

WARE RIVER NEWS

Vol. 138 No. 9

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

Hospital committee votes against zoning change

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Hospital Review Committee members reviewed the zoning proposal for the Health Care Service District which will be voted on at the April 8 Special Town Meeting.

At the March 25 meet-

ing, Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the proposed zoning outlined in article 6 of the warrant would encompass properties owned by Baystate Health and Cedarbrook Village of Ware. He said the district covers about 25-26 acres.

Beckley said the area is currently zoned as Suburban Residential, which allows for

a mixture of uses, including a variety of housing options and senior housing, as well as health services and professional offices. He said this zoning doesn't generally allow for light or heavy industry.

"The proposed health services district mimics the Suburban Residential...it promotes health services,"

Beckley said. "It excludes all of the housing options (not including the type of housing Cedarbrook provides). It would exclude professional offices not related to health-care."

Beckley said the current zoning does allow for health-care services.

Beckley said the intent of the amendment as he under-

stands it, "is more of a limiting to healthcare on this geography of land."

Committee member Terrance Smith said there are a lot of things that aren't allowed on the site under the proposed Health Care Service District.

"This really limits the economic development potential that the town might

have and the needs for taxes to support all of these things," he said.

Committee Chair Howard Trietsch asked Beckley if he had heard anything about any potential interest in the hospital site from health-care entities. Trietsch said he has heard from the CEO

Please see **ZONING**, page 6



United Church hosts STANDOUT for health care

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – The United Church of Ware hosted a stand-out to emphasize the importance of the upcoming Special Town Meeting.

This informational stand-out was to remind residents and voters of article 6, to vote in for a new health care services district on the former site of Mary Lane Hospital.

"This will be a critical step forward in the return of healthcare to Ware, Gilbertville and surrounding communities," said Peggy Baxter.

Those present at the stand-out said a vote of yes to approve new zoning could help return healthcare to the community.

"We want to answer questions people might have and explain why we

need healthcare on the site that was offered for a century," said Stephen Granlund of the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital.

The Special Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Ware High School.

The United Church of Ware hosted an informational stand-out this past Tuesday to emphasize the importance of article 6 in the upcoming Special Town Meeting. The vote is for a possible new health care services district on the former site of Mary Lane Hospital.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
This banner was displayed during a stand-out outside the United Church of Ware.



Submitted Photo

Residents discuss trail proposal

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Three residents have joined together to propose an extension of the Mass Central Rail Trail, connecting the trail segment that starts at Gibbs Crossing to the downtown area.

Steven Hawk, an avid trail user and advocate for accessible open space, and residents Cindy Allen Bourcier and Pauline Supka, are working with the Executive Director of the Norwottuck Network

Craig Della Penna and Elizabeth Johnson to help bridge some of the gaps in the 104-mile trail system.

At a March 26 gathering held at the Senior Center, Bourcier and Hawk explained their proposal to a group of residents who live in the neighborhood where the proposed trail extension would pass through.

Bourcier said the purpose of the trail is to "navigate our way from one point of town to the other point of town."

Please see **TRAIL**, page 13

C4R prepares for 2025 waterway season

Work to begin on new section of Lower Quaboag Blue Trail

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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PALMER – The Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council held its spring kickoff meeting this past Sunday, sharing details about water quality sampling, river restoration and cleanups, plans for a new section of Blue Trail and

volunteer opportunities. Coordinator of C4R Keith Davies welcomed people to the Palmer Historical Cultural Center in Three Rivers on March 30 and shared the history of the watershed council, which started in 2014.

Davies said at that time, the existing Chicopee River Watershed Council was mostly defunct, and he saw an opportunity to revive it and also connect it with rivers upstream. By combining the Swift, Ware, Quaboag and Chicopee rivers, the Chicopee 4Rivers

Please see **C4R**, page 11

Superintendent presents preliminary FY26 budget

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – The Board of Selectmen heard the monthly report from Quaboag Regional School District Superintendent Stephen Duff during its March 27 meeting.

Duff gave a preliminary fiscal year 2026 budget presentation to the selectmen. The superintendent wanted to inform the selectmen prior to his presentation that the numbers for this budget are very fluent and will most likely change.

The school has been working on this budget for the last three months and the presentation will show where the school is at this point.

"This is a very fluent budget," Duff explained. "It is going to change."

Duff is a firm believer in the school living up to their mission and it is important to have a partnership with the community. It is also important to the school and invest more in their students.

"We should be investing in our kids more," Duff said.

One of the biggest components for an increased budget involves transportation. Duff reminded the

Dancers on ice



Turley Photo by Derik Veliz

Shown performing on the ice during a Worcester Railers hockey game were Dance Factory dancers Mackenzie Bennett, Natalie Bedard, Natalia Veliz-Baldizon and Arianna Forte.

West Warren dance team performs at DCU Center

By Paula Ouimette
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WARREN – A select group of dancers from The Dance Factory in West Warren had the opportunity to perform in front of thousands of people last month, when they took to the ice during a Worcester Railers hockey game held at the DCU Center in Worcester.

The Dance Factory owner Jennifer Duquet said this is the third year the studio's Performance Team has danced at the Railers game, with this year's choreography reflecting a baseball theme in honor of the city's Triple-A

Please see **DANCERS**, page 13



Please see **BUDGET**, page 13

Ware River News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

ACCURACY WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to pouimette@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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, April 7

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, April 8

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing
- 9 a.m. Movin & Groovin to the Oldies with Lisa. \$3 per class
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Cornhole
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, April 9

- 9 a.m. Tai-Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10-11:30 a.m. Kirsten Krieger, Quabbin Region DPH Nurse, Officer Hours
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga
- 1 p.m. Knit-Crochet-Laugh

Thursday, April 10

- 9 a.m. Walking Club. Meet at Senior Center.
- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

Friday, April 11

- 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
- 1 p.m. Cornhole
- 2:30 p.m. Art Class

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 you name on the lunch list.

Monday, April 7

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Salad, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, April 8

Fried Chicken, Sweet Potatoes, Corn, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, April 9

Breakfast Burger with Fried Eggs and Cheese, Potato Wedges, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, April 10

Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Friday, April 11

Fish Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Tri-Parish Community Church lists Easter services

HARDWICK – Tri-Parish Community Church will hold its Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 20 at 5:45 a.m. at the East Quabbin Land Trust office, 120 Ridge Road.

All are welcome to attend. The Easter Sunrise Service will be led by Deacon Virginia Rich.

The Tri Parish Community Church will also hold an Easter worship service to be led by Pastor Nathan Pederson on Sunday, April 20 at 10 a.m. at the New Braintree Congregational Church, 3 Oakham Road, New Braintree. The church is handicapped accessible and all are welcome

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 1989 showed Buck's youth basketball team. Front row from left were Chris Mega, Jonathan Allard and Beau Sutherland. Back row from left were Joshua Berthiaume, Chad Gaudreau, Billy Harper and Brett Reopel.

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 \$1,000.

This scholarship 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 14, and applications must be post-marked by that date. The selected recipient will be named 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.

Ware Democratic Caucus to be held this Thursday

WARE – The Ware Democratic Caucus will be held this Thursday, April 3 at 6 p.m. in the Reading Room at the Ware Library, 37 Main St.


Wishing Well Charities hosts spring lottery raffle fundraiser

WARE – Wishing Well Charities is hosting its spring lottery ticket raffle fundraiser with a drawing date of April 5.

First prize is \$300 in lottery scratch offs and second prize is \$200 in lottery scratch offs.

The raffle ticket cost is one for \$10 or three for \$25. Cash, check or Venmo accepted. Call or text either 413-204-0009 or 413-330-4013 or reach out to any board member to purchase tickets.

Venmo web address is <https://account.venmo.com/u/Chris-Midura>. This fundraiser is sponsored by Safelite AutoGlass.



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In this month's online issue:

Upcoming Events and happenings in the Quabbin Health District!

HELP & RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE

APRIL

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

SAMHSA

For the full issue visit:





NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

April 2025

Quabbin Health District Public Health Nurse Newsletter

Kirsten L Krieger RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse

Andrea Crete MPH, RS,
Director of Public Health

Email:
kkrieger@towofware.com

Online:
www.quabbinhealthdistrict.com

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Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming April events

HARDWICK – On Saturday, April 5 at 11 a.m., a “Celebrate Hardwick” planning session will be held at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road.

Come share your ideas and memories for activities to recall history or embrace Hardwick’s essence.

The Paige Memorial Library building is 120 years old, but the love of libraries in Hardwick is older than that. Hardwick is 286 years old, so there are many reasons to celebrate Hardwick. Tell others who might be interested.

This is a valuable way to learn about Hardwick’s past and to honor those who were part of it. Your ideas and any level of commitment to help will be greatly appreciated.

Perhaps you would play on a baseball team on June 7 at 1 p.m. against the vintage baseball team the Westfield Wheelmen using old-fashioned rules.

On Tuesday, April 8 at 6 p.m. explore pysanky, wax-resist egg decorating traditionally done in Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, and Czechoslovakia. There is a \$5 donation requested for eggs and supplies. Registration is necessary.

Try a new hobby or

rediscover an old interest. The library has books and workshops: Paige Writers on alternate Tuesdays at 3 p.m., Book Club on the third Wednesday at 2 p.m., Cookbook Club on the last at 5 p.m., and FUNDamentals of Art on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Try painting, pastels, drawing, printmaking, cardmaking, calligraphy, or bring your own craft and join with others to socialize and share know-how. Registration is necessary.

On Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library open their Seed Library and Bake Sale. Buy home-baked goodies and choose some seeds for your garden.

Learn tips on seed starting and growing with special guest Paulina Borrego, UMass Science & Engineering Librarian, Mass Aggie Seed Librarian, and the Common Seed program teaching gardening and seed saving. Bring the children and visit with the Easter Bunny and make a craft.

For information or to register for any programs, call the library at 413-477-6704 or email Director.paigeli-brary@gmail.com.

EQLT to host Hiking 101 class and group hike April 12

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will host a Hiking 101 class and casual group hike on Saturday, April 12 from 1-4 p.m.

The event is tailored to adults and teenagers who are new to day hiking or who want to learn about practical considerations when out in nature. Hiking 101 will comprise an indoor discussion at EQLT’s office, located at 120 Ridge Road, followed by a 1.5-mile hike with both gradual and steeper hills, at EQLT’s Mandell Hill Preserve, which is located a short distance from EQLT’s office.

EQLT Steward, Chris Kiraly-Thomas, a recreational hiker and Adirondack 46er (she has climbed all 46 Adirondack peaks over 4,000 feet) who has also summited over 60 of New England’s 4,000+ footers, will lead the class and the hike.

Participants will learn about: choosing where to hike, appropriate gear and supplies, how to handle basic emergencies, what to do when encountering wildlife, weather preparedness, access to potable water and proper hydration, leave no trace principles and more.

Attendees are encouraged to dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and bring water.

RSVP to atrevvett@eqtl.org by April 9 if you would like to attend.

About the East Quabbin Land Trust

The East Quabbin Land Trust fosters a meaningful relationship with the natural world by conserving, connecting with and caring for the farmlands, woodlands and waters in the East Quabbin region of Massachusetts. EQLT works closely with community members to foster vibrant communities through engagement with the outdoors.

The work of EQLT is focused on the communities of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham, Ware and West Brookfield. EQLT began in 1994 motivated by concern for the loss of farmland and wildlife habitat to unplanned sprawl.

By working cooperatively with property owners, government agencies, conservation groups and other land trusts, EQLT has permanently protected 7,000 acres of land. EQLT worked with members of the Petersham community to purchase and lease The Country Store, revitalizing the heart of the town.

Over the past two decades, the East Quabbin Land Trust has also purchased and opened 6.5 miles of former railroad corridor as part of the Mass Central Rail Trail in Hardwick, New Braintree and Ware, with another 1.5-miles of rail trail slated for construction in 2025-26.

‘Becoming Darlene’

Author chronicles life of Belchertown State School patient

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library welcomed author Ed Orzechowski to discuss his book, “Becoming Darlene – The Story of Belchertown Patient #4952”.

Orzechowski is a retired high school English teacher who lives in Northampton. His writing journey began when he was freelancing for several magazines out of Springfield. He would then work as a part-time radio news writer for WARE.

