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# The REGISTER

LOCAL NEWS | LOCAL STORIES | LOCAL ADVERTISERS

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## State legislators disapprove of rent increase at West Street Village Mobile Homes

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – This Monday, State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and State Rep. Aaron Saunders (D-Belcher-town) visited the West Street Village Mobile Home Community to hear residents express concerns about the price increases on their property.

Tom Lennon purchased the West Street property two years ago and says that he invested a lot of his own money into the property.

“I’ve been losing money for two and a half years,” Lennon said. “I could have petitioned to raise the rent back in July of 2021 and I didn’t. I said, ‘I’m not going to make this about money, I’m going to put my money where my mouth is and fix the park up for us.’”

When Lennon approached the Mobile Home Rent Control Board over the summer, he said that the rent had not been raised for nearly 20 years. Speaking with residents at the mobile home park, many of them said that they were prepared to see the rents rise; what they were not prepared for was the 150% jump from \$203 per month to \$503.06.

“The increases that they are justifying for is the paving the roadway and putting up fencing along the road,” Oliveira said. “That doesn’t add to the



Resident Ethan Fild, Senator Jake Oliveira, Representative Aaron Saunders, and resident Debee Boulanger discussed concerns over the rent hike.

quality of life of the residents here. You want to have the most bang for your buck, but when you see those increases, it just doesn’t justify it.”

Oliveira and Saunders were both adamant about their disapproval of the price hike, with Oliveira describing it as “nauseating” and both using the word “unconscionable.”

Saunders expressed his disapproval that Lennon would take action to raise prices and threaten eviction to residents in the middle of winter.

Please see **MOBILE HOMES**, Page 7



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Ethan Fild and Debee Boulanger showed Senator Oliveira the electrical system for the park.

## Charter Committee votes for town manager form of government

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – The Charter Committee has voted to pursue a town manager and council form of government for the charter it is drafting to be voted on at Town Meeting.

At the Feb. 1 meeting of the Charter Committee, a roll-call vote yielded a unanimous vote for the town to adopt the town manager/council form of government, over the mayor/town council form. At its previous meeting, the committee had invited two former mayors, William Sapelli of Agawam and Mark Hawke of Gardner, to talk about the mayor/town Council form.

“I think, to be a leader of a town or a municipality in any way, you need to be even keeled and you have to be able to deal with a lot of different personalities,” Selectman and Committee member Bill Rosenblum said.

Committee members noted that the former mayors both seemed to recommend that Ludlow adopt a town manager for the charter. They then went around the table to speak to their preferences for the form of

Please see **CHARTER COMMITTEE**, Page 8

## Ludlow High School Drama Club performs ‘Clue’

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – This past weekend, the high school put on a production of Clue from Feb. 2-4.

Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn that adapted the famous Parker Bros. game, the play version of “Clue: The Movie” was written by Sandy Rustin. The high school’s performance was directed by teachers Adelei Bernard and Emily Conroy and was held in the auditorium at the high school.

The cast included Jack Favata as Wadsworth, Josh Rousell as Col. Mustard, Eris Learned as Mrs. White, Gabriela Jimenez as Mrs. Peacock, Peyton Brennan as Mr. Green, Caitlyn Day as Professor Plum, Celine Johnson as Miss Scarlet, Vic David-

son as Mr. Boddy, Kylie Roach as Yvette, Avani Hurtado as the cook, Tabetta Santos-Nadaud as the motorist, Marissa Holland as Unsuspecting Cop and Alexis Urban-Sunter as the Singing Telegram. Additional contributors included Madison Koske, Natalina Castro and Niki Mentekidis.

In addition to the cast, the show also featured a crew of students, including Set Manager Izzy Cruz, Backstage Manager Ashlyn Moquin, Media Manager Ava Augusto, Jayson Stephens and Ava Peczkka on spotlights and Tech/Lighting by Ryhan Milfort.

On Saturday, the drama club also hosted a dinner to accompany the 7 p.m. showing.

This production was put on after several seniors at the high school approached Bernard to



Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmão

The cast get to know one another (from left) Eris Learned, Kylie Roach, Josh Rousell, Peyton Brennan, Gabriela Jimenez, Jack Favata, Celine Johnson, and Caitlyn Day. More photos on page 8.

restart the drama program.

“I came here in 2015 and was embraced by a wonderful community and family,” Bernard said in the Director’s Note. “These drama students here have so much heart, passion and

creativity to give, and they put it all on the stage. The students have done an amazing job with this show.”

Conroy said it was a pleasure co-directing this year’s drama club production.

“I’ve always loved theater and I was even a part of the club when I was a student at Ludlow High School. It’s been a great experience being involved in the club again as a staff member,” Conroy said.

# LUDLOW

## Ludlow Public Schools Kindergarten Registration 2024-25

LUDLOW – If you are a Ludlow resident and have a child or children who will be five years old on or before Sept. 1, they are eligible to enter Kindergarten in the fall of 2024.

Registration is currently online at [www.ludlowps.org](http://www.ludlowps.org).

Questions can be directed to Mrs. Foye at [registration@ludlowps.org](mailto:registration@ludlowps.org) or call 413-583-5695, extension 6.



## Our First Big Event of 2024!

Visit us at [Ludlowma250.org](http://Ludlowma250.org)

### First Night

Saturday, February 24, 2024

(SNOW DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2024)

Ludlow High School, 500 Chapin St.

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

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

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

And so much more! Something for all ages!



### Incorporation Day

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 • 6pm

Ludlow High School, 500 Chapin St.

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary

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

Follow us on Facebook [ludlowma250](https://www.facebook.com/ludlowma250)

## PET OF THE WEEK



**BENJI AND JORDAN**

Here are Krystle Govin's friends, Benji and Jordan. Benji is the black one and Jordan is black and white.

## DDS talks about insurance at the library

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
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PALMER – Last week, representatives from local unions arranged to have a talk about social security and insurance at the Palmer Public Library.

Stacy Stackhouse, president of the Local 24 union in Palmer, and Heather Strange, vice president of Local 17 in Ludlow, were both in attendance at the event that was held in the library's Community Room. As both unions are branches of the Department of Developmental Services, the event drew a number of state and municipal employees.

"A lot of our folks were interested in talking to the retirement board," Stackhouse said. "They're of the older generation, so a lot of them aren't computer savvy. We thought by having this here, in a general area, this would be a great way to get the two locals together, for them to come and get some information."

The speaker at the event was Ed Keefe, who talked about the process to apply for insurance with social security. The unions also had a representative from Aflac, which offers a discount to



Submitted photo

Stacy Stackhouse

members of their unions.

For more events being held at the library, you can go to [palmerlibrary.org](http://palmerlibrary.org).



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# Beloved teacher continues to 'make the grade'

By Harrison Giza  
Staff Writer  
hgiza@turley.com

LUDLOW – William Koscher has a love of learning that has made a lasting impression on both his former students and his peers.

"He was an outstanding teacher," said Louis Casagrande, a former mentor and local Ludlow coach. "But not only that, he was an outstanding student at Ludlow High School, and a terrific person in every respect."

Koscher is currently retired, living in Brewster with his daughter Adeline and his granddaughter, Lily.

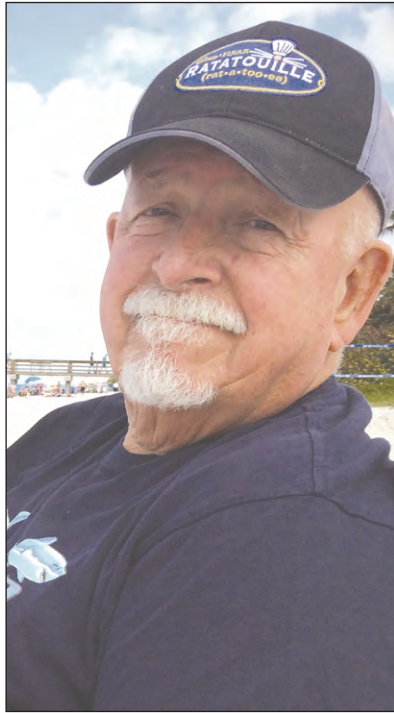
Koscher reflected back on his educational career as well as years spent having the chance to pursue his profession.

"I've been out of the business for 20 years, but I always enjoyed the classroom when I was in it. I always, always did, and if I could go back and just be a classroom teacher, I'd be tempted," he said.

Koscher is now over 80 years old, and said he has "fond thoughts of my time spent educating others."

When asked what made him such a great teacher, Koscher said, "I think the one thing I learned was that you need to weave a narrative. A story rather than a staccato of facts and endless information. That is what I tried to do and that is what my mentors did. I was impressed with their style, and I guess tried to adopt it as best I could."

The former teacher helped start the Advanced Placement program



Submitted photo

William Koscher

at Ludlow High School, and his western civilization courses were the stuff of educational legend.

"His U.S. History classes were ones that everyone wanted to be in," Casagrande said. "He's just a beautiful person."

