

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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## Haunted Hallways

Junior class fundraiser combines fear and fun

By Paula Ouimette  
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WARE – Members of Ware Jr./Sr. High School's Class of 2026 are getting ready for a Halloween tradition they've been continuing since their freshmen year.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, the students will transform the school into the Haunted Hallways, a spine-tingling and thrilling journey through numerous eerie scenes straight out of your nightmares.

"There's about 32-35 of us who make this happen," Class President Madisyn Slattery said.

New this year is the Not So Haunted Hallways, held from 5:30-6:30 p.m., which is geared toward children ages 9 and under. In the Not So Haunted Hallways, children will enjoy walking through the school collecting candy.

Slattery said there won't be any jump scares in the Not So Haunted Hallways and the lights will remain on.

From 7-9:30 p.m., the lights will dim, and the Not So Haunted Hallways will shift to the Haunted Hallways, featuring 10 different themes sure to terrify even the bravest soul.

Class Vice-President Jack Gaudreau and his group of scarers are the creative force behind the butcher shop-themed hallway, which has caused many Haunted Hallway visitors to scream "Indians" (the school's mascot) to keep the butcher away. Visitors can say "Indians" anytime they want the characters in the hallways to stay back.

Please see **HALLWAYS**, page 7



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette  
Class of 2026 President Madisyn Slattery and Vice-President Jack Gaudreau are ready for Halloween fun with the return of the Haunted Hallways and the premiere of the Not So Haunted Hallways on Saturday, Oct. 26.

## Friends of MLH meet with foundations

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
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WARE – The Friends of Mary Lane Hospital recently held a meeting to discuss the possibility of selecting a new charitable foundation to oversee the handling and management of trust funds.

Cindy Allen Bourcier, chair of the Friends group, said she was hoping the meeting would also spark discussion about land restrictions on the 21 acre site on South Street, in addition to exploring two community foundations that could oversee the various trusts associated with the hospital.

"We have been researching all options," Bourcier said at the Oct.

2 meeting.

Two of these options include the Greater Worcester Community Foundation and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

"We need to get this into the hands of a well-established foundation," Bourcier said of the trust funds, which are currently overseen by the Baystate Health Foundation with Bank of America as trustee.

Bourcier said she learned from a recent meeting with Emily Gabrault from the Attorney General's Office that it is possible that both Baystate Health Foundation and Bank of America could voluntarily step away from their respective roles.

Please see **MLH**, page 3

## Weekly knitting circle takes place at Warren Library

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
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WARREN – Every Thursday evening the Warren Public Library hosts a knitting circle.

This collaborative group consists of newcomers and experienced knitters who share tips, stories and inspire one another to work on the next best knitting project. This relaxing environment also has plenty of sewing kits and needles that were generously donated for visitors to use.

There was plenty of yarn to go around as the knitters got right to work in the knitting circle.

This knitting circle has been around for several years and

has always been housed in the upstairs tower of the Warren Public Library.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic the knitting circle had many more regular members. Unfortunately, when the pandemic arrived there was not place to host a knitting circle and many of the regulars were working on their own projects at home.

Luckily, some of the knitting circle members had the idea of meeting outdoors during the pandemic. The knitting circle, for a brief period, met in the gazebo on the Common. It was a safe space to practice social distance and still enjoy conversation and create.

Please see **CIRCLE**, page 6

## RAAC accepts final draft of regional agreement

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
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WARREN – The Regional Agreement Amendment Committee met this past week to review the final draft of the regional agreement.

This committee consists of representatives from the towns of Warren, West Brookfield and North Brookfield who have been exploring the possibility of North Brookfield Public Schools joining the Quaboag Regional School District.

This committee has been operating for several years to help format an agreement that all parties involved would agree to the formation of two school districts becoming one district in the future.

The committee has three members representing each of the towns. Members of the committee shall be elected with residency

requirements in district wide elections to be held at the biennial state elections.

All members are to serve until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

While reviewing this final draft of the regional agreement, several members including Chair Andrew Schwenker, who is also the chair of the Quaboag Regional School Committee, wanted to confirm the appropriate number of members serving the appropriate length of terms.

Schwenker insisted that there will be times that a vacancy will come up in the committee and a fair process should be followed when filling any vacancy.

"There should be a process to fill that vacancy," Schwenker said.

One member of the RAAC Derick Veliz mentioned that in the past some committees do not have enough bodies to fill a committee.

"Sometime its hard to get people to participate in these committees," Veliz said.

Please see **RAAC**, page 6

## DCR completes rehabilitation of access road

By Paula Ouimette  
Editor  
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HARDWICK/PETERSHAM – State legislators and members of the Quabbin Fishermen's Association joined the Department of Conservation and Recreation at a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the rehabilitation of an access road at Gate 43 to Fishing Area 3 at the Quabbin Reservoir.

