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Submitted photo

From the left, Vice Chairperson William Rosenblum, Chairperson Manuel Silva, newly appointed Police Chief Mike Brennan, Member James Gennette, and Member Anthony Alves. Brennan moves from lieutenant to police chief following the retirement of Daniel Valadas.

Mike Brennan appointed new police chief

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – Beginning the Select Board meeting on Jan. 20 as Provisional Police Chief/Lieutenant Mike Brennan and ending the meeting as the newly appointed police chief of Ludlow, the Board began the interview process and asked questions to have a better understanding of what Brennan was bringing to the Town.

Brennan has been with the Ludlow Police Department for 26 years, provisional chief for the last five

months, and stated that it's been a real honor and privilege to serve in that role. Sharing that he's been a Town resident since 1988, Brennan began.

"I moved with my family from Springfield, I am a veteran of the United States Army Reserve and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, OIF, in 2005. I am a father of two children and husband to my wife Tanya, and son to Edward and Sylvia Brennan...have to get the parents in there!" exclaimed Brennan.

Chairperson Manuel Silva congratulated Brennan

and Member James Gennette followed by asking Brennan questions, with the first revolving around body cameras and working conditions versus safety.

"Body worn cameras have been raised as a change in working conditions in unions, not necessarily here but as a broad statement, with associated compensation and demands.

At the same time, officers widely express support for cameras as a protective and accountability tool, and as chief, how would you frame body cameras from a labor, safety, and operational

standpoint and how would you navigate implementation in a way that prioritizes officer safety, public trust, and the fiscal responsibility while remaining compliant with competitive bargaining obligations?" asked Gennette.

Brennan answered, "Body worn cameras implementation in terms of collective bargaining, yes. It would be a change in working conditions for the LPD since we actually don't have a body worn camera program.

Please see **CHIEF**, Page 11

Administrator discusses employee buyouts for options

By Amanda Munson
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LUDLOW – During the Jan. 20 Select Board meeting, the ongoing conversations of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget arose again after Town Administrator Marc Strange discussed options for employee buyouts to help the Town get in a better position financially. On indeed.com, a job search website, employee buyouts also called voluntary severance, refers to when an employer offers certain employees a package of pay and benefits for the employee to leave their job.

The main reasons are to lower costs, reduce the workforce, avoid hiring and training delays, or to restructure a department.

Strange started by explaining that in light of FY27 budget issues, "Potentially offering voluntary buyout packages for employees who may be willing to take them or ready to go. We reached out to the Town Council and their suggestion is to offer voluntary layoff to all Town employees and what that does is it gives the Town discretion as to whether or not for those to sign up and offer to take the buyout, and whether or not we want to accept it.

That's sort of the summary of what the process would be or what the offer would be. The question is whether or

not the Select Board is in favor of offering that and what the amount of the buyout would be," explained Strange.

Member James Gennette addressed Chairman Manuel Silva and stated that there's a lot of moving pieces right now, "We have the insurance, we are talking about a buyout for insurance as well, I think that falls in line with it as well. I like the idea of being able to offer somebody an offer like this in this situation, but I don't know if we are actually in a position where we have to do this, until the Town meeting decides if we are going into an override or not.

If we were not approved to go into override, then I think this is definitely in place, but I think putting this out a little too early might be a problem," stated Gennette.

Strange explained that even if the Town approves the override or not, they're still going to have to make cuts either way. If there is no override, there will be more cuts.

"There is still going to have to be layoffs, we need everybody, but we are looking at absolute necessities right now and people who may be in those positions come forward and accept the buyout amount. This is part of the solution, additionally to the plan design changes in the health insurance, either

Please see **ADMIN**, Page 8

Select Board reaches agreement with Vanished Valley on noise

By Amanda Munson
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LUDLOW – On Jan. 20 at the Select Board meeting, Vanished Valley Brewing Co. located at 782 Center St. had a visit from owner Mike Rodrigues to speak about the changes to the outdoor concert venue. This is after the Dec. 16 Select Board

meeting where neighbors and abutters went back and forth with the Select Board members on the recent passing of the noise ordinance in Town, which as of The Register press time has not been passed by the Attorney General's Office, and were annoyed about the lack of changes from the Town. Rodrigues was not present during the Dec. 16 meeting.

Following the recent noise complaints from neighbors and abutters surrounding the establishment, Rodrigues explained how the new venue location will help and lessen entertainment noise during normal business hours. Neighbors and abutters of the establishment were not present at this meeting.

The change in the out-

door concert venue will face the building and have the entertainment's backs face the houses that were submitting noise complaints to the Ludlow Police Department, the Select Board, and the establishment.

Chairman Manuel Silva thanked Rodrigues for complying with the Board's request in taking action to alleviate the entertainment

noise volume and Rodrigues began by explaining the location of the outdoor concert venue. Rodrigues began, "We moved the stage to the other side, the opposite side of the beer garden, so it's facing the building now versus facing the back neighborhood that is complaining the most. We had it there before and we feel when it's facing the building, it absorbs a lot of

the music anyway.

We would've made those changes before, there's no ordinance in Town, nobody was really out of compliance, but we are more than happy to make changes to appease the neighbors and keep the peace. We are here to get along with everyone and do the best we can for the Town

Please see **NOISE**, Page 6

Senior Center welcomes Outreach Coordinator

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – "Let all that you do be done with love, 1 Corinthians 16:14, this is who I strive to be." Beginning the new year, the Senior Center welcomed Outreach Coordinator Sheila Rubin, who brings in a wealth of experience and energy to the center to better serve the seniors in the community. Below, please see the questions Rubin answered to introduce herself to the community.

1. What made you want to become an outreach coordinator?

"My parents arrived in

the Bronx, New York in the late 1970s carrying more than suitcases. They carried hope, fear, and the fragile life of their five-year-old daughter, who had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. They came searching for better medical care, believing that somewhere in that unfamiliar city, there might be a chance of saving their child. On top of the emotional pain, there were financial barriers, long waits, unanswered questions, and the constant feeling of not being fully understood.

Then, heartbreak came and their daughter passed

Please see **SENIOR**, Page 8



Sheila Rubin

LBGC announces little league spring softball

By Amanda Munson
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LUDLOW – Beginning in early April, the Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club will offer a little league girls' softball for 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U teams and registration is now open on the website bit.ly/lbgcprograms. Sitting down with President/CEO Josue Irizarry and Director of Programs Matt Thompson who were both excited to share the new athletic program at the center with the community, they also wanted to highlight how the transition and collaboration from the Ludlow Jaxx Softball Association to the center has been going so far and how helpful and resourceful the committee was in this

Please see **LBGC**, Page 8



Turley photo by Amanda Munson

President/CEO Josue Irizarry and Director of Programs Matt Thompson were thrilled to announce and continue this softball program to the Town.

College Notes

Assumption students named to Dean's List

WORCESTER – Assumption University has announced those who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the fall 2025 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on this prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

Brianna Saraiva of Ludlow and Eli Lipson of Ludlow

"Earning the right to be named to the Assumption University's Dean's List is an extraordinary accomplishment and we congratulate those students who demonstrated exemplary academic excellence this semester," said Assumption University President Greg Weiner, Ph.D. "These students have demonstrated a deep commitment to the pursuit of truth in the company of friends that lies at the heart of the Catholic liberal education Assumption provides."

Lockett graduates from James Madison

HARRISONBURG, VA – Terry Lockett of Indian Orchard graduated with a degree(s) in Communication Studies - BS from James Madison University during commencement exercises in December 2025. Lockett was among nearly 1,000 students who received undergraduate and graduate degrees. Congratulations to all graduates and their families.

WPI students complete intensive research projects

WORCESTER – At Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to address an important societal need or issue.

Known as the Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP), this project is a core part of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI. Centered around project-based learning, this hands-on approach offers students opportunities to help develop thoughtful solutions to open-ended problems. These real-world problems affect the quality of life for people in the communities where students work, giving students a chance to make a difference in the world before they graduate. All WPI undergraduates are required to complete an IQP, usually in their junior year, through which they apply science and technology to address an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of WPI students complete their IQP at one of the university's 50+ off-campus project centers located in more than 30 countries around the world.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of International & Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture-from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat, all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace.

They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

The following students completed projects in the fall of 2025:

Alexander Dionne of Ludlow, Massachusetts, class of 2027, majoring in Aerospace Engineering, completed a project titled "Documenting Information about Toxic Substances in Textiles"

Jadyn Neiford of Ludlow, Massachusetts, class of 2027, majoring in Biochemistry, completed a project titled "The Tourist Experience in Iceland"

William Reed of Ludlow, Massachusetts, class of 2027, majoring in Chemical Engineering, completed a project titled "Estimating Residential Occupancy for the Buildings of Venice"

Springfield College announces Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield College Recognizes Dean's List Students for the 2025 Fall Semester.

Springfield College has named Luke Afonso from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Afonso has a primary major of Communication Sci & Disorders.

Springfield College has named Mia Bulatewicz from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Bulatewicz has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PA.

Springfield College has named Megan DaCruz from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. DaCruz has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PA.

Springfield College has named Gabriella Fialho from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Fialho has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PA.

Springfield College has named Ryan Lamountain from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Lamountain has a primary major of Exercise Science / Applied ES.

Springfield College has named Aaron Little from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Little has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

Springfield College has named Julia Mateus from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Mateus has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

Springfield College has named Wilmariel Menendez from Indian Orchard, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Menendez has a primary major of Art Therapy.

Springfield College has named Belen Molinari from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Molinari has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-OT.

