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SUPPORT FOR FAMILY MEMBERS: The Michael J. Dias Support Group meets 6-7:15 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center.

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Celebration for firefighter retiring after 41 years

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – This Friday, Rainey Dubois will be celebrating his retirement from the fire department at the Polish American Citizen’s Club.

Dubois, who started working for the fire department in January of 1982, grew up in Ludlow and now lives in Monson. His family has had a long history with the department in town.

“My grandfather was the Fire Chief, my father was the Fire Chief, then I became a firefighter,” Dubois said, adding that his son, Ethan Dubois, has joined the department as well.

Dubois estimated that he will be retiring after 41 years and 10 months. He has spent his career active on the front lines of emergency services, choosing not to

pursue managerial positions like his father and grandfather did before him.

“I like driving the firetruck and being involved in putting the fire out, instead of being in control of making sure everything goes properly,” Dubois said. “I don’t like politics and all that stuff, so I decided to stay with what I’m good at.”

Dubois said that the department has changed a lot over the nearly 42 years that he’s worked there, noting that it was “tough for an older guy, but I caught on pretty quick to most of that stuff.”

The department’s technology has come a long way since Dubois started. Back then, he said the trucks had no air conditioning, there were still trucks with no roofs being used in all kinds of weather and firefighters would have to gear up for snow

and rain in the event of an emergency.

“The older trucks are all standard transmission, so you had to know how to drive a standard,” Dubois said. “Now they’re all automatic.”

Rainey Dubois

Dubois said that modern fire trucks, instead of just using water, are now equipped with CAFS systems, which mix air, foam and water together in the hose to put out fires quicker and

with less water.

“The foam sticks to everything, and it smothers the fire,” Dubois said. “They’re really fast; it’s very impressive how that works.”

Another improvement the department has made is that all the valves on the fire trucks are color-coordinated for easy recognition.

“Before, there were no colors, so you had to know where it was,” Dubois said. “In pitch black, in the snow and rain, you had to know where the valves were. Now it’s hands-on, but they’re color-coordinated, so the front line’s yellow, etc.”

Dubois has always enjoyed working with the younger members of the department.

“For some of them, you have to teach them a lot,” Dubois

Please see **DUBOIS**, Page 8

Chili Contest will decide recipe for First Night

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – This weekend, the Faith Community Chapel will be holding a chili contest to decide the chili recipe to be served at the 250th First Night celebration.

Lisa Morrison is the head pastor at the chapel and participates in the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee. Morrison said that this started when the 250th Committee Chair Linda Collette asked that the chapel provide chili for First Night.



“To decide what recipe to use, we decided to have a chili contest,” Morrison said. “We have a number of people entering a crockpot of chili, and whoever wins the chili contest, that’s the recipe we’re going to use for First Night when we serve the chili.”

Morrison said that the idea was pitched to the chapel because the large group of people who frequent the church would provide a good pool of entries. For participants who would like to judge the chili, there will be taster cups, and

they can grade the different chili recipes in different categories, as listed on the judging sheet.

“It will be based on presentation, smell, flavor, texture and overall impression,” Morrison said. “Five categories, and then whoever gains the most points, that’s going to be the winner.”

The 250th Committee was supportive of opening the contest up as a community event, and the chapel will be accepting entries until Friday.

“If there are people out there who want to enter the contest because they think they have the best chili, we’d be happy for them to enter and participate,” Morrison said.

The chapel will provide plugs and extension cords, so entrants need only bring a crockpot of their finest chili. The entries are not guaranteed to be vegetarian-friendly, Morrison said, but a vegetarian chili will be provided for the contest.

“For First Night, we’re only going to make one huge pot of it,” Morrison said. “Most people want meat in their chili, but I do have a vegetarian recipe, so we’re going to have one pot of vegetarian chili for those who are looking for a vegetarian option.”

The churches in town are also in contact with each other to simultaneously ring their

Please see **CHILI CONTEST**, Page 8

Boys & Girls Club announces sports room

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – At the recent Board of Selectmen meeting, the board heard more staffing requests, an update on the Community Center and Randall’s Boys and Girls Club, mediated a dog complaint and considered changes to the Memorial Day parade route.

Boys & Girls Club

Josue Irizarry, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club, provided an update on improvements to the club.

“If you were to visit the club, you’re going to see the inside looking freshly painted,” Irizarry said. “It had not been painted in over 20 years, I think, it was a lot of old hospital colors, so we made it more into club colors and brightened it up.”

Irizarry spoke of the grand opening of the club’s eSports room on the second floor, which required the floors to be redone as well as a new coat of paint.

“eSports is gaming,” Irizarry said. “They have a variety of different games they can play there and compete against each other. A lot of other Boys & Girls Clubs have eSports, so the goal is to, hopefully, have middle and high school kids come and use the room to compete in differ-

ent sports, so they can do tournaments against each other.”

Irizarry mentioned that this could be used to hold competitions between different clubs and that he hoped it would incentivize teens to use the club.

Irizarry also said that the club received a grant to fund the replacement of its bleachers.

“Also, we were able to replace all the drinking fountains,” Irizarry said.

The Selectmen congratulated Irizarry on his work at the club.



Recreation Assistant

Chair of the Recreation Commission Sean McBride approached the board to request funding for a

recreation assistant.

“This position has been something that we’ve been kicking around for quite a period of time,” McBride said. “What we’re essentially looking for, on the Rec side, is we’re a department of one. It’s, as you well know, increasingly difficult for us to be able to effectively operate and provide services to the town with a department of one.”

McBride said that though the current clerk has done “a fantastic job,” they have responsibilities that often take them away from answering phones and being available to

Please see **SELECTMEN**, Page 8

LUDLOW

Eagles takes flight



Submitted by Philip Brodeur

Ronald and Bridget Schneider completed their Eagle Boards of Review with the General Knox District Eagle Committee. A number of Scouts from across Hampden County passed their boards that evening. Bridget became the #98th Eagle Scout from Troop 180, and Ronald the 99th based on which Scout finished their board first. Troop 180 was founded at St. John the Baptist School in 1939 and continuously a part of the parish since then.

LUDLOW— Bridget Schneider and Ronald Schneider were presented their Eagle medals during a special Court of Honor held Saturday Jan. 13 at St Elizabeth Parish. The new Eagles are the first brother and sister from Troop 180 to earn the highest rank in Scouting.

The Eagle medal was presented in a ceremony with Theodore Metayer and Katherine Romoser serving as Masters of Ceremony. Metayer and Romoser are both Eagle Scouts earning their medals as members of Troop 180.

Community service is required for the previous ranks, with the Eagle community service project designed as a capstone for the Eagle rank. The Eagle project has to be significant, and the Scouts have to demonstrate leadership in its execution. Bridget's project was the building and installation of two buddy benches for Saint John the Baptist School. The Ludlow Veterans Department benefitted from Ronald's project that provided three flag collection boxes so the public can deposit worn American flags for proper retirement.

Among the speakers congratulating Bridget and Ron were State Sen. Jacob Oliveira and State Rep. Arron Saunders. Both praised the two Scouts and presented them with proclamations from both chambers of the General Court. Gary Savignano, scout executive and CEO of the Western Massachusetts Council, BSA spoke noting that in his career he's attended many Eagle Courts of honor, but this was his first where it was honoring a brother and sister.

Both Bridget and Ron spoke about their Scouting experience after moving



Parents Cara and Ronald Schneider presented their children Bridget and Ron their Eagles had medals. The ceremony continued with changing the Troop 180 neckerchiefs to the national Eagle neckerchief.

their names from the Life Scout board to the Eagle Scout board. Troop 180 has had boards since 1939 capturing the names of Scouts as they advance through Star, Life, and Eagle.

Since its founding in 1939 100 Scouts have earned the Eagle Rank. The two new Eagles had their district Boards of Review on the same evening along with candidates from other Troops in Hampden County. Bridget's was completed first, making her the 98th Eagle and her brother the 99th Eagle in Troop 180.

Boy Troop 180 and Girl Troop 180 are chartered to St Elizabeth Parish forming a family of Scout units that includes Cub Scout Pack 180. Further information is available by e-mailing info@scouts180.org or at www.scouts180.org.



Bridget and Ronald Schneider had a very special cake to cut after receiving their Eagle medals at a Court of Honor last week. Created by Westfield Scoutmaster and family friend Mary Benjamin the cake was decorated with the ranks and merit badges the new Eagles had earned.

PET OF THE WEEK

STAR

This is Star. She was nominated by her nanny, on behalf of Tania Chzanowski, who she lives with in Ludlow. Star loves the sun and running around, and likes to end her day with cuddles.



Young Professional Society hosts successful Third Thursday Anniversary Event

SPRINGFIELD - The Young Professional Society of Greater Springfield (YPS) hosted another successful Third Thursday networking event: Third Thursday: Alumni Connections & Annual Showcase.

YPS partners with local businesses and non-profits throughout western Massachusetts to help host their events and connect community members. These monthly events focus on business & career development, networking, social & cultural involvement, and community activism.

This Third Thursday event featured a review of 2023 events, partnerships and community investments, as well as an outlook for 2024. Highlights for 2023 include over 25 events, 18 partnerships, and over \$18,000 in community investment, with plans to surpass those numbers in 2024.

YPS also plans to seek partnership with local colleges and universities and engage in more volunteer and community giving opportunities in the coming year. Existing members and other young professionals interested in membership will have the opportunity to network with Board of Directors alumni and learn more about how YPS helped with their professional development.

The Young Professional Society of

Greater Springfield (YPS) hosted their Third Thursday event on Thursday, Jan. 18, at Springfield Country Club.

During the event YPS took a moment to honor and pay their respects to long-time member, Jennifer E. Schimmel, who recently passed away on Jan. 7.

Professionally, Jennifer dedicated her talents to non-profit organizations, holding the position of Executive Director of the Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity from 2007-2019. She has held various support roles with organizations such as Hartford Seminary, Wadsworth Atheneum, and Shakespeare & Company.

Springfield YPS is an organization built to exchange ideas, share common interests, and cultivate its membership to serve as the Pioneer Valley's leaders of tomorrow.

If interested, or have questions regarding this program please contact Jill Monson at 413-219-9692 or send an email to jill@chikmedia.us.

The Young Professional Society intends to provide Greater Springfield's budding leaders with opportunities to make connections, hone their skills, volunteer, and build community.

They aspire to create a supportive and inclusive environment where mem-

bers are inspired to excel in their careers, drive positive change in our community, and become catalysts for a brighter future. Through our collective efforts, we envision Greater Springfield as a hub of opportunity, innovation, and prosperity, driven by the energy and dedication of our young professionals.

The Exit 7 Players Presents

Almost MAINE

February 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 at 8pm
February 11, 18, 25 at 2pm

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Stage Managed by Caroline Trudell
Produced by
Krystle Bernier, Adam Malmberg,
Kathy Malmberg

EXIT 7 THEATER
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Exit7Players.org



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Wilbraham police officer recovering after shooting

By Dalton Zbierski
dzbierski@turley.com

WILBRAHAM – A 29-year-old Wilbraham police officer is recovering after being shot outside a residence on Old Carriage Drive at approximately 8:20 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20.

