

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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EXPLAINER

## What is Ware's permanent deficit?

By Melina Bourdeau  
Staff writer

WARE – In this year's town meeting packet, Town Manager Stuart Beckley wrote a letter addressing the fiscal 2018 budget, informing residents there is a permanent deficit that exists between the revenues available and the expenditures required to fund town services.

Although this year's annual budget is balanced, a permanent deficit, or structural deficit, is something to be aware of, according to Beckley and Town Accountant Tracey Meehan.

"All that means is that our projected revenues are lower than our expected expenditures," said Meehan. "It will continue that way unless you generate new revenue or significantly decrease your expenses."

This year, there were cuts made to decrease expenditures.

Beckley said in his letter, "All departmental budgets are extremely tight due to continuous cuts over several consecutive years. The ability to operate without increasing non-salary expenses is increasingly challenging."

Some of the cuts made this year include reduced hours for Department of Public Works employees, not funding adequate departmental training budgets, decreased facilities maintenance funds for capital improvement and some increases in receipts received as well.

In a study conducted in August 2016, with the Division of Local Services of the state's Department of Revenue, Meehan and Beckley, a budget projection was created to show a deficit budget in Ware and how it will continue five years from now.

This study is a live document, "a tool," and one which can be updated annually to get a better understanding of what the future may hold, according to Meehan.

"The projected expenditures are

See DEFICIT, Page 8

## A friendly crowd greeted Warren



Turley publications staff photos by Melina Bourdeau  
Elizabeth Warren spoke and answered questions in the overflow room at WJSH for five minutes before taking the stage in the auditorium.

Elizabeth Morin, from Ware, said she came because U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren is one of her favorite people.

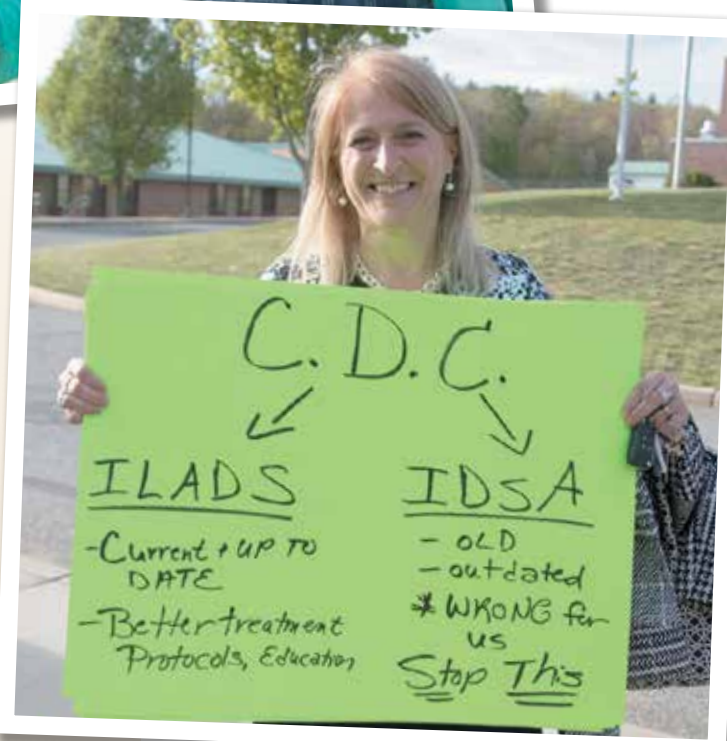
## Government class discusses Warren's visit

By Melina Bourdeau  
Staff writer

WARE – Students in Nicholas Vantangoli's government class discussed U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren's town hall event in Ware last Friday. Some students were critical of Warren and claimed she wasn't given many difficult questions.

Vantangoli said he offered his classes 15 bonus points on an exam if they attended the

See VISIT, Page 8



Catherine Buelow-Cascio held signs highlighting the issue of Lyme disease and that stated the CDC should support the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society.

By Eileen Kennedy  
Staff writer

## Supporters line up to hear her

WARE – U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren spoke to a friendly crowd of more than 500 people Friday night at Ware Junior Senior High School, with plenty of cheers and applause for much of what she discussed and the answers she gave to peoples' questions.