Springfield College has named Kelsey Ouellette from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Ouellette has a primary major of Art Therapy.

Springfield College has named Aleksander Wojcik from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Wojcik has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PA.

Springfield College has named Adam Younes from Ludlow, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester. Younes has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PA.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term. Student must not have been barred from Dean's List due to disciplinary action.

Uhart students named to Dean's List and President's List

WEST HARTFORD, CT – The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,327 students have been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the spring 2025 semester.

The Dean's List recognizes students achieving superior academic standing. The requirement, with some exceptions, is a grade point average of at least 3.0 and no grade below C.

The President's List recognizes a select group of students reaching the highest level of academic standing. To be placed on the President's List, students must maintain a GPA of at least a 3.75 and receive grades of C or better.

Among those recognized are:
 • Callie Gaffron of Ludlow - Dean's List and President's List
 • Marcus Sanchez of Ludlow - Dean's List
 Congratulations to all our students on their hard work and academic success.

Regis 2025 Dean's List

WESTON – Regis College today recognizes students whose academic excellence and commitment to learning have earned them a place on the fall 2025 Dean's List.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher. First-year students qualify with a GPA of 3.25 or higher. The university congratulates the following students on this significant achievement:

Julia Dennis, of Ludlow and Madelynn Philibotte, of Ludlow.

PJLM launches annual scholarship program

REGION – The Polish Junior League of Massachusetts has announced its annual scholarship program for students of Polish heritage.

The League will be awarding scholarships to undergraduate students, and one scholarship will be granted to a graduate or returning student. In addition to the Undergraduate Scholarship program, there are two memorial scholarships, the Helen Weber Scholarship and the Josephine Karwoski Memorial Scholarship, each offering a focus on specific areas of study.

The scholarships and services provided by the Polish Junior League would not

be possible without funds raised through the League's Annual Fashion Show and public donations. By contributing, individuals, businesses and corporations are helping to expand the level of awards and positively affect students.

Sheryl Mardeusz, president of the Polish Junior League says, "we are proud to continue helping graduate and undergraduate students throughout New England and are extremely pleased to be able to help even more individuals pursue their educational goals."

To be eligible, applicants, in addition to being part of the Polish commu-

nity, must have a permanent address in the Western Massachusetts counties of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden or Hampshire. Applications can be received after Jan. 2, 2026 with an application deadline of May 1, 2026 and scholarship criteria can be found on the League's website polishjuniorleaguema.org.

For 87 years, the Polish Junior League of Massachusetts, a nonprofit organization of women developed as civic leaders, has made a demonstrable impact on their community. True to its mission, the League has worked diligently to help students obtain the best education.

HCC scholarship season now open

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Community College Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The application deadline is Friday, March 13, 2026.

Last year, the HCC Foundation awarded 410 scholarships worth about \$364,000 to 379 incoming, current, and transferring HCC students. Some students received multiple scholarship awards. The average scholarship award is typically around \$900.

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships.

Applicants only need to fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

"Last year's 410 scholarship awards represent 410 opportunities for students to focus on their studies rather than financial stress," said Sbriscia. "We're proud to continue this tradition of supporting HCC students as they work toward their goals."

To view scholarship opportunities and begin the application process, please go to: www.hcc.edu/scholarships.

The HCC Scholarship Resource Center, on the first floor of the Donahue Building (Room 158), is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to help current and incoming students navigate the process of applying for scholarships.

The HCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that works to advance the college's mission, vision, and values. Founded in 1968 as the Friends of Holyoke Community College, in response to a devastating fire that forced the college to rebuild on a new campus, the Foundation now manages assets of more than \$20 million, the largest community college foundation endowment in Massachusetts.

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182, or by email to scholarships@hcc.edu.

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The Register

Welcome Dr. Meunier

We are excited to introduce the newest addition to Ludlow Family Dentistry, Dr. Zachary D. Meunier. Dr. Meunier is returning to Western Massachusetts and is a general dentist who has earned his D.M.D. degree from Midwestern University in Illinois.

During dental school Dr. Meunier presented research nationally at the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR) conference in Portland, Oregon through the Academic Dental Career Fellowship Program (ADCFP). He also lectured and taught dental students reflecting his dedication to both excellent patient care and continued dental education.

Dr. Meunier has shadowed and trained alongside specialists across every dental discipline and completed one-on-one implant training through the Implant Pathway program. As a general dentist, he provides endodontics, implant dentistry, and oral surgery while referring highly complex cases to specialists to ensure the best outcomes for his patients.

He believes in listening carefully to his patients to fully understand their needs and concerns, allowing him to provide personalized, high-quality care for every individual.

Outside the office, Dr. Meunier and his wife, Joyce, share their home with their three loving cats. He enjoys cooking, mountain climbing, hiking and camping.

Dr. Meunier looks forward to partnering with you in achieving a lifetime of excellent oral health.

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Senior Center welcomes Dr. Snyder

Dr. Snyder offered knee/hip arthritis presentation

By Amanda Munson
Staff Writer
amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW –During the chilly morning of Jan. 23, the Senior Center welcomed Dr. Ben Snyder who specializes in musculoskeletal health to present living with hip and knee arthritis and share strategies to better live with arthritis and keep it from getting worse. Reviewing the background on the chronic condition, Snyder showed simple activities to do around the home, offered treatment recommendations, and took ample time to answer questions throughout the event.

Beginning by showing low impact activities like biking and swimming, Snyder also highlighted the programs at the center like the bone and balance classes, chair yoga, taichi, and other low impact exercise classes that focus on the importance of movement and avoiding stress on the joints. Snyder recommended avoiding activities such as running, jumping, repetitive squats, kneeling, and lunging since it places excessive stress on the joints over and over again.

One of the crowd favorite suggestions to help mitigate stress on the knees and hips was a gardening stool that



Dr. Ben Snyder explains why members with arthritis should avoid activities that place excessive stress on the joints.



Showing the members and guests of the presentation, Dr. Ben Snyder performs a half squat to help strengthen the knees and hips.

offered a way to sit, stand up with handles, cushion for kneeling, and storage for gardening tools to keep feeling good without having to sacrifice an outside hobby during the springtime.

Snyder's presentation focused on only evi-

dence-based points and valid research, covering topics such as weight loss with arthritis, maintaining a healthy body weight, strengthening exercises and more. The strengthening exercises that help stabilize joints were half squats, leg/knee extension,

and hip strengthening exercises; with Snyder encouraging members to incorporate it into daily activities and performing it three times a week, 10 reps each time.

To learn more about Snyder's work, visit Docbensnyder.com.

Turley photo by Amanda Munson

Nomination papers available

LUDLOW – Nomination papers for the March 23, 2026, Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerk's office.

- Assessor, 1 seat; 3-year term
- Board of Health, 1 seat; 3-year term
- Housing Authority, 1 seat; 5-year term
- Library Trustee, 1 seat; 3-year term
- Planning Board, 1 seat; 5-year term
- Planning Board, 1 seat; 4-year unexpired term
- Recreation Commission, 1 seat; 3-year term
- Select Board, 1 seat; 3-year terms
- Town Clerk, 1 seat; 3-year term
- Town Moderator, 1 seat; 3-year term

Town-wide office nomination papers must be signed by at least 50 registered voters in Ludlow. Candidates are advised to collect more than 50 signatures to ensure the requisite number of certified signatures. Town meeting member nomination papers must be signed by at least ten registered voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides.

Voters in each precinct will elect five town meeting members for three years and elect other members as necessary to fill existing vacancies.

Please call the Town Clerk's office with any questions (413) 583-5600 Ext. 1.

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Return your Annual Town Census form

LUDLOW – State law requires that you be sent an annual street listing/census form.

Update the information for all individuals who reside in your household, including children, and respond within ten days, even

if no changes are necessary. Warning: Failure to respond to this mailing shall result in removal from the active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls.

Please return the annual town census form as soon

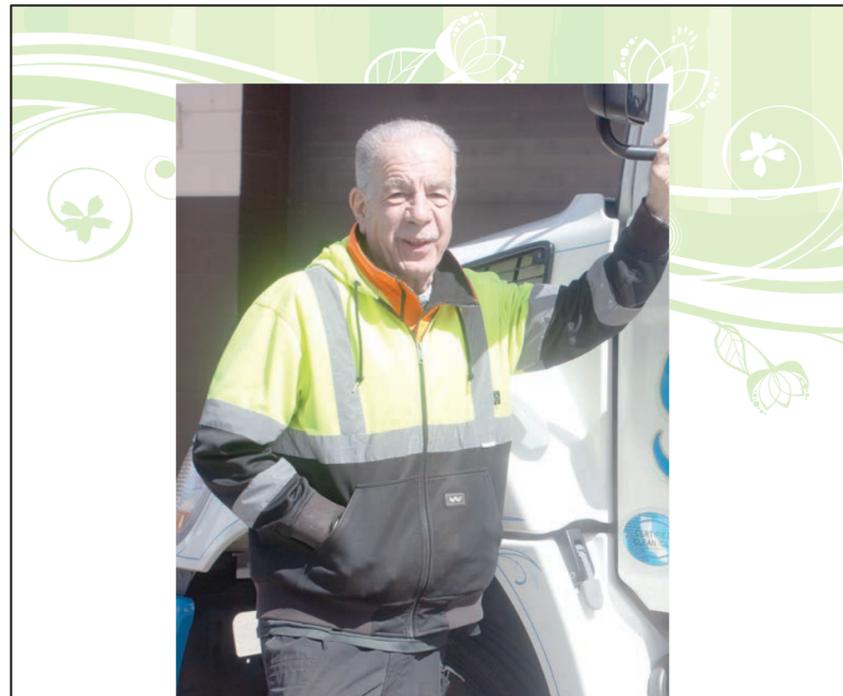
as possible to the Office of the Town Clerk. Annual Town Census forms can be mailed to the Office of the Town Clerk, 488 Chapin St, Ludlow, MA 01056 or returned in the Town Clerk drop box located behind Town Hall.