Koscher said when he taught western civilization to ninth graders, he would get them physically involved in the lesson.

"For example, a hook I would use would be for reenacting the beheading of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. I'd incorporate students as actors then take them through the events, and even had one student who built a guillotine

as part of a project. It was almost full-sized, and it sat in my room for years," Koscher said.

Casagrande noted one time he stopped by Koscher's class only to be greeted in a special way by the students.

"I did a thing for my western civilization classes," Koscher said. "We talked about gothic cathedrals, the middle ages of western Europe, and I decided one day with my class to make a human cathedral. I tried to get everyone involved - some kids would be the rose windows, others would be the gargoyles - and we would practice it a few times year after year. So, whenever we had a visitor, someone like an administrator or another teacher, one of the kids would shout out 'cathedral, cathedral!' and when the door opened, the kids would shuffle their desks aside, make a space in front of themselves, and unanimously erect a cathedral. I'd pick out one of the kids and ask them what their function was... it really was a lot of fun and an effective teaching tool to get shy kids involved in the class."

Even though he is now retired as a teacher, Koscher continues to follow his quest for knowledge and has decided to continue his education.

"I am planning a trip this summer with some friends, and we are enrolling at the University of Cambridge in a summer course. I am looking forward to that and it has been a while since I've done any learning from the perspective of a student...but I am excited to do so," he said.

## Christ the King-Epiphany Church, Rice Fruit Farm partner to tackle hunger

WILBRAHAM – Rice Fruit Farm is partnering with Christ the King-Epiphany Church in Wilbraham to fight hunger while supporting the national outreach initiative of the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING.

On Feb. 10, between 9 a.m. and

Noon, bring and donate nonperishable food items to Rice Fruit Farm and receive a free cup of coffee or tea. All food and monetary donations will be received and presented at Christ the King-Epiphany church for a blessing on Feb. 11 and will be given to the Community Survival

Center in Indian Orchard.

As we celebrate the NFL Super Bowl, please remember those who have little or no food to celebrate at all: a simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl game, help us to be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup."

## Saint Cecilia Women's Club to hold February meeting

WILBRAHAM – The St. Cecilia Women's Club February meeting takes place on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. at 42 Main St.

Join us for a fun filled night of games, prized and delicious treats.

Kim Lawler will provide her excellent party skills to make this a

memorable "Fat Tuesday"!

Please bring a nutritious snack to this meeting for adults and children in need. Thank you!

## Frozen Polish Food Sale Feb. 10

INDIAN ORCHARD – A Frozen Polish Food Sale, featuring Pierogi, Golabki and Kapusta, will be held at

Immaculate Conception Church Hall at 25 Parker St. in Indian Orchard on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All are welcome to come and purchase.

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# What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

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

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

## FOR ALL AGES

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

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

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

## FOR ADULTS

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

**Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday starting January 18 until March 28, 1:30 p.m.** Have some fun this winter by joining us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. There will be no chair volleyball on February 22. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

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

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

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

**History Talk: The Amistad Trials, Tuesday, February 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Honorable Dennis J. Curran, retired Justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court, will be discussing the first civil rights trial in American history that occurred more than two decades before the Civil War. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

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

## FOR TEENS

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

**The 'Fellowship of the Pages' Tween Graphic Novel Book Discussion Group, Every Thursday, 4:30-5:30 p.m.** Meet each week to discuss graphic novels, eat snacks, play games, and make friends. Please register.

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

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

## FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

**Blind Date with a Book, All Month** For upper elementary through high school. Choose a wrapped book from our display in the Youth Room from reading a little blurb on the cover or select one online from our website.

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

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

**Massachusetts Children's Book Award Book Group for 4th-6th Grade, Thursday, February 8th & March 14, 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.** 4th-6th graders across the state are the ones to decide who wins this award after reading at least 5 of the nominated books. Meet with Youth Services Librarian July each month for 45 fun minutes to discuss, decide, play games, and share snacks. Everyone who has read at least 5 of the books by April 15th will cast their vote, celebrate with

an ice cream party, and be featured in an article in the Register! Please register.

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

**Groundhog Day Scavenger Hunt, Friday, February 2, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.** All Ages. Find all the places the groundhog is hiding in the Youth Room and win a prize. Drop in.

**Pom-Pom Ice Cream Cone Necklaces, Saturday, February 3, 9:19 a.m.-12:45 p.m.** Preschool and up. Celebrate Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day by making a cute, tasty-looking necklace. Drop in.

**Edible Slime, Saturday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.** For ages 5 & up. Slime that you can eat? yep, we're doing it! Please register.

## FOR CHILDREN

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

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

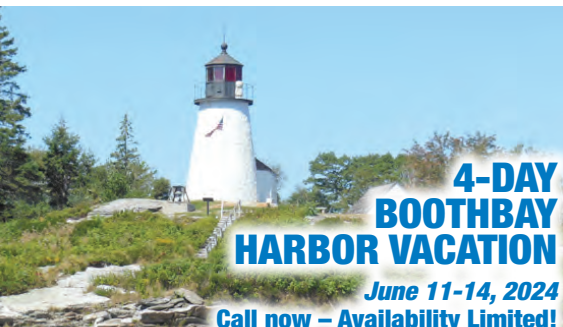
**Sing With Me, Tuesdays 10:30-11:00 a.m.** For ages 0-5. Join Youth Services Librarian July for 30 minutes of favorite children's songs & movement. Drop-in.

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

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

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

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## LEGAL NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of Corporators of Country Bank for Savings will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at 420 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA for the election of Corporators, Trustees and any other business as required by law or the Bylaws of Country Bank for Savings.

**Dawn Piechota**  
Clerk of the Corporation

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION

## WPL announces Teen Cookie Decorating: Super Mario/Nintendo workshop Feb. 20

WILBRAHAM – The Teen Department at the Wilbraham Public Library announces a Teen Cookie Decorating: Super Mario/Nintendo workshop during winter vacation on Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 3 – 4 p.m.

In this Royal Icing Cookie Decorating Workshop, teens in grades 6 - 12 will be taught to use a method called “flooding” and other specialized techniques to make four unique cookie designs. The

four cookie designs will be based on the Super Mario video game and Nintendo. Mandy Roberge of Wicked Good Henna will teach this workshop.

All supplies will be provided. This program is free to attend and sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library. Online registration is required as space is limited. Register at [www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org), “Events”, “Teens”, or call the library at 413-596-6141.

## Cosmic Bracelet Class: Unveil the power of your zodiac gemstone

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

In this enchanting class, you’ll explore the profound meanings behind the gemstone associated with your zodiac sign unlocking the hidden energies and traits that make you truly one-of-a-kind.

Our experienced instructors will

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

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

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

## Stuffed Animal Sleepover to occur Feb. 22-23

WILBRAHAM – Have you ever wondered what happens in the Wilbraham Public Library when it is closed? The WPL Teen Advisory Board announces their annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover on Thursday & Friday, Feb. 22-23 during school vacation week.

Your child’s stuffed animal can spend the whole night in the library having fun.

Children bring their stuffed animal

to the library and our teens will help them fill out a “permission slip” for their stuffed animal, listen to a bedtime story and tuck their animal in for the night. In the morning, join us to make a craft, pick up your “stuffie” and see a slideshow of all the fun things the animals did overnight!

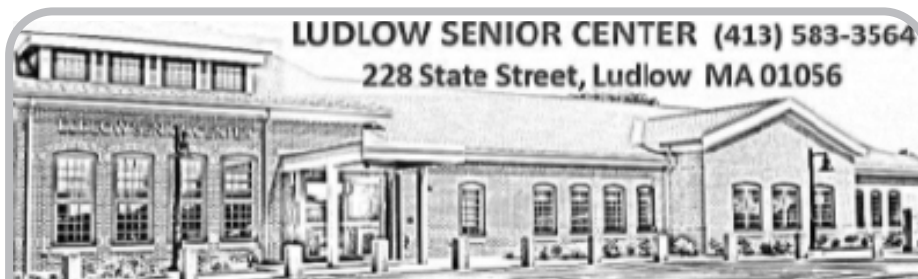
Starting on Feb. 1, sign up at the Children’s desk of the library or call 413-596-6141.

## TWB Clothing Drive Feb. 5-16

HAMPDEN – The Transition Program at Thornton Burgess School, at 85 Wilbraham Road, Hampden, is accepting new or gently used winter

clothing for all ages to benefit St. Jude’s Clothing Center in Holyoke.

Donations will be accepted from Feb. 5 – 16.



### Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

LUDLOW— For full program and activity descriptions and general information about what a senior center is and does go to: [Ludlow.ma.us](http://Ludlow.ma.us). Seniors can also “like” the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook. A paper copy of the Senior Scene newsletter is available at the Center.