Local Democratic state Sen. Anne Gobi, of Spencer, and former state Sen. Stephen Brewer, D-Barre, were on hand to introduce Warren and to moderate questions, respectively.

"What a crowd, we know here that democracy is not a spectator sport and it works best when all participate," Gobi said. "It's time to come together here in this 'town that can't be licked,' full of good, hard-working people who love this country and respect the Constitution and all of its amendments."

See WARREN, Page 8

## Parking concerns take center stage

Colleen Montague  
Staff Writer

WEST BROOKFIELD – Quaboag Regional Middle High School Athletic Director David Bouchard and Warren Fire Chief Adam Lavoie appeared before the Quaboag Regional School Committee during their May 15 meeting to discuss concerns about parking at the high school for events and ways it might be addressed. They met at the West Brookfield Elementary School.

Bouchard said that over time use of school facilities by non-school groups, such as youth sports groups, has greatly increased, but that people were parking in areas that they should not. Bouchard said this has created problems, such as school buses returning from athletic trips or field trips that couldn't leave or could not make the turn because people had parked by the guardrail where it was marked as "no parking." More importantly, he said that some of this parking was also preventing EMS services from accessing the fields and track in the event of a medical emergency.

"The ambulance couldn't directly access the softball fields because of the way people had parked," Bouchard said, citing one incident that occurred during the previous week where a spectator had sustained a serious leg injury. "[They] had to find another alternate way to get there, which of course costs

See MEETING, Page 6

## House break occurs while owner home

First one in 10 years

By Tara Vocino  
Correspondent

WARREN -- Police are tracking down a suspect who broke into a home early Saturday morning while the resident was sleeping inside, an incident that the police chief said is virtually unheard of in town.

"It hasn't happened here in town since I became chief 10 years ago," Police Chief Bruce D. Spiewakowski said. "I've been a police officer for 30 years, and I've only seen it a couple of times in my career."

According to a log entry, the victim said the window screen was knocked on the ground, and the window frame was wet when it had not rained. The victim told police when he called that he was not sure whether the person was still in the house.

Spiewakowski said the Maple Street resident was asleep at 2:13 a.m. Saturday when he awoke and yelled, which startled the suspect, and caused him or her to jump the fence and run away. Officer Joseph LaFlower and his canine, Murray,

See HOUSE, Page 6

## Sparkle run raises nearly \$6,000 for fireworks



Participants in the Sparkle Run started off the 5K race through Grenville Park in the morning on Saturday, May 13. The race was started as a fundraiser for the Lions Club fireworks every June.

By Melina Bourdeau  
Staff writer

WARE – For Buy Ware Now's first annual Sparkle Run, over 60 runners and walkers registered to run a course through Grenville Park to support the fireworks hosted by the Lion's Club every June.

There was a total of \$5,954.76 raised for the fireworks this year, which covers over half of the cost.

Danielle Sousa, chairman of Buy Ware Now, said the group wanted to host a community event and thought a great way to bring awareness to their cause and to the town was to support the fireworks.

"The Lion's Club had a need for funds for the fireworks and the money has been depleting over the years. This event is to reinvest in the community and being people

from all sorts of towns to Ware," said Sousa.

There were several members of the community in attendance including selectmen Mike Fountain, John Carroll and Tracey Opalinski as well as state Sen.s Anne Gobi, D-Spencer.

Although there were also many participants that were not from town.

First place winner from out-of-town and an avid runner, Giana Leone, said she's never been to Ware before.

"Where I live, this is something totally different. I would train on the course. This is really nice," said Leone.

Her father, Rocco Leone, works for the Massachusetts Housing Authority and said the Buy Ware

See SPARKLE, Page 15



Don't Miss Out!

