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CARES Coalition receives \$14,000 in opioid relief funds

By Marcelo Gusmão
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LUDLOW – Last Wednesday, the CARES Coalition met to finalize its gift bag project, discuss plans for upcoming events, and update its members on other items.

The meeting began with a check presentation by members of the Select Board Members to the tune of \$14,000 to cover the costs of Red Ribbon Week in 2023 and '24, and the Coalition's Mental Health Initiative. CARES President Laura Rooney thanked the Select Board for its support of the organization.

"This money has allowed us to do all the work that was certainly due," Rooney said. "We have a detailed letter that goes to them that says what we spent the money on, how many students or community members were impacted, and how it's related to what is required under the opioid relief funds."

Select Board Chair Derek DeBarge praised CARES for its focus on the three phases of recovery, and said that the board is happy to collaborate with the group.

"I think we have it easier than any other community in deciding what to do with the opioid funds, simply because we have you," DeBarge told the coalition. "CARES



Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmão

Members of the CARES Coalition received a check for \$14,000 to cover the cost of Red Ribbon Week 2023 and '24, and the Mental Health Initiative.

is unique. There's nothing like it. Other communities I'm aware of try to mirror CARES. You can't be the original, but it would be nice to see others pop up here and there and be

able to take advantage of monies like this."

Select Board Member Tony Goncalves reminisced about when the Coalition started meeting on the

corner of Center Street and Chapin Street.

"My kids are doing Red Ribbon Week, they love it," Goncalves said. "That group at the high school

knows that you guys are here, and I'm sure it's had a great impact on them."

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Schools making improvements to professional development

By Marcelo Gusmão
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LUDLOW – At a recent School Committee meeting, the community received updates on professional development among the school teachers and staff.

Director of Curriculum Dr. Tara Brandt updated the committee about the work the district has been doing involving professional development. She said that it is based on the District Improvement Plan, and focuses on strategic objectives involving student and staff wellness and research-based instructional

practices.

"When I came back in December," Brandt said, "I dipped back into last school year, which was primarily looking at standards-aligned curricula. We had moved on past that, and we're looking more about implementation of instructional strategies this year."

Brandt described working with Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano and Director of Special Education Jean Fontaine to map out the year's professional development over the summer. This year's focus is to look at the district's Multi-Tiered System of Supports and implementation.

"Over the course of the school

year, much of it has been looking at student data to get a bigger picture of individual students, and then going beyond that and thinking more along the lines of the student experience and student emotional needs," Brandt said. "The profes-

Please see **SCHOOLS**, Page 4

Purple Cane presented to Betty Steadford

By Marcelo Gusmão
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INDIAN ORCHARD – The Citizens Council and State Representative Orlando Ramos recently recognized Betty Steadford with the Purple Cane.

The Purple Cane is awarded to the eldest citizen in the community. The neighborhood began to recognize its senior residents in this way in 2014, thanks to the initiative of Pat Voisine.

"In 2013, I always used to see these articles in different papers and on TV about how they honor the eldest of their town, so I thought we should do that," Voisine said. "I brought it to the Citizens Council and they agreed on it."

Voisine said that the city has recognized five residents with the Purple Cane since it started, including Steadford. State Representative Ramos has been closely involved with the process since it started, including donating the canes themselves.

"He wasn't state representative back then, but he agreed to buy the Purple Canes," Voisine said.

The canes then become property of the individual being recognized. There is also a plaque in the Citizens Council's community room that displays the names of all the Purple Cane recipients.

The ceremony to award Steadford the Purple Cane was held on Jan. 28 at the Covenant Church. Voisine invited Steadford's parish to attend the presentation, and said there was a great turn-out.

"I notified the Covenant Church



Submitted photo

Betty Steadford (left) received the Purple Cane, an award that was created by Pat Voisine and State Representative Orlando Ramos to recognize the neighborhood's eldest resident.

on Berkshire Ave," Voisine said. "I left a message that we were going to have a presentation, and we had a great turn-out from her parish."

This is fairly typical of the Purple Cane presentations, according to Voisine, who compared it to the

previous presentation to Stella Soja that was held in her backyard, and the first ceremony for Mary Popko, which was well-attended by her large family.

Please see **CANE**, Page 6

Former Town Planner remembered at meeting

By Marcelo Gusmão
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LUDLOW – At last week's Select Board meeting, the members offered condolences to the family of Town Planner Doug Stefancik, and voted on how to immortalize his contributions to the town.

"I think the town lost somebody very important and I feel very sorry for his family."

– James Gennette

Select Board Chair Derek DeBarge began the meeting by announcing the recent sudden passing of Doug Stefancik.

"It was a shock to all of us employees at Town Hall," DeBarge said. "If you talk to anybody about Doug in the building, I guarantee you they will all say very similar things about him; number one, every time you saw him, he was always smiling; number two, when you spoke to him, he was always very soft-spoken, respectful, and caring. He listened to what you were saying and he tried to engage in the conversation that you wanted to have with him."

DeBarge described Stefancik as "a perfect professional," and "an all-around great guy," as well as an accomplished gardener and cook. The board offered its condolences to Stefancik's mother, sister, brother, and other relatives and friends.

Select Board Member James Gennette said that his first interaction with the town was through Stefancik, when opening a business in town, and described him as helpful, patient, and kind.

"I'm very, very saddened by the loss," Gennette said. "I think the town lost somebody very important and I feel very sorry for his family."

Select Board Member Manuel Silva echoed these statements and offered his condolences to his family and friends.

"What I liked about Doug is, he always helped," Silva said. "That's the one thing I've always told all of our employees; we're here to help the public, and he always did."

DeBarge and Silva also offered their condolences to Elsa Baros for the loss of her son.

The board discussed the possibility of dedicating the developing dog park in the memory of Stefancik, at the suggestion of Sue Urban.

"Doug was pretty passionate about the dog park," DeBarge said. "I thought this was a great suggestion by Sue."

Select Board Member Bill Rosenblum said he saw no need for a discussion, and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The board then voted to appropriate \$1,034.49 from 40R to install a plaque at the park. The plaque will read "In memory of former Town Planner, Doug Stefancik, who turned a dream into this reality for dog lovers in Ludlow and beyond."

LUDLOW



250th Committee's 'Last Night' Celebration to be held at high school

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



MMWEC safety presentation at the Ludlow Senior Center

Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) held an electrical and gas pipeline safety event at the Ludlow Senior Center. MMWEC’s Michael Russell presented on gas pipeline safety and awareness and Ray Gouley of the R.F. Gouley Company covered the ins and outs of electrical safety. The annual event is sponsored by MMWEC.

Lions scholarship applications available

LUDLOW— The Ludlow Lions Club is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the James and Mary O’Neil (\$40,000 paid over 4 years), the S. Louis Marceau and the Paul R. Baird scholarships (\$1,000 each) Eligible applicants must be residents of Ludlow, regardless of the high school attended, and entering freshman year at an accredited college or technical school in the fall. The James and Mary O’Neil scholarship is available only to students who will be attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus.

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

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

Reminder to return your 2025 Annual Town Census form

LUDLOW – Please return the annual town census form as soon as possible to the Office of the Town Clerk.

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

State law requires that you be sent an annual street listing/census form. Update the information for all individuals who reside in your household, including children, and respond within ten days, even if no changes are necessary.

Warning: Failure to respond to this mailing shall result in removal from the active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls.



Stay off the ice this winter

WILBRAHAM/HAMPDEN - How thick is safe ice? Ice on moving waters in rivers, streams and brooks is generally not safe.

The thickness of ice on ponds depends on factors such as water currents, depth and natural objects like stumps or rocks. Daily changes in temperature can cause ice to expand and contract, which affects its stability.

Because of these factors, no one can declare the ice to be safe. The only safe ice is at a skating rink.

A message from fire and life safety educators of Wilbraham and Hampden.



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Host families needed

LUDLOW— ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a Non-Profit, Public Benefit Organization, is inviting local families to discover the many rewards of hosting a foreign exchange student. ASSE students come from more than 50 countries worldwide: France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Japan, Australia, to name a few. They are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, and they are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture, family life, school, sports, etc. They also love to share their own culture and language with their host families, who welcome the students into their home, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience. Host families may be single parents, couples and single persons.

