

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Board OK'd special permit for hybrid dispensary

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – The Planning Board held a public hearing during its Feb. 5 meeting for a marijuana establishment at 50 East Main St.

The applicant, MRL, LLC, is seeking a special permit and site plan review for the purpose of opening a hybrid dispensary in the mill yard zoning district. Speaking on the application was Mary Feeny, who also provided a drawing of the location within the building they're proposing to place the dispensary.

Part of the plan is to put in a handicap accessible lift and Feeny said there is an opportunity to put in a vestibule for checking IDs in the entrance to the dispensary.

One of the maps mentions Wilton's door and the applicant proposed an area to isolate the elevator so they can access the elevator from upstairs to downstairs. The elevator goes into the cultivation space down below and is currently not in service.

Planning Board Vice-Chair Chris Dimarzio asked if the applicant anticipates getting any heavy deliveries and what the picture is on loading and unloading product. The applicant is planning to use the loading dock and is wide enough for the entry way and the steps to the platform are wide enough.

Feeny said she doesn't anticipate any large deliveries.

The Planning Board went over possible conditions for lighting in the building. It seems to them there isn't an obstruction of someone's view.

Director of Planning & Community Development

Please see **DISPENSARY**, page 2

Police vs. Fire

Police earned 69-56 win at fundraiser game

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE

The Police Department's team took back the trophy for the Class of 2026's Police vs. Fire basketball game fundraiser this past Saturday evening in the Paul Orszulak Gymnasium at Ware Junior Senior High School.

Last year, the Fire Department's team broke the Police Department's years long winning streak, and earned the honor of displaying the trophy at the Fire Station for the year.

High School building principal Megan Sears said this annual fundraiser benefits the school's senior class.

Please see **POLICE VS FIRE**, page 8



Dan O'Brien and Andy Covington fought for the ball during the tip-off.

Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette



Submitted Photo

Patrick St. Pierre, left, and Derek Ames, right, were both appointed to the rank of sergeant on the Police Department. They are shown with Police Chief Shawn Crevier and members of the Selectboard at the Feb. 3 meeting.

Officers promoted to rank of sergeant

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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The Selectboard appointed St. Pierre and Ames to the rank of sergeant.

WARE – Police Chief Shawn Crevier presented two candidates eligible for the rank of sergeant to the Selectboard for appointment.

At the Feb. 3 meeting, he said an assessment center was held at the end of last year to find candidates. He said all of the candidates scored well, and were within single numbers of each other.

Topping the list of candidates for the rank of sergeant were officers Patrick St. Pierre and Derek Ames.

"It's my recommendation that the board appoint St. Pierre and Ames to the permanent sergeants positions," Crevier said.

Liquor license hearing
Adam Field of Fieldcrest Brewing Co., 11 East Main St., appeared before the Selectboard during an application hearing for the following licenses: a new on-premises farmer's series pouring permit, auto amusement, common victualler and entertainment.

Field said he is excited about opening his business' second location, with its flagship location in Wilbraham. He said they have been working to renovate the former Gabe's building and secure licensing.

Please see **WARE BOS**, page 6

Community participated in drinking water session

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – The town of Ware and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission held a drinking water community information session at the Ware Senior Center to share information about the town's public water supply, and how it reaches your tap.

Close to 30 people attended the Feb. 5 session, which started with a welcome from Town Manager Stuart Beckley, and Healthy Quaboag's Project Coordinator for Community

Health, Sawyer Blake.

"Drinking water as we all know, is a basic human right," Blake said.

PVPC's Chief Environmental Planner, Patty Gambarini and Principal Planner Becky Basch explained the purpose of the community information session, and how it will help better serve the users of the town's public water.

"Communication is a core part of what we had to do in our planning," Gambarini said.

Public and private water

Basch said that all of the town's drinking water, pub-



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Interim Director of the Department of Public Works, Ken Calder, gave a presentation about the town's public water system.

lic and private, comes from groundwater. She said there is a need to better protect groundwater sources – just as well as we protect reservoirs.

Basch said 74% of the town's drinking water is public, 1% is private (Quabbin Sunrise Cooperative on Monson Turnpike Road) and 25% is from private wells.

Ware's water system

Interim Director of the Department of Public Works, Ken Calder, gave a detailed presentation about where the town's public drinking water

Please see **WATER**, page 11

A dream come true

Students performed 'Legally Blonde the Musical' at Quaboag

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School's Theater Program put on another amazing show to kick off 2026 by presenting

"Legally Blonde the Musical".

The show is based around the energetic character of Elle Woods, who follows her old boyfriend to Harvard Law School to win him back, but soon discovers her self-worth, passion for law, and finds herself defending a fitness instructor during a murder trial.

Serving as the Director and Music Director of the show was Quaboag Music Teacher, James Joinville. The Assistant Director and coordinator of costumes was Christine Taylor, and the show was choreographed by Bethany Joinville.



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Madison Schreier performed as Elle Woods, the lead character in "Legally Blonde the Musical". This was Schreier's final show at Quaboag Regional High School as she will be graduating this spring.

Please see **MUSICAL**, page 11

'A Watershed Moment'

C4R promotes conservation, stewardship and enjoyment of rivers

By Keith Davies
Coordinator, Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council
Guest Contributor

wa-ter-shed 'wöder SHed, 'wäder Shed noun
noun: watershed; plural noun: watersheds

1. an area or ridge of land that separates waters flowing to different rivers, basins, or seas.

• an area or region drained by a river, river system, or other body of water.

2. an event or period marking a turning point in a course of action or state of affairs.

"these works mark a watershed in the history of music"

Editor's Note: This is the first part in a multi-part series about the Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council.

Just over a decade ago, a small group of people began to renew an idea: the Chicopee Watershed and its tributaries should be better

Please see **C4R**, page 7



Community

Downtown and Economic Development Committee discussed Main Street needs

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

WARE – The Downtown and Economic Development Improvement Committee held a meeting Monday discussing recent accomplishments, upcoming events, and future needs for the town's improvement.

Facade grant approvals

The committee said that a facade grant, which businesses can apply for to improve their signage, has gotten several approvals, including Fieldcrest Brewing and Lost Towns Brewing.

Downtown needs

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the lighting on East Main Street could be improved, and that in late February crews are going to start replacing streetlights, and potentially increasing their wattage to make them brighter.

Committee members Christopher Swett and Dennis Craig said parking improvements are also needed.

Millyard updates

Beckley said there is going

to be a public forum on Feb. 12 at the Ware Senior Center regarding the millyard healthcare district plan. He said the plan includes making the district strictly for healthcare and housing.

He said there will be presentations by Mass Development and a zoning healthcare consultant.

Economic growth

Beckley said Baystate Health has a plan to build a training site in the Wetherby building of the former Mary Lane Hospital.

Committee member Dan Flynn, from Ware Business Civic Association and Beyond, said a veterinarian is scheduled to open in town.

Development guide

Beckley said the town is in the process of reviewing the development guide from the City of Fitchburg, to be used as a guideline for opening a business in Ware.

Committee charge

The committee said they are working to create more structure, per the recommendations of state representatives. Craig said more struc-

ture could lead to the "ability to access certain funds."

They said they are working to determine how voting could work, as well as the number of people who will sit on the committee, and what qualifications they should have to sit on it.

Flynn said that one possibility is having a Selectboard member sit on the committee as a liaison, for transferring information. He also said it should not be a requirement to reside in Ware to sit on the committee, as long as that person has business connections with the town.

Flynn also cited the importance of collaborating with other boards, including the planning board.

Upcoming events

Beckley said that the week leading up to Aug. 1, there will be a U.S. 250th celebration, including a parade, concerts, and fireworks. Flynn said there will be a celebrity server night at Hanna's on Main for the WBCA&B, with the goal of raising \$2,000 for the celebration.

The committee will meet next on March 9.

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 1993 showed Roger Lincoln, Ellis Barbier and Les Campbell. If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

Beaver Lake Club Corporation offers scholarship

WARE – Beaver Lake Club Corporation of Ware announces its annual Louis H. Healy Scholarship of up to \$1000.

These scholarships will be presented to deserving high school seniors or current college students who are residents of the town of Ware or who are a member of the Beaver Lake Club Community.

The scholarship is given in the memory of Louis Healy a long time and well-respected member of the Beaver Lake community and the town of Ware. Lou was an active leader and participant in both town and community matters and his family and friends continue to celebrate his thoughts, ideals, and memory by awarding this yearly academic scholarship.

The application deadline is April 17, 2026 and applications must be postmarked by that date. The selected recipient will be and the scholarships will be awarded in early June.

Applications and information can be obtained by sending an email to ctrietsch22@gmail.com or by mailing a request to BLCC: P.O. Box 253, Ware, MA 01082

DISPENSARY

from page 1

Paralee Smith mentioned there should be 13 parking spaces designated for this business, talking about the parking situation.

The board also mentioned the business should also have adequate trash removal. There are dumpsters nearby the building and there may be room for one more dumpster.

For hours of operation, there is a regulation between 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday through Sunday. Feeny believes the dispensary can fall into this regulation.

Feeny was also curious in looking further into the Cannabis Control

Commission regulations regarding ownership. Feeny was looking to add Cedar Roots Dispensary, LLC to be added to the application. The owner of Cedar Roots are the same owners of Cedar Roots Dispensary, according to Feeny.

The Planning Board appeared unsure of what Feeny was trying to get accomplished, believing that an LLC is the owner of the property. The board thought there was a rule in place where if the ownership changes than the applicant would have to come back before the board for another special permit.

Feeny clarified that MRL, LLC owns the building, but a

different LLC owns the business. At this stage, Feeny has not submitted an application to the CCC.

The Planning Board wants to prevent any confusion for the public if a business name changes. Dimarzio believes making this happen may take a written request.

"It would have to be a written request, midway, if it's prior to a decision on this hearing," Dimarzio said.

It seems a name change could be done, and Feeny expressed that she'd be okay with submitting a written request if what Dimarzio stated is true. It could be a case of re-issuance of a special permit, but the Planning Board seems unsure.

The board members discussed waiting two weeks until their next meeting and getting some insight.

Also, in this situation, the board may want to define appropriately what "re-issuance" means and if it does a require a public hearing. Smith got in contact with Town Manager Stuart Beckley and got back and said it's a minor change and the name can be changed but does require a written request.

Cedar Roots Dispensary LLC is the name of the applicant for the special permit. This will be in conjunction with MRL LLC. From Feeny's standpoint the project name is Cedar Roots

Dispensary LLC and changing the applicant's name from the property owner to this new LLC entity.

The board members went back to see how the special permit application was filled out. Feeny put down her name under "name of owner." After this discussion, the Planning Board are now aware that all they need is a written request.

The board moved to going over findings for the special permit. There is also an application for a site plan review. Measurements for loading area have been highlighted. Several conditions were read out loud by board member Rich Starodaj.

Signage for the business

will be according to the code.

The Planning Board also asked if the applicant could provide pictures of the access points to the building. After the discussion, the board entertained a motion to approve the special permit and further the applicant's name be changed to Cedar Roots Dispensary, LLC contingent on town counsel's approval of the name change.

The special permit is approved but could still be under MRL LLC.

"We're just making sure we're doing the right thing," Dimarzio said.

The site plan review application has been continued until the next Planning Board meeting on Feb. 19.

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Ware Senior Center NEWS

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Monday, Feb. 16

Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, Feb. 17

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Movin' & Groovin' to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class.
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1-2 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Mobile Food Pantry at Grenville Park
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
- 6 p.m. Pitch (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Feb. 18

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, Feb. 19

- 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
- 12:30-2:30 p.m. Movie Matinee "Eleanor the Great" starring June Squibb

Friday, Feb. 20

- 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 413-967-4595 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, Feb. 16

Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Lazy Pierogi with Kielbasa, Beets, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Ash Wednesday, Cheese Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Feb. 19

Grilled Reuben, French Fries, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Feb. 20

American Chop Suey, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Co-Op offered maple sugaring workshop

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Farmers Co-Op Exchange welcomed Deer Meadow Farm of Warren to present a maple sugaring workshop.