Murder mystery dinner to be held on Feb. 7

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Historical Association is holding its annual murder mystery dinner on Saturday, Feb. 7 at Tony and Penny's Restaurant in Ludlow. The show will be-

gin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the dinner buffet at 7 p.m. Guests can arrive as early as 6 p.m. This year's show, written by Paula Hilton, is entitled: Death by Cupcake. The tickets are \$47 each and

include the show, dinner and dessert. There will be a cash bar. Tickets are available at Cold Spring Discount Liquors or by contacting Sally Shattuck 413-230-2022 or sallyshattuck54@gmail.com.



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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Claiming Social Security early and investing it

Dear Rusty:

I am a 63-year-old single lady and I have questions regarding Social Security "early retirement," though I will still be working full time.

I know there is a maximum allowable income limit and, if I exceed that, I will need to return probably 2/3 of my received Social Security benefit. I'm thinking about taking those early SS benefits about \$1,400 per month and putting them in my high yield savings or CD where I can gain the interest on it and have it stay "liquid" so I can return what I need to.

My current interest rate is 3.65% on the savings and over 4.25% on CD, with options for 3,6,9 mos. or longer- but I want to be able to access the money to pay Social Security back at the end of the year. Can you advise me on this?

Signed: Still Working but Wondering

Dear Still Working:

I commend you, for investigating your options before claiming early Social Security benefits while still working. FYI, the 2026 annual earnings limit for those collecting early SS benefits is \$24,480 (changes annually). If your 2026 work earnings exceed the annual limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. The annual earnings limit lasts until you reach your Full Retirement Age and the limit is about 2.5 times higher during the year you attain FRA.

FYI, when you apply for benefits, Social Security will ask if you are working and, if so, how much you make. Using that information, they will evaluate whether you can take benefits now and, if so, how many months they can actually pay your benefits.

For example, if your projected 2026 earnings are, say, \$100,000, you would be about \$75,000 over the annual limit which means that half of that \$37,500 would need to be paid back to SS. Since your monthly SS benefit at your current age would be about \$1,400 per month, Social Security will say that you are temporarily ineligible to collect early benefits because you cannot pay back within one year what you would owe for exceeding the limit. In other words, they won't pay your SS benefits just yet because your earnings are too high and they do not want to overpay benefits, which you will only need to return.

For additional perspective, if your expected 2026 earnings are less say about \$50,000 that means you would be about \$25,000 over the limit about half of that (about \$12,500) would need to be paid back to SS. In that event, SSA would tell you they will withhold nine months of your SS payments in advance and pay your benefits for only 3 months. This because the overpayment, with your current benefit of about \$1,400, could be recovered by withholding your SS payments for nine months. They do not want to intentionally overpay your SS benefits.

So, despite your best repayment intentions, Social Security will not favor

intentionally overpaying your benefits. Historically, overpayment of benefits due to exceeding the annual earnings limit has been a notoriously difficult issue for the Social Security Administration. So, to get your early SS benefits while you are working full time, you would likely need to lie about your anticipated 2026 earnings on your application for SS benefits, which we strongly discourage.

Keep in mind that this all changes when you reach your FRA (67), because the earning limit goes away entirely when you reach FRA and the limit goes up by about 2.5 times in the year you attain full retirement age. So, depending on your earnings level, you may wish to either wait until your full retirement age, or until you stop working full time, to claim SS.

Now, as for the general idea of taking early benefits and investing them, many have said they wish to do that and we understand that logic. Our caution is that it requires religious discipline to put the SS money into a higher yield investment vehicle to accomplish the goal of beating the SS increase realized when you wait to claim. Many who try it succumb to the temptation to use the invested funds for emergency needs and sometimes non-emergency needs. I offer this only as something to be aware of, as some have shared that they failed in their investment objectives with their Social Security money.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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GUEST COLUMN



Snowy owl

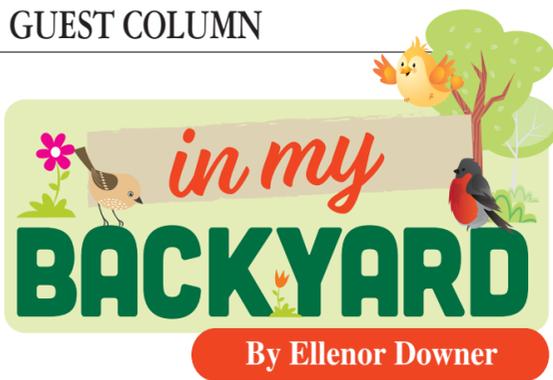
In late December of last year and early January of this year, a snowy owl has been seen at Northampton Airport and in a cornfield.

The snowy owl is an irruptive species from the tundra. Usually, it is the young snowy owls that head this way. There have been reports of snowy owls at Plum Island this month. Logan Airport is another common location for them.

The snowy owl is large and white. The mature males have a lot of white. Females and juveniles have dark brown and black barring. Living in the Arctic, it is well adapted to cold with dense feathers including feathers on their feet. They hunt rodents like lemmings in open tundra. They have exceptional sight and hearing.

Their flight is silent allowing them to catch unsuspecting prey. They hunt during the day, a rarity for most owls. They expand south during winter food scarcity in the tundra. It is one of North America's heaviest owls with a wing span of 4.5 to 5.5 feet.

They are generally solitary, but form pairs. They build nests in the ground in shallow scrapes. The female lays three to 11 eggs, the



By Ellenor Downer

number of eggs depending on food availability. Males bring food and the females incubate and feed the chicks.

Helping owls

Here are some tips if you see a snowy owl. Keep a safe distance to observe quietly. Do not play bird calls from your phone or other device. Don't feed the owls. Avoid flashes when taking photos. Keep noises to a minimum. If you find an injured owl: contact your state wildlife agency or local rehabilitator. If you find a dead owl: contact your state wildlife agency.

Also people should avoid using rodenticides; they are poisonous to birds and other animals even a pet. If an owl or other birds of prey eat a rodent that ingested, it will kill them.

Evening grosbeaks

A Worthington resident reported a friend saw two evening grosbeaks on Tuesday, Jan. 6. He said in his email he remembered when they used to be in giant flocks. He asked if they were rare out my way. I have not seen evening grosbeaks in sometime. Other people in Central Massachusetts have seen them recently. The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported six evening grosbeaks in North Brookfield.

Mass. Audubon sightings Recent Mass Audubon sightings include western grebes, eared grebes, tufted ducks and sandhill cranes as well as an unusual visitor, a scissor-tailed flycatcher, a rare state record and a rosy-billed pochard. Other sightings include goldeneye, mergansers, horned larks, and wintering raptors like Northern harriers in Massachusetts in early January.

On Jan. 6 and again on Jan. 13 a male King Eider was seen among thousands of common Eiders in North Chatham. A Pacific loon and over 400 razorbills were at Race Point in Provincetown.

Brimfield resident

A Brimfield resident sent an email on Jan. 6 that he received a preliminary total for the Springfield Christmas Bird Count, which was 66 species, a few below the average. He also said, "We occasionally see them in the yard and sometimes hear the barred owls calling."

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

The REGISTER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language.

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 theregister@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

Readers, local merchants, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send The Register your hometown news and photos. News items and press releases should be sent via email to mharrison@turley.com as an attachment AND pasted directly into the email message screen.

Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right. We need first and last name, hometown, title if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo. Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution directly off your camera to mharrison@turley.com.

Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before the event.

If you are having difficulty with a press release or need help, please call (413) 283-8393.

To send submissions by regular post, mail to: The Register, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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ELECTION LETTERS POLICY

The Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to theregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Register.

A final hike of 2025 - Mt. Jackson Summit



wait for 'some day' to arrive? How do we know that we will even reach that elusive 'some day'?"

It was a beautiful August day in 2016, and Tom and I were standing on the summit of Mt. Lafayette in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. We were completing Tom's lifelong dream of hiking the Franconia Ridge Loop—a majestic 9-mile hike featured on a National Geographic List of the 20 Best

Hikes in the World.

On that summer afternoon almost ten years ago, I was trying to convince my husband that we should attempt to hike all of New Hampshire's 48 tallest peaks. I was 51, and he was 59 at the time. There were numerous reasons not to pursue such a time-consuming and physically challenging endeavor. One of which, as Tom stated, was because "We're far too old and there's no way we can hike

up all those mountains in our lifetime."

It took a bit of persuasion on my part, but he finally agreed to chase after those 48 mountain peaks.

Since that day, Tom and I have not only completed the entire White Mountain 4,000 Footer List once, but twice including climbing every peak during the winter season. And we've repeated several of our favorites over a half dozen times. In addition, we've backpacked 800 miles on the Appalachian Trail, completing 8 of the 14 states. We have also climbed the second highest peak in the continental United States—14,440' Mt. Elbert in Colorado—when I was fifty-eight and Tom was sixty-six years old.