Wilbraham Police Chief Edward Lennon updated the public at the start of the Select Board meeting on Monday evening. He noted that officers initially responded to a call regarding a male resident threatening others in a home.

“Upon arrival, Wilbraham police officers outside of the residence exchanged gunfire with a 53-year-old male later identified as a Michael Ortega, who was inside the home. A male Wilbraham police officer sustained a gunshot wound and was transported to a hospital with serious injuries. The officer is currently in stable condition at the hospital,” Lennon said, on Jan. 22.

Other occupants in the home were able to escape through a second-floor window. They exited onto a lower roof and were subsequently assisted off the roof by police officers using a ladder.

Ortega was wounded in the gunfire exchange, and a four-hour stand-off ensued. MassLive reported first that state troopers from the Massachusetts State Police Crisis Negotiation Unit attempted to negotiate with Ortega.



Turley photo by Dalton Zbierski

A 29-year-old Wilbraham police officer was shot in the line of duty last Saturday.

Ortega did not surrender. The State Police report that after several hours its Special Tactical Operations unit used an armored vehicle with a battering ram to break a window. A State Police drone was flown in, revealing that Ortega was wounded.

“Ortega was located within the home with gunshot injuries. He was transported to a hospital, and he remains in the hospital in stable condition. Ortega’s booking charges are assault with intent to murder and assault with a dangerous weapon,” Lennon said.

Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies responded to the event, as did multiple fire and EMS agencies. Currently, the incident is being investigated by the Wilbraham Police Department, the State Police

and the Hampden County District Attorney’s Office.

“The scene was challenging due to extremely cold temperatures occurring at the time,” Lennon said. “Several Wilbraham police officers are on administrative leave while this incident is being investigated. This is routine in these matters. Later this week, there will be a voluntary critical incident stress management debriefing for all officers involved in the incident. That’s essentially the information we have at this time.”

Select Board Chair Theresa Godrich said that the officer is in the community’s thoughts.

“I want to say on behalf of all of us that we wish the officer the best recovery; he’s in our prayers,” she said.

HCS Head Start Hosts 2024 Kindergarten Fair

SPRINGFIELD -- Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield Head Start will host their 2024 Kindergarten Fair to provide preschool families with the opportunity to learn more about the transition from preschool to kindergarten.

This event will allow HCS Head Start to continue providing high-quality early education and support services to children and families in the community.

Head Start is a federal program that promotes the school readiness of children ages birth to 5 from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. Over one-hundred children and their families transition from HCS Head Start programs to kindergarten every year.

The educators play a critical role in helping families bridge the transition from Head Start to kindergarten.

Resources and representatives from elementary schools will be at the event to speak with parents about important dates to remember and tips on a smooth transition into kindergarten.

HCS Head Start will host the 2024 Kindergarten Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 24, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Carew Street Head Start Center located at 65 Carew Street in Springfield.

“Our goal at HCS is to make sure children and their parents are ready for the transition to kindergarten. It is an incredibly important part of a young child’s educational journey,” said Nicole Blais, Chief Executive Officer. “Hosting a kindergarten fair gives families the opportunity to meet other parents, and get valuable resources for them and their child.”

HCS Head Start provides a solid foundation for children to gain nec-

essary skills to enter kindergarten and to be successful in life. They are encouraging all families to seize this opportunity to help make their children’s transitions successful.

If interested, or have questions regarding this program please contact Jill Monson at 413-219-9692 or send an email to jill@chikmedia.us.

Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield Head Start has been providing high-quality early childhood education services for children and families in cities and towns located in Western Massachusetts since 1965.

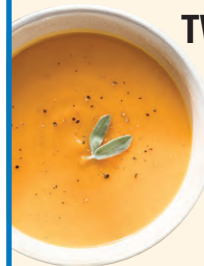
They are committed to providing low-income children and their families with a source of support for a brighter future. They strive to do so by providing high quality comprehensive child development services to enrolled children and empowering families to achieve stability in their home environment.

THE BEST FRESH FOR GOOD HEALTH!

Healthy Eating Specials
January 24 - 30

- Dole Bananas..... 59¢ lb
- Fresh Blueberries Pint Size \$3.99
- Fresh Broccoli Crowns \$1.99 lb
- Brussels Sprouts \$2.99 lb
- Snow White Cauliflower \$2.99 ea
- Romaine Lettuce Hearts
3pack \$2.99 ea
- Boar’s Head
Brown Sugar & Spice Ham \$10.99 lb
- Boar’s Head
Muenster Cheese \$6.99 lb

January is National Soup Month Fresh “Homemade” Soups



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OF SOUP MIXES**

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Magenta & More



January’s
Flower of the Month

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Big Game Sunday, Feb. 11th

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Sat. & Sun., Feb. 10th & 11th

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Valentine’s Day

Wednesday, Feb. 14th

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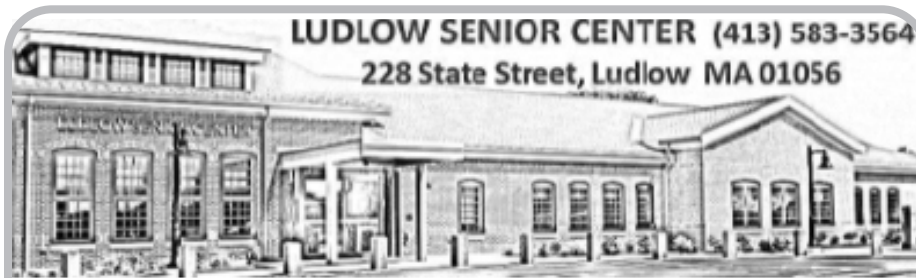
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pmarta@martalawoffices.com

Nomination papers for the March 25, 2024 Annual Town Election

LUDLOW – Nomination papers for the March 25, 2024, Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerk's office. fice (413) 583-5600 ext. 1 or visit the town's website under Town Clerk/Election Information. Nomination papers for all offices must be filed with the Town Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on February 2, 2024.

Margolis Orthodontics holds January food drive

WILBRAHAM – Margolis Orthodontics, 3 Crane Park Drive, Suite 5, Wilbraham, is holding a food drive for the month of January. They are hoping to help the needy families in the area. Any non-perishable items would be appreciated. Anyone who makes a food donation will be entered into a gift card raffle.



Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

LUDLOW— The calendar is packed with many fitness programs, entertainment, education sessions, and more! Reserve a lunch in the Center's beautiful dining room complete with coffee, tea, and dessert by calling a day in advance at 413-583-3564 (call Friday for lunch on Monday).

12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks
1 p.m. Western Dance Lessons
1:30 p.m. Dance Party
4:45 p.m. Movie: The Sounds of Freedom (2023)
5:30 p.m. Power Pump Class
5:30 p.m. Volleyball at East Street School

Wednesday, Jan. 31

9 a.m. Ceramics
9 a.m. Zumba Gold
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
12:45 p.m. Movie: The Sounds of Freedom (2023)
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
1 p.m. TED Talk

Thursday, Feb. 1

8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
1 p.m. Mahjong
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

*PLEASE register for Boomer Boot Camp, Healthy Bones & Balance, Foot Care and other programs as noted by calling 583-3564

Daily Events:

Café: Monday – Friday 8-11 a.m.
Exercise Room: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Open until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday
Walking Club: Monday – Friday 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., leaving from the parking lot.

Menu:

Thursday, Jan. 25: Brisket/Cole Slaw/Cornbread
Friday, Jan. 26: Cowboy Burger/Macaroni Salad
Monday, Jan. 29: Ham & Broccoli Casserole/Roll
Tuesday, Jan. 30: Dance Party! Stuffed Shells/Caesar Salad
Wednesday, Jan.31: Baked Salmon/Wild Rice/Mixed Veggies
Thursday, Feb. 1: TBD

Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. Call Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.

For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to ask about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

For full program and activity descriptions and general information about what a senior center is and does go to: Ludlow.ma.us. Seniors can also "like" the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook. A paper copy of the Senior Scene newsletter is available at the Center.

Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, Jan. 25

8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
10 a.m. Sunshine Painting Class*
11 a.m. 250th Parade Float Meeting
1 p.m. Mahjong
2 p.m. Book Club- The Thursday Murder Club
2 p.m. Writers Block*
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, Jan. 26

8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
9 a.m. Reiki*
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
10:30 a.m. Trivia
1 p.m. Ceramics
1 p.m. Health Bones & Balance Class*
1 p.m. Magic Class
1:30 p.m. Forget- Me Not Circle*

Monday, Jan. 29

9 a.m. Knitting
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
1 p.m. Scrabble
1:15 p.m. Pitch
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, Jan. 30

9 a.m. Quilting
9 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Cribbage
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga

Our First Big Event of 2024!

Visit us at Ludlowma250.org

First Night

Saturday, February 24, 2024

(SNOW DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2024)

Ludlow High School, 500 Chapin St.

The Kick-Off Celebration of Ludlow's 250th Year!

Beginning at 11 a.m. A full day of fun & festivities.

- Historical Presentations • Great Food & Beverages
- Ice & Wood Carving Demonstrations • Free Train Rides
- Lots of Craft Vendors! • Kids Craft Corner • Fireworks!

And so much more! Something for all ages!



Incorporation Day

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 • 6pm

Ludlow High School, 500 Chapin St.

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary

of the town's incorporation. Reading of the proclamation and patriotic music by the Ludlow High School Choir.

Follow us on Facebook Ludlowma250

Respite for caregivers offered

WestMass ElderCare, a leading provider of services for older adults and individuals with disabilities in Western Massachusetts, recently announced the expansion of its paid caregiver respite service.

According to a news release, the Caregiver Assistance, Respite and Enrichment program is designed to provide relief for caregivers who need a break from their responsibilities, offering peace of mind and an opportunity to recharge.

"Caregiving is a demanding job, and many caregivers struggle to find time for themselves and take care of their own needs. The CARE program from WestMass ElderCare, funded by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, aims to address this need, providing caregivers with a much-needed break while ensuring their loved ones receive the care they need," the release states.

The CARE program offers flexible scheduling, with caregivers able to choose the length and frequency of their respite sessions. Caregivers have the option of hiring their own respite care provider, which may be a trusted family member or friend or a professional from one of WestMass ElderCare's partner agencies.

"We understand the challenges that caregivers face, and we're committed to providing the support they need to succeed," said Roseann Martocchia, executive director of WestMass ElderCare.

"Our CARE program is just one of the ways we're working to make caregiving easier and more manageable for families in Western Massachusetts."

To learn more about the CARE program from WestMass ElderCare, go to wmlldercare.org/care/ or call 413-538-9020.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

To register for programs or find out more information, visit hubbardlibrary.org, or call (413) 583-3408. Weather-related announcements for outdoor events will be made on the library's Facebook page the morning of the program.

Library Hours: M, W, F 9-5, TU, TH, 9-8, S 9-1. Closed Sundays and holidays.