On Oct. 8, DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo was joined by Director of Rural Affairs Anne Gobi, state Senators Peter Durant and Jake Oliveira, state Representatives Todd Smola and Aaron Saunders and QFA President Clayton Sydla to talk about the successful completion of the project, and its significance to the region.

Arrigo said the DCR's mission is "to protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all."

"I know that this project is a great example of our mission," Arrigo said.



The Department Conservation and Recreation held a ribbon cutting ceremony at newly rehabilitated access road at Quabbin Reservoir's Gate 43.

The project involved reclaiming and repaving approximately 1.75 miles from outside Gate 43 to just before the bridge. The total

cost was \$652,000 and was made possible through funds from the American Rescue Plan Act filed by Smola, and DCR through the

Massachusetts Water Resources Trust Fund.

Please see **DCR**, page 8



### BULKY WASTE DISPOSAL DAY

Saturday, Oct. 26th  
7am-12pm  
at ReSource Waste,  
198 East Street, Ware



Made possible by a partnership between ReSource Waste Services and the Town of Ware.

✓ **ITEMS FREE FOR DISPOSAL**  
Lovesats, Chairs & Couches  
Box Springs & Mattresses  
Power Equipment  
(Must be drained of all fluids)  
Washers & Dryers  
No Trailer Loads



**ITEMS WITH FEE**  
Truck Tires \$75  
Loader/Tractor Tires \$500  
Passenger Tires \$30  
Freon Units (Air Conditioners, Refrigerators, Etc.) \$22  
Television, Computer Monitors \$40

### HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

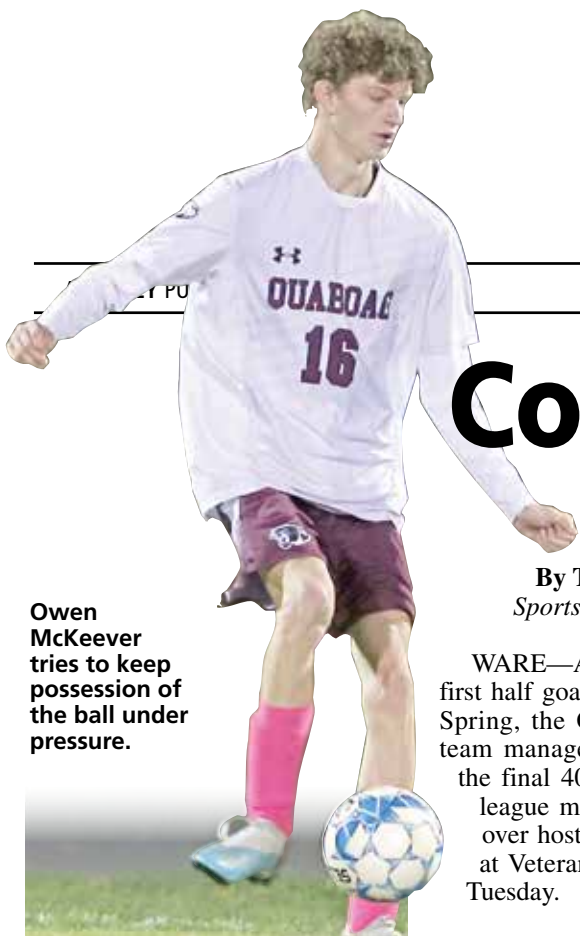
✗ **WARE RESIDENTS ONLY**  
Liquids, Fluids  
Paints and Oils  
Hazardous Waste  
Pesticides, Antifreeze,  
Lightbulbs, Batteries

Saturday, Oct. 26th  
8:30am-1pm  
at ReSource Waste,  
198 East Street, Ware

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Owen McKeever tries to keep possession of the ball under pressure.

## Cougars tip Ware boys

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WARE—After scoring a pair of first half goals by freshman Logan Spring, the Quaboag boys soccer team managed to hang on during the final 40 minutes of the non-league match for a 2-1 victory over host Ware on a cool night at Veterans Field in Ware, last Tuesday.

"It became a very close game at the end, but it does feel very good to win a match," said Quaboag head coach Steve Pultorak. "Overall, I'm very happy with the players performance in tonight's game."

The two boys' soccer teams faced each other for the first time since the Cougars posted a 3-0 shutout during the 2015 regular season.

"We do play Ware in a lot of other sports, but we haven't played them in boys' soccer in about ten years" Pultorak added. "We've scrimmaged Ware in the preseason during the couple of years. Our j.v. team has also played them before. I'm not sure why we haven't played them at the varsity level."

Before the start of the regular season, the Indians were looking to add a non-league opponent to their schedule. Ware Athletic Director Thomas Shamgochain contacted Quaboag Athletic Director Dave Bouchard about scheduling a game between the two boys' soccer teams.