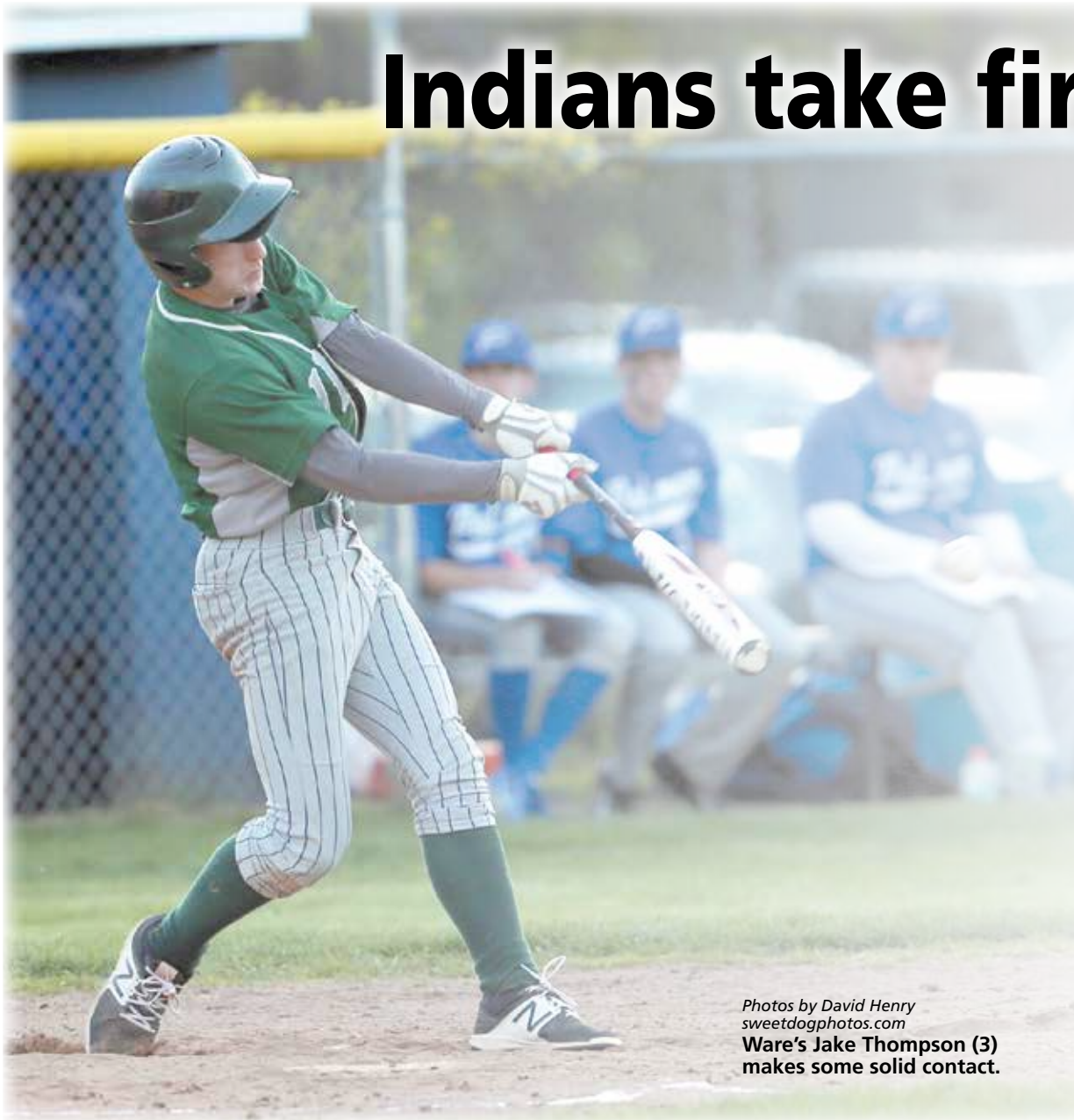
# CONGRATULATE Your Graduate!

The Ware River News will feature a special graduation issue on June 8th. To wish your graduate a special message go to our website [warerivernews.turley.com](http://warerivernews.turley.com) or, contact sales representative Dan Flynn at 413-967-3505. Don't delay – deadline is Thursday, May 25th.



# SPORTS

## Indians take first meeting with Palmer



Photos by David Henry  
sweetdogphotos.com  
Ware's Jake Thompson (3) makes some solid contact.

Rematch set for Monday in Ware

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

PALMER - Both the Ware and Palmer varsity baseball teams are trying to accomplish something this spring that hasn't taken place in more than five years.