FOR ALL AGES

Calling artists and more! The Hubbard Memorial Library in Ludlow is seeking local artists, craftspeople and collectors who would like to display their wares in the library's display case. Exhibits remain in place for one month. The display case measures 70 inches long by 42 inches high by 11 inches deep, and has shelves which can be adjusted or removed to fit different sized items. For more information, or to arrange a showing, please contact the library at 583-3408 Ext. 114 during normal library hours.

Free Tech Help Call us at 413-583-3408x114 to book an hour long appointment. We can help you with your laptop, smartphone, or tablet. By appointment only, please no drop-ins.

Free Streaming Services Available! Use your Hubbard Memorial Library library card to access our streaming services, Hoopla & Kanopy. They're compatible with Android, Apple, Roku, AppleTV, Chromecast, and more. If you are a Ludlow resident with a Hubbard Memorial Library library card and the Libby app, you've already got access to Kanopy in the app! Hoopla provides movies, TV shows, music, eAudiobooks & eBooks, while Kanopy focuses on films, TV shows, and documentaries. Both have a version for kids. Why pay for a streaming service when you can get two for free with your library card?

FOR ADULTS

Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge Each month, you'll be challenged to read a book based on a chosen theme. January's challenge is a book you read years ago that you may feel differently about now. Those who participate will be entered to win a free book! For more information and to sign up, please visit massbook.org/

readingchallenge.

Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday starting January 18 until March 28, 1:30 p.m.

Have some fun this winter by joining us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. There will be no chair volleyball on February 22. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

Digitizing Our Past, Thursday, January 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m. In 2022, the Hubbard Memorial Library and the Ludlow Historical Commission worked with the developers of the Ludlow Mills, Westmass, to secure hundreds of glass plate negatives. This presentation will feature the history of glass plate negatives, details about the negatives found in the Mills, as well as a demonstration of how we digitize them. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

A Tree of Life: The Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting, Tuesday, January 30, 6:00-7:30 p.m. A Tree of Life is "the first film to document the survivor's stories and the only documentary with this level of personal access to the survivors and families of the victims, viewers will experience first-hand how the lives of those directly affected have profoundly changed and how the Pittsburgh community and the congregations set out on a path towards healing." Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Happy Hour Book Club, last Thursday of the month (1/25), 6:30-7:45 p.m. This month's book is "A Fall of Marigolds" by Susan Meissner. This engaging historical fiction novel explores a connection between two women, one from 1911 and the other from 2001. Pick up a copy of the book at the Circulation Desk. New members are welcome!

"Who picked this book?" Book Club, first Thursday of the month (2/1), 3:30-5:00 p.m. This month's book is "Other Birds" by Sarah Addison Allen. "Other Birds" is a heartwarming and gentle read perfect for winter. Pick up a copy of the book at the Circulation Desk. New members are welcome!

History Talk: The Amistad Trials, Tuesday, February 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Honorable Dennis J. Curran, retired Justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court, will be discussing the first civil rights trial in American his-

tory that occurred more than two decades before the Civil War. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Computer Basics, Thursday, February 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m. In this class, you'll learn computer skills like using a mouse as well as computer terms and definitions. This class is meant for computer beginners. Space is limited. Please sign up by calling Olivia at 413-583-3408 x114

FOR TEENS

Nintendo Switch Night, every other Tuesday (1/23/24 & 2/6/24) 6:00-7:45 p.m. Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Nintendo Switch games. For 6th-12th graders, space is limited to 16 people, please register.

The 'Fellowship of the Pages' Tween Graphic Novel Book Discussion Group, Every Thursday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Meet each week to discuss graphic novels, eat snacks, play games, and make friends. This month the group is reading "Awkward" by Svetlana Chmkovala, copies of which are available in the Youth Room. Please register.

Water Bottle Stickers For Teens, Thursday, January 25, 3:30-4:30 p.m. learn how to use the library's Cricut machine to design and make water bottle stickers. Please bring your own bottle. Drop in.

Dungeons & Dragons High School Adventure Ensemble, Fridays 2:30-4:30 p.m. This group is for experienced high school players and currently has room for 2 more players. Please register.

"Read Between the Lines" High School Book Group, Last Friday of the month, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Book chat and snacks for ages 14 & up. January's book is "This Time Next Year" by Sophie Cousens; copies of the book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

Pokemon Club, Mondays 3:30-5:00 p.m. For 8 & up. Trading, dueling, & gaming on handhelds, phones, or Nintendo Switch. Please have your name on everything you bring to the club. Please register.

Minecraft Club, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:45 p.m. Minecraft players of all skill levels can bring their own devices, or may use one of the library's eight computers to build, play & create. For upper elementary & up. Drop-

in.

Massachusetts Children's Book Award Book Group for 4th-6th Grade, Thursday January 11th & February 8th, 6:00pm - 6:45 p.m. 4th-6th graders across the state are the ones to decide who wins this award after reading at least 5 of the nominated books. Meet with Youth Services Librarian July each month for 45 minutes to discuss, decide, play games, and share snacks. Everyone who has read at least 5 of the books by April 15th will cast their vote, celebrate with an ice cream party, and be featured in an article in the Register! Please register.

Roblox Club, Fridays 3:30-4:45 p.m. Meet new friends or play with old ones while playing Roblox. For ages 8+.

Creative Collaging, Friday, January 26, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. All ages. Lots of fun paper and picture book dust jackets will be out all day, along with scissors and glue with which to cut up and create. Drop in.

FOR CHILDREN

Daily Drop-In Crafts. All ages. DIY crafts available in the Youth Room Daily. New craft each week.

Winter Storytime Session: Going Places, Mondays 10:00 a.m. (starting 1/08/24) Ages 3-5. Stories, songs and games featuring far away places with a craft and snack at the end. Please register.

Sing With Me, Tuesdays 10:30-11:00 a.m. For ages 0-5. Join Youth Services Librarian July for 30 minutes of favorite children's songs & movement. Drop-in.

Winter Storytime Session: Going Places, Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. (Starting 1/10/24) Ages 2-3. Stories, songs and games featuring far away places with a craft and snack at the end. Please register.

Lego Build Challenge, Wednesdays 12:00-5:00 p.m. Pull a Lego Build Challenge Card and try to build it with the library's Legos, or free build just for fun. All creations will be put on display in the Youth Room for the week. Drop-in.

Grow, Play and Learn, Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. For ages 0-5. Come join us for stories, songs and skill building, led by Kelly Castor, Early Childhood Developmental specialist, who will guide caregivers in strengthening interactions with their children. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents. Please register.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Crazy for carrots

I used the last of my home grown carrots in soup today.

Growing enough carrots to last into the winter months is a huge accomplishment for me. You see, I've never been the best carrot grower.

In the past, either the seeds didn't germinate well, or if they did, bugs ate the seedlings when they were just an inch tall. One year I got past that only to have the roots taste so bitter at harvest that I ended up throwing them all out.

All that work for nothing!

After a good carrot growing experience last year, however, things are looking up, and I'm planning for an even better harvest this summer. I've been slow to inventory my seeds this year, but in preparation, I did some research on carrot varieties and culture.

My great-flavored carrots were due in part to the variety.

I don't remember the exact name, but I know for certain they were a Nantes type. The sausage shape and blunt end is a giveaway. They were crisp and sweet and about six-seven inches long.

If you aim to grow the kind of standard carrots that are typically sold in the grocery store, Imperator types are what you should look for. Because they can grow very long, be sure you have loose, deep soil.

Some experts say that although they can top off at nine-10 inches long, they are not always flavorful.

Chantenay types are a good choice for shallow soils.

These carrots have wide shoulders but are extremely tapered, growing only five-dix inches long. They are typically crisp and sweet, and like most carrots, taste even sweeter after a few frosts.

Another good choice for shallow or dense soils are the Danvers types. Originating in Danvers, Massachusetts, this heirloom six-eight inch carrot tapers to a point.

Typically, they store well and are good for cooking.

In addition to these types, there are hybrids of the above types and specialties beyond that. Once thing they all have in common is their culture.

Growing carrots is not hard if you follow a few hard and fast rules.

Ideally soil should be deep, loose and free of stones. Carrots grow well in raised beds for this reason.

Regular garden beds should have the soil loosened to about a foot deep. Be wary of using fresh manure or other sources of fertilizer that are super high in nitrogen.

While it's true that carrots like some nitrogen, having ultra rich soil will make for fibrous, hairy roots. Last year, I sowed my carrot seeds immediately after harvesting my garlic in July.

I did not amend the soil at all in preparation of the planting. Experts say that if you are going to amend it should be done the fall prior.

It can take a long time for carrot seeds to sprout. Gardeners have tried all sorts of extraneous measures to get them to germinate more quickly and with greater consistency.

Here are some things I have read about and some I have tried.

The old radish trick – try sowing radish seed interspersed among your carrot seed. The radishes will sprout first, marking the row and providing some shade for the developing carrot seedlings.

Some people pre-sprout. Place seed in a moist paper towel and set it in a warm spot

Please see **GARDEN**, Page 8

SIGNS THAT YOU MAY HAVE FROZEN PLUMBING...



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

GUEST COLUMN

Lessons from the mountain



On the shoulder of Mt. Monadnock, NH

Ever since Tom and I arrived back home from Colorado in mid-October, our every-weekend mountain adventures have dwindled to once a month forays into the forest. Between home renovations, family events, and the holidays, we've had to put hiking on the back burner more often than we'd like. At least temporarily. But we couldn't allow 2023 to end without taking our annual New Year's Eve hike. After all, what could possibly be more satisfying than saying farewell to one year and ringing in the next than taking a long walk up a mountain?

We decided that this year's target would be Mt. Monadnock in New Hampshire- the second most climbed mountain in the world. In the days leading up to the holiday weekend, the mountain



Please see **GARDEN**, Page 8



Submitted photos



forecast called for moderate wind, wind chill temps in the mid-teens, and a 20 percent chance of rain turning to light snow during the morning hours, with clearing skies in the early afternoon. Which, if you are familiar with mountain weather, means that there is a 100 percent likelihood that you will get dumped on all day.

However, since Tom and I were beginning to experience the telltale signs of hiker withdrawal- reduced muscle tone, restlessness, irritability, general moodiness and lack of energy- no amount of rain or wind or sleet or hail was going to stop us from heading to New Hampshire for a dose of fresh mountain air. We would go prepared for whatever the mountains would throw at us, even if it meant packing enough layers for a day on Everest. It was time to get our mojo back!

As I began to gather gear, prepare

Please see **HIKING**, Page 11

The REGISTER

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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication.

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All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: The Register, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email mharrison@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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The REGISTER TEAM

EDITORIAL

register@turley.com



ASSISTANT EDITOR

Marcelo Gusmao
mgusmao@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES

Jocelyn Walker
jwalker@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com



STAFF WRITER

Harrison Giza
hgiza@turley.com

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PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



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Mambo Kings bring Latin Flavor to Symphony Hall with “Havana Nights”

Performance with Springfield Symphony Orchestra to feature renowned Afro-Cuban ensemble The Mambo Kings with soloist Camille Zamora

SPRINGFIELD—The Springfield Symphony Orchestra will host Havana Nights at Springfield Symphony Hall on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., featuring renowned Latin jazz and afro-Cuban ensemble The Mambo Kings and soloist Camille Zamora, who made her debut with the SSO at the 2022 Holiday Pops.

