

# WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

Vol. 138 No. 16

16 Pages

(Plus Supplements)

USPS 666100

\$31 PER YEAR - \$1.00 A COPY

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

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## Board reviews warrant articles

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**HARDWICK** – The Select Board reviewed warrant articles for the annual town meeting, to be held on Saturday, June 8 at 9 a.m. at Hardwick Elementary School, 76 School House Drive.

At the May 20 Select Board meeting, Town Administrator Nicole Parker said articles 1-14 were standard and that article 15 was a citizen's petition, asking to allocate \$8,000 from undetermined sources to the salary line of the Gilbertville Public Library.

Parker said she has reached out to town counsel for guidance, and said while it is illegal to fund private businesses, the library is free and open to the public. She added that the library does not submit its financial statements to the town, nor does it circulate materials to other libraries.

Parker said a previous audit had stopped the funding for the salary, but the town continues to fund the operating budget.

"I don't think it's good practice, but if it goes to a vote...we need to be able to fund it," Chair Kelly Kemp said.

Article 16 will clarify the structure of the Capital Planning Committee, to be comprised of seven members including one member of the Select

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 12

## The Literacy Project



**CEREMONY CELEBRATES 2023-2024 GRADUATES**

The Literacy Project's high school equivalency graduates from the 2023-2024 academic year are shown front row from left, Tristyn Guertin and Emma McKee. Back row from left are Sean Littmann, Leah Dupuis, Alexis Kendall Del Rosario, Kelly St. Hilaire and Karen Coughlin.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**WARE** – For the third year, graduates of The Literacy Project who earned their high school equivalency degree were celebrated by their educators, community members, family and friends at Grenville Park.

On May 18, seven graduates received their certificates and had a chance to reflect back on their individual journeys.

Site Director RJ Ferullo said the students before him on the stage that day, had to pave their own way to those seats.

"That preestablished path was not there for them to follow," he

said, referring to the traditional high school experience. "Our program is designed to meet students where they are...we try to go beyond teaching to the test."

Ferullo said this included getting out of the classroom (which is both online and in-person at The Literacy Project's West Main Street location) and exploring the world around them – from walks at the Quabbin Reservoir, to visits to an art museum. They even watched instructor Andrew Roberts show off his sword skills during a performance at UMass Amherst.

"We hope that our teaching impacts the students," Ferullo said. "We are thankful to be part of your journey."

Student speaker Leah Dupuis

said this day marked a significant milestone, not only in her journey, but for her fellow graduates as well.

"We've all been challenged to think critically, and embrace diversity and inclusion," Dupuis said.

She encouraged the graduates to remember the skills they have learned, both in class and while bonding over games of Wordle.

"Embrace the experience that comes your way. Let us carry with us the values and the principles instilled in us and strive to make a positive difference," she said.

For graduate Kelly St. Hilaire, her journey to graduation was 30 years in the making.

Please see **GRADUATES**, page 15

## MILITARY Appreciation Day



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Martha Cobb-Kelly stands next to one of the cars that service members and law enforcement personnel were able to ride along in during Military Appreciation Day at Palmer Motorsports Park this past Saturday.

## Palmer Motorsports Park gives back to those who serve

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
pouimette@turley.com

**PALMER** – Giving back to those who serve their country and protect our freedom is something that staff and club members at Palmer Motorsports Park look forward to every year.

This past Saturday, 152 veterans, service members, law enforcement personnel and their family and friends, made their way up to the Whiskey Hill track, to enjoy riding passenger-side in a variety of cars driven by a crew of volunteers.

"This is our gift back," PMP Club Director Al Sandy said of the annual event.

This is the seventh year that PMP has teamed up with Race Cars for a Cause, a nonprofit organization founded in 2015 by Jeff

Archangeault, dedicated to helping veterans and active military. PMP club members and instructors also donated their time and cars for the event.

This year's event fell on Armed Forces Day, which made Sandy reflect on his memories of his own father, and the gratitude he feels toward those who serve.

As he pinned his father's prop and wings to his lapel, he remembered how his father used to prepare for every patriotic event; carefully laying his uniform out the night before.

"He was so proud to be a veteran," Sandy said.

Veterans came from across New England, with some visiting Palmer and surrounding towns for the first time in their lives.

Martha Cobb-Kelly of Carver served over two decades in the U.S. Army, and decided to skip a scheduled motorcycle club ride to attend Military Appreciation Day and fulfill a childhood dream.

"I always wanted to be a race-car driver," Cobb-Kelly said.

Please see **PMP**, page 3



Turley Staff Photo

A group of attendees posed for a photo at the Community Watershed Celebration held at Hillside Village this past Saturday.

## Watershed celebration engages community

Staff Report

**WARE** – On Saturday, May 18, a Community Watershed Celebration was held at Hillside Village.

The celebration, hosted by a group of community partners, was spearheaded by the town's Planning and Development Department and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

The project is focused on Barrens Restoration at Muddy Brook Wildlife Management Area

in Hardwick.

The overall size of the area is 2,498 acres of which 1,937 acres are Wildlife Management Area and 561 acres of Wildlife Conservation Easement. The potential size of restoration area is approximately 950 acres with 515 acres currently being restored.

"The goal of today's event was to begin closing the gaps in social equity gaps by ensuring that the people and communities experiencing the greatest climate risks are informed, can help guide, and

define climate resilience solutions that meet the specific needs of their communities," said Angela Panaccione, Senior Planner with the PVPC.

The watershed celebration was a public event to provide an outdoor day of engagement highlighting the current watershed-based planning effort the town of Ware has undertaken to preserve the health of the muddy Brook Watershed. The location of Hillside Village was cho-

Please see **MUDDY BROOK**, page 6

## Educators go 'Above and Beyond'

By Karen A. Lewis  
Correspondent

**BARRE** – Going above and beyond is nothing new for Quabbin Regional teacher Lizz Mallett, who embraces her role as the Therapeutic Classroom Special Education Teacher for middle and high school students.

"My goal is to help students learn how to be independent learners who know how to advocate for themselves and understand

their strengths and weaknesses," said Mallett, who along with over two dozen other Quabbin educators and staff were recognized on May 8 when the Quabbin Special Education Parent Advisory Council presented their 8th Annual Above and Beyond Awards.

"We hope the staff members who receive these awards feel special and rewarded for all their hard work during the school year," said SEPAC Committee Chair Stephanie Ugucioni. "Oftentimes, students

might not be able to express just how much of a difference QRSD staff members have made in their education and lives. We believe this award speaks volumes."

All parents of students in the Quabbin District were given the opportunity to nominate Quabbin staff who they felt excelled beyond the daily job expectation, when a district wide email survey was sent out at the beginning of April.

Please see **EDUCATORS**, page 13

## Ware Lions have first ever golf tournament

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

**HARDWICK** – The Ware Lions hosted a 9-hole golf tournament at the Hardwick Crossing Country Club in Gilbertville.

This was the very first golf tournament hosted by the Ware Lions Club. The tournament is an effort to raise money for the Ware Lions Scholarship Fund.

Ware Lions Club is part of Lions Club International. The club works in community services and volunteer work.