Despite the snow this past weekend, several people arrived to get some tips on how to do some basic maple sugaring.

Deer Meadow Farm in Warren is owned and operated by the Julian family, who brought some helpful tips and delicious maple syrup to the Co-Op.

Between their farm in Warren and some land in Brimfield, Deer Meadow Farm has about 800 trees in total to tap with the upcoming maple season approaching. Richard Julian shared at Deer Meadow Farm they tap every tree that is maple. The trees are marked with dots and should be marked ahead of time.

Julian also talked about how the amount of sap you get depends on different factors. These factors include sweetness of sap, size of trees, and depends on sugar content.

Maple sugaring also requires tools, and Julians reminded their guests of any antique tools used in the old days are not the best to use today. Tapping into trees involves a drill, and a drill bit. A mallet can also be used to tap into trees.

Julian suggests it's good to have good tapping practices when considering if trees



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

The Julian family (Debbie, Kylee and Richard), owners of Deer Meadow Farm in Warren, presented a workshop on basic maple sugaring at the Hardwick Farmers Co-Op Exchange.

look harmed. Deer Meadow Farm is looking to try out new tapping methods this coming maple season.

Other tools include spouts, and the Julians brought some samples of spouts. There are seasonal spouts maple producers can get and are good for one year. Stainless steel spouts are also good to use.

Sap collectors come in various forms and Deer Meadow Farm mentioned food-grade buckets. Sap sacks are also an option to collect sap.

Some guests had questions regarding concerns about animals, maybe interfering in the sap collecting process. Julian did mention that squirrels can sometime be attract-

ed to the lines attached to the trees and sometimes chew on the lines.

Storing sap was also talked about and Deer Meadow Farm shared some good options. There are tanks, food-grade drums, and totes that are considered appropriate for storing sap. Julian mentioned getting stainless steel tanks, but they are more expensive.

When it is time to cook the sap, it is important to keep sap leveled. According to Julian, "the more surface area the better."

It was recommended by Julian to get some defoamer to help prevent any boil-overs. Deer Meadow Farm always sources out new

equipment and works hard to being energy efficient. Last year, Deer Meadow Farm produced about 80 gallons of maple syrup.

Throughout the year, the Julians give wood walk tours of their maple farm and bring guests inside their sugar shack. Richard, Deb, and Kylee Julian shared various stories about working on the family maple farm.

One of their stories is about a friendly bear nicknamed Chunks, who wanders around Deer Meadow Farm. This bear doesn't go after the sap lines but tends to get into the bird feeders. One time, Chunks got a bit too close to the house and Deb yelled and surprised him and he quickly walked away.

There are various fuel sources for maple syrup such as oil, evaporators, propane, and firewood. If using firewood, it does require maple producers to feed constantly to keep the heat maintained.

Testing is an important step in the maple syrup making process. Testing involves checking the syrup's density. Richard Julian had examples of a thermometer, hydrometer, and a sample cup to place the syrup. The correct temperature for maple syrup is 219 degrees Fahrenheit. Getting the density right is very important in maple syrup production.

The Julians have taken various classes on maple syrup production, including classes on how to grade syrup. The Massachusetts Maple Producers Association

Please see **MAPLE**, page 7

Community meeting looks at millyard/hospital area

WARE – The Town of Ware is hosting an open house style community meeting where you can share your ideas directly regarding the Ware Mill-Health District Plan for the area between the Ware Millyard and the former Mary Lane Hospital site on Thursday, Feb. 12 at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, at 5:30 p.m.

People can also share their ideas on the town's Crowdsourcing Map, tinyurl.com/WareCrowdsourcingMap.

For more information, contact Paralee Smith, Director of Planning & Community by email at psmith@townofware.com or by calling 413-967-9648 extension 118.

Paige library celebrates community

HARDWICK – Join the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, for its All-entire Tea Party, a party for everyone, on Saturday, Feb. 14, 10:30 a.m. on.

This is a drop in event. Come one, come all. Enjoy a variety of tea flavors, cookies, and games with your favorite person or people.

On Saturdays, Feb. 21, 28, and March 7 from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Pam Hinkley's adult handcraft group will meet.

Ongoing activities at the Paige include the Wednesday morning children's Story Hour with activities, the Paige Book Club, the Cookbook Club, Celebrate Hardwick, the ongoing book sale, the Paige Writers, and the Movie Festival Committee.

Come join a group or suggest a new one. More events are coming.

For more information, check the library's Facebook page or website, www.facebook.com/paigelibrary/ and www.paigelibrary.com/.



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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Why is my Social Security Retirement benefit so small?

Dear Rusty:

Can you help me understand?

I have paid into Social Security since I started working in 1978. I did have a lot of tax deductions, but I don't understand why I only receive \$350 a month from Social Security.

Signed: Befuddled Senior

Dear Befuddled Senior:

Your Social Security benefit is based upon your average monthly earnings for the 35 years over your lifetime that you earned the most while contributing to the Social Security program; however, your benefit isn't based on your contributions to SS. Your average lifetime earnings amount is called your Average Indexed Monthly Earnings, which are adjusted for inflation for years before you turn 60. Your earnings, your net earnings if self-employed, are provided to the SSA by the IRS.

Your AIME is subjected to a formula which calculates your "Primary Insurance Amount," which is the SS benefit you receive if you start benefits in the month you reach your full retirement age. Your personal Full Retirement Age depends on the year you were born which, if you were born in 1960 or later, is age 67. However, if you claim Social Security before reaching your FRA, you will get only a percentage of your PIA, reduced from what you would get if you claimed at your FRA.

For example, if you claimed at age 62, you would only get 70% of the amount you would have gotten had you waited until age 67, or if you claimed at age 63 you would get 75% of your age 67 benefit. The reduction is less as you get closer to your FRA; if you claimed at age 65, you'd get about 87% of your full retirement age amount.

You can see your lifetime Social Security earnings record at your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount (you will need to first create that online account), or you can call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 to request an "Earnings Statement" be sent to you. That statement will show your lifetime earnings by year, the 35 highest of which were used to calculate your PIA (your Social Security benefit at your FRA).

Generally, your Social Security FRA benefit will be about 40% or less of your average indexed monthly earnings.

So, to recap, your SS retirement benefit isn't based on your contributions to the program; it's based on your average monthly lifetime earnings. If you had less than 35 years contributing to the program, SS would still use 35 years in the benefit formula by using zero dollars in earnings for some number of years, which would result in a smaller AIME.

Thus, if you claimed before your full retirement age of 67, your SS benefit was reduced because you claimed early. And if you had less than 35 years of SS-covered employment, your AIME was less, resulting in a smaller PIA. And that is likely why your monthly Social Security retirement benefit is low.

One other thought to consider: if you are married and your spouse's monthly SS benefit is considerably more than yours (e.g., more than twice as much as yours), you may want to explore your options for spouse benefits.

I hope this explains how your SS benefit is calculated, but if you still question your monthly SS retirement amount, I suggest you first obtain your "Earnings Statement" to review the lifetime earnings SS has on file for you. If there are any discrepancies in your Social Security's earnings record, there are correction remedies available to you. If that is the case, please feel free to contact us again for more information.

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

Baystate Health moves forward with Ware primary/convenient care

SPRINGFIELD – According to a press release, Baystate Health is moving forward with its development plans to expand care in Ware by establishing a new primary care and convenient care clinic in the community.

Convenient care is an extension of primary care that serves most urgent care needs.

The release from Baystate Health stated, "This investment advances our mission to deliver compassionate, quality and accessible care – advancing our communities' health for all."

The released also stated that these plans, which have been shared over the past year with the community leader working group that Baystate Health has been partnering with – are moving ahead after the Hampshire Probate Court recently approved a petition to modify the Gilbert Trust. This allows Baystate to be the beneficiary of the Trust to support the convenient care component of the plan, called the Baystate Mary Lane Convenient Care - Ware.

The approved modifications make the Trust's original charitable intent more contemporary – to maintain a health care facility in Ware and to provide health care

services to people in Ware and Gilbertville. The release stated the facility's name honors Lewis Gilbert's wish for any facility the funds support to bear his late wife's name, preserving the Gilbert family's legacy and long-standing connection to the community.

"Baystate leadership is working with our local partners to identify sites and begin development. We are committed to transparency and will provide community updates throughout the process. Our renewed commitment to primary and convenient care involves a significant ongoing annual operating loss (i.e. several hundred thousand dollars per year after taking into account Trust support) and demonstrates our sustained commitment to invest in local economic and health care development," the release stated. "The continued and consistent support of the Gilbert Trust to Baystate makes this commitment in Ware a reality, making the services sustainable for generations to come."

Baystate Health has engaged Meyers-BrothersKalicka, P.C. to produce an independent accountant's report related to the Gilbert Trust and other

trusts in question related to Baystate Mary Lane Hospital. They applied agreed-upon procedures relating to the existence, valuation and rights and obligations of the Gilbert Trust and other trusts generating a summary of procedures and findings in October 2025.

This is a matter of the public record in the Town of Ware.

The release said Baystate Health is also actively working within its academic medical group on expanding its successful Family Medicine Residency Program from Baystate Franklin to Baystate Wing.

"This expansion is crucial as we must train and develop our own community-focused physicians and providers to provide longitudinal care across all ages and health conditions close to home," the release stated.

As part of this expansion, Baystate applied to the state in October 2025 for Rural Health Transformation Fund support for a family medicine clinic on the Baystate Mary Lane Hospital campus and they continue to be in discussions with the Commonwealth regarding anticipated uses for the RHTP.

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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

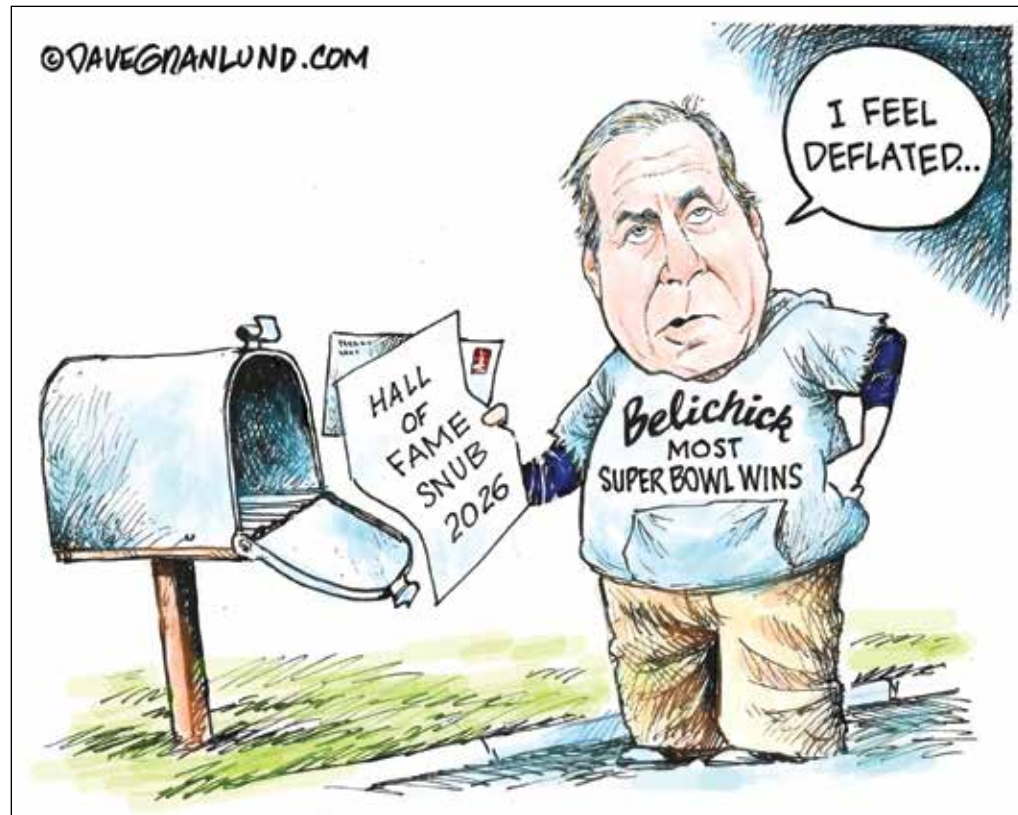
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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

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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.