**Activities Calendar:**  
Please register in advance for items with\*

**Thursday, Feb. 8**  
8:30 a.m. Foot Care\*  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:30 a.m. Friends of the Senior Center Meeting  
10:30 a.m. Senator Oliviera Office Hour  
1 p.m. Mahjong  
1:30 p.m. Year of the Dragon  
2 p.m. Writers Block\*  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

**Friday, Feb. 9**  
8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
9 a.m. Reiki\*  
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
10:30 a.m. Super Bowl Snacks  
1 p.m. Ceramics  
1 p.m. Health Bones & Balance Class\*  
1 p.m. Magic Class

**Monday, Feb. 12**  
9 a.m. Knitting  
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
1 p.m. Scrabble  
1:15 p.m. Pitch  
1:30 p.m. Watercolor Pencil Class\*  
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

**Tuesday, Feb. 13**  
9 a.m. Quilting  
9 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Cribbage  
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga  
12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
1 p.m. Western Dance Lessons  
1:30 p.m. Bingo  
4:30 p.m. Souper Supper  
5 p.m. Movie: Sabrina (1954)  
5:30 p.m. Power Pump Class

5:30 p.m. Volleyball at East Street School

**Wednesday, Feb. 14**  
9 a.m. Ceramics  
9 a.m. Mobil Dental Clinic\*  
9 a.m. Zumba Gold  
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class\*  
1 p.m. Movie: Sabrina (1954)  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class\*

**Thursday, Feb. 15**  
8:30 a.m. Foot Care\*  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:30 a.m. Veteran’s Agent\*  
12:30 p.m. Hearing Clinic\*  
1 p.m. Mahjong  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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

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

**Menu:**  
Thursday, Feb. 8: Sweet & Sour Chicken/White Rice/Asian Veggies  
Friday, Feb. 9: Vegetable Frittata/Hash Browns  
Monday, Feb. 12: Pepperoni Pizza/Small Salad  
Tuesday, Feb. 13: Jambalaya/Corn Bread  
Wednesday, Feb. 14: Valentines Day! Cheese Manicotti/Caesar Salad  
Thursday, Feb. 15: Hot Dog with Roll/Baked Beans/Coleslaw  
Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. Call Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.  
For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to ask about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

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# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN



### Will withdrawing from 401(k) affect my Social Security?

Dear Rusty

My full retirement age (FRA) is 66 and 8 months, which I'll reach in September 2024. I'm still working three days a week. I want to cash in my 401K and want to know if I have to wait until my FRA for IRS purposes or can cash it in anytime in 2024. I don't want to affect my Social Security or end up paying taxes on my benefits.

Signed: Seeking to Avoid Taxes

Dear Seeking

We're not experts on IRS matters here at the AMAC Foundation so I can't address 401(k) questions, but we can provide information on your Social Security circumstances and how 401(k) withdrawals may affect your SS. I assume from your question that you are now receiving early Social Security and wish to avoid any tax consequences thereto by cashing in your 401(k), as well as from working. Here's what you need to know:

Since you will reach your Full Retirement Age in 2024, your 2024 work earnings limit will be \$59,520 up to the month you reach FRA. If you were born in January 1958, you'll attain FRA in September 2024. After you have reached your FRA there is no longer a Social Security limit to how much you can earn from working, so your work earnings thereafter will not affect your monthly Social Security benefit regardless of how much you earn. If your part time work between January and August 2024 won't put you over the \$59,520 limit, your work earnings will not negatively affect your gross monthly Social Security benefit.

Assuming you are on Medicare, the premium for which is deducted from your Social Security payment, withdrawals from your 401(k) might affect your net monthly Social Security payment in two years hence. Medicare premiums are based upon your combined income from all sources, including 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. If your 401(k) withdrawal(s) put you over an income threshold for your tax filing status, you may be required to pay an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount on top of the standard Medicare premium. That IRMAA supplement would be deducted from your Social Security, which would affect the net amount of your Social Security payment. Your Medicare premium for each coming year is determined by your combined income from two years prior, so if you "cash in" your 401(K) in 2024, it would affect your net Social Security payments in 2026.

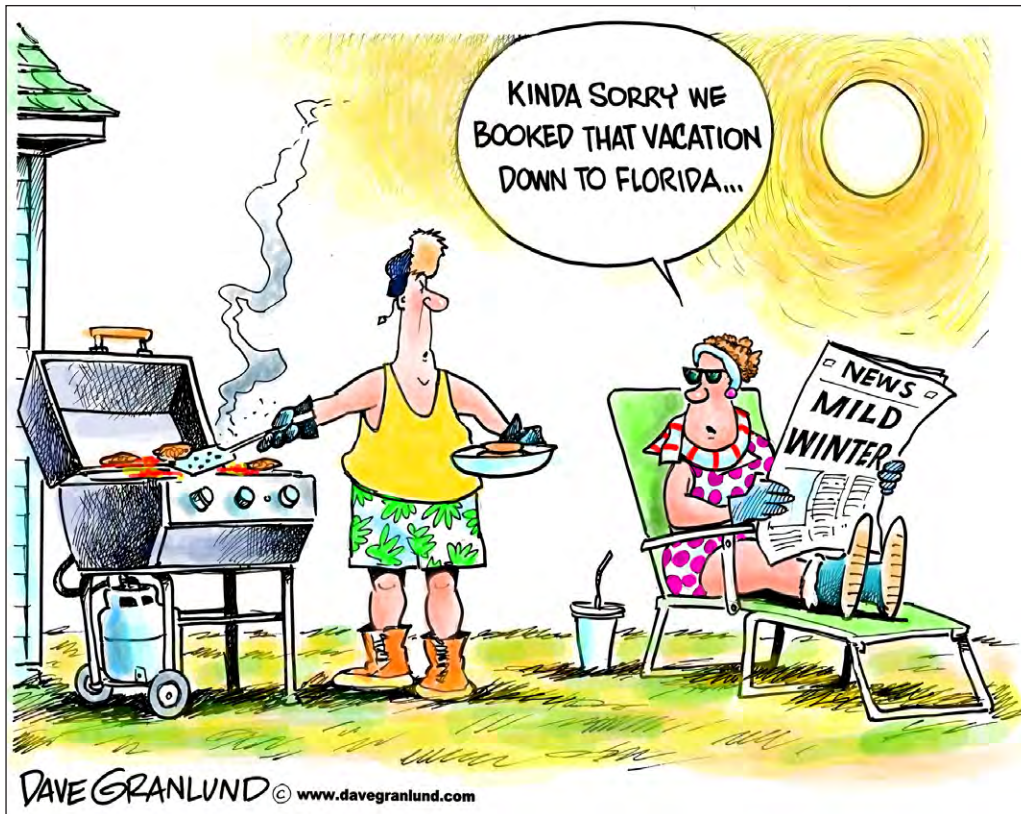
Whether you will pay income tax on your Social Security benefits is determined by your combined income from everywhere, which the IRS calls your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income." MAGI is your income from all sources except ROTH IRA withdrawals and includes half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year.

If you file your taxes as a single, and your MAGI is over \$25,000 or if you file your taxes as "married-jointly" and your MAGI is over \$32,000 then 50% of the Social Security benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS (at your normal IRS tax rate). But if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 – or as a married/jointly filer over \$44,000 – then up to 85% of the SS benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS.

So, to recap:

Your part time work earnings in 2024 won't affect your monthly Social Security

Please see **SOCIAL SECURITY**, Page 11



## GUEST COLUMN

### Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity embraces energy-savings initiatives

By Brandice J. O'Brien

Marketing and Communications Manager, Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Energy savings and green products are all the rage right now. Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, or GSHFH, is working tirelessly to provide their homeowners and prospective partner families with environmentally-friendly products that help them save on utility costs, while keeping expenses low. That's not an easy feat considering inflation and limited resources. Yet, the nonprofit organization is able to accomplish this achievement through fundraisers, donations and grants.

Sometimes, it's the small changes that make the biggest difference. GSHFH is now incorporating electric mini split heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to avoid using fossil fuels. In some instances, based on location and home design, tankless water heaters or air-sourced water heaters are installed.

"Our goal is to provide our partner families with an energy-friendly home that will allow them to save money, while protecting their investment for many years to come," said Aimee Giroux, GSHFH executive director. "We want them to pass their home to the next generation of family members and provide them with a solid foundation for a better, more stable future."

Energy-friendly products range from solar panel installation, the use of Low-E glass windows, to a plant-based fiber insulation called HempWool; light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures, and the affiliate's first-ever insulated concrete form (ICF) home.

Solar panel installation can help a family significantly cut their electric bill and the use of Low-E glass windows lets in natural light while reflecting inside heat back into the home during the winter months. During the summer, outside heat is reflected away from the home.

LED fixtures reduce energy usage and programmable thermostats provide heating and cooling only during the times it was most needed. Plus, Energy-Star appliances, which are rated for maximum energy efficiency and cost savings, are used.

HempWool is a US Department of Agriculture-certified bio-based insulation that is naturally mold and pest resistant. It's also resistant of volatile organic compounds and toxins. It's easy to install, doesn't sag, and like the Low-E glass, lowers the energy bills for heat in the winter, cooling in the summer, and general comfort.