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

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

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

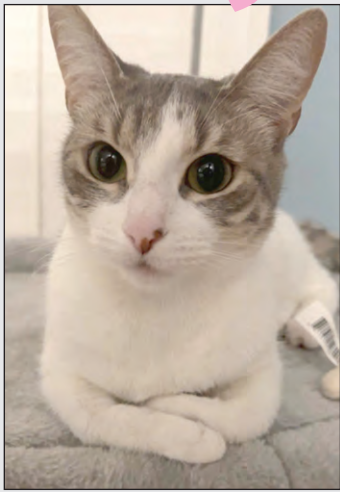
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Pet of the Week



DUA
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Animal Control to reunite with Rosie

Dog who was missing in freezing temperatures



Submitted photo
Rosie, a two-year-old Husky-Pitbull mix, was found safe after six days in below-freezing temperatures thanks to Ludlow Animal Control Officer Octavia Anderson. Rosie and ACO Anderson will reunite at an event on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

LUDLOW - Animal Control Officer Octavia Anderson will be reuniting with Rosie the Husky-Pitbull mix after she was missing for six days in freezing temperatures.

On the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 21, Kendra Supersad was juggling her kids and various housekeeping tasks when she forgot to close her backyard gate. A short while later, she realized that Rosie, one of her two dogs, was missing. After frantically searching her home and the nearby area, she knew that Rosie had run off.

She reached out to the police, who directed her to Animal Control Officer Octavia Anderson.

ACO Anderson posted about Rosie on the Animal Control Facebook page, and expected she would return home that same day. Unfortunately, she remained missing.

Rosie's story gained a massive following on social media, with members of the community establishing a dedicated Facebook page called "Bring Rosie Home," and a GoFundMe that raised nearly \$700 in two hours to pay for Hawkeye drone service to look for Rosie.

Thankfully, the service wasn't needed. With the help of ACO Anderson, Belchertown ACO Sarah Byrnes, and the entire community, Rosie was found safe almost six days later near the solar panels behind Americo Street.

The money raised through the GoFundMe page will be donated to the Friends of Ludlow Animal Control, a nonprofit group dedicated to raising money to build a shelter in town and to support the Animal Control office.

"ACO Anderson is an asset to the Town and to my police department daily," said Chief Valadas. "She does great work with these types of calls involving animals and provides an unmatched service that we greatly need and appreciate."

Supersad, Rosie, and ACO Anderson will reunite at the Police Department on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 11 a.m. to share their story and thank the greater Ludlow community for its help in bringing Rosie home.

Ludlow Lions Club will present dinner

LUDLOW - The Lions Club will present a Comical Modern Mystery Dinner "Deadly Chateau Shenanigans, on Saturday, March 8. Doors open at 6 p.m. and Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m.; \$45 per person or 2 for \$85.

Participate and interact with Cza Cza Grabmore and her three famous investigators. Diners become part of the best Murder Mystery Party ever. But this party just got deadly.

Tony & Penny's Restaurant, 18 Canterbury St. Menu includes: Chicken Soup, Salad, Rolls, Fish Filet w/Rice, Roast Beef, Seasonal Vegetables, Desert & Coffee/Tea (Pasta Primavera upon request).

Tickets may be purchased thru the mail by sending a check, made payable to the Ludlow Lions Club, to PO Box 72, Ludlow, MA 01056. Or by visiting <https://bit.ly/LudlowLionsClub>. ludlowlions@yahoo.com.

SCHOOLS from Page 1

sional development throughout the year weaves in all of those."

Brandt described the professional development training that the district had in January. The district has been contracting work and partnering around ways to implement MTSS, with an interest in "strengthening that core," while also looking at socio-emotional learning through behavioral health and academics.

"You might remember last time we had Becca Gauvin from the High School come in and talk about the Lighthouse consultants and the grant that we had," Brandt said. "That's providing us with professional development throughout the school year, some of which is happening on the district days."

Brandt added that there are additional sessions happening outside the district days. She also mentioned the district's partnership with Novak Associates, with whom the schools have been working to implement Universal Design for Learning, a framework developed by the Center for Applied Special Technology to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people, based on scientific insights into how humans learn.

The district has focused its data

work on assessments based on Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills and the Universal Screeners for Number Sense.

"The Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative has been working with us around some Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging connections to UDL and Cassel," Brandt said. "Additionally, we've been continuing with our work to get more staff trained in Mental Health First Aid, which is a continuing process from last year."

The district also started working with Hirshberg Behavioral Health Services at the beginning of the year, including branching out to work with elementary teachers last month.

"I spoke a little bit about this, primarily with the social workers, with the school adjustment counselors, and with the behavioral specialists," Brandt said.

"Also this year we've been looking to expand how we use Vector around professional development to streamline some of our programming and the signing up, registering, sending out information, and monitoring professional development points," Brandt added.

Brandt said that the district will be continuing its partnership with Hillford Literacy around professional development.

"In prior years, Hillford Literacy provided science of reading courses,

primarily to East Street and Harris Brook schools," Brandt said. "Those were done via courses that were synchronous and virtual at the same time. We will be picking up with that."

Brandt said that the district will also be working with The Collaborative in Northampton for professional development surrounding Pre-K. Lastly, Brandt said that the schools are looking to expand its subscription to the Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth, which is funded through a grant and offers a variety of services.

The committee thanked Dr. Brandt for her work with the district. Superintendent Dr. Tiano said that, though she's been in the district for six months, she's been working in curriculum instruction and assessment for the last decade.

"Joining another team," Tiano said, "joining another district, her efforts to find out where we are at, working with our staff in classrooms and getting that continuous feedback and building relationships, and helping us utilize resources that we've had has really been impressive, in a short amount of time."

Tiano concluded that, thanks to the work and expertise of Dr. Brandt, the district's curriculum development is "in good hands."

CARES from Page 1

Because of the partnership with the town, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention also gave CARES and the public schools \$40,000 to conduct Mental Health First Aid Training at the schools. Rooney also highlighted the work of Karen Carreira, who was selected by the AFSP as one of the top 10 volunteers in the country.

The meeting continued with an update on the Drug-Free Community Grant. Due to the federal government putting a pause on federal grants, applications were not available as of the Feb. 5 meeting. CARES also provided updates on its local partnerships and programs that are promoting mental health among our community's youth.

The meeting discussed plans for its Ultimate Family Dance Party, which has

been scheduled for Friday, April 4. The Coalition will also assemble the Valentine's Day Gift Bags that are being sent out to the community's seniors next week.

The CARES Coalition is always looking for more volunteers, so if you'd like to learn how to get involved, you can visit their website at LudlowCares-Coalition.org, or send an email to LudlowCares@GMail.com.

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OPINION

Random Acts of Kindness

By Barb Turcotte

I know we've all heard of brotherly and sisterly love but it was so evident while having the pleasure of sitting down and chatting with Aaron and Amy Porchelli.

I asked if they'd always been close, their answer yes, and shared how they'd continually watched out for one another even in their youth.

They expressed how their parents who have been married sixty-three years, were great examples and instilled in them the importance of family. Aaron conveyed how he loved coaching his kids and the younger generation for various sports. Amy and Aaron have carried their parent's belief of family forward not only with each other but their spouses and the next generation. Aaron described how it's often those little things that make such a difference in the quality of life for not only yourself but others. One small example he gave, bringing in a neighbor's trash barrel for them, an effortless gesture. Just a nice Random Act of Kindness.

I'd actually met and knew of Aaron years ago through a friend of mine. In his younger years he helped their kids put in and take out the dock at their lake house, and though he enjoyed the escapades at the lake, he unselfishly offered his help. Aaron has always enjoyed helping others and for over twenty-one years has been an Independent Energy Agent helping people with their gas and electric services. Two years ago he ventured down another path, passed the real estate test and is now a licensed agent as well.

Amy, I met as she's an artist and helps residents where I'm employed with some amazing artwork. She founded her business ArtSong in 2011, providing art enrichment and organizational development programs in our local communities. She's quick to smile and has a warm heart that just endears you to her immediately. Having musical abilities as well, she gives private piano lessons too! I've watched her as she's encouraged some of the residents to explore their imaginations with colors and textures giving each one special attention, as if they were a member of her own family. It's beautiful to witness her kindness as she wants each person to have wonderful experiences.

