

WARE RIVER NEWS

Vol. 138 No. 12

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

www.warerivernews.turley.com

Meet the candidates

Forum shares views of candidates seeking election

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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HARDWICK – There are three contests on the annual town election ballot, with multiple candidates vying for seats on the Select Board, Planning Board and Paige Memorial Library Trustees.

At a candidate's forum held in the Town House last Tuesday evening, candidates had the opportunity to introduce themselves to voters and discuss their views on important issues the town is facing.

Select Board

Elizabeth Cyran, Jeffrey Schaaf and Jeffery Smith are running for a three-year seat on the Select Board that is currently held by Chair Kelly Kemp, who is not seeking reelection this term.

Cyran said she is running for the Select Board because she cares deeply about the town and the direction it's going in. She hopes to build a stronger connection between the board and the town's residents.

"The Select Board has a lack of access," Cyran said.

If elected, she plans to hold regular office hours where residents can meet with Select Board members and share their concerns and ideas. She said with meetings only being held

Please see **CANDIDATES**, page 7

MOCK CRASH



Lieutenant Jason McNeaney used the "jaws of life" hydraulic tool to pry open a door on a car that was used in a mock crash event held at Ware High School last Wednesday. Shown with him are firefighters Daniel O'Brien and Matt Gambino.

Fire, Police held pre-prom safe driving event



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Firefighter/EMT Sean Flynn attended to mock crash victims in one of the cars.

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – With prom just around the corner, juniors and seniors at Ware High School assembled last Wednesday to witness a mock crash event meant to show the devastating impact that impaired driving can have.

As students walked out of the school building, they saw two cars that appeared to be in a head-on collision, with their fellow classmates portraying the accident vic-

tims.

First responders from the Fire and Police departments, as well as State Police and UMass LifeFlight, quickly arrived at the mock crash, and students were able to witness the steps that would need to be taken if they were involved in a real accident.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, over 12,000 people died from alcohol-impaired driving last year, and that about 30% of all fatal crash involve

Please see **CRASH**, page 6

Discussion on hospital ownership continues

By Paula Ouimette
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WARE – The Selectboard discussed a proposal from the Friends of Mary Lane Hospital for the town to take ownership of the property and its buildings.

At the April 15 meeting, Friends of Mary Lane Hospital Chair Cindy Allen Bourcier said this is a topic that has been discussed since the beginning of the year. She said about a month ago, citizens began talking about starting a petition to place an article regarding ownership of the property on the annual town meeting warrant.

She said the proposal she submitted to the Selectboard was intended to "stimulate other people coming up with proposals," including property owner Baystate Health and the town.

"I just think it would be great if people could get together, roll up their sleeves, and come up with a real plan before the next annual meeting," Bourcier said.

Bourcier said there has been interest in the site, including from neighboring Cedarbrook Village.

"There's been a lot of interest, but nothing can be done until we figure out how to make a new owner, whether it's the town taking it over or some other entity," she

Please see **HOSPITAL**, page 9

The magic of the Quabbin



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

The Department of Fish and Game Office of Fishing & Boating Access and Department of Conservation and Recreation celebrated the new boat ramp at the DCR's Quabbin Reservoir Fishing Area #3. Left to right stands state Sen. Peter Durant, DCR Rep. Todd Smola, John Scannell, Quabbin Fishermen's Association President Clayton Sydla, MWRA Director Fred Laskey, DFG Commissioner Tom O'Shea, and OFBA Acting Director Terry Smith during the ribbon cutting.

Ribbon cutting highlights new boat ramp ahead of fishing season

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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PETERSHAM – There was a lot to celebrate at the Quabbin Reservoir as Fishing

Area #3 at the Quabbin introduced a new boat ramp.

The ceremony took place on April 18, just one day before the annual fishing season started. The Department of Fish and Game Office of Fishing & Boating Access and Department of Conservation and Recreation were joined by state legislators, local leaders, and community members to celebrate improved access to the fishing area.

A project like this is held dear to many people's hearts as this area of Quabbin Reservoir reflect on memo-

ries fishing at the Quabbin with their friends and family. Clayton Sydla is the President of the Quabbin Fishermen's Association and he talked about the project that started back in December of 2024.

The Office of Fishing & Boating Access reconstructed the popular boat ramp at Fishing Area #3 in partnership with DCR's Division of Watershed Protection. According to Sydla, the second phase of the project was completed just a couple of days ago and the new ramp

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 10



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Lucy Stone Park hosts Easter egg hunt

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – Lucy Stone Park hosted its annual Easter egg hunt this past weekend and featured an amazing turnout.

The grounds of Lucy Stone Park were covered with colorful Easter eggs and were going to be picked up in record breaking time. This annual Easter egg hunt is made

Please see **EGG HUNT**, page 14

Reading together

WCES students read with community members

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARREN – Warren Community Elementary School welcomed community members last Thursday for Community Reading Day.

This annual tradition has been a special occa-

sion for the school community for over 15 years and has brought in many inspiring community members. Sending out the invitations for this year's Community Reading Day was Literacy Coach Linda Beaudry.

A total of 20 community members signed up to read fun stories to the students. Beaudry says the kids certainly appreciate meeting members of their community and feel its important for them to know the members

Please see **READING**, page 8



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Students from Ms. Perkins' second grade class welcomed Senior Vice President of North Brookfield Savings Bank, Patty Ostrout.





Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
The Ware Library hosted an evening craft for adults and teens for the month of April this past week. Library Assistant Regina Diemand was the instructor for the craft.

Decorative magnetic trays crafted at Ware Library

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
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WARE – The Ware Library hosted an evening craft for adults and teens for the month of April this past week.

This month’s craft consisted of designing your own decorative magnetic tray. Returning to instruct the craft was Library Assistant Regina Diemand. After a successful evening craft with the faux stained glass, Diemand returned with another fun craft for teens and adults to enjoy.

Diemand did a fair share of shopping around the dollar store and picked up some interesting tools that will soon transfer into beautiful decorative magnetic trays. “She rocked the dollar store,” one crafter said.

The parts to the decorative tray consisted of pizza pans,



The evening craft had a good turnout as guests put together their own decorative magnetic trays.

rope, flowers, peel & stick wallpaper and hot glue. Diemand found various patterns in the wallpaper to

give her guests a wider selection of patterns.

Hot glue is used to put the rope together and allow crafters to add handles to their trays. The purpose of adding handles is to make the trays into beautiful wall hangings.

Diemand was excited



An example of a decorative magnetic tray designed by Regina Diemand.

Are You Old News?



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

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 a group of Ware anglers who spent their Sundays ice fishing during the winter months. In addition to enjoying the camaraderie, the anglers also landed some nice fish. Tom Trela hooked a 5 pound, 2 ounce bass; Tricia Shea came in with a 4 pound, 6 ounce bass; Paul Bousquet landed a 4 pound pickerel and John Lizak took home a 4 pound, 13 ounce bass.

Paige Memorial Library lists upcoming events

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, has been chosen to host a Massachusetts Space Week event.

Many free events will take place throughout Massachusetts to amplify the reach of this year’s Space Week, but few are near Hardwick. On Saturday, April 26 at 2 p.m., Aidan Cloonan, Space Week Outreach Volunteer studying at UMass Amherst, will present “Supermassive black hole: What’s in a name? Better yet, what’s around?”

Cloonan will make the information of his research on black holes and galaxies accessible for a general audience. A copy of the book, “The Next 500 Years”, authored by this year’s Massachusetts Space Week keynote speaker, space geneticist Christopher E. Mason, will be presented to the library to expand its space book collection.

Earth Day April 22, and Earth Month have raised awareness and inspired global action for environmental protection. In 1998, Natural Inquirer was created so that scientists could share their research with students.

The Paige Memorial Library has free publications from Natural Inquirer which are available to our patrons. The library can help you celebrate the Earth with books, DVDs, magazines, and seeds from its Seed Library sponsored by the Friends of the Paige Memorial Library.

The Paige Memorial Library’s telescope is available to be borrowed by Hardwick patrons. Come see what the library has for you.

On Saturday, May 3 at 2 p.m. at the Town House, 32 Common Street, Hardwick, Laura Grunwerg will present “The Art and Science of the Presentation: Credible or Crazy?”, a humorous, fun-filled exploration that proves that just about everything in life is a presentation.

How well do you know your audience? Are you able to manage their expectations? How credible do you seem as a presenter? What is “Death by PowerPoint” and how can you avoid it? Leave with Tech Tips for enhancing your graphics plus a comprehensive hand-out featuring design strategies, insights, and invaluable resources. All this and a mint on your pillow.

Grunwerg is a graphic designer, educator, and a repurposed library director. She has crafted many PowerPoint presentations and coached information science colleagues on the art and science of public speak-

ing with insight and humor. She has an MLS and an MFA from Vermont College and she wants to make the world a better place, one presentation at a time.

On Thursday, May 8 there will be a ticket drawing for the Celebrate Hardwick Quilt created by students of Pam Hinckley’s “Kids Can Sew” class donated to the library to raise funds for programs. Make a donation, get a ticket, and maybe it will be yours.

On Saturday, May 10 at 1 p.m. at the Town House, there will be birds of prey and Indigenous American artifacts funded by the Hardwick Cultural Council. WINGMASTERS is a partnership between Julie Anne Collier and Jim Parks, licensed raptor rehabilitators and educators. This program is supported in part by the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

On Saturday, June 7 at 1 p.m. a game of vintage baseball will be played. The Westfield Wheelmen will oppose the Hardwick Haymen using old-fashioned rules. Join the Hardwick Haymen team to play ball or to cheer them on to victory.

For more information or to register, call 413-477-6704 or email Director. paigelibrary@gmail.com.

Button society’s spring meeting is May 3

PALMER – The Massachusetts State Button Society’s spring meeting will be hosted by the Monson Button Club on Saturday, May 3, at the AMVETS Post 74 on Main St. in Three Rivers from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the day’s activities and to purchase buttons and button related items from 9 a.m.-noon and from 1:30-3 p.m. There will be no button

sales during the break from noon-1:30 p.m. as lunch, a business meeting, and program “Dolls – Embellished with Buttons” will take place.

Morning visitors will be treated to coffee and refreshments provided by the hosting club; bring your own brown bag lunch, and dessert will be provided.

There is no admission fee, and all are welcome.



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Submitted Photo
Ware Soccer's U9/U10 and U11/U12 girls teams celebrated successful indoor soccer sessions at Soccer City.

Successful indoor soccer sessions

WARE – Ware Soccer Coach Herb Foley congratulated the players on U9/U10 girls team for their third session at Soccer City and U11/U12 girls team for their first, second and third sessions.

