

High School Drama Club presents Mean Girls, a Cautionary Tale

By Marcelo Gusmão Editor mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - This weekend, the High School put on its own production of the musical adaptation of the 2004 classic film, Mean Girls.

Described in the opening number as "a cautionary tale," Mean Girls, written by Tina Fey with music by Jeff Richmond and lyrics by Nell Benjamin, tells the story of one student coming into conflict with the school's bullying clique, the Plastics, and how her quest for revenge turned her into a bully, too.

This year's play was directed by Adelei Bernard and Emily Conroy, starring Caitlyn Day as Cady Heron, Peyton Brennan as Regina George, Eris Learned as Janis Sarkisian, Jack Favata as Damian Hubbard, Vivian Lonczak as Gretchen Wieners, and Kylie Roach as Karen Smith. It also featured Antonio Alexio as Aaron Samuels, Josh Roussel as Kevin G., Mason O'Connell as



The High School Drama Club put on a production of the Mean Girls musical this weekend.

Shane Oman, Niki Mentekidis as Dawn Schweitzer, Vic Davidson as Glen Coco and Lizzie T., Patricia Lukaszewicz as Rachel

H., Liam Hua as Jason W. and Coach Carr, Isabella Seara as Sonia A. and the French teacher, Kamryn Murphy as Mrs. Heron, Celine Johnson as Mrs. George, Josh Ridolfi as Mr. Duval, Jillian Lapointe as Ms. Norbury, Vincent Ribeiro as Mr. Buck,

and Melinda Lapointe as the Mathletes moderator.

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> The ensemble was made up of Isabel Cruz, Vic Davidson, Shyana Gauthie, Liam Hua, Celine Johnson, Jillian Lapointe, Melinda Lapointe, Patricia Lukaszewicz, Niki Mentekidis, Kamryn Murphy, Mason O'Connell, Vincent Ribeiro, Isabella Seara, and Amaiya Tex-

> The crew included Isabel Cruz as set manager, Ashlyn Moquin as backstage manager, and Ava Augusto as media manager. The set and backstage crew was made up of Isla Alvaro, Liberty Carlson, John Davidson, Lucas Leandro, Sadie Leatherman, William Nogueira, Ava Peczka, Caitlyn Peczka, Maddelena Pereira, Arianna Podmore, Cylie Rozkuszka, Montana Stepanian, Victoria White, Michele

Please see **MEAN GIRLS**, Page 7

School Committee approves free trip to Harvard's **Model Congress**

By Marcelo Gusmão Editor mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - For the second year in a row, students at the high school will be able to participate in Harvard's Model Congress.

The Jan. 28 School Committee meeting began with the committee hearing a request from the High School for approval of an upcoming trip. Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano provided some information about the trip.

'This is for the Model Congress, which will be held in Boston at Harvard. It's an overnight trip," Tiano said.

Shannon Anderson, teacher at the high school who submitted the request, said that this will be the second year the school participates in the pro-

"It's all funded through Harvard, which is really incredible, and it's a great opportunity for both networking and experience," Anderson said. "We have students who went last year who want to go again, so I think that speaks to it."

Student Representative Jack Favata was one such student who participated in the 2024 trip and is interested in return-

ing this year. Favata said that, as someone interested in government and political science, the previous trip "really opened (his) eyes" to how the country functions.

"This year we've been meeting with the advisors from Harvard, learning what is contained in a bill, how to pass a bill, the Robert's Rules and the right lingo to use when looking for support on your bill, and how important it is to make bipartisan bills, because that's what effective government looks like," Favata said. "Overall, I think everyone who didn't graduate last year is coming back for another year, or wants to, as of right

Favata mentioned another point of excitement would be attending the event at the Harvard campus, and described the experience as "a fun trip" and "a great opportunity."

Committee Member Jeffrey Laing mentioned hearing about the trip at his kitchen table, and asked how the school determines which students to take on the trip. Anderson explained that when the trip was announced at the school, it was offered to

Please see **MODEL CONGRESS**,

Page 12



The Senior Jazz Band, directed by Claire Arenius, performs one of their six music pieces.

MRHS hosts Annual Senior Festival Concert

Bv Noelle Hisgen Correspondent

WILBRAHAM - On Jan. 18, the 66th Annual Senior Festival Concert was held at Minnechaug Regional High

Students rehearsed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the concert started at 3 p.m.. Many music teachers from various towns were in attendance helping their students perform.

There were four groups that performed that afternoon: The Senior Jazz Band (16 student performers), Senior Chorus (153 student performers), Senior Orchestra (97 student performers), and Senior Concert Band (75 student performers). All of which consisted of students all across Western Massachusetts.

16 students from Minnechaug represented the school in the band and choral sections of the festival, who have dedicated their time to putting on a phenomenal performance.

Tra Abbleby, Ivy Christensen, Angelina Cross, Ella Gagliarducci, Isadora Maurice, Selena Nguyen, Alexa Sherman, Audrianna Stasio, and Layla Williams represented the school in the Senior Chorus.

Meanwhile, Elijah Mathias, Aezlin Rost and Hussien Saleh represented Minnechaug in the Senior Orchestra. The Senior Concert Band also consisted of Minnechaug students Bryanna Brown, Anne Hicklen, Abigail Lee and Julianna Washington.

There were also four students from Wilbraham & Mon-

son Academy who were part of the festival. Jinyi Huang and Avah Macdonald were part of the Senior Chorus. Along with Ji Min Hong and Zheng "Neil" Lian who were part of the Senior Orchestra.

Adults who were involved with the festival include Richard Cuoco: the chairperson and treasurer, Dave Morris: the chairperson elect and festival host and Margaret Wall: the choral coordinator.

Richard Cuoco, who is also the band director at Wilbraham Middle School, took a moment to reflect on his experience with chairing the concert as well as the importance of music education.

"To be honest, it's been

Please see **CONCERT**, Page 8

LUDLOW

Seniors helping Seniors, Friends of Senior Center seeks applicants for scholarships

By Marcelo Gusmão Editor mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – The Senior Center's fundraising group, the Friends of Ludlow Senior Center, is currently seeking graduating high schoolers to apply for its annual scholarships.

Peg Hinkley is a volunteer for with the Friends of Senior Center group. She said that the scholarship program began at the suggestion of the seniors during the group's monthly meeting.

"She thought it would be a good idea if we did a fundraiser to raise some money for the high school seniors," Hinkley said. "We took a vote and everyone thought it was a good idea."

After creating a subcommittee of volunteers to decide on the criteria, the group was able to roll out the scholarship a year later, providing applications to guidance counselors at the local schools.

The Friends fundraising group was

originally set up to raise money for the Senior Center's new building, and continues to work toward its goal of supporting the Senior Center. This includes raising funds to pay for exercise classes, special desserts, and entertainment for the Center's dinners, as well as setting aside money for this scholarship.

The scholarship offers \$2,000 for a four-year college, and \$1,000 for a two-year college. It's available to any graduating high school senior who lives in town, but is not limited to students of the public high school; it's also offered to Ludlow residents at the Wilbraham Monson Academy, at Pope Francis High School, and Pathfinder Technical Vocational School.

As head of the committee that oversees the applications, Hinkley said that there were only seven applicants for the scholarship last year.

"It was the first year and not a lot of people knew about it," Hinkley said. "All seven applications were very good, they all qualified. We have four or five other people that read the applications once they're here, and then we have a big discussion."

Hinkley said that the committee rates the applications on a one-to-ten scale, and that the decisions last year were unanimous. In addition to going over the applicants' transcripts, Hinkley said that the committee looks at how the graduating seniors will give back to senior citizens.

"One of the criteria is, we prefer to give it to somebody who's going into some service that will benefit the senior population," Hinkley said, citing healthcare, physical therapy, geriatric services, and social work as possible career paths.