Tickets are on sale, starting at \$35, at SpringfieldSymphony.org, or by calling the Box Office at 413-733-2291.

The concert is largely being sponsored by Golden Years Homecare Services and the family of Cesar Ruiz, owner of Golden Years and a business and community activist.

Havana Nights, which will be led by Guest Conductor Nick Palmer, marks the first Latin-themed concert hosted by the SSO and will feature a range of Latin music, from a tango such as Por Una Cabeza by John Williams, to the music of Santana.

According to Paul Lambert, President and CEO of the SSO, “We are thrilled to offer this concert with a distinct Latin theme, as we continue to diversify our musical offerings in attracting new audiences to Symphony Hall. Havana Nights will merge Afro-Cuban flair with our classical musicians, creating something truly unique and that opens a new way to connect with our community musically. We are particularly gratified that Cesar Ruiz, his family and the company that he created and leads, is serving as Community Leader Sponsor in helping to underwrite this important musical offering to the Latin Community and the community at large.”

The Mambo Kings have been together since 1995 and have become one of the most prominent Afro-Cuban and Latin jazz ensembles in the country. The quintet made their orchestral debut in 1997 with the Rochester Philharmonic and have since appeared with orchestras around the country, along with performing at concerts and festivals. They have released three self-produced recordings, “Nostalgia,” “Live!” and “Marinera,”



Submitted photos

and their music continues to receive radio airplay throughout North America and Puerto Rico.

The Mambo Kings consist of Musical Director and jazz pianist Richard DeLaney, who has written and performed music for film, television, the stage and the concert hall; Percussionist Wilfredo (Freddy) Colón (drums, timbales, bongos), who has performed with such artists as Aretha Franklin, Tito Puente, Soneros Del Barrio and Johnny Rivera; Saxophonist John Viavattine, an accomplished woodwind specialist who has toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and performed with The Temptations, Ray Charles and others; Percussionist Tony Padilla (congas), who has been performing professionally since the age of 14 and played with such artists as Paquito De Rivera, Steve Gadd, Peter Erskine and Arturo Sandoval; and Bassist Hector Diaz, who has been playing with bands in the Western New York area since the age of thirteen and has performed with Ismael Miranda, Hector Tricoche, “El Cano” Estremera, Paquito Acosta, Zafra Negra, Luisito Rosario, Wendell Rivera and Johnny Rivera.

Hailed by NBC Latino and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus as a leading interpreter of classical Spanish song, soprano soloist Camille Zamora is performing with the SSO for the second time, making her debut with the Springfield Symphony at the 2022 Holiday

Pops. Her performances of Spanish repertoire have been heard on five continents, in venues ranging from Carnegie Hall to Zimbabwe’s Harare International Festival, and in live broadcasts on NPR, BBC, Deutsche Radio, and Sirius XM.

Zamora has performed Tango Caliente and Sueños de España – her signature concerts of zarzuela arias, boleros, and more arranged for her by Grammy® Award winner Jeff Tyzik, with orchestras around the country, including Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, and more. She has performed and recorded principal roles in zarzuelas, including Luisa Fernanda in ten sold-out performances with LA Opera at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Zamora has also performed at the Kennedy Center and at the U.S. Capitol with Yo-Yo Ma.

Guest Conductor Nick Palmer has been a frequent Pops conductor for the SSO in past seasons, and also serves as Music Director of the North Charleston Pops in South Carolina, the Altoona Symphony in Pennsylvania, and the Evening Under the Stars Festival in Hingham, MA. Palmer was a recipient of the Helen M. Thompson Award from the League of American Orchestras as the nation’s most outstanding young music director. He has had an extensive recording career including recent recordings with the London Philharmonic at the Abbey Road Studios. He has conducted with the Detroit Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, Salt Lake Symphony, and other orchestras around the country. He also conducts internationally with such orchestras as the Europa Philharmonie and the OSSLA and Monterrey Symphony in Mexico.

A native of Hingham, MA, Dr. Palmer graduated cum laude from Harvard University and received his Masters and Doctoral degrees in Orchestral Conducting from the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Iowa, respectively. He also studied at the Juilliard School.

Golden Years Home Care and the Ruiz Family, as the Community Leader Sponsor for Havana Nights, is joined by other concert sponsors that include The Republican/MassLive and New Valley Bank, with additional support from the Mass Cultural Council.

The 2023-24 SSO season marks 80 years for the Orchestra. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.springfieldsymphony.org.

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra is the largest Massachusetts symphony outside of Boston. It consists of over 65 musicians from the NE region of the United States and Canada, and holds many performances in a given season – as either the full orchestra or in ensemble formats.

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The Loomis Communities announces new Resident Member of Board, Sanford Belden

Belden Has Been a Resident of Loomis Village Since 2018

SPRINGFIELD—The Loomis Communities, the longest-serving provider of senior living in the Pioneer Valley, has announced a new Resident Member of its Board of Directors, Sanford Belden (photo attached).

Belden has resided at Loomis Village in South Hadley with this wife since 2018.

Belden retired in 2006 as the CEO of Community Bank System, a large-scale regional financial institution headquartered in Syracuse, New York with 225 bank branches and a variety of other fi-

nancial service businesses in four states. He has previously served as a senior executive in New York City at a large international bank; at a major national bank headquartered in Minneapolis; and with the Farm Credit Banks, one of the government-sponsored entities.

Belden has served on more than 30 governance boards for both for-profit and not-for-profit entities throughout the U.S., including on the Board of Governors of the American Red Cross in Washington, D.C. Locally, Belden has served as a board member of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra; Smith College; Kestrel Land Trust; and Center for Eco-Technology. Additionally, Belden has served as Chair of the Community Foundation of

Western Massachusetts, Cooley Dickinson Hospital, and Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity.

In addition to his career working at financial institutions, Belden held a faculty position at Cornell University and earned a mid-career certification from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. Belden has Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University in economics.

According to Margaret Mantoni, President and CEO of The Loomis Communities, "We are fortunate to have so many people living in our communities with years of business, organizational and philanthropic experience. Sandy Belden is one of those with a wealth of knowledge

in so many areas and we welcome his perspective as a Resident Member of The Loomis Community's Board."

Belden was born and raised on a farm in Hatfield, which has remained in his family since 1690. He and his wife, Betsy, moved to Loomis Village in South Hadley in 2018. The couple have three children and nine grandchildren.

The Loomis Communities is the longest serving, most experienced provider of senior living in the Pioneer Valley. As a not-for-profit organization, Loomis' mission is to open doors to worlds of positive aging on three campuses: Applewood in Amherst, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing in Springfield, and Loomis Village in South Hadley.

DUBOIS from Page 1

said. "They just came out of college and didn't have any hands-on experience. You have to show what hand-on means on the fire scene. Some who were more medically inclined, they could save people's lives real easily, so they're mostly in the ambulance and they know that perfectly."

About the department he's leaving behind, Dubois was able to say with confidence, "I wouldn't worry if something happens to you in Ludlow. You're 'gonna be safe."

Dubois said that now that he's retired, he is going to spend time working on and riding his motorcycles, and "enjoying life for a change."

"I have a couple of Harleys," Dubois said. "I'm rebuilding one right now from 1976 that I bought when I was 19 years old. I took it apart, and me and my buddy are rebuilding it, riding motorcycles and enjoying life for a change."

Dubois's celebration will be held at the Polish American Citizen's Club this Friday, Jan. 26, starting at 6 p.m.

CHILI CONTEST from Page 1

bells on First Night, on Feb. 24, or the rain date, Feb. 25, at 2:50 p.m., in honor of celebrating the town's 250th birthday. Morrison is coordinating this with other churches, as well as the owners of the clocktower at the Mills.

The contest will open to the public

at 12:30 on Sunday, Jan. 28, at Faith Community Chapel on East Street. People interested in entering the contest, can contact Pastor Morrison by email at fccpastorlisa@gmail.com by Friday, Jan. 26.

"Everyone is welcome to come and participate and judge," Morrison said. "We're hoping it will be a community event."

SELECTMEN from Page 1

the public, and these were predicted to increase in the summer months.

"The primary function of this job would be to work in the before- and/or after-school program, as needed," McBride said. "And then the thought would be that this person would transition to assist the current clerk with various administrative functions; answering phones, data entry, entering bills, processing camp applications, working with the clerk and with HR towards filling employment applications for the summer camp, for the before- and after-school program and for lifeguards and such."

The Selectmen said they would take this request into consideration along with the other staffing requests, and they would give him an answer at a later date.

Dog complaint

Animal Control Officer Octavia Anderson approached the Selectmen for a solution to a dog complaint she had been mediating between neighbors Kim Libiszewski and Carol Gebo. Gebo described incidents when Libiszewski's dogs came at her grandchildren.

"This is an ongoing problem, I have calls for these dogs being loose dating back to 2020," Anderson said. "What I would like to see come out of this is a fence; a fence would solve the problem."

Anderson described interrupting her Christmas Eve celebrations to retrieve Rocco, one of Libiszewski's dogs, and then spending her Christmas morning

at the dog kennel. Libiszewski said that the dog got loose because of a guest who was staying over the holiday and that otherwise her dogs have not gotten loose since October.

"I know Kim loves her dogs, and I have no desire to take her dogs away," Anderson said. "But we need to come to some sort of understanding that these dogs can't get loose."

The Selectmen agreed that a fence was in order and would solve the problem but voted to have Libiszewski install a fence around her property within 90 days, with a possible extension in case of weather delays.

Parade route

Bruce Durand, Chair of the 250th Committee's Parade Committee, approached the Selectmen with a request to change the Memorial Day parade route. Durand recommended that, instead of starting at the Gremio Lucitano Club, the parade would start at the High School and then go down East Street, but his request was denied.

"No way, no how," Selectman Manny Silva said. "It's been there forever. There's a memorial there for veterans, and I think that should really happen, during that parade."

After other members of the board expressed similar misgivings, Select Board Chair James Gennette said to observe the 250th Parade, which will follow Durand's recommended path, and gauge whether to adopt the route for other parades at a later date.

GARDEN from Page 6

in the house and it will sprout. Immediately after sprouting it is sown in place in the garden.

The rows are kept moist and ideally the seedlings take hold. Sadly, I have read that sometimes this causes roots that end up misshapen.

Sometimes gardeners use wood, shade cloth or burlap to keep the seedbed moist. If you miss when the seeds sprout, they could be smothered under these coverings or worse yet, get tangled up in the fabric.

Check daily and remove coverings on the first notice of germination. Continue to keep the bed watered or seedlings will perish.

My success this past summer was due in part to when I sowed. In mid-July, soil temperatures were optimum (around 75 degrees) and seedlings germinated in a week.

I kept the plot watered until they were up and growing. Although carrot seed can germinate in early spring- even when soil temperatures are below 50 degrees, it will definitely require some patience, and work, on our part, to keep the seedbed from drying out.

Another concern gardeners have, has to do with sowing the tiny seeds and/or thinning the seedlings. Carrots mature to the right size when given at least two inches between plants.

I usually try to sow my seed a half-inch apart and then thin to two inches.