Please see **LIONS**, page 15



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

One team represented Cluett's in Ware.

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The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

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# Memorial Day Tribute

*Honoring All Who Served and*

## Remembering Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice



### Memorial Day ceremonies and events

#### Sunday, May 26

##### WARREN

Warren will observe Memorial Day with a parade and ceremony in both Warren and West Warren. As in year's past, the town will note this day of reflection beginning at 1 p.m. at Pine Grove Cemetery.

A ceremony will also be held in West Warren at Veterans' Park.

##### WARE

A Memorial Day commemoration will be held at Quabbin Park Cemetery from 10 a.m.-noon. Refreshments will be offered at 10 a.m. and the parade and services begin at 11 a.m.

No registration required and the public is welcome.

Like communities across the United States, the towns of the Swift River Valley commemorated their war dead each year on Memorial Day until the towns' demise in 1938. Since 1947, Quabbin Park Cemetery has been the center of Memorial Day services for the four towns.

Please join the Friends of Quabbin, the Swift River Historical Society, the Veterans Council of Belchertown, Chauncey D. Walker Post #239, American Legion and the staff of the DCR Quabbin Reservoir for this annual service.

The Betty Allen Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in collaboration with the Duxbury Chapter of the NSDAR is honored to take part in the Memorial Day Services conducted by the Veterans Council of Belchertown with support

from Friends of Quabbin, Inc. and Department of Conservation & Recreation.

These DAR Chapters have a special part in this year's Memorial Day Services and will honor Revolutionary War patriots interred at Quabbin Park Cemetery by placing special markers. This year's event is part of the nationwide commemorative celebrations as we approach the 250th anniversary of America's founding.

The Ware Historical Society will present the annual Ware Remembers Ceremony at 6 p.m. at the Ware Center Meeting House.

This lovely and moving ceremony, at the first town hall and the first church in Ware, will be held on Memorial Day weekend to honor loved ones, military and civilian, residents from Ware and elsewhere, living and deceased.

##### HARDWICK

The town will observe Memorial Day throughout the various villages.

Please note after Wheelwright, the times are approximate and may be earlier than stated.

The ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the World War II memorial in Wheelwright, Barre Road.

At approximately 10 a.m., the ceremony will continue near the Civil War memorial on the Common. After services there and at the Revolutionary War cemetery adjacent to the old Town Hall, reassembly will be at the Hardwick Cemetery across from the Highway barn.

The ceremony will then continue to Gilbertville, meeting at St. Aloysius cemetery, Upper Church Street at approximately 11 a.m., ending at the World War I memorial, Route 32, Main Street around 11:30 a.m.

#### Monday, May 27

##### WARE

The parade will line-up at 12:30 p.m. at the American Legion hall, 45 Maple St., and step-off at 1 p.m. The parade will proceed to Veterans Park on Main Street for a ceremony.

Following the ceremony, parade participants are invited to return to the American Legion for a luncheon.

### Veterans eat lunch free at Ware Senior Center

WARE – Beginning June 3, 2024, 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.

Morrin explained his intentions in the following statement:

"When I created the carnival, I decided to also create the Ware Veteran Fund to use the proceeds of the carnival to benefit the veterans of Ware. What better way to recognize and thank our older veterans than providing lunch for them in a welcoming place like the Senior Center," he said.

John Zienowicz Executive Director of the Ware Council on Aging said, "Knowing that the Town of Ware has such a large veteran

population it is really exciting to know we can provide a lunch for all of them for all that they have done for us. On behalf of the Ware Council on Aging, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to Mr. Morrin and the outstanding work he has done for our veteran community. We look forward to the next year with great enthusiasm."

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](http://townofware.com) or by stopping by the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins Road, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Route 9 bridge dedication is May 26

BELCHERTOWN – The unveiling of the SPC Kenneth J. Iwasinski Memorial Bridge will be held on Sunday, May 26 at 5 p.m.

The bridge is located on Route 9 between Belchertown and Ware.

The ceremony will be held at the Quabbin Visitor Center at 100 Winsor Dam Road in Belchertown with state Senators Jake Oliveira and Peter Durant, state Reps. Aaron Saunders and Todd Smola and Belchertown Veterans' Agent Charly Oliva.

Kenneth was a resident of Belchertown and was killed in Action in Baghdad, Iraq in 2007. He is laid to rest in Belchertown at South Cemetery.



SPC Kenneth J. Iwasinski

### 'Ware Remembers' ceremony this Sunday

WARE – Bring your lawn chairs and join the Ware Historical Society, Veterans of Ware, Boy Scout Troop 281, and Ware TV on Memorial Day weekend when they present the 14th annual Ware Remembers.

The ceremony and the reading of names will take place in front of the Ware Center Meeting House on Sunday, May 26 at 6 p.m. behind a field of American flags placed on the historic Meeting House green where militia practiced for the Revolutionary War.

Be a part of Ware's history and a very special honor ceremony. For more information, leave a call back number at 413-967-4528.



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 [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@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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To our men and women in uniform, past, present, and future, God bless you and thank you.

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Veterans Inc. is a New England-wide organization that works to connect veterans with any assistance they need.



Steven Richard, Steve Richard and Sean Ryll represented Race Cars for a Cause. The organization worked with Palmer Motorsports Park to give veterans the thrill of a lifetime.



HomeFront Strong's new Chief Program Officer, Melanie Casineau, enjoyed her first event at Palmer Motorsports Park.

Turley Photos by Paula Quimette



Veterans were able to enjoy laps around the track in a number of different vehicles.

**PMP** from page 1

Originally from the Dominican Republic, Cobb-Kelly moved to the U.S. and served 22 years, nine months and seven days in the military, even serving one tour in Iraq.

"It was very stressful," Cobb-Kelly said of that time. She added that she wanted to go back for another tour with her unit, but her mother didn't want her to go back.

Cobb-Kelly had already taken several laps around the track – in a Porsche, Subaru and a Mustang. While she enjoyed each experience, she said "there's nothing like a Mustang."

Peter Selig of the Boston area was joined by his friends, Dawrin Geraldo and Mohamed Fofana, for his first Military Appreciation Day, as well.

Selig has served in the U.S. Army for two years and was waiting for a turn to ride in a blue BMW, after having lapped the mountain in several other BMWs.

Attending this event brought Selig closer to other servicemembers, and made him feel included.

"It's just like you're recognized," he said.

Being in the military means that servicemembers spend a lot of time with each other, and away from their families and support back home. This creates a bond that ties each and every veteran together.

"You feel like you're part of something," Selig said. "Getting to be around other military members, we can all relate."

Military Appreciation Day also gives veterans a chance to meet with various representatives from organizations that work to support military members and their families.



Dustin Ruby, Chicopee's Deputy Veterans Service Officer and Tina Brohman, Palmer and Monson's Veterans Service Officer, were on hand to provide information about Western Massachusetts Veterans' Service Officers Association and its services and opportunities for veterans and their families.

Representing the Western Massachusetts Veterans' Service Officers Association were Chicopee Deputy Veterans Service Officer Dustin Ruby and Palmer and Monson Veterans Service Officer Tina Brohman.

Both Ruby and Brohman work closely with the veterans in their communities, and other organizations.