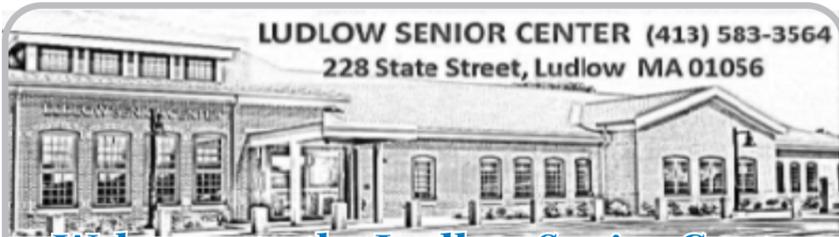
The thousands of miles we have walked over the past ten years have not just proven what our bodies and minds are capable of. Every mile has

Please see **HIKE**, Page 5



By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

"You know, honey, we always talk about how we'll REALLY start living 'some day.' Once the kids are grown. Once we have more time and more money. Once we retire. But how do we know that we'll both be physically capable of doing something so demanding if we



LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER (413) 583-3564
228 State Street, Ludlow MA 01056

Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

Don't let winter keep you away from the Ludlow Senior Center! Gather with friends in the Center's beautiful dining room and enjoy a delicious lunch complete with coffee, tea, and dessert. To join us, just call 413-583-3564 a day in advance to reserve your spot (Call Friday for Monday lunch).

Don't miss out on what's happening. Pick up our monthly Newsletter at the Center or share your email with us to have it delivered straight to your inbox. You can also explore programs, find important forms, and learn more about what a Senior Center has to offer at ludlow.ma.us/coa/. And for the latest news and photos, be sure to "like" the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook!

As the days grow colder, we look forward to sharing warm meals, great programs, and good company with you. Please note that if the Ludlow schools are closed or have a delay due to inclement weather, the Center will be closed or have a delayed opening. Be sure to check News 22 or 40 for delays or closings.

Activities Calendar:
Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, January 29

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation
- 12:45 pm. Mahjong
- 1 p.m. Card Making
- 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, January 30

- 8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 9 a.m. Reiki by Appointment*
- 10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
- 1 p.m. Ceramics
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1:30 p.m. Forget Me Not Circle*

Monday, February 2

- 9 a.m. Knitting
- 9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp
- 10 a.m. Computer Help
- 1 p.m. Scrabble
- 1:15 p.m. Pitch
- 2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, February 3

- 9 a.m. Quilting

- 9 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Cribbage
- 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
- 1 p.m. Western Dance Class
- 1:30 p.m. Bingo
- 4:30 p.m. Power Pump
- 5 p.m. Movie Blue Moon

Wednesday, February 4

- 8:45 a.m. Zumba Gold
- 9 a.m. Ceramics
- 10 a.m. Opera
- 10 a.m. Tea with the TA
- 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. Dominos
- 1 p.m. Movie: Blue Moon
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*

Thursday, February 5

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation
- 12:45 pm. 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, January 29: Sausage Grinder/ Onions & Peppers/Mac Salad
 - Friday, January 30: Chef Salad
 - Monday, February 2: Sweet & Sour Chicken/Rice/Veggies
 - Tuesday, February 3: Meatball Grinder/ Side Salad
 - Wednesday, February 4: Shepherd's Pie
 - Thursday, February 5: BBQ Salmon/ Rice/Veggies
- Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. all on Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.
- For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to inquire about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library

To register for programs or find out more information, visit ludlow.cvmars.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 10-2. Closed Saturdays during the summer, Sundays and holidays. The library will be resuming regular operating hours on September 1. Please note a change in Saturday operating hours of 10-2 rather than 9-1.

FOR ALL AGES

Friends of the Hubbard Memorial Library, third Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m. Get involved! Join the Friends of the Library for their monthly meeting and learn how you can help support the library.

FOR ADULTS

The Dangers of Online Family Trees Thursday, January 15 16-7:30 PM Join us for a talk by Dave Robison of Old Bones Genealogy discussing with you the dangers of depending on online family trees. He will go over how to tread lightly, what you should and should not trust and how to verify. He will also give you tools to avoid the temptation to believe everything that is so easily at your fingertips while giving you strategies to allow the use of potentially bad or even dangerous information in the right way. Will also be available on Zoom for those who can not attend in person. Please register on our website or by calling 583-3408 x0.

Sound Energy Healing Series One Saturday per month 10:30 AM. Sound healing brings individuals into a state of relaxation and rest. Enjoy an hour of peace and calm while sitting or laying on a yoga mat, absorbing the healing vibrations from instruments such as the quartz crystal bowls lead by Julia Nadolny. Bring a yoga mat or towel, something to lay on during the program and a blanket to cover yourself up in. Dates: 1/31, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, 6/13.

Please register on our website or by calling the circulation desk. Sign-ups are for the individual session, not the entire series.

Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge Each month, you'll be challenged to read a book based on a chosen theme. Those who participate will be entered to win a free tote bag full of books! For more information and to sign up, please visit <https://www.massbook.org/readingchallenge-2> (Note to editor, this has been updated.)

Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please sign up on our website or by call-

ing the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

Who picked this book? Book Club Meeting, first Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m. Join us for this month's Who picked this book? Book Club meeting! You can pick up a copy of the book at the circulation desk.

Happy Hour Book Club Meeting, last Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Join us for this month's Happy Hour Book Club meeting! You can pick up a copy of the book at the circulation desk.

FOR TEENS

Read Between the Lines High School Book Group, (monthly) January 30, 3:00- 4:00 pm. Book available in the Youth Room. Please register.

Anime Club, (biweekly) Tuesday, February 10, 3:30-5:00 pm. For middle and high schoolers. Registration recommended.

Nintendo Switch Night, (monthly) Tuesday, February 17, 6 - 8:00 pm. For middle and high schoolers. There's pizza! Please register.

Online Gaming Club for YAs, every Thursday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm. For ages 10-15. We have Minecraft; for other games patrons need their own account. Please register.

FOR CHILDREN

Storytime Series for ages 3-5; There's Magic in the Library, Mondays, through February 24 (not Feb. 16) 10:00 am. Space is limited, please register.

True Tales Storytime for Homeschooled 5-8 year olds, Wednesdays, through February 12, 1:00 pm. Please register.

Storytime Series for ages 2-3; There's Magic in the Library, Fridays, through February 14, 10:00 am. Space is limited, please register.

Massachusetts Children's Book Award Book Group (MCBA), monthly, Thursdays, February 12, 6:00 - 6:45 pm. Read 5 nominated books and vote! Celebration with ice cream and photos in the Register in April! Please register.

Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 0-2 year olds, Thursdays, 9:45 - 10:30 am. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 2-5 year olds, Thursdays, 10:45 - 11:30 am. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Sing With Me, every Tuesday, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. For 0-5s. Drop-in.

Minecraft Club, every Saturday, noon to 1:50 pm. For ages 7-11. We have Minecraft accounts. Please register.

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

HIKE from Page 4

been a journey of adventure, self-discovery, courage, humility, resilience, contentment and gratitude. And every footprint we have left on every woodland trail and every slab of granite has propelled us forward to the next.

Our final hike of 2025 in New Hampshire, just two weeks ago, continued to do the same.

It's minus 2 degrees when we start up the trail toward the summit of Mt. Jackson at 4:15 a.m. The sky is black and the beams of our headlamps pierce the darkened forest. When we lift our heads upward, our lights illuminate the trees, and they appear like figures standing guard over the landscape. The snow-laden evergreens groan under the weight, pressing closer to the ground, seeming to bow to us as we pass. The silence is full, broken only by the crunch of our boots on the hard-packed snow.

When we break treeline, everything changes. We brace ourselves against the onslaught of howling wind. The sheer force pushes our bodies backward. We slam our trekking poles into the hard-packed snow to steady ourselves, while hoping that our spike-clad boots anchor us to the icy granite. The final steep pitch makes my heart tremble. Adrenaline is coursing through my body. I grab onto rocks and pull myself upward, eyes watering, skin pierced with the sting of icy needles. I breathe a sigh of relief when we reach the plateau, and we rush to the leeward side to escape the wind's torment.

We find a partially sheltered ledge and quickly spread our bright green sleeping bag over our sleep pads atop several feet of snow. We crawl inside of the double-wide down bag and snuggle close together. Based on the weather, we know we can't remain immobile for long. Movement

keeps the body warm. Stillness allows the cold to penetrate the numerous layers of clothing we are wearing. Today, even the trees are shivering.

We sip hot apple cider in an attempt to warm our insides while waiting for the sun to crest the distant horizon. The cold kisses our cheeks and the wind fills our ears. We inhale the frigid mountain air and watch plumes of vapor rise as we exhale. We remain snuggled in our lofty sleeping bag on this snowy perch for over an hour, unwilling to leave in spite of the cold settling into our bones. For we don't want to miss ONE. SINGLE. MINUTE. of this unforgettable moment that is unfolding before us.

The earth itself seems to be holding its breath, waiting for the show to begin. With eyes focused eastward, we watch the black of night turn into the blazing red of dawn. The stars above are being replaced with an inferno of fiery reds and blazing oranges-like molten lava spreading as the horizon slowly burns.

And there it is. The shimmering golden sphere we have been waiting for, spreading its golden light down the mountainside and awakening the earth from its slumber.

The brilliant rays stretch from the heavens and dance upon the earth, giving life to everything they touch.

This experience is just one of the many that will burn in our hearts and memories for as long as there is breath in our lungs. An experience that we may never have witnessed had we not decided to chase a dream ten years ago. Had we waited until we retired. Had we waited for 'some day' to arrive.