Thinning is a pain to do, especially in bigger plantings, but it can be done.

In order not to damage nearby seedlings, I often use a tiny pair of scissors to cut away the crowding seedlings. A thumb and index finger can also be used to pinch away the excess plants right at the soil line.

Sometimes gardeners mix carrot seed with sand or dry coffee grounds to make sowing the small seed easier; using seed tape or pelletized seed are other, albeit expensive options to insure more equidistant seedlings. Regular carrot seeds are viable for two-three years whereas pelletized seed is viable for a year.

Plan accordingly by not ordering more than you need. Tape and coated seed do still need to be kept as moist as regular sowings - maybe even more so, due to the additional layers.

I am excited to grow carrots again this year. Hopefully a bigger harvest will enable soup-making well into spring.

Tackling what types of carrots to grow and ensuring good germination and a healthy stand of seedlings will mean I am well on my way to achieving that goal!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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Shutout snaps Lions losing streak

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

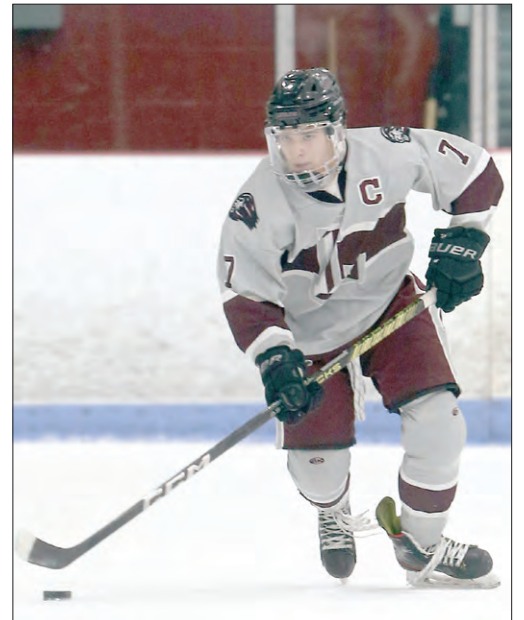
WEST SPRINGFIELD—Following a pair of one goal losses to Fay Division rival Agawam and Blackstone Valley Regional Voc./Tech High School, the Ludlow hockey team couldn't afford to have another setback.

The Lions, who dropped below the .500 mark, ended their two-game losing skid with a 5-0 shutout victory over the Greenfield Green Wave in a non-league match held at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

"This is a very big win for us because we had lost our last two games by one goal. We held the lead at the end of the second period in both of those games," said Ludlow head coach Paul Rivest. "We played very well against a good Greenfield team in today's game. We executed our gameplan from start to finish."



Tanner Severyn fights to keep the puck.



Brice Pereira heads up the ice.

ish."

The Lions, who had a 5-5-1 overall record, were ranked 38th in the MIAA state power rankings that was released on January 16. The top 32 hockey teams in each of the four Divi-

sions will automatically qualify for the state tournament. The other teams who finish the regular season with a .500 or better record will also qualify for the state tournament.

The Lions also moved into

first place in the Western Mass. Class B rankings.

They traded places with the Green Wave (8-4), who are members of the Wright Division.

The Western Mass. hockey

tournament had three classes a year ago.

Ludlow is the defending Class B champion, while Greenfield, who co-ops with six other

Please see **HOCKEY**, Page 11

Lions drop matchup on the road



Aneysha Donais tries to make a pass while being covered by a

SOUTHWICK – Ludlow girls basketball lost last Monday night at Southwick 57-31. Ludlow is 1-9 this season. The Lions got 16 points from Aneysha Donais.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Ryleigh Remillard passes midcourt.



Eliana Garcia looks to inbound the ball.



Nora Adams collects a pass.

Fast start helps Lions grab win



Jackson Mateus looks to make a pass.

EAST LONG-MEADOW – Last Thursday night, Ludlow put up some big numbers in the first quarter, outscoring Hampden Charter 25-12 and used that momentum to get a 72-57 win over Wolves. Daniel McKenney scored 27 points, including three treys. And Giovanni Acevedo turned in 15 points. Two others tied with eight points each. Ludlow improved to 4-5 on the season and broke up a three-game losing streak with the win.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Daniel McKenney led all scorers with 27 points over Hampden Charter last Thursday.



Cameron Lyman looks to enter the paint.



Giovanni Acevedo looks for the layup.



Mathis Fitzgerald goes up for a basket.

T-Birds drop decision to Amerks

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (18-15-3-2) could not keep pace with the potent offense of the Rochester Americans (19-13-3-1), falling 7-3 on Saturday night at Blue Cross Arena in Rochester.

The home team came out with firepower from the onset, and after a bad defensive zone turnover, Linus Weissbach cashed in with a wrister past Vadim Zherenko to make it a 1-0 game just 3:24 into the action. The Amerks were not finished, either, as Graham Slaggert found himself available for a deflection outside of Zherenko's crease, and he did just that at 6:07, tipping it by the Springfield goalie to make it a 2-0 Rochester lead.

In need of a positive shift in morale, the T-Birds got just that when Calle Rosen crept up into a play at the offensive blue line, stepping into the high slot to receive a one-touch pass from MacKenzie MacEachern. With a lane available to shoot, Rosen did just that, snapping it past Devon Levi's blocker just 39 seconds after the Slaggert goal to cut the Rochester lead down to 2-1 at 6:46.

Springfield's special teams stepped into the spotlight meaningfully after that, killing off a pair of Amerks power plays thanks to a stabilized effort by Zherenko and his defense.

When the T-Birds received their first power play in the closing minutes of the period, they took full advantage to erase the two-goal hole before a full period was even completed. In his first game as a T-Bird, recent ECHL call-up Tanner Dickinson made his presence known, beating Levi with a snapper from the left circle to even the score, 2-2, at 17:17. Rosen picked up the primary assist in accounting for both Springfield goals in the opening frame.

After 20 minutes, Zherenko exited the game with an apparent injury, so former Amerk Malcolm Subban was thrust into duty. Even with the goalie swap, history repeated itself to begin the second period as Rochester got to the scoreboard first. Kale Clague slipped down the far side of the ice, undetected, and tapped home a perfect centering pass from Brandon Biro to make it a 3-2 game. Lukas Rousek also assisted, extending his point streak to an AHL-best 13 straight games.

3:30 later, another turnover reared its ugly head on the T-Birds, as Brett Murray intercepted a drop pass, weaved to the right side, and beat Subban with a wrist shot to make it 4-2.

With Springfield jumping on a power play with a chance to cut the lead in half, Rochester handed Springfield a bitter gut-punch as Isak Rosen stormed in on a breakaway and chipped a forehand over Subban's glove to make it 5-2 at 11:42. It was just the second shorthanded goal allowed all year by the T-Birds.

The T-Birds stopped the Amerks' run at the 14:47 mark when Jakub Vrana marched over the right-wing side on a 2-on-1 before flipping a perfect saucer pass to Mikhail Abramov, who one-timed it through Levi to make it a 5-3 game.

However, on this night, the T-Birds did not have the third-period magic, as Rochester held Springfield to just three attempts on goal in the final 20 minutes. Subban was forced to hold the 5-3 margin with a penalty shot save on Mason Jobst, but the Amerks persisted anyway, getting back-to-back goals from Viktor Neuchev and Weissbach separated by just 2:07 to finish the scoring.

Railers stun Komets in shootout

FORT WAYNE, IN – The Worcester Railers HC (17-15-3-2, 39pts) took down the Fort Wayne Komets (19-16-1-3, 42pts) on Saturday night in a shootout by the final score of 4-3 in front of a crowd of 9,747 at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. The Railers wrap up their three-in-three on the road against the Komets this Sunday, January 21st at 5:00pm.

Blade Jenkins (2-0-2) opened scoring for Worcester to give the Railers the early lead in the first before Nolan Volcan (1-0-1) scored a short-handed goal to tie things going into the second. The second period looked as though it was going to be a scoreless frame before Ture Linden (1-0-1) scored with just over three remaining in the period to put the Komets up 2-1 going into the third. Jack Dugan (1-1-2) extended Fort Wayne's lead before Joey Cipollone () and Blade Jenkins tied things up for Worcester to force overtime. As neither team scored in the extra frame, a shootout was required. It took seven rounds until Jack Quinlivan scored in the bottom of the round to give Worcester the 4-3 shootout win on Saturday night.

Worcester came out firing in the first period, playing what would end up being one of their best first periods of play this season. Blade Jenkins (10th) worked a tip on a Ryan Verrier shot to put Worcester ahead 1-0 at the 5:58 mark of the frame. The Railers would slip on the power play, allowing Nolan Volcan (11th) to slip past the defense and throw a puck of the backside of John Muse into the net to tie the game shorthanded at 1-1 going into the second. Physicality was high in the first period, with multiple scrums playing out in front of both nets and in the end-boards after whistles. Shots in the first heavily favored Worcester, 14-6.

The physical play continued in the second, as was the theme for most of the period. The Komets began to get more shots on Muse in the second, finishing with 15 total in the frame. Late in the

period, Ture Linden (17th) grabbed a rebound from the scrum in front which Muse dove for and patted it home around him to make it a 2-1 lead for Fort Wayne with 3:02 left in the second. Shots in the middle period favored Fort Wayne 15-7, and were tied across the game after two, 21-21.

Fort Wayne extended their lead in the third period thanks to Jack Dugan's (10th) goal off a wrister from the slot to make it 3-1 Komets. The third period was Worcester's from there. Joey Cipollone found the puck loose in the slot and skated it to the far side where he ripped it clean past Fanti to make it a 3-2 game. With John Muse pulled and the Komets ahead by one late in the game, the Railers worked their way into the attacking zone. Anthony Callin cut to the right wing through the defense and delivered a perfect cross-ice feed to Blade Jenkins (11th) who finished past Fanti to tie the game for the Railers and give them new life. Neither team scored across the remaining 1:41, as the game was headed into overtime.

Both teams exchanged a flurry of opportunities in the extra frame, as Fanti made four saves for the Komets while Muse made three for Worcester. Neither team broke through in overtime, meaning the game would be settled in a shootout.

The Komets shot first in the shootout. Shawn Szydlowski, Jack Dugan, Ethan De Jong, Matt Wedman, Carl Berglund, Xavier Cormier, and Ture Linden were all turned aside by John Muse. For Worcester, Keeghan Howdeshell, Blade Jenkins, Anthony Repaci, Connor Welsh, Anthony Callin, and Andrei Bakanov were all denied by Ryan Fanti. In the bottom of the seventh round, Jack Quinlivan had his turn in the shootout. He came in wide along the right-wing side, cut back across to the left, and skated in slowly as he then finished past Fanti to deliver Worcester their second shootout win of the season, and the extra point on the evening.

Baldwin Racing, Coby set partial schedule for 2024

MOORESVILLE, N.C. – Tommy Baldwin Racing (TBR) announced today that six-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Doug Coby will pilot the No. 7NY for select Tour events in 2024. The team will begin the season at New Smyrna Speedway for the World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing and the Whelen Modified Tour opener on Saturday, February 10.

The team plans to run seven of the 16 Whelen Modified Tour events.