To the Class of 2024, the Friends gave out two scholarships of \$2,000 to students going on to four-year colleges, but that there were no applicants for the two-year scholarship, and so those funds have been held for this year.

'When they win the scholarship, the

check is given to them directly to spend however they want to spend it," Hinkley said. "They may need it for books, commuting expenses, towards a new computer, or whatever they want to use it for. Once they've been given that scholarship, the money is theirs to use as they see fit."

The deadline to apply is Friday, April 4, with the awardees announced on Class Night before graduation. Applications can be found with guidance counselors at any school that services Ludlow residents

"We also have applications with an introductory letter at the Senior Center," Hinkley said. "Stop at the front desk at the Senior Center, and they'll have copies of the application there. Sometimes grandparents may pick it up and bring it to their grandchild, too."

The application can also be found at the group's website, FriendsOfLud-lowSeniorCenter.com.

Host families needed

LUDLOW— ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a Non-Profit, Public Benefit Organization, is inviting local families to discover the many rewards of hosting a foreign exchange student. ASSE students come from more than 50 countries worldwide: France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Japan, Australia, to name a few. They are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, and they are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture, family life, school, sports. etc. They also love to share their own culture and language with their host families, who welcome the students into

their home, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience. Host families may be single parents, couples and single persons

The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are carefully selected based upon academics and personality, and host families choose their student from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries and personal interests.

ASSE also offers qualified American students the opportunity to learn another language and culture by spending a school year, semester or a summer with a host family in another country.

Those interested in hosting an exchange student or becoming an exchange student abroad, should call Lori at 1-800-677-2773, visit www.asse.com or send an email to asseusaeast@asse.com to request more information or start the application process. Students are eager to learn about their American host family, so begin the process of welcoming your new son or daughter today.

The memories and the friendship you create with your exchange student will stay with you forever.

Reminder to return your 2025 Annual Town Census form

LUDLOW – 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.

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.





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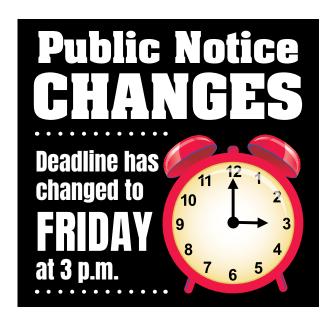
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250th Committee's "Last Night" Celebration to be held at High School

LUDLOW – The 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee invites you, your family and friends to "Last Night" at the High School, 500 Chapin St., on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a snow date of Sunday, Feb. 23.

Come and spend the afternoon and evening as the community celebrates the very last event that commemorates the town's 250th year. This fun-filled day will begin at 11 a.m. and will be celebrated into nightfall with a fireworks display at approximately 6 p.m. to end the evening the same way it began, with a bang.

This event will be held both indoors and outdoors. Over 75 crafters and vendors will be lining the halls, gymnasiums and cafeteria with their amazing items for sale. Many of our local non-profit groups will also be there.

There will be plenty of delicious food available such as hotdogs, hamburgers, chili, bake potatoes, kettle corn, mac and cheese, Portuguese-style pork bifana sandwiches, Puerto Rican cuisine, cookies, soup, fresh baked breads and desserts, and many more food items, hot chocolate, coffee and beverages too, so come hungry.

Fun family activities will include the Roaming Railroad train ride for families to enjoy at no charge. If it snows, there will be fun snowman building challenge that can be a family event or individual, and other winter themed events.

The Hampden Counts Sheriff's Department's mounted patrol will also be outdoors for a meet and greet. To keep you warm while enjoying outdoor activities, there will be a great big bonfire to gather around with friends.

There will be a wonderful look back presentation on the television just outside of the auditorium show-casing the many wonderful events we've held to celebrate our 250th year. You'll also see a great collection of photographs printed from the original glass plate negative donated by WestMass of our mills,

presented by the Hubbard Memorial Library.

Stop by to see Elsa and Anna for a meet and greet, which will include an autograph and a photo opportunity. There will be a free kid's corner for the children to enjoy making fun crafts.

The Ludlow 250th history book and merchandise for sale at Last Night. Get yours while they last as quantities are limited and selling fast

We'll end our wonderful day at sunset with a fabulous fireworks display at approximately 6 p.m. Guests will be allowed to sit in the new LHS sports complex bleachers for the best view.

This Last Night event will have something for everyone, so please mark your calendars for this fun filled day for all to enjoy and remember celebrating our town's 250th year.

For more information on the 250th Committee, you can follow them on Facebook, or visit their website at LudlowMA250.org.

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Lions scholarship applications available

LUDLOW- The Ludlow Lions Club is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the James and Mary O'Neil (\$40,000 paid over 4 years), the S. Louis Marceau and the Paul R. Baird scholarships (\$1.000 each) Eligible applicants must be residents of Ludlow, regardless of the high school attended, and entering freshman year at an accredited college or technical school in the fall. The James and Mary O'Neil scholarship is available only to students who will be attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus.

Applications may be obtained from the Guidance Departments of Ludlow High School, or Pope Francis Preparatory School, by using the "Scholarship" button on the Ludlow Lions Club Web page (https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/ludlow_ma/index.php), by request at LUDLOWLIONS@yahoo.com or by contacting a Ludlow Lions Club member.

The Scholarship applications must be received by April 1. Mail applications to the Ludlow Lions Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 72, Ludlow, MA 01056-0072.



LUCKY

This is Monica's Aussie Doodle Lucky from Ludlow. He's named after Lucky from 101 Dalmatians and has the personality to boot. Lucky is loyal to his family and is described by his family as "a lost soul" when they aren't around to indulge his herding traits. Lucky's family is his herd.

We feature your pets here. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mgusmao@turley.com.

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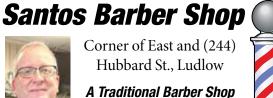
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RED HATTERS CELEBRATE NEW YEAR

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The Wilbraham Red Hatters celebrated the New Year with a delicious luncheon at the beautiful Pafumi Restaurant on Main Street on Jan. 28.

Fire Department responds to and extinguishes Kitchen Fire

LUDLOW - Chief Ryan Pease reports that the Ludlow Fire Department responded to and extinguished a kitchen fire.

On Monday, Feb. 3, at approximately 10:47 a.m., Ludlow Central Dispatch received a report of a kitchen fire at a home on Lower Whitney Street.

Upon arrival, crews observed light smoke showing from the open door of the home. Crews were able to contain the fire in the kitchen area and quickly extinguish the

There were no injuries. Four people have been displaced and are being assisted by family.

Mutual aid was provided by the Belchertown Fire Department. Ludlow Police and Ludlow Central Dispatch also assisted.

Off-duty Ludlow firefighters provided station coverage.

The fire's cause was investigated by Ludlow Fire and was determined to be unattended cooking.



Damages to a home were the result of a kitchen fire that occurred on Monday, Feb. 3.

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Hampden County Sheriff's office receives grant

HAMPDEN COUNTY— Staff from the Hampden County Sheriff's Office attended the West Springfield Rotary's bi-monthly luncheon meeting on January 23, to thank members for their generous Community Grant to support HCSO's Community Literacy Initiative. This funding will directly support HCSO's mission to foster literacy, personal growth, and empowerment among local youth while also providing hands-on vocational training for justice-involved individuals.

Brooklyn, the department's first Certified Therapy Dog and the inspiration for a series of children's books produced by HCSO, joined staff at the lunch.