Did I mention these siblings are very musically talented and collaborated on an original album, 'Bigger Than Me' in 2019? They play in several local establishments as a duo band called 'The Wandering Kin' and also enjoy performing with a six-piece Pink Floyd tribute band called, 'Retro Floyd.'

Though after chatting with people and being enlightened by the various things they tell me regarding Random Acts of Kindness, this space doesn't allow me to share all their wonderful stories. However, the one that stands out in my mind after chatting with Aaron and Amy was the vision Aaron had come to him during a dream.

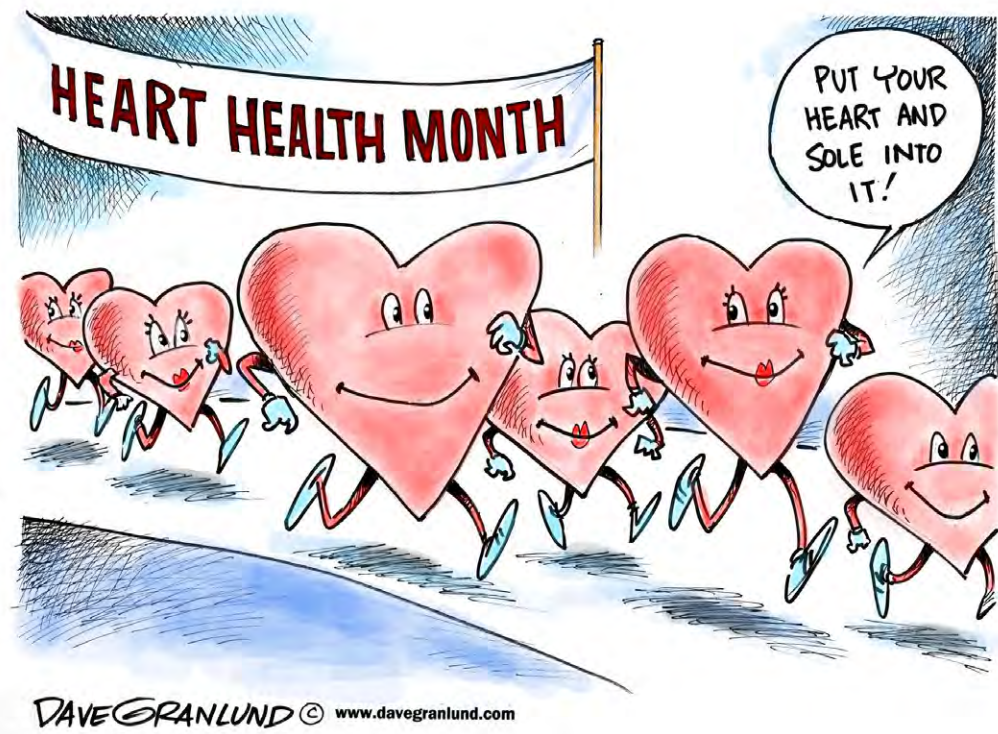
Last year Aaron called Amy telling her she'd think he was crazy but went on to share his dream. In this vision they were singing while going into nursing homes, senior centers, schools and other organizations. But instead of doing this as paid gigs, they would do these as complimentary acoustic performances. The premise of this was to put smiles on 1,000 people's faces! Well instead of thinking he was crazy, Amy absolutely loved the idea and his night-time dream became a reality! In addition to this vision they soon founded the '1,000 Smiles' sing-a-thon. They both beamed as they talked about what it had meant to see all those faces light up with their music. This also gave me a beautiful mental image as I imagined all these faces just radiating happiness!

Their plan was a repeat performance this year while adding on some new spots as well. All the plans were in place and they excitedly anticipated this year's festivities but on concert day Aaron woke with no voice plus knew it was something more so didn't want to take the chance of infecting others. Needless to say they were heartbroken as all the holiday plans and promises had to be cancelled. However, they've vowed they're coming back stronger and want to increase the amount of places they sing this year and in the coming years as they expand it for more than one day in the future as well.

What an incredible visualization Aaron had and to be willing to share their talents with no financial gains but instead gaining at the soul level, that's truly a beautiful Random Act of Kindness!

Both Aaron and Amy said living a good life is simply, "Just doing the right thing for people." They added with animated expressions, "It keeps you young!" So if you want to live a good life and stay young the secret is, do a Random Act of Kindness!

If you'd like to share a Random Act of Kindness story or if this one has touched you, please contact me at bdt514@aol.com or 413-575-9385. Who knows, you might see your story, 'Just 'Cause' you witnessed, you did or maybe received something nice being done for you. See you soon with another Random Act of Kindness!



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

Roses or carnations, you chose!

With St. Valentine's Day coming up, my thoughts turn to flowers.

I am not a "rose girl!" so to speak. It is probably because I am frugal and roses cost an arm and a leg this time of year.

Get me a carnation and I am happy. They don't bend at the neck or pick you with thorns. They even smell nice, to me the fragrance is that of cloves.

So this will be a combo column. First, it will give our rose lovers out there the best chance of keeping their admirer's big investment healthy for the longest possible time. Then, I will do the same for the humble carnation.

Perhaps you will be the lucky recipient of roses on Friday. I have a couple tricks up my sleeve to help you increase their vase-life. First, remove the roses from their box and give each one a fresh cut on a forty-five degree angle.

If you can do this under water, all the better to prevent what I call "bent head" or "limp neck" syndrome- an air bubble clogging the stem.

You should also remove any foliage that will be underwater - it will rot and make the water stinky and full of bacteria. Leaves on the top third of the stem can remain as long as they look pretty; unbeknownst to me, these will continue to photosynthesize, making food to help the rose color up to its full potential.

We all have had a few "bent heads" or "limp necks" in our day - a shame, considering how expensive roses are, especially when purchased on a holiday. If you catch this situation early there is a way to remedy it: recut the stem of the rose or roses in question and soak them horizontally, under water for a half-hour or so.

This technique is contrary to what one might think is good for a many-petaled flower. I would argue that water trapped within the petals would breed fungi and shorten vase-life, but I guess if the rose is doomed to the fate of a bent head, it's worth a shot. Regular folks have tried it in the bathtub and have been successful.

How about those carnations? They aren't as fussy as their more expensive counterparts, but here are a few helpful hints. Recut their stems to just above a node (the bump where leaves come from) and place in floral preservative.

If you don't have floral preservative, you can make your own. Here is a recipe that, just like the professional blends, contain the three necessary components for fresh flower health and longevity: carbohydrates, a biocide and pH adjuster.

- 1t sugar
- 1t bleach
- 2t lemon or lime juice (strained)
- 1 quart water

- Alternate version:**
- 1-12 ounce can decaf lemon/lime soda
 - 3 cans water
 - 1T bleach
 - Mix and stir to flatten

Each of these preservatives should be stored in the refrigerator with contents labeled.

Sometimes, carnations come very tightly budded. If you want them to open quickly, without waiting days, you can up the sugar content in the preservative to force bloom.

Do expect that you won't get to enjoy them as long in the vase if you do this, though, since their energy will be spent.

Cut flowers are sensitive to ethylene gas, and carnations are especially sensitive. Rotting foliage, ripening fruit, cigarette smoke and exhaust all release ethylene gas, which acts like a hormone that triggers maturation and death. For that reason we avoid storing flowers in the household fridge.

I had my own firsthand experience. I had arrangements to make at work, but had jury duty the day they were needed. I made them a day early and cleared out one of the coolers. Wouldn't you know it that someone put an apple inside without my knowing. Sure enough everything was ruined.

Whether you are a rose lover or a carnation lover, or enjoy any flower in between, I hope that you either treat yourself, or are treated by someone else, either on St. Valentine's Day or sometime soon!

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

The REGISTER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

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

Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right.

We need first and last name, hometown, title if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo. Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution directly off your camera to mharrison@turley.com.

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

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

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

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Election letters policy

The Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to theregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

CAMPAIGN NEWS

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers. Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Register.



Why was Social Security money moved to the General Treasury?

Dear Rusty:
Why were the Social Security funds moved from the Social Security account to the General Fund with the government?

Is it not then called a tax making it an entitlement? That then gives the government control of our retirement. Most of us feel that someone should be in charge and use the Social Security fund with investments that grow our savings.