TBR will compete at Richmond Raceway on Friday, March 29, Riverhead Raceway on May 18 and New Hampshire Motor Speedway as part of NASCAR's National Series weekend on June 22. The combination will return to the track on Wednesday, August 14 at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, Saturday, October 5 at North Wilkesboro Speedway and Saturday, October 26 at Martinsville Speedway.

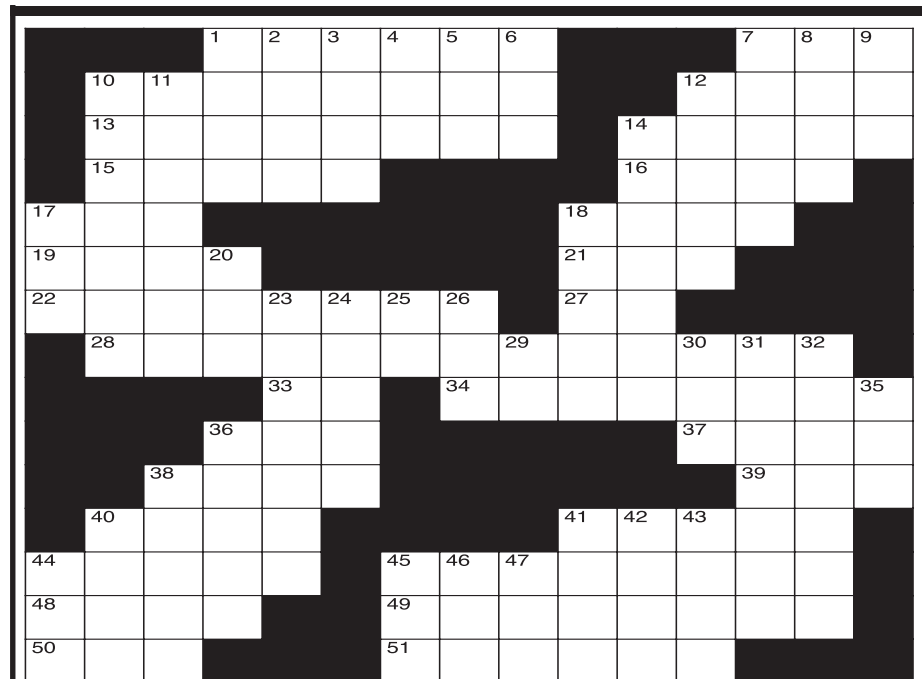
"Tommy has a deep racing history in the Modified community and when you drive for him, you know he's going to bring fast cars to the track," Coby said. "Having the opportunity to work with

them again in 2024 to simply try to win races is something I'm really excited for."

Coby and Baldwin first paired together in 2022 and won events at Riverhead Raceway and Lee USA Speedway in their first two races together. They also picked up a victory at Langley Speedway that season – one that saw Tommy Baldwin Racing seal the Whelen Modified Tour owner's championship with multiple different drivers. Coby drove the No. 7NY in 13 events last season with one victory and six top-five finishes.

"Doug is a proven winner and champion and we're happy he's back with us for 2024," Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. "We've selected a great list of events to compete on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at some of their biggest races. We're looking forward to having Doug back in the seat and it will be all about trying to get trophies."

The addition of Doug Coby to the 2024 Tommy Baldwin Racing lineup is yet another piece of what will be a busy season, including the likes of Luke Baldwin, Jack Baldwin, Bryan Narducci and Doug Coby.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Winged nut
- 7. ___ Humbug!
- 10. One who sets apart
- 12. Circle above a saint's head
- 13. Unpleasantly loud and harsh
- 14. Expressed pleasure
- 15. Feminine given name
- 16. Company of badgers
- 17. Popular Dodge pickup truck
- 18. Witty sayings
- 19. Leader
- 21. Autonomic nervous system
- 22. Premolar
- 27. Atomic #28
- 28. Holiday decorative item
- 33. Exclamation of surprise
- 34. Rusk or

- cracker
- 36. Returned material
- authorization (abbr.)
- 37. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- 38. Eat
- 39. Marxist economics theory (abbr.)
- 40. Ceases to exist
- 41. Male Arabic name
- 44. Series of ridges on an organ wall
- 45. Places where bees are kept
- 48. One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- 49. Church office
- 50. Single lens reflex
- 51. Pieces of fibrous tissue

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Classify
- 2. Dismounted
- 3. Produced
- 4. Consumed
- 5. Director Howard
- 6. The products of human creativity
- 7. Thai monetary units
- 8. Away from wind
- 9. Builder's trough
- 10. Relating to Islam
- 11. It can sometimes ache
- 12. Small quantities (Scot.)
- 14. Poisonous plant
- 17. Laugh at
- 18. Vogul
- 20. C. European river
- 23. Type of cat
- 24. Exclamation of disgust
- 25. Stephen King novel
- 26. Without armies
- 29. Expression of sympathy
- 30. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 31. Previously
- 32. Illegal drug
- 35. Kiloelectronvolt
- 36. Large, flightless birds
- 38. For smoking
- 40. Binary
- 41. Competition
- 42. Mark resembling an arrow
- 43. Containers
- 44. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 45. Commercials
- 46. I.M., architect
- 47. 007's creator

ANSWERS ON PAGE 14

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Be aware of this smart TV cyber scam

Scammers can target victims through any device connected to the internet, and your TV is no exception.

The Better Business Bureau Scam Tracker has seen an influx of reports about scammers catching people off guard with pop-ups on their smart TVs, according to a news release. Their objective is to steal your personal information and money.

How the scam works:

You open a familiar streaming service on your smart TV. However, you can't log in. Instead, a pop-up appears, telling you there is a problem with your device or your streaming subscription. You need to call a phone number or visit a website to fix it.

Don't fall for it.

If you call the number, scammers pretend to be customer service representatives. They will insist you pay an activation fee or allow them remote access to your smart TV. These con artists will get your credit or debit card number if you pay the fee, the BBB warns. If you give them access to your device or click on a link they provide, the scammers may install malware on your TV and use it to gain access to sensitive personal information.

Sometimes scammers ask you to "fix" the issue by paying them in gift cards. One consumer reported that after calling a number that appeared in a pop-up on their smart TV, a scammer instructed them to purchase three \$100

Xbox gift cards to add "anti-hacking protection" to their account. After buying the gift cards and contacting the number again, it became clear they were dealing with scammers.

How to avoid smart TV scams:

Double-check any fees you have to pay. If scammers ask you to pay an activation fee, antivirus protection fee, or any other kind of fee, do some research beforehand. For example, scammers claim you need to pay an activation fee to start using your Roku. However, a quick online search reveals that Roku never charges activation or registration fees.

Don't fall for fake websites. Scammers love to create imitation websites

using URLs that are just a letter or two off. Fake websites are a threat, even on smart TVs, so double-check the URL. Another way to protect yourself is to avoid clicking on links in pop-ups and, instead, type web URLs directly into your browser.

Check before you call. If a "customer service" phone number appears in a pop-up, double-check it before you call. Contact a streaming service or TV manufacturer's website to find their customer support number.

Never let anyone control your device remotely. Scammers usually ask for remote computer access, but they could also ask for access to your smart TV. Don't ever give control of your device to a stranger.



Luke Martin looks to shoot on goal after entering the offensive zone.



Ryan Goodwin corral the puck on defense



Nick Deroin sends a pass away.

HOCKEY from Page 9

high schools in Franklin County, captured the Class C title.

They'll only be two classes in this year's Western Mass. tournament, which is scheduled to be held at the Olympia Ice Center in February.

The Lions posted their second shutout of the regular season against Greenfield.

The duo of freshman Peter LeBorgne and sophomore Ethan Steigmeyer combined for a 6-0 shutout win versus Chiscopee on January 3.

LeBorgne, who was the Lions starting goalie against the Green Wave, only had to make 13 saves in the shutout victory.

"Posting another shutout feels really good, but it took a total team effort," said LeBorgne, who has been playing hockey for the last nine years. "The defense just played an incredible game today."

The Lions defensemen are senior co-captain Brice Pereira, senior co-captain Thomas Deroin, senior Cody Sanderson, senior Trevor Goff, and junior Ryan Goodwin.

Another defenseman is sophomore Sean Kefalas. He was mainly a forward against Greenfield because senior Ryan Kurtz is sidelined with an injury.

"We do have several players who can play multiple positions," Rivest said. "It's nice to have players that aren't locked in at only one position."

LeBorgne returned to action against the Green Wave after missing the previous two games because of the flu. Steigmeyer was the starting goalie against Agawam, which was an overtime loss, and at Blackstone Valley.

"If Peter had been rusty at the start of the game because he hadn't played or practiced in a week, I would've felt comfortable putting Ethan into the game," Rivest said. "They're both solid goalies. The defense also played very well."

Nine Ludlow players either scored a goal or had an assist against the Green Wave.

While both teams had a power play in the opening period, there wasn't very

many scoring chances.

The Lions did build a 3-0 lead in the second period.

Sophomore Nick Deroin scored Ludlow's first goal at the 3:19 mark, which was assisted by freshman Evan Dias.

A little more than a minute later, Kefalas, who also had an assist in the third period, netted the Lions second goal.

Sophomore's Tanner Sevryn and Connor Kokosa were credited with the assists on the Lions second goal.

Sevryn, who assisted on three of the Lions five goals, assisted on a goal by Sanderson with less than five minutes remaining in the second period.

Ludlow's fourth goal was scored by Kokosa, which was assisted by Pereira, and Sevryn, at the 4:30 mark of the third period.

With 3:53 remaining in regulation, senior Luke Martin scored the Lions final goal of the match.

When the horn sounded for the final time, LeBorgne was congratulated by his teammates.

It was the only meeting of the regular season between the two squads, but they could possibly meet again in the Western Mass. Class B. tournament.

HIKING from Page 6

snacks and load supplies into my winter backpack the night before our planned hike, I felt a glimmer of excitement. The heavier my pack became, the lighter I began to feel... until my heart sang and my soul stirred with the anticipation of walking beneath the trees on an undulating path in the wilderness.

The following morning, we arrived at the trailhead to steady drops of rain filtering through the trees. Within a half hour, snow began to mix with the rain, until the snow eventually won out and the earth became covered in a thin blanket of white. The snow softened our footfall and a dense quiet permeated the forest... exactly what we needed after the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

The weather changed quickly as we approached the exposed rock ledges. When we broke above the treeline, the calm was broken by a cacophony of strong wind and freezing rain. The rock ledges became glazed with the thinnest layer of ice- the type of conditions that would render our micro-spikes all but useless, but enough that our bare boots weren't getting purchase on the sloping rock. We were faced with a precarious situation. A quick discussion ensued.

Now there was a time when Tom and I would have laughed at the conditions we were currently facing. Scoffed at the wind and sleet and icy rock. Faced the weather head-on and charged ahead towards the open summit.

But we're wiser now. Or perhaps we're just too old to deal with the suffering that we were once willing to endure. Either way, we decided that it was time to bail. We pulled out our map and traced out a route that would

circle around and bring us back to the trailhead without going over the summit. Ten minutes later, we were back under the canopy of trees, sheltered from the biting wind and freezing rain. More importantly, now that we were no longer traversing icy ledges, we were secure in the knowledge that we would arrive back at the trailhead with unbroken bodies.