Online seed houses offer endless choices

It's been a fun couple of weeks in the realm of gardening! While I haven't yet gotten my hands into the soil yet, I have been on the hunt for all kinds of seeds for the Old Sturbridge Village gardens: those for obscure medicinal plants, unique heirlooms, and rare native plants.

That process has led me to some interesting mail order companies that I'd like to share with you.

My mail order "go to" for herb seeds has always been Richter's (www.richters.com) but when I couldn't locate a few of the items on my list there, a simple internet search led me to Thyme Garden (www.thymegarden.com).

Their catalog boasts over 400 varieties of herb seeds and more. The text doubles as an herbal encyclopedia of sorts, providing the reader with cultural information in addition to loads of herbal lore.

A paper copy will set you back \$2.50, but you can get a digital download for free. It's noteworthy to mention that many of the seeds are harvested on the farm in Oregon. The company has been in business since 1989, and clearly knows their stuff.

I purchased both Jimsonweed and Cotton for the Paul Roger's Herb Garden from this company.

is free for the asking. You can also download a catalog and cultural guide.

Growing native plants from seed often requires specialized treatments such as chilling or nicking and soaking, so I'd definitely recommend brushing up.

I found Toothwort (at last!) and Late Horse Gentian, both for the herb garden.

Sometimes the tricky part about searching out heirloom seeds in the issue of cultivars. For example, I need a black flowered Hollyhock known scientifically as *Alcea rosea nigra*, yet what I discover are cultivars called "Jet Black" or "Black Watchman." I want the original.

Here is where seed sales at Monticello (www.monticelloshop.org) come in handy. Thomas Jefferson was an avid gardener, and the display gardens around his estate highlight many of his favorite plants.

I was also able to secure seeds for unimproved versions of Rusty Foxglove and Black Eyed Susan Vine. Because of this good fortune, you will see authentic 1830s gardens when you visit the Village.

There is no printed catalog to my knowledge, but the Please see **GARDEN**, page 7



NEWS & FEATURES

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

For more information on news or community features for The Ware River News, please email warivernews@turley.com.

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SB heard updates from Healthcare Task Force

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Select Board listened to an update from the Healthcare Task Force during its Feb. 9 meeting.

Representing the task force was Judi Korzec and Neil Halin. Korzec described this subject as being a long journey as this process started a couple years ago to help bring some form of healthcare to the community.

Korzec talked about the former Mary Lane Hospital, Baystate Health and use of the Gilbert Trust.

Korzec said new legislation was coming out regarding a rural health transformation program. These consist of grants to the state, which include a lot of rules and regulations.

The legislation mapped out the area into what they call “clusters,” which are a cluster of towns. Hardwick falls into one cluster and is considered a rural area.

Halin says the Task Force is aiming to reach out to small towns that surround Hardwick, who have low resources for healthcare. They’re trying to build a consensus to come up with what the needs are.

The Task Force is currently speaking with representatives from UMASS, who are a potential outlet to provide some needed services. UMASS could ask for these said grants.

Halin said the town could ask for funds to renovate an office for a control center or for nurse navigator for any communication needs.

The Healthcare Task Force is looking to meet with Boards of Health and Select Boards of surrounding towns to get community support and how UMASS can support. There is a time limit on when to apply for these grants.

With a focus on the communities, the Healthcare Task Force finds it important for all involved parties and towns to work together and get rural health care. Halin and Korzec said they hope the Select Board will support this ven-

ture. The board members expressed their support for the ongoing efforts of the Healthcare Task Force.

QRSD Regional Agreement presentation

The Select Board heard a presentation on the Quabbin Regional School District Regional Agreement that was given by Superintendent Colleen Mucha.

Mucha said the regional agreement was 20 years old and a task force was formed to discuss updates and changes.

One of the big improvements the school district has seen is the expansion of the preschool program, and there is now a preschool in every one of the school buildings. There was also an acknowledgement of the transitional programming and life skills in the district.

There is also language required by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, that a municipality can’t just pull out of a regional agreement, unless they submitted a long-range claim that has to be improved by DESE on how that municipality will educate their students.

Mucha said the school population has decreased over the most recent years.

The next step for this regional agreement is to bring it forward to a town meeting and then be submitted to DESE for final approval.

Mucha said there had been discussions with the Massachusetts School Building Authority about roof upgrades for the elementary school. The district will vote on a schematic design.

Select Board Chair Eric Vollheim mentioned that the town had submitted a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant application to help with this sort of project.

Visitor’s comments

The Select Board heard from Barre Council on Aging board member, David Flick, who was joined by Senior Center Director Betty-Jo O’Brien. Flick wanted to discuss the relationship between

Barre and Hardwick when it comes to having a shared senior center.

There seemed to be some form of miscommunication about how the relationship is between Barre and Hardwick and the towns wanted to possibly cancel the agreement. Flick made it clear that the board feels the relationship should be sustained and continued as is.

Both boards want to come together and see how the agreement is administered and possibly might want to update the agreement and understand what got them to this point.

Vice Chair William Tinker said he reached out to a Barre Select Board member and from his understanding it is not their intent to want to cancel the agreement.

For funds for service, there is a formula grant that comes from the state that is based on the number of seniors in each town.

Pole hearing

A public hearing was held to consider a request to give permission to National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc, to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public ways of Barre Road and Cleveland Road.

Town Administrator Justine Caggiano informed the Select Board that all the abutters were notified about this project.

This is a three-phase project, which was explained by the representatives. The Select Board voted to approve the placement of the new poles along Barre Road and Cleveland Road.

QRSD collective bargaining representative

Tinker was appointed to serve as the board’s collective bargaining representative for the Quabbin Regional School District. He has previously served in this role.

Independent counsel

Jenna Garvey of the Paige Library Board of Trustees talked about the possibility of the two libraries, Paige Library and Gilbertville

Nomination papers for election now available

WARE – The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 13.

Offices which will appear on the ballot are: Selectboard, three-year term, vote for two; School Committee, three-year term, vote for one; Board of Assessors, three-year term, vote for one; Board of Assessors, one year unexpired term, vote for one; Board of Health, three-year term, vote for one; Park Commissioner, three-year term, vote for one; Cemetery Commissioner, three-year term, vote for one; Planning Board, five-year term, vote for one; Ware Housing Authority, five-year term, vote for one

The last date to register to vote is Friday, April 3. The last date to obtain and file nomination papers (49 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, Feb. 23 by 5 p.m.

The last date to file

nomination papers with the Town Clerk (35 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, March 9. The last date to object to filing of nomination papers or withdrawal of papers filed (33 days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Wednesday, March 11.

The last date for file an application for Vote by Mail (five business days prior to the Annual Town Election) is Monday, April 6 by 5 p.m.

Anyone interested in running for public office must be a registered voter in Ware.

Nomination Papers may be picked up as of Jan. 18 during normal business hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk, Nancy J. Talbot, at 413-967-9648 extension 103.



Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics on March 21

WARE – The Ware Polar Plunge fundraiser to benefit the Special Olympics will be held on Saturday, March 21 at West Beach – Beaver Lake.

This event is weather/ice dependent. It is subject

to change if the ice is not melted.

Check-in for the plunge is at 11 a.m. and the plunge will take place at noon.

To register, scan the QR code or visit www.polarplungema.org.



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warren

Planning Board held earth removal permit hearing

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – A public hearing was held during the Planning Board’s Feb. 9 meeting on the Special Permit application of Maple Lane Development Corp.

The applicants requested a special permit for earth removal at Rivers Bend Road (Map 04, Lots 54 and 55) in the Rural District.

Representing Maple Lane Development Corp. were Rebecca Acerra, Roland Blake and Richard Demetrius. The board was given maps and information of the site near Old West Brookfield Road and Maple Lane Development Corp. shared that there is an existing gravel pit.

There is also plenty of natural vegetative buffers on site and it is approximately 500 feet off the road.

Acerra said there is a section containing historical documentation of the site. Gates are still in place and the applicant said there is material coming out of the existing road.

Copies of the deeds were also provided by the applicants.

The Planning Board mem-

bers asked if there was going to be a crusher on site. This subject is brought up after the public hearing for another applicant that had some rock crushing taking place.

The applicants confirmed that there won’t be a lot of heavy duty crushing on the premises. The Planning Board may consider placing a condition to where the sound should be limited to 60 decibels or less. If the crusher is down in the pit, any abutting properties may not even hear it.

Derick Veliz of the Planning Board wanted to know if the applicant will be doing any cutting of the vegetation. Demetrius said there is some brush, but no overgrowth of the vegetation. The applicants are still unsure on what the final slope will be.

Before closing the public hearing, Planning Board Chair Richard Eichacker asked if there were any questions from the public. The neighbors to the site clarified that they are south from the dwelling and are on a higher elevation.

The hearing was closed after receiving no further input, and the Planning Board began reviewing conditions. The board members decided to include the noise level condition of about 60 decibels.

Another condition would be no hazardous materials if there is going to be any road grinding.

Another condition said by Eichacker is “maintain the existing natural vegetation buffer.” There was also a brief discussion about signage. The Planning Board thought signage should be more like a barn sign and not a commercial sign, considering the road the site is on.

The decision on the special permit must be made by the board members within 90 days. Once it’s made, it has 14 days to be finalized.

The Planning Board scheduled to decide on this special permit at their next meeting on Feb. 23.

Bylaw updates

The Planning Board briefly talked about flood maps being changed and Eichacker said the board members may want to look in section 10 of the bylaws to make updates in the flood plan district.

This was adopted back in 2011, and Eichacker mentioned that there is a new model bylaw.

This could be done at the annual town meeting, but it must be advertised 14 days ahead, with two hearings that are two meetings apart.

Nomination papers for town election now available

WARREN – Town Clerk, Laura J. Stockley, announces that Nomination Papers are available on Monday, Feb. 2 for the upcoming Town Election to be held on Tuesday, May 5.

These papers must be filed with the Board of Registrars, in the Town Clerk’s office, for certification on or before Tuesday, March 17 at 5 p.m. Final day to withdraw as a candidate is Thursday, April 2 at 5 p.m.

Appearing on the ballot will be the following:

Moderator, three-year term; Selectman, three-year term; Board of Health, three-year term; Assessor, three-year term; Park Commissioner, three-year term; Cemetery Commissioner, three-year term; Sewer Commissioner, three-year term; Planning

Board, five-year term; Housing Authority, five-year term; and Housing Authority, two-year term.

The Quaboag Regional School District positions will also be incorporated on the Town Ballot. Two members from the Town of Warren for a three-year term and two members from the Town of West Brookfield for a three-year term. These nomination papers are available on Feb. 2 at the Superintendent’s office at 284 Old West Brookfield Road, Warren. Deadline for returning these papers is Friday, March 20 by 4 p.m.

Last day to register to vote before the Town Election is Friday, April 24 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Town Clerk’s office in the Shepard Municipal Building.

‘Teenage Life in the 19th Century’ program rescheduled

WARREN – Celebrate 150 years of the Warren Public Library with stories from a historic diary of Warren teenager Nellie O. Northrop will now be held on Saturday, Feb. 14 at 3:30 p.m.

This event was rescheduled from Feb. 7 due to weather.

Northrop grew up in Warren in 1875. As a teenager, she received a diary as a New Year’s present from her grandmother, with whom she lived.

She wrote in the diary almost every day, and through the pages of the diary we learn much about the life of a typical but remarkable young woman and about the wonderful town in which she lived.

The event will be held at the Warren Public Library, 934 Main St. For more information, email warrenpubliclibrary@hotmail.com or call 413-436-7690.

WSU announced fall Dean’s List

WORCESTER – The following local students have been named to the Worcester State University Dean’s List for fall 2025.

Julia M. Mendrek of Gilbertville; Amelia G. Bonnayer, Kendra L. Burke and Kenzie E. Toelken, all of Ware; and Norah K. McElroy of

Warren.

Dean’s List honors are awarded to matriculated undergraduate students who have earned a 3.5 GPA or higher. Full-time students must have earned a minimum of 12 credits and part-time students must have earned a minimum of 6 credits.

