fresh at La Fiorentina Pastry Shop.

Joining Ferrara were all three members of the Board of Selectmen: Richard Eichacker, Derick Veliz and Raymond Kopacko. Kopacko also served in the kitchen as a volunteer.

Ferrera has now sponsored this luncheon for the past three years.

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Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Town Administrator James Ferrara spoke during the luncheon to celebrate Italian American heritage. Ferrara sponsors this event each year.

BOS discuss STM articles

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
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WARREN – The Board of Selectmen discussed potential warrant articles that could be placed on the Nov. 19 special town meeting warrant, including seven non-binding articles related to the building of a police station or public safety complex.

During the Oct. 15 meeting, four non-binding articles were originally proposed by Selectman Raymond Kopacko including two possibilities for a new build police station on Brimfield Road and Route 19, a refurbishing of the Cornerstone Bank building and an article in support of fire station modifications, to allow stations A and B to merge into one.

Fire Chief Adam Lavoie said this concept was minimalist, and would be pre-

Please see **STM**, page 11



SPORTS



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jaedon Warren chases after a loose ball.



Aaron Gasque fights to keep the ball.



Christian Ribeiro tries to keep the ball away from an opposing player.



Houston Lints passes ahead of a pressuring opponent.



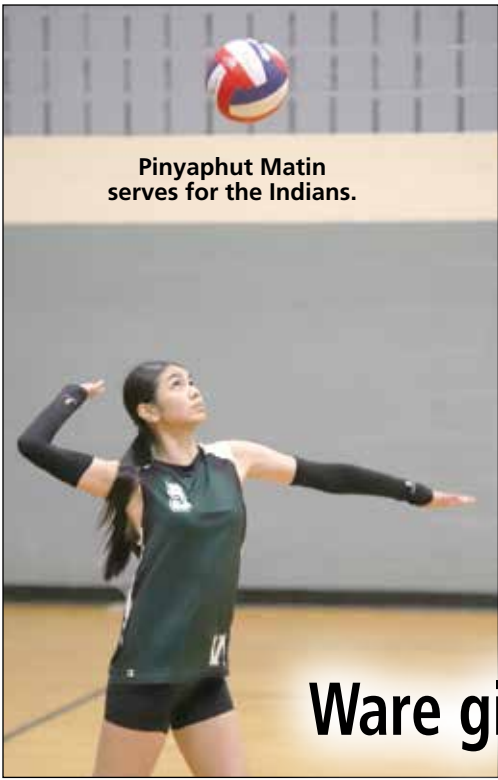
Elijah Hodge takes the goal kick.

Pioneers get big win over Ware

PALMER – Under the lights at Legion Field, the Pathfinder Tech boys soccer team defeated Ware 7-1, and the Pioneers are now headed for the state tournament with a 9-4-1 record. Cayden Bousquet had a hat trick and Owen Pear added two goals for the Pioneers. Pathfinder had one final game this week against Southwick before learning if it makes the Western Mass. tournament.



Finnegan DeMarco is closely pursued by an opponent.

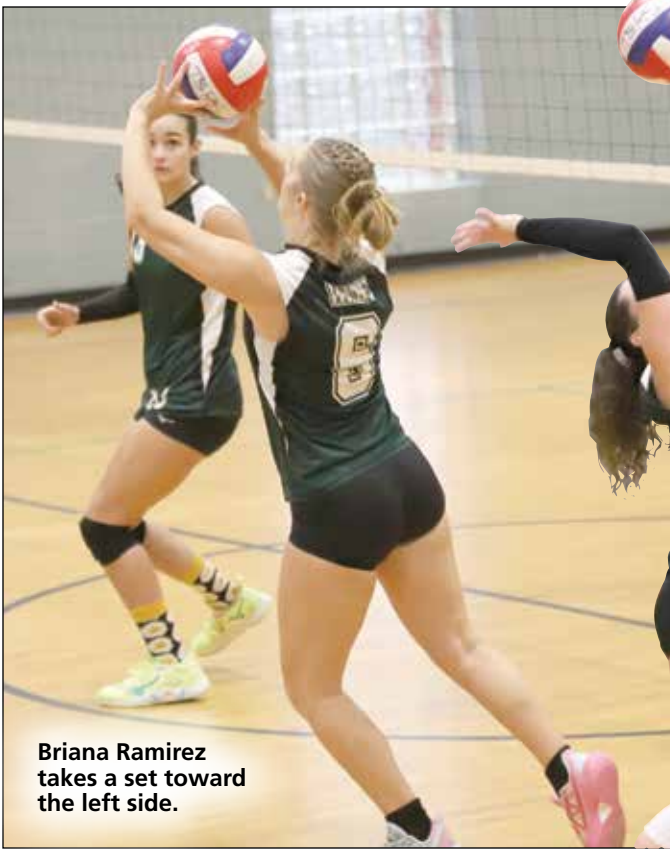


Pinyaphut Matin serves for the Indians.



Kazmiryr Lagimoniere goes for the spike.

Ware girls volleyball swept



Briana Ramirez takes a set toward the left side.

WARE – The Ware girls volleyball team was swept 3-0 by Renaissance School, then lost 3-1 to Smith Vocational during the past week. Ware is now 5-10 on the season with three matches remaining, ending with a tilt with Belchertown on Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. at home. Ware is just outside the top 32 in Division 5, so they would need five straight wins right now to reach .500 to make the tournament.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Carly Brown sends a hit away.

Late goals lift Panthers to win over Gardner

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—It had been six years since the Quabbin boys' varsity soccer team last celebrated a victory over Mid-Wach D rival Gardner. After the first meeting of the 2026 regular season ended in a 1-1 draw, the Panthers scored twice in the final 10 minutes of regulation to earn a 3-1 victory against the Wildcats in last Thursday's contest at Alumni Field.

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Turley photos by Jeffrey Haynes
Goalie Silas Stukuls Barrieau makes a diving effort to block a penalty shot.

Quabbin girls remain undefeated with win over rival Hurricanes

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE— The current members of the Quabbin girls' varsity soccer team are trying to accomplish something this fall that has never been achieved since the regional high school first opened its doors in the late 1960s.

The Lady Panthers had an 11-0-1 overall record following a 5-2 victory over Mid-Wach D rival Gardner at Alumni Field, last Thursday night.

“These girls have learned how to win games during

Please see **GIRLS**, page 10



Daniella Gaudreault wins possession and passes the ball upfield.