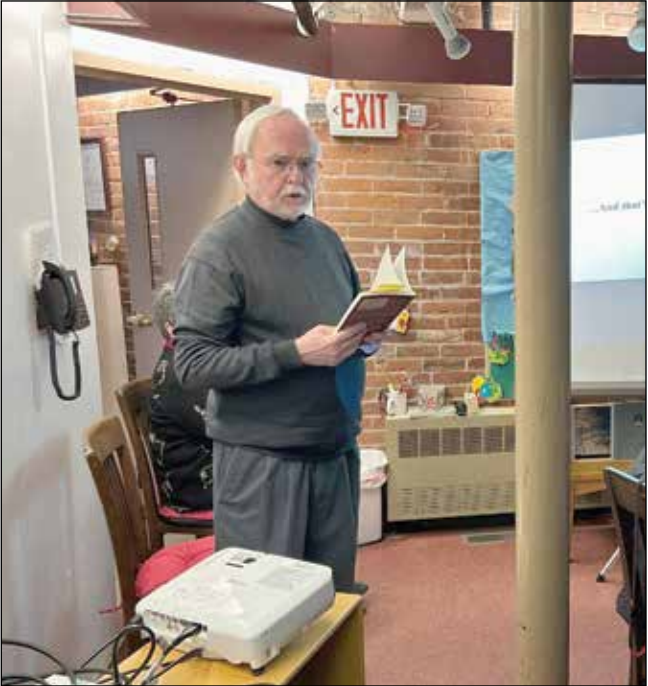
Orzechowski’s book is a follow up of his previous book “You’ll Like it Here, the Story of Donald Vitkus — Belchertown Patient #3394”.

Darlene Rameau was 7years old when she was admitted to Belchertown State School back in 1963. Orzechowski wanted this presentation to be more of a conversation than a talk as he took questions and comments during his presentation of the book about Darlene.

Several guests had ties to the Belchertown State School and agreed with Orzechowski’s description of it as an institution that was underfunded and understaffed and de-humanizing for many of the patients who resided there.

Orzechowski began the discussion by reminding everyone of the 2004 book “Crimes Against Humanity: A Historical Perspective” by Benjamin Ricci. The story followed a lawsuit that involved a case that lasted nearly 20 years and would help order improvements in mental health institutions.

Orzechowski read a passage from his book about Darlene and the statement that stands out in the passage was “and that’s when the voices began.” Darlene came from an abusive fam-



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Ed Orzechowski is shown reading a passage from his book “Becoming Darlene - The Story of Belchertown Patient #4952” at the Paige Memorial Library

ily and later while admitted to Belchertown State School she would soon find out she had a sister that she never knew she had.

Orzechowski showed a map of the school that opened back in the 1920s. The original name of the school was “The School for the feeble minded”. The map highlighted various areas of the school featuring a school, gymnasium, and a merry-go round.

One unique photograph in the presentation was an index card of Darlene’s discharge slip. Included was the name of her sister, Gail, who was also at Belchertown State School.

Darlene was discharged in July of 1974. Upon her request, her records from the institution were destroyed. Many of the patients were discharged due to aging out at 18 years old.

Orzechowski showed photographs of the school’s sleeping quarters, cafeteria, restrooms and the tunnels of the facility. The windows of the buildings had bars on them.

The next passage read by Orzechowski was about the time Darlene met her sister Gail while playing near the merry-go round. After reading the passage,

Orzechowski showed pictures of Darlene and her family, including photographs of her sister, Gail (1950-2013).

Darlene also participated in the Special Olympics back in the 1970s. Photos of her medals were shown in the presentation.

After the presentation, former State Senator Stephen Brewer spoke and thanked Orzechowski for his presentation. Brewer describes Orzechowski’s work in writing this book as “a good service in keeping those stories alive.”

While in office, Brewer recalled how much the facilities of supporting mental health have changed over the years.

Brewer shared a poem called “Two Young Girls from a Foreign Shore” and highlighted the poor conditions of living in the state school. Brewer remembered getting funds to help renovate the cemetery, which is where many patients of the state school were buried.

The cemetery is now known as the Warner Pine Grove Memorial Cemetery.

Orzechowski would stick around the Paige Memorial Library and sign copies of his book for guests who appreciated his time and presentation.

Ware River Park clean-up day this Saturday

HARDWICK –Ware River Park clean-up day will be held on Saturday, April 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help cut and burn brush and clean up litter and debris at the eastern end of the Ware River Park overlook located on Lower Road (Route 32) halfway between Hardwick Farmer’s Co-op and Cumberland Farms (across from St. Aloysius Cemetery)

Wear sturdy boots and work gloves and bring your tools (brush cutters, loppers, clippers, rakes and wheelbarrow).

Please RSVP to Becky Bottomley at b2b3bottomley@gmail.com.

Library hosts Easter bake sale, egg hunt

HARDWICK – The Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., will host an Easter bake sale on Thursday, April 17 from 1-4 p.m., followed by an Easter egg hunt from 4-5 p.m. and more.



OES to hold pancake breakfast

BARRE – Cradle Rock Chapter Order of Eastern Star will hold a designer pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 5 from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Mt. Zion Lodge Hall, 71 Pleasant St.

People may design their specialty pancake. The menu includes pancakes, sausage gravy with biscuits, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee. Cost is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children 6 and under. All are welcome.

2025 Seasonal Employment

Warren Parks & Rec. Dept. is accepting applications for Seasonal Positions including:

Lifeguard and Summer Rec. Counselors

Job description and applications available online at www.warren-ma.gov or at Town Clerk’s Office.

Mail applications to:
Warren Parks & Rec. Dept.
P.O. Box 609
Warren, MA 01083
Deadline: May 15, 2025.

The Town of Warren is an Equal Opportunity Employer

TOWN OF BARRE Cemetery Clerk

The Town of Barre is seeking qualified applicants for the part-time position of Cemetery Clerk. This position is approximately 10 hours per week and the minimum hourly rate is \$15.00/hour and the maximum hourly rate is \$18.02/hour. A full job description is available upon request. Applicants must have HS Diploma or GED, with a minimum of two to three years’ experience in office setting, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest to: Tammy Martin, Town Administrator, 40 West Street, Suite 697, Barre MA 01005 or townadmin@townofbarre.com. For further information, please contact the Board of Selectmen’s Office at (978) 355-2504 x135. A.A. / E.O.E.

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Glenda's

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Wednesday Nights ~ 7pm-10pm
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Friday Nights ~ 8pm-11pm
Karaoke Saturday Nights also if no band

Upcoming Events
Saturday, April 26 ~ 7pm-11pm
Uncle Country

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Zoning change will not bring healthcare back

At the Special Town Meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on April 8, we will be asked to change the zoning for the Mary Lane Hospital site.

The current zoning allows for all medical related purposes, residential uses and limited office space among other uses. The zoning change request is to make the 21-acre site much more restrictive: to medical purposes only.

I just finished serving four years on the Hospital Review Committee in which our main charge was to review the site that Baystate (the owner of the site) was proposing to tear down all the buildings, remove them and the subterranean steam tunnels connecting them and clean the site of all contaminants. The original plan was for Baystate to then give the property to Ware, but it decided to retain ownership and develop the site itself.

At first glance this may seem to be a lost opportunity, but in reality, it was a huge favor to Ware.

Let's be clear: Mary Lane Hospital is closed and unfortunately will never return in the form that it was in. Baystate was given permission to close Mary Lane by the state because it was able to prove that it was no longer economical to operate.

Of course, this was a huge blow to Ware and surrounding communities. MLH was a huge selling point for a town of only 10,000 people having a full-size hospital right in town. We all know the reasons for keeping the hospital open as it was for 100 years.

I stood in the picket line for hours with others to protest the closure, but it's a long-done deal now.

The Hospital Review committee hired HKT

GUEST COLUMN

Architects to review MLH and give their honest, third-party opinion as to the possibility of re-opening MLH. It came back with the same reasons as Baystate, that the buildings were too old, inefficient and uneconomical to reopen.

This complex is composed of seven different sized buildings on different levels, with different shapes crushed together and completely connected together not just physically, but also all the utilities are shared: water, electricity, heat, etc. None of the buildings can operate independently.

Any remaining building would have to have new wiring, plumbing and heat in addition to modernization; hence, this is why keeping the Wetherby building (the beautiful, oldest office building in front) will cost a range of \$9 million to \$12 million to reopen. For those who think this cost estimate is unreal, for a real-world example, the Church Street school (15 years ago) cost \$7 million to renovate and re-open as elderly housing, sorely needed, but requiring the federal government to step in.

Another way to look at the situation, if you were a contractor hired to build a new hospital on a site, would you create seven buildings that result in a maze that cannot exist separately? As much as the area loved and respected MLH, its time has come and gone.

We on the HRC felt as the vast majority of the people we surveyed, Ware and the area desperately need healthcare; we live in a healthcare desert requiring us to travel an additional 20 minutes

which literally could mean the difference between life and death. Unfortunately, as Baystate has stated repeatedly, a medical facility will not return to that site.

The Historical Commission, in a yeoman's effort, reached out to 78 different health-related organizations to see if there was any interest in returning healthcare to the site. How many responses did they get to this desperate need? Zero. Nil. Nada.

Over the ensuing months, the HRC was able to contact a few health agencies who said the same things: the buildings are too cost prohibitive to reuse for the same obvious reasons: too many buildings, inefficient layout and impossible to separate economically. Even if the buildings were left, they would not be interested in all the buildings.

Why occupy one building and have to heat and maintain the other six? Even if the buildings are razed completely as planned, they would not be interested in obtaining the entire 21 acres; too big and unnecessary for their plans.

One organization that did express interest in the past was the owner of Cedarbrook Village. Since they are already at 90+% capacity, they'd be interested in building another facility on a part of the MLH site.

I was on the Tax Increment Finance committee that dealt with the former South Street School years ago. That deal was \$17 million to construct which included 70 proposed jobs and \$1 million in taxable personal property (office furniture, etc.) and a much-needed healthcare related project.

Baystate has stated often that they intend to bring healthcare to Ware, just not on the MLH site. They propose utilizing and renovating an existing building and bringing back primary care physicians, etc., which are very much needed in this area.

This would be a huge win for Ware as a currently possibly empty building would be renovated and re-used and some form of healthcare returned to town.

The HRC does not recommend obtaining ownership of the MLH site.

While soil borings were taken next to the buildings and did find limited contamination which will be cleaned and removed by Baystate, the entire 21 acres was not tested. If there is contamination found anywhere on the site and Ware owned the site, we the taxpayers would be responsible for cleaning which could potentially cost millions depending on the severity and extent of the environmental damage.

Being 100 years old, there's fear of possible contamination from ash dumping on the site. Ash dumping from burning coal was a common practice 100 years ago and decades into the current time; ash is recognized as hazardous waste and would have to be removed.

Even if the entire site is deemed clean and Ware becomes owner, what would become of the site?

Our charge at the HRC was to find the highest and best use for the entire town. Our primary focus was to get healthcare back to the site; also, we wanted to get jobs and taxable revenue back to the site.

Everyone complains about the cost of running the town. The answer is to diversify your revenue sources; bring

in commercial development (which doesn't necessarily mean factories or retail stores) means we can bring in taxes with a minimum increase in cost of town-provided services which can be spread over a larger base than just residential taxes.

As owner of the site Ware would have to decide how to develop the site and bear all the costs to do so; Baystate has offered to bring in an experienced developer who would have to follow the zoning rules, so not just anything could be built there.

And if the buildings could be left as is, as some have expressed a desire for? An example of that is the old South Street School which sat empty for more than 10 years.

An empty building is not free: in addition to having to maintain the grounds by cutting the fields and brush and snowplowing, the town spent \$30,000 per year to heat an empty building (I was on the Finance Committee for 15 years). Using a TIF as an incentive, we got the building torn down at no cost to the town (\$300,000 at the time) and redeveloped into the impressive building now by Optimus.

The HRC voted 5-1 not to recommend a zoning change for this site to the Selectboard. I urge you to attend the Special Town Meeting on April 8 and vote "No" on changing the zoning for the MLH site.

Voting yes will not bring in more health care as current zoning already allows it, but it would extremely limit the uses of the property, which are already restricted by the current zoning.

Don't paint the town into a corner from which it cannot get out.

Denis R. Ouimette
Ware

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



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GUEST COLUMN

Vote 'no' on hospital zoning restriction

In 2021 I raised my hand to be part of the Hospital Discussion Committee that was convened by Ware's Selectboard to "gather information and public input regarding the proposed closing of the Mary Lane Outpatient Center on South Street . . . [and] to plan and recommend best uses for the site and buildings."

In service of this charge, I, along with five other dedicated committee members and several town officials, met more than a dozen times in the past four years and also convened public forums, meetings with architects, meetings with Baystate and potential developers, and joint meetings with the Ware Historical Commission.

The committee's work has not been easy. We all were disappointed by Baystate's decision to close Mary Lane, and I think we all joined the committee in the hopes we could play a role in helping find the best path forward for the town of Ware, ideally in partnership with Baystate, that entity that still owns the hospital buildings and land.

Several years into our work, new voices joined the conversation. A resident group called the Friends of Mary Lane was formed in 2023. This group did a significant amount of research on the Gilbert Trust and outreach to the Attorney General's Office that was greatly appreciated by the Hospital Committee and the town.

