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‘Excellence in Teaching’ Award recipients honored

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Editor
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LUDLOW – Last week, the public school district recognized the winners of the Excellence in Teaching Awards.

At the Feb. 11 School Committee meeting, Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano introduced Caitlin Clemons and Kelsey Kilgerman as the winners of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation’s Excellence in Teaching Awards.

“Every year, we celebrate the Excellence in Teaching Awards, sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation,” Tiano said. “They’ve been recognizing teachers of the Pioneer Valley for the last 22 years. As tradition, we ask our Grinspoon winners to come here to the School Committee to be recognized and have their principals share a few wonderful things about them.”

Teachers for the award are nominated by their peers among the staff. The criteria includes having a positive impact on their students’ growth and development, excellence in teaching and working practice, engaging their own professional development and supporting their colleagues in their professional development, and reaching beyond the school walls to work with families and participate in volunteer activities.

“You can go in every single day, and every kid in that room feels most important, most special.”

- Principal Nikki Reed

This year, the district celebrated two worthy candidates, who are invited to a banquet in April at the Log Cabin in Holyoke, where they will receive prizes.

“The only downfall is that they get to have their picture taken with me,” Tiano joked.

This year’s recipients were Kelsey Kilgerman, a third grade teacher from Harris Brook Middle School, and Caitlin Clemons, a Special Education FOCUS teacher at Baird Middle School.

“I’ve worked with Kelsey for many years now, she’s worked at all four elementary schools,” said Principal Nikki Reed. “When I hired her as a third grade teacher at Chapin, at the interview, I couldn’t get past this feeling that I was hiring – and I’ve said this before, so I hate to embarrass you – but I felt like I was hiring Ms. Honey from Matilda.”

Reed described Kilgerman’s MRIS training and her involvement with activities within the building, and said that she has continued that for the years she’s been with the school. Reed said that what makes Kilgerman unique and special is the way that she incorporates accommodations, inclusion, and universal design for learning into her work every day.

“Kelsey’s just doing that every day, that’s just how she teaches,” Reed said. “You can go

Please see **AWARD**, page 6



On Wednesday, members of Ludlow CARES gathered at the Boys & Girls Club to stuff bags for the Valentine’s Day Gift Bags program.

CARES Coalition stuffs Valentine’s Day Gift Bags

Bags get distributed to seniors

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Editor
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LUDLOW – Last Wednesday, volunteers from the CARES Coalition gathered at the Boys & Girls Club and Randall’s Community Center to stuff Valentine’s Day gift bags for its annual outreach program.

Every year, the CARES Coalition stuffs gift bags to be distributed to the town’s seniors for Valentine’s Day. This program helps to combat the loneliness associated with the elderly and disabled living in senior housing, while also fostering togetherness in our community.

“This Valentine’s Day project is designed to lift spirits and send a message to the community as a whole that we think of everyone at CARES, and not just the youth,”



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão

The gift bags that the CARES Coalition put together include cards, letters, cookies, and a copy of The Register.

said Peter Leonczyk.

The bags that were distributed this year include puzzle books, a current issue of The Register, and cookies from The Salty Baker, Kris-

ten St. Germain. Estelle Gomulka is credited as being one of the primary organizers of this program.

Please see **VALENTINE**, page 6

CIPC goes over requests for 2025 budget

By Marcelo Gusmão
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LUDLOW – The Capital Improvement Planning Committee met last week to review and discuss the five-year Capital Plan.

Committee Chair James Gennette started the meeting by asking Town Administrator Marc Strange for numbers as to how much money is going into the town’s stabilization fund.

“The town has a financial policy that requires at least \$300,000 to be put into stabilization every year, which is what we have allocated,” Strange said.

Strange said that, based on the most recent statement, the Stabilization Fund numbers just over \$7.2 million. Gennette and Strange estimated that this would represent 8.5% of the overall budget, which falls within the town’s policy, which requires between 7-9%.

Gennette noted that the town is spending an additional \$134,540 into Other Post-Employment Benefits, landing at approximately \$1.2 million. The committee discussed an item for recycling containers.

“There is a new trash contract signed and going out to the town, it’s already done,” Gennette said. “We needed to get it done because our trash contract is up July 1, and we have to go automated, otherwise we have to pay more money for manual services.”