Christian DiLuzio of Veterans Inc. said all of the organizations rely on each other to offer the best outcome they can for each individual veteran.

"We all work together, we all cooperate with each other," he said.

Palmer-based HomeFront Strong was represented by its new Chief Program Officer, Melanie Casineau, a U.S. Air Force veteran.

Military Appreciation Day was made possible with support from



U.S. Army veteran Peter Selig, left, enjoyed Military Appreciation Day with his friends Mohamed Fofana and Dawrin Geraldo.



Asa Gladstein of SQUAD-Driven brought his 2012 Audi R8.

sponsors Stonewall Insurance Group Inc. and Dunkin'.

**About Palmer Motorsports Park**

Palmer Motorsports Park has been rated "One of the top 10 road courses in North America" by Road & Track Magazine. Its unique set-

ting and challenging road course draw club members and visitors from New England and beyond for racing, research, recreational, and business-related activities.

For more information, visit [palmermotorsportspark.com](http://palmermotorsportspark.com) or find them on Facebook.



This BMW was a popular car last Saturday.



A member of Race Cars for a Cause talks with one of the drivers between laps.

# RESIDENTS OF WARE

## *Killed in the Service of their Country*

<p><b>WORLD WAR I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Earl F. Howe</li> <li>Ralph J. St. Germain</li> <li>Raymond E. Parsons</li> <li>Henry West</li> <li>Erwin Patrill</li> <li>Fred W. Sharpe</li> <li>James L. Burns</li> <li>Arthur Berube</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Richard Dunham</li> <li>William E. Eldredge</li> <li>Edwin P. Fafara</li> <li>Robert P. Gariepy</li> <li>Albin J. Gaj</li> <li>Roman W. Guzik</li> <li>Fred B. Hale</li> <li>James Haley</li> <li>Herbert W. Hurst</li> <li>Joseph W. Jezyk</li> <li>John J. Konicki</li> <li>Francis A. Koziol</li> <li>James Lee</li> <li>Emile M. Lignar</li> <li>Paul E. Malboeuf</li> <li>Arthur Mercure</li> <li>William L. Merrill</li> <li>Joseph Miskiewicz</li> <li>Henry Mucha</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wesley A. Nelson</li> <li>Julian S. Niemiec</li> <li>Henry M. Nowicki</li> <li>Francis J. Pajak</li> <li>Joseph E. Palsy</li> <li>Fredrick J. Piszczek</li> <li>Nathan J. Starodoj</li> <li>Kazimierz M. Rymarski</li> <li>Joseph P. Pendergast</li> <li>William F. Quirk</li> <li>Samuel J. Taylor</li> <li>Francis J. Sherby Jr.</li> </ul>
<p><b>WORLD WAR II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walter P. Bernat</li> <li>Stephen J. Bielaszka</li> <li>Henry Blyskal</li> <li>Francis H. Boisclair</li> <li>Edward J. Bubon</li> <li>Ernest R. Derosier</li> <li>Raymond A. Desforges</li> </ul>	<p><b>VIETNAM WAR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roland A. Provencal</li> <li>William F. Seveney</li> <li>Alfred L. Jasnocha</li> <li>John A. Boronski</li> </ul>	



# Planning Board approves amended decision with Copart

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Planning Board had a public remand hearing during their May 13 meeting.

The public remand hearing was on the Special Permit and Site Plan Approval applications that were filed by Copart of Connecticut, Inc., a company based out of Dallas, Texas. The applications proposed an extension of the preexisting nonconforming automobile junkyard and salvage use, which includes storage of scrap and junk vehicles and parts.

This junk and salvage yard is located at 600 Old West Warren Road. The owner of the said land is Copart of Connecticut, Inc.

The Warren Planning Board previously voted to grant the applications with conditions of approval. The decision was filed with the Town Clerk on Dec. 15, 2021.

Pursuant to an agreement between Copart of Connecticut, Inc. and the Town of Warren, and in accordance with the requirements of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 40A, Sec. 17, the Planning Board had agreed to hold a future public hearing on the applications for the purpose of issuing an amended decision.

Special Town Counsel David McCay was in attendance via Zoom to provide an overview of the hearing on the amended decision. This remand on the decision from 2021 has gone through

**“WE’RE SATISFIED WITH THE CONDITIONS AS THEY READ.”**

**DAVID BERSON**  
COPART OF CONNECTICUT, INC

a series of negotiations, peer reviews and mainly revised permit conditions for the applicant, Copart of Connecticut, Inc.

These negotiations and revision of permit conditions were between the applicant and the town of Warren.

McCay said one of the revisions involved groundwater monitoring. McCay suggested that the Planning Board consider and review the amended special permit and amended decision.

According to McCay, Copart’s main issues with the negotiations between them and the town of Warren was the environmental and groundwater conditions of the permit they applied for.

“Copart is accurate in saying the primary issues in the negotiations between the parties was the groundwater to monitoring and environmental conditions of the permit,” McCay said.

After a series of negotiations and revisions, Copart is agreeable to the conditions and the amended decisions.

Representing Copart and in attendance at the Planning Board meeting was David Berson. Berson followed up on McCay’s comment and says Copart is in agreement with the new conditions of the amended decision.

“We’re satisfied with the conditions as they read,” Berson said.

Prior to closing the public hearing and the vote to approve the amended decision, the Planning Board allowed questions, comments and concerns from the public to speak on the subject.

One resident on Zoom commented and believed this amended decision took way too long and was unnecessary. In addition, the resident believed that litigation was not needed.

The resident also thought this situation exemplifies the idea of the board not welcoming new businesses in town.

The resident would go on to ask how many orders of conditions are in place. Members of the Planning Board replied and said there are 57 orders of conditions. The resident had thought that maybe that amount is too high and alienates the possibility of a business wanting to open in Warren and instead locates to neighboring towns.

The Planning Board then closed the public hearing and began to vote on the motion to approve the amended decision and settlement agreement and would then grant the special permit. The motion passed unanimously.

# BOH reviews annual fee costs

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Health discussed and reviewed costs for certain food permits and food service functions.

Food sanitation oversight is one of the most important activities of the Warren Health Department because of the potential for serious food-borne illness. The town has several food service establishments, including retail food stores, restaurants, seasonal farm stands, bars, bakeries, and schools.

Two inspections are done at each establishment each year, more if compliance issues are found or suspected. Temporary food service events add additional inspections each year.

The fee schedule was discussed along with the town inspector, Tricia Valiton. An annual food permit is \$120, but there are some food establishments that operate with a seasonal or semi-annual permit.

Prior to this Board of Health meeting, it was discussed that the fees no matter the length of time,

the charge was the same. Chair Donald J. Makowski wanted to ask the board if it would be appropriate to lower the fees for seasonal and semi-annual permits.

The board made a motion to lower the annual food permit rate to \$100. The Board of Health also decided to raise the permit fee to \$75 for soft serve permits.

Valiton brought up that establishments who serve soft serve ice cream must have their machines tested once a month.

### Food trucks

The Board of Health discussed the operation of food trucks and other catering operations. Valiton explained the importance of inspecting food services such as food trucks.