Foley said all of the

team's had "outstanding" sessions.

"I'd like to congratulate all of you," Foley said. "Plus, I would like to thank Josephine for coaching the U9/U10 team and always being there to help out...I do

appreciate that very much."

Foley said Josephine, who is a high school student, "did a great job at a coaching level" and that she received many compliments from the team's parents.

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.

EQLT's Geocache Scavenger Hunt kicks off on April 19

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust's Geocache Scavenger Hunt will begin on April 19 and run through May 4.

Appropriate for both children and adults, EQLT's Geocache Scavenger Hunt pairs an outdoor scavenger hunt with a word game. Registration is open through May 2, and participants may register as individuals, a family or a group.

"Our annual Geocache Scavenger Hunt is a popular, family-friendly activity and a fantastic way to get outdoors to enjoy the first signs of spring at our preserves," said Cynthia Henshaw, Executive Director of the East Quabbin Land Trust. "As a land trust, we are always encouraging people to get outside to enjoy nature, and the Geocache Scavenger Hunt is a fun way to do it."

The Geocache Scavenger

Hunt involves a self-paced search for geocaches, or boxes, hidden at various EQLT preserves using GPS technology typically found on a smartphone. Each registrant may collect one item at each geocache.

Players then bring their items to the Reveal Party, which will be held at EQLT's office, 120 Ridge Road, on Sunday, May 4 at 2 p.m. Scavenger Hunt participants will have the chance to meet and play a game against other participants at the Reveal Party using the items they collected during the Geocache Scavenger Hunt.

To learn more about it and to sign up, go to EQLT's website at eqlt.org/geocache-scavenger-hunt/. Cost is \$20 per entry, with a reduced entry fee for children and youths under 15. Email Henshaw at chenshaw@eqlt.org for reduced-fee registration.

please recycle this newspaper

School Committee OKs level-service budget

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
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WARE – Andy Paquette of TMS, Inc. said they are working to close out the current fiscal year and reviewing all open purchase orders and payroll encumbrances, and looking ahead to fiscal year 2026.

"We are looking pretty favorably as far as what our plans were for this year and what it is we're anticipating using for FY 26," he said at the School Committee's April 16 meeting.

The School Committee opened a public hearing to discuss the proposed FY 26 school district budget, highlighting major changes and additions.

Paquette said he worked with the administration to build a needs-based budget and met with the budget subcommittee, as well as the Town Manager and Finance Committee.

"When we were looking at what that dollar amount was, we then start to balance those needs with the funding capability of the town," he said. "It was determined that as much as we would want to provide for the needs that were presented, we are going with a level-service budget."

Paquette said a level-service budget includes known contractual and cost increases.

School Committee member Melissa Whitham asked if the budgeted salary amount included all filled staffing positions as well as vacant positions that need to be filled.

Paquette said whenever there is a vacancy, they keep that salary on the budget at the level it was when the staff member left. He said it is possible that the salary will be higher when a vacancy is filled, and they will have to come up with that funding difference elsewhere in the budget.

When filling vacancies,

Paquette said Ware Public Schools will seek the best candidate and will not place restrictions on hiring.

"We go for the best candidate regardless of salary and we'll find the money somewhere to hire that person," he said.

Paquette also explained that funding that was previously set aside for Center School and Clark Consulting and other uses, was allocated to update textbook and curriculum adoption.

He said in terms of utility costs, the school district is locked in its rate for electricity, and they have been analyzing the trends of that and the rising costs of maintenance supplies and materials.

Due to challenges in hiring substitutes, Superintendent Dr. Michael Lovato said there has been \$50,000 allocated in the budget for each school building.

Lovato said it has been challenging to hire temporary substitutes to work in the high school.

School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said the goal is still to hire permanent substitutes for each building. He also suggested offering positions with "mother's hours" to make a building substitute position more appealing to applicants.

Lovato said interviews have been held for building substitutes, but none of the applicants were interested in accepting a position.

Winslow said the lack of substitutes is not a problem that will be solved overnight, and he welcomed any ideas to help remedy it.

The public comment portion of the hearing, resident Kristin Bateman asked about behavioral therapists and the need for an additional school psychologist. Lovato said the school district employees one school psychologist and has a contract for additional services.

Whitham explained that the school psychologist conducts testing during initial and three-year evaluations for special education students. She said these tests are important and necessary to meet the students' needs.

Lovato said right now, the tests are getting done and they are continuing to make improvements.

He said at this time, he can't recommend hiring a second school psychologist due to the cost. He said a second psychologist with benefits would cost about \$100,000 and the cost to contract for additional services is about \$25,000.

Whitham suggested sharing a school psychologist with another school district, and splitting the cost.

Ware Teachers Association President Amber Boucher said during her tenure in the school district up until now, the school district had always had two school psychologists. She said they have been told that the school district will not hire a second one.

She raised concerns about the current school psychologist being overloaded with cases and evaluations not getting completed in time for IEP meetings.

"Why hasn't it been done? Because we do not have the staff," she said.

Hiring a second school psychologist is a "dire need" for the school district, she said.

Concerns were also raised about the need to bring back structured learning classrooms and behavior interventionists. Whitham spoke about the need for a tiered behavioral plan to address current behavioral issues.

The School Committee voted to approve the following line items for each school building. In the Jr./Sr. High School: Lead Principal salary in the

Please see **BUDGET**, page 15

PARAMOUNT PIZZA

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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.

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CANDIDATE’S STATEMENT

Cyran seeks election for Select Board, Planning Board

I am Elizabeth Cyran and I am running for Select Board and Planning Board in Hardwick.

I was born and raised in West Hardwick, went to Hardwick schools, and now live on Hardwick Pond with my husband Franklyn, of 38 years.

I am running for the office of Select Board and Planning board because I am passionate about Hardwick.

It is important our select board keep close watch on spending so our town is affordable for people such as myself while attracting new residents, and encourages more agriculture and small business. We don’t need special interests to ‘fix’ us, we have great ideas and a willingness to work to keep our town the special oasis it is.

I fought beside you against a racetrack and a dump. I am willing to lobby Beacon Hill to keep this part of the state pristine, and to get the bill passed to compensate us for protecting Quabbin.

I will make the board welcoming, and listen to you. No longer will our citizens input be discouraged. We will explain what we are doing in a timely manner, and if we can’t not do something, we will explain why.

I have a long term plan to help make Hardwick better. It involves rehabbing historic properties for community use, as well as senior housing, shops, overnight lodging, and removal of condemned buildings in Gilbertville. All in keeping with the town’s rural character and without bringing in bad actors.

On the Planning Board all zoning changes must fit the character of Hardwick specifically, not a “cut and paste” from another town or from the state’s regulations. I want to make sure uses fit the area they are proposed for, and, for specific operations, the board gets input from people already operating in that field in our town.

We need to make sure we are not opening the town up for future lawsuits, and/or bad actors to slip through a crack left open that allows for something we did not intend.

The Planning Board needs to be focused on making sure their special permits applications address whether granting any permit would adversely affect the quality of life of the neighborhood and town and not if it would bring revenue to the town. That is not the Planning Board’s duty.

I have a long history of service to qualify me for these positions. I grew up on a family farm, was in 4-H, including as a junior leader. I was a Special police officer in both Waltham and Boston, a private investigator, an auxiliary Hampshire County Sheriff, and member of the Central Mass Police Association.

I was a member of Ware Community Development. In Hardwick I served on the Conservation Commission, Sewer Commission, and currently on the Historical Commission. I am a life member of the Hardwick Historical Society and a previous board member.

I have been self-employed my entire life, in real estate, photography and a limousine service. My husband and I still do estate sales and buy and sell antiques. You may enjoy the organic blueberries I sell at the Farmer’s Market every summer on the common.

Many also know me for our American Paint horses and our love of German Shepherd dogs.

I feel I will do a great job of Hardwick because I care and I am invested in this town. I am asking for your vote on May 3 for Select Board and Planning Board in Hardwick.

Elizabeth Cyran
Hardwick

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Resident shares views on Selectboard resignation

Dear Editor,

Often the current chair, has to recuse herself from voting. If someone else is absent for whatever reason...we will not have a quorum to vote. Mr. Smith did our town a big “dis-service” by not resigning in advance of the town election.

The BOS now needs to do what is right...and call for a special election.

Citizens should not have to take up a petition...to force the Selectmen to do the right thing. Get this going soon, so people who are interested, can get their papers filed, and we can continue to move forward.

The BOS have a lot of work to be done for this town, and we need all five members ready to do the work.

Sincerely,

Catherine Cascio
Ware

I want to share my utter disappointment in our now re-signed BOS member, Terry Smith.

From the beginning of his term there has been controversy. His physically living “out of town” and not being fully transparent to the Ware voters, marred his whole year as a member of the BOS.

Mr. Smith also waited till after the Special Meeting on the Mary Lane Hospital sight zoning change, where he spoke out “against” the change as a BOS member. Just three days later, he filed his resignation letter.

The timing of this, three days before the town election, has now caused the town even more issues. The BOS (Board of Selectmen) is slated to have a five member board for a reason.

Deer demolishing your bulbs? Mine too. Read on.

I am so sad! One of my prime gardens, a very cool multi planting of spring bulbs is showing signs of munching!

I am pretty sure deer are the culprit. What should I do?

Wipe my tears and look back in the archives to refresh my memory and maybe enlighten my readers in the various ways to send the deer on to greener pastures.

obstacles in search of a good dinner.



Deterrents and repellents

These tactics work on the principle that if it’s new, it spells trouble, and trouble spells predator. To be successful at this type of deer warfare, use several different options, rotate them throughout the season and change them before they “become part of the scenery.”

Scented soap repels deer because they hate its smell. Drill a hole in the bar of deodorant soap and hang it with some twine at deer height (three to six feet off the ground) on the tree or shrub in jeopardy.

Human or dog hair will likewise repel deer and is usually free for the sweeping at the beauty parlor or dog groomer. Scented dryer sheets have also been known to keep Bambi at bay, although they must be replaced after each heavy rain.

For the best measure of control, hang the sheets, bars of soap or sachets of hair three feet apart.

Commercial preparations such as Deer Off and Deer Away rely on sulfur compounds to repel deer and other garden critters. To make a homemade version of

these products blend an egg, a cup of water and a couple of garlic cloves in the blender.

After a week or more of fermenting the noxious liquid can be sprinkled over susceptible plants. Don’t worry; within a short time the smell will be undetectable to you, but pungent as ever to our four legged browsers.