WARE BOS from page 1

Field said they are hoping to have the new location open sometime in March.

“We’re finally coming toward the tail end of all that,” he said. “We look forward to getting things rolling here in Ware.”

The Selectboard approved all of the applicant’s licenses.

Water/wastewater projects Selectboard member Ken Willette said there are water and asset management plans being created by consulting engineers.

“This is an in-depth inventory of what we have

in town to support the distribution of water and how we manage our wastewater treatment facility,” Willette said. “In this report, it will give us an idea as to what is the condition of this equipment, how effective is this equipment working, how are we currently complying with state and federal regulations, and what does the future look like to meet those requirements and address the needs of the towns.”

Willette said these two plans will be “instrumental” in making investments in the water and wastewater systems.

He said the Church Street water tank was successfully rehabilitated, which finished on time and under budget. He said the tank now has an agitator to keep sediment from settling and it is back online.

Willette said the Anderson Road water tank will be rehabilitated in the spring.

“Just about every bit of water that goes through our pipes goes through those two tanks,” he said.

Willette said the town has recently completed its hydrant replacement project, installing 34 new hydrants. He said this is important for fire protection, but also to

flush the public water lines to remove rust and sediment.

“This is just further efforts that we’re doing to improve our water system,” Willette said.

Willette said many years ago, the town had drilled two additional ground wells to be supplemental sources of water for the town. He said there is a process through the Department of Environmental Protection to get those wells online.

He said one of the first steps in the process is to conduct a flow test of the two wells.

Willette said if the wells

have adequate flow, they may be able to bypass the 1890s cistern that is currently being used.

He said a water user survey has also been mailed with the town’s census form.

Town Manager’s report

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said Department of Public Works, Police and Fire departments all worked hard this past week, with snow removal and dealing with a large structure fire.

He said the DPW put in an “incredible number of hours” both plowing and cleaning up.

Beckley said the next bulky/household hazardous waste day with ReSource Waste Services of Ware, 198 East St., has been scheduled for Saturday, April 18. Bulky waste disposal will be from 7 a.m.-noon and household hazardous waste from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Rural healthcare update

Beckley said there was a meeting hosted by Mary Lane Health with state representatives regarding rural healthcare funding.

“They began with what they know so far, discussing what money can be used for, and that was very helpful,” he said.

Beckley said many communities had representatives participating in the meeting and he said a follow-up meeting will be held.

Resignation

The Selectboard accepted the resignation of Elena Palladino from the Historical Commission. Palladino has served on the commission for seven years.

Pole hearing

A pole hearing for several joint owned poles with National Grid and Verizon will be held on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:40 p.m.

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TOWN OF WARE
 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
 PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

The Town of Ware is seeking proposals from qualified social service organizations and agencies to include in their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. Activities eligible for funding include a range of social services that meet the needs of low and moderate-income Ware residents. Agencies providing the following services are encouraged to submit proposals; adult education/GED preparation, literacy programs, job training, domestic violence prevention, services for seniors, emergency food, family/youth activities and other social service programs.

The Town of Ware may choose to fund all, any or none of the proposals submitted. Agencies or organizations identified for inclusion in the Town’s grant proposal will be required to submit additional information as part of the full CDBG application to be submitted to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC). Programs funded by EOHLC are expected to begin in the fall of 2026. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) is assisting the Town in the coordination and administration of its community development programs. Please contact Erica Johnson to receive a request form or with any questions regarding this program at (413) 781-6045 or ejohnson@pvpc.org.

All proposals must be submitted by email to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission by 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2026. Please email proposals to ejohnson@pvpc.org.

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Ware STM rescheduled to March 2

WARE – The Special Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, Feb. 2, has been postponed to Monday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ware High School auditorium.

MAPLE from page 3

has some good resources as does the University of Vermont, which is in one of the biggest maple producing states in the country.

“There is way more to maple syrup than I thought,” said one guest who attended the workshop.

Deer Meadow Farm has gone to sell their maple syrup products in various farmers markets, including Grafton, Sturbridge, Millbury, and more recently the markets in the center of Warren. One of their popular items is their Bourbon Barrel aged maple syrup, which sold out fast.

Deer Meadow Farm has also supplied maple syrup to Deep Roots Distillery, which uses their syrup to make specialty drinks. Deer Meadow Farm is the first farm recognized by the Massachusetts Audubon Society as a bird friendly maple producer.

Deer Meadow Farm will be tapping trees soon as the maple season approaches. At the end of the presentation, the Julians took more questions from the crowd and gave out samples of their delicious maple syrup and maple cream. Some guests stuck around to purchase some maple syrup Deer Meadow Farm had during their time at the Hardwick Farmers Co-Op Exchange.

Massachusetts Maple Weekend is Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8. For more information, visit www.mass-maple.org. For more information on Deer Meadow Farm, follow them on Facebook or contact them at 413-321-9763.

Community Development Authority held public forum

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Correspondent

WARE – The Community Development Authority held a public forum on Monday to discuss the town’s application for up to \$950,000 from the Community Development Block Grant.

According to the public notice, the funds are to be used for the Cottage Street improvement project, along with funding up to five social service programs in town. Social service programs consist of elder services, adult education services, domestic violence prevention, and community health.

Erica Johnson, a representative from the Pioneer Valley Planning

Commission, said the block grant is one source of funding meant to benefit residents in low to middle income communities. She said the funds can go towards housing, infrastructure, and social programs.

The PVPC works directly with Ware and other towns in the region to help with applications to the CDBG.

The CDA said that the block grant from 2025 was received, which included phase one planning of the Cottage Street improvement project. They said phase one is for improving the water mains on the street, and the goal for the 2026 application is to receive funds for phase two.

Johnson said bidding for

phase one should be happening within the next couple weeks.

Selectboard member Ken Willette was in attendance, and requested an overview of past grant cycles, and what has been included in those. Town Manager Stuart Beckley said there is regular addressing of the buildings on Main Street, specifically those between North and Church streets, approximately every two years.

Johnson said Ware historically prioritizes social services, including the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force, Behavioral Health Network, and The Literacy Project. She said the town usually maxes out on the percentage

of the grant that can be used for social services, which is 20%.

Johnson also said the PVPC takes about 25-30% of the funds, with that number fluctuating.

Regular meeting business

Melissa Fales, a representative from the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation requested funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to go towards the QVPCD’s senior outreach program.

She said the funding for their program has been approved, but is unaware when they will be made available.

Fales requested \$1,500 a month from the ARPA funds

until the funds are available, which she said could possibly not happen until April. The CDA said they previously gave the QVPCD \$1,500 for December 2025, and these would be for January 2026. Fales said without funding, some services including pharmacy pickup, grocery pickup, and food bank services would have to be halted. The CDA voted to give the QVPCD \$1,500 for the month of January, and said they would address this again at their March 9 meeting.

The CDA also approved facade grant signage applications from Fieldcrest Brewing Co., Lost Towns Brewing, and Hanna’s on Main.

C4R from page 1

known and appreciated by local residents and even people beyond.

It was a watershed moment, meaning what happened could tip in one of two directions: either people engaged or did not. Fortunately enough people became involved.

The name of the idea was the Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council because four rivers made up the watershed.

It was a slow but positive start, initial goals and actions were modest. C4R sponsored river area clean ups, fun paddles, and a modest six site sampling program on two rivers.

By 2017 C4R had expanded to 10 sites on all four rivers and began to lay out two paddling trails. Things were progressing.

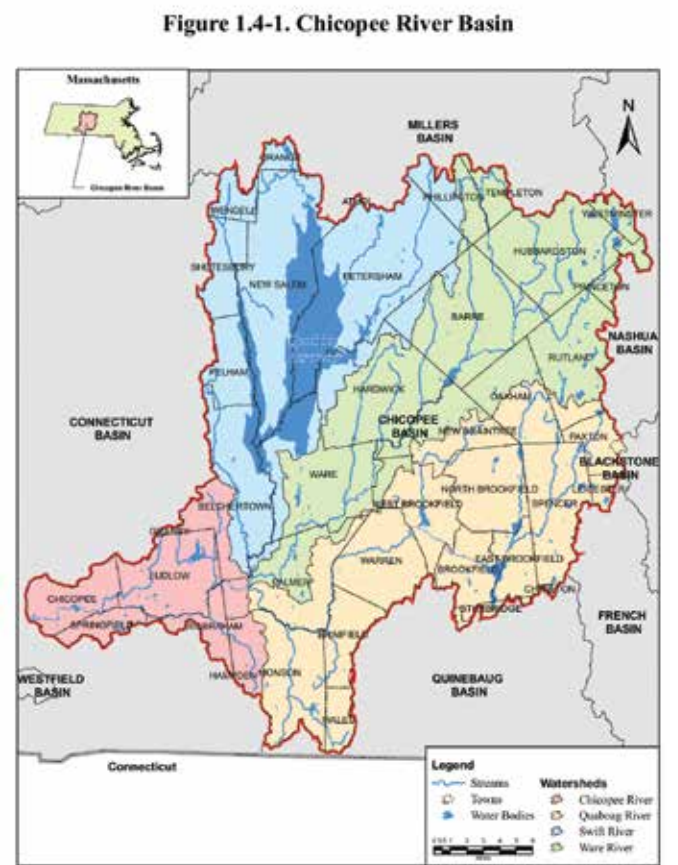
C4R has sampled up to 25 sites and has developed two more Blue Trails. Yet to continue to serve, it needs help.

Then we hit some bumps: COVID stemmed momentum, how people volunteer and commit to things have changed and we have found it more difficult to continue progress. The hope of maintaining C4R as a voice for the watershed and rivers has dimmed.

So, 2026 is a new watershed moment! Which way



Cities and towns are shown within the Chicopee River Basin.



This map shows the Chicopee River Basin.

things tip will depend on if new and younger people step forward.

Over the next two issues, we will share C4R stories and hopes to help people see what has been done and what the opportunities are for a vibrant watershed family.

For more information about C4R and to get involved, people may visit www.c4rivers.org, email chicopeewatershed@gmail.com, or mail C4RWC, P.O.

GARDEN from page 4

shop has its seed sales organized in a friendly manner online. Some seeds are even harvested on site.

Speaking of authenticity, it’s also important that we utilize heirloom vegetable varieties within our gardens, so that you, the visitor, see the real deal, 1830s style. I’ve often ordered heirloom vegetable and flower seeds from Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company (WWW.rareseeds.com) and this year is no exception.

Their big, beautiful Rare Seed and Whole Seed Catalogs are free for the asking and seed shipping is free, also. Search over 1,300 seeds.

If you can’t find what you are looking for there, hop on over to Victory Seeds (www.victoryseeds.com) and there will be more heirloom, open pollinated, non GMO varieties to choose from. I love the concept of Victory Gardens, and the company does a great job of explaining and promoting it.

Victory Seeds offers free shipping on all orders over \$30 and their website provides “quick links” to each main category for easy online shopping. They also encourage seed saving practices, which is neat.

If you are bored one afternoon, why not take a look at what these or any number of reputable seed houses have to offer. You will no doubt expand your plant knowledge while you expand your garden!

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.



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Even the dance moms showed off their footwork.

Dancers performed a runway-themed jazz routine.



Dancers performed a courtroom-themed hip hop routine.



Dancers from Limelight Dance Center performed during halftime.

Police vs. Fire

FROM PAGE 1

School Resource Officer Jeannine Bonnayer introduced the lineup for both teams, and the players took to the court.

Like last year, this year's Fire Department team came in hot, with Jhan Caro scoring two points in the first minute of the game. This was quickly answered by two points earned by Police Chief Shawn Crevier.

By the end of the first half, the Police Department's team led by a score of 36-23.

During halftime, dancers from Limelight Dance Center performed a number of impressive routines, and received a generous applause.

Jason Desjardins, director of Limelight Dance Center, thanked everyone for supporting the dancers.

"We truly appreciate this opportunity to perform and to be part of such a special event," he said.

As the second half started, Caro again scored the first two points for the Fire Department's team, but they could not keep up with the Police Department, thanks to an impressive offense, and some three-pointers made by 13-year-old Bryce Pariseau.

