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Boil water order lifted

Improvements made to prevent contamination

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – As of last Thursday, residents no longer had to boil their water as additional tests showed the water was no longer contaminated with E. coli, a sign of fecal contamination.

The Department of Public Works' Water Department installed a disinfection system that removes viruses, as directed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The system's disinfection system is operating properly, based on two clean rounds of water testing last week, according to the DPW.

Residents were advised on Sept. 28 to boil town water before using it after E. coli was found in a sample of one of the town's water sources on Sept. 27.

MassDEP lifted the boil water requirement, with certain conditions, on Thursday, Oct. 4, based on the DPW's corrective action and sampling results.

The conditions include closing a valve outside the town's water treatment plant to ensure that water flows only toward the first water customer at 116 Pleasant St., measuring chlorine residual at the first post-treatment tap and at the first customer, and installing additional controls and updating alarms related to the ongoing proper operation of the system's disinfection system, according to the DPW.

These controls also include the installation of continuous free chlorine analyzers at the water treatment plant and 116 Pleasant St., and flow meter interlocks that will ensure that water system operators are notified within five minutes of high and low chlorine conditions, and high pH conditions at the plant.

The required interlocks will

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Area manufacturing on display at E2E

By Sloane M. Perron
Staff writer

WARE – On Oct. 4, the Education to Employment, or E2E, training center located at 23 West Main St. celebrated local manufacturing companies by holding an open house for potential jobseekers. Manufacturing Day allowed them to learn more about jobs at various companies.

Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board Executive Director Patricia Crosby opened the event with a speech describing the current job market in the area, focusing on the manufacturing sector. "Community events like this are important because it lets them [the public] see behind the manufacturing walls," she said. The FHREB also offers job counseling at the E2E.

Some of the local manufacturers that participated included Quabbin Wire, Vibram, Kanazaki, Gillespie Corp., C & G Machine, Sanderson MacLeod, G & G Medical, Palmer Foundry, Ace Molding and CIRCOR. Crosby said that she appreciated companies were willing to participate in the event. Job seekers had the opportunity to see the variety of available jobs in the greater Ware region. Another goal of the evening according to Crosby, "Was to dispel stereotypes about manufacturing."

Local legislators, state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer, and State Rep. Todd Smola, spoke about the positive impact that manufacturing has on the local economy.



Turley Publications photos by Sloane M. Perron
Vibram employees, Spencer Scannell, Jessica Perez and Aimee Correa were at Manufacturing Day at Ware's E2E center to let potential employees in the area know about jobs at the North Brookfield factory. The company makes strong soles for boots and shoes. Supporters, potential employees, and local companies gather at the E2E center, which is a partnership between Holyoke Community College and the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corp.

"We still have these positions that are available that we just can't fill because people do not have the skills for them."

- Sen. Anne Gobi

Gobi called Manufacturing Day "awesome," and said growing

manufacturing companies cannot find all the workers they need. "We still have these positions that are available that we just can't fill because people do not have the skills for them," Gobi said. As a result, work training facilities like E2E are instrumental in closing this gap by helping people gain the skills they need to acquire better employment opportunities and improve their lives. Gobi said

colleges get credit for students who attend two or four-year colleges, but she would also like to see them get credit for students who decide to enter the military or a tech school to help balance out the opportunities that are available for young people.

"We talk to so many people, we talk about the skills gap."

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Final free week for Ware River News

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We are pleased to provide this second and final complimentary issue of The Ware River News. We hope you enjoy it.

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Sincerely,
Patrick Turley, Publisher

Full-time police officer hired

Evaluation of police staffing approved

By Colleen Montague
Staff writer

WARREN – Selectmen approved the police chief's request to add an eighth full-time officer to address police staffing needs and to pursue an evaluation of the Police Department's staffing.

Police Chief Bruce Spiewakowski emphasized the need to fill vacant police officer positions, stating that there would be shifts he couldn't staff as of Oct. 15, when one officer goes to the academy, and two other officers are out. Spiewakowski said he had a part-time academy-trained officer who was seeking a full-time position, which would save the town between \$50,000 and \$75,000 in training and

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Harvest Week connects kids to farm food

By Sloane M. Perron
Staff writer

WARE – Third-graders from Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School took part in the proud tradition of Harvest Week by shucking 800 pieces of corn as they learned about where their food comes from.