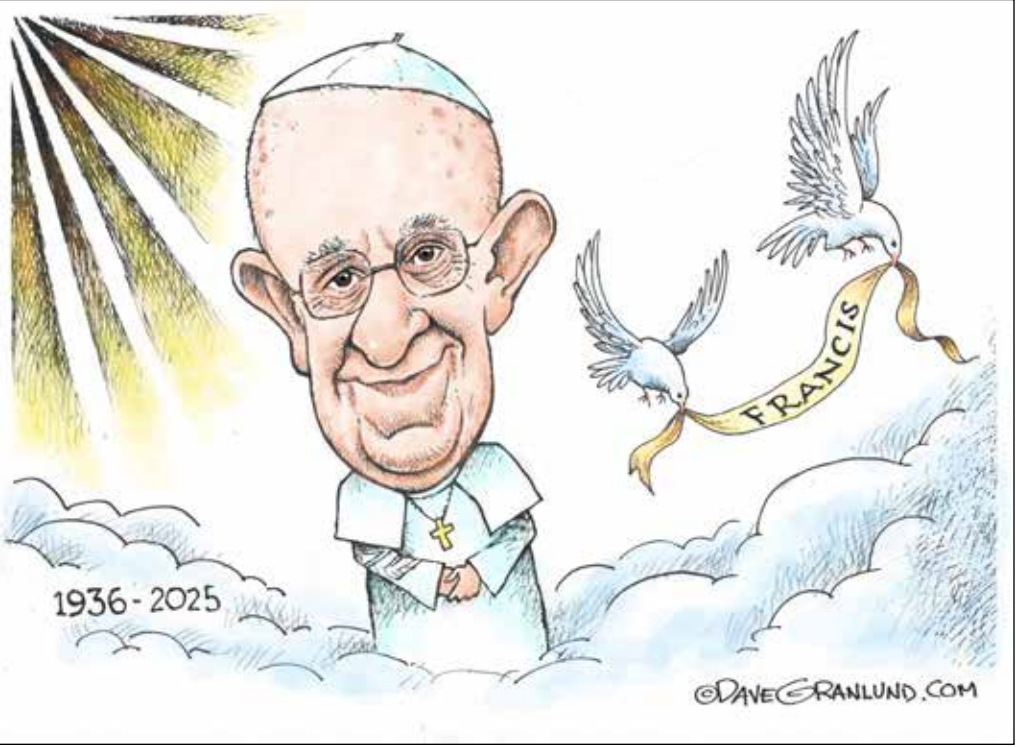
Scarecrows work only minimally well to scare off deer, and to be the most effective, they must take the animal off guard. Assemble your scarecrow with as many moving parts as possible and position it in a different spot of the yard every couple of nights.

Hinged appendages, clothing that flaps in the breeze, eyes that bobble may just send Bambi into flight. One year I filled my scarecrow’s pockets with deodorant soap for a double whammy!

Deerscape your yard

Instead of planting your gardens full of tulips or muscari, like I did, choose daffodils, snowdrops, fritillaria and alliums instead. Good luck!

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.



Purple Martin

The Purple Martin Conservation Association reported in a press release the sighting of the first purple martin in Massachusetts on April 4 in Rehoboth.

The sighting was by a purple martin enthusiast, one of many individuals, who track and report on the birds’ annual migration.

“The first purple martin arrivals of the season are always an exciting event,”

said Joe Siegrist, President of the Purple Martin Conservation Association. “Tracking the migration is not only fun, it also provides us with valuable information that helps inform our research and strengthen our efforts to make sure we’re doing everything possible to sustain the population of these amazing birds.”

The Purple Martin is North America’s largest species of swallow. It winters in the rainforests of Brazil before making up to a 7000-mile migration north into the eastern United States and Canada.

The Purple Martin Conservation Association said, “The annual migration is a testament to the martins’ resilience as well as the unwavering dedication of thousands of ‘martin landlords,’ who maintain multi-compartment nest ‘condos’ that are essential for the birds’ survival. Once wide-

spread in rural America, this species, that eats billions of flying insects annually, has been disappearing at an alarming rate, experiencing a loss of one-third of its population over the last 50 years.

“The decline seems to be the combination of a few factors: nesting habitat loss, competing invasive species, decreasing prey availability, and climate change,” said Siegrist. “Over the majority of the purple martins’ range, they are unable to nest naturally any longer. Human-provided nest boxes are the only thing keeping the species alive east of the Rocky Mountains.”

The purple martin, the largest swallow in North America, is between 7.5 and 7.9 inches long. The adult males are iridescent, dark blue-purple overall with brown-black wings and tail. Both the females and immatures are duller with variable amounts of gray on the head and chest with a whitish lower belly.

These birds are colonial with dozens of martins nest-

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 5

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

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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



Selectboard temporarily reduces quorum for upcoming ATM

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – The Selectboard voted to temporarily reduce the quorum of the annual town meeting to be held on Monday, May 12.

At the April 15 meeting, Vice-Chair Josh Kusnierz said the Charter Review Committee has discussed proposing a reduced quorum from 100 to 80. He said the town has tried holding town meetings on different dates and times, but it has not helped to reach the current quorum consistently.

Moderator Kathleen Coulombe said the town has had to reschedule both special and annual town meet-

ings several times due to lack of quorum. She said a reduced or eliminated quorum has shown a “boom” in attendance at town meetings in other communities.

“I think any kind of reduction would be helpful,” she said.

The Selectboard voted to temporarily reduce the annual town meeting quorum to 80.

Pine Street concerns

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the board received a request to review the establishment of a two-hour parking area along a stretch of Pine Street, extending from East Street to around Cherry Street Extension. He said an issue was raised about a curb cut

and how it would impact available parking for both residents and members of the Weir River Social Club.

He said there are still three parking spaces possible in that section, even though they are not marked. Parking is only allowed on one side of Pine Street in this area.

Beckley said a recommendation is needed from the Public Safety Officer to create a time limited parking area.

The Selectboard members will continue discussion at the next regular meeting on May 6.

Town Manager’s report

He said a special Selectboard meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29

at 6:30 p.m. to meet with the Finance Committee and Moderator to review the annual town meeting warrant.

Beckley said the Parks Commission has selected a restroom design that will fit within the available grant funding. He said they will use additional funding through the American Rescue Plan Act to connect the restrooms to the town’s sewer and water systems.

He said the town is approaching the closing date on the purchase of the Pelski property adjacent to Grenville Park. This parcel will be used as conservation and recreation land and the East Quabbin Land Trust has applied for a grant to contin-

ue the rail trail from Church Street into the park.

Beckley said the town received bids for the water tank project, which came in approximately \$1.5 million less than anticipated. He said bids were also received for the fixing of fire hydrants.

Beckley announced that Department of Public Works Director Dennis Morton has submitted his resignation after accepting a position in another town.

Resignation

Selectboard Chair Nancy Talbot read a letter of resignation submitted by board member Terrance Smith, who has changed his official voter registration. Smith resigned from

the Selectboard, Hospital Review Committee and Capital Planning Committee.

Smith stated in his letter that he is proud to have served the town as an elected and appointed official. He thanked the community for the opportunity to serve.

Talbot said the town will need to hold a special election to fill the vacancy on the Selectboard. She said town counsel said that the vacancy can only be filled by voters at an election, and not by appointment.

Appointment

Valerie Granger was appointed to serve on the town’s 250th Celebration Committee.

Grange hosts first gardening workshop on April 28

WARE – Ware Grange’s first gardening workshop of the year, “Peas, Peppers, Potatoes and Pumpkins,” will be held on Monday, April 28 at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

The presenter will be Roberta McQuaid, author of the weekly “In the

Garden” column for Turley Publications.

It’s almost time to sow peas, and there are things you can do to prepare for the other “P” vegetables, too, from heating up your soil in anticipation of pepper planting, to green sprouting your potatoes, and starting pumpkin

seedlings indoors to thwart bugs and get earlier yields. Learn how to store or process these vegetables so that you can save money on your grocery bill even after the gardening season has passed.

Visit Ware Grange on Facebook or at waregrange.org for more information.

Suicide awareness walk returns to Grenville Park on May 3

WARE – During Mental Health Awareness Month, community members and students from Ware Public Schools, will gather at Grenville Park for the second annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

The 5K walk will be held at Grenville Park, 73 Church

St., on Saturday, May 3, with check-in starting at 9 a.m. and the walk at 10 a.m. People can register at afs.org/ware.

This event was established last year by School Resource Officer Jeannine Bonnayer and Ware Public Schools Food Service Manager Kristen Murphy, to help to bring awareness to and start a conversation

about suicide. In March of 2023, Murphy’s son Ethan Donnelly died by suicide at the age of 24.

Murphy died in February of this year, after a brief but fierce battle with a rare and aggressive cancer. This walk fundraiser was a cause very close to her heart, and a way she could honor her son’s memory.

BACKYARD from page 4

ing in the same spot in open areas especially near water. They return to the same nesting spot. In the east, they nest almost exclusively in nest boxes and martin houses. In the west, they nest in natural cavities.

Martins fly rapidly and feed on large, aerial insects such as dragonflies. They often feed higher in the air than other swallows. The female lays three to six white eggs. She lays one to two broods per year.

Sandhill cranes

A neighbor, who lives about a mile as the crow flies from my hayfield, emailed he had a pair in the back of his cornfield on April 5. He said, “I only saw them cuz they were quite talkative. They just flew from my field again, both times in your direction. Now that I know what they sound like, I have heard them quite a bit this spring. They seem to talk whenever they fly.”

We both hope they will nest in the area. My daughter saw the pair of sandhill cranes in my hayfield on April 10.

Worthington birds

A Worthington birder reported flocks of goldfinches and redwing blackbirds mixed with a few grackles.

He said in his email, “Fun seeing the golds golding up and hearing the blackbirds, cheerfully chattering in the trees is welcome as spring up here.”

Brimfield birds

In late March, a Brimfield resident sent an email. He said, “Chilly morning, it was quite cool when I put out the feeders this morning. We have the wood stove going now. In the yard yesterday was a first of the year sighting, twp song sparrows.” Four female turkeys showed up late in the day.

He frequently visits local ponds in search of birds especially water fowl.

He said, “In Warren there were nine ring-necked ducks on one of the ponds. I got some pictures last week of ring-necked ducks in excellent light and you could actually see the brown ring at the base of the neck on several birds, something I seldom see. A few great blue herons at the pond on South Street and saw a second osprey at the pond for the first time this year.”

Bald eagle

On Tuesday, April 15 I saw a mature, bald eagle

support community journalism

Celebrity Bartender & Wait Staff Night!!!

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

at HANNA’S ON MAIN

5:15 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

All Tips will be going toward the Ware Fireworks Spectacular on August 8th!!!!

Help make this year’s show even bigger!!!
Limited menu.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Come and enjoy a night of **KARAOKE**



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette
Firefighters assessed a mock crash victim inside the car.