HCSO Program Manager Maria Puppolo, a contributor to the Community Literacy Initiative, took the opportunity to share the positive impact that the initiative has had on local children. Maria is the author of two of the three books in the Brooklyn Adventure Story series: "Brooklyn Gets a Christmas Tree" and "Brooklyn Celebrates Her Birthday." The third book in the series, "Jasmine's Big, Floppy Ears," was written by HCSO Deputy Elizabeth Rodrigues.

During the luncheon, Rotary Club members were delighted to meet Brooklyn and learn more about how HCSO's Community Literacy Initiative is making a difference in the lives of Hampden County students. The initiative combines the joy of reading with valuable lessons on character development, offering books that emphasize kindness, perseverance, and respect.

The books are the result of a collaborative effort that brings together HCSO staff, incarcerated individuals, and local youth. Staff members serve as authors, while illustrations are created through contributions from various community members, including justice-involved individuals and local students. The HCSO Graphic Arts Department plays a pivotal role in this process, printing the books and providing hands-on training to justice-involved individuals in the technical skills needed to succeed in the printing industry. This practical experience serves as an important part of their rehabilitation and prepares them for future employment opportunities.

Once the books are printed, HCSO staff, often the authors themselves, visit schools across Hampden County to read the books to students. Each child receives a personal copy of the book and is encouraged to discuss the core values presented in the stories, creating a meaningful and interactive learning experience.

Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi expressed his appreciation for the Rotary's support, saying, "The opportunity to engage with our local youth in such an interactive way is priceless. The fact that these students get their own copy of our book to take home with them is another way to spread the positivity. These meaningful community interactions would not be possible without grants like this from the West Springfield Rotary Club, and the generosity of community partners."

The HCSO's Community Literacy Initiative continues to grow, bringing positive and inspiring educational experiences to children in Hampden County while providing essential skill-building opportunities for justice-involved individuals.

Knights of Columbus Council 3535 to hold Communion Breakfast

LUDLOW – The Knights of Columbus Council 3535 will hold a Communion Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 23 at 8 a m

The Divine Liturgy of Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church at 46 Newbury St. will hold a 9:30a.m. breakfast in the church hall downstairs.

Join the Knights for Divine Liturgy and for breakfast afterwards, for food and fellowship with the town's Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus will provide Quiche and Finger Sandwiches. Feel free to bring your favorite potluck dish.

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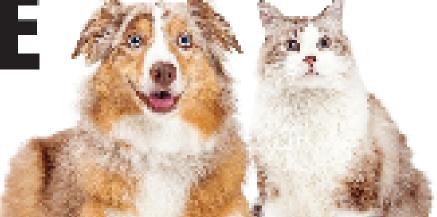
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- Ret your pup Tell your dog to "sit" and "stag" while you hide. Start with some easy hiding spots, His behind a place of furniture. As your doo gets used to the game, try moving to harder spots.
- Ready or not, here they conset Say "okay" and bit your pup come that you. If they technolog a had line, call out their name to give them shint. 4. Researd line — When you pup firsts you, make sure to give them idea of grains and researd from with

Find My Treat.

- Keep sweg Temporarily put your pup in their craft or a room where they can't see you and ober
- 2. Secret Dref Choose some super smally dog beets and hids them in different stress sound the more. If they need help you can souther a few places: of food scross the floor feeding to the hidden freet: until they get the idea of how the game works.
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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Reader seeks clarification of Medicare IRMAA and MAGI

Dear Rusty:

I am confused by an article in my local newspaper which said that Modified Adjusted Gross Income, on which my Medicare Part B premium is based, is my Adjusted Gross Income, plus any non-taxable interest, plus 50% of the social security I received.

The part that is confusing is the 50% part. When I look at my tax return my Adjusted Gross Income includes the taxable portion of my Social Security benefit which, in my case, is 85% of my total benefits. Why must 50% of benefits be added to my AGI if it is already included in my total AGI?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The article you refer to was misleading for stating that the Modified Adjusted Gross Income used to determine your Medicare premiums includes your normal Adjusted Gross Income from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. What the article should have said was that the MAGI, which determines your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount to your Medicare premiums consists of your normal AGI from your tax return, which includes the taxable portion of your Social Security benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

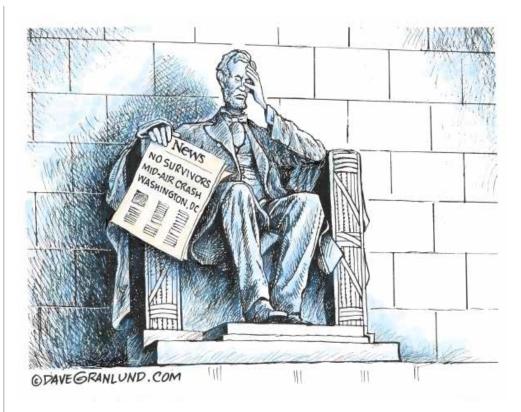
For additional clarity, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount is a supplemental amount added to the standard Medicare premium for those with higher incomes. The thresholds at which the IRMAA supplements apply depend on your IRS filing status, and your MAGI determines the amount of supplement which will be added to the standard Medicare premium.

Single filers with MAGI over \$103,000 or married filers with MAGI over \$206,000 will see an IRMAA supplement added to their Medicare premium. Those whose MAGI is under the first IRMAA threshold pay the standard Medicare premium, but those whose MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold above will pay more.

How much more depends on how much their MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold by. The IRMAA supplement (the additional premium amount) could be anywhere from \$69.90 to \$419.30 per month for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) or an additional \$12.90 to \$81.00 per month to the Medicare Part D (prescription drug plan) premium - again dependent on how much over the initial MAGI threshold the person is for their IRS filing status. You can see the MAGI levels and corresponding IRMAA supplements by visiting this Medicare website at www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2024-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles.

IRMAA and MAGI can be confusing. If people have questions about their Medicare premiums, help is available by emailing SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org or calling 1-888-750-2622.

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.



GUEST COLUMN



Creating a "wow" factor at home

This past week I've been hard at work trying to come up with new and exciting garden ideas for the entrance areas of Old Sturbridge Village.

It's a job I've done for decades now, and maybe I take for granted how cool it is to work for a place that many people visit each year. I want to give visitors something to rave about with my color combinations and plant selections!

Read on, straight from the archives, to bring some of this "wow factor" attitude home to your own landscape.

How often have you visited an outdoor museum, amusement park or resort and felt inspired by the gardens or container plantings used to adorn the property? Chances are you may have even used an especially delightful display as a backdrop for a family photo or two.

Tourist attractions such as these put "their best foot forward" each season of the year to awe their customers with spectacular combinations of unique plants, so that no matter when the visit is planned, the guest leaves with the feeling something special was done in their honor.

We can treat our home gardens in a similar fashion. Why not? Certainly we deserve to have exceptional plantings, for our own enjoyment and for the compliments they will elicit from our friends.

So instead of utilizing border plantings that provide only glimpses of color in the spring, summer and fall, devote entire beds to the showiest plants available for the time

of year and change them with the seasons.

These types of gardens don't have to be very large, but they do have to be situated for optimal effect. Think "location, location, location, location, location."

If you have a long driveway, consider placing a "welcome garden" just as you turn down the path. Since it will be viewed from a distance, and from a single vantage point, make the bed more wide than narrow, and raise the height of the soil in the back of the bed a bit for a multidimensional appearance.

Utilize large, bold flowers, bright colors, and strong foliage forms- these will capture the eye en route.

Which door do you or guests normally use to enter and exit the house? Plant a small garden nearby, one that can be admired up close, each time you pass by it.

Here, the intricacies of color and form can be fully appreciated, whereas in the garden out front they would be lost. Experiment with a variety of flower and foliage shapes and color schemes.

Don't be afraid to use delicate or small flowers, or those that are mottled or twotone. Likewise, variegated and cut-leaf foliage can make for interesting inspection if properly paired with surrounding plants.