The Police Department secured its victory with a final score of 69-56.



Dennis Pariseau maneuvered the ball away from the defense.



Andy Covington brought the ball down the court.



Joe Tuminelli worked to get around John Cacula.



Officials made sure the game was played fairly.



Bryce Pariseau earned two points for the Police Department's team.



Shawn Crevier made a free throw.



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
Dan O'Brien looked for his teammates while blocked by Shawn Crevier.



The Fire Department's Drew Koczur got past Dennis Pariseau's defense during the Class of 2026's Police vs. Fire basketball game fundraiser.

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Gaudreau joins list of milestone performers

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—Jack Gaudreau and Brady Guimond were the only freshman listed on the 2022-23 Ware boys' varsity basketball roster.

The duo, who are cousins, scored seven points apiece in their first varsity basketball game, which was a 49-46 loss to Mount Everett in the semifinals of the Eagle Holiday Classic at Franklin County Tech on Dec. 8, 2022.

A little more than three years later, Gaudreau and Guimond are wrapping up their outstanding high school basketball careers.

They, along with four of their classmates, will probably remember the Indians annual senior night game, which was a 58-37 non-league victory against Hopkins Academy on February 3, for a very long time.

Before a large crowd at Paul Orszulak Gymnasium, Gaudreau became the 13th Ware basketball player and the sixth member of the boys' varsity hoop team to score 1,000 career points.

"Watching my cousin and one of my best friends score his 1,000th career point in

tonight's game was very special," Guimond said. "It has been a lot of fun being able to share the same basketball court with him during the past four years. Scoring



Gaudreau presents a game ball to his family.

Ware's newest 1,000-point scorer reveals his name on the banner.

that many points isn't an easy thing to do and I'm very proud of Jack."

Gaudreau achieved his

milestone on a put-back hoop following a missed 3-pointer from senior Sean Bernier with 3:17 remaining in the first quarter.

"Jack has been a dominating basketball player since we were little kids and we knew that he would be able to score 1,000 career points in high school," said senior Brodie Koczur. "It's a big accomplishment for him and I'm glad that I was able to be a part of it."

The other two Ware

seniors, who were honored in a pregame ceremony, are Kaleb Kanozek, and Alex Orszulak.

"Everyone on our basketball team gets along with each other very well," said Gaudreau, who's scored

Please see **GAUDREAU**, page 10

New look for sectional hockey tourney

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD—The 2026 Western Massachusetts high school hockey tournament is scheduled to take place from Feb. 16-19.

Six of the seven Berry Division teams will qualify for the Class A tournament.

The Berry Division teams, who are looking to qualify for the Class A tournament, are Westfield, East Longmeadow, Greenfield, Minnechaug Regional, Longmeadow, Ludlow, and West Springfield.

The Westfield Bombers are the two-time defending Class A champions. They defeated the Greenfield Green Wave, 7-3, in last year's champi-

Please see **HOCKEY**, page 10



Maddox Baer holds the ball just inside the arc.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Pioneers fall at home to rival Panthers

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The Palmer Panthers won their previous five encounters on the hardwood with the Pathfinder Tech Pioneers by more than



Dustyn Cook rushes for the hoop.

ten points.

The sole meeting of the 2025-26 regular season between the cross-town rivals was a tightly contested battle until the middle of the fourth quarter. The Panthers closed out the non-league game with a 10-1 run leading to a 52-41 victory before a large and enthusiastic crowd inside the Pathfinder Tech gym, last Monday night (Feb. 2).

"We were finally able to pull away late in the game and it was a very gritty win for us," said Palmer boys' varsity basketball coach Missy Rocker. "It was a very aggressive game, and the referees allowed the players to play without calling many fouls. This is a rivalry game, and I was a little bit worried that it was going to get out of hand."

Following the 11-point road win, Palmer had a 9-7 overall record.

Please see **PATHFINDER**, page 10

Indians grab big win over rival Hopkins

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE – Last Tuesday night will be remembered as a significant day in the history of the Ware boys' varsity basketball program.

The Indians celebrated their annual senior night on that day with a convincing 58-37 non-league victory over Hopkins Academy before a large crowd at Paul Orszulak Gymnasium.

Following the pregame ceremony honoring the six seniors, Jack Gaudreau, who's a senior center, became the 13th Ware basketball player to score 1,000 career points during the past 51 years.

"We've asked the guys to work hard and commit themselves to the program and do everything they can to help the program be successful," said Ware head coach Gene Rich. "Jack is just a tremendous kid who works extremely hard and deserves all the credit in the world for getting to this point. I'm very proud of him."

Gaudreau has helped the

Indians win a total of 45 games since joining the varsity squad as a freshman. He led the way offensively on senior night with a game-high 23 points. He scored ten field goals in the paint area and made three free throws.

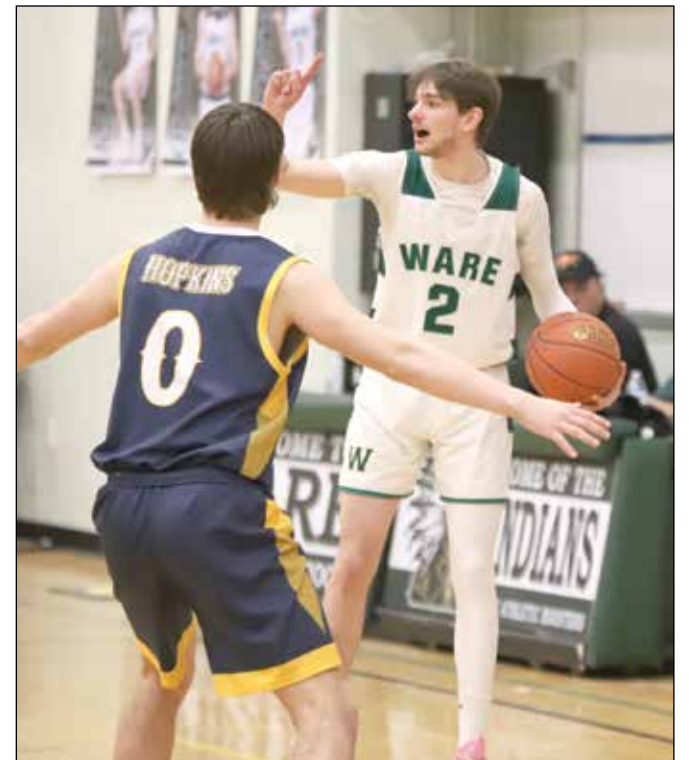
"Jack has been averaging about 19 points per game over the past ten games," Rich added. "He has really stepped it up during the second half of his senior year. He's done a little bit of everything for us. He's a leader on and off the court."

The moment that the Indians faithful supporters were waiting for took place with 3:17 remaining in the first quarter. That's when Gaudreau reached the elite milestone on a put-back hoop following a missed 3-pointer from senior guard Sean Bernier.

"They call me the clean-up guy because I get a lot of rebound putbacks," said Gaudreau after celebrating his outstanding accomplishment with his teammates, family, and friends after the game. "That's probably how I've



Jack Gaudreau fights to keep control of a rebound.



Brady Guimond calls out a play while dribbling.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

scored 500 of my points. It was a perfect way to do it."

The other four Indians seniors are Brady Guimond, Kaleb Kanozek, Brodie Koczur, and Alex Orszulak.

"The senior class is a very special group and they've worked very hard," Rich said. "I'm very happy for them."

Koczur, who's a guard, scored 12 points in the Indians final regular season home game with the help of two 3-pointers. Kanozek, who's also a guard, added seven points, and Guimond, who's a forward, chipped in with six points. Orszulak, who's a forward, scored his only two points late in the fourth quarter. Junior guard Troy Jurczyk also scored five points during the first half.

The home victory improved the Indians overall season record to 8-9. They were scheduled to wrap up the regular season with a road date against Bi-County East

rival Granby last Friday night.

Ware was ranked fourth in the Western Mass. Class C rankings and 31st in the MIAA Division 5 power rankings. The top 32 teams in each division automatically qualify for the state tournament. A team can also qualify for the states with a .500 or better record.

The Indians are hoping to qualify for both tournaments for the third consecutive year.

It's also the third year in a row that the Indians defeated the Golden Hawks (9-7) on the hardwood.

Gaudreau, who entered the senior night game six points away from reaching the milestone, scored a pair of inside hoops during the first four minutes of the contest. His putback hoop with 3:17 remaining in the opening quarter gave the home team

Please see **INDIANS**, page 10

PATHFINDER from page 9

The Panthers, who slipped to 35th place in the MIAA Division 5 power rankings, needed one more victory to qualify for the state tournament for the third consecutive year.

"We do have a very difficult regular season schedule," Rocker said. "This is another tough week for us starting with tonight's game against Pathfinder. We just need to find a way to win one more game."

Palmer was scheduled to wrap-up the regular season by hosting Chicopee Comp in another non-league game last Wednesday night and Bi-County East rival High School of Commerce last Friday night. It was also the Panthers senior night game.

Their six seniors are Matt Santos, Dylan Doherty, Chris Stapleton, Adonis Dupre, Gavin Smola, and Stephen Fredette.

"The seniors are very special players and they're going to be very difficult to replace next year," Rocker said. "They're outstanding young men."

Palmer should be able to qualify for the Western Mass. Class C tournament, which starts this week.

Depending on the results of the Class C quarterfinal game, the Panthers will either advance to the semifinals or play a non-playoff game. Regardless of which path they take, those games will also contribute to their overall state power ranking.

Pathfinder Tech (6-7) entered the home contest against Palmer riding a five game winning streak. They were ranked 78th in the Division 5 power rankings

"I don't think that we've ever beaten Palmer in the past, but I was expecting my guys to give them a hard fought battle in tonight's game," said first-year Pathfinder Tech head coach Jeff Kularski. "I'm looking to build a culture here. I think we'll be a dangerous basketball team in a couple of years."

The Pioneers seniors are



Cayden Bousquet takes a free throw.

Aiden Girard (1 point), Dustyn Cook (2 points), and Angelo Rentas, who didn't play in the Palmer game.

Because they probably won't be one of the top 32 teams in the power rankings, the Pioneers will need to finish the regular season with a .500 record to clinch a berth in the state tournament for the first time in two years.

The mood of the varsity game was a little bit somber after Palmer freshman Abees Castillo suffered a serious leg injury during the second quarter of the junior varsity game. That game was delayed for about 30 minutes as Castillo was taken by ambulance to Wing Hospital.

"The varsity and J.V teams normally practice together," Rocker said. "The players were very emotional when Abees was injured because the other players really care about their teammate. Abees is a swing player for us and it's an unfortunate injury."

Because of the long delay, the j.v. game ended at halftime, which allowed the varsity contest to start on time.

Rocker decided to make a couple of changes to the starting lineup.

Stapleton, along with sophomore Liam Mckee, and

eight grader T.J. Smola made their first career starts in a varsity game.

"Chris is a senior and I wanted to give him the opportunity to start a game," Rocker said. "I've also seen some good things from Liam and T.J. at practice. I wanted to see what they could do at the start of the game."

Doherty and junior Taydem Haley, who are normally starters for the Panthers led the way offensively.

Doherty scored 14 of his game-high 18 points during the second half. Haley scored 14 points, which gave him a total of 937 career points.

Sophomore Cassian Kowalik (16 points) and junior Cayden Bousquet (16 points) combined to score 32 of the Pioneers 41 points. No other Pathfinder player scored more than four points.

A Haley foul-line jumper gave Palmer a 3-0 lead with 6:30 left in the opening quarter before the Pioneers put together an impressive 14-2 run.

Kowalik and Bousquet scored five points apiece during that span. Sophomore Grayson Griswold (4 points) added a lay-up and sophomore Maddox Baer buried a jumper, which was his only points of the game.

Santos, Fredette (9 points), and Gavin Smola (5 points), who are the Panthers other three normal starters, were on the court at the start of the second quarter, along with Haley and Doherty.

The Panthers outscored the Pioneers, 18-9, during the second stanza and the contest was tied 23-23 at halftime.