I invested my 401,000 and savings and the original amount made me money during the Trump years and I'm now trying to catch up. I make this statement because I draw more from my investments than I receive from Social Security.

Signed: Questioning Senior Citizen

Dear Questioning Senior:
I'm afraid I must inform you that no Social Security funds have ever been moved

from the Social Security account to the government's General Fund; this is a pervasive myth which we have refuted many times over the years. For information, here is one of many articles I have published on this topic, which I hope you find interesting: <https://socialsecurityreport.org/ask-rusty-about-repaying-social-security-money-taken-by-politicians/>.

Someone actually is charged with monitoring our Social Security funds, a board of Social Security Trustees consisting of the Secretaries of Treasury, Labor, and Health and Human Services, as well as the Commissioner of Social Security plus two Public Trustees. Each year the Social Security Trustees do a complete analysis of the Social Security program, especially its financial status and outlook for the future. If you have interest in the Trustee's latest annual report, here is a link to the 2024 analysis: <https://socialsecurityreport.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/tr24summary.pdf>.

What you will find in the Trustees' report is that Social Security will run out of reserved funds in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% for everyone, unless Congress acts soon to reform the program and restore it to fiscal solvency. The Trustees have warned Congress about this problem for many years, but Congress has yet to find the bipartisan cooperation needed to

Please see **SSI**, Page 5

SEND US YOUR EVENT PHOTOS

Scan QR Code

Email items to theregister@turley.com

As a free service for our readers we accept and will print when space allows community event photos and announcements. Just scan the QR code above and send us your photos and any information.

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.

ONGOING

FOOD DRIVE BI-MONTHLY. On the first Saturday of each EVEN month (February, April, June, August, October, December) First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St, collects non-perishable foods. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., drive through the back parking lot. We will take your donations out of your car & bring them to the Community Survival Center to be distributed to those in need. Bring all food items to drop off at our next Food Drive on Feb. 1. Thanks for your generosity.

FREE CLOTHING. Every Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m., in the school building located behind Crossway Christian Church, 2230 Main St., Three Rivers. Clothing from baby through adult. Current, seasonal clothes in all sizes. Bags are provided for easy shopping. For more information call Donna, (413)478-0768.

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

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

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

LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER 55 AND OVER CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE: At East Street School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. the cost to take part is \$5 per year. For more information contact Maria Ardolino, activities director at activities@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.

Relay for Life looking for participants

BELCHERTOWN—Quaboag Valley Relay for Life is looking for more teams to join our Relay on May 31 on the Belchertown Common from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Everyone has been affected by cancer so now is the time to form a few friends and family so you can fundraise and spread awareness of this dreaded disease.

You do not have to have a large team or lots of money collected.

A few new teams getting in some donations is a big help to the American Cancer

Society. After we are done doing all our fundraising, the Relay is a way to unwind and celebrate our accomplishments.

The teams can be in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend. Any questions please feel free to email ctellie@juno.com

A Kick-Off event will be held on Feb. 23 at Hope Church on Main Street in Belchertown from 1 to 3 p.m. This is an informative and fun event. Come and learn what Relay is all about.

SSI from Page 4

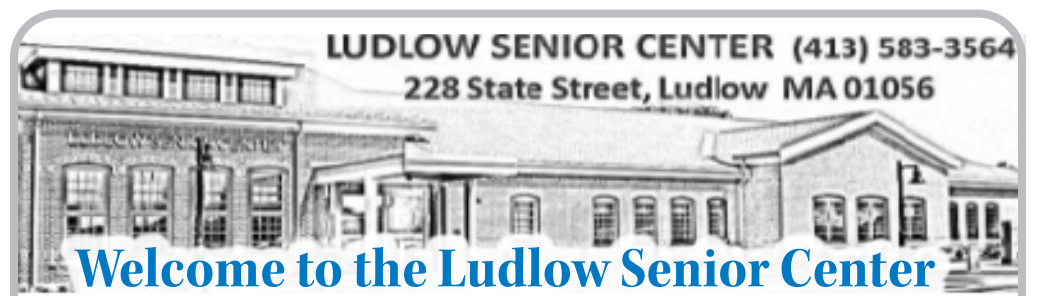
fix the problem.

Association of Mature American Citizens has steadfastly offered proposals to Congress, which would restore Social Security to solvency and will continue to do so with the new 119th Congress, which convened on Jan. 3, 2025.

Please know that we appreciate your feedback and commend you for the wise use of your 401k investments, something that many of our members find necessary to supplement their Social Security. Remember, Social Security was never intended to provide all your retirement income, so earlier saving to sup-

plement your retirement financial needs was a very wise move on your part.

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



Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

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

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

Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, Feb. 13

- 8:45 a.m. Foot Care by Appointment*
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
- 10:30 a.m. Friends of the Senior Center Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Senator Oliveira Office Hour
- 1 p.m. Mahjong
- 2 p.m. Writers Block*
- 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, Feb. 14

- 8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 9 a.m. Fitness Advisor Appointments*
- 9 a.m. Reiki Appointments*
- 10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
- 1 p.m. Ceramics
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
- 1 p.m. Magic Class

Monday, Feb. 17

- Center Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- 9 a.m. Quilting
- 9 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Cribbage
- 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
- 1 p.m. Brown Bag Pick Up*
- 1 p.m. Western Dance Class
- 1:30 p.m. Bingo
- 4:30 p.m. Power Pump Exercise Class
- 5 p.m. Movie: Martha (2024)

• 5 p.m. Trivia

Wednesday, Feb. 19

- 9 a.m. Ceramics
- 9 a.m. Zumba Gold
- 9 a.m. Eric Carle Museum Trip*
- 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. Movie: Martha (2024)
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 4 p.m. COA Board Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 20

- 8:45 a.m. Foot Care by Appointment*
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
- 12:30 p.m. Hearing Clinic Appointments*
- 1 p.m. Mahjong
- 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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

Daily Events:

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

Menu:

- Thursday, Feb. 13: Vegetable Chili/Corn Bread
- Friday, Feb. 14: Valentine's Lunch! Stuffed Pork Chop/Scalloped Pot/Veggies
- Monday, Feb. 17: Center Closed for President's Day
- Tuesday, Feb. 18: Mac. & Cheese/Stewed Tomatoes
- Wednesday, Feb. 19: Crab Cake/Tater Tots/3 Bean Salad
- Thursday, Feb. 20: Birthday Lunch! Ranch Chicken/Au Gratin Pot/Broccoli

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

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

Our Final Event!

Visit us at Ludlowma250.org
and on Facebook [Ludlowma250](https://www.facebook.com/Ludlowma250)

Last Night

Saturday, February 22, 2025
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
(SNOW DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2025)
Ludlow High School, 500 Chapin St.

The Final Event of Ludlow's 250th Year!

A full day of fun & festivities with indoor & outdoor activities.

- Great Food & Beverages
- Over 75 Crafters and Vendors
- Kids Craft Corner
- Roaming Railroad Train
- "A Look Back" Presentation of the 250th Events
- Fireworks!

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South Main Street selected as site for East/West Compass Rail train stop

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Editor
 mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – The Department of Transportation has announced its selection for the train stop for the East/West Passenger Rail, selecting the south side of Palmer Yard on South Main Street.

This site was determined to offer the amount of property needed for a platform to accommodate ADA needs and passenger train length, and is expected to have fewer permit requirements, making it the most affordable of the nine alternative sites that were considered. The location is estimated to be about half a mile from downtown, and was chosen after months of review, including feedback from stakeholders and community engagement events.

“We’re thrilled to have reached another milestone for West-East Rail and our efforts to expand rail service across the state with the selection of a preferred site for Palmer Station. This is going to be a major boost for Western Mass and for our state’s economy,” said Governor Maura Healey. “We’re grateful for all of the input we received from community members that helped us choose the best site for the station.”

“Expanding rail capacity and connectivity in Massachusetts is essential if we want to remain economically competitive,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “We applaud the efforts that have culminated in the selection of a Palmer Station location and look forward to seeing this component of West-East Rail advance to completion.”

“We are pleased to see that there is forward movement on a station in Palmer. I thank everyone on the steering committee and community members who gave feedback about this process,” said Town Manager Brad Brothers. “We look forward to working with MassDOT on this next phase.”