Similar beds or container plantings can be planned for patio or pool-side, or for other areas within the landscape that might be suitable for entertaining. Simply tailor the gardens to the timeframe in which these locations are used most often, and choose your plants accordingly.

Next week we will get into the "nitty-gritty" of each of the three seasons: spring, summer and fall, and how to capture the essence of each in your plantings. You too can have museum quality gardens within your home landscape!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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*.

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

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

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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Vivian Lonczak, Peyton Brennan, Caitlyn Day, and Kylie Roach performed the Plastics' Christmas talent show, while Celine Johnson coaches them in the foreground.



Vivian Lonczak as Gretchen, Caitlyn Day as Cady, and Kylie Roach as Karen during this weekend's pl

MEAN GIRLS from Page 1

Winslow, Elina Wright, and Larissa Wright.

In the tech department, Karter Learned was in charge of sound, Rhyan Milfort was in charge of lights, and Gabe DeMars and Sage Foote were in charge of spotlights.

The PG-13 musical includes profanity, sexual innuendo, alcohol and drug references, and crude gestures to illustrate the horrors of bullying. Co-director Adelei Bernard warned audiences of the potentially disturbing content in a note in the program.

"If, as an audience member, you are offended by anything in the show, you are right to feel as much," Bernard said. "This show is meant to make you feel uncomfortable, purposefully using humor as a tool for change. Through Cady's eyes, we shine a light on so many pre-



The crew and set managers were highlighted in posters on the high school's walls.



The halls of the high school were decorated with pink streamers, pictures of the cast, and a giant Burn Book.

vailing issues in 'girl world.' Exploring the challenges and complexities of forming relationships, the need for acceptance, and the pain that can come with betrayal."

In the acknowledgements, the produc-

tion thanked Principal Lisa Nemeth and the school's administration, Mike Hill for continued tech support, the parents who volunteered and particularly Garrett Day, the custodial staff, volunteers, and the support of the community.



Caitlyn Day, as Cady Heron, prepares to leave her life of homeschooling in Africa to start high school.



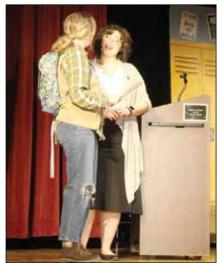
Jack Favata and Eris Learned welcomed Caitlyn Day's Cady Heron to the school.



Peyton Brennan received an epic introduction as the iconic Mean Girl, Regina George.



The drama club members performed an opening number as Cady Heron arrives at the school.



Caitlyn Day is introduced to Jillian Lapointe's Ms. Norbury, who was originally played by the film's writer, Tina Fey.

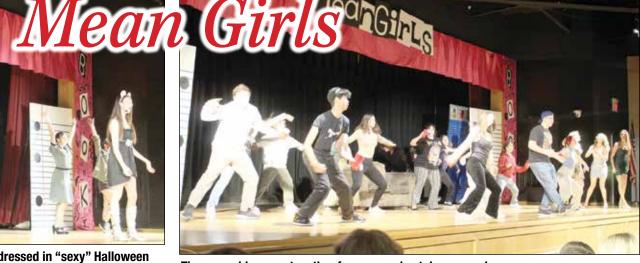


Vivian Lonczak (right) shares a moment with Caitlyn Day that addresses the poor treatment of Gretchen Wieners by her friend.



Vivian Lonczak (right) performed "What's Wrong with Me?" for Caitlyn Day (seated). See more photos on page 8.

Kylie Roach (right) performed "Sexy" with an ensemble dressed in "sexy" Halloween costumes.



The ensemble came together for a second act dance number.



Peyton Brennan performed "Someone Gets Hurt" as Regina George.



Eris Learned and Jack Favata comfort Caitlyn Day's Cady Heron after the Halloween party.



The cast comes together for the grand finale at Spring Fling.

CONCERT from Page 1

very stressful, but very rewarding," Cuoco said. "There's a lot of work that goes into putting on this festival and making these opportunities happen for students across Western Mass...Music education reaches a lot of students: Students who are very academically successful, students who play sports, students who struggle in certain areas and its a way to bring together a lot of different students from different backgrounds."

Matthew Cunningham, the guest Senior Chorus director, also spoke about his experience that day.

"Minnechaug High School was a fantastic venue for this event. My ensemble rehearsed in the cafeteria, which was super resonant, well-lit, and spacious. The auditorium is a beautiful performance space. I am very grateful to Mr. Cuoco and his entire time for their exceptional hospitality and dedication to ensure a successful event. They were a delightful and gracious host!" Cunningham said.

In attendance was also Nathan Gowen, the director of recruitment, admissions, and career planning for the Department of Music and Dance at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

"I want to be here because part of my job is to know where the students are at, and to encourage them to go into music after their done with high school. But more importantly, I think the idea of encouraging to do music after high school, whether they want a major in it or not is important. And I love to be here to preach that to whether they're seniors, freshmen, their families, and as an important part of the scene here and I love it," Gowen said.

It was a great afternoon to celebrate all the musically talented students from all across Western Mass. It showed that the future of music and music education as a whole will be in good hands with the next generation of musicians.

The concert was sponsored by the Massachusetts Music Educators Association Western District, a federated state unit of the National Association for Music Education.



Applications Are Open for the First Annual

JOHN T. CARLIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Carlin taught math at Ludlow High School and established the girls' tennis program there.

After his death in January 2024, his family created this scholarship in his memory.

Female student-athletes from Ludlow who are planning to attend college should apply. Mr. Carlin coached tennis, but the scholarship is open to girls who play any sport.

There will be four recipients every year.

Each recipient will receive a grant of \$3,000, which is renewable for up to four years.

Visit https://communityfoundation.org/ students/scholarships/ for details.

The deadline to submit applications is March 31, 2025.



The Senior Chorus, directed by Matthew Cunningham, performs one of their five songs.



The Senior Orchestra, directed by David Beck, performs one of their three musical pieces.

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'Frustrating' loss for Lions to Lunenburg



Owen Kumiega vies for a loose puck.

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD -Very frustrating.

That's probably the best way to describe the Ludlow Lions, 5-3, non-conference loss to the Lunenburg Blue Knights at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield, last Saturday.

"We outplayed them, and we outshot them in today's game, but we just made too many mistakes," said longtime Ludlow hockey coach Paul Rivest. "This is a very frustrating loss. If the players aren't frustrated, they probably shouldn't be playing for this hockey team."

The Lions outshot the Blue Knights, 29-25.

Following last Saturday's

setback, the Lions had a 5-5-4 overall record. They were ranked 32nd in the MIAA Division 3 power rankings, which were released last Friday.

"Our record really should be something like 13-1, but we're now 5-5-4," Rivest added. "There has only been a couple of games that we probably should've lost so far this season."

The top 32 teams in each division will automatically qualify for the state tournament. The other Division 3 teams that finish the regular season with a .500 or better record will also qualify for the state tournament.

The Lions, who are members of the Berry Division, are

Please see **HOCKEY**, Page 10



Nick Deroin looks to clear the puck.

Lions pin way to dual meet victory

LUDLOW - On Wednesday, Jan. 22, Ludlow High School wrestling battled league rival Holyoke. Despite a couple of pins from the Knights earlier in the meet, Ludlow dominated the competition, which included just one forfeit for the Knights. Ludlow came away with a 60-24 win. The Lions are closing out their regular season meet schedule with Chicopee on Thursday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Samantha Bertini scores a pin for Ludlow



Davien Smith tries to get around a



Ahligas Sanchez goes for a takedown.



Ryan Gomes locks up at 126 pounds.



Kyle Rodrigues goes low to avoid a leg takedown.