"It's a lot less itchy to handle," said Tom Eisenman, GSHFH volunteer.

Additionally, new construction projects are built to meet the Specialized Opt-in Energy Code of Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code. The code sets significantly higher requirements for heating and cooling loads, which can be responsible for 60% of a building's energy use.

In November 2022, GSHFH began its most notable energy-efficient project yet: an ICF home. A dedication ceremony celebrating the completion of construction will be held at 11am on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 360 Chestnut St. in Holyoke. The project is a collaboration between the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association and Habitat for Humanity International to build 50 ICF homes across the country.

The insulated concrete forms are hollow foam blocks that are stacked into the shape of exterior walls of a building, reinforced with steel rebar, and filled with concrete.

"Doing something different in construction is not easy," said Gregg Lewis, chief communications officer at NRMCA. "Construction is hard enough when you're doing the same thing day in and day out. Try to take on a new way of building and it's really a huge deal."

ICF combines one of the finest insulating materials – expanded polystyrene (EPS) with one of the strongest structural building materials – steel reinforced concrete. The result is a wall system of unmatched comfort, energy efficiency and noise reduction.

"The house will be quiet, even when it's windy and stormy outside and it'll stay nice and toasty inside," said Steve Bogle, an Integraspec local distributor.

Integraspec is the brand name of the foam blocks. Steve and his wife Cheryl, also an Integraspec distributor, worked with GSHFH in the early stages.

Unlike a traditional wood frame house with sheathing, an ICF home offers several additional benefits to the builder and homeowner. The foam panels are made from recycled material. ICF walls do not off-gas, whereas conventional walls sheathed with oriented strand board (OSB) off-gas through glues and resin. ICF walls are resistant to mold and rot, which provides a better living environment for those suffering from allergies or asthma. Also, due to the rising cost of lumber, this method significantly reduces the need for wood for framing and sheathing the exterior and less trees are cut down.

"We're excited to have built a more energy-efficient, affordable home for one of our Habitat families," Aimee said.

To see pictures from the construction phase of the ICF build, visit [habitatspringfield.org/Holyoke](http://habitatspringfield.org/Holyoke).

## 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 [mharrison@turley.com](mailto:mharrison@turley.com). The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:mharrison@turley.com).

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Senator Oliveira and Representative Saunders praised Ethan Fild (left) for being at the forefront of the charge against the mobile home landlord.



Residents showed the legislators around the property, pointing out things that have been waiting on action from the landlord.



Representative Saunders spoke to Barbara Patton about problems on her property.

**MOBILE HOMES**  
from Page 1

“It’s really inspiring to see the community organize to have their stories told,” said Saunders. “The thing about organizing is it’s a whole lot easier to bully people individually.”

Ethan Fild took the politicians, the residents and their attorney and gathered media on a tour

of the property to show the improvements that the landlord had claimed to the Rent Control Board, pointing out unpaved paths and sites of disrepair along the way.

One resident, Amanda Sturtevant, who uses a wheelchair, talked about how the landlord has failed to accommodate for her disability on her property. Though she was promised ramps to get in and out of her home, Sturtevant has

had to fight even to get rails along the stairs of her deck, which shows evidence of rotting.

The residents took action against Lennon and are coordinating with Attorney Joel Feldman, who said that at this point, the matter will be dealt with in court.

While speaking with the residents, Oliveira offered to pursue fixes to any legislation that presented obstacles to their case.



Amanda Sturtevant has to use her crutches to climb these stone steps every time she gets in and out of her mobile home.

*Welcome*

**KELLY N. POULIOT, O.D.**

Dr. Pouliot is a board-certified Optometrist who joined Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center in January 2024. She graduated from the Ramapo College of New Jersey with a Bachelor’s degree in Biology. She received her Doctorate degree from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University.

Dr. Pouliot has had over two thousand patient encounters upon completion of her clinical externships in the following specialties:

- Contact Lenses (Jacksonville, NC)
- Ocular Diseases (Johnson City, TN)
- VA Hospital (St. Cloud, MN)
- Low Vision Rotation (Philadelphia, PA)

Dr. Pouliot has a special interest in ocular/systemic diseases and other ocular emergencies. She is a member of the American Optometric Association and the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists. She is a native of the Pioneer Valley. She enjoys traveling and spending time with friends and family.



**KELLY & VELAZQUEZ EYE CENTER**

DENNIS M. DORANS, O.D.



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão  
Jack Favata, as Wadsworth, and Kylie Roach, as Yvette, prepare for the arrival of the guests.



Wadsworth, Yvette, and the Cook serve Colonel Mustard, Miss Scarlet, Mr. Green, Mrs. Peacock, Mrs. White, and Professor Plum.

# Ludlow High School Drama Club performs **'Clue'**



Trying to listen through the door – and each other – (from left) Josh Rousell, Gabriela Jimenez, Peyton Brennan, Eris Learned, Caitlyn Day, and Celine Johnson.



Mr. Boddy, played by Vic Davidson (far left), arrives at the manor to present the incriminating evidence against the cast.



Yvette (Kylie Roach) let out a scream that alerted the other guests.



Mrs. Peacock, played by Gabriela Jimenez, and Professor Plum, played by Caitlyn Day, convene in the study to look for evidence.



The Unsuspecting Cop, played by Marissa Holland, failed to notice the suspicious activity of the guests after the chandelier fell.



Mr. Green, Professor Plum, and Miss Scarlet acted suspiciously unsuspecting to fool the Unsuspecting Cop.



The full cast took a bow after performing the Sunday matinée.

## CHARTER COMMISSION

from Page 1

government, with the majority advocating for a town manager.

Among the reasons that the committee named for preferring the manager were the lack of a residency requirement, which would mean a wider pool of candidates and that it would prevent the town from being run based on a “popularity contest.”

“I think, from an election perspective, having a town council hire a town manager is a little bit easier, or makes more sense for our town at this point, because we can truly pick the right candidate with the right skill set for our town and for what we’re trying to do,” Judy Breault said, “Versus an election of a mayor, which sometimes can be a pop-

ularity contest.”

“There’s this perception that mayors are mayors because of popularity contests, not because of qualifications,” George Costa said. “That’s not in the best interest of the town, if a person becomes a mayor because they’re popular, not because they’re capable of doing the job.”

Costa was also in agreement with the committee members who said that a manager would be more accountable to the council because of their ability to remove the manager without the need for an election.

“When it’s a manager, the council can steer the ship in the right direction and if it’s off-course bring it back on-course more easily,” Costa said.

Committee member Martin Fanning volunteered to play “devil’s advocate,” and cited the negatives toward a manager/

council form, though he added that he favored the consensus of the committee.

“I’m cautious of the Agawam experience of losing managers often,” Fanning said. “I know other communities have the same problem. That’s going to be a big change every time there’s a turnover.”

Another point that was brought up in favor of a mayor would be their position on the School Committee. Bylicki suggested that, in a town manager form of government, the council could appoint their chair the title of mayor to sit on the School Committee.

“I think Worcester, Lowell and Cambridge have something very unique in Massachusetts that we should look at,” Bylicki said. “They have a manager, all three of them, and they have a council, but either the leading vote-getter on the council, or somebody from the council’s run-

ning, gets the title of mayor. They represent Ludlow. They can call Boston and say, ‘I’m the mayor of Ludlow.’”

“The mayor is there to bridge the gap between the town side and the school committee,” Bylicki continued. “The mayor sits, in some cases, as the chair of the school committee in these communities. I think that’s something that I really think we need to bring together (because) the biggest part of the budget in the town is the school department. Whether it’s between 40-60% of every community, you can’t have, in my opinion, the idea of two separate things.”

After the roll-call vote unanimously passed the motion to pursue a town manager/council form of government in the new charter, the committee discussed the next steps it would pursue to be able to produce the charter.



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Lucas Alvan looks to gain leverage in his match.



Dzevat Keienovic tries to lock the arm of his opponent.

## Lions fall on the road to Granby



GRANBY – In the second matchup of the season between Ludlow and Granby girls basketball, Granby picked up the win once again 68-34. The win was Granby's ninth and clinches a state tournament spot for the Rams. Granby got 22 points from Kalli White while Aubrey Parent scored 11 points and Brenna Moreno scored 10 points. Ludlow, which fell to 3-11 on the season, would get eight points each from Kayliana Moret and Ava Friese.

Turley photos by David Henry  
www.sweetdogphotos.com

Ryleigh Remillard makes her way down the court.

## Ludlow wrestling drops meet to Minnechaug



Yadiel Acevedo tries to avoid a pinfall.

WILBRAHAM – Last Tuesday night, league rivals and neighbors locked up as Ludlow wrestling took on Minnechaug. The Falcons prevailed in the meet 54-13. Ludlow got wins from Lucas Alvan, Noah Simard, and Logan Cabral. Jordan Dietz, Liam Maher, and Jon Bermudez got pinfall victories for the Falcons. Both teams look toward the sectional and state meets in the coming weeks.