Lieutenant David Gambino offered support to Firefighter/EMT Matt Gambino as a mock crash victim is removed from a vehicle.



Lieutenant David Gambino listened to the radio.



Firefighters worked to remove the roof of the car.



Firefighters secured one of the mock crash actors after removing him from the vehicle.



Sergeant Scott Lawrence conducted field sobriety tests with one of the teen drivers involved in the mock crash.



Firefighter/EMT Dakota Harper communicated over the radio during the mock crash event.



Student actors are led away from the mock crash site by Firefighter/EMT Dakota Harper.



Lieutenant Jason McNeaney used an axe to break the roof of the car.



Firefighter/EMT Daniel O'Brien brought a wooden block over to the mock crash site.

MOCK CRASH

CRASH from page 1
drunk drivers.
Car crashes are the leading cause of death in teens, with almost one-third of drivers between the ages of 15-20 years old killed in these accidents having consumed alcohol.

Rebecca Edwards, Drug Free Communities Program Director for the Town of Ware and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance said there is never a bad time to talk to your child about impaired driving.

“Ultimately, it is helpful for caregivers to have age appropriate conversations about substance use and impaired driving throughout their child’s life,” she said. “Before big celebrations like prom, graduation, birthdays etc. it’s a good time to remind a young person that they can always call if they need a safe ride home. Making a plan for a safe ride in advance can help with in-the-moment decision making for young people who are feeling stuck and pressured to make a hard choice.”

Edward said there are a few things that caregivers can do to help keep their teens safe. First, caregivers can set a positive example by not driving under the influence, and not driving while distracted. They can make a point to talk to their children and teens about these things as well, pointing out why they are focusing on driving with a clear mind.

Caregivers can also set clear rules and expectations around driving and substance use.

“Research says that these clear messages help teens make healthier choices,” Edwards said.

Also, caregivers can prioritize safety above all else by offering to be a safe and non-judgmental ride home if needed.

“If caregivers aren’t in a situation where they can offer a safe ride, they can work with their young person to develop a safety plan for who to contact if a ride is needed,” she said. “For example, maybe it’s a close family friend or a relative. Safety planning in advance helps people make healthier choices in the moment.”

Prior to the mock crash event, the QHSUA sent a letter home to caregivers, offering ways to prevent impaired driving.

Talk to your young person often about your expectations around substance use. Set clear rules.

If you are able, promise your young person a judgment-free ride if they end up in a scary situation. Make sure



Deputy Fire Chief Jeremy Boulrice surveyed the scene.

they know you are there to call if they need you. If you cannot provide a ride, brainstorm with your teenager what the plan should be if they need to call someone to help them get home safely. Perhaps there is a trusted friend or relative you could make an agreement with in advance.

Remind young people that even if they plan to use substances at some point in their lives, the longer they delay that use, the better it is for their bodies and brains. Brains are fully developed around the age of 25, and until then, brains need to be treated with care. Because of how the brain grows and develops, the earlier someone uses substances, the higher a chance they will develop a dependent relationship with that substance at some point in their life.

Model how to have a healthy relationship to alcohol as an adult.

Stay up to date on the science. A lot of new information has been coming out about links between alcohol and cancer, as well as other potential harms. This really changes some ideas people have held for a long time. For example, the idea that a glass of wine a day is healthy for the heart is a myth, not a fact. What we are learning is always changing, so staying up to date will serve you well.

Remind your young person that sometimes people make worse decisions or can be taken advantage of when they are under the influence of alcohol. Help your teenager think about how they might be an active bystander and watch out for their friends.

The Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance also recommended the following resources: <https://qhsua.org/parent-prevention/>, <https://www.samhsa.gov/substance-use/prevention/talk-they-hear-you>, <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLF9AJIsIzU3XVO5a8-MS7KPzi18yagY29T> and <https://www.collaborative.org/youth-and-families/healthy-families-community/spiffy/parents-and-caregivers/>.



Lieutenant Laura Fandrey and Firefighter/EMT Joseph Tuminello responded to the scene as EMTs.



Officer Jeannine Bonnayer directed traffic as firetrucks and ambulances arrived on the scene.



Firefighters transported one of the mock crash victims to the ambulance.



UMass LifeFlight landed in the Army National Guard Recruiting Office parking lot.



The LifeFlight crew responded to transport a victim in the mock crash.

Planning Board hears from Deep Roots Distillery

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Planning Board had an informal discussion with the owners of Deep Roots Distillery regarding a potential business location in town.

Deep Roots Distillery USA is currently located at 559 Main St. in Sturbridge and the three owners are interested in the property of 1212 Southbridge Road in Warren to possibly open and move to a new location. The three owners, Keith, Errica, and Tom, want a new location with more land to offer a building to have more production, a tasting room and a

restaurant.

One of the owners, Keith, asked the Planning Board is the town is open to letting them explore the property and would be interested in having a business like theirs. The owners of Deep Roots Distillery USA have the goal of wanting to host more family-friendly events such as harvest festivals and they're seeking a bigger space than the one they're in now in Sturbridge.

"More of an open area," explained by co-owner Errica.

The Planning Board were satisfied with the information they heard from the owners and wanted to know if the area was zoned for

business. Planning Board Chair Richard Eichacker said it is and it works in their favor because Deep Roots Distillery will be offering food.

The land on Southbridge Road is 26 acres and the owners want a space where they can grow their own products, since their current business has locally sourced ingredients, including food and alcohol. The board pulled up the map on their main screen and looked at the setup to see how this business could impact traffic and the neighbors.

When asked about their plans for a facility, the owners said they want their building to look like a farm

atmosphere. One of the owners, Tom, has experience in carpentry and did the work on the current Deep Roots Distillery location.

When addressing the traffic, the owners want to offer more than one entrance and exit and possibly access off the neighboring street, Forest Avenue. The Planning Board informed the owners to approach the neighbors and let them know about their plans for the property.

For hosting events, the Deep Roots Distillery owners intend to focus more on smaller events and want to keep reasonable business hours, no late hours.

Board member David Dufresne said, "The town

welcomes new business" and feels Deep Roots Distillery is on to something positive for the future of the town.

The owners shared their timeline of anywhere from one and a half to two years to get the whole project done. The company's lease at their Sturbridge location off Route 20 is up in two years and they're seeking a new location.

Planning Board member Derick Veliz shared his input on the potential new business idea and feels this is a good business for the town of Warren to have.

"Being a former architect

Please see **WARREN**, page 15

Warren candidate's night is April 30

WARREN – A candidate's night for the annual town election will be held in the auditorium of Quaboag Regional Middle High School on Wednesday, April 30 from 6:30-8 p.m.

All candidates running for the available positions in the May 6 annual town election will have a chance to make a statement and answer questions. Audience members will be able to direct questions to a particular candidate through the moderator of the event.

This event is hosted by Quaboag Regional and Joe Salvadore's Honors civics class.

READING from page 1

of their community.

"Its good to have that community connection," Beaudry said. "Kids get to know their community members."

The readers would make their way into the school and meet at the school library for a light breakfast. There was coffee, donuts, and muffins all donated by the Dunkin' in Warren. The readers were also gifted these beautiful key chains that were designed by WCES Office Secretary Amanda McDermott.

There were many readers who participated in community reading before and some were participating for the very first time. Quaboag Superintendent Stephen Duff loves reading to the students and was returning for this year's Community Reading Day. Duff was reading "The Bad Seed" to first graders.

Angela Menard of the School Committee was a first-time community reader and would read a story to Ms. Kenyon's first grade class. With Easter Sunday approaching, Menard read "The Easter Egg".

Dr. Kirsten Esposito is the Director of Student Support Services for the Quaboag Regional School District and was returning for her second consecutive year for community reading. Esposito read "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" to Ms. Cygan's fourth grade class.

Prior to reading to the students, each community member would talk about their careers and the specific roles of their jobs. Warren Fire

Chief Adam Lavoie returned for his 13th time participating in Community Reading Day and read to Mrs. Morin's second grade class.

Before reading, many students asked Lavoie questions about his role as the Fire Chief and talked about fire safety. Lavoie read the book "Have you Filled a Bucket Today".

First time community readers Monica Begin and Ashley Rivet of Country Bank arrived at WCES and were excited to be reading to Ms. Gaudreau's kindergarten class. Begin was reading "The Magician's Hat" and Rivet was reading "It's Okay to Be Different".

WCES Principal Eugene Rich welcomed the community readers and mentioned how excited the students are for Community Reading Day.

"The kids look up to you as role models, celebrities," Rich said. "Makes these experiences special."

Community Reading Day is all about developing a love for reading and the school greatly appreciates the community members' time for reading to the students. Duff briefly spoke and said this is one of his favorite days of the year.

"Today is really about the kids and meeting their community members," Duff said.

Warren Town Administrator James Ferrera participated in community reading and was reading to Mrs. McKusick's third grade class. Before reading, Ferrera talked about his role as the Town Administrator and McKusick's class came pre-



Warren Community Elementary School hosted its annual Community Reading Day. All the community members/readers are shown together inside the WCES library.

pared with a poster board of questions to ask Ferrera. One of the questions was about being a good citizen and Ferrera shared some ideas to the students about how to be a good citizen.

There were some books that were connected to what some of the WCES students were learning in class. President and CEO of North Brookfield Savings Bank, Kaz Borawski read the book "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" to Ms. Rainaud's fourth grade class. Rainaud's students would then work on building their own windmills as a project.

It is truly an amazing learning experience for the students of Warren Community Elementary School and the community readers enjoyed their time reading.



Leona Wrobel read "Touching Spirit Bear" in Ms. Shuemaker's sixth grade class.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Students of Mrs. McKusick's third grade class welcomed Warren Town Administrator James Ferrera, who read to the class.



Dr. Esposito is read to Mrs. Cygan's fourth grade class.



Warren Fire Chief Adam Lavoie took questions in Mrs. Morin's second grade class.



Warren Chief of Police Garald Millette and Warren Town Treasurer Dawn Swistak welcomed by kindergarten students of Karen Bys.



Town Administrator James Ferrera in Mrs. McKusick's third grade class talked about his role and how to be a good citizen.



Monica Begin, left, and Ashley Rivet of Country Bank read stories to Ms. Gaudreau's kindergarten class.



Quaboag Superintendent Stephen Duff got into character while reading "The Bad Seed".

'Trees are Treasures' celebration will be held May 18

STURBRIDGE – Grassroots Central Mass will continue its tradition of celebrating nature with its fourth “Trees Are Treasures” tree giveaway and nature events on Sunday, May 18 at Wells State Park in Sturbridge from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

GCM, a local affiliate of Indivisible Mass Coalition is again co-sponsoring this year's events with Brookfields Fight Fear. Both GCM and BFF are local groups dedicated to serving the communities we live in through finding and supporting solutions to issues in our communities, our state, and our nation.