As we slowly made our way down the mountain, I became lost in my own thoughts.


Not so long ago, I would have been dissatisfied by the thought of not reaching the summit. I would have felt that we had failed. That the hike was somehow lacking because we hadn't finished what we set out to do. In the past, if we hadn't reached our planned destination, I would have been frustrated and disappointed.

But I've come to realize that in hiking, and similarly, in life, we don't always end up where we thought we would. Sometimes we need to take a detour. Pivot. Change course. In the midst of the situation, we might be disappointed when we're taken off of the path that we intended to be on and redirected somewhere else. But in the end, we usually end up exactly where we're supposed to be.

The mountains that require us to throw a backpack over our shoulders in order to reach the top have the ability to teach us lessons on the 'mountains' we face at sea level. Hiking parallels life in more ways than we sometimes realize. We rarely come back from a hike without carrying something back that we didn't carry on the way up.

And the lessons continue... See you in the wild places, my friends.

Follow Tom and Julie on Instagram @morethanthemountain for more of their hiking adventures.



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Do you have a local event or activity to publicize? Please send the information as either a Word doc or plain (no bold text or other formatting) email text (no PDFs, please and do not use all uppercase (i.e. UPPER CASE) by 5 p.m. Friday. At least two weeks prior to the event is encouraged. Send your community events to pressreleases@turley.com.

ONGOING

SENIOR BINGO: Hosted by the Indian Orchard Citizens Council 3:30-5 p.m. every Monday. Free to play with great prizes. For more information, call 413-209-8240.

THRIFT SHOP: Now open at St. Gregory Armenian Church, 135 Goodwin Street, Indian Orchard, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. every Saturday offering quality items at affordable prices. Gently-used clothing and accessories, household items, books, children's items, collectors' items and more are available. For more information, call the church office at 413-543-4763.

CHESS CLUB: Open to residents of all surrounding communities 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Indian Orchard Citizens Council, 117 Main St. For more information, contact the IOCC at 413-209-8240 or indianorchardcitizenscouncil@gmail.com or stop in during operating hours. Follow the IOCC on Facebook and Instagram.

LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER 55 AND OVER CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE: At East Street

School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. the cost to take part is \$5 per year. For more information contact Maria Ardolino, activities director at activity@ludlow.ma.us or call 413-583-3564.

AQUACISE AT THE CLUB: The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club, at 91 Claudias Way, continues to offer Aquacise throughout the week. Aquacise is a low-impact, full-body workout performed in the water to put less stress on your joints and muscles while building strength. Classes are open to all members with pool-inclusive memberships and do not require prior registration. Classes are held 8:30-9:15 a.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For questions, call 413-583-2072, ext. 124.

SUPPORT FOR FAMILY MEMBERS: The Michael J. Dias Support Group meets 6-7:15 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center. Education, resources, peer support, and hope for parents and family members coping with a loved one with a substance use disorder. Anyone needing help is welcome to attend. Masks are required and we will be seated six feet apart. For more information, call Maureen at 413-563-6226.

H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP: Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have experience with addictions, grief, anxiety and depression, (including anxiety and depression due to COVID-19) and for loved ones who might need help in their recovery. This group is also for those who can help lead others in their recovery by exam-

ple. This meeting in no way replaces professional therapies. It is a time for sharing strength, encouragement and hope. No fees. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage. Pre-packaged snacks are available. Small group structure based on basic Christian principles, concept, purposes and confidentiality. COVID-19 guidelines are observed. Masks required. 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at Fellowship Hall in Faith Community Chapel, 485 East Street in Ludlow. Parking lot behind Chapel. Fellowship Hall entrance at back of Chapel. Seating is limited. To reserve yours, call 413-519-4591.

QUABBIN VALLEY TWIRLERS If you missed the first lessons in the fall, now is the time to give yourself a gift of dancing enjoyment for the coming holiday time. Do you want some exercise, mental acuity, and lots of fun with great people? Try our national folk dance, square dancing with the Quabbin Valley Twirlers. They dance in Belchertown and Ludlow with Sunday and Wednesday evenings available. For more information, call Gloria or Fran at 413-467-3352.

BIBLE STUDY: A weekly Bible study led by Ludlow resident Hank Bastos takes place at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at 485 East St., Ludlow. Call 413-348-6487 for more information.

SHARE YOUR SIGHT: Volunteer to read, shop or walk with a blind or vision impaired person in your community. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired at 1-888-613-2777 for details.

BBB tip: Choosing a meal delivery service

Meal delivery services give consumers a more convenient way to make home-cooked dinners by delivering fresh, pre-measured ingredients and easy-to-follow recipes to your doorstep.

But just like any other service, each company is different.

Pricing, ingredients, and preparation requirements vary greatly between services. You'll need to do some homework to pick the one that best meets your family's needs. If the appeal of a meal delivery subscription is learning new recipes and experimenting with ingredients, you might choose one company. But if your main interest is speed and simplicity, another may be a better fit.

The following tips will help select an ideal meal delivery service for your household:

Research the delivery service. Ask friends and family, read reviews, and check BBB.org to learn about past customers' experiences.

Set a budget and check the fine print. Pricing can vary from one company to the next. Make certain the service aligns with your budget. In addition, not all meal delivery services include shipping fees in their pricing and read the fine print.

Know your skill level. Before committing to a plan, research what kind of cooking techniques you'll need to know. If a company's recipes require searing, roasting, and braising, do you know how? If not, make sure you have the time to learn new techniques.

Consider ingredient quality. Not all companies offer organic, non-GMO, or free-range meal ingredients. If these are must-haves for your family, make sure the company offers them.

Determine how much prep work you want. Some companies do more chopping and sauce-making than others. This seemingly small difference can make a big difference in how long each meal takes to make.

Contact customer service. If there ever is a problem - a missing recipe card or ingredient, for example - you want to know you can count on customer service. Make sure there are clear, easy ways to contact the company, even late in the evening. Read the company's reviews and keep an eye out for any indication that customer service is lacking.

Check the cancellation policy. Before making a decision to subscribe to meal delivery, understand the cancellation policy. Each company is different and some may have very strict policies.

Be careful with personal information. Most food delivery services process payments online. Make sure the company is legitimate before offering up personal information such as financial information and address.

Review BBB tips for shopping online. Since meal delivery services don't usually have brick-and-mortar storefronts, consider the tips in BBB's tips for smart shopping online.

Church DIRECTORY

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL
A Church of the Nazarene
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875
Email: faithcommunitychapel8@gmail.com
faith-communitychapel.org
Lead Pastor: Reverend Lisa Morrison
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SMC and Facebook Live Stream ludlowfellowship.org
FRIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m. Church Fellowship Hall
SATURDAYS at 10 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

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Sacrament Meeting 10-11 a.m.
Sunday school for adults, Young single adults (18-30) and teens (11-18) - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon
Classes for Young Men(11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
Classes for Young Women (11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon
Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday(3-10) 11- 12 noon
Nursery providedfor ages 18 months- 3 yr

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41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow
413-583-2630
Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys
Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

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In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
stelizabethludlow.org
Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram
Check out our Parish App
Wednesday, Jan. 24, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Youth Group - 3:30 p.m. (JR), Beacon of Faith Meeting - 4 p.m. (FLBH), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Confirmation Class - 5:30 (JR), Scouts - 6 p.m. (FLBH), Scouts - 7 p.m. (JR)
Thursday, Jan. 25, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C) Friday, Jan. 26, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C) Saturday, Jan. 27, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Mass - 4 p.m. (C), St. John the Baptist School Pasta Dinner - 5 p.m. (FLBH & K)
Sunday, Jan., - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Take & Eat - 8 a.m. (FLBH & K), Confirmation Class - 8 a.m. (JR), Faith Formation - 10:15 a.m. (All Rooms)
Monday, Jan. 29, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Faith Formation - 6 p.m. (JR/ER), Bible Study - 6 p.m. (ZR)
Tuesday, Jan. 30, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita Choir - 6:30 p.m. (C), Bereavement Support Group - 6:30 p.m. (ZR)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,
413-543-3627
Very Rev. Piotr Kalik
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAY
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:15 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:45 a.m. (English), 10 a.m. (Polish)
Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7:45 a.m. (English)
First Friday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (Polish/English)
First Saturday Mass: 9 a.m. (Polish/English)
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

STS. PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
45 Newbury St.
Ludlow, MA 01056
Phone: 413-583-2140
Pastor: Father Andriy Krip
Liturgy schedule:
Wednesday 9 a.m., Friday 9 a.m.
Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH
438 Winsor St., Ludlow
413-583-2312
Father Pedro DeOlivera
Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 9 a.m. (Portuguese); 11 a.m. (English)
Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses - 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)
Tuesday and Friday Masses - 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 p.m. (English)
First Saturday of the Month - 8:30 a.m.
For more information, visit ourladyoffatimaparish.org.

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Worship in person, 11 a.m.
Or watch our livestream.
See our website for more information: orchardcovenant.org.

Teens Who Code to meet in Wilbraham Jan. 31

WILBRAHAM - Teens Who Code will have their first meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Wilbraham Public Library. Facilitated by Mrs. Christine Goonan, this club is looking for new members. Grades 6-12 can explore project-based coding in a fun and friendly environment. Meetings are once a month in the Teen Loft at the library, and all attendees need a laptop to join in. Online registration is required at www.wilbraham-library.org or call 413-596-6141. After registering, teens will receive more info by email. This is a free program hosted by the Wilbraham Public Library.

Be aware of phony bank text messages

Be aware of phony bank text messages

One of scammers' favorite tactics is impersonating a person or organization you know and trust. That's the premise of this new text message scam, which has been popping up in recent BBB Scam Tracker reports. This time, con artists are impersonating your bank.

How the scam works

You receive a text message that looks like a fraud alert from your bank. It claims there is some unusual activity in your account. It may read: "Bank Fraud Alert - Did you approve a transaction for \$1,000? Reply YES or NO." If you reply to the text, the scammer now knows they have an active number - and a person to scam.

The scam doesn't end there. The scammer will call you to follow up, and the number will appear in the caller ID as coming from your bank. When you answer, the caller claims to be a bank representative who can help stop the fraudulent charges. To do so, you need to send money to yourself using Zelle or another digital wallet app. The caller walks you through the process of connecting the app to your bank account. Then, they ask you to verify the connection by sharing the code your bank sent.

Don't do it! If you give the scammer your verification code, the scammer can set up an account with your phone number and email - but their bank account information. If that happens, when you send money to "yourself," you're actually sending money to the scammer. Disputing the charges will be difficult because the scammer has tricked you into approving the transaction. Sending money through a digital

wallet app is like using cash, making it very hard to get your money back.

One consumer reported this experience to BBB Scam Tracker: "I received two texts stating it was the Wells Fargo Fraud Department wanting to know if I had made a Zelle transfer... I responded no and immediately got another text stating, 'Thank you, no further action is needed, a representative will call you from 800-869-3556.'