“Its our duty and responsibility to make sure that people are not cooking out of their home and passing it off as a food truck,” Valiton said.

Hot dog carts were brought up as an example mainly because the cart operates with a water system to keep food warm. Both food trucks and carts must follow their permits to where water is disposed

properly.

The Board of Health wants to find out if any local food trucks are mobile food trucks with their own mobile kitchens.

For the annual fee, food permits for food trucks will be \$120.

### Village Market

The Board of Health received an application and documentation from the proprietor of Village Market and Deli which located in West Warren at 2240 Main St. Valiton reported to the Board of Health during the market’s permit hearing at the March 20 meeting and had three pages of violations recorded along with over 100 photos obtained.

The Village Market owner chose to voluntarily close and correct all violations prior to a reinspection.

The Board of Health made a motion to pass the application of the Village Market to Valiton for review. Valiton will update the board once the application and documentation is reviewed.

### Reorganizing

The board appointed Daniel Thibodeau to serve as vice-chair.

## Weir River Jazz band presents ‘Jazz in June’

HARDWICK – Weir River Jazz will present a big band concert on the grounds of the Stone Church Cultural Center, 283 Main St., Gilbertville on Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m.

Come join the band “under the tent” to hear the great sounds of a traditional Big Band. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and relax to some great sounds.

This concert is open to the public and there is no charge for admission. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in the sanctuary section of the church building.

Sponsored in part by the Mass Cultural Council and Country Bank for Savings.

## John Morello presents ‘Dirt’ on May 23

WARE – The Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance and the Northwestern District Attorney present John Morello and his one-man show, “Dirt” at Ware Jr./Sr. High School auditorium on Thursday, May 23.

Pizza and resource tables will be available from 6-7 p.m. and “Dirt” followed by discussion with Morello will be held from

7-8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Morello gives voice to those who feel unheard, and offers hope to those who feel alone. His gritty performance connects with audiences of all backgrounds and sparks honest conversations about substance use and choices.

For more information about Morello and “Dirt”, visit [www.johnmorello.com](http://www.johnmorello.com).

## Learn how to twist your own balloon animals

HARDWICK – Ed the Wizard and his Balloon Animal Twisting Workshop will appear at the Gilbertville Public Library, 283 Main St., Gilbertville on Tuesday, June 11 starting at 3 p.m.

Patrons will learn the art of balloon twisting as they create their own elephant, giraffe and more. No balloon twisting experience required.

This program is free and open

to the public but may require pre-registration. Please contact the library for more information and registration by calling 413-477-6312.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council Cultural, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

## Participants wanted for Ware’s Town Wide Tag Sale

WARE – The Town Wide Tag Sale to benefit the Ware Center Meeting House, a 1799 historic building in the first center of Ware, will be held Saturday, June 8 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The proprietors of the Meeting House have been working on the restoration of this building for over 25 years. It’s open to the public on alternate Sundays in the

summer, during an educational day for third graders, and during special events.

Sign up at [warecentermeetinghouse.org](http://warecentermeetinghouse.org) or send a check for \$15 to Ware Center Meeting House P.O. Box 1401, Ware, MA 01082. Payment must be delivered by June 1.

Once registered, put your number on your house for shoppers

to find you. Those shopping the tag sale can come pick up a list of streets having tag sales at the Ware Center Meeting House after 8 a.m. on June 8 and have fun shopping.

This is a rain or shine event. For more information or questions, email [janicehills110@gmail.com](mailto:janicehills110@gmail.com).

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# Fire Department receives new ambulance



Shown with the Fire Department's new ambulance are from left, Fire Chief Jim Martinez, Founder and Vice-President of Specialty Vehicles, Inc. Al Hooper and Deputy Chief Jeremy Boulrice.



Al Hooper of Specialty Vehicles, Inc. explains the features of the new ambulance.



The Fire Department received this 2024 Life Line ambulance last Friday.

WARE – This past Friday afternoon, the Fire Department received its new ambulance, which voters approved the purchase of at the 2022 town meeting.

Delivered by Specialty Vehicles, Inc., the 2024 Life Line ambulance will replace the department's 2018 ambulance.

Fire Chief Jim Martinez said the department used to replace its ambulances every eight to 10 years prior to Baystate Mary Lane Hospital's closure, but now with the additional distance to Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, they need to replace them every five to six years. A steady uptick in call volume has also increased the mileage on the department's ambulances.

"We have to do our best to maintain that level of service," Martinez said.

Martinez said the old ambulance will be traded in to Specialty Vehicles, Inc., and repurposed as a nonemergency vehicle.



Kim Hatch of the Paint and Party Place provided facepainting for the event.

## Muddy Brook from page 1

sen to be central to the Environmental Justice populations, and the event included free activities for kids (face painting, ice-cream, interactive demonstrations, coloring) and refreshments were provided.

"The event was to bring awareness the importance of Muddy Brook to the Town and discuss the potential threats to the health of the watershed, and a presentation of highlights of the draft Master Plan," Panaccione said.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said the town, with the help of PVPC, used a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant to create a plan for the Muddy Brook Watershed. These state funded grants assist communities to plan for and address environmental and climate change.

Muddy Brook, with headwaters near the Quabbin Reservoir that flows through forests and farms in Hardwick and Ware, then through residential and commercial areas before reaching the Ware River. The watershed plan presents recommendations for improving water quality, reducing storm water, and public education.

"The town will benefit from the planning and outreach such as today's events through implementation and future grants," Beckley said. "Grant proposals include water quality improvements to Snow's Pond and rain gardens the North Street neighborhood."

A committee of local civic leaders, residents and business owners support and provide feedback for the program. Committee member Reverend Carole Bull, Pastor of the United Church of Ware said the program was "amazing."

"A number of Snow's Pond abutters attended to share their feelings about the committee's work, and we listened well. Angela responded with honest and expert answers," Bull said.

MassWildlife was in attendance today as a partner in local conservation efforts. Patrick Conlin, Habitat Biologist of the Massachusetts Division of

Fisheries and Wildlife said, "We value the collective impact we make within the community and take the opportunity to learn from one another. There are engaged community members who are eager to learn and take action to mitigate negative environmental outcomes."

Presentation of the Master Plan will be at the Planning Board meeting on June 6 at 7 p.m. and the Selectboard meeting on June 18 at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend the meetings.

"The Town of Ware will also be engaging in the MVP 2.0 process this fall. MVP 2.0 fills gaps from the original MVP planning process, builds on the work the Town has done to date and supports communities with new processes, tools, and resources for building resilience," Panaccione said.

Through MVP 2.0, communities can revisit resilience priorities with a focus on equity and translate those priorities into action through project development and implementation. This updated program has a greater focus on building social resilience and explores the factors that create vulnerability or resilience for people living or working in your community.

"The process will focus on connecting and collaborating with community members, and expanding the voices involved in climate resilience efforts," said Panaccione.

Bull reflected in her involvement with the day's celebration, starting when she first came to the United Church of Ware

"One of the first things I did was to reach out to Stuart to talk about the church and offer my support for the work in the town. Sometime later, Stuart and his staff asked me to write a letter of support for the application for a Muddy Brook Sub watershed grant. I became a visible and engaged supporter," Bull said.