Ludlow boys get back in win column

LUDLOW - Last Tuesday night, Ludlow High School boys basketball grabbed a much-needed win over Westfield Technical Academy 68-59. The win inched the Lions closer to .500 at 6-7. In the win, which Ludlow led almost the entire way, Jackson Mateus had a big night with 23 points. Cameron Lyman added 14 points. Mason Morace turned in nine points off the bench.

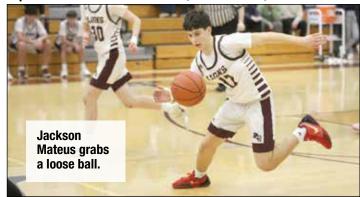
Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli **Spencer Huntley makes his** way down the court.



Kobe McKay powers through a pair of defenders.



pass ahead of pressure.



T-Birds get huge weekend sweep

DES MOINES, IA — The Spring-field Thunderbirds (21-17-2-2) got points from 14 of their 18 skaters in a 7-2 drubbing of the Iowa Wild (14-26-2-1) on Saturday night inside Wells Fargo Arena.

The T-Birds wasted little time jumping in front for a second straight night, as Simon Robertsson and Hugh Mc-Ging capped a 2-on-0 with McGing cashing in on a one-timer past Jesper Wallstedt just 1:22 into action. Otto Stenberg also picked up an assist as all three players on the line broke point droughts of three or four games.

Sam Bitten, playing in the building his brother Will called home for three seasons, joined the fun at 5:47 with a perfect bar-down wrister from the right circle to push the lead to 2-0 off setups from Samuel Johannesson and Leo Loof. Johannesson has now registered a point in five of his last six games.

Vadim Zherenko drew the starting assignment in net and held his own with 16 stops in the opening period. Johannesson provided a helping hand after Zherenko made a mini-breakaway

save on Hunter Haight, and the young blueliner successfully kept Mikey Milne from cashing in on a rebound to keep the score deadlocked.

Iowa finally would break through on its 16th shot of the period as Travis Boyd crashed the far post to tap home a 2-on-1 pass from Matthew Sop to get the Wild deficit down to 2-1 heading into the first intermission.

There were more parallels from Friday's game early in the second period, as McGing unleashed a perfect shot under the crossbar at 2:23, beating Wallstedt for his second of the evening and restoring the two-goal lead, 3-1.

Iowa put together their best push of the night over the next five minutes, culminating in a tally by Luke Toporowski to cut the margin back to a single goal, 3-2, at 7:26.

Just as it appeared the Wild would change the tide of the game, the T-Birds had other plans as Nikita Alexandrov drove the net front from the right circle and beat Wallstedt to the near post to make it 4-2 just 17 seconds after the Toporowski goal.

The Springfield attack poured it on from there. Michael Buchinger announced his presence at 8:49, jumping into a play as a trailer before snapping a wrister past Wallstedt to make it 5-2 off a cross-ice setup from Matthew Peca.

Another potential momentum shift came at 13:39 of the second when Dylan Peterson barreled in on net, taking a shot on Wallstedt before colliding with the Iowa netminder. Peterson was given a five-minute charging major, setting the stage for the Wild power play to try to climb back into the game. Wallstedt was forced to leave the game as Samuel Hlavaj came on in relief.

Instead of the moment sparking the home team, the T-Birds only further added to their lead when Peca intercepted a pass in the neutral zone, skated into the zone on the right wing, and snapped another perfect shot upstairs past Hlavaj for his team-leading 16th goal, making it a 6-2 game heading into the third

The Wild had no answers for Zherenko in the third, despite Iowa throw-

ing 16 pucks on the T-Birds net and 50 total by the night's conclusion. The third-year goalie finished with a season-high 48 stops to earn the win, and Alek Kaskimaki capped off the offensive onslaught with his second goal in two nights at 17:12 of the third to round out the scoring.

Dalibor Dvorsky will be in action on Sunday and Monday at the AHL All-Star Classic presented by Spotlight 29 Casino in Palm Springs, California. The rookie star will first participate in the AHL All-Star Skills Competition presented by Silvercrest on Sunday, Feb. 2 (9:00 p.m. ET). Then, on Monday, Feb. 3, Dvorsky and the Atlantic Division will look to take home the 3-on-3 crown in the 2025 AHL All-Star Challenge presented by Spotlight 29 Casino at 9:00 p.m. ET. Both events can be seen on NHL Network and AHLTV powered by FloHockey.

Springfield next takes to the ice on Friday, Feb. 7 to begin a home-and-home set against the Providence Bruins at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

Railers score win over Mariners

PORTLAND, ME – The Worcester Railers HC (18-19-2-4 42pts) took down the Maine Mariners (16-23-3-0, 35pts), on Sunday afternoon by the final score of 5-2 in front of a crowd of 4,421 at Cross Insurance Arena. The Railers are back on the ice next at the DCU Center taking on the Atlanta Gladiators on Wednesday, February 5th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Worcester scored first Sunday afternoon when Matt Ustaski (1-0-1) scored 5:23 into the first. Maine answered back with a goal of their own from Wyllum Deveaux (1-1-2) to tie the score at 1-1 heading into the second. Connor Welsh (1-0-1) was the second period's lone scorer giving the Railers the 2-1 lead. Maine tied it early in the second period with a goal from Lynden McCallum (1-0-1), but shortly after the Railers grabbed the lead right back when Cole Donhauser (1-1-2) scored a shorthanded goal to give the Railers the 3-2 lead. The Railers finished the third period by scoring two more goals, the first scored by Mark Cheremeta (1-0-1) 15:52 into the third, and the second an empty net goal from Matias Rajaniemi (1-0-1) giving the Railers the 5-2 victory.

The scoring got started by the Railers 5:23 into the first when Matt Ustaski (2nd) found the back of the net off a pass from Jordan Kaplan. Maine tied the score at 1-1 just under ten minutes later off the

stick of Wyllum Deveaux (8th). Shots favored Worcester 20-10 in the first period.

It took nearly 17 minutes of second period action for either team to score. It was Connor Welsh (5th) who scored giving the Railers the 2-1 lead. His shot from the left point deflected off of a Maine Mariner and beat Bischel high. Shortly after the Railers goal, they went on the penalty kill following a five-minute major for boarding called on Griffin Loughran. The Railers successfully killed the first 2:32 of the Maine power play to wrap up the second period. Worcester outshot Maine 31-17 in the second period

The Railers started the third period by

killing the remainder of the Maine power play, but shortly after the penalty expired Maine was able to net one. It was Lynden McCallum (15th) who scored for the Mariners. The Railers did not wait long to regain the lead, as Cole Donhauser (5th) forced a turnover at center ice and took it all the way home and scored the shorthanded goal giving the Railers the 3-2 lead. Mark Cheremeta extended the Worcester lead to 4-2 with his breakaway goal 15:52 into the third period. Matias Rajaniemi (2nd) capped off the Railers five goal night with his empty net goal 17:27 into the third, securing the 5-2 win for Worcester. Shots favored Worcester 8-7 in the third and 40-25 in regulation.

HOCKEY from Page 9

also trying to earn a berth in the Western Mass. Class A tournament. They'll need to finish the regular season as one of the top four teams in the Berry Division standings to achieve that goal. Entering this week's action, the Lions were tied for fifth place in the conference standings with East Longmeadow, who they were scheduled to face for the second time on Tuesday night. The Lions lost the first match-up between the two squads by a goal.

Ludlow is also scheduled to play two other Berry Division games this week against West Springfield at 8:40 pm on Thursday night and Greenfield on Saturday afternoon (4:30pm), which will be their annual senior day.

