AARP Representative
State Director Mike Festa
One Beacon Street, Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Director Festa,

On behalf of the Town of Ware, I am pleased to offer this letter of ongoing support and commitment to create an age-friendly environment in our community. The Town and its partners are excited to join AARP’s Age Friendly Community Network. Ware is committed to becoming a livable community to promote health and sustainable growth and contribute to the well-being of citizens in all stages of life. In order to achieve this goal, Ware is working with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to become both an Age and Dementia Friendly Community as part of the “Working Together for Healthier Quaboag Hills Region” project.

As a participant in the AARP Age Friendly Community Program, it is the intent of the Town of Ware to:

- Improve the housing options in the community to increase the desirability that Ware is a place to grow old
- Offer transportation and meet the needs in the community
- Educate business owners and municipal employees on what to look for/how to help those with dementia. To learn the signs and symptoms of dementia
- Have sidewalks, crosswalks, and other infrastructure improved in the community
- Expand communication channels to promote awareness of programs and services among older residents to allow residents to age in place; and
- Increase local, state, and national partnerships to ensure the continued funding for and focus on the needs of older residents.

Ware looks forward to the benefits of learning from the network of AARP’s Age Friendly Communities and being a contributing partner. On behalf of the Town, I thank you for your consideration of Ware’s membership. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Stuart Beckley