After outscoring Pathfinder, 10-6, in a low scoring third quarter, Palmer entered the final eight minutes with a slim 33-29 lead.

A Bousquet lay-up closed the gap to 33-31 with 7:35 left in regulation.

With 4:28 remaining on the scoreboard clock, the Panthers built a 42-36 lead following a Doherty old fashion three point play.

The home team responded with a lay-up and put-back hoop by Kowalik making it a two point game again.

INDIANS from page 9

an 8-3 advantage.

Guimond also had a lay-up during the Indians 10-0 run, which was capped off with an inside hoop from Kanozek.

With a minute left in the opening quarter, a put-back basket from sophomore forward Matt Skutnik (2 points) gave the home team a 12-6 lead.

Hopkins, who held an early 3-0 lead, only points in the opening eight minutes were three-pointers from sophomore guard Derek Gromacki (9 points) and senior guard Chace Earle (team-leading 11 points).

Gaudreau, who scored over 300 points so far this season, sat on the bench for the first four minutes of the second quarter.

"Jack had scored his 1,000th career point at that point, so I just wanted him to relax a little bit and enjoy the moment," Rich said. "He's been playing very hard the entire season and that four minute stretch was a very good opportunity to allow some of our other guys to step up."

The Indians, who outscored the Golden Hawks,



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Alex Orszulak makes a line for the hoop.

16-12, in the second stanza, headed into the locker room holding a 28-18 halftime advantage.

A Gaudreau jumper in the lane and a Koczur 3-pointer pushed the Indians lead to 33-18 less than a minute into the third quarter.

The Indians held a 40-24 lead with 3:43 left in the third quarter after Guimond made a pair of free throws.

With the help of a 9-2 run, Ware was leading 53-34 with 3:40 left in regulation.

Junior forward King Stallings scored his first varsity point with a free throw with 26 seconds left in the contest. From start to finish, it was a very memorable evening for the members of the Ware boys' varsity basketball team.

HOCKEY from page 9

onship match.

All six of the teams in the Fay-Wright Division will be competing in this year's Class B tournament.

Those six teams are Easthampton, McCann Tech, Amherst, Taconic, Agawam, and Chicopee High School.

Agawam defeated Taconic, 6-1, in last year's Class B championship match.

The top two teams in Class A & B will automatically advance into the semifinals.

Prior to playing the semifinal round, the top-seeded team in Class A will be facing the second-seeded team in Class B. The top-seeded team in Class B will also

play the second-seeded Class A team.

Those games will boost the team's state power rankings.

The other four teams in each of the classes will be playing in the quarterfinals on February 16.

The higher-seeded teams will be hosting the quarterfinal matches.

Any of the quarterfinal games played at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield will be held during the daytime. The game times on rink 1 will be 11am and 1:30pm. The games on rink 2 will be at noontime and 2:30pm.

The losers of the quarterfinals will be playing non-playoff games against each other.

The Class A semifinals are scheduled to be played at Olympia on Feb.17. The start times for those two games will be 11am and 1:30pm.

The Class B semifinals are scheduled for Olympia on Feb.18. The start times for those two games will also be 11am and 1:30pm.

Both Western Mass. finals will be played on rink 1 at Olympia on Feb.19.

The Class B finals will be held at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Class A final at 8 pm.

The tickets prices for the semifinals and finals are \$8. Tickets are available through GoFan Only.

There is not a different price for students or senior citizens.

GAUDREAU from page 9

more than 300 points this winter. "It's been a lot of fun being a member of this basketball team. I've been playing sports with the other seniors for many years."

Gaudreau is the first Ware player to reach 1,000 career points since Keith Smith Jr. (1,004 points) accomplished the feat in a 63-34 home win over Pathfinder on February 28, 2021. That was the final game of the season, which was shortened to twelve games due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Aidyn Welsh (1,081

points) also reached the elite milestone in 2021.

The first Ware boys or girls' basketball player to score 1,000 career points was Doug Hayden (1,172 points) in 1975.

The all-time leading boy's scorer is Carl Chrabaszcz, who graduated in 1982 with 1,224 points.

Chrabaszcz, played for the Washington Generals, who never won a game against the Harlem Globetrotters.

Twenty years later, Donna Zwemke finished her varsity basketball career with 1,451 points. She's still the school's

all-time leading scorer.

Zwemke, who currently lives in California, also scored 1,000 career points as a member of the Worcester State University women's basketball team between 2001-05.

Gaudreau is the fourth 1,000 point scorer that has been coached by Gene Rich.

"We knew that Jack was going to be a very good basketball player when he was a freshman," Rich said. "Obviously, he had some growing pains that season just like any other freshman player. He just continued to



Turley photo by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jack Gaudreau heads up to score his 1,000th career varsity point in the first quarter of last Tuesday night's game against Hopkins.

improve his skills each year. He took a big step during his sophomore season."

Rich's first 1,000 point scorer at Ware High School was Fernando Montalban (1,102), who also reached the milestone on senior night in 2017. Two years later, Devin Slattery (1,105) added his name to the 1,000 point banner that's hanging on the gymnasium wall followed by Smith.

The other names listed on the banner are Colleen McCrystal (1,075 points), Joanne Lis (1,118 points), Justine King (1,221 points), Sadie Simons (1,138 points), and Jordan Halgas (1,148 points).

Gaudreau finished his

freshman season with 110 points and didn't think he would be able to reach the elite milestone.

"I only scored 110 points as a freshman and I really didn't think I would be able to do it," he said. "I've worked very hard during the past couple of years."

Gaudreau, who scored 240 the following season and 376 points as a junior, looked up to guys like Jack Auchter, Cam McCormick, Jayden Jones, and Carter Moorhouse as mentors.

"They were the big guys on the team when I was a freshman. Those guys were my role models," Gaudreau said. "I'm also very grateful that Coach Rich has also

been my coach during the past four years. We built a strong connection when I was a freshman."

At the end of his sophomore season, Gaudreau scored a team-high 15 points in the Indians 51-41 loss to Athol in the Western Mass. Class C quarterfinals.

His first postseason win came a couple of days later at Tahanto Regional (56-55) in a Division 5 state tournament round of 32 contest. Ware lost at Hoosac Valley in the round of 16.

A year ago, the Indians advanced to the elite 8 in the state tournament before losing to Pioneer Valley Regional, who wound up capturing the Division 5 state tournament.

"After we beat Brighton (50-40) at home in the round of 32, we didn't think we would defeat Fenway High School (45-33) in the round of 16. We just played very well in that game," Gaudreau said. "Then we lost to the state champions. They were a very good team. We're hoping to make another run in this year's postseason tournament."

During the fall sports season, Gaudreau was the starting goalie for the Indians boys' soccer team, which is coached Charlene Valle. He'll be wrapping up his outstanding high school athletic career on the baseball diamond once the snow melts this spring.

Gaudreau hasn't made a college decision yet, but he has an exceptionally high grade point average in the classroom.

"I'm a student before being an athlete. I always try to do my best in the classroom," he said. "My favorite subject is probably science. I have a special connection with all my teachers here at the high school."

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Location: Tantasqua Jr High School
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- **Boys Grades 4th-6th** 8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
- **Boys Grades 7th & 8th** 9:45 a.m. - 11 a.m.
- **Boys Grades 9th-12th** 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
- *Varsity players sign up if still playing with school***
- **Girls Grades 4th-6th** 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- **Girls Grades 7th-8th** 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
- **Girls Grades 9th-12th** 2:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.

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Tryout # 2: Sunday March 1, 2026

Location: Oxford High School
(100 Carbuncle Dr., Oxford, MA)

- **Boys Grades 4th-6th** 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Girls Grades 4th-6th** 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- **Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th** 5:45- 7 p.m.
- **Boys and Girls Grades 9th-12th** 7:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- *Varsity players sign up if still playing with school***

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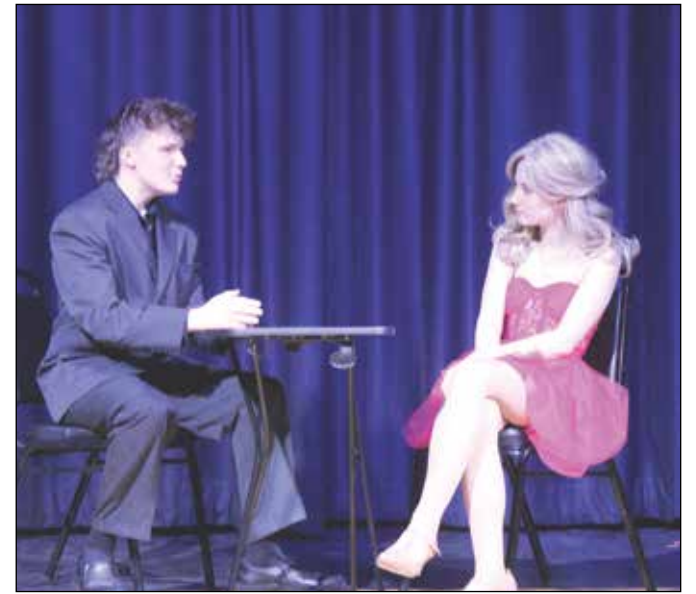
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LEGALLY blonde



The Quaboag Regional Theater Department and the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program presented "Legally Blonde the Musical".

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago



Elijah Wilhelm, left, as Warner Huntington III, sat with Madison Schreier as Elle Woods during the production of "Legally Blonde the Musical".

MUSICAL from page 1

The production came to the Quaboag stage when James Joinville wanted to do something a little different from last years' production of "Beauty and the Beast". The Director usually alternates shows between a Disney-type production and a play that has more of an edge.

Joinville has been involved in 24 productions at Quaboag Regional Middle High School, and "Legally Blonde" was his 12th show as a director.

What also contributed to getting "Legally Blonde" to Quaboag is having students mentioning the show for quite a while. After analyzing who he had for students and his production team, Joinville thought the program was ready for putting together this show.

One of the students that continuously asked Joinville about doing a production of "Legally Blonde" was senior Madison Schreier. This soon-to-be graduate was cast as Elle Woods, which according to Schreier was a "dream come true."

Schreier shared that "Legally Blonde" is one of her favorite musicals since her middle school years and she thought playing Elle would be a dream role for her to play. For several years Schreier tried to convince Joinville to do a production of the show.

Once the decision was made by Joinville, Schreier



Madic Andreoli is shown as Professor Callahan as the stage became a classroom filled with law students.

was initially excited about the news and wanted to audition for the show. When it came time to rehearse, Schreier learned that Elle dances quite a bit in the show. She worked extremely hard to get better on the steps.

This was Schreier's first time playing and experiencing taking up a lead character.

It began as a stressful process and a bit exhausting and Elle would have a lot of wardrobe changes that go fast. Schreier described Elle as an energetic character, and she wanted to capture and maintain that energy.

This was Schreier's final show at Quaboag, as she will

be graduating in the spring.

She said this was her favorite show to perform out of a total of six productions at Quaboag, including "The Curse of the Bard", "Camp Omigosh", "The Addams Family" in 10th grade, "Beauty and the Beast" and "Clue" in 11th grade.

For Schreier, being in "Legally Blonde" was a great way to finish her high school theater career. Schreier will look into doing other shows in the future after high school.

After several days of performing in the show, Schreier is proud of being a part of this production and is thankful for the friendships she has made.

"I found my best friends throughout the theater program," Schreier said "A lot of great memories for forever. In my heart, this is my home."

According to Schreier, "the shows solidified the feeling of theater magic," and thought everyone got together and made the show amazing. She described Joinville's leadership in the theater department as someone who always knows what's best.

Amarie Martino is a junior at Quaboag and played Brooke Wyndam in Legally Blonde the Musical. Martino described this show as a "very busy show" and auditioned for several roles. Soon, Martino was cast as Brooke Wyndam, a fitness instructor who at some point sings and jumps rope at the same time.

The multitasking was a bit of a challenge, but Martino felt prepared after rehearsing a lot on set and was ready for showtime. Martino is also known for playing LeFou in last year's production of "Beauty and the Beast". Martino has also starred in "Clue", "The Addams Family" and "Freaky Friday".