The seven Ludlow seniors, who'll be honored in a ceremony prior to the start of Saturday's match against the Green Wave, are Nick Staeb, Kevin Lynch, Charlie Fijal, Ryan Goodwin, Michael Rubin, Jack Mandeville, and Owen Kumiega

A minute into the opening period of last Saturday's contest, Fijal was sent to the penalty box following a hit-from-behind.

Not only did the Lions kill the



Goalie Donald Rogers attempts to make a save.

matches of the regular season.

five-minute major penalty, but they took a 1-0 lead when junior Tannar Severyrn scored a short-handed goal with 43 seconds remaining in the Blue Knights power-play.

"One of our best players received a five-minute major on the first shift of the game," Rivest said. "We scored a goal on it, and we should've dominated the game after that, but we didn't."

The Lions had only scored five first period goals in their first 13

Junior Sean Kefalas, who assisted on the Lions short-handed goal, gave his team a 2-0 lead when his shot crossed the goal-line after deflecting off Lunenburg sophomore goalie Tyler Cyr (22 saves) for an unassisted goal with 4:47 remaining in the opening period.

At the other end of the ice, Ludlow junior goalie Donald Rogers (24 saves) made a couple of glove saves before Lunenburg senior Tyler Fortier fired a shot into the net from the blue-line cutting the deficit in half with 2:16 left in the period.

With 41 seconds remaining on the scoreboard clock, sophomore Owen Hurley netted the game-tying goal for the Blue Knights (12-1-1), who were ranked ninth in the Division 4 power rankings

Neither team was able to score a goal during the first twelve minutes of the second period

second period.

The visitors from Northern Worcester County took the lead for the first time following Hurley's second goal

with 2:56 left in the second period.

Tannar Severyn takes a faceoff.

With 53 seconds left in the second period, another goal by sophomore Dylan Sprague gave Lunenburg a 4-2 advantage.

Ludlow, who had gone 0-1-3 over their previous four matches, entered the final 15 minutes only trailing by a goal, as junior Nicholas Deroin scored a goal with 25 seconds left in the second period. Fijal was credited with the assist.

A couple of minutes into the third period, Fijal had a breakaway opportunity, but Cyr made a glove save.

Junior A.J. Stupak, along with Kefalas, and Deroin also had shots on goal during the final period, but the Lions couldn't score the equalizer.

"We had several chances in the third period," Rivest said. "I thought we would be able to tie it up."

Lunenburg sophomore Sam Brand netted an insurance goal with 1:07 remaining in regulation, which ended Ludlow's chances of making a comeback.



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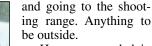
John Arthur Herrick, 75

John Arthur Herrick, 75, of Sanford, ME, formerly of Gloucester, MA, passed away on Wednesday evening, Jan. 1, 2025.

John (Jack) Arthur Herrick was born on August 23, 1949 in Ludlow, MA to Arthur Herrick and Catherine (Kapinos) Herrick.

After graduating from Ludlow High School in 1967, he served in the U.S. Coast Guard during the Vietnam war, something of which he was immensely proud. He then went on to have a successful career as a boat mechanic, working in several boatyards on the North Shore of Massachusetts. One of things he enjoyed earlier in life was seeing the building of his dream lobster boat the "Sea Robin" and spending his summers lobstering and fishing with his two kids.

John loved his dogs and had many over the years. They along with his children and grandchildren brought him immense joy. Upon retirement, he settled in Sanford, Maine in a lakefront cabin. He spent his days puttering around the yard, enjoying his dogs, being on the water boating



He was preceded in death by his parents.

Jack is survived by his wife Janice, his two children, John Herrick with partner Amy Cavender of Gloucester and Cheryl Herrick-Stella

with husband, Jad Stella of Beverly; along with three grandsons, Cameron Stella, Aiden and Trey Herrick. Sadly he leaves behind all his siblings and their families, Diane Crafts of Florida, Ray and LeeAnne (Lupacchino) Herrick of Wilbraham, Steve and Deborah (Gilbert) Herrick of Becket, Louise and Jim Rose of Cheshire, Tim Herrick of Topsham, ME, and Sally and Bill Peacey of Palmer; along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A graveside service will be held Friday, March 14, 2025, at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam, 1390 Main Street, Agawam at 3 p.m. All are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers or gifts, contributions may be made in Jack's memory to the MSPCA or the Wounded Warrior Proj-



Clifford C. Plourde, 85, of Ludlow passed peacefully on Dec. 22, 2024. Clifford was born in Springfield, son to the late Clifford G. Plourde and Irene Plourde. (LaBranche) He is also predeceased by his sister Elizabeth Moriarty of New Bed-

ford and the love of his life and wife of 60 years, Marsha (Merkel) Plourde.

Clifford attended the High School of Commerce in Springfield. He then went on to serve in the US Army. After completing his service, he earned associates degrees from both Western New England University and Springfield Technical Community College. He worked for the US Postal Service in various roles for most of his work-



Clifford will be remembered as a kind and loving father and grandfather. He was a trivia aficionado with a quick wit and a great sense of humor. He leaves his daughter Pamela (Plourde) Walczak, and her husband Brian of

Ludlow and his cherished grandchildren: Abby, Nick, Gabby and Lauren.

Family and friends will gather at Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at 1390 Main Street in Agawam, MA on Feb. 14, 2025 at 3 p.m. for a prayer service and military honors. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the American Stroke Association. The Ratell Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrange-

Douglas J. Stefancik, 54

It is with great sympathy that the family of Douglas J. Stefancik, 54, announces his sudden passing on Jan. 28, 2025, at the Holyoke Medical Center from an aggressive form of cancer that originated in the gallbladder. He was the son of Flor-

ence (Steplowski) Stefancik and the late Allan E. Stefancik and was born, raised, and lived in the City of Holyoke his entire life. A graduate of Holyoke Catholic High School in 1990, Douglas continued his education, where he graduated from Holyoke Community College in 1993 and Westfield State College in 2000. He then received a Master of Public Administration from American International College in 2006. Douglas started his professional career working for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, and then with the Town of Adams as the Community Development Planner. His work in municipal government led him to become a Notary Public for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Since 2007, Douglas served as the Town Planner for the Town of Ludlow, where he made many genuine relationships and was supportive of his "work family." He was proud of the work he did and will forever be a part of Ludlow's growth into the future. Outside of his profession, Douglas loved being outdoors, whether it was tending to his vegetable garden and flower beds, swimming in the ocean, or taking his daily walk. At home, Douglas mastered the craft of becoming an exceptional cook and baker. He cherished serving his family his famous cheesecake,



delectable appetizers, and unrequitable French toast during the holidays or sharing goodies at work parties. Around each holiday he treasured his light displays and decorated both the inside and outside of his house. He enjoyed being with his family,

including Sunday Suppers, special occasions, and dining out. Douglas was generous, always spoiling his family and his friends, and donated charitably to many local organizations. He is survived by his mother Florence J. (Steplowski) Stefancik of Holyoke, his sister Karin S. Kane and her husband Michael of Holyoke, his brother Glen J. Stefancik of Holyoke, his beloved nephew and niece, Michael F. Kane II and Katherine A. Kane, both of Holyoke, aunts: Stacia Miller of Port Charlotte, FL, Wanda Bruneau and her husband Robert of Southbridge, MA, Maryann Nolet of Orlando, Florida, and many wonderful cousins. Family and friends are invited to attend the Funeral Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church in Holyoke, MA on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025, at 10 a.m. followed by the burial at Mater Dolorosa Cemetery, South Hadley. The Stefancik Family would like to express its appreciation to the doctors, nurses, and staff at the Holyoke Medical Center for their tremendous care. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Blessed Sacrament School, 21 Westfield Rd, Holyoke, MA 01040 and/or Westfield Homeless Cat Project, 1124 East Mountain Road, Westfield, MA 01085, or the charity of your choice.