While the goal of

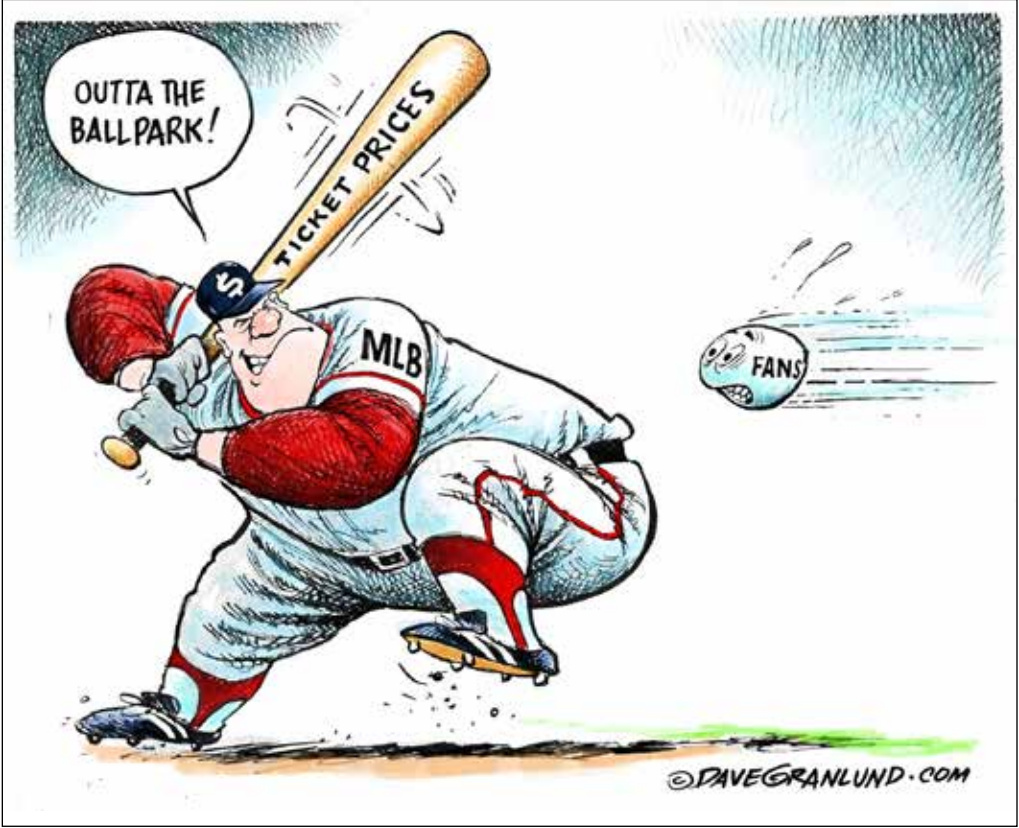
the Hospital Discussion Committee is to recommend to the Selectboard the best path forward for Ware, the Friends of Mary Lane "supports the 1919 will of Lewis Gilbert" and is committed to Ware's past.

Like the Friends, as a local historian, I deeply value our town's history and the history of the Mary Lane Hospital. Ware's growth around the turn of the last century was closely intertwined with the success of the Gilbert family, and many of our town's landmarks exist because of that family's generosity and community spirit.

As a member of Ware's Historical Commission, I spoke in favor of the demolition delay of the hospital buildings in the hopes that we could find a way to keep at least the Wetherby Building, the original hospital building on South Street, completed by local builder HP Cummings in 1924. I also appreciate the intent of Lewis Gilbert's will, which was to make affordable healthcare available to the residents of Ware and Gilbertville, including Gilbert's workers, as he owned woolen mills in Ware and Gilbertville.

But more than one hundred years after Gilbert's death, so much has changed with regards to healthcare, transportation and the local economy. When Gilbert was alive, visiting doctors and nurses traveled by horse and carriage to treat patients in

Please see **VOTE**, page 5



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Resident speaks in support of health care zoning amendment

Dear Editor,

I write this letter for one very important reason.... it is to remind the people of Ware that it is their time now to take a stance in the first step in securing health care back in the Town of Ware.

To remember our motto as "The Town that Can't be Licked!" That this is our town...and that the Mary Lane Hospital site was entrusted to us, the townspeople...as a permanent site...For healthcare for the people of Ware and Gilbertville and surrounding

towns.

It is up to all of us...to now do our part in working with the Zoning Board to make the land restricted for healthcare purposes, which has been for over 100 years.

There are other areas in town to be "developed," if there are entities wanting to invest here for "lite industrial, retail, etc." We have downtown, we have mill space, there is open land space...

But not at the Mary Lane Hospital site! It is not up to BMC to tell us...There are still many unanswered questions on how all of this

even was allowed to transpire...and things are evolving, but...

This is our first step in moving forward with securing health care.

Please...your vote absolutely counts at this crucial time! Make your voice known to our leaders both locally and state wide...

April 8, Tuesday, Ware High School 6:30 p.m.... make sure you are there to vote yes!

Sincerely concerned resident,

Catherine Cascio
Ware

support community journalism

viewpoints

Germination tests give way to garden experiments

Although the temperatures did not cooperate this past week, I have to say that spring vibes are all around me.

I saw my first blooming crocus, and even some early daffodils. The phone bird that makes a noise above our porch door is back, and hanging around, much to my husband's dismay!

My pepper plants are almost in need of transplanting from their seed pack, and the tomato seeds I planted last weekend sprouted in under a week. It is all so exciting! I don't think that I will ever not be amazed at the miracle of it all.

The other day I was going through my seed stash and I found two year old seeds of Loofah Gourd, Mini Popcorn, Mouse Melon and a variety of "climbing" Zucchini all of which I never planted. These purchases were "impulse buys" I guess you'd call it. I bought them but when it came time to actually plant them, I decided that my garden square footage was too precious to waste on frivolity.

But here we are and my frugal nature shines through once more. Since I bought them I might as well try and plant them; maybe one will end up being a new favorite.

But alas, does one risk planting two year old seed? What if the seeds don't germinate? Partaking in germination testing gave me a chance to get my hands in the soil, (albeit indoors) and the outcome will help me deter-

mine how much I should "over-plant" or if that will even be necessary.

Wasting a few seeds now will save time later on.

First up, the Loofah Gourd. I planted four seeds as a trial and three popped up! That means I will be adding this to my garden come springtime.

Grow it like you would any other gourd or squash. It loves fertile soil, heat and a strong support.

When loofahs were first popular, I was a young adult and still living at home. Growing them was a project for my parents and I.

Before the first frost we harvested the fat, wrinkly looking cucumbers and allowed them to dry before peeling off the rind. What was left was fibrous matter, looking already very much like a scrubby sponge. It was a fun experiment then and it will be reminiscent to repeat it.

Next comes the Mini Colored Popcorn. This was the first to sprout in my germination test pack with five of the six seeds popping up.

I have never had extra space to grow corn, but I thought it would be fun to try these for both decoration

and food. I am going to start them ahead of time, indoors in six packs and plant them out around the three week mark.

They will be spaced about a foot apart in rows about two and a half feet apart. Corn likes fertile soil, so I will amend the soil well with aged compost.

This type of corn will dry right on the plant, until the husks are brown. Then the ears will be harvested, shucked and dried some more. I have seen people remove the kernels first by using a blunt instrument such as the back of a spoon to start the kernels moving, then it looks somewhat easy to get the rest to push off.

Another fun thing to try, just to say I did it.

If you are growing sweet corn in your garden be sure to time these apart from one another, so that cross pollination won't taint the taste of your sweet corn.

I was really hoping that the climbing zucchini would sprout in my test pack. It took a bit, but they finally did and therefore they will be added to my garden this spring.

This variety, known as "Incredible Escalator" has a vertical habit. Funny enough, there are all sorts of videos online about training zukes to grow upright, but this variety seems particularly suited to upward mobility.

Zucchini are not true "twining" plants, however, so they will need to be tied to a strong trellis or stake to

maintain their vertical nature. Because the plant is off the ground, there appears to be improved disease resistance, too.

Stay tuned as to whether this zucchini lives up to the hype in terms of productivity and increased vigor.

Last on my list is Mouse Melon. I saw these for the very first time at the Hardwick Fair in 2022, hence my purchase. Also known as Mexican Sour Gherkin, these fruits grow to about the size of a grape, but taste somewhere between a cucumber and a watermelon, growing more sour as they mature.

The seeds were tiny, not what I expected at all and only half of what I planted came up, so I will definitely be sowing double the normal rate. The vine grows long – upwards of 10 feet, so be sure to trellis to make the best use of space.

I know little more than you do about this one, but I can't wait to try it out. Will it remain a curiosity or will Mouse Melon become a regular? Will any of these?

We'll have to wait to find out!

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

STM warrant has six articles

Staff Report

WARE – The Selectboard met with Town Moderator Kathleen Coulombe and members of the Finance Committee to review and make recommendations regarding six articles for consideration by Town Meeting.

The articles include three financial housekeeping appropriations and three proposed amendments to Ware Zoning Bylaw.

Article 1

Article 1 is a request for funding for shortfalls in several current town departments' budgets. These include funds for accounting services, electrical inspections, legal and unemployment costs, as well as personnel and service costs for the Water Department.

The total funds to be transferred total \$147,368 and will be appropriated from available funds known as "free cash" and the water reserve account.

This article was recommended by the Selectboard, the Finance Committee and the Town Manager.

Articles 2 and 3

Articles 2 and 3 restore funds used from the Town's reserves at the November Town Meeting for capital and planning projects. Article 2 asks voters to appropriate \$505,159 to the Town's Stabilization and includes \$143,000 funds above the November expenditure as recommended by Ware's financial policies.

Similarly, Article 3 would provide \$319,835 to the Capital Stabilization account including \$143,000 above the funds that were used in November.

The Selectboard, the Finance Committee and the Town Manager recommended both articles 2 and 3.

Articles 4 and 5

Articles 4 and 5 are amendments to the zoning bylaw brought forward by property owners Gary Buelow and Dan Bigda. In different ways, the proposed amendments would allow for the development of a warehouse on property along Mechanic Street and the Central Mass Railroad.

The Planning Board previously held public hearings on the proposed amendments.

Article 4 would achieve this change by allowing the warehouse use within the Town's Highway Commercial zoning district. The property is already in this district.

The Planning Board, Selectboard, Finance Committee and Town Manager recommend this amendment, noting the need for economic growth and the proximity to the rail line.

Article 5, if approved, would allow the warehouse use by changing the zoning district on the Mechanic Street properties from Highway Commercial to Commercial Industrial. In the Commercial Industrial district, Warehousing is a

Please see **STM**, page 15

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their homes, and mills like Gilbert's provided hundreds of jobs to residents who lived within walking distance of their place of employment.

The creation of a hospital was a significant advance for local healthcare when it was built, and Mary Lane was an asset to Ware for decades. But over one hundred years after the hospital's founding, Baystate made the decision to close Mary Lane due to what they described as decreased usage and difficulty recruiting doctors to a rural area. Whatever your feelings about Baystate, these

are the realities of our time.

When the Historical Commission enacted the demolition delay, we pursued medical entities that we thought might be interested in the hospital site, to no avail. Unfortunately, no hospitals or urgent care centers are interested in that site or the existing buildings; however, Baystate and other medical entities may be interested in bringing more healthcare options to other sites in Ware, which would be welcomed by all.

This brings me to the proposed zoning change for the hospital site, which will go to a vote at the Special Town

Meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ware High School.

The Friends have worked with the Planning Board to create this proposal, which would restrict the hospital site to medical development only, potentially to the detriment of any other economic development. The hospital land is already zoned for medical purposes!

This proposed change only limits other possibilities. Of course we all continue to hope that a medical entity interested in the site

will appear; but if one does not (and again, one has not in the past four years), the proposed change will restrict other potential development, such as breweries and office spaces, and the land could go undeveloped in the future.

Please attend the special town meeting on April 8th and vote NO on the zoning restriction if you have Ware's future interests at heart. We should be open to any and all best uses of the hospital land, not only medical. Medical entities who are interested in coming to Ware can still

choose that site or other sites in town.

The proposed zoning will not encourage medical entities to come to town, it will only discourage other potential development of that site.

Change is hard, but we need to move forward with open minds and a willingness to reimagine healthcare in our area based on today's

needs and context. I hope you will attend the meeting on April 8 and make your opinion heard regardless of how you intend to vote.

Our town needs all our voices and everyone's good thinking going forward.

Elena Palladino
Ware

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CDAC reviews transportation and town services chapters

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Community Development Advisory Committee discussed the Master Plan chapters of “Transportation” and “Town Services”.