Samantha Bertini goes for the leg takedown.



Logan Cabral locks up in a grapple.



Anthony Grimm tries to work his way out of a predicament.



Kayliana Moret heads for the hoop.



Aneysha Donais shoots the free throw.



Ava Friese starts a new play.



Eliana Garcia watches a shot.

## Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago  
Staff Writer  
rdrago@turley.com

### Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League finished up the month of January this past Tuesday, Jan. 30.

In one match, Team BK bowled against Life is Good. In game one, Life is Good defeated Team BK by a score of 388-341. Paul Cyr of Life is Good started off the evening with a 113. In game two, Life is Good

won again by a score of 376-346. Paul Cyr continued breaking 100 with a 104.

In game three, Team BK won the last game by a score of 379-376. Jeff Whyte of Team BK led his team to victory by finishing his evening with a 107 game.

Life is Good won total pinfall by a final score of 1140-1066.

Another match was between Acres and Blue B's. In game one, Acres won the first game 370-338. In game two, the Blue B's turned things around and had a big victory over Acres, 408-352. In game three, Acres won the last game 387-374. Matt Bertelli of Acres finished the evening with a 106 game.

The Blue B's won total pinfall by a final score of 1120-1109.

The winners of round one, Compression, bowled against Last in Line. In game one, Last in Line was victorious over Compression by a score of 389-351. In game two, Compression and Last in Line were in a close game, but Compression came out victorious 394-387. Jason Dominick of Compression led the team with a good game, 120.

In game three, Last in Line won the last game of the evening, 328-326. Last in Line won total pinfall by a final score of 1104-1071.

The Champs R Here bowled

Please see **BOWLING**, Page 10

## Lions needs to sweep final pair for tourney spot

LUDLOW – The Ludlow High School hockey team suffered a pair a trio of losses before coming back to beat Easthampton last Friday night 4-2.

The Lions are 6-8-2 heading into the final two games of the reg-

ular season. They were scheduled to face Amherst and Chicopee in those games.

Chicopee has just one win this year while Amherst is 11-4, though one of those losses was to Ludlow earlier this season.

# Modifieds champion plans lengthy 2024 schedule

CHELMSFORD – Modified champion Jon McKennedy announced today that he will drive in over 15 Tour-Type Modified races across the New England region in 2024.

Competing for his own team, McKennedy will mix between Outlaw Open Modified Series races at Thompson Speedway, Open Modified races at Stafford Motor Speedway, select NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour events and a few Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series races to make out a robust calendar for 2024.

“We’re excited to get the ball rolling in our FURY race cars and go chase some trophies,” McKennedy said. “I feel this is a great opportunity for me to go out there and continue to show we can win races. We did have some other opportunities for rides, but felt this was the best route for this season. We have picked some of the higher profile events at my favorite tracks for the 2024 season and feel the competition is going to be stout at all of them.”

A full sponsor lineup for the car and paint scheme will be released in the near future.

McKennedy’s season will begin at Thompson Speedway with the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series during Ice-breaker weekend on Saturday, April 7,

followed by the Open Modified event at New Hampshire Motor Speedway’s Northeast Classic on April 13.

He will follow that up with seven more Thompson events during the 2024 season (May 27 - Outlaw Mods, June 13 - Outlaw Mods, June 27 - Outlaw Mods, July 25 - Outlaw Mods, August 7 - Outlaw Mods, August 14 - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour and October 12 - Outlaw Mods). Thompson Speedway will continue to be operated by the American-Canadian Tour and Pro All Star Series for 2024, keeping short track racing alive at the Connecticut oval.

McKennedy will compete at Stafford Motor Speedway for the NAPA Spring Sizzler (April 27-28), Open Modified Mountain Masters (July 17) and the Fall Final with the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series on Sept. 28.

His NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour starts will take place at Monadnock Speedway (May 4 and July 20), Seekonk Speedway (June 1) and New Hampshire Motor Speedway (June 22). McKennedy will compete in the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series at Thompson (April 7), White Mountain Motorsports Park (July 27) and Star Speedway (Sept. 15).

The 2022 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion, McKennedy is no

stranger to winning races and championships. On top of the 2022 title, McKennedy finished second in the 2020 Tour standings driving for Tommy Baldwin Racing. He also picked up his first career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win at Myrtle Beach Speedway in 2018, and has another victory at Claremont Motorsports Park in 2022, which helped lead to his title.

McKennedy is a former ISMA Supermodified champion, 4-time ISMA Star Classic winner, 4-time ISMA Ollie Silva Memorial winner and 4-time Modified Racing Series champion. He has multiple Star Speedway championships to his resume, a North-South Shootout with Tommy Baldwin Racing (2018) and a championship in the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series (2014), along with many karting titles in his early years and additional race wins in multiple divisions. McKennedy was also named the 2016 North East Touring Series driver of the year.

For a full tentative schedule for Jon McKennedy’s 2024 season, see below.

- 2024 Schedule \*Subject To Change\*
- April 7 - Thompson Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series
  - April 13 - New Hampshire Motor Speedway - Open Modifieds
  - April 27-28 - Stafford Speedway -

NAPA Spring Sizzler

May 4 - Monadnock Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour

May 27 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

June 1 - Seekonk Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour

June 13 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

June 22 - New Hampshire Motor Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour

June 27 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

July 17 - Stafford Speedway - Open Modified Mountain Masters

July 20 - Monadnock Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour

July 25 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

July 27 - White Mountain Motorsports Park - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series

Aug. 7 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

Aug. 14 - Thompson Speedway - NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour

Sept. 15 - Star Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series

Sept. 28 - Stafford Speedway - Monaco Modified Tri-Track NAPA Fall Final

Oct. 12 - Thompson Speedway - Outlaw Open Modified Series

# Disciplined game nets win for Thunderbirds

HARTFORD, CT – The Springfield Thunderbirds (21-19-3-2) went on two separate runs of three straight goals to defeat the Hartford Wolf Pack (23-13-5-0) by a final score of 6-3 on Saturday night inside the XL Center.

While the scuffling Springfield power play would not get the credit for the game’s opening goal, they were responsible for the offensive possession that led to it. Jakub Vrana found his way to a soft space at the top of the right circle, where Hugh McGing located him for a one-time blast past Dylan Garand’s glove at 9:05. Vrana’s seventh goal of the season made it 1-0, and the T-Birds offense was far from finished.

Just 1:54 after Vrana’s tally, a mis-play of the puck in neutral ice sprung Ryan Suzuki on a clean breakaway. Suzuki perfectly picked the lower corner over Garand’s blocker, making it 2-0 at 10:59.

Then it was Vrana’s turn to join the breakaway game, as he, too, beat Garand on the stick side off a stretch pass from Mikhail Abramov, making it 3-0 at 13:59.

Brennan Othmann took it upon himself to give his team a spark, as the Wolf Pack rookie dropped the mitts with ex-Hartford blueliner Wyatt Kalynuk at 16:40 of the first. Kalynuk, unfortunately, received a game misconduct for removing his elbow pads prior to the fight. Just 24 seconds later, the scrap paid dividends for the Pack as Alex Belzile crashed the paint and cashed in with a backhand poke through Malcolm Subban to make it a 3-1 score after 20 minutes. Subban was flawless in turning aside 14 of 15 Wolf Pack shots in the first.

As the second began, it became evident that Othmann’s fight lit a spark in the Hartford bench. Just 55 seconds

into period two, Ryder Korczak found a loose puck in a four-man scrum outside the blue paint and found Brandon Scanlin for a one-time shot through Subban to make it a 3-2 game.

Then at 2:46, Korczak was in the middle of things again, driving a puck to the net, where towering Matt Remppe rammed home the rebound, getting Hartford back to even in not even six minutes of game action.

Springfield utilized its timeout and was able to stabilize defensively. With just under seven minutes left in the period, rookie Zach Dean came up with his signature play of the season. The rookie centerman beautifully toe-dragged the puck from the left circle to walk around a defender before elevating a backhand shot over Garand’s glove at 13:47, giving Springfield the lead back at 4-3 on his first goal in 13 games.

Springfield’s well-disciplined night

carried through all 60 minutes, as the T-Birds did not allow Hartford’s fourth-ranked power play any chances all evening. At 7:54 of the third period, captain Matthew Peca added to the lead again with a wrist shot that ricocheted off Garand high into the air and bounced over the goal line to make it 5-3.

The insurance goal proved to be more than enough, as the Wolf Pack could not find a way to get one through Subban and the defensive front of the T-Birds. Will Bitten added his 10th of the season into an empty net at 18:08 with McGing tallying a third assist on the game’s final goal.

The T-Birds get the All-Star break to get rest before their next contest on Saturday, Feb. 10 for Ice-O-Topes Night at the MassMutual Center against the Hershey Bears. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m.