DEATH NOTICES

John Arthur Herrick, 75 Died Jan. 1, 2025 Service March 14, 2025

Irene May Hite Died Jan. 29, 2025 Services are private Kapinos Mazur Funeral Home

Dr. Gerald **LaVerne Paist** Died Jan. 24, 2025 Services are private Neill Funeral Home

Clifford C. Plourde Died Dec. 22, 2024 Services Feb.14, 2025 Tylunas Funeral Home

Douglas J. Stefancik Died Jan. 28, 2025 Services Feb. 8, 2025 Barry J. Farrell 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 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.

Irene May Hite, 85

LUDLOW—Irene (Gosciminski) May Hite, 85, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025. Irene was resident of Wilbraham, MA but upon her marriage to Danny on May 5, 1962, she became a lifelong resident of Ludlow.

Irene served as a lunch mother for years at Chapin Street Elementary School.

She enjoyed camping with her family and spent many years visiting different sites, including Cape Cod, the White Mountains, Washington DC, Iowa and Florida. She was a loyal Boston Red Sox fan and enjoyed cheering them on watching every game win or lose. Irene took pride in her home and her role as homemaker. An excellent craftsperson, she crafted many beautiful items to



enhance the home. She also created a beautiful flower gardens each summer. In her leisure time, she enjoyed playing board games and doing crossword puzzles.

Irene was predeceased be her husband Danny Lee Hite, her parents Bolec and Stella

Gosciminski and her brother Larry Gosciminski.

She is survived by her loving sons Brian Daniel Hite of Westminster, MA, Mark Lee Hite and his three children Ryan, Alex and Hayley of Tiverton, RI.

A special thank you to the staff at Wing Memorial Hospital in Palmer for their kindness and care they showed to Irene in her final days.

All services are private, For more information, please go to www.kapinosmazurfh.com.

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist ("Gerry") passed away peacefully at Harrisburg Hospital on January 24, 2025. He was a resident of Country Meadows Mechanicsburg since April 2024.

Born in Williamsport, PA, Gerry was the son of Thomas Holland

Paist, Jr. and Ethel Ann (Hubbell) Paist. He grew up in Willow Grove, PA and attended the Upper Moreland School District, where he graduated Valedictorian of the class of 1957.

Gerry was very active in Scouting and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. During his senior year, Gerry was selected to tour Europe with the World Friendship Organization. While there, he visited 18 European countries and received the Queen's Scout Badge, the highest award in English Scouting.

Following high school graduation, Gerry earned a B.S. in



Mathematics from Lafayette College Masters and Doctoral Degrees In Educational Administration from Harvard University.

teaching After Mathematics at Stoneham and Framingham School Districts, Gerry served as Assistant

Dean of Westfield University in Massachusetts. He then became the Superintendent/Director of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he served for 47 years. Currently he is the longest running School Superintendent in the United

Gerry will be remembered lovingly by his sister, Susan Hubbell Whyte (Howard) of Carlisle, niece, Kimberly Eshbach Barger (Chad) of Mechanicsburg and grand nephews, Alec Barger and Chase Barger. Burial will be private at West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, PA.



Cemetery Memorials + Markers Granite Benches Religious Statuary + Outdoor Display

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NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profi les, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, fi nance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loval advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Register, please email theregister@turley.com.

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25P0180EA Estate of: Kathleen A Dowd Also known as: **Kathleen Dowd** Date of Death: 11/26/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal** Adjudication of Intestacy has been filed by Charles E Dowd of Ware, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/25/2025.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE **MASSACHUSETTS** UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 28, 2025 Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 02/05/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division** Docket No. HD25P0165EA Estate of: Candace C Gilday

Date of Death: December 31, 2024 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Eda F. Gilday of Hampden, MA.

Eda F. Gilday of Hampden, 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. 02/05/2025

Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25P0154EA Estate of: Michael Stanley Obrzut, Jr. Also known as: Michael S Obrzut Date of Death: 12/05/2024 CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL

Commonwealth of

ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/24/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION **UNDER THE** MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expens-

es of administration WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 27, 2025 Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 02/05/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF **MASSACHUSETTS** The Trial Court

Probate & Family Court Dept. HAMPDEN, Division

To Sonia Pereira, of Ludlow, in the County of Hampden, and to all other persons interested

A petition has been presented to said Court by Gil E. Gomes of Ludlow, in the County of Hampden, representing that they held as tenants in common an undivided part or share of land lying in Ludlow in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Two Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand (\$252,000.00) Dollars, and praying that partition may be make of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney, should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the tenth day of February 2025, the return day of this citation. .

Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice of said Court this 13th day of January, 2025.

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register 01/22, 01/29, 02/05/2025

RFP 2025-10 REBID REQUEST FOR **PROPOSALS** FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FOOD & DRINK **CONCESSION** WESTOVER GOLF COURSE

The Town of Ludlow/ Westover Municipal Golf Commission, through the Chief Procurement Officer for the Town of Ludlow, will receive sealed proposals for the operation of the Food & Drink Concession at Westover Municipal Golf Course, by lease, as detailed in the Request for Proposals (RFP) documents. The lease agreement being offered is for a period of three (3) consecutive seasons or years for golf operations.

This solicitation is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30B, Uniform Procurement Act, Section 16, and all contracts must be strictly awarded in accordance with the requirements of this Act.

The RFP documents may be requested electronically from the Chief Procurement Officer, Jaime Morrow, by email at imorrow@ludlow. ma.us, starting on January 20, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. Hard copies of the RFP documents will be available for pick up at the Procurement Office, 488 Chapin Street, 2nd Floor, Ludlow, MA 01056.

Sealed proposals in the required format will be accepted by mail or hand delivery until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at the Procurement Office, 488 Chapin Street, 2nd Floor, Ludlow, MA 01056, at which time they will be recorded into record and reviewed by a committee for the most Advantageous Proposal.

Sealed non-price proposals must be clearly marked "Technical Proposal RFP 2025-10 REBID Golf Concession" and must enclose three (3) hard copies of the non-price proposal. Proposers MUST submit a price proposal SEPARATELY in a sealed envelope marked "Price Proposal RFP 2025-10 Golf Concession". The Price Proposal and Non-Price Proposal must be submitted at the same time, but in SEPARATE SEALED ENVELOPES. Proposers are fully responsible for ensuring the timely receipt of their completed response to this RFP at the location noted above. The proposals will be opened immediately following the closing time. The lease agreement will be awarded within 60 days.

The Town reserves the right to cancel this RFP or reject in whole or in part any and all proposals when cancellation or rejection serves the best interests of the Town. 01/29, 02/05, 02/12, 02/19/2025

> LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD

LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT / HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. on the application of Marie Tefts of 53 Wilson Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 11D, Parcel 52) for: graphic design/art business.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Raymond Phoenix, Chairman 01/29, 02/05/2025

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE -SPECIAL PERMIT / HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:10 p.m. on the application of Faith Rains of 242 James Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 31, Parcel 65) for: online Doula consultations.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Raymond Phoenix, Chairman 01/29, 02/05/2025

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SITE PLAN

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:20 p.m. on the application of A.L.M. Group, LLC c/o Manny Goncalves for the property located at 592 Holyoke Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 3, Parcel 8B) for the purpose of: construction of two (2) auto sales and office space buildings with associated site improvements.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman 01/29, 02/05/2025

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your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). publication date the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands.

Thank you.

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MODEL CONGRESS from Page 1

anybody who was interested.

"Last year, I didn't have a formal club, but I brought the Model Congress Club," Anderson said.

Anderson explained that Matt Tibbits, a graduate from Ludlow High, reached out to her to participate in the program, and after last year's initial interest, the students who signed up became part of

'Originally, it was a lot of Student Council kids that had an interest in it," Anderson said. "Those students that signed up are part of a Model Congress Club now, and now this is part of that club option."