Throughout the week, the students engaged with the kitchen staff and helped prepare tasty dishes using fresh vegetables provided by local farms. Throughout the week the kids prepared yellow and green string beans, fresh cucumber salad, zucchini with fresh basil and veggie soup, all made from farm fresh ingredients.

The corn shucking at the school is an annual event, which the kids enjoy and that provides many benefits. According to Food Service Director Jeff Nicholas, Harvest Week helps instill good eating habits at a young age for the students. The third-graders prepare food served at the elementary, middle and high school so the students develop a sense of accomplishment and teamwork.

The recipes are also tailored to



Turley Publications staff photo by Sloane M. Perron
Carlea Foley and Rosie Kane pose while shucking corn last week at SMK Elementary School.

what fresh foods are available at the season. Nicholas believes that the focus on farms is also important "It is local stuff that they [the students] can get," he said. The corn shucking is students' favorite day of Harvest

Week since it is a very hands-on project. "When they feel a part of it they are more inclined to eat it," Nicholas said.

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Turley Publications staff photos by Eileen Kennedy
Members of the Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force head the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force awareness walk as it starts out on a one-mile loop through downtown Ware.

Walkers take a stand against domestic violence

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – Community members gathered at Veteran's Park on Main Street Saturday afternoon to pro-

mote awareness of domestic violence and to take a stand against it. After speeches were made, the group completed a one-mile loop through downtown to return to the park.

"We are all here to shed light on a very important social ill: domestic violence," said Peggy Baxter, who has been involved

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SPORTS

Indians remain undefeated

By Bob Schron
Sports Correspondent

WARE – In their dominant 6-1 victory over an underrated Smith Vocational foe Friday afternoon at Veteran Stadium, the Ware Indians girls soccer team proved they should be considered among the best teams in Division 4. Coming off of a semifinals' effort a year ago in the Western Massachusetts Girls Soccer Tournament, Ware has built on that success.

They've done this while rebuilding. Under first Gene Rich and now Jerry Czub, this is a smashing victory of patience and hard work for a program that had been in a downturn less than a decade ago.

"I just like the way the girls are playing right now," said Assistant coach Morgan Toelken, taking over the reins from coach Czub who was away Friday.

"We kept the ball in the center of the field today, keeping our options open. We got contributions from a lot of girls. Abby Hayman played great in Goal. Our balance has been a weapon for us all season."

Ware (9-0-1, 5-0 Pioneer) moved into the Top 20 this week for the first time this season and quickly celebrated, getting the jump on the Vikings (3-5-2, 2-2-1) early. Andrea Bell scored and moments later, Jackie Dugay also converted, sneaking one by Lizzie Hardy. Under siege all afternoon, Hardy played nobly, registering a season high 16 saves.



Olivia Vadnais heads the ball.

Photo by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com

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Ware volleyball heading back to postseason with pair of wins

By Bob Schron
Sports Correspondent

WARE – Ware returned to its winning ways Friday. At Renaissance, rallying from a 24-26 loss in the first game, the Lady Indians swept the next three to defeat the Phoenix, 3-1. With the win, the Indians improved their record to 9-2, 1-1 Central on the season.

"We have to continue to improve," said coach Don Swarts. "Now, our most important matches are in front of us."

Led by a group of consistent performers who have set the tone for the team all season---Shelby Tweedie, Lilly Kibbe, Dina Legacy and Morgan Slatnik, the Indians won two out of three matches last week, a pivotal one for Ware.

Last season, Sabis and South Hadley, had gone deep in the Division II Western Massachusetts Girls Volleyball Tournament. The Indians played the two teams back-to-back this week, a legitimate test for the young Ware team and the Indians responded, earning a split. Ware outpointed Sabis, Monday, 3-1 (25-19, 25-16, 23-25, 26-24), Saletnik, who leads the team in assists for the season, had 15. Maddie Graitti scored seven Aces and Tweedie six. Kibbe also scored eight Kills.

The following afternoon, the Indians were defeated at home by South Hadley, 3-1, (17-25, 26-24,



Dina Legacy attacks the net.

Photo by Jack Cascio NEAPsmugmug.com

25-14, 25-16).

It snapped an eight-game winning streak for the Indians.