## BOWLING from Page 9

against their average and won all three games. Their team scores were 365 in game one, 414 in game two and 385 in game three.

### Thursday Night Mixed League

The winners of the first round, Team Six bowled against Team Four.

In game one, Team Six won the first game 404-393. In game two, Team Six won again 421-393. Dan Mahoney of Team Six had a good game bowling a 111. In game three, Team Four won the last game, 402-392.

Team Six won total pinfall by a final score of 1217-1188.

Team One bowled against Team Three. In game one, Team One edged out Team Three by one pin, 399-398. In game two, another close game between both teams, but Team One wins again, 394-390. In game three, Team One wins again for a three-game sweep, 410-378.

Total pinfall went to Team One, 1203-1166.

Team Five bowled against Team Two. In game one, Team Two won the first game 427-410. Danny Fennyery of Team Two led the team with an opening game of 126. In game two, Team Five won the second game 419-397.

In game three, Team Five won the last game of the evening 473-409. Mike Wadas of Team Five, who is a new reader of the league news, finished strong with a final game of 125. His teammate, Joe Danek had a strong finish by bowling a 110.

Team Five won total pinfall by a final score of 1302-1233.

Visit Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes at 1446 North Main St. The alleys can be reached by calling 413-289-0013.

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# Railers score win over Lions

TROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC — The Worcester Railers HC (20-18-3-2, 45pts) took down the Trois-Rivières Lions (19-22-2-2, 42pts) on Saturday night by the final score of 6-4 in front of a crowd of 1,819 at the Colisée Vidéotron. The Railers are back at the DCU Center against the Maine Mariners on Friday, February 9th at 7:05pm.

Blade Jenkins (3-2-5) struck first tonight for Worcester, as he put the Railers ahead immediately following the power play. The Railers followed up with three more in the second from Anthony Calin (1-1-2), Trevor Cosgrove (1-2-3), and Jenkins' second of the night. Trois-Rivières were good for two in the second as Justin Ducharme (1-1-2) and Cedric Montminy (1-0-1) each scored goals to make it a 4-2 game heading into the third. There were four goals in the third, including two straight to open the period for Trois-Rivières from Nicolas Guay (1-1-2) and Alex-Olivier Voyer (1-1-2) to tie the game 4-4. Jack Quinlivan (1-0-1) scored the game-winner after coming out of the penalty box before Blade Jenkins secured the win with his third goal of the night and second straight hat trick in as many nights.

Like Friday's game, it was another dominant first period from Worcester. The Railers outshot the Lions 16-7 through the first 20 minutes, highlighted by Blade Jenkins' (18th) fourth goal of the weekend. Neither team scored the rest of the frame as the Railers went into the second period with a 1-0 lead.

Scoring opened wide in the second period with five goals combined between the two teams. First it was Anthony Calin (8th) with a loose puck in front sup-

plied by Blade Jenkins to grow Worcester's lead to 2-0. The Lions cut back into their deficit with Justin Ducharme's (12th) tally as he swept up a rebound from in front of Muse and tucked it along the far post. The Railers responded midway through the period with a pair of goals back-to-back. Trevor Cosgrove let one go from the blueline that Vrbetic never saw to make it 3-1 Worcester. Jenkins followed up with his second of the afternoon on a break down the left wing to give Worcester their largest advantage of the night at 4-1. The Lions got one back just before the end of the period when Cedric Montminy scored to make it 4-2 heading into the third.

The Railers killed off a Jack Quinlivan high-sticking penalty to start the third before Ryan Verrier was sent to the penalty box for a delay-of-game call. From there, Trois-Rivières kept their foot on the pedal. Nicolas Guay (2nd) scored on the power-play followed by Alex-Olivier Voyer (12th) to complete the Lions comeback and tie the game 4-4. With the game tied heading into the final five minutes of the third, Quinlivan (2nd) was sprung out of the penalty box and muscled his way around a Lions defender to beat Vrbetic and put Worcester ahead for good, 5-4. With the net empty and the Lions looking to tie the game, Blade Jenkins (18th) was given the puck in the neutral zone by Anthony Repaci, where he strode into the attacking end and scored his third goal of the game. Jenkins is the first player in Worcester Professional Hockey history to score hat tricks in back-to-back games, scoring one on Friday night, Worcester's first of the season.

## Saunders calls for end to public funding of Industrial Scale Clearcutting Solar Projects

*The Representative pushes for solar projects to focus on rooftops, parking lots, and developed land*

BOSTON -- Representative Aaron Saunders called on the state's Department of Energy Resources to end the public subsidization of industrial scale solar projects that would clear cut large swaths of forests and other natural and working lands.

"Massachusetts ratepayers should not be compelled to underwrite the clear cutting of our forests," said Saunders. "By removing the financial incentive for industrial scale projects that convert forests into solar farms we can focus the solar incentive on rooftop, parking lot, and developed land projects."

Saunders' remarks were part of comments filed with DOER as part of the department's review of the state's solar incentive program known as "SMART."

In addition to shifting the publicly funded incentives, Saunders urged the department to ensure the safety of battery storage technology and provide assistance to municipalities to maximize solar

deployment on rooftops and parking lots.

In 2023 the Healey administration commissioned the "Technical Potential of Solar" report which found that there is 92GW of "highly suitable" solar potential among small ground mount, canopy, and rooftop parcels in the state. The 92GW is nearly 300% of the state's solar goal effectively eliminating the need to publicly subsidize clearcutting projects.

"The administration's own investigation shows incontrovertible proof that there is enough viable rooftop, parking lot, and small ground mount space to exceed our solar goals," Saunders remarked. "Now we need an incentive program that facilitates the utilization of these spaces."

In addition to the comments submitted Saunders has filed legislation that would prohibit the public or ratepayer subsidization of large-scale clearcutting solar projects.

"Whether it is by statute or regulation, there is an urgent need to simultaneously meet our renewable energy goals in a way that preserves our forests and natural lands," said Saunders, "The SMART program review is a unique opportunity to meet both of these obligations."

### SOCIAL SECURITY from Page 6

benefit, unless your 2024 work earnings prior to September 2024 exceed \$59,520.

Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, your 2026 net Social Security payments may be impacted by Medicare's IRMAA provision. But your 401(k) withdrawals will not affect your gross Social Security payments.

Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, some of the Social Security benefits received during the 2024 tax year will likely be subject to income tax. That is, if your annual total income, including your 401(k) withdrawals, exceeds the MAGI thresholds de-

scribed above.

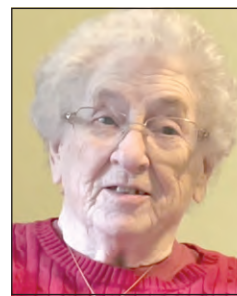
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*It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit [amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadviser@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadviser@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

# OBITUARIES

## Dora (Sevigne) Charest, 90

LUDLOW - Dora (Sevigne) Charest, 90, of Ludlow passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home surrounded by her family on Thursday February 1, 2024. Born in Springfield to the late Roger and Emily (Kitwood) Sevigne she has lived in Ludlow for many years, where she raised her family.



Dora loved bingo and watching sports but her greatest joy in life was being a caretaker for her kids and grandchildren. She was the beloved wife of the late John Charest Jr. who sadly predeceased her in 1991.

She leaves her loving children, Gregory Charest (Chris), Ann Charest, John Charest (Leslie), Kenneth Charest (Jacki) and Donna Serafino (David); adored grandchildren Nicholas, David, Joshua, Kaeli, Alexandria, Amanda, Mackenzie, Jack and Tyler and great granddaughters Gwendolyn and Brinleigh-Jean; her dear sisters Jacqueline Lind and Joan Eagan and brothers John and Jerry Sevigne and predeceased by her 9 sisters and 5 brothers.

Visitation was held at the Ludlow Funeral Home, at Dora's request her Liturgy of Christian Mass and burial will be held privately by her family.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in Doras memory to: St. Jude Children's Hospital @www.stjude.org. For addition information please visit [ludlowfuneralhome.com](http://ludlowfuneralhome.com)

## DEATH NOTICES

**Dora (Sevigne) Charest**  
Died Feb. 1, 2024  
Ludlow 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 \$225, 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## Second Chance celebrates record year for spay and neuter

SPRINGFIELD— Second Chance Animal Services is thrilled to announce a remarkable achievement in its mission to promote pet health and control pet population. In 2023, the organization's four Community Veterinary Hospitals collectively performed an unprecedented 7,803 spay and neuter procedures, marking a significant increase from the previous year's count of 5,249 and surpassing their previous record of 6,198 set in 2019. This significant milestone reflects a steadfast commitment to addressing the critical issues surrounding pet welfare.

The increase in spay and neuter services is welcome news following the tumultuous effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges posed by the global health crisis, Second Chance remained resolute in its dedication to serving the community and enhancing the well-being of companion animals.