The trip is totally free to the participating students. Anderson said that Harvard charters a bus, provides clothes, and even includes a stipend for food.

"It seems to be only a three-year op-

portunity and then you have to fundraise in the future, so that's something that we're thinking about moving forward," Anderson said.

However, for the first three years, Harvard is able to use its significant endowment to offer this opportunity to lower-income districts.

"Most of the students who attend these programs are from prep schools and from other types of learning environments," Anderson said. "We were one of the few public schools."

Committee Chair Sarah Bowler thanked Anderson for providing this opportunity for the students.

'Learning about government is great, but getting in there and having hands-on opportunities gives them even more experience and knowledge," Bowler said. "I think it's an awesome opportunity."

The committee voted unanimously to approve the trip to Harvard's Model Congress.

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

IN THE CLASSROOM

Ludlow High School Term 2 Honor Roll

HIGH HONORS

CLASS OF 2025 - Ariana A. Adrien, Ena A. Amoakohene, Ema M. Arriaga, Caliana J. Blackburn, Kelsie M. Blazejowski, Eren Boluk, Peyton R. Brennan, Madeline G. Brown, Mia Bulatewicz, Delores A. Calvao, Mia A. Carvalho, Anabella A. Castro, Esther S. Coelho, Taylor B. Colberg, Rayanna Y. Craven, Isabel K. Cruz, Caitlyn R. Day, Kate S. Del Negro, Ela S. Dias, James J. Dias, Jessica L. Dosreis, Sarah R. Dupuis, Sophia E. Dynak, Linda Hilary B. Faria, Jack E. Favata, Savanna M. Ferrabelo, Carly C. Ferreira, Dominic D. Fialho, Calleigh J. Foley, Lucas A. Franco, Sonny C. Freitas, Ryan C. Gomes, Ryan J. Goodwin, Kiersten D. Harvey, Michael B. Kelley, Joseph A. Keroack, Aleksa J. Kochanek, Madison A. Koske, Owen A. Kumiega, Leah S. La Fever, Gabriel H. LaPlante, Eva M. Lasky, Katharina Lipior, Eli J. Lipson, Davanee L. McHale, Gabriella I. Meireles, Juliana C.Meireles, Vincent N. Mole, Belen A. Molinari, Ashlyn P. Moquin, Mary C. Morris, Isabella R. Murphy-Rodriguez, Ryanna-Kelly V. Musambai, Jason T. Nilson, Kelsey M. Ouellette, Ava J. Peczka, Gabriella R. Pereira, Ariana L. Quaglia, Vincent C. Ribeiro, Alex G. Rodrigues, Kyle D. Rodrigues, Alexander E. Roy, Jade V. Schaefer-Cunha, Bridget C. Schneider, Brianna O. Scibelli, Sophia I. Scyocurka, Davien Z. Smith, Nathan T. St. Cyr, Delaney R. Stebbins, Sofia M. Szumski, Madison C. Tereso, Abigail R. Toomey, Gavin L. Vala, Samantha T. Vazquez, Jaime M. Venancio, Thomas J. Wadas, Logan F. Walsh, Michele A. Winslow, Aleksander J. Wojcik, Cooper W. Zukowski

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Colleges announce Dean's Lists

Springfield College recognizes dean's list students

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield College recognizes dean's list students for the 2024 fall semester.

Luke Afonso from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Afonso has a primary major of Communication Sci & Disorders.

Julia Brillo from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Brillo has a primary major of Health Science.

Niko Coelho from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Coelho has a primary major of Exploratory Studies.

Madison Da Costa from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Da Costa has a primary major of Health Science

Megan DaCruz from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. DaCruz has a

primary major of Health Science / Pre-

Jacqueline Doucette from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Doucette has a primary major of Criminal

Bernice Ferron from Springfield, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Ferron has a primary major of Human Services.

Michael Gilrein from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Gilrein has a primary major of Health Science.

Ryan Lamountain from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Lamountain has a primary major of Exercise Science / Applied ES.

Aaron Little from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Little has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

Jenny Malave-Battles from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Malave-Battles has a primary major of Education.

Julia Mateus from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Mateus has a the 2024 fall semester. Younes has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-primary major of Health Science / Pre-

Jacob Parker from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Parker has a primary major of Exercise Science / Applied ES.

Dean Rodolakis from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Rodolakis has a primary major of Exercise Science / Applied ES.

Paige St. Pierre from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. St. Pierre has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-

Esther Vira from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Vira has a primary major of Marketing.

Drew Woishnis from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2024 fall semester. Woishnis has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-

Adam Younes from Ludlow, to the dean's list for academic excellence for

WPI announces fall 2024 dean's list

WORCESTER— A total of 2,393 undergraduate students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute were named to the university's fall 2024 dean's list.

The following students were named to the dean's list for fall 2024:

Alexander Dionne of Ludlow, class of 2027, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

Noah Martins of Ludlow, class of 2025, majoring in Data Science.

William Reed of Ludlow, class of 2027, majoring in Chemical Engineer-

Matthew Santos of Ludlow, class of 2027, majoring in Civil Engineering.

Caden Vilinskis of Ludlow, class of 2028, majoring in Chemical Engineer-

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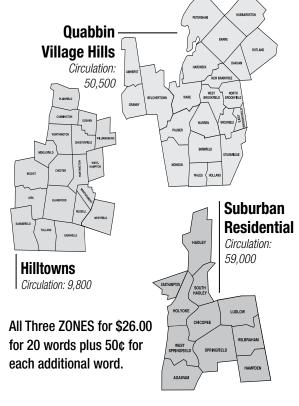
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Wednesday, Feb. 5, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir 5:15 p.m. (C), SJB School 100th Anniversary Mtg. 6 p.m. (JR), Scouts 6:30 p.m. (FLBH) Thursday, Feb. 6 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C) Friday, Feb. 7, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), First Friday Mass - 8:30 a.m. (C)

Saturday, Feb. 8, First Reconciliation 11 a.m. (C) -Confessions - 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. (C), Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C)

Sunday Feb. 9,- Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Faith Formation 10:15 a.m.(FLBH-All Rooms)

Monday Feb. 10, - Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C), Ladies Auxiliary K of C 1 p.m. (JR), Faith Formation-6 p.m.

(JR/ZR),- Ladies Bible Study 6:15 p.m. (ER) Tuesday, Feb. 11, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), - St. Rita's Choir, 2:30 p.m. (C), Middle School Youth Ministry 3 p.m. (ER), Spaghetti Supper 4:30 p.m. (FLBH), Finance Council 6:30 p.m. (R)

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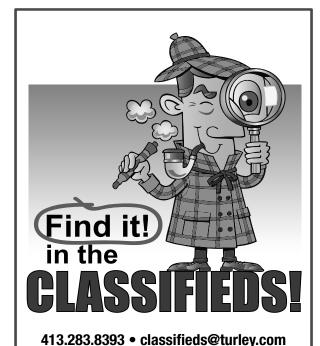


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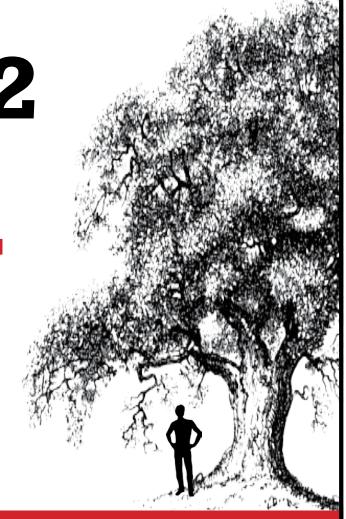
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