Within a few minutes, I got a call from an individual stating they were with the Wells Fargo fraud department. The caller ID on my phone said Wells Fargo, and the person said they could reverse the transaction if I sign into my online account and open the Zelle app. I did this and the caller asked if I saw my name. I told him I saw my name in two places. It looked like I would be sending money to myself. The caller said everything was fine and the money would come back to my account. After the call ended, I got two texts stating funds for \$2,500 and \$1,000 would be deposited in my Wells Fargo account. I went back into my account and there was no evidence of any deposits. What I did see was \$3,500 taken out of my account and a zero account balance."

How to avoid bank fraud scams

Understand your bank's policies. Know that your bank will never ask you to send money to yourself. If someone tries to convince you otherwise, it's a scam.

Watch out for fake caller IDs. Scammers can spoof caller ID names and



numbers to make you think you are receiving a call from a reputable source. If you weren't expecting to be contacted by your bank, it's best to avoid answering. Instead, call the number on the back of your ATM card to confirm that there is an issue.

Never share one-time passcodes. Scammers can use one-time passcodes from your bank or any other company to access your accounts and change information. Don't share them with anyone, no exceptions.

Contact your bank if you suspect a scam. If you receive an unsolicited call, text, or email that you suspect is a scam, contact your bank immediately and let them know.

Don't reply to suspicious texts. Ignore any instructions to reply yes or no if you receive an unsolicited, suspicious text message. If you reply to a scammer, they could save your number as "active" and target you with future scams.

For More Information

See the related BBB Scam Alert about phony banking texts and calls and review the BBB Tip on avoiding impostor scams.

If you spot a scam, report it to BBB Scam Tracker. Your report can help others avoid falling victim to similar scams.

Do you want more information about how to avoid getting scammed? Check out the Spot a Scam page and sign up to receive weekly scam alerts.

Hampden Senior Trips announced

A bus trip to the Lancaster, PA area is scheduled for April 23-25, Tuesday - Thursday. Stay for two nights at the Eden Resort, enjoy two buffet breakfasts, two dinners (one at an Amish family home), the play "Daniel" at Sight 'n' Sound Theater, Kitchen Kettle Village and much more. \$539pp dbl; optional cancellation insurance avail. Full payment deadline March 15.

On Wednesday, July 10 we Self-Drive to the Log Cabin for a great tribute to Jimmy Buffet by "Changes in Latitude". Your choice of either Prime Rib or Twin Lobsters for lunch. Cost is only \$92pp; full payment deadline June 14.

The Newport Playhouse will offer "Nonsense", a side-splitting musical about misadventures at a nunnery. On Monday, Aug. 26, a great variety awaits on an all-you-can-eat buffet for lunch, the hilarious play and a cabaret, all for \$125pp. Full payment deadline Aug. 7.

The above is a partial list of '24 possible trips; a minimum of 40 travelers needed for any trip to run. Flyers available at the Hampden Senior Center.

All prices incl taxes and driver's tip; any questions call Bobbi @ 566-8271 or email bobbijg2@charter.net.

Spiritual Healing to return to Federated Community Church

HAMPDEN - The Federated Community Church of Hampden, located on Main Street, will be offering Spiritual Healing on the first Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD19P2259PM
In the matter of:
Alfred Manuel Carvalho
Of: Ludlow, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/
Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Second** account(s) of Stacy L Pease of Southwick, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/21/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send

to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 17, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/24/2024

**Ludlow Public School Department
Notice of Public Hearing**
Pursuant to MGL Chapter 71, Section 38N, the Ludlow School Committee will hold a Public Hearing on the Ludlow Public Schools proposed budget for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 on **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., in the Harris Brook E.S. Library, 209 Fuller St., Ludlow, MA 01056.**
01/24/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P1128EA
Estate of:
Carolyn Chmura Stanko
Also known as:
Carolyn Stanko
Date of Death: 11/08/2018
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
ORDER OF COMPLETE
SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **San Mateo County Public Administrator** of San Mateo, CA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/12/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 08, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/24/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P0090EA
Estate of:
Gino F Torretti, Jr.
Date of Death: 11/30/2023
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal**

Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Kimberly A Danio of Monson, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Kimberly A Danio of Monson, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/15/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A **Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court.** Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 16, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/24/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD24P0038EA
Estate of:
Glen J. Suleski
Date of Death:
November 19, 2023
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Lori J. Savage of Indio, CA.**

Lori J. Savage of Indio, CA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
01/24/2024

Ludlow Special Town Meeting of October 2, 2023

Case #11172
Warrant Articles 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22 were approved by the Attorney General's office accordingly.

**see full context of text in Town Clerk's office.

Posted in all 6 polling locations and at the Ludlow Town Hall.
Precinct 1: Harris Brook Elementary School
Precinct 2: Paul R. Baird Middle School
Precinct 3: Ludlow High School
Precinct 4: East Street School
Precinct 5: First Church in Ludlow
Precinct 6: Paul R. Baird Middle School
01/10, 01/17, 01/24/2024

**TOWN OF LUDLOW
Zoning Board Of Appeals
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 6:00pm** on the application of **Guy Mitchell & Dale Shelton** for the property located at **696 Center Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 17D, Parcel 33, Zoning: Agriculture)** The subject of the hearing is for a special permit for construction of a concrete or asphalt pad and installing a 12' X 20' metal one car-carport with a location of 2.2 feet from the side property line, which does not meet the required 5 foot setback from the property line. The proposed car port along with the other structures on the property will exceed the maximum percentage of square footage allowed for accessory structures. The applicant is seeking relief from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Bylaw under Sections 3.3.1.

Manny Lopes, Chairman
01/17, 01/24/2024

Cosmic Bracelet Class: Unveil the power of your zodiac gemstone

Presented by the Scantic River Artisans Feb. 22 at the Hampden Senior Center

HAMPDEN – Embark on a celestial journey with our exclusive workshop designed to deepen your connection with the universe and express your unique essence through a personalized gemstone bracelet.

In this enchanting class, you'll explore the profound meanings behind the gemstone associated with your zodiac sign unlocking the hidden energies and

traits that make you truly one-of-a-kind.

Our experienced instructors will guide you through the art of bracelet-making, providing tips and tricks to ensure your creation is not only visually stunning, but also aligned with your zodiac's distinctive energy.

The event will occur on Thursday, Feb. 22 from 6 – 8 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hampden Senior Center, located at 104 Allen St.

The cost to sign up is \$20 and includes wine and one bracelet. To sign up, contact Sue Superson at sjsrighter@aol.com.

Great Decisions Discussion Group returns

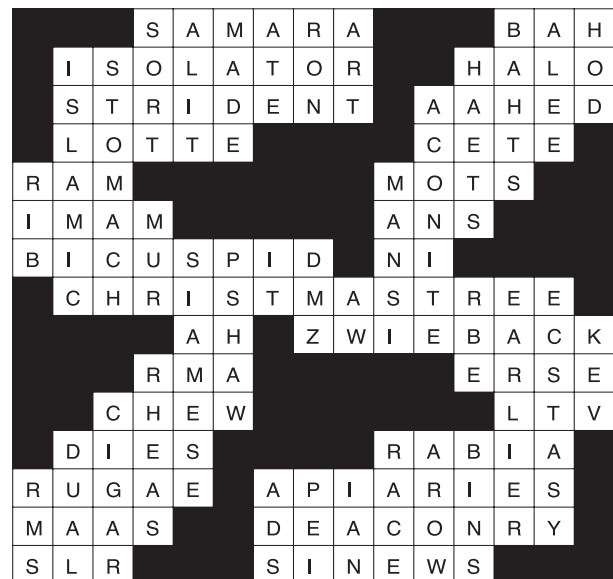
WILBRAHAM – Registration has begun for the 2024 Great Decisions Discussion Group, to be held at the Wilbraham Public Library beginning Feb. 7. Sessions will be held in the Brooks Room on Wednesdays from 4-5:30 p.m. on Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28, and March 6, 13, 20 and 27. If any sessions are canceled for snow or other bad weather, April 3 and 10 will be used as make-up dates.

The topics from the upcoming series are Mideast Realignment, Climate Technology and Competition, Science Across Borders, U.S. - China Trade Rivalry, NATO's Future, Understanding Indonesia, High Seas Treaty and Pandemic Pre-

paredness.

Great Decisions Groups meet all over the country – in private homes, libraries, and other venues to discuss selected topics in the area of current affairs. Participants can have their opinions tallied in a National Opinion Poll, which then gets sent to the White House, members of Congress and the national media. This is a wonderful program to learn more about what is happening in the world and to have your voice heard by people who make the decisions.

Please register through the Events Calendar at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org or call the library at 413-596-6141.



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13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

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FOR RENT

\$925 LUDLOW. Quiet 1 bedroom, 2nd floor, open kitchen/living room. Parking, on-site laundry. Utilities not included. No smoking, no pets. **413-543-3062.**



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FRED MARION Friday, Feb. 16	FRANK SERAFINO Saturday, Feb. 24	LUTHER Saturday, Feb. 3 Friday, Feb. 9
CHARLIE BONGIOVI Friday, Feb. 23	PETER NEWLAND (of FAT) Saturday, Feb. 17	
FLOYD PATTERSON Friday, Feb. 2	BRAD SHEPARD Saturday, Feb. 10	

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 Gourmet Pizzas • Grinders
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Valentine's Day
 Wednesday, February 14th
 We will be serving special Valentine dishes & cocktails!
 Make your reservations today!

We will be closed Sunday, February 11th

FAMILY STYLE MEALS
 Serves up to 6 people • Visit Our Website For Menus

JOIN US FOR LUNCH!
 Friday, Saturday, Sunday
LIVE MUSIC!!!
 Every Friday & Saturday • Visit Facebook For Lineup

BOOK YOUR NEXT FUNCTION WITH US!
 See our website for our Banquet & Catering Menu
lacucinahampden.com
 Mon.-Thurs. 3-9pm, Fri. & Sat. 11:30am-10pm & Sun. 11:30am-9pm
LOUNGE OPEN & PIZZA 7 DAYS
BAR OPEN LATE!

ROUTE 20 Bar & Grille
 EST. 2016

Ask About Our Customer Loyalty Program!
 JOIN US **Valentine's Week**
 WE'LL HAVE **SWEET** dinner specials and **LIVE** music!
 (NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

JOIN US FOR THE BIG GAME
 Sunday, Feb. 11th
Pre-Game Tail Party!
 Specially Priced Apps
 2-6pm in the bar

LIVE MUSIC!
 Thursday 1/25 Frank Serafino
 Friday 1/26 Luther
 Saturday 1/27 The Storytellers
Meet up with friends at Route 20!

SERVING LUNCH Thursday - Sunday 11:30
BRUNCH Sundays 11:30-2:30 PLUS OUR REGULAR MENU UNTIL 8PM

\$15 PRIME RIB NIGHT EVERY TUESDAY
 Dine In Only • While Supplies Last

3 COURSE MEAL \$25 EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

HAPPY HOUR THURSDAYS 4-7:30PM!
 Specially Priced Apps & Live Music

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 RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED FOR PARTIES OF 6 OR MORE **KENO**