I implore you to not allow your age, fitness level, current circumstances, past failures or ANYTHING ELSE dictate what you are capable of! I encourage you to chase the dream, seize the opportunity and never live regretting what could have been if only you had taken the chance. We have but one wild and crazy life. TODAY is the day to go out and LIVE it.

Tom and I have lived life to the absolute fullest over the past 10 years. Adventuring on weekends and vacations from work. But for one of us, at least, life is opening up to even more possibilities and opportunities. I'm thrilled to announce that after dedicating fifty years of his life to his career, Tom completed his final day as a working man on the last day of 2025. See you in the wild places, my friends.







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NOISE from Page 1

and not to get on anyone's bad side. We did move the venue and we do feel it's going to make a big difference.

Besides that, we do always have a security guy that walks the property and we do have a noise decibel meter that we have them walk around with and check the property. We'll make sure to do that more times throughout the night.

I hear we are going to have a noise ordinance in town so that helps. If we could add a decibel level to it, I am for it because without having some kind of level of what we should all fol-

low, then what's loud to you might not be loud for me. It's all going to be hearsay," explained Rodrigues.

In the situation the establishment's security personnel goes around the property with the decibel meter and finds the entertainment's noise level 35, five above a limit of 30, hypothetically, then he would have the entertainment lower the music. "Without any guidance, there really isn't anything besides whoever shows up with how they feel about it," added Rodrigues.

Vice-Chairperson William Rosenblum added that the decibel level has already been written and will be going to the next Town meet-

ing. "It was originally in the original one that went through where we did the hours of operation which was until 10 p.m., I can't remember but it came out because part of it as a whole, it barely passed just with the hours. The thought was that it wouldn't have passed with the decibels but after speaking with the residents, Town Administrator Marc Strange sent me the original and I made a couple of changes with the words that will appear in the warrant. I believe it'll be until 10 p.m. it'll be 65 decibels and then 50 decibels from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. which will go before Town meeting," said Rosenblum.

Rosenblum clarified that

this will be in the Town's hands and explained that this Board did what they could, the Town will have to be the ones to approve it or not. "The way this form of government is, it goes through Town meeting and our hands are tied in a lot of things unless they are approved/denied in Town meeting. It will appear as an amendment," said Rosenblum.

Rosenblum stated that he and Silva reached out to Vanished Valley to possibly make changes in the past and said, "Compromise is where we need to be on this and everyone be good neighbors. Hoping that the decibel gets passed at Town meeting it's at least we have some stan-

dards on which to go by and once those parameters are set, it falls into LPD enforcement.

Referring to Police Chief Mike Brennan, I don't have an issue buying decibel readers and putting them in the police cars so that it gives the objective look too. I am happy we can move forward and try to solve this," said Rosenblum.

Member James Gennette added that he appreciated the adjustments Vanished Valley presented to help and stated that the Board are policy makers, explaining that once this issue came up, the Board created a policy and sent it to Town meeting for approval. Gennette emphasized that

this all takes time, saying that it takes the state to approve this and can take long, and if the Attorney General's Office doesn't approve the already submitted noise ordinance in time of the next Town meeting, then the decibel reading may not be on the warrant to vote until the following Town meeting in Oct. of next year.

Gennette read aloud the following, "Based on the changes Vanished Valley had made to offset the sound situation we have here, I move to approve and sign the reissued entertainment license for the remaining 2026 calendar year."

The motion passed unanimously.



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Lions fall to rival Chicopee High

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—The non-league boys' basketball game between the Ludlow Lions and Chicopee Pacers was evenly played during the first quarter.

Chicopee pulled away with the help of an 11-4 run and led by as many as 13 points late in the second quarter. The Pacers held onto their lead throughout the second half and secured a 67-59 home win against the Lions on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

"It feels very nice to win a game, especially after we lost to Westfield at home the other night," said Chicopee head coach Jordan Miller. "We played very well defensively, which made it difficult for Ludlow to comeback against us. We've suffered a couple of come-from-behind losses this season, which I didn't want to see happen in tonight's game."

The home win improved Chicopee's overall

record to 7-4, while Ludlow fell to 8-4.

"It was a very good basketball game tonight. We just kept battling back, but we needed a couple of shots to go in the basket," said Ludlow head coach C.W. Zimmer. "Chicopee is a very good basketball team. They're going to be a difficult team to beat in the Western Mass. and state tournaments."

It was the first meeting between the two squads since the 2012-13 regular season.

"Our basketball program has grown a lot during the past couple of years," Zimmer added. "We're trying to play the best competition and we're grateful that Chicopee hosted tonight's game."

The Pacers have now won the last six games in the series since the Lions posted a 63-57 win on January 15, 2008.

In their only meeting of the regular season, Ludlow held a 12-8 lead with two minutes remaining in the opening quarter following a 6-0 run.

Senior guard Ethan

Love began the run with an inside hoop, which were his only points of the game. Senior guard Jackson Mateus followed by hitting a runner in the lane before junior forward Tyler Tatro made a pair of foul shots.

Mateus, who scored 12 first half points, finished with a game-high 23 points. He finished with eight field goals, including two 3-pointers. He also went 5-for-6 from the free throw line.

The Lions' only other double digit scorer was senior forward Mason Morace, who netted 13 of his 15 points during the second half.

Chicopee responded with a 3-pointer from the top of the key from junior guard Alex Mangual (11 points). They then retook the lead at 13-12 when senior guard Dominic Garcia (16 points) made a lay-up.

Junior forward Brandon Thomas also finished the game with 16 points for the home team, while senior guard Rafael Aviles chipped in with 13 points.

A free throw from Ludlow senior forward Cam

Lyman (9 points) tied the score for the final time 18 seconds into the second stanza.

Garcia then took over the spotlight by knocking down a 3-pointer from the left side. He also made another triple with 5:28 left in the half giving his team a 21-15 lead.

The Pacers made a total of seven 3-pointers in the first 16 minutes of the contest.

Thomas drained a 3-pointer with three minutes left in the first half pushing Chicopee's lead into double digits for the first time at 30-19. Aviles followed with a lay-up.

The Lions closed out the opening half with an 8-3 run.

Tatro made a pair of foul shots with 5.6 seconds left, which sliced the Lions deficit to 35-27 at the break.

The Pacers didn't make any shots from beyond the three point line in the second half, but they were able to build a double digit lead.

The Pacers, who led by

Please see **LIONS**, page 9



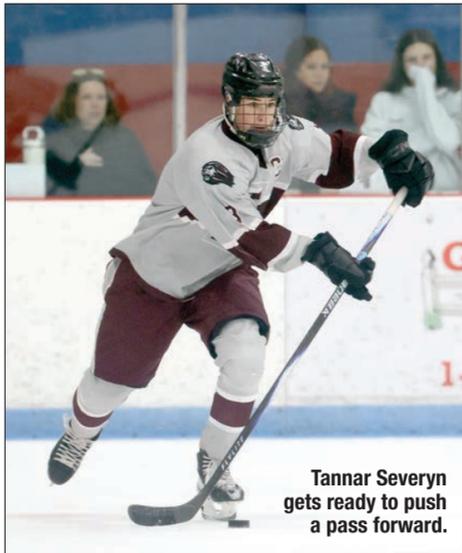
Cameron Lyman attempts a short jumper in the paint.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Jackson Mateus heads up to get a bank shot



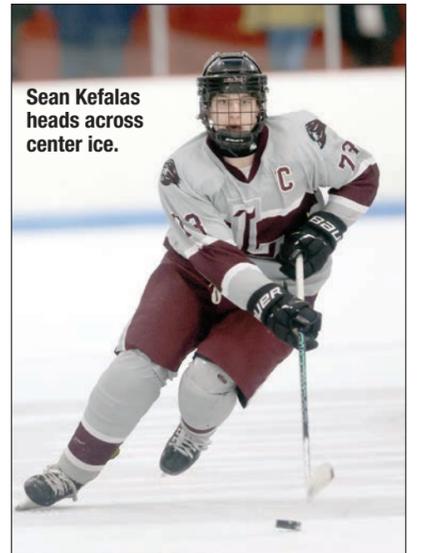
Gavin Harrington takes over after receiving a pass.



Tannar Severyn gets ready to push a pass forward.



Rhett Ribeiro reaches out and snags the puck.



Sean Kefalas heads across center ice.



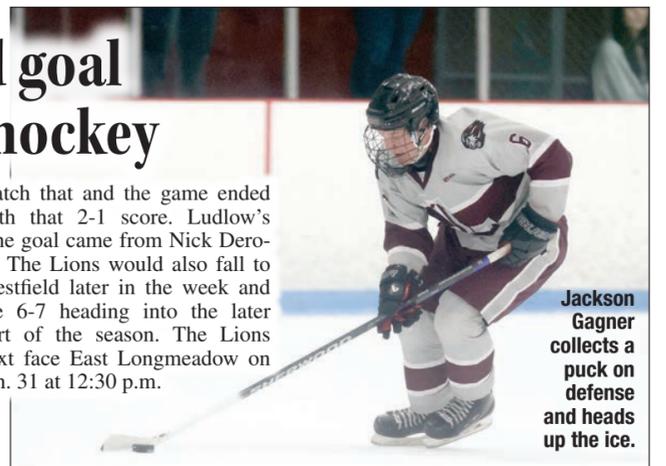
Joe Toomey tries to keep an opponent from getting the puck.

Second period goal sinks Ludlow hockey

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Last Monday, the Ludlow High School ice hockey team, which co-ops with Belchertown, was defeated by West Springfield 2-1. The teams each scored a goal in the first period, but West Springfield snagged a goal in the second period. Ludlow could not

match that and the game ended with that 2-1 score. Ludlow's lone goal came from Nick Dero-in. The Lions would also fall to Westfield later in the week and are 6-7 heading into the later part of the season. The Lions next face East Longmeadow on Jan. 31 at 12:30 p.m.

Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com



Jackson Gagner collects a puck on defense and heads up the ice.

Ludlow girls show improvement against Granby

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

GRANBY—While their first three losses of the 2025-26 regular season were on the road, it has been more than a year since the Granby girls' varsity basketball lost a game at Sullivan Gymnasium.

The Lady Rams secured a Division 5 state tournament berth by defeating Franklin West rival Ludlow, 67-42, last Thursday night, staying undefeated at home.

"We just earned our tenth win and a spot in the state tournament," said Granby head coach Dave Padavano. "We played very well right

from the start of tonight's game. Everyone contributed."

The Lady Rams had a 10-3 overall record and a 6-2 league mark following their sixth home victory of the season. Southwick was the last visiting girls' basketball team to win a game at Sullivan Gymnasium. They defeated Granby, 50-27, on January 20, 2025.

Granby was ranked seventh in the MIAA Division 5 state power rankings, which was released on January 23. The Lady Rams are hoping to play a couple of home games in this year's state tournament as opposed to having to make a long bus

ride to Eastern Mass. like they did a year ago.

"One of our goals at the beginning of the regular season was play a couple of home games in the state tournament," Padavano said. "We really don't want to make another long bus ride again this year."

Granby ended its season a year ago with a 66-57 loss in the round of 32 at Prospect Hill Academy Charter School in Cambridge.

The Lady Rams were also the first place team in the Western Mass. Class D power rankings.

Last Thursday's home contest was very memora-

ble for Granby junior Brenna Moreno, who scored 11 of her career-high 22 points during the opening quarter, which helped the Lady Rams build an eight point lead.

"I challenged Brenna before tonight's game to play like she did last season," Padavano said. "She responded very well and came out firing in the first quarter. I'm very happy with her performance."

The Lady Rams' other two double digit scorers against Ludlow were junior Kalli White (11 points) and senior K.C. Curran (15 points).

Please see **GIRLS**, page 9



Ellana Garcia attempts a steal.

SENIOR from Page 1

away. No parent should ever have to bury a child. My parents headed home to bury their daughter in a place that was home to them.

Grieving and exhausted, my family decided to stay in Puerto Rico, but life continued to pull them forward. In the late-1980s, they made another brave decision, to move our family to Western Massachusetts, determined to build a future despite the trauma they carried with them.

When I listen to my mother speak about those early years, my heart breaks all over again. The very agencies created to help families like hers often did the opposite. She speaks of being ignored, dismissed, and not treated with dignity or respect. Translation services were rarely offered. Her voice felt invisible.

It wasn't until the early 1990s that everything changed. My mother was finally connected with a caseworker she still describes as a "Godsend." One person saw her, one person who listened, one person who believed that helping a family meant more than checking boxes. This

man moved mountains for my family. Decades later, my mother still speaks his name with gratitude and emotion.

That is the power of one compassionate person. I want to be that person for seniors, for families, and for individuals in my community who feel lost, unheard, or forgotten. I want to be the voice when theirs is ignored, the support when the system feels cold, and the reminder that dignity and compassion should never be optional.

What my parents endured in the late 1970s is unimaginable. Their strength, resilience, and courage shaped who I am today. They are my heroes. Every step I take, every person I help, is done with one purpose; to honor their journey and make them proud.

From loss, a promise was born. And that promise lives through service, empathy, and unwavering compassion. This is my way of always paying it forward.

What inspired me to want to become an Outreach Coordinator at the Ludlow Senior Center is my strong passion for advocacy, community connection, and sup-

porting individuals as they navigate important resources. Throughout my career, I've worked closely with seniors and adults with disabilities, helping them access services related to housing, benefits, healthcare, and daily living needs. I believe outreach is more than providing information about trust, follow-through, and making sure people feel seen, heard, and supported. This role aligns perfectly with my experience, values, and desire to make a positive impact locally by connecting seniors with the resources that help them live independently and with dignity," said Rubin.

2. Please describe your connection to the town of Ludlow.

"I moved to Ludlow eight years ago primarily for the school system, never imagining how deeply my family and I would come to love being part of this community. Ludlow has a special, close-knit feeling where everyone knows everyone, and that sense of connection truly means something to me. Over the years, it has become more than just a place we live; it's a community I'm proud to be

part of," said Rubin.

3. What was your education and career leading up to taking on this position?

"I graduated from Bay Path University in 2012 and recently was accepted into the Social Work program at Westfield State University, which I am incredibly excited about. Prior to accepting the position, I worked as a Transitional Assistant Supervisor, where I led a dedicated team of transitional caseworkers throughout Central and Western Massachusetts. In this role, I worked closely with MassAbility case managers to support MassHealth applicants and members residing in nursing facilities, rehabilitation centers, or in their homes. Many of these individuals applied for waiver programs designed to help them transition safely back into the community. These waivers provided critical resources and ongoing services to support independent living. While the work was extremely rewarding and meaningful, it required a significant time commitment, and I found that my family time was becoming increasingly limited. This experience ultimately helped

guide my decision to pursue a role that allows me to continue serving others while maintaining a healthier work-life balance," said Rubin.

4. Moving forward, what do you hope to accomplish at the senior center?

"Moving forward, I hope to make a meaningful impact at the senior center by expanding access to resources, strengthening community connections, and ensuring that every senior feels supported, informed, and valued. I want to help individuals navigate services such as benefits, housing support, healthcare resources, and social programs while also promoting independence and dignity. I also hope to contribute to creating a welcoming environment where seniors feel comfortable asking for help, staying engaged, and building connections, whether through outreach, education, or programming. Ultimately, my goal is to be a consistent, trusted presence who helps improve quality of life and supports seniors in aging safely and confidently within their community," said Rubin.

5. What are you most excited about working at the

center?

"What I am most excited about working at the senior center is the opportunity to help more seniors truly experience everything this beautiful, state-of-the-art facility has to offer. This building is stunning, but even more meaningful is the sense of community it can create. I am passionate about outreach and encouraging more seniors to come in, feel welcomed, and make this space their own. Every morning, seeing seniors gather for coffee and pastries sitting together in the café, talking, laughing, and simply enjoying one another's company, genuinely making my heart so happy. Those moments remind me of why this work matters so much. Creating a place where seniors feel connected, valued, and joyful is what excites me most, and I am eager to help grow that sense of community even more. Also, I look forward to collaborating closely with our local police and fire departments to follow up on wellness visits, ensuring seniors feel supported, safe, and cared for both inside and outside the center," said Rubin.

LBGC from Page 1

change of hands.

After speaking with Thompson if this would be a possible program that the center could take on, Irizarry approached the Jaxx Program and told them they would be able to take the softball program on. Meeting with the group of committee members, "We were fortunate enough that a lot of them wanted to come back and stay committed to it, so it's helping us tremendously to get the little league softball running again." Following the center's open house that was for members of the community this past week, Irizarry and Thompson highlighted their efforts in wanting this program to be successful.

Irizarry continued, "We want to be able to grow this program. We understand that the first couple of years will be kind of small, but we see this as something very big not just for the LBGC, but also for the community. Thompson and I have played sports, and it teaches

us so many great things, not just teamwork. It teaches us how to work with others, get along, and understand that there are times in life where things aren't going to go your way. These are some of the life skills they'll be able to learn through sports and be able to hopefully as they grow, join the high school team and continue through college and professionally. That's some of our goals with this program," explained Irizarry.

Irizarry highlighted the collaboration between the Jaxx program and the LBGC, stating that Jaxx couldn't continue the program and approached the LBGC to take the softball program on, in which the center was happy to continue helping offer softball to the members of the Ludlow community. "Thompson is involved in different sports in Town and he's a great person to oversee the program to make sure it's successful!" exclaimed Irizarry.

Thompson followed by saying that during the Q&A

session at the open house, the community seemed excited for the softball program and that the committee members associated with the Jaxx program are a huge asset for the center to help aid in a seamless transition with the recent change. Irizarry shared that the center is very excited to start this new journey and implement lifelong lessons and experiences for the softball community.

For the first couple of seasons, Thompson stated that their main mission is to provide the girls' the best experience that they can. "Hopefully word of mouth goes around, and people start talking that there's such an awesome program and encouraging others to try it out. We've always strived to have the best program and the best experience for the kids, and we've seen it over the years. Everything grows and that's what we're doing with this too," said Thompson.

Irizarry commented that it's important for the LBGC to provide programs for the community and when pro-

grams may not be able to do that anymore, that's when the center steps in and can help out, always asking what can they do to continue this and other programs for the kids. Irizarry and Thompson complimented Jaxx because of the amazing coaches, committee members, and equipment they sent over to the center.

"I think almost every single coach we're going to have is going to be returning. Having familiarity for the girls is super important, the coaches they're used to and that they already played with. The coaches are great people and

great coaches, as well as the committee members that we have now, without them coming over and sticking with us...it wouldn't have been easy. It's making our lives so much easier and better and really knowing that we can make the program still as strong as it used to be," said Thompson.

Thompson and Irizarry reached out to one of the parents of a youth softball player and shared the following with The Register in hopes to encourage others to register for the upcoming season.

"Youth softball is about so much more than the game

itself. It gives girls a place to build real friendships and feel supported. Being on the team helps them grow confidence, learn resilience, and pick up lessons they'll carry with them well beyond youth sports. Having a program like this in Town helps build a strong sense of community for the girls and their families."