Joining the CDAC was Sarah O’Brien of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. O’Brien said they are about complete with phase one of the Master Plan, which features the first four chapters.

O’Brien said she has not heard back yet from the state regarding grants for phase two of the project. When submitting a proposal for phase two, the proposal will include a match from the town of Warren.

The principal planner from CRMPC suggested that the town will be seeking out alternatives to finish the plan within the timeline. O’Brien quickly went over the stages of what is to be discussed when reviewing the Master Plan on a monthly basis.

There will be a public comment period after finalizing the final draft of the master plan.

After this stage, the master plan will be brought before the Planning Board. There will be a review process prior to presenting the final Master Plan and then CMRPC will hope to get comments from the public to see how they feel about the Master Plan.

CDAC member Richard Eichacker made a comment regarding the West Warren Community Hall building off Main Street. Members of the

advisory and residents have heard several stories regarding a possible purchase of the building.

Town Administrator James Ferrera commented and said an offer was made, but nothing has been finalized.

There is no specific development in mind for the community hall, but Eichacker mentioned parking is one big issue with the property. There is a yard behind the building that could be converted into a parking lot, but Eichacker isn’t sure how many spaces could be made out of it.

Another issue is the condition of the building. There could be asbestos in the building that needs to be removed, and the most expensive repair is the renovation of the building.

When asked if there were

other comments on transportation and town services, the CDAC wants to wait until CDAC Chair Jeremy Olson returns for more input on the chapters. O’Brien agreed and wants to here more input from as many stakeholders as possible about the chapters of the Master Plan. The town may also reach out to its legislators for feedback.

For “Town Services,” the CDAC thought it was a good idea to reach out to various departments such as water and sewer.

Next month, CMRPC will go over chapters for open space and natural cultural resources.

Ferrera briefly reminded everyone that the Wrights Mill Recovery Plan first draft is out on the website right now. The final draft will be out some-

time in either May or June.

Ongoing improvement projects

Ferrera said the town is in “full swing” as he has put it for two grants. One of the grants executed is for Green Communities for the weatherization project for the Shepard Municipal Building. Ferrera believes this project will be complete sometime in the next couple of weeks.

After this weatherization project, the same company will be going down to the Senior Center for their weatherization. Ferrera will be meeting with the Senior Center director and could possibly have a closure for at least one day to do the weatherization project.

“We will have these projects wrapped up relatively soon,” Ferrera said.

The Senior Center is also getting an HVAC system replaced. The current one is over 20 years old and is only at 70% efficiency. The town will be saving money with the installation project at the Senior Center.

Ferrera mentioned the help of state Rep. Todd Smola for securing a legislative earmark for the new roof for the Senior Center. The town also had a grant for cyber security and various departments will be getting new computers and laptops.

Ferrera briefly talked about getting a housing production plan for the town. Ferrera did just submit one that will be reviewed after some help from CMRPC. The plan would help come up with some form of affordable and sustainable housing for the town.

ZONING from page 1

of Westmass who stated the proposed zoning was not a good idea, and would “hand-cuff” any developers from moving forward.

Beckley said he doesn’t have any updates regarding interest in the site, but he knows that Hilltown applied for federal grants and Behavioral Health Network has expressed interest in having a location in town, but not necessarily on that site.

Trietsch said a number of healthcare entities are having to “tighten their own belts” in terms of staffing, with many staff being laid off and hiring freezes going into effect due to the uncertainty of grant money and federal funds.

Committee member Cathy Cascio said she believes the intent of the new zoning is to maintain the purpose of the site, which has been used for healthcare for over 100 years. Cascio said the Mary

Lane Hospital site was given to the town to be used solely for healthcare.

“From my understanding...the main thing people want is healthcare,” she said. “My opinion when we look at this, is keeping it as it has been for 100 years as it has been donated and given to the town of Ware basically on the charitable part. I still think there’s a lot of discussion going on still with the state about everything there.”

Cascio said there is still a lot they don’t know about the Lewis Gilbert Trust.

“There’s too many things that are up in the air, not sure what the outcomes are, that may be holding some people back,” she said.

Cascio said she thought when the committee was formed, that its intent was to focus on healthcare. She thanked the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital for their extensive research into the deed and the trusts associated with the hospital.

“I personally think it’s a great idea,” Cascio said of the zoning proposal.

Committee members Denis Ouimette and Elena Palladino had reservations about restricting the zoning on the site at this time.

Ouimette said he is worried about the property sitting vacant for decades due to the proposed restrictions.

“If you restrict it to just healthcare and only healthcare, and it turns out nobody wants it, remember, the Historical Commission sent out about 78 contacts, 78 different organizations, and got zero response. So, if we restrict this property to just healthcare and no healthcare comes, we’re stuck with this property for decades,” he said.

Cascio said if that happens, then the town could always vote to change the zoning back. She said she wants healthcare; she doesn’t want housing on that site.

Palladino said the current

zoning allows for healthcare and there are reasons that neither Baystate Health nor other entities have had interest in developing the site.

“I don’t think it would be good at this point to restrict so that little else could come in,” Palladino said.

Committee member Nancy Talbot said she has lived in town all of her life and that it is hard to let go of the past.

“It’s hard to have to accept things changes over time,” she said. “I see this zoning as being detrimental to any kind of economic development.”

Talbot said if healthcare entities were interested in developing the site, “they would have been beating down the doors to get here.”

The committee members voted against supporting the new zoning district outlined in article 6, with Cascio casting the only opposing vote.

“There was nothing about healthcare,” he said.

Trietsch said through their work and from public input, committee members discovered the number one need for the community was healthcare, which brought discussion with Baystate Health about bringing healthcare back to town.

Howard said it’s been four years since the committee was formed and they have met their charge. He proposed that the committee members recommend its dissolution to the Selectboard.

Smith thanked each member of the committee for their dedication to meeting the committee’s charge.

“We all brought a certain level of professionalism and background that I think is important for the committee to do its job,” he said.

The committee members moved to make a recommendation to the Selectboard to dissolve the committee which passed.

secure property in town to establish a Convenient Care, but there is no timeline for when that will happen.

“A presence in Ware for some kind of healthcare is what they continue to pursue,” she said. “They were not able to give us a commitment as to a date...they’re still working on the financial information.”

Talbot said Baystate Health representatives discussed using the Lewis Gilbert Trust funds as a means to establish this new site.

“Once again, they stated that they want to utilize the funds...as a portion of money for any development costs for some type of healthcare,” Talbot said.

She said the independent, third-party audit of the trust that was promised by Baystate Health is still being worked on. Trietsch said Baystate Health representatives understand the residents’ need for transparency in terms of the audit, which he said will take time to complete.

“They do know how we feel; that it’s a priority for us and the townspeople to see it,” Trietsch said.



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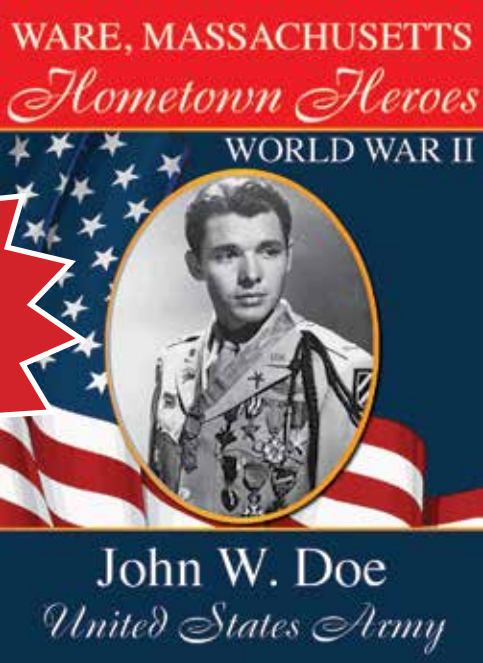
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Conceptual designs for common project shared

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – A public meeting took place this past week regarding the Town Common Improvement Project.

The public meeting was held by the Warren Town Common Improvement Project Committee on March 25 at the Shepard Municipal Building. This meeting welcomed two consultants from Weston & Sampson, who presented two conceptual designs based on input from the committee’s previous meeting.

Principal Planner of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission John O’Leary introduced the two consultants from Weston & Sampson who will be presenting the two concepts that may shape the future of the common in the center of Warren. O’Leary said he hopes after this meeting Weston & Sampson will gain some feedback from the committee and from the public before finalizing the design plans.

The consultants went over the two plans that were based off the existing conditions and information of the historical background of the common. The Historical Commission provided information to the consultants, which was considerate and well written to help them identify the historical value of the common.

In their presentation, the Weston & Sampson consultants highlighted historical objects on the common including the Hitchcock

fountain and the gazebo. The consultants found it important to honor the history of the common and preserve the character of the site.

Another main topic was enhancing the functionality and accessibility of the Common.

One of the biggest goals the committee wants to see happen on the common are various events. At one point the common was a destination for events such as music and farmers markets.

Recently, the town’s annual tree lighting around the holidays has grown in popularity.

One of the issues is limited parking at the common. Another is adjusting the fencing near the railroad tracks and the concepts include adding gardening features to the walkway or entrance ways. For example, the consultants included flower gardens to be added to the grounds.

The consultants still want to keep in line with what already exists on the site and possibly expand on it. Another idea mentioned in the concepts is an extension of the gazebo and possibly a pathway from the fountain towards the gazebo and towards Main Street.

The second design option talked about adding a pavilion space and a public restroom. One of the big changes featured in concept two is changing the parking spaces to add extra green space near the roadside.

There is also the idea of adding parking spaces close to the railway and a road-

Please see **DESIGN**, page 15

Book Club meets this Saturday to discuss ‘Lone Women’

WARREN – Book Club meeting will be held on Saturday, April 5 at noon at the Warren Public Library.

This month’s book will be Victor LaValle’s “Lone Women”.

According to BuzzFeed, “Lone Women” is an “absorbing, powerful” new vision of the American West with “blue skies, empty land-and enough wide-open space to hide a horrifying secret. A woman with a past, a mysterious trunk, a town on the edge of nowhere.”

Adelaide Henry carries an enormous steamer trunk with her wherever she goes. It’s locked at all times. Because when the trunk opens, people around Adelaide start to disappear.

The year is 1915, and Adelaide is in trouble. Her secret sin killed her parents, forcing her to flee California in a hellfire

rush and make her way to Montana as a homesteader.

Dragging the trunk with her at every stop, she will become one of the “lone women” taking advantage of the government’s offer of free land for those who can tame it-except that Adelaide isn’t alone and the secret she’s tried so desperately to lock away might be the only thing that will help her survive the harsh territory.

Crafted by a modern master of magical suspense, “Lone Women” blends shimmering prose, an unforgettable cast of adventurers who find horror and sisterhood in a brutal landscape, and a portrait of early-twentieth-century America like you’ve never seen. And at its heart is the gripping story of a woman desperate to bury her past-or redeem it.

Copies of the book can be ordered from the library.



Easter egg hunt at Lucy Stone Park on April 19

WARREN – The annual Easter egg hunt will be held at Lucy Stone Park on Saturday, April 19 with a rain date of April 26.

Egg hunts will be organized by age group with children ages 5-7 starting at 10:30 a.m.; ages 8-10 start-

ing at 10:45 a.m.; and ages 4 and under starting at 11 a.m. Please bring your own Easter basket.

There will be an Easter raffle, refreshments and a chance to have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny.

Tropical Vibes & Grille



Representatives from the town of Warren welcomed Tropical Vibes & Grille to the community with a ribbon cutting ceremony held last Thursday.

Town celebrates opening of West Warren restaurant

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARREN – Representatives from the town, including Town Administrator James Ferrera and the Board of Selectmen, celebrated the opening of West Warren’s newest restaurant, Tropical Vibes & Grille at a ribbon cutting ceremony last week.

On March 27, Ferrera welcomed restaurant owners Aishaw Davis and Peter Cadet to the community, and presented them with a citation on behalf of state Rep. Todd Smola. Jennifer Pickering, District Director of state Sen. Jake Oliveira’s office also presented Davis and Cadet with a citation.

“It really is important to the town to see economic development,” Ferrera said.

Joining Ferrera were Selectmen, Derick Veliz, Richard Eichacker and David



Aishaw Davis and Peter Cadet hold citations from the House and Senate celebrating the opening of Tropical Vibes & Grille. Shown with them are Jennifer Pickering, District Director of state Sen. Jake Oliveira’s office and Town Administrator James Ferrera.

Dufresne, along with building owner Jim Allard.

“The food is great,” Veliz said, with Eichacker agreeing.

Dufresne said the jerk chicken and rice served at Tropical Vibes & Grille was “delicious.”