A standout highlight is the outstanding performance of the Springfield hospital, which recorded its best year to date with 2,145 procedures conducted, surpassing its previous record of 914 set the previous year. The increase in Springfield can be attributed to the implementation of a second day each week dedicated to the low-cost spay and neuter program, which has facilitated greater accessibility and affordability for pet owners in the region.

In our continuous efforts to enhance convenience and accessibility for pet owners, Second Chance is proud to introduce a new scheduling app that empowers pet owners to conveniently schedule spay and neuter services for their beloved companions through a user-friendly online platform. By embracing technology, the nonprofit is streamlining the process and ensuring that responsible pet care remains accessible to all members of the community. For more information on Second Chance's low-cost vaccine clinic or to schedule an appointment, visit [www.secondchanceanimals.org/s-n](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org/s-n).

## 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.

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## BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Register, please email [register@turley.com](mailto:register@turley.com).

# DATEBOOK

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

## ONGOING

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Patients sought for clinical trial investigating sleep apnea treatment

**SPRINGFIELD** – If you are one of the approximately 39 million U.S. adults with sleep apnea, but cannot tolerate its treatment using a CPAP machine, there may be an answer to your problem.

Researchers at Baystate Medical Center are looking for patients to participate in a clinical trial to see whether a pill to treat sleep apnea is safe and effective.

For years, researchers have been trying to come up with a pill to treat sleep apnea.

“While it is likely that medications will not fully treat obstructive sleep apnea, there is hope that it can lead to at least a partial improvement of symptoms and less risks of untreated sleep apnea. So far, the most promising medications have been ones which reduce the relaxation of the tongue helping to keep the airway more open during sleep, but they work best when combined with other medications that help stabilize sleep,” said Dr. Karin Johnson, director of the Baystate Health Sleep Program.

One possible drug is getting closer to becoming a reality. Late in 2022, Apnimed announced the results of their phase 2 randomized trial studying a new drug combination, AD109, demonstrating initial success in decreasing the number of blockages in the airflow in patients with OSA and improving their fatigue scores. The drug combines atomoxetine, a medication that has been used for many years for ADHD, with aroxybutynin, a new formulation of oxybutynin, a medication that is used to treat overactive bladder.

Apnimed recently opened their phase 3 trial, LunAIRO, which is currently enrolling patients into a one-year study to confirm the safety and efficacy of this medication. LunAIRO is a placebo-controlled trial, meaning active medication in some patients will be compared to a sugar pill.

“Baystate Medical Center is excited to be part of this study that will hopefully bring a new treatment option to our patients with OSA. By taking part in this research, patients have the opportunity to be the first to try this potential treatment and help advance science. No insurance coverage is needed, and all study costs are covered,” said Dr. Johnson, the site’s primary investigator.

Obstructive sleep apnea is a highly prevalent disorder and millions of Americans are still underdiagnosed. There is a wide range of ways that patients can present with OSA. Patients with OSA often have nighttime symptoms that include loud snoring, pauses in their breathing, gasping or choking, difficulty maintaining sleep, urinating multiple times per night, and waking unrefreshed or with headaches. Daytime symptoms can include sleepiness or fatigue, difficulty concentrating or remembering, poorer mood or irritability. Some patients aren’t bothered by symptoms, but their OSA can increase blood pressure, make it harder to control their diabetes, and increase their risk of heart attacks, strokes and dementia.

The primary treatment that works well for many patients is continuous positive airway pressure, or CPAP. It uses pressurized air to blow the tongue and upper airway open to prevent collapse that leads to snoring and blockages in the airflow in obstructive sleep apnea. While CPAP has improved considerably over the years with silent equipment, better fitting and more comfortable masks, it is still not for everyone. Some patients can benefit from other treatments including mandibular advancement devices, mouth guards that hold the lower jaw forward, or surgical treatments including Inspire, an implanted stimulator that causes the tongue to move forward as you breathe at night.

Patients who are interested in learning more about participating in the study can visit [www.BaystateHealth.org/SleepStudy](http://www.BaystateHealth.org/SleepStudy).

# Church DIRECTORY

### **FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL**

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SMC. Call 413-519-4591  
TUESDAYS at 7 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study WEDNESDAYS at 7 p.m. Ludlow Christian Fellowship Meeting  
Hank Bastos, Leader, 413-348-6487  
SMC and Facebook Live Stream [ludlowfellowship.org](http://ludlowfellowship.org)  
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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  
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Sunday Masses – 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
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**Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram**  
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Wednesday, Feb. 7, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Youth Group - 3:30 p.m. (JR), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Confirmation Class - 5:30 (JR), Scouts - 6 p.m. (FLBH), Scouts - 7 p.m. (JR)  
Thursday, Feb. 8, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)  
Friday, Feb. 9, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)  
Saturday, Feb. 10, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Mass - 4 p.m. (C), Youth Ministry - 8 a.m. (K), First Reconciliation - 11 a.m. (All Rooms), Youth Ministry - noon (JR), Teams of Our Lady - 5 p.m. (FLBH & K)  
Sunday, Feb. 11, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Confirmation Class - 8 a.m. (JR), Faith Formation - 10:15 a.m. (All Rooms)  
Monday Feb. 12, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Faith Formation - 6 p.m. (JR/ER), Bible Study - 6 p.m. (ZR)  
Tuesday, Feb. 13, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Spaghetti Supper - 4:30 p.m. (FLBH & JR), St. Rita Choir - 6:30 p.m. (C), Bereavement Support Group - 6:30 p.m. (ZR)

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Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 7:45 a.m. (English)  
First Friday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (Polish/English)  
First Saturday Mass: 9 a.m. (Polish/English)  
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15–4 p.m.

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Tuesday and Friday Masses – 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)  
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m. (English)  
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# New Symphony Concert “Bugs Bunny at the Symphony” announced with two Shows May 4

World renowned “Bugs Bunny at the Symphony” to feature the unforgettable scenes of Looney Tunes and its iconic classical music

SPRINGFIELD -- The Symphony Orchestra will bring the brilliant music of Looney Tunes to Symphony Hall with two performances of “Bugs Bunny at the Symphony” on Saturday, May 4, with a matinee at 2:30 p.m. and an evening performance at 7:30 p.m.

Sixteen hilarious and unforgettable Looney Tunes animated shorts will be shown on the big screen above the orchestra, as their iconic classically-infused original scores are played by the SSO.

Tickets are now on sale on the SSO website, [www.SpringfieldSymphony.org](http://www.SpringfieldSymphony.org), or by calling the Box Office at 413-733-2291.

According to Paul Lambert, President and CEO of the SSO, “There are so many ways to interest and expose audiences to classical music, and ‘Bugs Bunny at the Symphony’ may be the most fun way to do it. The SSO is on a

mission to diversify our offerings in ways that re-engage our core audience while bringing new audiences into Symphony Hall to enjoy our magnificent Springfield Symphony Orchestra. ‘Bugs Bunny at the Symphony’ brings pure joy to those who remember the classic Looney Tunes cartoon shows and offers a great family concert that young and old will enjoy. One of the two performances will be a matinee making it conducive for families with small children to attend.”

Conducted by Emmy Award-winning conductor George Daugherty, “Bugs Bunny at the Symphony” will star such Looney Tunes favorite characters as Elmer Fudd, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Road Runner, and of course, Bugs Bunny. Their antics are set against the brilliant music of Carl W. Stalling, Milt Franklyn, Christopher Lennertz and Carl Johnson, which were inspired by the works of composers like Wagner, Rossini, Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn, and more.

The program will feature fan-favorite vintage animated shorts including “Baton Bunny,” “The Rabbit of Seville,” “What’s Opera, Doc?” “Corny Concerto,” “Long-Haired Hare,” “Zoom and Bored,” and many more . . . plus five brand new ani-

mated shorts from Warner Bros., including “Dynamite Dance,” “Wet Cement,” and a suite of three 3D Road Runner Coyote adventures.

Daugherty and Emmy Award-winning Executive Producer David Ka Lik Wong first created “Bugs Bunny on Broadway” in 1990, followed by “Bugs Bunny at the Symphony” I and II in 2010 and 2013 respectively. They have been touring almost continuously for 30 years with the “Bugs Bunny” concerts, playing to millions of concertgoers worldwide with orchestras and venues ranging from 22 performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, to the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center, to the Sydney Opera House, to the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall.

Hundreds of millions of people, in America and the world over, first experienced classical music (and opera) at the hands of the seven-minute animated shorts of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd, and the rest of the Looney Tunes ensemble, to the scores of Carl Stalling and Milt Franklyn.

Conductor George Daugherty has had a 40-year conducting career which has included appearances with the world’s

leading orchestras, ballet companies, opera houses and concert artists. He is also an Emmy Award-winning and five-time Emmy nominated creator, whose professional profile includes major credits as director, writer and producer for television, film, innovative and unique concerts and live theater. He has conducted over 250 major North American and international orchestras worldwide, and is a frequent guest conductor of The New York Philharmonic, The Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Pops, Pittsburgh Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Sydney Symphony at the Sydney Opera House, Royal Philharmonic, l’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and scores more.