More information can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/muddy-brook-wildlife-management-area-restoration-summary/download>.

## Grange hosts next gardening workshop May 23

WARE – Ware Grange's next gardening workshop, "Equip Yourself for Success," will be held on Thursday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall at 297 Belchertown Road.

Our presenter will be Roberta McQuaid, author of the weekly "In the Garden" column for Turley Publications.

In this workshop participants will discuss some gardening tools to help improve garden success, including the scuffle hoe, circular weeder, black plastic, mulch, and insect netting. Bring your favorite tool, plant or other garden item to talk about with the group.

Visit us on Facebook or at [ware-grange.org](http://ware-grange.org) for more information.

## Flamand named a Presidential Scholar at Clarkson University

POTSDAM, NY – Ethan Tyler Flamand of Ware, a sophomore majoring in engineering and management, was named a Presidential Scholar for the spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.



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Nick Bousquet, Ware Planning Department intern, Pastor Carole Bull, United Church of Ware, Angela Panaccione, project coordinator, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and Patrick Conlin of the Department of Mass Fish and Wildlife present the plan.



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## Charity tournament will help pets in need

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services will be hosting their 12th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, set to take place at the world class Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown on Monday, July 15.

This popular event promises a day of exceptional golf while championing the cause of providing essential care to pets in need.

Proceeds from the tournament will directly support programs that assist pets in underserved communities through Second Chance Community Veterinary Hospitals located in Springfield, Worcester, Southbridge and North Brookfield.

Lindsay Doray, Chief Development Officer at Second

Chance, encourages golfers to register early to secure a spot.

“This is a fantastic day of golf for an even greater cause,” said Doray in a press release. “In today’s climate, offering accessible veterinary care is crucial in keeping beloved pets where they belong with their families. Our Community Veterinary Hospitals serve as a critical resource in furthering this mission, ensuring that pets receive the care they need while alleviating strain on shelters. We urge golfers to stand with us in this mission.”

Participants can look forward to a day filled with excitement, including a box lunch, banquet dinner, a bucket of range balls, and a commemorative gift.

The tournament will feature various challenges, including prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, closest to the line, a yellow ball contest, and more. Attendees will also have the chance to win \$4,000 toward a pool or spa from Teddy Bear Pools in the hole-in-one contest.

There will also be raffles and a silent auction that will launch online one week prior to the tournament, to add to the day’s festivities.

Second Chance extends a warm invitation to local businesses to partner in the effort to combat pet homelessness by supporting access to veterinary care. The nonprofit welcomes sponsors for the Second Chance Golf Tournament and gra-



Submitted Photo

This photo shows participants in the 2023 Annual Charity Golf Tournament, held at Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown.

ciously accepts donations for the tournament’s silent auction and raffle. Information regarding sponsorships and item donations can be found at [secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/](http://secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/).

The 18-hole tournament will be in a scramble format with foursomes. Check-in will start at 9 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 10

a.m. Individual golfers and foursomes can conveniently purchase tickets online at [secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/](http://secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/).

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Presented By:

Kirsten L. Krieger RN, BSN; Public Health Nurse

(413) 967-9648 ext. 112

Email: [kkrieger@townofware.com](mailto:kkrieger@townofware.com)

Website: [www.quabbinhealthdistrict.com](http://www.quabbinhealthdistrict.com)

Please RSVP via email or phone

**Training provided courtesy of the following organizations:**



# 18th annual Tri-Parish Community Church event June 1 and 2



Friends and neighbors enjoy connecting at the Tri-Parish Community Church's annual plant sale.

HARDWICK – The Tri Parish Community Church welcomes the public to their 18th annual plant, bake, tag and craft sale Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the beautiful Hardwick common.

The sale will feature traditional, favorite, and connoisseur perennials, plus selected annuals, heirloom vegetable plants, and herbs. There is a wonderful variety of plants offered through Inishowen Farms of North Brookfield, Stillman's Farm and Howe's Farm & Garden, both of New Braintree, Tracie's Greenhouse of Ware, and "home-grown lovelies" from private gardens.

A delicious assortment of home-baked desserts and breads will also be sold. The proceeds from the plant and bake sale support the operational expenses of the church.

The church will be holding a drawing featuring the "best" of the plant sale. No purchase is necessary to win.

Live music will be provided on Sunday though a grant to the Paige Memorial Library from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Several activities will be available for children as well.

A number of tag and craft ven-

dors have rented space on the common for the event. They will be offering a selection of home crafted goods, artwork, jewelry, maple syrup products, tag sale treasures and collectables, including Annalee dolls.

The Tri Parish Community Church's Pastor, Nathan Pederson, will lead a brief prayer service Sunday morning on the common in lieu of the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service.

Come spend the day enjoying all that Hardwick has to offer while supporting the fundraising efforts of the church.

Please see **PLANT SALE**, page 13

## National Grid is inviting you to an Informal Open House Learn More: Palmer to Ware Improvement Project

National Grid's Palmer to Ware Improvement Project is a proposed transmission line project that will upgrade a deteriorating electric transmission line. The upgrade will focus on portions of the 10.35-mile-long segment of overhead power lines that run through Palmer, Ware, and West Brookfield. Once upgraded, the newly rebuilt transmission line will provide enhanced electric reliability for the region.

National Grid is hosting Open Houses for the Palmer to Ware Improvement Project. We encourage you to join us to learn more about the project.

If you are unable to join us at the in-person event and are interested in learning more about the project, please email [info@O15nproject.com](mailto:info@O15nproject.com) to set up a meeting with a member of our project team.

### Questions? Contact us!

**Phone Number:** (800) 674-9510

**Email:** [Info@O15nproject.com](mailto:Info@O15nproject.com)

**Website:** [PalmerToWareImprovementProject.com](http://PalmerToWareImprovementProject.com) or scan the QR code.

**nationalgrid** 7-57 Wells Ave., Suite 27, Newton, MA 02459



You are invited to an Informal Open House

## Palmer to Ware Improvement Project

May 22nd, 2024

May 28th, 2024

5:00pm to 7:00pm

5:00pm to 7:00pm

Ware Senior Center  
1 Robbins Road  
Palmer MA 01069

Palmer Public Library  
4105 N. Main Street  
Palmer MA 01069

[PalmerToWareImprovementProject.com](http://PalmerToWareImprovementProject.com)  
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# SPORTS

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Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Josh Mulligan goes for a spike.

## Indians close out regular season

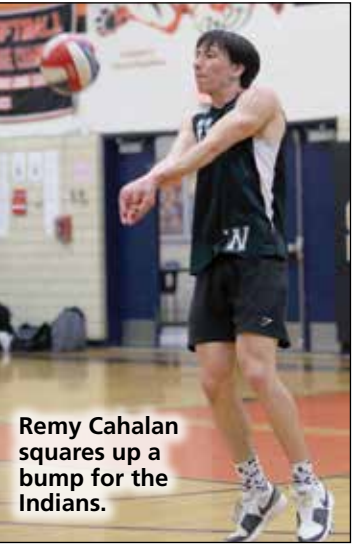
WARE – Last week, Ware boys volleyball closed out the regular season with a win over Chicopee 3-1. The Indians finished the regular season 12-6 and were scheduled to face Frontier Regional in the semi-finals of the Class C Western Mass. Tournament.