Kibbe had 16 Digs and

Saletnik, 14 assists.

"When you're going up

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Pioneers remain winless as Palmer offense breaks out in Week 5

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER — Back in 2015, the members of the Pathfinder football team celebrated a thrilling 17-14 victory over cross-town rival Palmer at Legion Field following a last second 36-yard field goal by Andrew Roman.

The Pioneers, who hosted the

Panthers at St. Joe's Field during the past two seasons, made the short bus ride to Legion Field last Friday night and there was not very much drama, as the final outcome was decided by halftime.

The Panthers (1-4, 1-2) scored six first half touchdowns and got into the win column for the first time this season with a 47-0 win in a Tri-County League contest.

"It feels very good to get our first win of the season tonight," said Palmer senior quarterback Jeff Pardo, who completed a pair of first half touchdown passes in his final high school football game against the Pioneers (0-5, 0-4). "They're a very physical team, but we knew that we could beat them and we got the job done."

The last time that the Panthers

put at least 47 points on the scoreboard was a 47-22 win over Monument Mountain in the 2016 season opener, which was also held at Legion Field. Former Palmer quarterback Ryan McCarthy rushed for six touchdowns and he also threw a TD pass in that game.

McCarthy, who's currently a sophomore member of the Springfield College football team,

attended last Friday night's football game and he watched an outstanding offensive performance.

Palmer junior running back Tyler Placanico rushed for 120 yards on 15 carries and he also scored three rushing touchdowns in the first half.

"I couldn't have gained that many yards without the help of my line," said Placanico, who had missed the Panthers previous game

against archrival Ware with a concussion. "All of them are young, but they did an incredible job of blocking for me in tonight's game. It also feels very nice to get our first win. We really needed it."

The Panthers offensive linemen are freshman Roman Cardenales, sophomore Michael Malcovsky,

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Cougars roar over Southbridge

WARREN – The Quaboag Regional High School boys soccer team picked up a 4-0 shutout over Southbridge last Wednesday afternoon at home. Perry Pultorak had a hat trick for the host Cougars, who are 3-6 this season.

Photos by Jack Cascio
NEAPsmugmug.com
Perry Pultorak attacks the goal.



Liam Grueter goes full force to the ball.



Evan Martinez heads the ball.

Hood leading the way for Panthers

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE - As a freshman, running was never on Quabbin junior Emily Hood's radar. Getting acclimated to a new school, making friends and focusing on academics were the priorities.

However, that all changed for Hood sophomore year when she decided to branch out and join the Lady Panther cross country team last fall, and she never looked back.

"I came to ninth grade from a small school," Hood said, who attended the Chicken Coop School in Orange. "We didn't have sports teams. Sophomore year I wanted to be more involved in school. I wanted to meet new people in school and I noticed I wasn't exercising as much."

This past Saturday, in only her second year of running cross country, Hood represented her current school well, earning ninth place out of 45 runners at the 18th Annual Quabbin Invitational Meet in Barre.

Hood earned top billing for the Lady Panthers, running 22:46, with teammate Emmeline Riendeau coming in next for Quabbin, 23rd overall with a time of 24:28.

"I regret not being able to run in middle school," commented Hood. "It took a little while getting used to running once I joined, but I fell in love with the people on the team and I've come to love the sport."

Whether it's in the genes or just meant to be, the improvements



Freshmen racers start after the cannon at the Quabbin Invitational last Saturday.

Submitted photo

Hood has made in a short year not only has catapulted her to the current top female cross country runner at Quabbin, it has led to her also being one of three team captains.

"It's a new experience being a leader," Hood said, mindful it is not always the norm to enlist juniors to take on the role as a captain. "It's taught me a lot of leadership and I love my co-captains, they're so organized. We work well together and get along."

With the loss of six seniors last year and an overall young team – 15 brand new young women on

a team of 22 runners, Quabbin Coach Brian Young knew he had to seek leadership from the underclassmen.

Juniors Cedulie Benoit-Smith and Emmeline Riendeau were also assigned captain duties.

"Although it's a lot of work, I enjoy being a captain," Riendeau said. "Being a captain gives me an opportunity to give back to the sport I love. It doesn't hurt that I have great co-captains."

"It's a great way to take charge doing something I love," added

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