As a critically-acclaimed ballet conductor, Daugherty has conducted for dozens of the world’s greatest ballet stars, including Mikhail Baryshnikov. As a director, writer and producer of music-based television programs, Daugherty created several productions of the ABC Television Network project, including a primetime animation-and-live-action production of Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf, which he created, co-wrote, con-

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF PLANNING BOARD HEARING**  
Relative to  
**PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS**  
Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 5  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**ZONE CHANGE**

The Planning Board of the Town of Ludlow will hold a public hearing to discuss proposed amendments to the town's zoning bylaws. The public hearing will be held as follows:

**Place:** Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room, 3rd floor

**Date:** Thursday, February 22, 2024

**Time:** 7:35 p.m.

**Applicant:** Linton Holdings, LLC

**Location:** 0 West Street (Assessors' Map 3, Parcels 66G, 66N, 66P)

The subject matter of the proposed amendment is as indicated below. The complete text relative to the proposed amendments is available for inspection on the Planning Board web site: [www.ludlow.ma.us/html/planning](http://www.ludlow.ma.us/html/planning).

**Zone Change Requested from:** Residential B to Industrial A

**Reason for Requested Change:** All of the surrounding property is zoned Industrial A.

Raymond Phoenix  
Chairman

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, March 14, 2023.  
02/07, 02/14/2024

**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 22, 2024 at 7:20 p.m.** on the application of Stephen M. Koziol of **259 Chapin Street Ludlow, MA** (Assessors' Map 27A, Parcel 122) for: **home office for home improvement business.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, March 14, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix  
Chairman  
02/07, 02/14/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD23P0206PM**

**In the Interests of: Daniel Bamford Of: Ludlow, MA RESPONDENT**

**Incapacitated Person/Protected Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A CONSERVATOR**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lisa Judkins of Auburn, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Conservator of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the

of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **02/21/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: January 24, 2024

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
02/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street**

**Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24P0234EA**

**Estate of: Clementina D Cristiano Date of Death: 01/19/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Manuel P Ribeiro of Ludlow, MA and Reinaldo P Ribeiro 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: **Manuel P Ribeiro of Ludlow, MA and Reinaldo P Ribeiro 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 02/29/2024.**

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE**

**MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

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

Date: February 01, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
02/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD17P1674GD**

**In the interests of Skye A Del Negro-Theroux of Ludlow, MA Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Resignation or Petition for Removal of Guardianship of a Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**1. Hearing Date/Time:**  
A hearing on a Petition to Resign as Guardian of a Minor or Petition for Removal of Guardian of a Minor filed by **Patricia M DelNegro & Deanna M DelNegro** on **02/01/2024** will be held **02/29/2024 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing.** Located **50 State St, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103**

**2. Response to Petition:**

You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

**3. Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

**4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: February 1, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
02/07/2024

**TOWN OF LUDLOW LEGAL NOTICE**

In accordance with Chapter 138 of the General Laws, the Board of Selectmen has called a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 5:35 p.m.** in the Selectmen's Conference Room, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA on the application of **USAVE Food Store, LLC**, dba **USAVE Food Store**, located at **546A Center Street, Ludlow, MA 01056** for a Transfer of an off-premises wine and malt beverages license from **Tahir Humayun dba E-Z Shop Convenience** to be located at **546A Center Street, Ludlow, MA** and a Change of Manager to **Tahira Khatoon** on the following described premises: Retail store 30' x 28' which contains a cooler 20' x 10' with storage space to the rear.

James Gennette, Chairman  
Ludlow Board of Selectmen  
02/07, 02/14/2024

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**HELP WANTED**

**ASSISTANT TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

The Town of Palmer is seeking applicants for the full-time position of Assistant Town Accountant.

The applicant should have a working knowledge of accounting theory and accrual concepts along with strong organizational, interpersonal, and analytical skills as well as experience with Microsoft Office. Previous experience using MUNIS accounting software is a plus. Complete job description can be found at <https://townofpalmer.com/jobs>. Please e-mail a cover letter and resume to [gpotter@townofpalmer.com](mailto:gpotter@townofpalmer.com) or via mail to the Town Accountant's Office at 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. This position will remain open until filled.  
*The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA employer.*

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The Norcross Wildlife Foundation in Wales is looking for a part-time (16 hours/week) **Administrative Assistant** to assist with operations and office management duties. For a full job description, please visit [www.norcrosswildlife.org](http://www.norcrosswildlife.org) or email [dgugliotti@norcrosswildlife.org](mailto:dgugliotti@norcrosswildlife.org).

**REAL ESTATE**

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**APARTMENT FOR RENT.** 826 East St., Ludlow. Monthly rent \$1200. Gas heating, central air, 1.5 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms, kitchen/dining combo, full basement, electric stove & microwave, refrigerator and dishwasher; washer & dryer not included. One private parking spot. Not pets allowed. First/last/security. Call **413-218-4041, 413-583-3097.**

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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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# Market Mentors welcomes two new specialists to its multidisciplinary team

SPRINGFIELD - Market Mentors, LLC, a fully integrated marketing, advertising, and public relations agency, recently added two new specialists to its multidisciplinary team.

Jack Antkowiak, a resident of Granby, Connecticut, joined the agency as a digital marketing specialist, and Western Massachusetts native Paige Auger as a financial administrator.

"We are excited to add to the depth and breadth of our in-house talent with the expertise Jack and Paige offer," said Michelle Abdow, president and CEO, Market Mentors. "They both hit the ground running and are already making notable contributions."

As a digital marketing specialist,

Antkowiak manages, reports on and optimizes paid digital ads and SEO campaigns. This involves taking deep dives into ad performance and website analytics data to uncover actionable insights and trends that can be used to improve both campaign performance and the overall user/customer journey.

A graduate of the University of Connecticut, Antkowiak combines tried-and-true best practices with a deep understanding of the target audience to build engaging and impactful campaigns.

With a degree in business administration as well as management experience in accounting, Auger joined the Market Mentors finance team to handle

accounts payable, accounts receivable, billing, reconciliation and 1099 reporting. She collaborates across departments to ensure accuracy in data input and is skilled at summarizing large amounts of data and presenting meaningful information for review.

A graduate of Western New England University, she received the 2017 Lawrence H. Nath Management Award.

Market Mentors continues to expand and currently has opportunities for an account director, media director and college interns.

Market Mentors, LLC, is a fully integrated marketing, advertising and public relations agency with locations in Springfield, Massachusetts, and Ju-

pieter, FL, serving clients with global reach. They customize strategies and execute campaigns catered to each client's specific needs that produce results.

The highly experienced and creative team specializes in advertising, branding, media buying, graphic design, creative services, public relations, digital media and event planning to fuel business growth. Since 2003, the firm has proven expertise in all service areas and has the advantage of being the only area subscriber to Nielsen Media Research.

At Market Mentors, it's all about results. For more information, please visit [marketmentors.com](http://marketmentors.com).

## PET OF THE MONTH Meet Koi!



Koi is a male, Greater Swiss Mountain dog. His birthday is March 12, 2023 so come February he'll almost be 1 year old. His favorite things are hiking on the local trails and eating Dad's leftover steak bone. When he's all grown up, he'll weigh 125-150lbs. Koi boy is always a good boy and really has completed our family!

Brittney Santos & John Kangas

## 6 Things Cats Hate

PART 1

What's bothering your cat could very well be something that bothers you, too. You could unknowingly be making some mistakes regarding these things cats hate.

**Cats Hate Feeling Lonely.** Contrary to popular belief, cats are not solitary animals! It's true that you can leave your cat alone for longer bouts than you could a dog, but kitties crave attention, companionship, and love just like any other furry friend. If left alone for extended periods of time, it can become agitated and develop feelings of anxiety and even depression. Plan playtimes with your cat during the day and consider adopting another cat, so it has a full-time companion.

**Cats Hate Dirty Litter Boxes.** Using a dirty toilet is pretty gross and cats feel the same way about dirty boxes. It's important to clean out your cat's litter boxes every day, or at least every other day, depending on the number of cats you have and their bathroom habits. Depending on the type of litter you use, the frequency with which you scoop it, and the number of cats in your household, litter should be replaced about every two weeks.

**Cats Hate Spoiled Food.** You don't want to eat a plate of spoiled food and neither does your cat. Not only does raw or spoiled food taste bad, but it can make your cat sick, too. Bacteria such as Salmonella and Staphylococcus can grow in food that's been exposed for too long, especially in the warmer months. Be sure to check the expiration dates on all food. If you find yourself saving lots of leftovers after your cat's meals, you may need to assess how much it actually needs to be eating.

# PET PAGE

## READERS!

Send in your pet picture for our "Pet of the Month" and receive a free weekend get-away or spa package for your pet courtesy of Porter Road Pet Care. Email your photos to: [jwalker@turley.com](mailto:jwalker@turley.com). Please include your name and your pet's name.





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