Natalia Veliz-Baldizon is a sophomore at Quaboag and played Pilar, Elle's friend, in "Legally Blonde". Veliz-Baldizon has been involved in the theater program since the seventh grade. When it comes to "Legally Blonde", it was a scary and fun experience at the same time.

What made it seem scary

at first for Veliz-Baldizon was the higher elevation of singing that exists in the show. What helped Veliz-Baldizon prepare for this show is having a background in dancing.

There were three different roles she wanted to play but soon was cast as Pilar. Veliz-Baldizon took the time to understand her character and felt a boost of confidence going into the shows.

For Veliz-Baldizon, playing Pilar is the biggest role she has played in her theater career. The role required a lot more singing, which she admitted she sang more in this show than any other play she'd been involved in.

With costumes, Veliz-Baldizon thought it was fun to put together her own costume for the show. Over time, she feels she's gotten used to performing in musicals, which involves acting, singing, and dancing.

"It's been very fun," Veliz-Baldizon said.

Karl Prosser is also a sophomore at Quaboag and "Legally Blonde the Musical" was his first show having an acting role. Prosser played the bailiff in the courtroom and Sundeep Agrawal Padamadan.

Prior to "Legally Blonde", Prosser was part of the stage crew for several plays. When hearing about how big of a show "Legally Blonde" would be, Prosser wanted to try out. In addition to acting, this was Prosser's first play where he got to sing.

During rehearsals, Prosser

got a feeling of what its like working on stage and worked on memorizing lines and remembering cues. Prosser also got to sing with the ensemble during the shows and said he will try out for an acting role in a future show.

Joinville said interest in theater at Quaboag is steadily growing.

For "Legally Blonde the Musical", there were 47 students on stage and roughly 25 students working backstage.

Joinville said he believes this was one of the largest groups of kids who were involved in a show.

"These kids have worked incredibly hard over these past several months and the show was a great example of that hard work," Joinville said. "These kids were resilient too especially with a shortened Tech Week due to Mother Nature dumping snow on us."

The hard work and resilience paid off as all the shows put on at Quaboag were successful. The students involved in "Legally Blonde the Musical" are a perfect example supporting Joinville's claim of interest in theater steadily growing.

The next production at Quaboag will be "Lion King, Jr." and will take the stage on Friday, April 17 at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 18 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m. The shows will feature students in grades seven-10, with the juniors and seniors taking on the directing roles.

WATER from page 1

comes from, and the process it goes through to get to your house.

The town's water system dates back to 1886, and currently serves about 54% of the town's population, or 2,462 water connections. There's approximately 42 miles of water main pipes in the system.

The town has five active wells, with #1-3 being located at the Barnes Street well field, #4 in Muddy Brook and #5 in Dismal Swamp. Well #4 is the oldest of the wells, having been online since 1965 and it has the highest flow rate of 384 gallons per minute.

Two additional well casing were installed in 2015 and are waiting for flow testing before being brought online.

"We're looking to get those on board," Calder said.

The water from these wells travels to a circa 1890 bottomless cistern, which contains two hi-flow pumps capable of 790 gpm each. The water is then chemically treated with sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) and potassium hydroxide.

The water travels in a half mile pipe from the cistern to the treatment plant to allow the chemical treatment of bacteria to work, in a process called a four-log bacterial removal process. This removes 99.99% of viruses from the water.

Calder said the water treatment building is one of the town's many histor-

ic buildings, constructed in 1886.

After treatment, the water is then stored in the town's two storage tanks, one on Church Street and the other on Anderson Road. From there, the water travels to serve users' needs.

Water pressure

Calder said both of the water tanks are at the same elevation level, and are generally the highest points in town. He said gravity is what creates water pressure, moving water through the pipes to meet users' needs.

"Gravity controls the pressure to your house," he said.

Those living closest to the water tanks have the lowest water pressure, and may require a booster to increase pressure, while those living farthest away have the highest pressure, and require a system that slows the pressure before the water enters the house.

Water security

Calder said since the events of Sept. 11, 2001, public drinking water infrastructure has been protected by Homeland Security.

"There's a lot of protection that surrounds the whole infrastructure," he said.

Calder said signs are posted around water department property, and where aquifers are located.

Calder said cyber security is another concern that water treatment facilities face, and that the town's system can only be accessed by landlines.



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette

Artist Andy Goulet of dpict. created a visual to detail the community information session.

"The system was made to keep it offline," he said.

The cost of water loss

Calder said something as common as a leaking toilet, can have a big impact on users' water bills. A leaking toilet can lose half a gallon of water a minute, leading to a loss of 21,600 gallons a month, which creates an additional cost of \$595 to that user's water bill.

Water discoloration

Calder said the cistern is what causes discoloration to the town's water supply.

"Being unlined and bottomless allows unregulated biological contaminants to enter the system that is not found in well water," he said.

Calder said the cistern is sample tested two times a month to monitor bacteria.

The condition of the water

mains also contributes to discoloration, as buildup has occurred in the pipes. He said a cleaning and cement relining program will clear the buildup.

"Cleaning and lining is the way to go," he said.

Calder said the treatment process to remove iron and manganese creates ferric oxide, causing rusty water and particles. He said this is the chief complaint from residents and businesses.

Fire hydrants provide fire protection, but also a means to flush the town's water system to remove sediments and prevent buildup in the pipes. He said the hydrant system will be in full operation this year and be able to provide proper flushing.

Calder said daily flow is another factor that can cause discoloration of the water.

While the town processes 500,000 gallons of water a day, it is still below its capacity now that most of the mills and factories are closed.

"We have 2.5 million gallons of storage capacity," he said. "The water system was designed to handle those large quantities. It also kept the water well circulated, fresher, and the pipe buildup low."

Calder said the discoloration does not mean that the water is unsafe or unclean.

"It may not be esthetically the best, but your tap water is safe to drink," he said.

Improvements and upgrades

A complete restoration of the Church Street tank was completed this past

December, and work on the Anderson Road tank will begin in the spring, starting in March.

"This tank should be good for another 30 plus years without being touched," Calder said of the Church Street tank.

The Church Street tank holds 1.5 million gallons of water and the Anderson Road tank holds 1 million.

Calder said the town is working to remove the cistern, by bringing the two additional wells online. This will help to lower the chlorine requirement to remove contaminants.

Electric mixers will be added to each restored water tank, to assist with the low system circulation and water freshness. Proper flushing will continue on a regular schedule with the completion of the hydrant replacement project.

Calder said the department is also continuing to provide maintenance and upkeep to water mains.

He said at some point down the road, the town will need to replace its water treatment plant with a new facility which can remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, an increasing threat to drinking water supplies.

"The current water problems didn't happen overnight. It has taken decades," Calder said. "They will not go away in short order."

A drinking water perception survey was mailed out with the town census, and it is also available on the town's website, www.townofware.com.

Margaret E. "Peggy" Willard

WARE – Margaret E. "Peggy" Willard, 75, died early Tuesday morning, Feb. 3, 2026, after a long battle with cancer.

She leaves her loving husband of 30 years, Gary P. Willard, who was her caregiver for the last 12 years during her illness; She also leaves; her children, Vickie J. Vennert of Warren, and Daniel D. Vennert of Monson, as well as her step-daughter, Jennifer Blood and her husband Christopher of North Brookfield; four grandchildren, Ryan, Jeremy, Taylor and Braden, two great-grandchildren, Ethan and Joey and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves her sister, Terry Flower and her spouse, Dana Boyer of Kittery, Maine, her brother, Bradley A. Armitage of Ware, and her very special dog, Sandy. She was predeceased by her brother, Bruce Armitage in 1986.

Born in Ware, Peggy was the daughter of late Clifford and Alberta (Croteau)

Armitage.

She carried with her a strong work ethic and quiet determination throughout her life. Peggy worked for many years as a machine operator at the former Wm. E. Wright Co., in West Warren.

Later, she worked in Housekeeping at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center and worked as a Home Health Aide at Home Care Staff of West Springfield, where her kindness and compassion were felt by all she cared for.

Peggy's love for her family was unconditional and constant – She cherished the time she spent with her children, Vickie and Dan, they made it a tradition to spend every Saturday together, whether heading out on small adventures or spending quiet time together at home. She also looked forward to the vacations she took with her children and grandson, Ryan, every year.

Peggy loved to gar-

den and care for her flowers and plants in and around her home. She had a green thumb, and her flower beds were proof of that as they were absolutely beautiful.

In her younger years, while living in Maine, Peggy crafted beautiful furniture that she sold to local stores.

Her family would like to thank Dr. Chandravathi Loke and the dedicated nurses and staff at the D'Amour Cancer Center at Baystate Health for their care and compassion.

A Funeral Service for Peggy will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026, at 11 a.m. in the Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware. The family will be having a gathering after the service at Teresas in Ware for anyone that would like to join them.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the D'Amour Center for Cancer Care online at <https://www.baystatehealth.org/foundation>.

An online tribute page is available at charbonneaufh.com.

Barbara E. Jackson, 88

WARE – Barbara E. (Bothwell) Jackson, age 88, passed away on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026, at Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer after an illness.



Barbara was the loving wife of William A. "Bill" Jackson for 70 1/2 years. During her declining health, Bill became her devoted caregiver and never gave up on her. Bill was her "high school sweetheart," and best friend.

In addition to her loving and devoted husband Bill, Barbara leaves behind her daughters; Karen Fitzgerald and her husband, Paul, and Sherry Jackson and her wife Lois Nerek, and son Alan Jackson and his wife Roni. She also leaves behind her loving grandsons; John Fitzgerald and his partner, Stephanie, and Patrick Fitzgerald, along with many nieces and nephews, Sherry Hanks Witaszek and her husband Richard and the Mascot family. Besides her parents, Barbara was predeceased by her siblings: William "Bill" Bothwell, Jr in 2008, Linda J. (Bothwell) Stolgitis in 2011 and Judith A. (Bothwell) Hyde in 2025.

A Visitation Hour will be held Saturday, Feb. 14 from 10-11 a.m. in All Saints Church in Ware. A Funeral Mass will be offered at 11 am in All Saints Church in Ware. A Celebration of her Life will take place after the funeral mass. Burial will take place this spring in St. Aloysius Cemetery in Gilbertville.

Funeral Arrangements and Services are under the direction of Cebula Funeral Home, Ware. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.

Barbara loved her walks, baking for others, swimming in the ocean and times spent with family at the beach in Rhode Island. Barbara's passion was hand quilting. She belonged to the Quilters Guild of Three Rivers. Barbara achieved Grand Prize Winner of the Creative Crafts Division at the Big E.

In retirement Barbara enjoyed many camping adventures, including two cross country trips, and wintering in Florida. Barbara's children and grandsons were the "pride of her life."

Anyone who called Barbara their friend, knew how her smile and sense of humor radiated around you.

Death notices

Jackson, Barbara E. (Bothwell)
Died Feb. 9, 2026
Services Feb. 14, 2026

Willard, Margaret E. "Peggy"
Died Feb. 3, 2026
Services Feb. 21, 2026

Ware River News

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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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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.

Historical Society presents 'Exploring Massachusetts Property Records'

STURBRIDGE – On Thursday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. at the Publick House, the Sturbridge Historical Society in collaboration with the Joshua Hyde Public Library will present "Exploring Massachusetts Property Records" by genealogist Seema-Jayne Kenney.

Are you curious about who once owned your home? Wondering what land your ancestors may have bought or sold? This presentation introduces everyday researchers to the fascinating world of Massachusetts land records.

Learn how to use online tools like MassLandRecords.com, understand the meaning behind different types of deeds, and uncover surprising details – from property disputes to family connections. Whether you're exploring genealogy or local history, land records can help piece together the past in a way few other sources can.

Kenney started in the business of genealogy after completing the Genealogical Research Certificate Program at Boston University's Center for Professional Education in 2010. Since then, she contin-

ued her education via ProGen & NIGR in 2012.

Along the way, she joined several Genealogy Societies, attended local conferences, and enjoyed several webinars. Kenney has been a successful presenter in the past of programs at the Joshua Hyde Public Library.