In the first meeting of the regular season between the archrivals, the Indians took over sole possession of first place in the Bi-County South League standings with a 10-6 victory against the Panthers, which was played before a large crowd at historic Legion Field, last Thursday night.

"Being able to win a game on this field and moving into first place in the league standings, it doesn't get any better than that," said Ware head coach Chris Adams. "It's a huge win for us, but we're going to be facing Palmer again in a couple of weeks at our place. I don't expect either team is going to lose another league game before then, so the second meeting will probably decide the league title. We really don't want to tie for the league title with anyone this year."

The Indians (12-1, 5-0), who last



Ware second baseman Alex Lanier (6) turns and throws the ball to first.



Ware shortstop Devin Slattery (7) fires a long throw to first.

captured the league title in 2010, also defeated the Panthers at Legion Field for the first time since 2013 when they celebrated an 8-5 victory.

The last time that the Panthers finished in first place in the league standings was in 2011. They had a 9-3 overall record and a 3-0 league record entering last Thursday's contest.

"We had one bad inning in tonight's game, but we just kept battling back until the very end,"

said Palmer head coach Peter Farr. "Ware is a very good baseball team and we're looking forward to playing them again in about 10 days. We also need one more win to qualify for the postseason tournament for the first time in two years."

The Panthers did qualify for the Western Massachusetts with a 2-1 home win over Hampshire Regional in another league game the follow-

See **BASEBALL**, Page 10

## Lady Indians still in playoff hunt

By Dave Forbes  
dforbes@turley.com

WARE - At the beginning of the week, the Ware softball team knew they had a crucial stretch of games coming up.

When the week ended, the Lady Indians were only a little closer towards deciding their postseason fate. Ware when 1-2 in three games, which included a win over Sabais and losses to McCann Tech and Putnam.

In the 11-8 win over Sabais, the Lady Indians grabbed a quick 2-0 lead in the top of the first, while Sabais scored once in the first and two in the third to take a 3-2 lead.

That deficit for Ware did not last long, however, as they put up six runs in the fourth to go back on top 8-3. Sabais rallied to tie the game with one in the fourth and four in the sixth before Ware came through with three big runs in the top of the seventh for the victory.

Shelby Tweedie paced the offense with three hits, two runs scored and two RBIs. Olivia Haymen and Meg Sidur each had two hits and two runs scored. Aidyn Welsh had a hit, a run scored and an RBI. Olivia Balicki had a hit and scored twice. Lily Juda had a double and a run scored, while Jenna Goodreau had a hit and an RBI.

Goodreau went the distance on the mound to pick up the victory.

Ware then fell to McCann Tech, 9-3. The Hornets scored four times in the first inning.

Ware scored once in the second and twice in the sixth.

Emily Ledoux had three hits, a run scored and an RBI to pace the Ware offense. Samantha Turek had a hit and an RBI, as did Goodreau.

In the 11-4 loss to Putnam, the Lady Indians responded from an early 2-0 deficit with single runs in

the third and fourth innings to even the score at 2-2. However, Putnam responded with nine unanswered over the next two innings to stretch the lead to 11-2. Ware would add on two runs in the seventh.

Adams finished with two hits for Ware. Ledoux, Juda and Sidur each added a hit and a run scored.

Ware (5-8, 4-3) will either have

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 10



Ware shortstop Aidyn Welsh (10) flips the ball to second base for a force out.

Staff photo by Dave Forbes



Ware pitcher Samantha Turek (4) makes a delivery to home plate.



Ware third baseman Jenna Goodreau (14) makes the long throw across the diamond to first.

## Knights secure sweep over Indians

By Dave Forbes  
dforbes@turley.com

WARE - Coming into last week, the Ware boys volleyball team still had a good chance to qualify for the Western Massachusetts Division 2 Tournament.

A win over Holyoke would have put them in very good position to finish in second place in the league.