To learn more about various youth athletic programs like T-Ball and Coach Pitch or are interested in helping to coach a team, contact Thompson at Mthompson@ludlowlbgc.org or (413)583-2072 ext. 123.

ADMIN from Page 1

an override or increasing the trash fee and then cuts.

Some staffing cuts and programmatic cuts, this is going to be part of the equation," said Strange.

Gennette commented that the buyouts should be part of the plan to get through this and worries about launching it too early before getting everything handled and situated to make a decision. "I would include it but don't know what the buyout would look like," said Gennette.

Silva stated that the Town is already low staffed and by possibly offering buyouts, it'll be even lower. Strange clarified that if someone in a position is needed for the overall function of the Town and submits a request for a buyout, the Town could decline the offer since it's crucial for the Town to keep them.

Silva asked how the whole process would work since if the Town accepts one employee over the other, it may create an unfair advantage. Strange continued, "There's no easy way to do it, initially we were thinking of identifying groups of employees that they could offer the buyouts to..." and

Silva followed by saying, "I think that's probably what we should do and see who we could offer it to, then we would be safe that way and not jeopardize other employees who may want it and but unfortunately doesn't get the option like everybody else."

Strange, clarified Silva's statements by saying that they presented those concerns to the Town Council and were told it would be better to give the option to everybody equally, and then have people step forward and apply for the buyout.

"How long do we figure to hold off until we figure out that we really need to offer this?" asked Silva and Strange answered that it's highly likely the Town will make layoffs this year and this is a way for people to "self" layoff. This will impact every Town department except the school department.

Strange ended by stating that the Town is functioning with bare bones, "If you go to any department in Town Hall, we have mostly three person departments. Contrary to public opinion, we are very lean and mean, we did that a couple of years back, we unfunded a lot of positions and outsourced our I.T. function. This is going to have to go

quickly, part of it is the discussion is getting the override on the ballot, even though it's Jan. 20 this is going to happen very quickly."

Silva commented that they could move this forward and pull it back, and Strange agreed. Strange followed, "If things change, maybe if we get more state aid this year then we budgeted for, things happen. My guess is that the margins are so big this year, even if we do an override we need to find \$700,000 in cuts at least and if there's no override, obviously increasing the trash fee and probably \$1,000,000 in cuts."

To clarify, the Town has discretion to who they accept for the possible employee buyouts and they wouldn't offer a buyout and replace that same position in FY27. This would result in a reduction in FY27 and the Town would use free cash, the amount of a community's funds that's unrestricted and available for appropriation and may be used to support supplemental appropriations during the year or at Annual Town Meeting to fund next year's budget, for the pay-outs.

The Select Board tabled the employee buyout item for a future meeting.

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LIONS from page 7

as many as 15 points in the third quarter, entered the final quarter with a 52-41 lead.

After Mateus started the fourth quarter with a driving lay-up, the Pacers reeled off eight unanswered points. Junior guard Francisco Nieves, who contributed seven points, extended Chicopee's advantage to 60-43 with a lay-up with five minutes left in regulation.

Ludlow battled back with 10-4 run.

Mateus made a couple of 3-pointers during the final minute, but the visitors couldn't get any closer than eight points the rest of the way.

The Pacers will most likely be making the trip to Mullins Gymnasium to battle the Lions again during the 2026-27 regular season.

Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com



Mason Morace goes for a layup in traffic.



Ethan Love goes for a rebound.



Tyler Tatro goes for the one-hander.

GIRLS from page 7

White achieved a significant milestone last week, recording her 1,000th career point during a 55-52 non-league home victory over Mount Greylock.

"Kalli is an excellent athlete and it was incredible watching her score her 1,000 career point the other night," Moreno said. "I'm very glad that we have another year to play high school sports together."

White has also recorded more than 100 career points as a member of the girls' soccer team and has tallied more than 100 goals for the Lady Rams lacrosse team.

Curran, who made a total of five 3-pointers, is a co-captain this season, along with senior Mylin Laliberte.

"Our two seniors have been awesome this year," Padavano said. "They provide a lot of leadership and guidance. They've also helped me out a lot as well."

The Lady Rams will hold their senior night on January 29, when they play against Monson High School.

The Lady Lions (2-10, 1-7) have shown a lot of improvement since their first meeting of the regular season against the Lady Rams, which was a 36-25 loss at Mullins Gymnasium.

"This was one of our best offensive games of the season. I thought we competed well against Granby, especially during the second half," said first-year Ludlow head coach Samantha Partridge. "The players are playing with a lot more confidence now. We're just focusing on getting a little bit



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Karley Dorman makes a defensive rebound and looks to head back down the court.

better in each game. I also want them to have fun playing basketball."

The four Lady Lions seniors, who'll be wrapping their varsity basketball careers during the next couple of weeks are Ava Friese, Nora Adams, Eliana Garcia, and Aneysya Donais.

"I've known the four seniors since they were in the eighth grade," said Partridge, who was an assistant varsity/J.V. coach at Ludlow High School before becoming the varsity coach. "It has been very nice watching them grow and mature. I'm hoping that we can finish the season strong for them."

The Lady Lions will hold their senior night on February 2, when they also face the Monson Lady Mustangs.

Donais finished the Granby game with a team-leading 12 points. Adams also reached double figures for

the visiting team with 10 points. Junior Karley Roman chipped in with six points.

Donais made a 3-pointer less than two minutes into the contest giving her team a 3-2 lead.

Then Moreno took over the spotlight offensively for the remainder of the opening quarter, as she scored nine straight points.

Junior Eleanor Szlosek (2 points) ended the first quarter with a set shot giving the Lady Rams a 15-7 advantage.

Moreno buried her second 3-pointer of the game from the right side at the start of the second quarter, which pushed Granby's lead into double digits (18-7) for the first time.

The Lady Lions responded with back-to-back baskets from Adams and Roman, but they were still trailing, 31-14 at halftime.

Granby held a 37-16 advantage two minutes into the third quarter following a White jumper and two more field goals by Moreno.

Led by the trio of Adams, Roman and junior Maddie Riley (4 points), the Lady Lions scored 16 points during the third quarter, but they were trailing 49-30 entering the final eight minutes of the contest.

Freshman Kara White, who's Kalli's younger sister, came off the bench and scored all six of her points during the final quarter.

Granby's other ten points in the fourth quarter were scored by sophomore Kaelyn Slapski (2 points), freshman Arianna Mislak (4 points), and junior Meredith Bartosz (5 points).

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The Resident Care Facility at Saint Joseph's Abbey, 167 North Spencer Road, Spencer, MA has an opening for a **PART TIME FACILITY COOK.** Hourly wage negotiable depending on experience and related skills. Requirements: High School Diploma or GED. Ability to speak and read English required. Must be able to understand written policies and procedures. Must be able to work unsupervised while following food safety protocols.

For more information and to apply, contact **Wally Connor, Facility/HR Manager** at (508) 885-8700 Ext. 550 or by email: wally@spencerabbey.org

The Town of Huntington is seeking a part-time Town Hall **Floater/Selectboard Administrative Assistant/Assistant Town Clerk.** \$20-\$22 per hour based on experience. 15 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Position is open until filled. *Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

Wilbraham United Church is hiring a part-time, experienced **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER.** Apply to **Wilbraham United Church, Attention: Alesia; 500 Main Street; Wilbraham, MA 01095.** More information at www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/about-us-2/

Post your job openings in our classifieds. **We get results! Call 413-283-8393**

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

AGAWAM APARTMENT SUBLET. 1st Floor, 2BR, 1BA, electric heat, laundry, off-street parking. \$1345/mo includes water, trash removal. Available 3/1/26. Good credit score 650+, references. Dog 40lbs or less \$50/mo., cat \$25/mo. Elaine 413-544-4330.

PALMER: 1 BR Apt. No Pets/No Smoking. BRETON ESTATES 413-283-6940

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

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CHIEF from Page 1

Body worn cameras have shown some levels of safety in terms of the studies that's been done on them, like use of force incidents, for example. Departments that have implemented them have noticed differences in use of force incidents, maybe because officers are more prone to exercise deescalation efforts because they know they are on camera and the same for the public.

It's not a fix all, but it has a measure of improvement and safety in terms of public accountability, and in terms of public trust it increases credibility of an agency. As far as the total cost, I think we have to develop the program first and put something on paper and negotiate with our unions first, both patrol and supervisors, before we can look at possible grants to cover this," said Brennan.

The following question by Gennette revolved around centralized dispatch for the community, "Our municipality has the infrastructure to either join the state centralized dispatch system or operate a regional dispatch service for surrounding towns as a potential revenue generator; the prior chief supported the latter. As the incoming chief, do you view regional dispatch as a core operational responsibility of your role, something you would personally lead to completion or something you would delegate?" asked Gennette.

Brennan stated that dispatch function is a core responsibility, one of the core responsibilities of the LPD, and parts are currently being delegated. "If you're talking about a change in operations and moving from our current centralized dispatch to a regionalized dispatch, the last chief as you mentioned, becoming a host for a regional center would definitely require more command oversight and less delegation," said Brennan.

Gennette clarified and asked if Ludlow was in the position to be a host community for centralized dispatch and Brennan answered yes, "It's feasible, I think we can take one to even two departments, that would be critical. We actually discussed this with our dispatchers who the majority would be on board, and I think our dispatch is excited to do something like that. We have a good product here in Ludlow and some other departments may be struggling so I think we can regionally accommodate at least one or two departments," answered Brennan.