Also present at the ribbon cutting ceremony were members of the Ware Business

& Civic Association and Beyond and the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Tropical Vibes & Grille is located at 2162 Main St., West Warren and is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Menu items range from chicken wings to a variety of sandwiches and burgers, barbecued chicken and ribs, tacos

and quesadillas, pasta, seafood, dessert and more.

The menu also features a kid’s menu, meat-filled puff pastries and acai bowls.

Davis and Cadet thanked the members of the community for supporting them and their restaurant and for welcoming them to town.

“Thank you for the opportunity,” Davis said.

OPERATION SOARING EAGLE

Golf tournament

Heritage Country Club
85 Sampson Rd.
Charlton, MA 01507

Friday, May 2nd 2025
9:00 a.m. - Registration
10:00 a.m. - Shotgun Start
12:00 p.m. - Lunch
3:00 p.m. - Cocktail Hour
4:00 p.m. - Steak Dinner, awards & raffle

\$150 per player includes: cart, Lunch, Steak dinner, and gift bag
\$35 for dinner only
Sponsorships available at various price points (turn over for details)

Register at:
<https://events.golfstatus.com/event/operation-soaring-eagle/details/registration-details>
or scan the QR code above
email Jen at jbaublitz@homefrontstrongus.org with any questions

All proceeds go towards HomeFront Strong programs that enhance resilience in veterans and military families through targeted programs and resources, including community peer support and the HomeFront Strong Storytelling program.

This year, we've partnered with Golf Status to offer our golfers a fantastic experience with a live scoreboard, contests, and a course GPS, all in an app players can use throughout the tournament! You can find out more at <https://golfstatus.com/app>

Thank you to our Honorary Chairperson, Cindy Lacoste, US Navy, Chief Petty Officer, Ret.



Partygoers enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day lunch at the Ware Senior Center.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY celebrated



ABOVE: A raffle table allowed people to try their luck at winning amazing prizes.

LEFT: Many were seen wearing green in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.



Memory Lane provided musical entertainment during the lunch.



Submitted Photos
Denise Blodgett and Sue LaBarge pose for a photo with Senior Center Executive Director John Zienowicz.



Festive hats added to the fun at the Ware Senior Center.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN!

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PALMER FOR TOMORROW

Gathering

WHAT IS IT?

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Now we must decide how to best use the money to support our community, and we want to hear from YOU!

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• How to Support Those With Substance Use

• Preventative Measures

• After Care

WHEN & WHERE

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3:00pm-4:30pm

at The Palmer Public Library

For any questions reach out to:

(413)283-2606 or ngauthier@townofpalmer.com

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

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• Individuals in recovery

■ Family/friends of those with substance use disorder

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Protect
Promote

PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Senior Center sham-rocks for St. Patrick's Day

WARE – There was lots of green to be seen at the Ware Senior Center on St. Patrick's Day with the Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. providing a corned beef dinner and dessert to 100 guests. Entertainment was provided by Memory Lane and a 50/50 raffle and a raffle table of many items were part of the festivities.

Along with scenic pictures of Ireland on the new 85" screen TVs that are now located in the main dining room.

Lots of changes are taking place at the center with the Wi-Fi upgraded, a new computer room, and more activities being offered.

The thrift store has a larger space at the Senior Center with many items and very low prices. There is a good selection of women's and men's clothing, shoes, pocketbooks, dishes, decorative items, linens, blankets and jewelry.

Donations to the thrift store are accepted by contacting Susan LaBarge at 413-544-1574. It is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon.

An Easter Party will be held on Monday, April 14. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from April 7-11. The maximum number of guests is 100.

NOTICE

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SPORTS

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Ware boys volleyball swept in opener



Ryder Cahalan gets the block.

WARE – Ware’s offense had a tough time in its boys volleyball opener last Friday afternoon at the High School

of Science and Technology. The Indians were swept 3-0, with scores of 25-7, 25-13, and 25-14. The Indians are

back in action on Apr. 3 against SICS at 5 p.m. They host PVCA on Monday, April 7 at 5:15 p.m.



ABOVE: Dalton Marquis attempts to keep the ball in play.

LEFT: Sean Bernier serves for the Indians.

Pathfinder baseball gears up for regular season

PALMER – The Pathfinder baseball team worked out last week in order to get ready for the regular season. The Pioneers were scheduled to get going on Monday. The Pioneers next game is at Smith Vocational on Thursday, April 3 at 4 p.m.



ABOVE: Djauan O'Dean hits in the cage at practice.



LEFT: Zander Auffrey makes a play during inside practice



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Nathan Harmon sets the ball over the net.



Brayden Compton sends a bump over the net.



Daniel Ramirez and Sean Bernier attempt to block.



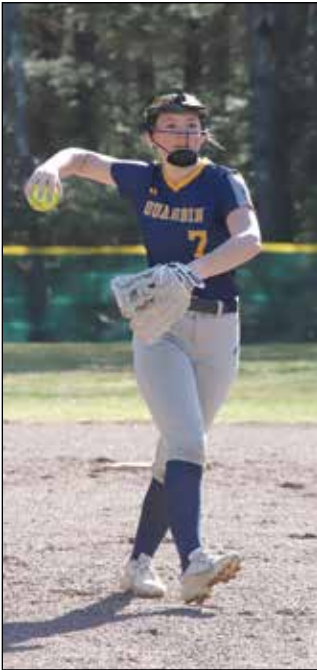
Sprints are a regular part of pre-season.



The Pioneers are gearing up for the regular season this week.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Jennavacia Roseberry swing and connects for the Panthers.



Carly Beaton makes a throw to first.

Quabbin softball defeats Quaboag

BARRE – On a windy, but very sunny afternoon Tuesday, Quabbin softball picked up a win over Quaboag 9-4. It was the season opener for both team and the Panthers rode new pitcher Abby Rogowski to the win. Quabbin will host Oakmont on Friday, April 4 at 3:30 p.m.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10



Brennan Peterson surveys the field.



Dominic Menard is pushed by an opposing player.



Parker Libiszewski tries to overcome pressure.



Anthony Arventos tries to get around a defender.

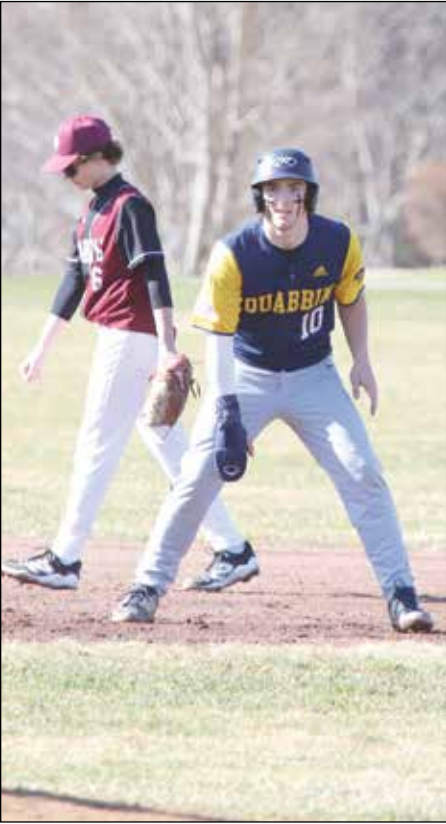


Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com

Boys lacrosse defeated in season opener

MONSON – Last Thursday afternoon, Monson High School boys lacrosse was defeated by Hoosac Valley in the season opener for both teams. The Mustangs, which have co-oped with Pathfinder Tech for the past few years, managed just a single goal in the 12-1 defeat. The Mustangs were scheduled to face Lenox and Mt. Greylock earlier this week, and are back in action on Tuesday, April 8 at home against Granby at 5 p.m.

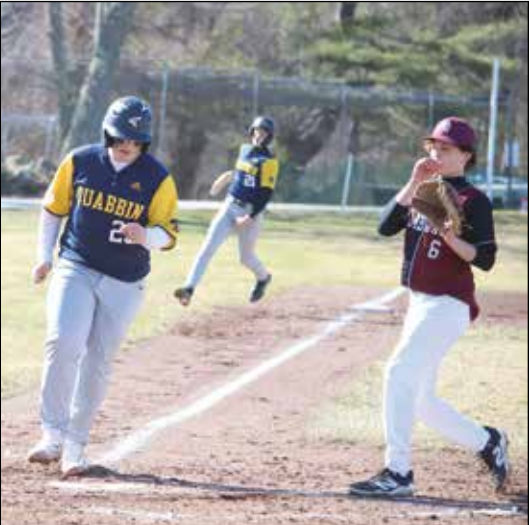
sports



Adam Adams takes his lead off second base.



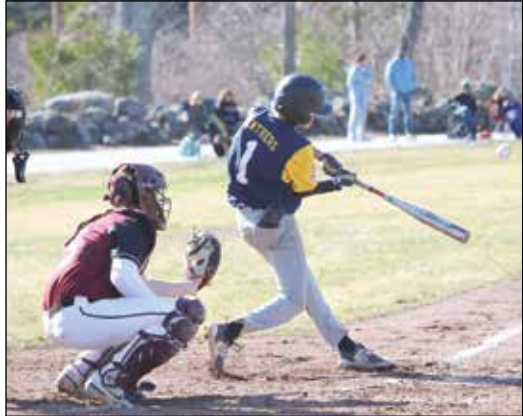
Finn Leander delivers a pitch to the plate.



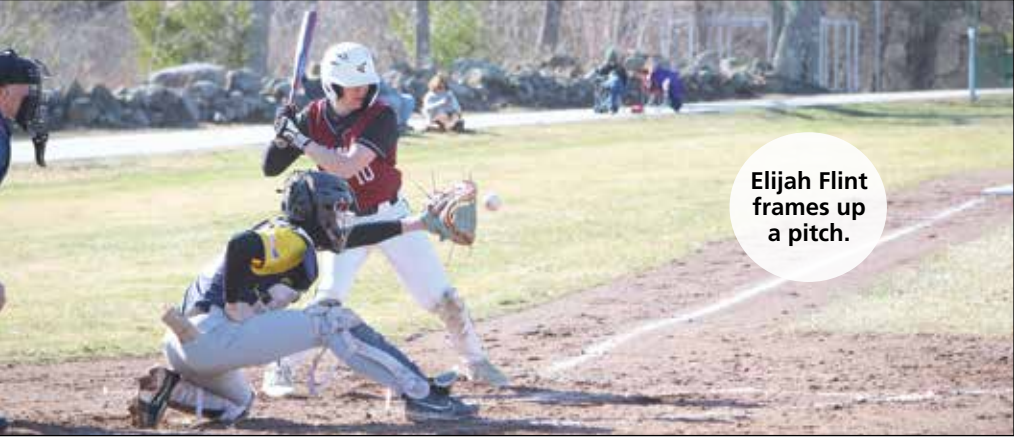
Sam Morgan crosses home plate on a base hit.

Panthers win big in opener

BARRE – The weather in early April is always tough for baseball and softball. But the Quabbin Regional High School baseball team used it to their advantage as their matchup with Quaboag had to be shifted to a home game due to poor field conditions in Warren. The Panthers enjoyed their home field as they put up six runs in the first inning and rode that to a 14-1 win over the Cougars Tuesday afternoon. The 1-0 Panthers face Oakmont at home on Friday, April 4.



Aiden Lapointe swings and connects.



Elijah Flint frames up a pitch.

Quabbin League holding open practice for new players this weekend

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2025 season. The league is looking for at least six more players to sign up to play in the league this year. Coming up this Sunday, April 6, practice will be held at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley and are weather-permitting. Both practices will begin at 10 a.m. and following the April 6 practice, new players will be drafted to teams in the league as the league works to fill its open roster spots. Registration for the 2025 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season. There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2025 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 27. The league plays most Sunday from late April through mid-August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley normally used. The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2025.

QUABBIN SOFTBALL DEFEATS QUABOAG



Lianna Leger fires a throw over to first.



Pitcher Abby Rogowski sends an offering to the plate.

Lions Club hosts 38th annual River Race on April 27

STURBRIDGE – The Sturbridge Lions Club River Race will be held on Sunday, April 27 with registration at 9 a.m. Since 1987, the 38th Annual River Race has been held on the Quinebaug River, known as the “River of the long Fish” (eels). The first craft off will be at 11 a.m. from the famous Turners Ball Field in Fiskdale. There will be thrills, spills, picnics, and a family fun day. The race finishes at the popular Westville Recreation Area. Walking trails on site. After the cold of winter, come out and enjoy the sunshine and if you own a canoe, raft or kayak, this event is for you. For more information, people may call Lion Randy at 603-818-3133.

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'Three Chords & the Truth'

Eric Troy celebrates debut album release at Workshop13

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – The local music community had a lot to celebrate as Eric Troy had his debut album release show at Workshop13.