Ware head coach Charlene Valle is a teacher at Quaboag Regional, so she was also looking forward to the match.

"I'm a teacher in the Aspire Program at Quaboag. I don't teach any of the Quaboag soccer players, but I do see them walking in the hallways," Valle said. "Both teams are evenly matched, and it was a very exciting game."

The Cougars won their first

three games of the regular season against David Prouty, Southbridge, and Bartlett. They went 1-8-1 in their next ten matches and had a 5-8-1 overall record after dispatching the Indians (4-5-2).

The visitors from Warren had a couple of scoring chances during the first twenty minutes of the opening half, but they couldn't get the ball into the back of the net past Ware junior goalie Jack Gaudreau (9 saves).

After receiving a pass from junior Jacoby Labillois in the 22nd minute, Spring was able to put a shot into the net giving Quaboag a 1-0 lead.

About ten minutes later, the duo hooked up once again.

This time, Spring scored a breakaway goal and Labillois was credited with the assist.

"Logan has been a member of the varsity soccer team for a couple of years now," Pultorak said. "He has scored 90 percent of our goals so far this year, but he hasn't scored a hat-trick yet. He was hoping to get one in tonight's game."

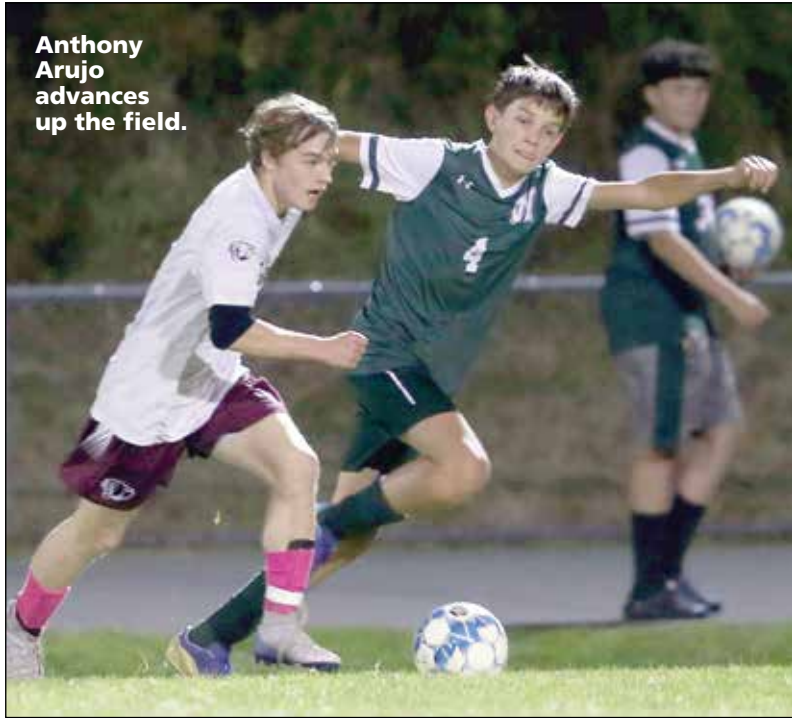


Connor Shay makes his way up the field.

The Indians then had back-to-back scoring chances on shots taken by senior Owen McKeever.

His first shot on goal, which was low, was saved by sophomore Blake Lopato (6 saves).

Please see **COUGARS**, page 10



Anthony Arujo advances up the field.



Nolan Herrick sends a pass back.

## Middle school boys soccer action

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin boys middle school soccer faced off with West Boylston. Heading into the matchup, the boys were 2-1-1. The final score of this game was not reported as press time.



Flint Silas changes the direction of play.

## Panthers get by West Boylston

BARRE – Last Monday afternoon, Quabbin girls middle school soccer scored one goal in the first

half and it held up as the Panthers defeated West Boylston 1-0. The Panthers are 4-1 on the season.



Adalyn Cranston tries to get around a pair of defenders.



Samantha Lowe tries to steal the ball away.



Brianna Valley and an opponent compete for the loose ball.

## Pioneers fall to Athol

PALMER – Last Wednesday afternoon, Pathfinder girls soccer got to play on the quality grass of Legion Field in Palmer. But the Pioneers were defeated 3-1 to fall to a disappointing 0-10-1 on the season. The Pioneers will continue to search for their first win on Oct. 17 against Franklin Tech.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Heydin Heyes is pressured from behind.



Katherine Porter tries to hold on to the ball.



Lauren Colleton makes her way down the field.



Brady White sends a clearing pass away.



The Quabbin defense tries to guard against a goal.



Jenna McKinney moves toward the sideline.



Goalie Autumn Desrosiers kicks the ball away.



Taylor Allen goes after the ball near midfield.



Jacob Blanchard attempts to keep the ball.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Walker Larson corrals a loose ball.