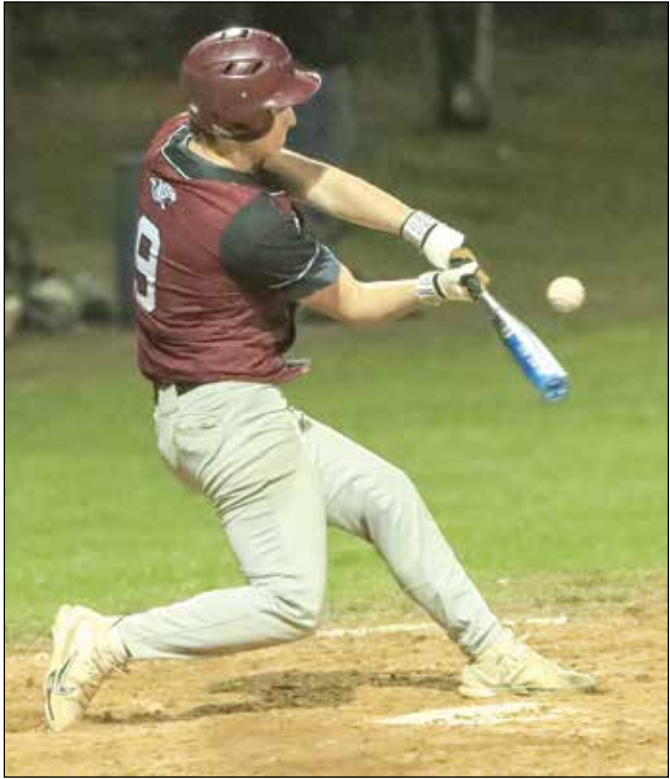
This event includes a short, level walk along the Mill Pond Trail at Wells State Park, where costumed interpreters are stationed to discuss the importance of wetlands, stone wall history and forest ecosystems, at both child and adult levels. This is a family friendly stroll.

This free event will also include children's crafts under the pavilion, storytelling, and a free tree seedling giveaway. Join GCM to celebrate and appreciate the beauty of our native forest.

For more information about this event, please contact Nancy Tame, by emailing info@grassrootscentralmass.org or calling 508-335-8742. For more information about GCM, please visit <https://grassrootscentralmass.org/>

SPORTS

Ware wins big over rival Quaboag

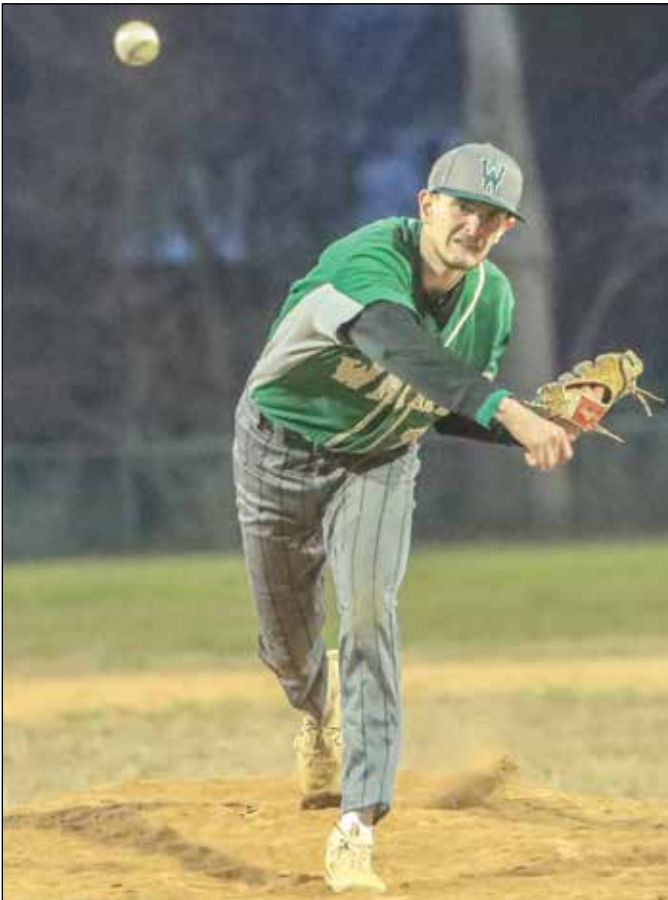


Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com
Liam McGrath send a shot to center.

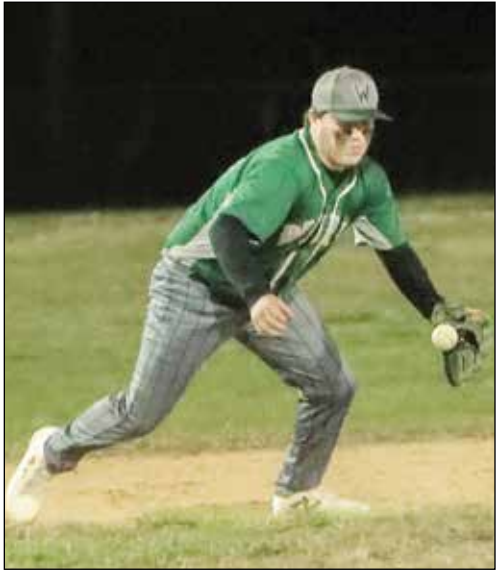
By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—A year ago, the Ware varsity baseball team defeated Quaboag, 4-2, at Polar Park in Worcester. Brady Guimond was the winning pitcher in that game. The junior righthander made another start against the Cougars, who are coached by his father, Brian, at historic Memorial Field in Ware, last Thursday night. The younger Guimond will have the bragging rights in his family for another year, as the Indians posted a 10-0 shutout victory. The non-league contest came to an end with no outs in the bottom of the fifth inning due to the 10-run mercy rule. “It’s always very special beating my father’s team,” Brady Guimond said. “We’ve now beaten them three years in a row and it’s something I

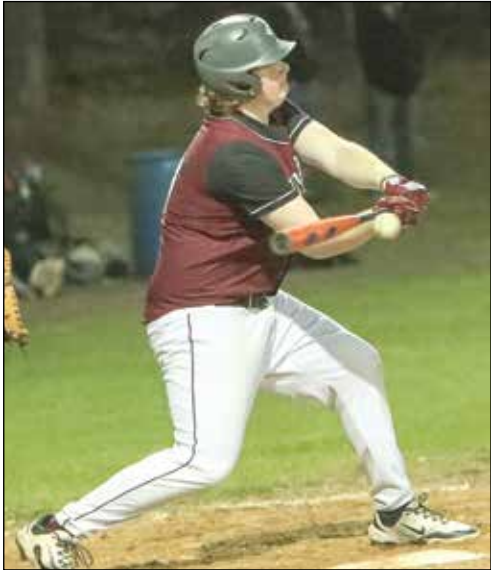
can brag to him about.” Two years ago, the Indians posted an 8-3 home victory against the Cougars. Brady Guimond started that game at shortstop. Guimond allowed no runs on two singles in last Thursday’s contest. He only issued one walk and had five strikeouts. “Brady is always going to throw strikes,” said Ware head coach Scott Slattery. “He threw 63 pitches in five innings. He also pitched a great game at South Hadley last week.” Brady Guimond is one of the Indians starting pitchers, along with senior Nate Kaczuwka, junior Jack Gaudreau, and senior Trevor Millet. The home victory over the Cougars improved the Indians overall record to a perfect 6-0. Please see **WARE**, page 12



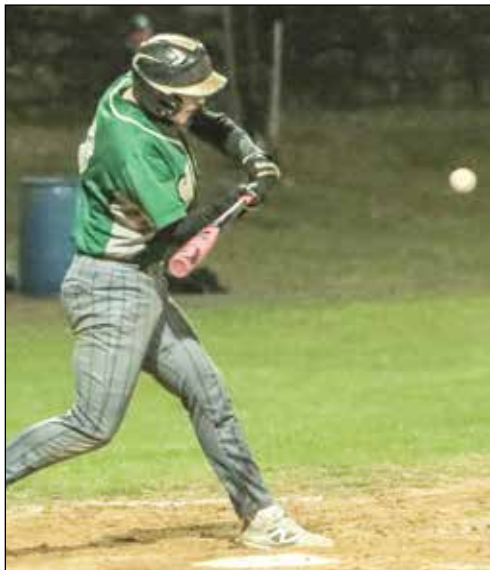
Brady Guimond was in great command.



The Indians won big over Quaboag last Thursday night.



Logan Corder squares up a base hit.



Jack Gaudreau drives this shot to left center.

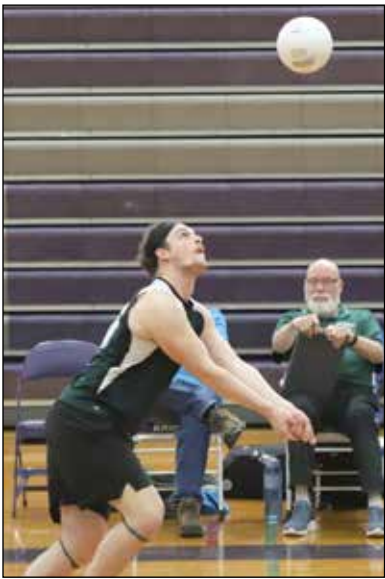


Zachary Deremian fields a grounder to short.

Ware boys volleyball picks up first win

HOLYOKE – After a very tough start to the regular season, Ware High School boys volleyball picked up its first win of the season over host Holyoke last Thursday

afternoon. The Indians scored a 3-1 win in the matchup to improve to 1-6 on the regular season. Ware boys volleyball is back in action on Friday, April 25 at Granby.



Nathan Harmon goes back to send a backwards bump over the net.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Sean Bernier attempts a spike.



Jonathan Adkins makes the serve.



Sean Bernier and Ryder Cahalan both attempt a block.



Dalton Marquis sizes up a hit from the back line.



Brayden Compton gets a bump from the back line.