Troy, a long-time native of Warren, now residing in Spencer was excited to share his work with the communities he grew up in and perform alongside fellow local singers and songwriters. The show was called “Three

Chords & The Truth” and featured an award-winning songwriter serenade.

In addition to Troy’s album debut, Ryan Calkins, Ben Bullock and the group Goin’ Nowhere also performed at Workshop13.

Troy’s pursuit of music began after high school and his way of playing music was mostly self-taught. Troy recalled playing the ukulele when taking up instruments and he would soon connect with fellow musicians. Jason Morin was the first person Troy ever played music with.

When it came time to wanting to play in public, Troy would begin exploring open mics in the surrounding area. The place Troy did open mics at the most was the Raven in Worcester.

Soon Troy would begin transitioning to writing his own songs.

The genre Troy began working in was heavy metal. The music featured in Three Chords & The Truth was alternative folk. A lot of Troy’s inspiration comes from the art of the world, as he described it.

For him, music “doesn’t exist before you make it.”

Troy is the father of two young children, Eleanorah and Theodore and they play a big role in his songwriting. The kids love watching their dad play and the song written by Troy that remind him of his adorable kids is called “Eleanorah’s Song” which was played during the album release show at Workshop13.

For a while, Troy would



Submitted Photo by Andrew Quinn
Eric Troy had his album release show this past weekend at Workshop13 called “Three Chords & The Truth.”

focus on writing his own songs before returning to playing music in 2020. At this point, Troy began tran-

sitioning his music into a folk-country genre.

One of his big inspirations was singer-songwriter John Prine, who passed away in 2020. Prine was known for blending country and folk with other styles like rockabilly, R&B, and rock & roll.

Troy feels every song written by Prine has a philosophy lesson in it. Troy has listened to John Prine ever since he was 10 years old.

One great moment Troy recalled in his music career was participating in the first annual Meli Entertainment Singer Songwriter Contest in 2023. The contest took place at Deep Roots Distillery USA in Sturbridge and featured many local singers and songwriters in the region.

Troy was one of the three prize winners in the contest and received recording time with Mark Thayer. The

Please see **TROY**, page 15

C4R from page 1

Watershed Council was formed.

The Chicopee River Watershed is the largest in the commonwealth and the largest in the Connecticut River basin.

“In 2014 we did a lot of outreach,” Davies said. “We started initially with water quality monitoring.”

Davies explained the purpose of water quality sampling, which tests area waterways for bacteria to determine if the water is safe for swimming and other recreation.

“Sampling for bacteria became a basic, simple way of giving people an idea of how healthy the river is,” he said.

This year, C4R will continue its water sampling program at an expanded level, testing almost 25 sites seven times from late spring through late summer. These efforts are made possible by a group of volunteers who visit the sites on a regular basis to collect water samples.

Grant funding will help C4R sample more sites



along the Quaboag River. Donations also help to support the project.

Water quality is listed for “primary” or “secondary” use, with primary being safe for swimming and secondary for boating or fishing.

Davies said both Quaboag Pond in Brookfield and East Brookfield and Forest Lake in Palmer, have some of the lowest bacteria counts in the watershed, with numbers usually staying in the single digits.

Davies said the Connecticut River Conservancy uses the data collected by the volunteers for its “Is it Clean?” database found on its website, ctriver.org. Results are posted on Fridays after Thursday samplings.

Volunteers also monitor the water temperature when

they are collecting water samples, but Davies said it will take years to track any differences caused by climate change.

C4R also works to establish and maintain the Blue Trail, which has sections along all of the rivers in the watershed.

This year, C4R is focusing on creating a new section, the Lower Quaboag, spanning from Route 67 to Laviolette Park. This effort will be funded through a MassTrails grant.

The new section will start at an old rest area on Route 67, passing through to Water Street, then to Laviolette Park. Davies said they are working to secure permission from the Department of Transportation to install a kiosk at the Route 67 access point.

Points of interest along this section include a former hydro dam, and Davies said more will be cataloged to be included on the trail map as the project develops. Points of interest can be historical, natural, or even cautionary.

“This will connect what’s really paddle-able on the Quaboag,” Davies said of the

new section.

Davies is joined on the watershed council by Jim Emerson of Wilbraham, who serves as the events coordinator. Emerson has planned a number of paddling events meant to engage and connect people with these vital waterways.

The first event of the year is scheduled for Saturday, April 19, at Indian Orchard and Putts for a clean-up followed by a paddle on the Chicopee River.

Others include Saturday, May 17, Lower Ware River; Saturday, June 14, Upper Quaboag; Sunday, July 20, Lower Quaboag in Palmer; Sunday, Aug. 17, Swift River in Belchertown; Saturday, Sept. 20, Upper Ware River; and Saturday, Oct. 11, Upper Chicopee. Details of these events will be posted on c4rivers.org.

Restoration efforts to remove invasive water chestnuts continue at Oxford Marsh in Chicopee and Red Bridge in Ludlow. Clean-ups are scheduled at Oxford Marsh on June 7 from 12:30-4 p.m.; June 28 from 9 a.m.-noon; July 19 from 9 a.m.-noon and Aug. 16 from 9

a.m.-noon.

Davies said the June removals are especially important to keep the invasive plant’s spread in check.

He said the seeds of the water chestnut are round with spikes (similar to a mace), and it’s speculated that they get caught in the feathers of geese and fall off in the water. The seeds can last in the mud for eight to 10 years.

Davies said C4R is also working with the communities to provide basic river restoration at sites, including trash removal. C4R also teams up with various Scout troops who are participating in the Scout Waterways Program.

Davies and Emerson are also working to organize trail crews to act as stewards of Blue Trail access points and sections.

“Being a trail steward is pretty basic,” Emerson said.

Duties of a trail steward includes looking for downed trees, checking portage areas, picking up trash, talking to Blue Trail users, taking photos and reporting findings back to C4R once a month.

“It will get us a lot closer and communicate more,” he

said.

Davies and Emerson said they are also looking for people to help them spread the vision of C4R.

“If you know someone who really likes these rivers, let them know we exist,” Davies said.

About C4R

Memberships and donations help C4R with resources for basic operations, including preparing events, creating and maintaining the Blue Trail, collecting samples, writing reports and performing community outreach.

C4R has established a nonprofit relationship with the Connecticut River Conservancy, which holds and manages C4R funds for tax exempt purposes for all donors who want this coverage.

To become a member, visit c4rivers.org and click on “Membership/Support – C4R.”

For more information or to get involved, visit c4rivers.org, email chicopee-watershed@gmail.com or find Chicopee4Rivers on Facebook.

How to cope with market volatility

The financial markets always go through periods of instability. And we may see more of that now, given concerns about tariffs, inflation and the economy. As an investor, how can you deal with this volatility?

Some investors try to take advantage of market ups and downs by attempting to follow the age-old advice to “buy low and sell high” — that is, they seek to buy stocks when they feel prices have bottomed out and they sell stocks when they think the market has reached a high point. In theory, this is a great idea, but in practice, it’s essentially impossible, because no one can really predict market highs and lows.

Rather than trying to anticipate highs and lows, your best strategy for coping with the price fluctuations of the financial markets is to diversify your investment portfolio by owning a mix of stocks, bonds and other types of securities. Different types of financial assets can move in different directions at any given time — so, for example, stocks may be up while bonds are down, or vice versa. If you only owned one of these types of assets, and the market for that asset class was down, your portfolio could take a bigger hit than if you owned a variety of asset types.

And you can further diversify within individual asset categories. Stocks can be domestic or international, large-company or small-company — and these groupings can also move in different directions at the same time, depending on various market forces. As for bonds, they too don’t always move in a uniform direction, or at least with the same intensity — for instance, when interest rates rise, bond prices tend to fall, but longer-term bonds may fall more than shorter-term ones, which are closer to maturity with fewer interest payments remaining. Conversely, when rates are falling, longer-term bonds may be more attractive because they lock in higher yields for a longer time. Consequently, one diversification technique for bonds is to build a “ladder” containing bonds of varying maturities.

Some investments, by their nature, are already somewhat diversified. A mutual fund can contain dozens, or even hundreds, of stocks, or a mixture of stocks and bonds. And different mutual funds may have different investment objectives — some focus more on growth, while others are more income-oriented — so, further diversification can be achieved by owning a mix of funds.

Furthermore, some investors achieve even greater diversification by owning alternative investments, such as real estate, commodities and cryptocurrencies, although these vehicles themselves are often more volatile than those in more traditional investment categories.

While a diversified portfolio is important for every investor, your exact level of diversification — the percentages of your portfolio devoted to stocks, bonds and other securities — will depend on your individual risk tolerance, time horizon and financial goals. You may want to consult with a financial professional about creating the diversified investment mix that’s right for your needs.

Ultimately, while diversification can’t guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help you reduce some of the risks associated with investing and better prepare you to deal with the inevitable volatility of the financial markets — two key benefits that can help you over the many years you’ll spend as an investor.

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Ware Police Log

During the week of March 23-April 1, the Ware Police Department responded to 19 miscellaneous calls, 13 administrative calls, six traffic violations, 10 emergency 911 calls, three motor vehicle accidents, four harassments, two trespasses, four thefts/larcenies, two brush fires, two damage/vandalisms, one fraud, six animal calls and 23 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Sunday, March 23
1:20 a.m. Assist Other Agency, North Street, Services Rendered
2:21 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Shoreline Drive, No Action Required
2:49 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Church Street, Assist Given
9:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Monday, March 24
7:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Knox Street, Citation/Warning Issued
7:45 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Doane Road, Dispatch Handled

Tuesday, March 25
1:34 a.m. Wildland/Brush Fires, Beaver Lake Road, Extinguished
8:36 a.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Report Made
4:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued
5:26 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Fisherdict Road, Investigated
6:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, West Street, Citation/Warning Issued

Wednesday, March 26
3:50 p.m. Harassment/

Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
8:37 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, Otis Avenue, Advised

Thursday, March 27
8:17 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, South Street, Services Rendered
9:33 a.m. Assist Other Agency, East Street, Services Rendered
1:08 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Church Street, Advised
6:54 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Services Rendered
7:39 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Fisherdict Road, Services Rendered
7:57 p.m. Traffic Incident/Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
8:56 p.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, West Street, Vehicle Towed

Friday, March 28
12:10 p.m. Wildland/Brush Fire, Belchertown Road, Extinguished
4:22 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
5:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Vehicle Towed
6:08 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Osborne Road, Services Rendered
9:21 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Services Rendered

Saturday, March 29
11:22 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Unknown Location, Dispatch Handled
12:17 p.m. Theft/Larceny, Palmer Road, Investigated
1:27 p.m. Fire Complaint, Palmer Road, Investigated

Editor's Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court's final disposition.

5:50 p.m. Harassment/ Stalk/Threat, West Street, Services Rendered
7:42 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Cummings Street, Dispatch Handled
8:01 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, West Main Street, Advised

Sunday, March 30
8:12 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, River Road, Dispatch Handled

Monday, March 31
2:37 a.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, West Main Street, Investigated
11 a.m. Safety Hazard, Route 9, Unfounded
12:33 p.m. Damage/Vandalism/Mischief, Church Street, Investigated
3:11 p.m. Fraud/Deception, Park Avenue, Services Rendered
4:26 p.m. Warrant Service, Osborne Road, Arrest Made
Arrest: Alan Mosher, 46, Ware

WMS Warrant
Tuesday, April 1
5:53 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Dispatch Handled



Sturbridge Police Officer Brad Merkel spoke about the 4th Amendment to eighth grade Honors Civics students at Quaboag Regional Middle/High School. Shown front row from left are Arlene Roure, Teagan Bessette and Mahrya LaMonda. Shown back row from left are Mikhail Salcines, Sam LeClair, Zo Adams, Kaylee Jette, Annabelle Bloom, Officer Merkel, Delaney Merkel, Stella Paquette, Kennah Martino and Arie Robbins.

Honors Civics class learns about 4th Amendment with local police

WARREN – Hardwick/New Braintree Police Lieutenant Kevine Landine recently spoke to eighth grade students at Quaboag Regional Middle/High School in Joseph Salvatore's Honors Civics class. The students have been studying Supreme Court Cases that relate to the "Bill of Rights." Landine, whose daughter, Abigail is in the class, was invited in to speak about police and citizen interactions regarding specifically the fourth amendment – protection against unreasonable searches and seizures. Landine provided examples of case studies and students had to answer whether the police action was proper or improper. Students had a chance to ask questions throughout a range of police work topics, from use of body cameras to traffic stops. The class also got a real life lesson on the 4th Amendment as applied to interactions between the



Hardwick/New Braintree Police Lieutenant Kevin Landine spoke to Joseph Salvatore's eighth grade Honors Civics class about the 4th Amendment. Shown front row from left are Abigail Landine, Desmond McElroy, Max Sturges and Johnathan Reynolds. Back row from left are Lieutenant Landine, Jayden Jablonski, Riley Morin, Brody Kenney, Mason Ostrout and Joseph Salvatore.

police and the public with Sturbridge Police Officer, Brad Merkel. Merkel's daughter, Delaney, is in the class. Merkel provided case scenarios and students had to determine what type

of action was warranted and when within the law and application of the 4th Amendment. Students also had a chance to ask a range of questions about police work from traffic stops, body cameras, and legal searches.