Gennette said this was reviewed by a committee that included Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Finance Committee Chair and CPIC member Tony Sanches, and the superintendent and Project Manager of the Department of Public Works.

“There’s a big concern over what the cost of the billing going to the community is going to be,” Gennette said.

Though the exact cost has not been determined, Gennette said

Please see **BUDGET**, page 3

Student awarded \$1,000 from Gary Rome Super Student Scholarship

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Editor
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LUDLOW – A local high school student was recently honored with the Gary Rome Super Student Scholarship to recognize his dedication to community involvement and public service.

Gary Rome Auto Group partnered with Western Mass News to honor “Super Students” by nominating students from 6th through 12th grade with a \$1,000 scholarship and a visit from the Surprise Squad. This year, the award went to high school senior Jack Favata, who was nominated by, among others, his history teacher, Kathleen Ziano, and his guidance counselor, Maria Lecarzyck.

“I was completely surprised,” Favata said. “I had a hard time formulating how I felt into words, I was really shell shocked. It didn’t really hit me until I got home.”

Appropriately, for a visit from the Surprise Squad, Favata had no idea he was up for an award until he was already receiving it. The school coordinated a secret assembly to honor Favata in the high



Submitted photo

Jack Favata (center) was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship from Gary Rome Hyundai.

school auditorium.

“I had no prior knowledge as to what was happening,” Favata said. “The school played it off pretty well, they told us it was a senior assembly and I thought it was student

government related. I was not sure what we were going to be doing down there, and they didn’t brief us. I was pretty much lost until they came down and said ‘congratulations, you’ve won.’”

Favata’s mother, Karen, also turned in a nomination for her son, as did his grandmother.

“Jack is an unusual high school Please see **SCHOLARSHIP**, page 6

LUDLOW

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.

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, Portu-

guese-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.



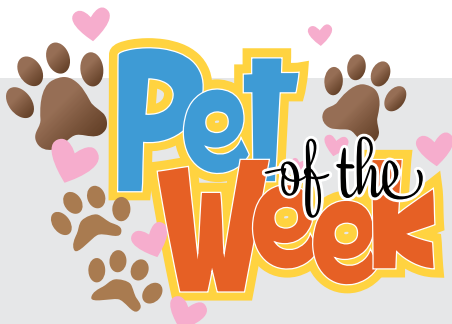
Knights of Columbus Council 3535 Communion Breakfast

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.



Ginger Girl is a 16-year-old house cat. She loves to watch birds from her favorite window and bring Mom and Dad gifts during the night, which are stuffed animals she steals from her human sister. This old gal is nearing the end of her time with us as she is living with breast cancer, but she’s still sweet as ever.



Ginger Girl

Inspiring Stories Share Impact of Care

WMAS Radiothon for Baystate Children’s Hospital

SPRINGFIELD—The public is invited to join in the fun at the 24th annual 94.7 WMAS Radiothon for Baystate Children’s Hospital at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on March 4 and 5 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Broadcasting live from the 94.7 WMAS studios, the Kellogg Krew will connect listeners with stories from patients, team members, and community members that are filled with hope, miracles, and the impact of Baystate Children’s Hospital. Among the many stories shared will be Emilia Cecchetelli’s, the 2025 Children’s Miracle Network Ambassador for Baystate Children’s Hospital. Four-year-old Emilia was born at 26 weeks and spent 143 days in the Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit fighting chronic lung disease and Craniosynostosis, a

condition which causes problems with normal brain and skull growth. Listeners will hear how she’s doing today and how the care at Baystate Children’s Hospital played a critical role in her life.

Attendees of the Radiothon will be able to have their photo taken on the red carpet, make a donation, and get a sneak peek of the Kellogg Krew broadcasting live.

“Each year, I feel so inspired by the stories we are able to share and the families we are able to meet,” said 94.7 WMAS’ Chris Kellogg. “Baystate Children’s Hospital plays such a critical role in our community, and we are happy to support it in any way we can.”

There are many ways to donate. Listeners can visit WMASKids.com, text WMASKIDS to 51555, or call the Lia Auto Group Phone Bank at 413-794-1111 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on March 4 and 5.