Kenney is presenting two additional programs this spring in Sturbridge about genealogy. On March 26, the Joshua Hyde Public Library will host "Getting Started with Ancestry.com: A Practical Introduction to Family History Research". This beginner-friendly session introduces you to the core features of Ancestry.com, including how to navigate your family tree, evaluate hints, and organize genea-

logical information on one of the most widely used family history platforms.

And in June Kenney will be at the Senior Center to present "Become the Ancestor Your Family Remembers". This session offers practical guidance on documenting your own life story using a variety of formats – from job applications and photo captions to vivid personal memories.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Sturbridge Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

The program is free and open to the public; and is generously hosted by the Publick House.

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CONCERT from page 12

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and classical music, including "Symphony for Brass and Percussion," music by movie composer Hans Zimmer, and standards from the rock group "Chicago."

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To learn more about all the other programming at the Bombyx Center, visit www.bombyx.live.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Breezed through
- Consumer protection agency
- Criminal syndicate
- Moves back from
- Satisfaction
- Feel concern or interest
- Monetary units
- Congressman (abbr.)
- Israeli city
- Restaurants
- 2,000 lbs.
- Grandmother
- North, South and Central
- In an early way
- Foes
- Social networking platform
- Early term for basketball player
- Another name for

CLUES DOWN

- Sign language
- Fashionable
- Borough in Helsinki
- Inability to hear
- More quickly
- An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
- Shrewdly
- Rooney and Kate are two
- Mediterranean port
- Benedictine monk
- Midway between south and southeast
- Town in Galilee
- Satisfy
- Mice genus
- Brass instrument
- Chest muscle (slang)
- Transmits genetic information from DNA

- Records electric currents generated by the brain
- Woman (French)
- Short route aircraft
- Pitching statistic
- Pointed end of a pen
- Popular sports league
- Body part
- Inoffensive
- Yellowish cotton cloth
- Feline
- Does not tell the truth
- Seduced
- Spiritual leader
- Abba __, Israeli politician
- Repair
- Olive genus
- Swiss river
- Prejudice
- C. European river
- Keep under control
- Father

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Ice fishing derby

held at South Barre club

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The cold didn't stop the South Barre Rod & Gun Club from hosting an ice fishing derby this past Sunday.

Several groups made their way to the pond with their fishing gear to set up for ice fishing. It was spur-of-the-moment kind of plan made by the South Barre Rod & Gun Club to put on a trout derby with an entry fee and prizes on the line.

Running the ice fishing derby was club member Paul Morrison, who has been a member for 25 years. Morrison said ice fishing is an activity the club has put on for years.

With having a mild winter the last several years, the South Barre Rod & Gun Club has not hosted ice fishing, until this year.

It was a cold Sunday morning, but that didn't stop

some fisherman of all ages to get out on the pond and catch some trout.

"The true diehards are out on the ice," Morrison said.

Inside the club were refreshments and hot dogs for fisherman to enjoy while they go ice fishing.

Morrison has been fishing his whole life and loves to fish. When it comes to fishing, it can be a hit or miss, but always a good time.

There are different methods to ice fishing, such as flag tip ups and jigging. In Morrison's opinion, jigging works the best.

Out on the ice was one group all set up using a combination of flag tip ups and jigging.

Part of this group was David Rogowski and his 10-year-old son Callen. Rogowski has been a member of the club since 1990 and has been fishing at the club since he was three.

To Rogowski's knowledge, there hasn't been ice fishing

at the club for the last several years. When this event was happening Rogowski thought it'd be nice to get out on the pond with his son and try to catch some trout.

The pond had rainbow, brook, and golden trout swimming around and Rogowski used a drill to make several holes in the ice to set up some flag pull ups.

Joining Rogowski was fellow club member Tom Johnson, who has been a member since 1975. Johnson said the club used to have ice fishing every year.

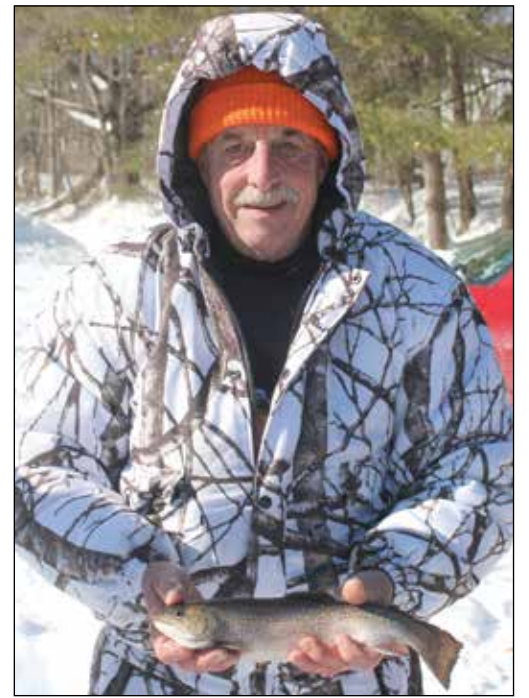
Rogowski says it's always great to support the support the sportsmen's club that does a lot of activities throughout the year.

When it comes to any kind of fishing, Rogowski said it takes consistency, patience, and sometimes "praying to the fish gods" to have a good catch. With ice fishing, you have an advantage of being on the water.

In another fishing group



14-year-old Tyler Mathieson is shown with a rainbow trout he caught during the ice fishing derby at the South Barre Rod & Gun Club.



Pete Sanborn is shown with a brook trout he caught this past weekend during the ice fishing derby.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

was 14-year-old Tyler Mathieson, who had a good day on the pond with several fish, mostly rainbow trout. Mathieson has been fishing his whole life and shows interest in continuing to fish when he can.

Another diehard fisherman on the cold pond was Pete Sanborn, who has been ice

fishing for nearly 50 years. Although Sunday morning's temperature had a real-fee of 18 below zero, Sanborn still made his way to the South Barre Rod & Gun Club for the ice fishing derby.

Sanborn fishes all year long and enjoys all styles of fishing. Sanborn caught a couple of brook trout while

on the pond.

The South Barre Rod & Gun Club is hosting a kid's fishing derby on April 25, starting at 8 a.m. This event is open to the public.

For more information, follow the South Barre Rod & Gun Club on Facebook or call them at 413-477-6879.

public notices

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE

SP-2026-01

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ware Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting and Site Plan Review Authority, will hold a Public Hearing during the scheduled meeting on **THURSDAY, February 19, 2026 at 7:00pm**, on the application of **Shawn Crevier**, for a common driveway, under Zoning Bylaw Section 6.6.2, and pursuant to MGL Chapter 40A. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the Planning Board

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

SITE LOCATION: 275 Mal-hoef Road, Ware MA. Said premises being further described in deeds recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 15005 Page 72. Property

is also identified as Assessor's Parcel 6-0-8. Zoned: Rural Residential (RR).

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

WARE PLANNING BOARD
02/05, 02/12/2026

TOWN OF WARE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town of Ware Selectboard will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 6:40pm** in the Selectman's Meet-

ing Room, Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA to hear the following Petitions filed by Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc for joint or identical pole locations:

No. 31220479: North Street: install one Joint Ownership (JO) pole and relocate one JO pole. National Grid to relocate pole #50, and install new pole #33-84;
No. 31220479: North Street: install one JO pole on North St, new pole #1-84;

No. 31196814: Park Street: install two JO poles on Park St, new pole #9 and #10;

No. 31223173: Sorel Road: install one JO pole on Sorel Rd, new pole #12;

No. 31223176: Osborne Road: relocate one JO pole, new pole #P93 and to be renumbered to P93-2;

No. 31223174: Greenwich Road: install one JO pole, new pole #101;

Copies of the petition are available at the office of the Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Nancy Talbot, Chair
02/12/2026

mination 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 **03/23/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on February 3, 2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

02/12/2026

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET NO. 26 SM 000358
ORDER OF NOTICE**

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

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in Its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Ware, numbered 20 Eddy Street**, given by **Michael W. Ponyta to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagor, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC FKA Quicken Loans, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated September 23, 2022, and recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 14684, Page 167**, 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 **03/23/2026** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of this Court on 2/3/2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

02/12/2026

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS TOWN OF HARDWICK CONSULTING SERVICES SOLAR PV INSTALLATION AND EMERGENCY SHELTER RETROFITS

The Town of Hardwick invites responses for consulting services to develop designs for solar photovoltaic (PV) installations, HVAC system improvements, and a standby conventional power generation system. Funding for this project is provided by the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program.

A detailed Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be available beginning on February 4th, 2026, until the due date specified below in digital format by request through the following email: joleary@cmrhc.org. The Town of Hardwick, awarding and contracting authority, reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if it is deemed in the best interests of the town to do so.

Completed proposals are to be submitted in accordance with the RFQ's submission procedures no later than 11:00 AM, Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at the Central Massachusetts Planning Commission, 1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520, Worcester, MA 01608.

02/12/2026

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Come Join Our Team and Grow With Us

The Town of Warren has immediate openings for the following Full & Part-Time positions...

Assistant Assessor: The Warren Board of Assessors is seeking to fill this full-time, Town benefited position of Assistant Assessor. The successful candidate will perform administrative work, provide excellent customer service, maintain detailed records of property assessments, maps, new growth, and assist with setting the annual tax rate under the general direction of the Board of Assessors. One of the Town's goals is to transition this position to a Principal Assessor in the future.

Hourly wage range: \$30.44 - \$37.08
Monday to Thursday, 32 hours per week
\$1,000.00 annual stipend offered with MAA certification

Executive Assistant: This position is responsible for providing administrative and clerical support to the Town Administrator's Office and Board of Selectmen. This is a full-time, Town benefited position. Candidate should be able to demonstrate excellent customer service skills, being proficient with Microsoft Suite and have superior writing skills. Attendance at evening meetings is required.

Hourly wage range: \$24.78 - \$26.69
Monday to Friday, 40 hours per week

Sewer Plant Operator / Mechanic: This position is responsible for operating, maintaining, and cleaning machinery, equipment, and generators. Performs building and grounds maintenance. This is a full-time, Town benefited position, with required on-call and overtime hours. Candidate must possess a Grade 4 or higher Wastewater Treatment Plant License within the first six months of employment.

Hourly wage range: \$24.78 - \$26.69
Monday to Friday, 40 hours per week

Full-Time Police Officer: Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights, and holidays. It is also preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. The Patrolmen's contract provides for an education incentive. Please send resumes and cover letters to the attention of Lt. Kyle Whitcomb, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or whitcomb@warren-ma.gov.

Hourly wage range: \$28.64 - \$34.24 Overtime Available
**Starting hourly will be based on years of municipal police service.*

Part-Time COA Custodian: This position is responsible for all aspects of cleaning, light maintenance of the building and Senior Center grounds. Must have scheduling flexibility to meet the daily operational needs of the Senior Center. Prior custodial experience preferred. Hourly wage range: \$17.70 - \$18.05
Monday to Friday, 15 hours per week

Please email or mail your resume and cover letter to the
Town Administrator, Jim Ferrera, townadministrator@warren-ma.gov
or by mail to **48 High Street, P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083.**

For a complete job description of any of these positions please visit the Town's website
www.warren-ma.gov.

All positions will be open until filled.
Town of Warren is an Equal Opportunity Employer

(SEAL)
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 000399
ORDER OF NOTICE**

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

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Ware, numbered 58 Church Street**, given by **George H. Plouffe to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, dated January 21, 2020, and recorded at Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13519, Page 182**, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for deter-

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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 Paul Varney Sr.
 Real Estate Broker and Owner

NO ENTRANCE FEE
 Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 31 Edward Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with very spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a walk-in closet. Two full bathrooms. A four-season sunroom is off the kitchen. Includes two large woodsheds and a metal garage you can park under to fend off winter weather. Asking \$288,000. See listing on MLS # 73433198

NO ENTRANCE FEE
 Mobile Home located in Waterwheel Village at 21 Varney Lane, Barre, MA 01005. This is a 55 and Better community. This home includes a wonderful floor plan with spacious rooms. Master bedroom includes a large attached bathroom. Two full bathrooms, large back deck, and two large wood sheds. Asking 245,000. See MLS#73457117.

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