Warren Police Log

During the week of March 23-29, the Warren Police Department responded to 149 building/property checks, two community policings, 20 emergency 911 calls, one safety concern, one structure fire, one brush/wildland fire, two threats, one property damage, three animal calls and 15 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, March 23
12:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Vehicle Towed
4:29 a.m. Sick/Unknown, Brimfield Road, Transported to Hospital
3:21 p.m. Brush/Wildland Fire, Reed Street, Unfounded
7:16 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain, Main Stret, Transported to Hospital

Monday, March 24
5:47 a.m. Falls, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
4:02 p.m. Structure Fires, Crouch Road, Fire Extinguished

Tuesday, March 25
8:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Southbridge Road, Written Warning
8:55 a.m. Falls, Independence Lane, Transported to Hospital
9:10 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial, Old West Brookfield Road, Chief Took Call
8:23 p.m. Falls, Old Douglas Road, Transported to Hospital

9:13 p.m. Property Damage, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
10:37 p.m. Fire Investigation, Chapel Street, Investigated
11:06 p.m. Fire Investigation, Keyes Street, Investigated

Wednesday, March 26
6:15 a.m. Sick/Unknown, O'Neil Road, Transported to Hospital
9:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
11:20 a.m. Unattended Death, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
1:42 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Quaboag Street, Transported to Hospital
4:08 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer Spoke to Party
6:43 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Main Street, Report Filed
9:04 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
9:49 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Southbridge Road, Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Ruth Holly, 62, Warren
Vandalize Property c266 §126A; Breaking and Entering Building Nighttime for Felony; Resist Arrest; Disorderly Conduct; Disturbing the Peace; Assault and Battery on Ambulance Personnel; Assault and Battery on Police Officer
10:55 p.m. Evaluation, Milton O. Fountain Way,

Transported to Hospital
Thursday, March 27
11:05 a.m. Brush/Wildland Fire, Bemis Road, Fire Extinguished
5:20 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned, Old West Brookfield Road, Officer/Chief Advised
6:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Maple Street, Vehicle Towed
10:09 p.m. Threats, Keyes Street, Report Filed

Friday, March 28
7:29 a.m. Safety Concern, Old West Brookfield Road, Message Delivered
8:23 a.m. Threats, North Street, Officer Spoke to Party
9:47 a.m. Stroke, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
10:04 a.m. Falls, Presidential Circle, Officer Spoke to Party
4:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:56 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Keyes Street, Report Filed
10:14 p.m. Unwanted Party, Main Street, Party Departed without Incident

Saturday, March 29
9:35 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Boston Post Road, Written Warning
9:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:37 p.m. Complaint, Bemis Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of March 24-31, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 57 building/property checks, 63 directed/area patrols, four radar assignments, three traffic controls, 12 emergency 911 calls, three citizen assists, three assist other agencies, two complaints, one missing person, one harassment, one safety hazard, two motor vehicle investigations, two animal calls and 12 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, March 24
2:51 p.m. Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Services Rendered
5:34 p.m. Missing Person, Lower Road, Call Canceled
9:15 p.m. Fire Alarm, Old Petersham Road, Investigated

Tuesday, March 25
8:37 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
9:41 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Off Ruggles Street, Transported to Hospital
1:55 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
4:04 p.m. Assist Other

Agency, Main Street, Officer Handled
4:48 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Lower Road, Could not Locate

Wednesday, March 26
3:43 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency Bridge Street, Transported to Hospital
7:44 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
11:21 a.m. Assist Citizen, Lower Road, Spoken To
12 p.m. Assist Citizen, Wheelwright Area, Spoken To
12:01 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Lower Road, Investigated
12:19 p.m. 911 Utility Issues, Prospect Street, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
4:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
5:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
6:09 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Barre Road, Officer Handled

Thursday, March 27
5:25 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Written Warning
8:08 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road,

Transported to Hospital
3:28 p.m. Safety Hazard, Petersham Road, Officer Handled
5:05 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Church Lane, Transported to Hospital
9:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Lower Road, Investigated

Friday, March 28
12:11 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Dispatch Handled
3:02 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Main Street, Unfounded
5:10 p.m. 911 Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
9:07 p.m. Harassment, Broad Street, Spoken To

Saturday, March 29
4:17 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Jackson Road, Transported to Hospital
5:30 a.m. 911 Disturbance, Hardwick Road, Arrest(s) Made
1:23 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Services Rendered
7:27 p.m. Welfare Check, Lower Road, Officer Handled
9:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated

Open burning season now open

WARE – Open burning season is now open by permit and runs through May 1. Permits will be available online only at ware.firepermits.com. If you are already registered for the site from last year's open burning season, you only need to log in and apply for a 2025 burn permit. Please make sure you link your bank account for UniPay for a smoother process. The bank requires time to process your payment and your permit will be inactive until payment is approved. Cash will not be accepted at the fire station for a burn permit. All processing fees are required through the online website.

Take-out turkey dinner to be held April 7

WARE – The United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will hold a take-out turkey dinner on Monday, April 7 from 5-6 p.m. or until food runs out. Drive up to 49 Church St. and a runner will take your order and bring it to your car. Meals are \$15 per person and can be paid by cash or check. The turkey dinner includes all of the fixings: potatoes, stuffing, vegetable, roll, coffee, tea and dessert. For more information, people may call the Church Office at 413-967-9981.





Mackenzie Bennett, Gemma Pella, Morgan Carney, Avery Sinclair and Sophia Andrews performed at the Worcester Railers game.

DANCERS from page 1

baseball team, the WooSox.

Duquet said the Performance Team features 22 dancers ranging in age from 7-16 years old. Together, the team danced through a four-minute compilation of songs including “Take Me Out to the Ball Game”, “Centerfield” and “Sweet Caroline”.

“It’s an amazing opportunity for the kids to get out and experience performing,” Duquet said. “It gives them an opportunity to get on stage...watching them is such a joy.”

Duquet said the Performance Team also travels throughout the community, performing Christmas shows at nursing homes and senior centers, as well as at the studio’s annual recital

held at Palmer High School on June 8.

Duquet is now in her third dance season as owner of The Dance Factory, but she has been there for 30 years, starting as a dancer herself before becoming an instructor.

“It’s the studio I grew up dancing at,” she said.

The Dance Factory offers instruction in a selection of dance genres, including tap, ballet, jazz, lyrical, acro, hip hop and Irish step. The studio also offers dance classes for adults as well.

Summer programs will also be offered for dancers ages 4 through adults, with a complete list of classes available now on the website, www.dancefactoryjz.com.

The Dance Factory is located upstairs at 2162 Main St., West Warren.



Jasmine White, Braelyn Letner, Gemma Pella and Avery Sinclair dance with Dance Factory’s Performance Team.

Turley Photos by Derik Veliz



The 22-member Performance Team impressed the crowd at a recent Worcester Railers game.



Jasmine White, Madeleine Deatte, Mackenzie Bennett and Lilliana Soja took part in a special on-ice performance at the DCU Center.

TRAIL from page 1

“It’s not something that’s going to happen overnight,” she said. “And it’s a community effort...hopefully we can all work together.”

Della Penna explained the history of the Mass Central Rail Trail, which spans from Northampton to Boston.

“This is the longest rail to trail project in New England,” he said.

Della Penna said the project is at a “tipping point,” with the Department of Transportation agreeing to price out the costs of the gaps in the trail. He said the efforts to create the trail have the support of four linear-thinking land trusts, including the East Quabbin Land Trust located in Hardwick.

“The East Quabbin Land Trust has done some of that

heavy lifting for 20 years,” Della Penna said.

Della Penna said he lives eight feet from the rail trail in his town of Florence, and said having the trail will make a big change in the neighborhood.

“It will become the best walked park in your community,” he said.

Hawk has lived near the Gibbs Crossing segment of rail trail for about 15 years, and regularly utilizes the trail to access the town’s shopping centers, or to enjoy time in nature with his dog. Hawk, who is a quadriplegic, is grateful for the trail’s accessibility which allow him to be independent.

“What’s great about the rail trail is it’s joining the community together,” he said. “It’s something for future generations to enjoy.”

Bourcier and Hawk said

they invited the residents to the gathering to hear feedback about their proposal, including the opportunity to voice questions and concerns.

The proposed trail extension will connect from Robbins Road the area off Laurel Drive to South Street, crossing the South Street bridge, then continuing to Grenville Park where it will connect to the existing Church Street trail. The trail is also being developed and made accessible through Grenville Park thanks to a town meeting vote which allowed for the purchase of a tract of land adjacent to the park.

Bourcier said their proposal includes the construction of a bridge, and there are several possible locations to build it, including at a “paper road” known as

Riverside Street. The proposal also includes the purchase or acceptance of privately owned property in order to create access.

Bourcier said she is communicating with two property owners about the proposed trail extension.

She said the proposal also includes access to the back of the Mary Lane Hospital property, near the river, if the property owner allows it.

Bourcier said there are three possible locations to build a bridge across the Ware River from the Robbins Road end of the trail, with the first following the original railroad crossing to the south corner of Kanzaki Specialty Papers, Inc. She said this location would require deeded rights to the waterfront section of the Kanzaki property.

The second location goes

from the southside of the water treatment plant off Robbins Road to Cummings Road. Bourcier said there is a clear access point onto an unused, town-owned road that would then connect to the sewer line easement at Kanzaki.

The third location starts at the northside of the water treatment plant to the Kanzaki property and would require deeded rights.

Bourcier said she and Hawk are working to develop the proposal in order to apply for grants to pay for the project.

agency access and the proximity of the trail to wetlands.

A Monroe Street resident said there is already increased traffic through the neighborhood to Memorial Field and Valley View Housing, and that speeding along the narrow road is a concern.

“The added traffic on the road would be bad,” the resident said.

Several Marjorie Street residents spoke about wildlife and the privacy they enjoy on their street.

One said she is “not against the trail” but she doesn’t want it in their yard.

Bourcier encouraged all in attendance to email her their feedback to continue the discussion. Bourcier can be reached at cinallen10@gmail.com.

BUDGET from page 1

selectmen that many communities in Massachusetts had struggled to find a vendor for transportation that would be under the 10% mark. Quaboag had two bids, one from McCarthy and one from Lizak, and the transportation cost was up to 8%.

The special education tuition had a \$286,000 increase due to out-of-district placements. In Duff’s presentation, he listed all the contributing factors to budget changes for FY 26 by comparing the difference from FY 25. Special education tuition and transportation had the two highest differences compared to last year’s budget.

Other contributions include health insurance, active and retiree, special education transportation and Worcester County Retirement fund. Duff also went over the operating assessment summary for both Warren and West Brookfield.

The above minimum local contribution for Warren is a difference of \$136,004 and West Brookfield is over \$68,000.

Duff says “trying to stay level funded is the ultimate goal” and it can be challenging when the school does encounter uncontrollable costs. The uncontrollable costs include health insurance, retirement expenses, transportation, contract expenses and special education tuition.

In his summary, Duff said the total amount of uncontrollable cost increase is in the amount of \$1,236,682. Again, Duff explained this number is still fluent and could easily change within the next couple

days.

The School Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the budget more and will most likely have a new number in place. In his presentation, Duff wrote “with an increase of \$1,236,682 the district is looking for an additional \$136,000 in above minimum contribution over last year. The district has done everything they can do to minimize the impact of the state not funding out school district adequately.”

The selectmen appreciated the detailed description of the school budget and understand that costs are increasing and certain components for the school are getting expensive. Duff and the Selectmen agree that the State is not giving as much as they should to help the Town’s and their schools.

Selectman David Dufresne wanted to know if the school could have a refresher on the material costs. Hopefully some grant opportunities could come about to help the school pay for fresh materials, including textbooks and computers.

Duff mentioned the new math curriculum they got for grades kindergarten through eighth grade was through a grant.

Duff said the school does their best to keep a budget intact and doesn’t want to have a budget where cuts have to be made, including cutting staff. The selectmen understand the struggles of trying to keep a budget intact and appreciate the importance of having Quaboag in the community.

“We appreciate having Quaboag here,” said

Selectmen Chair Derick Veliz.