The next step is for the project team to create a conceptual design and coordinate with railway owner CSX, the site property owner, and the proposed service operator, Amtrak, on the feasibility of the construction.

“We are very pleased to see ongoing progress in the advancement of the Compass Rail program, which will give residents the passenger rail connectivity they need and deserve,” said Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt. “Throughout the planning and design phase for Palmer Station, we have been committed to working with the community to make a site selection that reflects their needs in the decades ahead. We appreciate all the feedback and look forward to continuing this dialogue.”

Compass Rail is made up of existing and proposed East/West and North/South services that intersect in Springfield at Union Station. The goal of this expansive vision for the commonwealth is to integrate existing DOT-supported services into a unified system that increases the public’s access to comprehensive transportation.

“The South of Palmer Yard location has great potential as a future stop within the Compass Rail network, and the local stakeholders’ feedback has been invaluable in helping us reach an informed decision,” said Rail and Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger. “The site’s strategic location within Palmer and its cost-effective geography are significant benefits for the community both short- and long-term.”

This rail stop will be able to connect to several services supported and managed by DOT, including the following Amtrak-operated routes: the Vermonter that services Washington, D.C. and St. Albans, VT with stops in Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield; the Valley Flyer between Greenfield and New Haven, CT, with stops in Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield; the Hartford Line and Northeast Regional between Springfield and New Haven, CT or Washington, D.C.; and the seasonal, pilot service, the Berkshire Flyer, which runs between Pittsfield and New York City.

In addition to these routes, the East/West Rail represents proposed new Compass Rail services that will improve connections between the eastern and western parts of the state, including an Inland Route to



Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmão

Palmer Yard, on South Main Street, has been selected as the site for the proposed train stop for the East/West Passenger Rail.



A draft diagram of how the proposed train station will fit into the selected site on South Main Street.

operate between Boston and New Haven, CT through Springfield and a Boston and Albany Corridor through Pittsfield.

“After years of advocacy by the residents of Palmer, they are one step closer to realizing their goal of a Palmer train station,” said Congressman Richard Neal. “This announcement follows a fair and thorough review by MassDOT, one that has been transparent throughout the decision-making process. Located just half a mile from the downtown area, this site will play a critical role in unlocking economic growth in the Town of Palmer and surrounding communities, while pro-

viding the space needed to accommodate the demand for increased passenger rail.”

“We are fortunate to have two leaders in Governor Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll who have been steadfast in their support of improving and expanding passenger rail service throughout the Commonwealth,” Neal said. “With Massachusetts receiving more than \$9 billion in federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we have made substantial progress in advancing key rail projects, enhancing connectivity, and modernizing our transportation network. Today marks yet another significant

milestone in making West-East Rail a reality.”

“We are excited to see West-East Rail mark this milestone and move forward with the conceptual design of the project. We look forward to being a partner in helping to create more transportation options for residents here in Palmer and western Massachusetts,” shared Kimberly Robinson, Executive Director of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

For more information on the development of Compass Rail, you can visit their website at Mass.gov/Compass-Rail.



Submitted photos

Betty Steadford (seated) was presented with the Purple Cane in a ceremony at the Indian Orchard Citizens Council on Jan. 28.

CANE from Page 1

At Steadford’s ceremony, her great-granddaughter Alicia Thomas spoke, in what Jackie Farrow described as “a tearful speech about Steadford’s involvement in the Indian Orchard community.”

“It says ‘Nana’s Kitchen’ over the church kitchen,” Thomas said. “She literally mentored the people who took over the kitchen after her.”

Thomas said that she treasures the time spent with her great-grandmother, saying “Any time I get to spend with her is really great.”

Office Manager Jackie Farrow helped set up the event, and said that a lot of the community came out to

support Steadford.

“The whole congregation of her church came,” Farrow said, “a lot of people hadn’t seen each other for many many years.”

“It felt great to see the community getting together that hadn’t seen each other in many years to honor and support Steadford,” Farrow said.

“I think it’s a good idea to represent the elderly out here,” Voisine said. “It’s a great honor, I wish I was 100 years old; these people were really active. Mrs. Steadford doesn’t look her age, and she doesn’t act her age. She’s out there doing what she’s got to do for the community. I think it’s a good idea to recognize our local seniors.”



The Citizens Council and City Councilors set up the Purple Cane award, (from left) Jackie Farrow, Pat Voisine, Kateri Walsh, and Zaida Govan.



HOUSING REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE TOWN OF LUDLOW

The town of Ludlow, with the assistance of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) is applying for funding to assist qualified homeowners in making necessary repairs to their homes. In order to be eligible for assistance, total household income shall not exceed current federal income guidelines based on the number of people residing in a household. (See table below).

If you need to make improvements to your roof, windows, siding, plumbing, electrical, lead paint/ asbestos removal, heating system, septic system repair/ replacement and/or other program eligible improvements, please fill out the following form and return to Joe Hagopian at the PVPC (address appears below). ALL information received is strictly confidential and will be maintained in the Springfield office of the PVPC. If you have questions, please contact PVPC Senior Planner Joe Hagopian, at (413) 781-6045.

Name: _____
 Property Address: _____
 Mailing Address/Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Email: _____

For P.V.P.C. use only
 Date Received: _____
 Staff Initials: _____

Single/Multi Family (Please Circle One)

Type of improvements needed: _____

My household income is not greater than (circle one according to your household size):

1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
\$61,350	\$70,100	\$78,850	\$87,600	\$94,650	\$101,650	\$108,650	\$115,650

Knights of Columbus Council 3535 Communion Breakfast

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

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SPORTS

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Tyler Tatro gets some air on the jump shot.

Mateus, McKay lead Ludlow boys to crucial win



Filipe Fernandes attempts the three-pointer.

LUDLOW – Last Tuesday night, with postseason hopes on the line, the Lions scored a crucial win over McCann Tech 51-32. The Lions were able to do a great job on defense to keep McCann off the scoreboard for most of the game. Ludlow's offense did the rest of the

work with Jackson Mateus leading the team with 18 points and Kobe McKay sinking 13 points. Ludlow was 8-8 with two games remaining. They need at least one win to automatically qualify for the state tournament.



Kobe McKay tries to get around an opponent.



Mason Morace sends the free throw attempt away.

Lions girls basketball falls at home

LUDLOW – Last Wednesday evening, Ludlow High School girls basketball suffered a 46-33 loss against East Longmeadow. The Lions fell to 5-10 on the season. Ludlow is on the far outside of the playoff picture in Division 3. One more loss will eliminate the Lions from state tournament contention.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Eliana Garcia struggles down the right side under pressure.

LEFT: Ava Friese heads down the court for the Lions.



Cameron Lyman hits the layup.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Brandon Hanifan drives toward the hoop.



Aneysha Donais hustles down the court.



Karley Roman tries to block an opponent on defense.



Abigail Toomey seeks to inbound the ball.



Madelyn Riley fights to take a shot.

Lions suffer tough loss to Lancers

LUDLOW – Last Saturday evening, Ludlow High School hockey suffered a 4-3 loss against Longmeadow, dropping them to 7-7-4 with one game remaining in the regular season against Saint Paul of Eastern Mass. The Lions need to win or tie that game in order to reach tournament by a .500 or better record. In the loss to Longmeadow, Tannar Severyn had two goals while Charlie Fijal scored the third goal. Ludlow plays Saint Paul on the road on Saturday, Feb. 15 and hopes to be part of the Western Mass. And state playoffs following that. The Lions were clinging to a spot in the top 32 as of last week.

sports

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – The Commercial Elks have concluded their second round of the candlepin league season.

Going into the final week, the standings had Team BK in the first-place position with a record of 22.5-13.5. The Daft Kings are in second place at 20.5-15.5. Daft Kings would have to win at least three points to win the round as long as BK doesn't win any points in the final week of round two. The remaining four teams are mathematically eliminated from winning the second round.

The winner of this round will join Gutter Mouths in the championship roll off at the end of the season. First round winners, Gutter Mouths, bowled against Last in Line. In game one, Gutter Mouths were victorious over Last in Line 340-325.