Nathan Hamon sets up a potential.



Kyle Gordon tries to set the ball past the Tigers.



Remy Cahalan squares up a bump for the Indians.



Johnathan goes for a bump.

## Ware wins wild one with Palmer

PALMER – Last Wednesday evening, Palmer and Ware avoided the heavy rain and instead ignited their own thunder with 10 runs in the seventh inning which ultimately resulted in a 17-14 win for Ware. Ware scored seven times in the third inning after falling behind early. Tied 7-7 after three,

both teams continued to score, but Ware's six runs in the seventh inning made a bigger difference in grabbing the win. Lily White had four hits for the Panthers while Hannah Roy contributed two hits and an RBI. Abbie McQuaid and Mia DiRienzo had three RBI each for Ware.



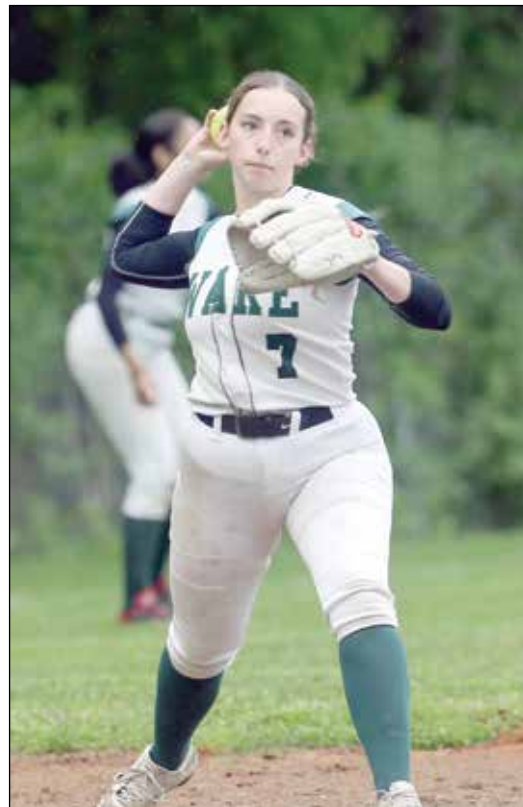
Mia DiRienzo catches the out at first.



Isabella Cotaj heads for first base.



Olivia DiRienzo fields a grounder.



Madisyn Slattery attempts to get an out at first.



Abbie McQuaid pitches for the Indians.

## Ware baseball edged by Tigers

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY—While Ware had already clinched a share of the Suburban Central League baseball title for the second consecutive year, South Hadley entered last Wednesday's contest needing a win to accomplish the same feat.

The Indians held a slim 1-0 lead entering the bottom of the sixth inning.

With two outs in the frame, senior first baseman Jack Maziarz smacked a two-run double down the right field line, which wound up being the difference maker in the Tigers 2-1 victory over the Indians on a gloomy afternoon at Thomas B. Landers Baseball Diamond.

"This is the first time that I had a game-winning hit during my varsity baseball career," said Maziarz, who'll be attending Middlebury College in the fall. "It also feels great to win a piece of the league title again this year. We didn't play very well at the start of today's game, but we managed to put it all together at the end."

Ware and South Hadley finished the regular season with 9-1 league records.

"We've enjoyed playing Ware during the past couple of years," said South Hadley varsity baseball coach Matt Foley. "It was another fun game today. We battled them."

The Tigers (13-4 overall record) who lost the first meeting of the regular season against Ware, 1-0, at Memorial Field on April 8, won back-to-

Please see **WARE**, page 11

## Pathfinder Pioneers fall to rival Palmer Panthers

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—Eighth grader Grayson Griswold is the starting second baseman for the Palmer varsity baseball team. His older brother, Hunter, is wrapping up his outstanding athletic career down the street at Pathfinder Tech.

The two brothers faced each

other for the first and only time in a varsity baseball game last Tuesday night.

It was a memorable evening for Grayson Griswold and his Panthers teammates who celebrated a 6-1 victory over the Pioneers before a large crowd at Legion Field.

"It was a lot of fun playing a baseball game against my older

brother's team for the first time," said Grayson Griswold, who joined the Palmer varsity baseball team as a seventh grader. "I'm going to be following in Hunter's footsteps next year. I'll be playing football, basketball, and baseball at Pathfinder."

Please see **PALMER**, page 10



Submitted photo  
Teammates surround Kylie Casey, the lone senior celebrated on Monday following their match

## Casey celebrated on Senior Day for Quabbin golf

BARRE – The Quabbin Girls Golf Team concluded their regular season today at Quail Hollow. The Panthers fell to the Westborough/ Algonquin 20-28.

Senior Captain Kylie Casey was the co-medalist shooting a 46. Makenzie Casey shot a 47 and took home 7.5 out of 9 points. Sierra Lambert tied her match.

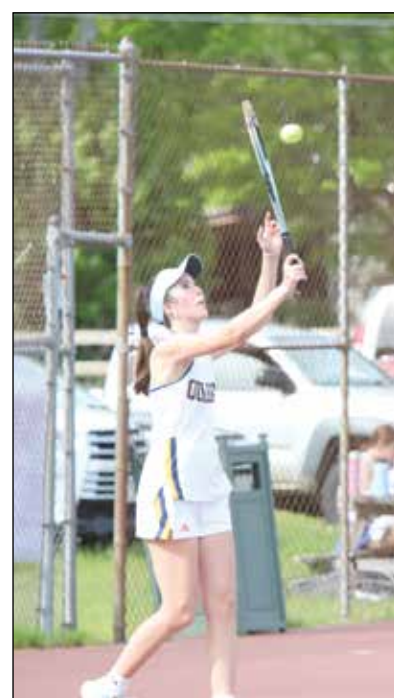
Quabbin ended their regular season 5-10-1. Quabbin was the youngest team in Central Massachusetts with five of the seven players being freshman.



Annabelle Magill starts off play with a good serve.



Carlee Rich gets the low hit to send the ball back over the net.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Carmyn Orsini goes high to return the ball.

## Quabbin girls tennis wins again

BARRE – On Monday afternoon, Quabbin Regional High School girls tennis scored another win, and another shutout of an opponent, defeating Leominster 5-0. Annabelle Magill had a big match as she scored a win in straight sets 6-0, 6-0. Not far behind her was Camryn Orsini, who won 6-0, 6-2. Carlee Rich and the second doubles team of Elizabeth Matheson and Madelyn Stauder both swept their matches. It took three sets, but Farrah Wojcik and Kalina Dyer won first doubles with a 7-5 win in the third set. Quabbin girls tennis is an impressive 14-1 overall with the playoffs looming.

# sports

## Mutiny have solid opening win over Maine

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW — Hope Santaniello was an All-American during her outstanding varsity soccer career at Agawam High School. She has been a key member of the New England Mutiny, who play their home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, since 2019.

The Mutiny lost to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 2-1, in the UWS East Conference finals in Santaniello's first season. They've also qualified for the playoffs in each of the past two seasons, but they still haven't reached the top of the mountain.