Panthers even record, then are rained out

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Following a loss at Clinton High School on April 11, the Quabbin varsity softball team had a 1-3 overall record. A week later, the Lady Panthers had a 3-3 overall record. Quabbin began last week’s action with a 9-5 non-league comeback home win versus Grafton on April 16. They took a 4-3 lead against Grafton following an RBI single by sophomore Kailynn Schuster in the bottom of the fourth inning. Two days later, the Lady Panthers posted a 3-1 victory at Mid-Wach C rival Littleton, who had won the previous eight games in the series. Quabbin also held a 1-0 lead in another home league game against league rival Lunenburg. That game was suspended in the bottom of the second inning due to a thunderstorm. “This group of young women have been a tremendous inspiration to me,” said Quabbin varsity softball coach Chris Nosek. “They’re incredibly hard working and are totally team driven. They support each other and do all the things that a coach could hope for. I just want them to continue to do things the right way in every game that we play.” The weather has been a major factor so far this

spring. “Softball is a very difficult sport to play when the weather is cold,” Nosek said. “You don’t have as good of a grip on the ball, so it’s harder to throw. The ball doesn’t travel as far off the bat. It’s not a game meant to be played in cold temperatures.” Quabbin is a member of the Mid-Wach C league, along with Lunenburg, Oakmont, Clinton, Tyngsborough, and Littleton. They’re 1-1 in league play. “Our league is extremely difficult this year,” Nosek added. “All of the other Mid-Wach C teams qualified for the state tournament last year. We need to play our best in every game.” A year ago, the Lady Panthers won four games, but they did qualify for the Division 4 state tournament in 2022 and 2023. The Lady Panthers co-captains this spring are senior shortstop Jordan Blanchard and sophomore left fielder Abby Rogowski, who has been a member of the varsity team since she was in the seventh grade. “Our two captains have been tremendous so far this season,” Nosek said. “They’ve provided outstanding leadership on and off the field.” Rogowski is also one of the Lady Panthers starting

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 13

PANTHERS from page 11

pitchers, along with eighth grader Juliana Guilderson.

“We’re trying not to use the same pitcher, especially when you’re playing two or three games in a week,” Nosek said. “Abby has never been a pitcher before, but she stepped up to take that role for us this year. She’s a very experienced softball player.”

Rogowski and Guilderson are attempting to replace Mady Breault, who made her first varsity start for Quabbin in the Central Mass. Division 2 tournament as a freshman. Breault is currently a freshman pitcher on the Salem State softball team.

In her first varsity start at Quaboag, Rogowski struck out 15 batters leading the Lady Panthers to a 9-4 season opening victory.

“This is going to be a three-year process for Abby,” Nosek said. “She’s learning a new position, and we know that they’ll be some bumps in the road. We want her to be a dominant pitcher by the time she’s a senior.”

Rogowski, who’s also a standout field hockey and basketball player, was also the winning pitcher against both Grafton and Littleton.

She gave up eight hits and five runs (one earned) over seven innings, striking out four and walking two in the Grafton game. Against Littleton, Rogowski allowed two hits and one run (zero earned) over seven innings, striking out four and walking two.

Because the middle and high school are in the same building, Guilderson was able to pitch in a couple of varsity games as a sixth grader. She was the starting pitcher in the Lunenburg game.

“Juliana’s two biggest strengths are her ability to throw strikes and nothing fazes her,” Nosek said. “She just focuses on the next pitch. She’s doing a tremendous job, especially only being an eighth grader.”

Blanchard, who joined the varsity team as an eighth grader, has been the starting shortstop in every game so far this season.

“Jordan has a ROTC background,” Nosek said. “She’ll be going into the armed services after she graduates, which is going to be a great career for her. She’s only a softball player and we’re very lucky to have her on our team.”

The only other Lady Panthers senior is Lianna Leger, who starts at third base.

The two juniors listed on the varsity softball roster are Carly Beaton and Kelsey Allen, who had three hits in the Grafton game.

Rounding the varsity softball squad are sophomore Isabel Doty, sophomore Anna Hautala, sophomore Jennavive Roseberry, freshman Ellie Poulin, eighth grader Lindsay Fors, and seventh grader Raegyn Wnek.

Beaton and Roseberry transferred to Quabbin Regional before the start of the school year

Lindsay Rogowski is an assistant coach, and Ken Nosek is a volunteer assistant coach.

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Commercial Elks League reached their final league night of the regular season and the final week of round three.

As of April 8, leading in round three is Compression with a record of 22-14. Gutter Mouths (19-17) and Last in Line (18.5-17.5) are mathematically still alive to win round three. Gutter Mouths have already qualified for the championship and Last in Line and Compression are seeking to win the last round.

Daft Kings, the winners of round two, bowled against the Mailmen in the

final week of the regular season. In game one, Daft Kings defeated Mailmen by a score of 391-385. Ken Trudel of Daft Kings bowled 110 and Dave Cobleigh bowled 102. Filling in for Mailmen, Aaron Halbedel bowled a 126 in a losing effort and his teammate Bryan Surprise began with a 112.

In game two, Daft Kings won again by a score of 362-335. The only 100 game bowled in game two was by Cobleigh with 101. Game three was won by Mailmen by a score of 372-355. Halbedel finished with 124 and a series of 345.

The final score was 1108-1092 in favor of Daft Kings, who will be competing in the championship roll off.

Compression bowled against Team BK in the final week. In game one, Compression defeated BK by a score of 344-339. In game two, Team BK won

by a score of 381-366. Jeff Whyte of Team BK bowled well with 109. Dave Bowman of Compression bowled well with 104.

In game three, Team BK won again by a score of 388-360. Whyte broke the century mark again with 104. With Last in Line not winning games in their match against Gutter Mouths and Compression with the first game victory, Compression wins the final round of the season.

The final score was 1108-1070 in favor of Team BK.

The three teams competing in the championship roll off will be Gutter Mouths, Daft Kings and Compression. The winning team of the 2024-2025 Commercial Elks League season will have their names place on the league trophy. Compression will be going for their fourth championship.

Have you experienced a housing need?

Share your story online or in person

We want to address housing needs in our region with storytelling! If you have a story to share about your current housing situation, challenges with finding housing, or being unhoused, we want to hear your story. Housing stories will be used to build awareness about the housing challenges in the region to bring further change. Stories will be collected through an online form or video interview. Photos or videos will be used with permission, or you may ask to remain anonymous.



Submit stories through an online form (scan QR code or go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/HQHousingStory>)

or a

recorded interview. You have the option of being anonymous for either format.



\$50 compensation for those who share online or \$100 for recorded interviews

For any questions, please contact Nisha Humayun at nhumayun@townofware.com or (413) 207-7698



public safety

Warren Police Log

During the week of April 5-12, the Warren Police Department responded to 135 building/property checks, 54 community policings, eight emergency 911 calls, one safety concern, two complaints, one property damage, one smoke investigation, one harassment, one motor vehicle accident, one larceny or theft, one animal call and 23 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Saturday, April 5
12:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Brimfield Road, Written Warning
6:19 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed
8:08 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Cottage Street, Transported to Hospital

Sunday, April 6
12:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:44 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
2:16 p.m. Safety Concern, Southbridge Road, Officer Spoke to Party

Monday, April 7
4:35 p.m. Property Damage, Southbridge Road, Report Filed

Wednesday, April 9
8:37 a.m. Welfare Check, Cronin Road, Officer Spoke to Party
11:02 a.m. Fumes/Odor/Gas Leak, Main Street,

Referred to Other Agency
1:33 p.m. Complaint, Reynolds Road, Officer Took Call
8:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning

Thursday, April 10
8:45 a.m. Serve Warrant, School Street, Removed to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Samantha M. Sampsel, 38, Warren Warrant
10:55 a.m. Falls, Mechanic Street, Public Assist
11:15 a.m. Smoke Investigation, Cottage Street, Officer Spoke to Party
12:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint
3:31 p.m. Radar Enforcement, Maple Street, Arrest(s) Made
7 p.m. Harassment, Cottage Street, Report Filed
9:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
10:10 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, Presidential Circle, Transported to Hospital

Friday, April 11
2:021 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, Palmer, Mutual Aid Assist
8:23 a.m. Serve Warrant, School Street, Remove to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Rafael Cruz Jr., 66, Warren Warrant
10:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Removed

Pine Street, Voice Message Left
10:52 a.m. Safety Hazard, Lower Road, Services Rendered
11:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
12:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
1:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
1:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
3:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Barre Road, Arrest(s) Made
3:42 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Hardwick Road, Dispatch Handled
7:50 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
8:04 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
9:46 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
11:06 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Accident, Greenwich Road, Officer Handled

Monday, April 14
5:28 p.m. Found/Lost Property, Chagnon Road, Officer Handled
5:58 p.m. Found/Lost Property, Main Street, Officer Handled

Tuesday, April 15
9:26 a.m. School Safety Drill, School House Drive, Services Rendered

Wednesday, April 16
11:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident, Lower Road, Services Rendered
11:46 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Collins Road, Spoken To
12:22 p.m. Scam, Main Street, Spoken To
3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
5:11 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
9:28 p.m. 911 Welfare Check, Hardwick Road, Services Rendered
9:33 p.m. 911 Misdial, Old Petersham Road, Services Rendered

Thursday, April 17
10:24 a.m. Assist Citizen,

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.

to Court/Lockup
Arrest: Dennzel Tavish-Lavell Davis, 32, Ware License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; RMV Document, Forge/Misuse; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation
12:57 p.m. Disturbance/Disorderly, Shamrock Drive, Report Filed
1:26 p.m. Welfare Check, Main Street, Officer/Chief Advised
3:43 p.m. Complaint, Coy Hill Road, Officer Took Call

Saturday, April 12
2:24 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision, Brook Road, Investigated
5:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Disabled, Bemis Road, Criminal Complaint
1:26 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

12:47 p.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Spoken To
1:01 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Spoken To
2:29 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Taylor Hill Road, Officer Handled
4 p.m. Fire/Mutual Aid, Out of Town, Services Rendered
6:03 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital

Saturday, April 19
1:02 a.m. 911 Fire/Auto, Main Street, Extinguished
7:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Criminal Complaint
9:57 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Services Rendered
10:12 a.m. Fire/Other, North Road, No Action Required
2:24 p.m. Fire/Other, Barre Road, Services Rendered
3:56 p.m. 911 Disturbance, River Run, Services Rendered
6:54 p.m. Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations, Joslyn Road, Negative Contact

Sunday, April 20
5:56 a.m. Assist Citizen, Hardwick Road, Officer Handled
7:19 a.m. Alarm, Ridge Road, Investigated
7:58 a.m. Safety Hazard, Creamery Road, Officer Handled

Monday, April 21
3:56 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Muddy Brook Road, Investigated

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this weekend

NORTHAMPTON – The Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, local police departments, the Hampshire Sheriff’s Office and the county-based TRIAD initiative are again teaming up to provide a chance for people to safely dispose of unwanted and unneeded drugs Saturday.
Ten Hampshire County communities and five in Franklin County are gearing up for this weekend’s 27th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Agency.
These twice-yearly events encourage residents to drop off prescription or over the counter drugs for humans or pets in a collective effort to save lives by preventing misuse or accidental ingestion. Proper disposal of unneeded prescription and non-prescription drugs also keeps them out of water sources and landfills, preventing harm to wild animals and the environment.
“The sad fact is that prescription drugs lingering in medicine cabinets can lead to tragic consequences that include substance use disorders and accidental ingestion by children and pets, so we appeal to everyone to remove them from homes,” said Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan. “It can’t get any easier than dropping them off this Saturday at one of 15 locations participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.”
Take Back collections are scheduled from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. this Saturday at police departments or public safety complexes in Deerfield, Easthampton, Erving, Hadley, Leverett, Montague, Pelham, Southampton, South Hadley, Sunderland and Williamsburg. Other drop-off sites are at Wildwood Elementary School, 71 Strong Ave., Amherst; the Town Common in Belchertown; Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School on Locust Street in Northampton; and the Fire Station at 51 Huntington Road in Worthington.