Copier lease renewal

Town Administrator James Ferrera had reviewed some quotes from copy machine vendors, but some didn’t provide a quote. Ferrera believes the town should continue with the company for the copier lease. The town has a total of seven copiers and their current lease is due sometime in April.

For saving purposes, Ferrera thinks its best to continue leasing with New England Business Machines. The selectmen agreed and voted to enter into a new three-year lease and service agreement.

FY 26 budget and warrant articles

The selectmen continued to review the fiscal year 2026 budget and warrant articles for both Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting. Both meetings will take place on June 12 and the Selectmen reviewed a packet of all the articles with many departments submitting their articles already.

Ferrera reminded the selectmen that they have a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on Saturday, April 12. The warrant is still open and there are some additional articles that need to be reviewed.

The selectmen will be attending a meeting next week, April 3, in Rutland to discuss the Regional Dispatch District Information Session. The agenda for this meeting is listed on the town website, under the Board of Selectmen page.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Narrow piece of wood

5. African desert

11. Waxy covering on birds' beaks

12. Sour

16. Infrequent

17. Former AL MVP Vaughn

18. Policemen wear one

19. Out of the question

24. Used to chop

25. Symptoms

26. Not moving

27. Folk singer DiFranco

28. Comedian Armisen

29. Quantitative fact

30. Incline from vertical

31. Scottish musician

33. Rooney and Kate are two

34. Positioned

38. A very short time

39. Tropical American shrubs

40. Yemen capital

43. Spanish municipality

44. Medical professionals

45. Fibrous material

49. Confined condition (abbr.)

50. Without covering

51. "Mad Men" honcho Don

53. Hockey position

54. Taste property

56. Fertile spots in a desert

58. They precede C

59. "Requiem for a Dream" actor Jared

60. Try a criminal case

63. Liberal rights organization

64. Spoke

65. Insect repellent

3. Show up

4. Seethed

5. Ancient Greek city

6. Poisonous plant

7. Hello

8. College sports official

9. Monetary unit of Russia

10. Wings

13. Take too much of a substance

14. A citizen of Uganda

15. Most appealing

20. Atomic #18

21. Global investment bank (abbr.)

22. Jewish calendar month

23. Popular sandwich

27. Swiss river

29. Incorrect letters

30. Popular entree

31. Foot (Latin)

32. A driver's license is one form

33. Extinct flightless bird

34. Appetizer

35. After battles

36. It neutralizes alkalis

37. Beverage container

38. Partner to "Pa"

40. Gray American rail

41. Salt of acetic acid

42. Canadian province

44. Dish made with lentils

45. Narrative poem of popular origin

46. For each one

47. Come to terms

48. Test

50. More dishonorable

51. Unit of loudness

52. The Ocean Unit

54. Monetary unit in Mexico

55. Lying down

57. Thus

61. Where LA is located

62. Western State

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The Town of Huntington is seeking a full-time Chief of Police. \$75,000 - \$90,000 yearly salary based on qualifications. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Deadline to apply is 4/28/2025. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

Human Resources Coordinator

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5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

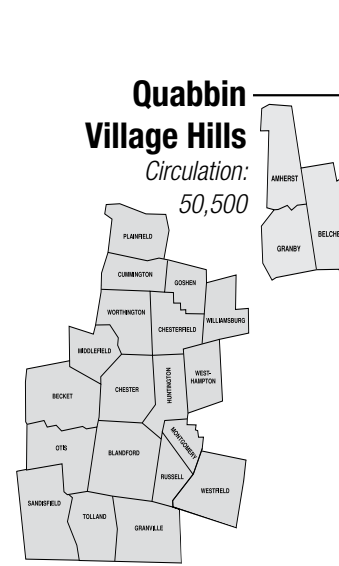
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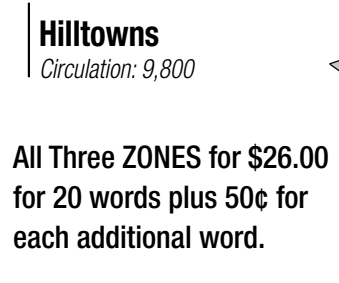
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

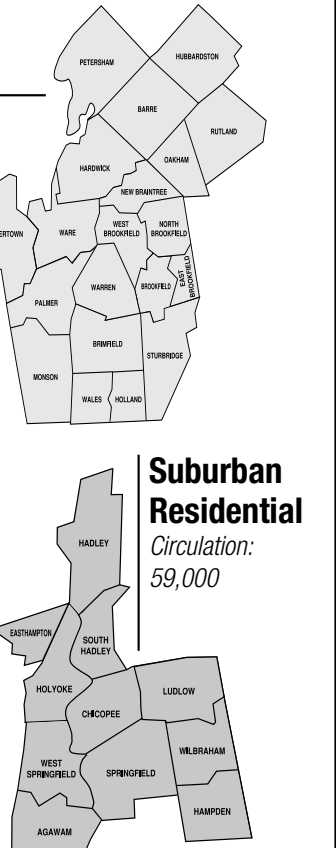
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WARRANT from page 5

use allowed by right, meaning limited permit review by town boards.

This was a consideration as the Finance Committee recommended no action on the article, and the Planning Board, Selectboard and Town Manager recommended against adoption.

Article 6

Article 6 aims to address the community’s need for health care by amending the Zoning Bylaw by adding a Health Care Services district on properties of the former Mary Lane Hospital site and adjoining property along South Street. The amendment includes changes to the Zoning Map, the Use Table and language describing the purpose and uses allowed in the district.

The Health Care Services district focuses on land uses linked to health care, either primary care or as an accessory use. Also allowed in the district are assisted liv-

ing housing facilities, such as the neighboring Cedarbrook development. Other types of housing and non-healthcare businesses would be restricted from the new district.

Discussion and recommendations related to Article 6 were split. The Planning Board (4-1) and the Selectboard (3-2) recommended the article, while the Finance Committee (0-2-3 abstaining), the Hospital Review Committee (5-1) and the Town Manager recommended against.

Zoning amendments require a 2/3 vote by Town Meeting voters.

In a related move, the Selectboard voted to reduce the quorum for Tuesday’s meeting to 75 voters.

A summary of the articles will be compiled as a packet and available on the Town’s website, www.town-ofware.com and at the Town Meeting.

Town Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8 at the Ware High School auditorium.

DESIGN from page 7

way can be built to lead cars into an access road to Main Street.

Sue Ramsey of the committee and parks department shared her input on the two concepts and said she likes the extension of the gazebo. For the entrance to the gazebo, Ramsey hopes that could still be kept, however the consultants mentioned the entrance to the gazebo

could be switched over.

For the amphitheater idea, the size might be tough to install on the common. The committee is definitely in favor of installing public restrooms and offering purposeful pathways for residents.

Going forward, the Weston & Sampson consultants would like to get more feedback from the public and will return with one preferred concept. Jim McKeon

attended the public meeting and said he likes the idea of paths.

“It gives people a purposeful place to go.”

– Sue Ramsey

Both concepts have their benefits and Ramsey commented on the idea design two had with multiple path-

ways serving a purpose for residents would like to walk through the common.

“It gives people a purposeful place to go,” Ramsey said.

Residents can email the parks department at parksadnrec@warren-ma.gov to submit comments and feedback on the Town Common Improvement Project.

TROY from page 11

album features 10 songs, one cover and nine original songs written by Troy.

When asked if he had a favorite song to play, Troy mentioned a few that really stand out. His song “Get out of Dodge” is a song Troy feels has gotten really popular.

“It has a lot of spirit and energy to it,” Troy says. “A good song hits you differ-

ently.”

Troy would then record five songs alongside his good friend Andrew Quinn. His friend also played during the album release show and played on guitar.

Quinn is also the photographer behind the album cover photo for Eric Troy’s debut album. The photo was taken on Forest Hill in West Brookfield.

Another song that was one of Troy’s favorite songs

to write is “12 Long Years”. Troy describes this as a historically rich song as it touches on historical facts and the local history of the area. In the song, Troy mentions Foster Hill.

After the show, Troy’s album was released on multiple streaming platforms including Spotify and Apple Music.

Troy would like to thank many members of the music community for all the sup-

port and thanked Amanda Meli of Meli Entertainment for all the work she does in the music industry on the local scene.

Troy is proud to have this moment and has had tremendous support from friends, family, fans and many fellow musicians. Be sure to check out his new album on your preferred streaming platform.

public notices

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

Sealed Bids for the construction of the “Ware Junior Senior High School Chiller Replacement” will be received by the Town Manager at the Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 until 2 p.m. local time on May 15, 2025 at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Sealed Bids must have outer envelope marked as **“Ware Junior Senior High School Chiller Replacement.”**

Sealed Bids from Subcontractors addressed as referenced above will be received by the Town Manager at Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 until **2 p.m. local time on May 8, 2025** and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. Sub-Bids with the required Bid deposit will be received for the following items of work:

- Subtrades
- Electrical Work
- Background

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

All Bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 44A - 44J inclusive or Chapter 30, Section 39M as amended.

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

the category of work defined as “HVAC”. The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the Filed Sub-Bidders shall be for the category of work for which they are submitting a Bid.

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

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

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

Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Commissioner of Department of Workforce Development under the provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Contractor, before Bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed Work under this Contract. Federal Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the United States Department of Labor under the Davis-Bacon Act also apply to this project.

A non-mandatory pre-Bid conference will be held at Ware Junior Senior School, 237 West Street, Ware MA on April 15, 2025 at 10AM. This is not a mandatory pre-bid conference, but all prospective bidders are encouraged to attend.

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

TOWN OF WARE,
MASSACHUSETTS
Consulting Engineer:
Tighe & Bond, Inc.
53 Southampton Road
Westfield, MA 01085
413-562-1600
04/03/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire
Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060**

**(413)586-8500
Docket No. HS25P0138EA
Estate of:
Donna M. Latour
Also known as:
Donna Marie Latour
Date of Death: 02/16/2025
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Kim Laramee of Webster, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/30/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: March 24, 2025

Mark S Ames,
Register of Probate
04/03/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No.
HS25P0160EA
Estate of:
John Walter Mozgala
Also Known As:
John W. Mozgala
Date of Death:
April 29, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Patricia A. Mozgala of Ware, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Patricia A. Mozgala of Ware, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
04/03/2024

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
TOWN OF WARE
FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT
13 NORTH STREET**

The Town of Ware invites sealed Bids for the Façade Improvement Project at 13 North Street. The Façade Improvement Project includes the furnishing of all labor, equipment and materials required to complete the installation of vinyl siding, replacement of exterior stairs to the 2nd floor, and replacement of 2nd floor door and windows.

This project is being administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and funded by the Massachusetts

S	L	A	T			S	A	H	A	R	A			
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Ware River News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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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

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.

Recycling Center offers bulk waste day April 12

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Recycling Center, 2011 Barre Road, will hold a Bulk Waste Collection Event on Saturday, April 12 from 8 a.m.-noon. This event is open to the residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. A recycling center sticker is not required. Please note, there are fees per item charged to cover the cost of hauling and processing. Prices are as follows: mattress/waterbed mattress/ futon, \$30; couch, \$30; sleeper sofa bed/pullout couch, \$40; loveseat/upholstered chair, \$25; pool table, \$25; wall unit cabinets, \$20; large entertainment center, \$20; sink, \$15; ceiling fan/upright fan/box fan, \$10; toilet, \$20; carpeting/foam carpet backing, \$15; kitchen/dining table, \$15; bookcase/bureau, \$15; trash compactor, \$10; wooden chair/end table/coffee table/night stand, \$12; car seat (baby/

child), \$7; bulk Styrofoam (bagged), \$5; and suitcases, \$5. The staff and volunteers reserve the right to price or reject other items not listed above accordingly on site. For more information, people can email recycling@townofhardwick.com or stop by the Hardwick Recycling Center during open hours. Volunteers are also needed during the Bulk Waste Collection Event.

Open House at St. Aloysius Catholic School on April 7

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School located in Gilbertville, is hosting a spring Open House at the school on Monday, April 7 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Prospective parents are cordially invited to visit the classrooms and meet the faculty of the growing school. Administration is also happy to tour families during the school day and provide shadow days for students presently in kindergarten through grade seven. Please feel free to call the school at 413-477-1268 or reach out to Roberta McQuaid, Enrollment Coordinator, to set up an appointment to visit. Enrollment information and all the necessary paperwork is available on the website (www.staloyuscs.com) under the “Join our Family” tab.

Brown Bag Sale of winter clothing ongoing until April 14

WARE – The Ware Senior Center Thrift Store, 1 Robbins Road, will have a Brown Bag Sale now through April 14 for winter clothing only, including hats, gloves and winter coats. Fill up a brown bag supplied by the senior center with men’s or women’s clothing for only \$10. This sale is presented by the Friends of the Ware Senior Center, Inc. Store hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. The thrift store is open to the public.

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