Gennette's last question revolved around his own view of the LPD and stated the following, "The department is fully staffed, officers are well trained and competitively compensated, and vehicles and equipment are modern and in good condition. In a context where the baseline is already strong, how do you approach budget development going forward? Spe-

cifically, how do you distinguish essential spending, nice to have enhancements, and areas where restraint and reallocation is appropriate?" asked Gennette.

Brennan answered that any part of the budget plan is identifying those essential things first and explained the following items like personnel costs, overtime costs, yearly training, and general expenses. Vice Chairperson William Rosenblum asked Brennan what his mission for the Town is and Brennan ended by saying he would hope to leave the department in good hands, promote and give the resources to the LPD to help them succeed, and have the Town be confident in them by problem solving and address it the best they can.

"I want the public to feel like their problems are resolved in a professional manner," said Brennan.

On the Town of Ludlow LinkedIn page, the following congratulated Brennan for his achievement and highlights the importance of supporting local law enforcement and first responders. "This is a significant milestone not only for Chief Brennan but also for the community. His dedication and commitment to public safety will undoubtedly lead to positive changes in our Town. We are excited to see the vision and leadership he will bring to the LPD. Together, we can support our local law enforcement and work towards a safer, stronger Ludlow."

OBITUARY

Erika A. Desautels 1939-2025

LUDLOW – Sadly, Erika (Erndt) Desautels, 86, passed away suddenly on Dec. 19, 2025, in Ludlow, Massachusetts. Born on Nov. 26, 1939, in Karbitz, Czechoslovakia she immigrated to the United States as a young girl in the aftermath of WWII. Erika graduated from the High School of Commerce and went on to work many jobs before retiring from MassMutual.



children Kathy Rado Stelmack, Edward Rado, Kimberly Desautels and partner Gordon Carr and Michele Desautels. She will be forever missed by her adoring grandchildren Paige and Cameron Murphy and Zachary Stelmack. She also leaves behind many other cherished family members and friends who will miss her deeply.

She was predeceased by her mother Bertha (Tomola) Edelman; brother Joseph Erndt; first husband Edward J. Rado; and son-in-law Karl Stelmack.

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life in her honor held on Feb. 8, 2026, at 12 p.m. at the Villa Rose Restaurant 1428 Center St, Ludlow. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Furever Homes for Felines <https://fureverhomesforfelines.org/donate> or Shriners Hospital, 516 Carew St, Springfield, MA 01104 or <https://www.shrinerschildrens.org>. For more information, please go to www.kapinosmazurfh.com.

DEATH NOTICE

Erika A. Desautels
Died Dec. 19, 2025
Celebration of Life
Feb. 8, 2026
Kapinos-Mazur
Funeral Home

The Ludlow Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P0023EA
Estate of:
Ellen T. Goncalves
Date of Death: 12/17/2025
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Elizabeth J. Sady of Whitesboro, NY.**

**Elizabeth J. Sady of Whitesboro, NY
Alexander A. Goncalves of Ludlow, MA**

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.
01/28/2026

**TOWN OF LUDLOW
Public Hearing
Tuesday, February 17, 2026
6:15 PM
Town Hall
488 Chapin Street,
Ludlow, Ma
Performance/
Re-Programming of the
FY22/23 Ludlow
Community Block Development
Grant and FY26 Application**

The Ludlow Select Board will conduct a public hearing on **February 17, 2026, at 6:15 PM** at the Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA and via cable television or live stream. Instructions are available on the town's website. You may also access the meeting by audio by calling 1-617-758-8793, attending via Uber conference.

The hearing will review the

project funded through the town's FY22/23 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program including the Robert Street Neighborhood improvements and Housing Rehabilitation program. The hearing will involve open discussion regarding how the Town will re-program remaining funds in the grant post completion of construction. This activity received funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Massachusetts CDBG program.

This hearing will also serve as the first public forum to solicit community input on activities to be included in a potential Ludlow FY26 Community Development Block Grant application. All community members and stakeholders are invited to share thoughts on potential CDBG-eligible activities to be included.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the grant application will have an opportunity to be heard. Those unable to attend can send written comments to the Ludlow Town Administrator, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, Ma 01056, Attn: Marc Strange. The Town Hall is mobility accessible. Persons who require accommodation should contact the town at least one week prior to the hearing date at (413)-583-5600 ext. 1200. For further information contact Sarah Maroney at PVPC at (413) 781-6045 or smaroney@pvpc.org.
01/28, 02/04/2026

**Legal Notice
Town of Ludlow**

Ludlow Special Town Meeting of October 6, 2025 – Case #12032 Warrant Articles 4 and 8 (General) and 10 and 11 (Zoning) were approved by the Attorney General's office. "Such Bylaws have been posted according to the Bylaws and copies are available at the Town Clerk's Office".

**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
1/14, 1/21, 1/28/2026

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OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**

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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 month- 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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25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,
413-543-3627

Very Rev. Piotr Calik
**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**
**CLOSED FRIDAY
MASS SCHEDULE**
Monday 8:00am
Tuesday 8:00am
Wednesday No Mass
Thursday 6:00pm
Friday 6:00pm
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am (English) 10:15am (Polish)
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15–4 p.m.

ST. ELIZABETH PARISH

191 Hubbard St., Ludlow
413-583-3467
Pastor – Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin
In Residence – Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Visit our website at www.stelizabethludlow.org
Like us on Facebook Check out our Parish App
Wednesday, Jan. 28 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Holy Mother Choir – 4:30 (C), Scouts – 6 PM (ER)
Cub Scouts – 6 PM (FLBH)
Bible Study – 6:30 PM (JR)
Thursday, Jan. 29 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Friday, Jan. 30 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Saturday, Jan. 31 – Confessions – 2:30 PM (C)
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 PM (C)
Eucharistic Revival Pot Luck Supper – 6 (FLBH)
Sunday, Feb. 1 – Daily Masses at 7:30 AM
9:15 AM, 11 AM and 5 PM (C)
Confirmation Class – 8 AM (JR)
Faith Formation – 10:15 AM (FLBH/ST)
Lifeteen – 6 PM (JR)
Monday, Feb. 2 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Faith Formation – 6 PM (JR)
Tuesday, Feb. 3 – Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C)
Middle School Youth Ministry – 3:30 PM (JR)
St. Rita Choir – 4:00 (C)
Pasta Committee Meeting – 6 PM (ZR)
Parish Eucharistic Revival Comm. Mtg – 6:30 (JR)
Bereavement Support Group – 6:30 PM (ER)

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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413-583-3339
Reverend Darcy Borden, Pastor
Office hours Monday & Wednesday 10 am to 2 pm
Available by appointment at other times
Sunday worship at 10 am alternating weekly with
Grace Union Church, Wilbraham
Call or check Facebook or the website for the
schedule of worship and events
Service live-streamed at 10 am on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow>
Website: www.ludlowfirst.com

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95 Berkshire Street
Indian Orchard, MA 01151
413-543-4204
Revs. Karen and Nick Munn, pastors
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Worship in person, 11 a.m.
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See our website for more information:
orchardcovenant.org.

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL

A Church of the Nazarene
485 East Street, Ludlow
(413) 583-7875
Email: FCCPastorLisa@gmail.com
Lead Pastor: Rev. Lisa Morrison
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs
Sunday Morning Discipleship Groups
meet at 9:45am
Worship service meets at 11am
OTHER MEETINGS
Tuesdays: Zoom Bible Study 7pm
Fridays: After School Club for Children 5pm
AA Group 7pm

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.

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Crane
Service



Storm
Damage



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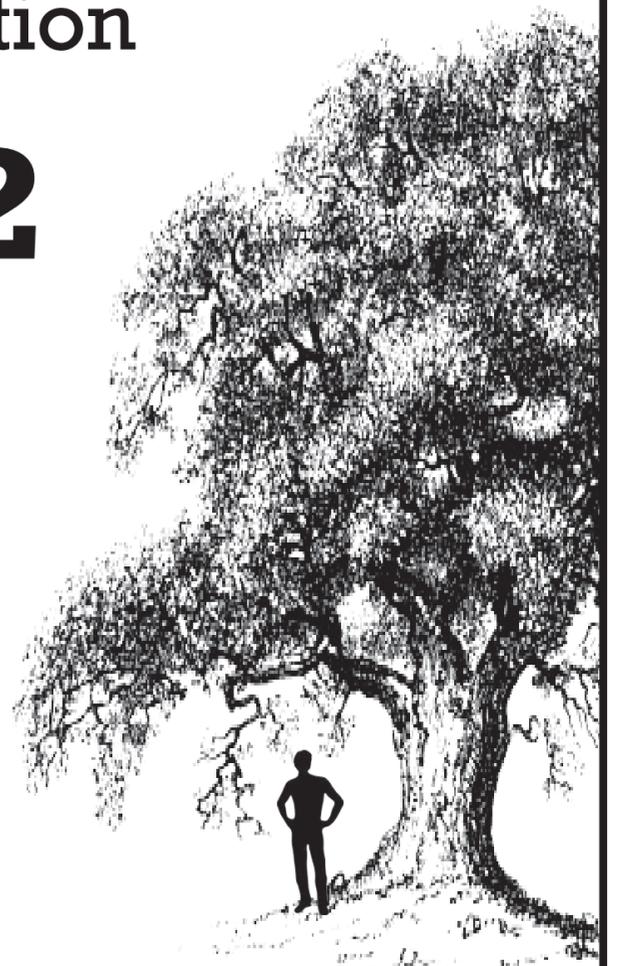
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and tree evaluation

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