With several key returning players and a couple of talented newcomers, the Mutiny are hoping to win a national championship title for the first time since 2000.

The Mutiny kicked off the 2024 campaign with an impressive 3-1 home win versus the Maine Footy, last Saturday afternoon.

"I feel like everyone is on the same page coming into this season," said Santaniello, who scored a second half goal. "We've only had a couple of practices, but all the players have been so encouraging and so positive. We played very well in today's game. I love playing for this team and I also love the atmosphere here. I'm hoping to win a championship title with this team, so we still have some unfinished business."

Federico Molinari celebrated his first victory as the Mutiny head coach. He took over the



Avery Klingensmith dribbles for the Mutiny.



Laci Lewis makes a throw-in.



Alexis Legowski follows through on a pass.

coaching reins from Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra.

"It feels very good to win my first game as the women's soccer coach," said Molinari, who also coaches the Western Mass. Pioneers. "I thought we played very well in today's game."

A year ago, the Mutiny finished the regular season in sixth place in the East Division standings with a 4-2-2 mark. They lost to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 4-3, again in the first round of the playoffs.

Santaniello, who's a forward, began her collegiate soccer career at the University of Rhode Island before transferring to UMass Lowell a year ago.

"I have one more year



Maddie Fried hustles past mid-field.



Hope Santaniello hustles up the field.

Please see **MUTINTY**, page 11

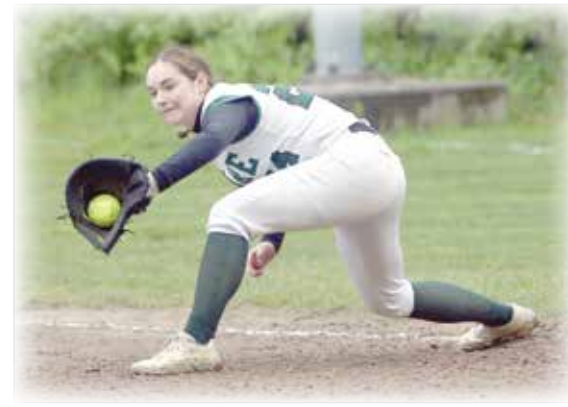
# Turleysports

Mia DiRienzo  
Ware High School

Athlete of the Month

Mia DiRienzo had three RBI in a wild win for Ware over Palmer High School last week.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.



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### PALMER from page 9

Hunter Griswold, who's planning to play college football at Mass. Maritime Academy in the fall, also attended Palmer High School before transferring to Pathfinder tech as a freshman.

"It definitely stinks that we lose a lot of our very good athletes to Pathfinder," said Jacob Graveline, who's the current varsity baseball coach at Palmer High School. "I know that they're only doing it because they want to learn a trade. Grayson is a very good baseball player who can play several different positions."

Last Tuesday's contest was the fourth boys' game between the two high schools during the 2023-24 school year.

The Pioneers football team didn't have very much trouble defeating the Panthers, 33-6, in the season opener last September at Legion Field.

The Panthers boys' basketball team posted a 53-37 victory inside the Pathfinder gymnasium three days after Christmas. The two hoop teams also met in a Division 5 state preliminary round game at the end of February. The Panthers won that contest, 79-51, on their home court.

The two schools also co-op in

boys' soccer, field hockey, wrestling, cross country, and swimming.

The Panthers, who don't have any seniors listed on their roster, had a 5-11 overall record following their fourth consecutive victory. They were scheduled to play at rival Ware in a Western Mass. Class. D quarterfinal game on Monday night.

The Pioneers (10-7) didn't qualify for the Western Mass. Class C tournament, but they'll be competing in the MIAA Division 5 state tournament, which starts next week.

The winning pitcher in last Tuesday's non-league game was sophomore righty Brendan Hess, who's the ace of the Panthers pitching staff. Hess allowed a run on only two base hits. He finished the contest with nine strikeouts and only two walks.

"I thought Branden pitched a great game tonight," said Graveline, who was an outstanding pitcher at Palmer High School a little more than ten years ago. "He just needs to keep throwing strikes."

It wasn't very much fun for Hunter Griswold, who was the Pioneers starting pitcher.

Because of the MIAA pitch count rule, the righthander was



Dayne Shanley slides into third base.

limited to only 25 pitches against the Panthers.

After throwing out a baserunner trying to steal in the top half of the first inning, Palmer sophomore catcher Theo Haley blasted a triple to right field leading off the bottom half of the frame. He would score the first run of the non-league game on a wild pitch.

Griswold managed to get out of that inning without allowing any more runs with the help of an inning ending double play.

However, the Panthers put three



Hunter Griswold sends a deliver to the plate.



Tim Russell hustles on the basepath.

more runs into scoring position. Marciniec scored the Panthers second run on another wild pitch. Then freshman centerfielder Taydem Haley drew a walk, which was the final batter Hunter Griswold faced. He was replaced on the mound by junior righty Zander Auffrey, who started the game in left field. Griswold stayed in the game as the catcher.

Theo Haley greeted the Pioneers relief pitcher with a two-run single to left field giving the home team a 4-0 lead.

"Theo is our leadoff hitter, and he has scored more than 20 runs this season," Graveline said. "He has also done an outstanding job replacing Dom Allen as our starting catcher. It's a position that he hadn't played before this season."

Auffrey managed to keep the Panthers off the scoreboard during the next two innings.

With two-outs in the bottom of the fifth inning, back-to-back RBI singles by Grayson Griswold and Taydem Haley gave the Panthers a comfortable 6-0 advantage.

Hunter Griswold beat out an infield hit leading off the sixth inning. After stealing second base and advancing to third on a throwing error, he scored on a sacrifice fly to center by senior right fielder Branden Hnitecki.

Pathfinder senior centerfielder Ethan Nompoggi-Hawk was hit-by-a-pitch leading off the seventh inning. Hess struck out the next two batters before Grayson Griswold caught a pop-up for the final out, which gave him the bragging rights in his family.

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The Ware Lions Club hosted their first annual golf tournament to raise money for the Ware Lions scholarship fund. Ann Marie St. Germain is shown speaking to golfers prior to tournament.

Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

**LIONS** from page 1

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.4 million members in approximately 46,000 clubs in more than 200 countries.

On an annual basis the Ware Lions Club gives a scholarship to a graduating senior. This tournament will help raise money through the tournament and raffles during the banquet.

Running the tournament was Ann Marie and Marc St. Germain.

Both Marc and Ann Marie were excited to have a substantial turnout for the golf tournament. A total of 18 teams signed up and participated in the tournament. The format was 9 holes, best ball and scramble format.

The teams consisted of a total of four players and the teams were competing for gift certificates from Hardwick Crossing. St. Germain hopes to make this golf tournament an annual event for the Ware Lions.

"Making an annual tournament considering the success," St. Germain said. "Continuing it is the goal and to expand the scholarship fund."

During the golf tournament the players had an opportunity to win a big prize. The Hole in One jackpot was up for grabs and was worth \$10,000. Each player had a chance to go for a hole in one at one of the holes of Hardwick Crossing Country Club.