More than 76,400 pounds of drugs have been safely disposed of since 2011 during Take Back Days offered twice annually and through permanent drug collection boxes stationed at area police departments.

Open burning season now open through May 1

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.



EGG HUNT from page 1
Diane Banfield called all the kids ages 5-7 for the first egg hunt of the day.



The Easter Bunny relaxed and waited to take photos with kids participating in the Easter egg hunt.

possibly by the dedicated volunteers of Lucy Stone Park.
One of the volunteers of Lucy Stone Park who attended the annual Easter egg hunt is Tim O’Brien. Recently, the park had a new garden installed featuring native plants and pollinators that add beauty to the park.
O’Brien has been volunteering for Lucy Stone Park for 13 years and has witnessed many great events that have occurred in recent years.
The annual Easter egg hunt started four years ago and has grown in popularity and in participation.
“It has been very successful,” O’Brien said.
Last year’s egg hunt had over 80 kids participating across several age groups and O’Brien believes this year’s egg hunt will have the same number of kids. The event also featured photographs with the Easter Bunny, snacks, raffles, coffee, donuts and other refreshments.
Proceeds go to benefit Lucy Stone Park and will help support the native plants in the park’s pollinator garden.
O’Brien said the volunteers of Lucy Stone Park will be planning on hosting more events in the future. On June 21, the volunteers will be working with Warren Parks & Recreation to host an event featuring food trucks and will be helping with the fireworks at the high school. For more about

the events and the volunteers of Lucy Stone Park, visit the www.warren-ma.gov or visit Lucy Stone Park on their Facebook page.

Many children and their families started making their way to the park and brought their colorful Easter baskets. Some of the children dressed for the occasion, dressing as bunnies and wearing bunny ears.

Both sides of Lucy Stone Park were covered with Easter eggs and each side was for a different age group of kids. Making the announcements and leading the children to the egg covered grounds was Diane Banfield.

The kids were so excited they raced down to the grounds and picked up as many Easter eggs as they could. The next age group marched to the bigger field at Lucy Stone Park and were ready to hunt for some Easter eggs of their own. In record breaking time, the kids picked up all the Easter eggs and cleared the field.



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
The older kids were getting ready to cross over to the next field at Lucy Stone Park for their egg hunt.

Veterans eat lunch free at Ware Senior Center

WARE – Now through May 31, 2025, veterans of the U.S. armed services can enjoy a homemade lunch for free at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road.
This meals are provided by the generosity of former Ware Selectboard member John Morrin, the Ware

Veteran Fund and the Ware Veterans Carnival.
For veterans to take advantage of this offer they must call the Ware Senior Center 413-967-9645 by noon the business day before they wish to come for lunch and place their name on the list. Meals are served daily,

Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m.-noon.
Menus and more information are available on the Council on Aging page of townofware.com or by stopping by the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

DOWNTOWN STANDOUT DRAWS SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Residents from across the region joined together for a rally outside of Veterans Park this past Saturday afternoon, as part of the 50501 Movement. This event was organized with the help of Brookfields Fight Fear, as a response against the actions taken by the Trump Administration. These types of rallies have taken place in all 50 states since February.



Supporters of the Trump Administration were also present outside of Veterans Park.

AMVETS Post announces Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship

WARE – The Ware AMVETS Post 2577 will award the annual Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship to a graduating senior residing in Ware regardless of the school district they attend.

Michael was a devoted musician sharing his talents with the town of Ware. He represented the town at the Quabbin Music Festival, Western District Festival and was a member of the Ware Community Band.

A music graduate of Westfield State he continued to honor the veterans

of the town by playing Taps at their burial ceremony and also at all patriotic and Memorial events.

To apply for this award of \$1,000, you need only to send your application, school transcript and an essay stating your accomplishments and what your future plans are. Applications are available at your guidance office and must be submitted by May 1.

Please mail to: Ware AMVETS Post 2577, c/o Richard Rucki, 8 First Ave., Ware, MA 01082.

Town Clerks to hold voter registration day April 25

WARREN/WEST BROOKFIELD – The Town Clerks of Warren, Laura J. Stockley, and West Brookfield, Klarrisa Rose, announce that voter registration will be held in their offices on Friday, April 25 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for the annual town election which will be held on Tuesday, May 6.

WARREN

from page 8

and a program planner, this is the kind of business the town needs to get,” Veliz said. “Open the doors to this kind of business.”

The owners mentioned their sign in Sturbridge is small and they want better signage if they were to locate to Warren. The Planning Board mentioned that the town does not have a lot of requirements for signage but should be included in the site plan if the owners pursue the property in Warren and a special permit.

Public Hearing for 727 Brimfield Road, LLC

The Planning Board continued with the public hearing for 727 Brimfield Road, LLC. The applicant is requesting a special permit for earth removal and crushing operations at 727

Brimfield Road, in the rural district.

The owner of 727 Brimfield Road, LLC provided sectional information for better explanation of the site and is met with the standards in mitigating noise during operations. Noise is still a major concern for some of the neighbors near the site.

Some neighbors appeared during the public hearing and still addressed the concern of noise as well as dust control and the rock crusher machine as well. The applicant addressed the board and the neighbors that dust will be mitigated.

Reviewing the maps, some Planning Board members noticed the setup of the berm. The board asked the applicant if they could go up on the size of the berm as it should be leveled with the

house. In other words, above eye level of the house.

With trees being taken down several years ago, the neighbors feel without trees the noise just carries. The neighbors also don’t want to see the machine on site.

The applicant said the crusher is small compared to other rock crusher machines and will be operating during reasonable construction hours. No construction will take place on Sundays and holidays.

After explaining the process of the special permit the Planning Board voted to close the public hearing. Between now and their next meeting on April 28, the board will work on a list of conditions for the applicant to follow and will bring up the vote of the special permit at their next meeting.

BUDGET

from page 3

amount of \$123,600; and substitutes, \$50,000; Ware Middle School, guidance counselor, \$72,647 and substitutes, \$50,000; and Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School substitutes, \$50,000.

Transportation for FY 26 is \$2,250,000 with \$1,250,000 going toward special need transportation and the remainder for regular transportation.

The total proposed budget for FY 26 is \$18,250,000, or an increase of 4.18% or \$732,999 over last fiscal year.

Reorganization of committee

Lovato congratulat-

ed newly elected School Committee member Whitham for her election win, as well as Winslow, who was reelected to his position.

Winslow was nominated by School Committee member Michael DuBois to remain as chair of the committee, which passed unanimously. Current Vice-Chair Aaron Sawabi motioned to nominate DuBois as vice-chair, which also passed.

Winslow brought up a need to form a special education and technology subcommittee. The subcommittee would look at updating special education technology and meeting the needs of the school district’s special education students.

Sawabi motioned to dis-

cuss School Committee goals and roles, and presented its members with a draft of this. He invited the other members to review and discuss this proposal.

“I think in the past we may not have always been clear,” he said. “It’s more important than ever to kind of be on the same page.”

Winslow suggested making the discussion of these goals an agenda item at a future meeting. DuBois also brought up the need for the committee members to conduct a self-evaluation.

The committee voted against discussing the goals as presented by Sawabi, and tabled the discussion until the next meeting agenda.

Betty Oberg Bousquet, 91

WARE – Betty O. Bousquet, 91, passed away peacefully on Monday evening, April 14, 2025.

She was born on Aug. 18, 1933, in Ware, to the late Oke Oberg and Jenny (Dziok) Oberg. A nearly lifelong resident of Ware, she worked as a dispatcher for New England Telephone before becoming a homemaker and loving mother.

She was a long-time member of the congregation of the United Church of Ware.

A birder and serious photographer since the late 1950s, Betty’s specialty was nature and landscape photography. She and her husband Bob traveled extensively in the western United States photographing wildlife and scenic landscapes in many of our national parks and wildlife refuges; they regularly presented slide shows and exhibited prints featuring these travels.

In recent years, she was active in the Massachusetts Camera Naturalists, the Quabbin Photo Group, and the Friends of Quabbin. Previously, she was active with and a past officer of the Ware Camera Club and New England Camera Club Council. She earned three stars from the Photographic Society of America, a worldwide organization for serious amateur and professional photographers.

Betty was predeceased by her husband of nearly 52 years, E. Robert Bousquet and her siblings (all of Ware) -

Jack Oberg, Ellen Deslauriers, Janet Robbins, and Leland Oberg. She leaves her daughter and son-in-law, Robin and John Jensen of Wilbraham; her brother-in-law, Bernard Robbins of Brookfield; her sister-in-law Jeanne Corbett of Grass Valley, California, and numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

Calling hours for Betty were held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, from 4-6 p.m. in the Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St. in Ware. Her Funeral Service were held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 10 a.m. in the United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., in Ware. Everyone is asked to meet directly at the church and to please enter the church lot via Park Street.

Betty’s family extends their sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the caring staff at East Longmeadow Memory Care Assisted Living and Brookhaven Hospice for their compassionate care and support.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to East Longmeadow Memory Care Assisted Living, Attention: Resident Fund, 305C Maple St., East Longmeadow, MA 01028 or to Brookhaven Hospice, 5 Mt. Royal Ave, Suite 40, Marlborough, MA 01752 or to Friends of Quabbin, Inc., 485 Ware Road, Belchertown, MA 01007.

To leave a condolence online, an obituary tribute page is available at charbonneauafh.com.



Linda J. Rivers, 77

BOZEMAN, MT – Linda J. Rivers passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family on Sunday, April 13, 2025.

The daughter of Joseph and Julia Rolla, she was born on June 17, 1947, in Ware, where she lived until she moved out to Bozeman, Montana 10 years ago to be closer to her

family. Linda enjoyed bingo, talking with friends, but nothing more than just hanging out with her grandkids. You could find her at the kids’ ballfield and hockey rink, any chance she could.