In game two, Gutter Mouths won again by a score of 361-335. Stephen Manolakis bowled a 108 in game two to go with his teammate Dino Tessicini's 105. The third and final game was close but Gutter Mouths won again 343-339 for a three-game sweep.

The final score was 1044-999 in favor of Gutter Mouths.

The top seed Team BK bowled against Compression in the final week of round two. In game one, Compression defeated BK by a score of 382-366. Jeff Whyte of BK bowled an excellent game of 113 in a losing effort. David Bowman of Compression bowled a 105.

In game two, Compression was victorious again, taking another win from BK 375-345. In the third and final game, Team BK won the last game, 376-361, to give themselves one point in the final week. Mark Fitzpatrick ended the match with a 108.

The final score was 1118-1087 in favor of Compression.

The pressure was on for Daft Kings who are two points out of first place as they bowled against the Mailmen. In game one, Daft Kings got a victory by a score of 377-371. Ken Trudel of Daft Kings lead his team to victory by bowling a 112. Bryan Surprise of Mailmen bowled a 119 in a losing effort.

In game two, Daft Kings won another close game by a score of 393-392. Matt Bertelli of Daft Kings had the high single score of game two with a 116. Bryan Surprise has a 111 in game two.

In game three, it was another game with a single digit difference as Daft Kings won again 392-385. Dave Cobleigh of Daft Kings was the hero of game three with a 116. Bryan Surprise had the high series on his team with a 325. Matt Bertelli had the high series on his team with a 317.

The final score was 1162-1148 in favor of Daft Kings who won all four points in the final week. As a result, the Daft Kings pull ahead of Team BK and win the second round. Daft Kings will be competing in the championship roll off at the end of the season.

With one final round to go, the Commercial Elks League at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes will crown one more winning team to join Gutter Mouths and Daft Kings in the playoffs.

'Ice-O-Topes' score win over Bruins

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Ice-O-Topes, née Thunderbirds, (22-17-2-3) rode a four-goal flourish in the final period to a 5-2 victory on Saturday night over the Providence Bruins (25-15-4-1) before a sell-out crowd of 6,793 inside the MassMutual Center. Springfield has still never lost as the Ice-O-Topes, improving to a perfect 5-0 record as their alter ego, while the team also extended its point streak to seven straight games.

It became evident in the early stages that goals would be scarce on this night, as Bruins All-Star netminder Michael DiPietro and Springfield stalwart Colten Ellis showed no signs of blinking in the opening 20 minutes. Matt Luff had two of the better chances for Springfield, but the iron rang on the veteran winger on one attempt, while DiPietro flashed terrific lateral agility to stonewall the Ice-O-Topes forward on another offering.

Not to be outdone, Ellis was timely in his own right, making his brightest save of the frame when he denied a breakaway backhand attempt from Max Jones.

The first three power plays of the night proved unsuccessful, but on their second attempt in the closing minutes of the middle period, the Bruins finally solved Ellis as Jones hit Riley Tufto on a slap feed in the right circle, where the big centerman lifted a shot under the crossbar to make it 1-0 Providence at 18:14 of period two.

In desperate need of a response, the 'Topes got just that in the final seconds of the stanza, as MacKenzie MacEachern and Dalibor Dvorsky combined to work the puck to the edge of the blue paint on a 3-on-

2 rush, with Nikita Alexandrov cashing in with just eight seconds separating the teams from the dressing room.

Alexandrov was far from finished, and at 4:01 of the third, with Leo Loof holding the puck at the left point, Alexandrov dashed to the blue paint, where he deflected Loof's pass in behind DiPietro to hand Springfield the 2-1 lead.

Just 1:41 later, the lead got a boost as Otto Stenberg filled the center lane, receiving a pass from Luff and firing it through DiPietro to make it a 3-1 game at 5:42. The tally snapped Stenberg's eight-game goal drought and also doubled as his first goal on home ice.

The Bruins would not go down easily, and Vinni Lettieri stepped in front from behind the goal line to lift a backhand home before Ellis could get across, shrinking the Topes' lead to 3-2 at 7:45.

Unlike the night before, the T-Birds would not let the Bruins get even this time around, killing off a Providence power play before adding onto their lead once again at 17:48 when Alexandrov fielded a pass out of his feed at the bottom of the right circle before slipping it into the blue paint. Before DiPietro could smother it, Matthew Peca arrived to jam it across the line for his team-leading 17th of the season, giving Springfield a 4-2 advantage.

Dvorsky joined Alexandrov with three-point nights when he threw a puck from center ice into an empty net with 1:29 to polish off a four-goal final period and earn Springfield three of a possible four points on the weekend.

Hall of Fame unveils schedule for 2025 enshrinement

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has unveiled its Enshrinement Weekend schedule for the Class of 2025. The celebratory weekend will culminate with the Enshrinement Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield—the Birthplace of Basketball. Finalists, as well as select award winners, will be announced on Friday, Feb. 14, during NBA All-Star Weekend in San Francisco, and the Class of 2025 will be revealed on Saturday, April 5, at the Final Four in San Antonio.

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at Mohegan Sun on Friday, Sept. 5, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2025 and returning Hall of Famers will then travel to Springfield, Mass., where they will participate in the weekend's traditional events taking place at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and Springfield's Symphony Hall.

First-time candidates for the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2025 include Carmelo Anthony, Sue Bird, Maya Moore, Dwight Howard, Doc Rivers, Billy Donovan, Sylvia Fowles, Chamique Holdsclew, Mark Few, Lisa Bluder, Marc Gasol, and Micky Arison.

A limited number of VIP Packages for the 2025 Enshrinement Ceremony will go on sale on Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. at hoopball.com on the Hall of Fame's Enshrinement Ticket page or by calling the Basketball Hall of Fame at (413) 231-5513.

Individual tickets for the events will go on sale tentatively on Saturday, April 5, at 12 noon.

Details of the current schedule of events for Enshrinement 2025 are as follows:

Friday, September 5, at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.)

Enshrinement 2025 Autograph Session

An opportunity to meet the Class of 2025 at their first public Enshrinement Weekend event. A ticket to this event will give fans the opportunity to receive one autograph per class member.

Enshrinement 2025 Press Conference

The official media availability for the Hall of Fame Class of 2025. This availability is only open to credentialed members of the media, along with VIP Package ticket holders, and will be held at Mohegan Sun. The media credential application will open on Monday, July 21, at hoopball.com/media.

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala

The Class of 2025, along with the Hall's prestigious annual award winners, will be celebrated at this televised Enshrinement event at Mohegan Sun. During the event, the Class of 2025 will receive their Hall of Fame rings, courtesy of Baron Championship Rings, and their official Hall of Fame jackets, provided by Reveal Suits. The program will additionally highlight the presentation of the Hall's annual John Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award and the Curt Gowdy Media Awards.

Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield, Mass. Enshrinement Ceremony VIP Reception at Springfield Marriott

Toast the incoming Hall of Fame Class of 2025 at the official VIP Reception prior to the sport's ultimate recognition. The party is limited to select ticket holders for the Enshrinement Ceremony. Shuttle service between the host location and Symphony Hall will be provided if needed. This exclusive party will set the stage for a memorable night on the Red Carpet and at the Ceremony.

Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall

The Class of 2025, legendary Hall of Famers, and some of basketball's biggest icons take center stage on the red carpet in a live TV broadcast outside Symphony Hall.

Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

One of the most elite nights on the basketball calendar each year, the Hall of Fame Class of 2025 will be formally enshrined into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in a nationally televised ceremony.

Railers drop finale to Atlanta Gladiators

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers HC (20-20-2-4 46pts) lost to the Atlanta Gladiators (20-22-4-2, 46pts), on Saturday night by the final score of 4-2 in front of a crowd of 7,094 at the DCU Center. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Credit Union of Texas Event Center taking on the Allen Americans on Friday, February 14th at 8:10 p.m. EST.

It was Atlanta who scored first tonight as Cody Sylvester (2-0-2) put the Gladiators up 1-0 19:26 into the first period. Just 31 seconds later Andrew Jarvis extended the Atlanta lead to 2-0 heading into the second period. Worcester got their first on the night off the stick of Matias Rajaniemi (1-0-1) 2:34 into the third period. Atlanta scored back-to-back empty-net goals in the third period from Cody Sylvester and Ryan Cranford (1-0-1). The Railers then made it 4-2 with a goal from Matt Ustaski (1-0-1) 18:41 into the third to finish off the night's scoring.