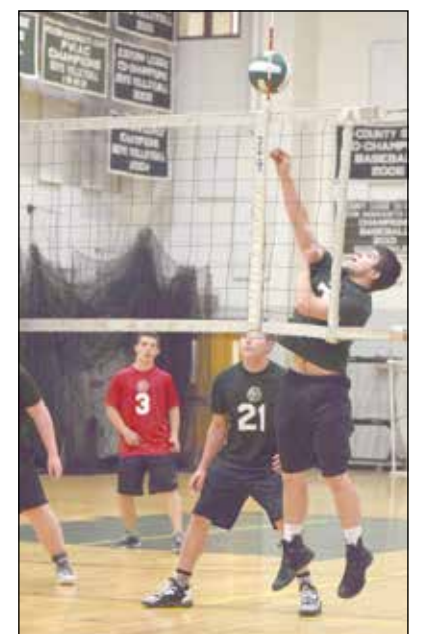
Unfortunately for the Indians, Holyoke came out and took care of business in a 25-14, 25-23, 25-18 victory over Ware.

Andrew Blais had a big match for the Indians as he finished with 12 assists, 10 digs and two kills. Josh Dugay added 23 digs and one kill, and Tristan Cutten had 17 digs.

See **VOLLEY**, Page 10



Ware senior Xavier Rivera (23) works on his serve.



Ware junior Andrew Blais (7) hammers the ball over the net.

Staff photos by Dave Forbes

## Lady Panthers shut down Pathfinder

By Dave Forbes  
dforbes@turley.com

PALMER - The Palmer offense took care of business early with a quick explosion as they cruised to a 17-0 win over intertown rival Pathfinder.

Palmer jumped out to the big lead quick in this one as they scored 10 runs in the first inning. Palmer then added seven more in the fourth to help reach the 15-run mercy rule, which allowed the contest to come to an end after the top of the fifth.

Jillian Lombardi had the biggest performance on offense for Palmer as she had three, three runs scored and three RBIs. Sydney LeVasseur added three hits, three RBIs and two runs scored. Jasmine McCord finished with four hits,

two runs scored and two RBIs. Jayda Bruscoe had four hits and a run scored. Megan Wilson had two hits. Ashelyn Granger had a hit and three runs scored.

Sierra Cavanaugh and Kerianna Pavlu combined for the shut-out. Cavanaugh started, going one inning and allowing just one hit while striking out two. Pavlu tossed the first four, allowing six hits and striking out five.

Elizabeth Hamilton topped Pathfinder with two hits. Stephanie McRae, Corin Latulippe, Joclyn Wells, Trista Daley, Megan Rubner and Alicia Griffin each had one.

Palmer (7-6), which needed three more wins at the start of this week to qualify for the Western Massachusetts Division 2 Tournament, won 15-2 over Sabais, lost 8-7 to Central in 12 innings

and beat Pope Francis, 10-6.

In the win over Sabais, Jasmine McCord had three hits, including a double and a homer, along with two runs scored and five RBIs. Granger added two hits, three runs scored and two RBIs. Lombardi had two hits, two runs scored and an RBI. Cavanaugh had two doubles and a run scored. Savannah Beck had a hit, two runs scored and two RBIs. Bruscoe had three hits, a run scored and an RBI. Wilson had two hits and a run scored.

In the extra inning loss to Central, the Lady Panthers used a six-run rally in the seventh to even the score at 6-6. Palmer then took its first lead of the game in the 11th inning with a single run, but Central responded with one in the bottom of the inning and one in

the 12th for the win.

Wilson had four hits, including a double and a triple, with two runs scored. Bruscoe added three hits. McCord had two hits, including a triple, a run scored and an RBI. Lombardi had a double and a run scored.

In the 6-2 win over Pope Francis, Palmer scored five times in the third to take a 5-1 lead.

Hannah Bigos had four hits, a run scored and an RBI in the win for Palmer. Amanda Syrek had a triple and two RBIs. LeVasseur had two hits and a run scored. McCord had a hit, a run scored and an RBI. Granger and Cavanaugh both had a hit and a run scored.

In three other games during the week, Pathfinder fell 24-4 to Putnam, 25-4 to Smith Voke and 15-12 to Westfield Tech.



Pathfinder pitcher Emily Latulippe (14) makes a delivery to home plate.

Staff photo by Dave Forbes