After the tournament the players got to enjoy a nice banquet with a meal and a chance to play and win some raffles.

Finishing in first place is the team of Donna Ryel, Tami Audette, Emily Williamson and Jim Ayotte. The second place team was Ben Lanier, Marc St. Germain, Ben Jack Lanier and Chris Gorman. Third place was the team of Diane King, Matt King, Kathleen Soltys and Gary Soltys. Fourth place was the team of Chris Midura, Brian Hopkins, Adam Kettles and Rick Rearick.

The Ware Lions would like to thank Hardwick Crossing Country Club for hosting their first ever golf tournament. This event was a big success thanks to not only the high quantity of teams, but the high quantity of sponsorships.

Hole in One Sponsor was Brad Matthew Jewelers, Longest Drive Sponsor was Monson Savings Bank and Closest to the Pin Sponsor was Patriots Plumbing.

Hole Sponsors consisted of BEC Plumbing and Heating, Janine's Frostee Inc., Dr. Thomas A. Schultz, Pennington Painting Company, Cheryl Balicki and



The tournament consisted of four person teams and had a total of 18 teams.



Many participants were excited to have a day of fun at Hardwick Crossing Country Club.



This team represented B'leaf Wellness Centre in Ware.



During the tournament, golfers got to participate in the Hole in One contest.

Family, Country Bank for Savings, Cedarbrook Village, Les's Auto Center, Team 50 Skowrya/Williams Racing, Quabbin Wire and Cable, The Munsell Family, D&D Fitness Factory, Napa Auto Parts, Ware River News, Nat Falk, Mexicali Mexican Grill, Domino's Pizza, Hardwick Vineyard and Winery, Nastasi Inc., St. Germain Insurance, Cluett's, PVE Plumbing and B'leaf Wellness Centre.

All the supporting sponsors had a poster displayed just outside the

banquet hall of Hardwick Crossing.

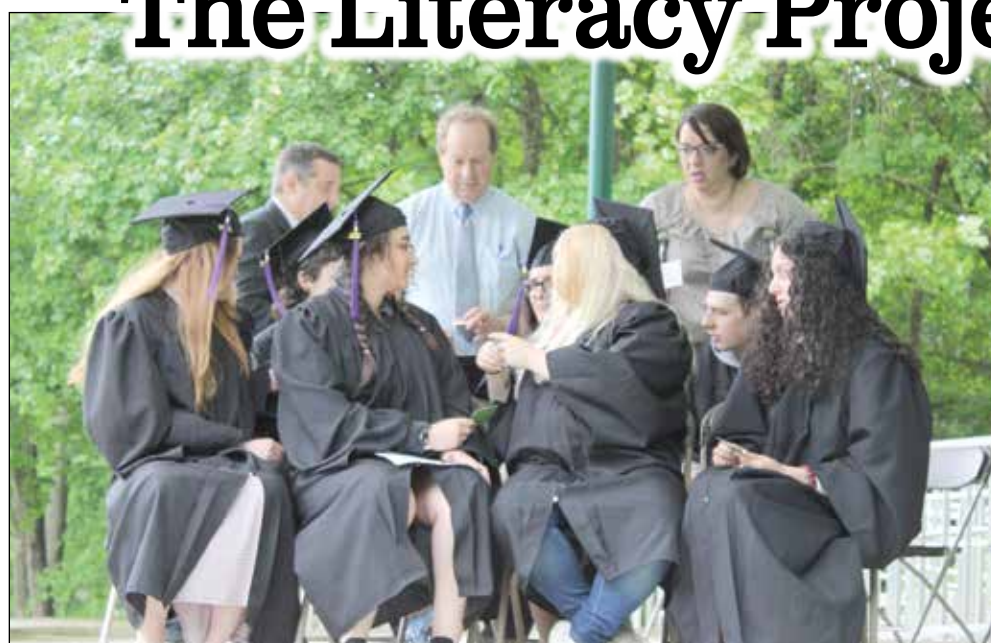
The Ware Lions appreciate all the support from the tournament's sponsors and the participants of their first ever golf tournament. The Ware Lions have every intention of hosting the tournament next year.

To learn more about the Ware Lions Club, visit the website [e-club-house.org/sites/ware/index.php](http://e-club-house.org/sites/ware/index.php). Other activities and updates can be found on the Ware Lions Facebook page, Ware Lions We Serve.



Posters of the tournament's sponsors and supporters were displayed in front of the field of Hardwick Crossing Country Club.

# The Literacy Project



Graduates work to solve a puzzle with Site Director RJ Ferullo, Town Manager Stuart Beckley and instructor Colette Lefebvre-Davis.



Tristyn Guerin and her partner have a lot to celebrate, including the upcoming arrival of their first child.

**GRADUATES** from page 1

St. Hilaire said she dropped out of high school at the end of her sophomore year and lived with that regret ever since.

"Not having this piece of paper made the world so much harder," she said. "I'm so proud of myself and all of you for having the determination to keep going."

Instructor Colette Lefebvre-Davis said the graduates clicked, typed and video called their way to success.

"You have proven that learning has no age limit," she said.

Lefebvre-Davis said the graduates have earned their degree from the "University of Life" and encouraged them to use this achievement as a launching pad for new opportunities.

"Your potential is limitless," she said.

Instructor Andrew Roberts said at each graduation ceremony, he talks about love, and how it is the most important thing in the world.

With the love of their family



Karen Coughlin was proud of her accomplishments.



Leah Dupuis was selected as one of the student speakers, to represent her class.

and friends, each student is supported along their journey, but without self-love, they wouldn't have the drive to succeed.

"None of you would be here if you didn't pull yourself up," Roberts said.

Roberts talked about a billboard message he saw while driving, and challenged the

Kucinski said she can see pride and hope on each graduate's face and commended them for working so hard to be there.

"But most importantly, I see role models," she said.

Other people will be inspired by the graduates' stories, Kucinski said, and she encouraged them to share those stories.

"You achieved something that at one time, you didn't think you could," she said.

Each graduate received their certificate from Town Manager Stuart Beckley before enjoying refreshments with all who attended.

This graduation ceremony was made possible by support from Monson Savings Bank, Public Adult Education of Massachusetts, Country Bank, Baystate Health, Cornerstone Bank, Town of Ware and United Way of Franklin & Hampshire Counties.

For more information about The Literacy Project and learning opportunities, visit [www.literacyproject.org](http://www.literacyproject.org).



The staff and teachers at The Literacy Project support learners of all ages to achieve their goals.



Emma McKee worked hard to reach her goals.



Alexis Kendall Del Rosario poses for a photo with her grandmother, mother and sister.



Kelly St. Hilaire receives a flower from Advisor Darcy Gauthier.



Graduate Leah Dupuis gave a moving speech about her journey with The Literacy Project.



Sean Littmann was congratulated by his family.



Kelly St. Hilaire had the support of her daughter, sister and friend.



The Literacy Project's Executive Director, Colleen Kucinski, congratulates the students for their achievements.



Instructor Andrew Roberts warms up the crowd with his stand-up comedy routine.



Site Director RJ Ferullo welcomes family and friends to the graduation.

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