She leaves behind her brother, Robert Rolla of



Ware; husband of 57 years, Ron Rivers; sons and daughter-in-law, James, Virginia, Michael; and grandkids, Nevada, Joseph, and Muriel. She also leaves behind her lifelong friend of 72 years, Jeri Vadnais.

Services will be announced by the family at a future date.

Arrangements are in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service. www.dokkennelson.com.

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CLUES ACROSS

- English TV station
- It fuels cars
- Where ships dock (abbr.)
- Indigenous people of Thailand
- Midway between northeast and east
- Small Milky Way constellation
- Fritz __, Austrian chemist
- A Brit's grandmother
- Colombian city
- Visualize
- Charged
- People's assets
- Informative books
- Jeer
- You can do it with your horn
- Agents of your downfall
- Central Uganda city

- Supervises flying
- Type of tree
- Alfalfa
- Dishwasher soap brand
- Hall where military eats
- Ancient Greek City
- Speaks incessantly
- Discuss again
- Extreme greed
- Adopt or support
- Fantasy writer
- Russell
- Seize
- Early Mesoamerican civilization
- Noted pet detective
- Ventura
- Automobile
- Georgia rockers
- Color opposite green
- Amount of time
- Attempt

CLUES DOWN

- Sheep sound
- Some can be emotional
- Inflammation of colon lining
- Origins
- Comedienne Gasteyer
- Perceived by the senses
- A place to play ball
- Occur before
- Animal body parts
- Thanksgiving dessert
- Root mean square (abbr.)
- 1960s teen idol
- Bobby
- Promotional materials
- One point east of northeast
- Piers Anthony protagonist
- Popular sports league
- Cologne

- Partner to cheese
- Constrictor snake
- Not good
- Supplement with difficulty
- Hug with fondness
- Enforced again
- Small amount of time (abbr.)
- Substance
- Anterior parts of the brain
- Brews
- Where ships load cargo
- Holiday season singer
- "__ humbug!"
- Monetary unit of Macao
- Popular children's book elephant
- Glutinous
- Function
- Old world, new
- Swiss river

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178**.

MISCELLANEOUS

BRAND NEW, STILL IN BOX, Ameri-Star split system heat pump and air conditioner, 13 seer, R410A, M4AH3024A100A. Best offer. **(413) 455-1496**.

MOVING SALE

18 MILTON O. FOUNTAIN WAY, WARREN - APRIL 26 & 27, 9AM-3PM. Tools and household items.

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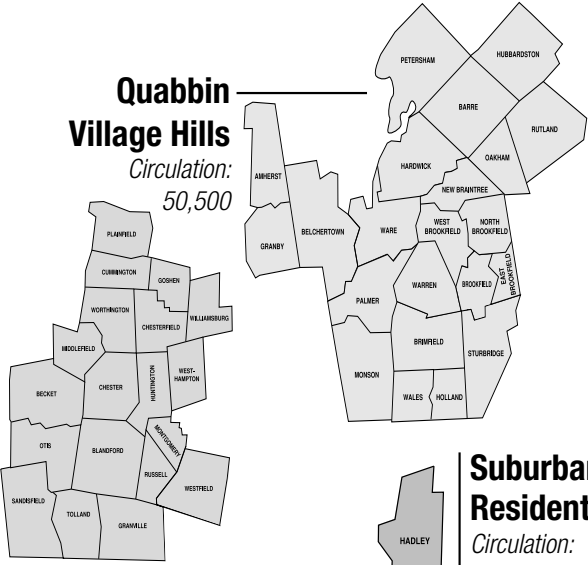
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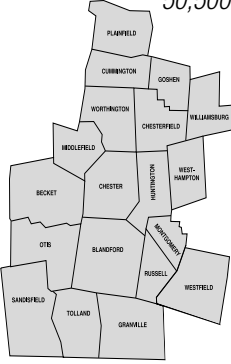
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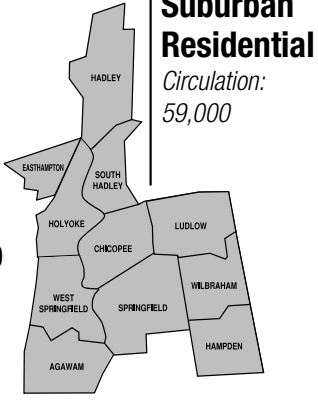
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Quaboag holds Casey Handfield benefit concert

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – Quaboag Regional Middle High School presented the Casey Handfield Benefit Concert this past week and it was a memorable moment.

This benefit concert featured the Quaboag Regional Wind Ensemble and the Auburn High School Concert Band. All the proceeds from this event will be going to the Casey J. Handfield Memorial Scholarship in honor of Handfield who passed away back in February.

Handfield served as principal at both Auburn High School and Quaboag Regional Middle High School.

Family members of Handfield attended the benefit concert, and they were all in awe when they experienced the exceptional benefit dedicated to their loved one. Handfield’s wife Andrea Handfield and his daughter Julia Handfield attended the concert and were amazed of how supportive the communities have been and helped put this event together in honor of him.

Andrea Handfield said, “The support and love from the community has been overwhelming.”

Handfield has been involved with education throughout his entire life and always enjoyed helping his students. The Handfield family thought putting together a scholarship was the perfect way to honor him and the community he loved very much.

“He loved Quaboag dearly,” Julia Handfield said.

The Casey J. Handfield Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to two graduating Quaboag seniors. This scholarship will be going to two students who work hard in community service, show great leadership skills and will work in education.

The Handfield family said they will award this scholarship on an annual basis.



Left to right, Quaboag Superintendent Stephen Duff, alongside Andrea Handfield, James Joinville and Julia Handfield during the Casey Handfield Benefit Concert at Quaboag Regional Middle High School.

Handfield was a three-sport athlete, participating in football, basketball and baseball. He was also involved in music and played the saxophone. He was a football coach in the Auburn schools for many years and served as past president of Auburn’s Pop Warner Youth Football and Cheer. He was always very active in his children’s sports and activities during their middle and high school careers.

He was a much-loved principal during his 20 years at Auburn High School and had a profound passion for education. During his time at Quaboag, Handfield was involved with everything and loved engaging with students and staff.

The Benefit Concert featured past and present students of Quaboag and Auburn High School and provided an amazing selection of music. Conducting most of the songs was Quaboag music teacher James Joinville, who shared many great stories about working with Handfield.

Joinville described Handfield as someone who “was all about community.”

In addition to donations to

support the memorial scholarship in honor of Handfield, the Quaboag National Art Honor Society hosted a raffle, and several students were selling their artwork to help benefit the scholarship.

The songs featured in the first half of the concert were “Maleguena”, “Fragile”, “Ask Not”, “For Good”, and “Taylor Swift: Eras”. After intermission, the benefit concert continued with four more songs. The first song played after intermission was “Abba on Broadway” conducted by Joinville.

Joinville would then introduce Warren Community Elementary School Music Teacher Ian Wykes to the podium. Wykes would conduct during the performance of “On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss” by David R. Holsinger.

Joinville returned and spoke about the next song. This was a special song to be played in honor of Handfield and is tied to a unique story Joinville shared before it was played. The song is called “You’ll Be Back” and it was played for Handfield while he was going through treatment.

This song as well as



Fine art prints were available during the benefit concert. Artwork was done by Quaboag students.



James Joinville conducted during the concert. The performers included past and present students of Quaboag Regional Middle High School and Auburn High School.

The Benefit Concert will always highlight the impact Handfield made while he was part of the school community. The final song for the concert was “Can’t Help Falling in Love” by Elvis Presley.

The concert featured over 40 performers, some who were a part of both school communities that Handfield was a part of. Joinville thanked the Quaboag

Performing Arts Boosters, Quaboag National Honor Society and the Quaboag National Art Honor Society for helping the Benefit Concert special for everyone.

Joinville also thanked Quaboag Superintendent of Schools Stephen Duff and Quaboag Regional Assistant Principal Michael Lavelle for making the benefit concert possible and for their constant support of the students

and staff. Thanks went out to Fine Arts Department Chair Virginia Bailey, Auburn High School Principal Dan Delongchamp and Assistant Principal Melissa LaBeaume.

The Casey Handfield Benefit Concert was a great event that took place in the Quaboag Regional High School Gymnasium and all who attended applaud the performers as they honored a great leader in education.

Quaboag Historical Society seeks scholarship applicants

The Quaboag Historical Society is proud to announce its annual scholarship program, designed to support high school seniors with a passion for history and a commitment to preserving the past.

This \$1,000 scholarship aims to assist students planning to pursue higher education in any historical related field.

The scholarship is

only offered to a student who resides in one of the Quaboag Plantation towns of Brookfield, East Brookfield, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Warren, or West Brookfield.

It is offered to a current high school senior planning to enroll in a college or university for the upcoming academic year who will pursue a degree in one of the following fields: education, histo-

ry, museum studies, anthropology, women’s studies, American studies, or archaeology. Students wishing to study closely related fields are encouraged to apply.

The application deadline is May 2. For applications or more information, please contact Jeff Robbins by emailing jeffrobbins@charter.net or calling 508-579-4786.

Chicken barbecue to benefit St. Aloysius Catholic School

WARE – The Knights of Columbus Council #183 will be holding a chicken barbecue at St. Mary’s Church Hall, 57 South St., on Saturday, May 10 from 1-4 p.m. to benefit St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville.

In addition to a delicious lunch that includes a half chicken, baked potato, salad and dessert, there will be music provided by DJ Brian, a grand prize offering, raf-

fles and face painting for the kids. Please consider attending this event to support the school.

Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children up to age 14 and are available from St. Aloysius students, or online at <https://www.staloysiuscs.com/support/k-of-c-barbecue/> through April 30. You may also call the school at 413-477-1268 to order and pick up your tickets.



If you know of anyone interested in donating to the raffle baskets or becoming an event sponsor, please have them reach out to Roberta McQuaid by emailing rmcquaid@staloysius-catholicschool.com.

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To be considered for this position, please submit a cover letter and resume to Jim Ferrera, Town Administrator, by no later than Thursday, May 8th, 2025. Resumes will be accepted via email to townadministrator@warren-ma.gov or by mail to Jim Ferrera, Town Administrator P.O. Box 609 Warren, MA 01083.

For a complete job description please visit the Town’s website www.warren-ma.gov. The Town of Warren is an equal opportunity employer.

Ware Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, May 14, at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a Request for Deter-

mination of Applicability (RDA) by Bruce Meekin, for removal of two pine trees on his property at 75 Beaver Road. Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413.967.9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspapers Publishers Association’s (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>. 04/24/2025

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.

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