It took nearly the entire first period for either team to score until Atlanta took the 1-0 lead. It was Cody Sylvester (17th) who put the Gladiators up 1-0. With just three seconds

remaining in the first period Andrew Jarvis (4th) extended the Atlanta lead to 2-0 with a low slap shot to beat Bullion down low. Shots favored Worcester 12-10 in the first period.

Despite power play chances for both sides neither team was able to net one in the second period. The Railers went to the power play twice in the period, first at the 10:02 mark into the second followed by another chance at the 13:38 mark. Atlanta got their power play opportunity 16:17 into second frame, but the Worcester penalty kill held strong keeping Atlanta from jumping out to a three-goal lead. Shots favored Worcester 14-7 in the second.

Worcester made it a 2-1 game early in the third following a goal from Matias Rajaniemi (3rd) 2:34 into the third period. The Railers went to the empty net in an effort to tie the game late, but Atlanta scored twice on the empty net, the first was Cody Sylvester (18th) followed by Ryan Cranford (9th). The Railers then got one back scored by Matt Ustaski (3rd) leading to a 4-2 final. Shots favored Worcester 15-5 in the third and 41-22 in the game.

COLLEGE NEWS

UAlbany recognizes Gabrielle Mariani for Fall Dean's List

ALBANY—The University at Albany has recognized **Gabrielle Mariani** of Ludlow, majoring in Criminal Justice (intended) for selection to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

The Dean's List at the University at Albany recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of full-time undergradu-

ate students.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 or higher in their first semester of study and a GPA of 3.50 or higher in subsequent semesters.

Elms College announces Dean's list for fall 2024

CHICOPEE—The College of Our Lady of the Elms has named the following students to the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. Congratulations to all the students who are named to the list:

LUDLOW

Elaine Bell, Malynda Torres, Makenzie Nally, Emma Cote, Ava Kochanowicz, Savannah Switzer, Jillian Kubik, Hannah Haley, Abbey Cameron, Austin Scott, Nicole McCarthy, Andrew Caron, Justin Costa, Gianna Santucci, Madissyn Dowland, Skyler Girard

INDIAN ORCHARD

Jeylah Branch, Courtney Evans, Thea Vergara

Elaine Bell graduates from Elms College

CHICOPEE—**Elaine Bell** of Ludlow received a Bachelor of Arts from Elms College following the conclusion of the Fall 2024 semester.

Bell was among 79 students who received their degrees in December.

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NOTICES

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

WESTOVER GOLF COURSE

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

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

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

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

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

be awarded within 60 days.

The Town reserves the right to cancel this RFP or reject in whole or in part any and all proposals when cancellation or rejection serves the best interests of the Town.

01/29, 02/05, 02/12, 02/19/2025

**LUDLOW
PLANNING BOARD
LEGAL NOTICE
SITE PLAN**

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 7:45 p.m.** on the application of Shardool Parmar, Pioneer Valley Hotel Group, Inc. for the property located at **321 Center Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 12C, Parcel 169)** for the purpose of: **addition of seven (7) electric vehicle charging stations within the existing parking lot.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, March 13, 2025.

Raymond Phoenix
Chairman
02/12, 02/19/2025

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD25P0184EA**

**Estate of:
Paul Ernest Surprenant
Also Known As:
Paul E Surprenant
Date of Death:
June 23, 2024**

**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kathleen Young of Ludlow, MA**

Heather Santana of Ashby, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribu-

tion of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
02/12/2025

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGEE'S
SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Theresia Rodrigues to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., said mortgage being dated July 6, 2007, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16802, Page 94, assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC dba Champion Mortgage Company by Assignment dated October 18, 2017 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21906, Page 35, assigned to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Assignment dated September 28, 2018 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22382, Page 73, assigned to GITSIT Solutions, LLC by Assignment dated January 26, 2024 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25335, Page 64, assigned to Queen Equities, LLC by Assignment dated July 2, 2024 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25480, Page 178 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 A.M. on Thursday, March 14, 2025**, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely 22 Essex Street, Ludlow, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Ludlow in the County of Hampden, bounded and described as follows:
Beginning at an iron bar in the Easterly side line of Essex Street, said iron bar being distant Northerly One Hundred Ninety-two (192.0) feet from a stone bound at the intersection of the Northerly side line of State Street and the Easterly side line of Essex Steet; thence running Easterly Ninety (90.0) feet to an iron bar at land now or formerly of one Mezeas; thence turning an angle of 90 degrees and run-

ning Northerly along land of the aforesaid Mezeas Fifty (50.0) feet to an iron bar; thence turning an angle of 90 degrees and running Westerly Ninety (90.0) feet to an iron bar in the Easterly side line of Essex Street; thence turning an angle of 90 degrees and running Southerly along the aforesaid street line Fifty (50.0) feet to the point of beginning, the last described line forming an angle to 90 degrees with the line first described. Containing Four Thousand Five Hundred (4,500) square feet, be any or all of said measurements more or less, or however otherwise said premises may be measured, bounded and described.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor and Antonio Rodrigues by deed of Fernao Rodrigues and Antonio Rodrigues dated August 28, 1972 and recorded at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 3731, Page 362. Antonio Rodrigues died on December 6, 2006.

Property Address:
22 Essex Street
Ludlow, MA 01056

Said premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax title, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the Deed.

No representations, express or implied, are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises which will be sold "as is".

The successful high bidder will be responsible for paying the Massachusetts State Documentary Tax Stamps, all closing costs and all recording fees.

TERMS OF SALE: The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer's check or certified check in the amount of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify as a bidder (the present holder of the mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held by the Mortgagee. The successful bidder will also be required to deposit an additional sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid less the \$10,000.00 deposit (but no less than \$10,000) with

the Mortgagee's auctioneer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Inc., 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089 or the Mortgagee's attorney as may be directed within five (5) days of the date of the sale to be held by the Mortgagee, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer's check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/or to postpone this sale to a later time

or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of the sale.

The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Queen Equities, L.L.C.,
Present Holder of said
Mortgage

By
David A. Lavenburg,
Its Attorney
BACON WILSON, P.C.
33 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413-781-0560
02/12, 02/19, 02/26/2025

**TOWN OF LUDLOE
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Board of Selectmen opened the Warrant on February 4, 2025, for the May 12, 2025, Special Town Meeting held within the Annual Town Meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. at Ludlow High School. All Articles should be submitted to the Board of Selectmen's Office, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA no later than Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. The Board of Selectmen will close the Warrant on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at their regular meeting.

Derek DeBarge,
Chairperson
Board of Selectmen
02/12/2025

**Public Notice
CHANGES**

Deadline has changed to **FRIDAY at 3 p.m.**

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TAG SALE

VALENTINE'S DAY GARAGE SALE.
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Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

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NOTICE

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What's Happening

at Hubbard Memorial Library

To register for programs or find out more information, visit ludlow.cwmars.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

Social Services Drop-In, Wednesday, February 5, 11:00 a.m. Come meet with our Social Worker for assistance with getting connected to food pantries and applying for food stamps, health insurance questions, referrals to treatment and support groups, supporting those with mental health concerns, free fentanyl test strips and condoms AND MORE! This program is made possible through the Mill Town Public Health Coalition.

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.

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

For Adults

Mixed Media Art Class, Thursday, February 6, 5:30 pm. Join us for a creative and hands-on art class led by local artist Sergio! Whether you're a beginner or have some experience, this class is designed to help you explore your artistic abilities using pens and paint. Register online.

Criminally Curious- A True Crime Podcast Group, Saturday, February 8, 10:00 am. The True Crime podcast craze has come to the library! Whether you are an avid listener or brand new recruit, you'll want to check this out! Our podcast group works as a book club. At home we'll listen to an episode of a popular true crime podcast (to be decided at our first meeting) and then meet at the library to discuss our thoughts and theories. Register online.

The Beatles: 1964, Tuesday, February 11, 6:00 pm. Steve Minichiello, Emmy-winning writer & television producer, visits the library to present The Beatles: 1964. Come reminisce and learn how the Beatles contributed to the culture of the 1960's. Their fashion, attitude, and music sparked a cultural shift across the world. Register online.

Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge Each month, you'll be challenged to read a book based on a chosen theme. Those who participate will be entered to win a free book! For more information and to sign up, please visit massbook.org/readingchallenge.

Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

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

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

For Teens

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

Chess Club, every other Monday, February 24 and March 10, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. All experience levels are welcome for an hour of chess, some instruction provided. For ages 9-17. Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, every other Tuesday, February 25 and March 11, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For ages 10-

17. For beginners up to experienced crocheters, supplies provided or bring your own. Please register.

Nintendo Switch Night for YAs, Tuesday, February 18, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. For middle and high school. Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or some of the library's new Switch games. Free pizza sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Limited to 16 people. Please register.

Friendship Bracelets for Tweens and Teens, Tuesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m. If you're a beginner it's easy to learn how to make them. If you've made them before then add more to your collection! Please register.

Magic the Gathering Club, Monthly, Thursday, March 6, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. For middle and high school. Bring your cards or use our decks. Please register.

"Read Between the Lines" High School Book Group, monthly, Friday, February 28, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Monthly book chat for ages 14-17. For February the group is finishing Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros. Copies of the book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

Open Sew Saturday, February 22, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For tweens, teens, and adults. Extra help for the Sewing Club project or bring your own project, with expert seamstress Janet Foy on hand to provide advice and support. Drop-in.

For Children & Teens

Drop-in Valentine Card Making, through February 14. All ages. Pre-cut designer papers, stickers, ribbons and more! Drop-in.

Pokemon Club, every other Wednesday, February 19 and March 5, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. For ages 8-14. Trading, dueling, and gaming on your own handhelds, phones, or Nintendo Switch. Please have your name on everything you bring to the club. Please register.

Backyard Bird Scavenger Hunt, Thursday, February 13 through Saturday February 15. All ages. Search for birds of New England to win a prize, and learn about the Audubon Society's Great Backyard Bird Count happening this weekend! Drop-in.

Celebrate Ludlow Scavenger Hunt, Thursday, February 20 through Saturday, February 22. All ages. Search the Youth Room for images of highlights of Ludlow and win a prize if you find them all! Drop-in.

Arthur Saloio



Arthur Saloio, 96, of Ludlow passed away peacefully at the home of his daughter Elaine on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025 surrounded by his loving family. Arthur lived in Ludlow the majority of his life and, like many in town, started his "work life" at the Ludlow Mills. He quickly left and found work at Ludlow Provision, working for Chico Santos, learning the meat cutting trade that then carried him through his career with the A&P; until retiring in 1990. Arthur was the devoted husband of 54 years to Undina "Edna" (Monteiro) Saloio until her passing in 2004. He was also predeceased by his two "little angels", Maryellen ('57) and Maria ('58). He leaves his two loving daughters Irene Pereira and her husband Fred and Elaine Saloio Szlosek and her husband Frederick. He was the cherished grandfather to Alissa Pereira, Lauren Alves (Jonathan), Christopher Pereira, and Philip Szlosek (Lauren). He also leaves his three great grandchildren, Caden and Colton Szlosek and Audriana Alves. Arthur was a "natural" athlete. He enjoyed games of all kinds and belonged to the Baystate Table Tennis Club competing well into his 80's. He was also a musician (French Horn) and performed for many local and regional bands. Arthur leaves his brother, Raymond Saloio, and a loving extended family of nieces & nephews. He was predeceased by his siblings Jose, Irene (Methe), Armelin Jr., Ida (Santos), Manuel, Carlos and James. Funeral services for Arthur will be held on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Ludlow Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Cecilia Parish Wilbraham 11 a.m., followed by burial in Island Pond Cemetery, Ludlow. Visiting hours are Friday, Feb. 14 from 4- 6 p.m. Donations may be made in Arthur's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Boys Town - two causes close to his heart. For additional information and online condolences please visit ludlowfuneralhome.com

DEATH NOTICE

Arthur Saloio
Died Feb. 2, 2025
Services Feb. 15, 2025
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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661**.

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584 West St., Ludlow
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S Sunday services
Sacrament Meeting 10- 11 A.M.
Sunday school for adults, Young single adults(18-30) and teens (11-18) - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon
Classes for Young Men(11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
Classes for Young Women (11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon
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41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow
413-583-2630
Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys
Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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

ST. ELIZABETH PARISH

191 Hubbard St., Ludlow
413-583-3467
Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
stelizabethludlow.org
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Wednesday, Feb. 12 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Adoration - 8 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir 5:15 p.m. (C), Scouts 6:30 p.m. (FLBH/JR)

Thursday, Feb. 13 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)
Friday, Feb. 14, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m.(C)
Saturday, Feb. 15, St. Valentine Day Tea - 1:30 p.m. (FLBH), - Confessions - 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. (C), Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C)
Sunday Feb. 16, - Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Take & Eat 8 a.m. (FLBH), Lifeteen 6 p.m. (JR)
Monday February 17, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)
Tuesday, February 18, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Friends of St. Elizabeth 10 a.m. (ZR), - St. Rita's Choir, 2:30 p.m. (C), Pastoral Council 6:30 p.m. (JR), Bereavement Support Group 6:30 p.m. (ZR)

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

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413-583-3339
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Website: www.ludlowfirst.com

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RIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m.

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45 Newbury St., Ludlow, MA 01056
Phone: 413-583-2140
Pastor: Father Andriy Krip
Liturgy schedule:
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Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.



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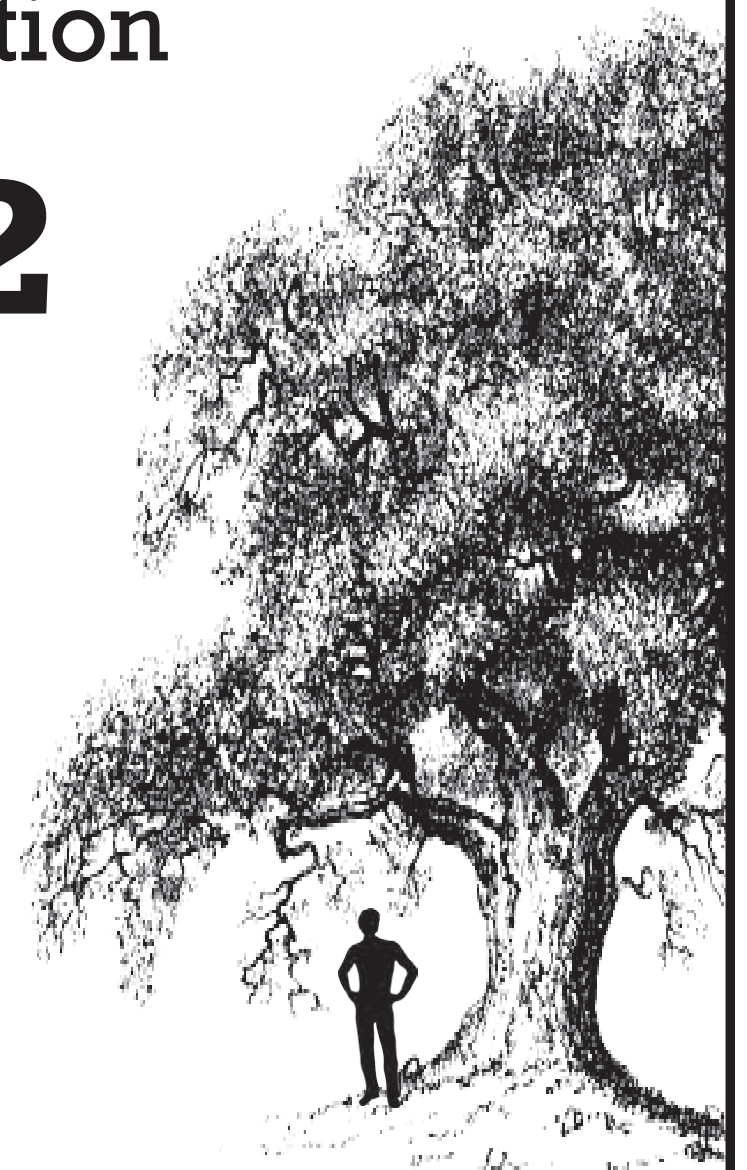
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