“It really is incredible what our community can accomplish when we come together for an important cause,” said Interim Vice President

of Philanthropy, Baystate Health, and Executive Director, Baystate Health Foundation, Kathy Tobin. “As the only accredited, full-service children’s hospital in western Massachusetts, the Radiothon helps provide vital funding for care that spans our region.”

Baystate Children’s Hospital is one of 170 fundraising Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals across the country. Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals are unique in that 100% of all money raised locally goes directly to Baystate Children’s Hospital in Springfield in support of children’s health programs and services.

Major sponsors for the Radiothon include Hyundai Hope on Wheels, Lia Auto Group, Pioneer Valley Credit Union, Eversource, M&T Bank, City Tire, and Peoples-Bank.

To make a donation online today, visit WMASKIDS.com, or for more information, email Event Manager Heather Clark at Heather.Clark2@BaystateHealth.org.

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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 theregister@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. 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.

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

LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER 55 AND OVER CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE: At East Street School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. the cost to take part is \$5 per year. For more information contact Maria Ardolino, activities director at activity@ludlow.ma.us or call 413-583-3564.

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

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

H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP: Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have exper-

ience 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.

BUDGET from page 1

that the number could be as high as \$300, adding, "that scares the hell out of me."

"I think that's an awful lot, for seniors especially, to have to pay for," Gennette said.

Gennette said that the barrels for an automated truck have to be purchased and distributed, which will be handled by the contracted company.

"If we can pay for them out of capital," Gennette said, "we can take that off of the bill, and instead of it being close to \$300, maybe we're closer to \$250."

The committee then turned its attention to department requests from the CIPC, and highlighted an addition from Director of Veteran Services Eric Segundo. Gennette noted that the request was received after the deadline for the year.

"This is for that vehicle we were talking about last time," Gennette said. "This was the concern that we had a volunteer using their personal vehicle and trailer, and, I don't know about you guys, but I'm not a big fan of that, for liability reasons."

Gennette said that the pickup truck is marked for \$38,000, but that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Massachusetts will cover \$15,000. In a conversation with Segundo, Gennette asked about the trailer.

"He said the trailer would cost about \$5,000, but he's going to try to get a grant for it, and if he can't get a grant, he'll do it through fundraising efforts, so he's not going to request it," Gennette said.

"Every year we end up getting a couple of these department requests that really do as much as they can to facilitate their own budgets," Gennette said. "We've seen it with the Senior Center and we're starting to see it with the Veterans' Center."

Gennette asked Strange for a recommendation as to

whether the committee should hold the request because of the late turn-in. Strange noted that the request was one of the lower-value items that was requested, and highlighted the town's preference to avoid the liability of volunteer-owned vehicles.

"Normally, because of the delay, I would say that it's not eligible," Strange said, "but it is a liability for volunteers to be providing their vehicles, and the veterans really should have their own vehicle over there."

Gennette said that, as a recommendation committee, the decision will come down to the Board of Selectmen to approve the request.

"If, for some reason, that doesn't fall in line with our by-laws, please just set it up so the Board of Selectmen can approve it," Gennette said.

The committee agreed to include the request on its list of things to approve recommendations, but will not be able to move forward until the town's Free Cash fund has been certified. The CIPC will continue to meet to finalize its recommendations for the budget.

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- Power of Attorney
- Health Care Proxy
- Life Estates
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OPINION

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Reader asks about claiming Social Security when I have a Health Savings Account

Dear Rusty:

I have reached my full retirement age (66 plus 8 months) and plan to apply for Social Security this month, but I've seen articles, which say that when I apply, I must also take Medicare Part A.

This, even though I am continuing to work and am covered by my employer's health insurance (a high deductible plan). I contribute bi-weekly into an Health Savings Account. I've read that Medicare back dates Part A coverage by six months, which suggests I would have had to stop contributing to my HSA six months ago.

If this is true, will I need to pay penalties and such to the IRS? I'm not able to find anything else about this topic and I'm wondering what you might have to say. I have my wife and two children on my employer's HDHP. We contribute \$6,000 annually to our HSA and my employer contributes \$1,250 on Jan. 1 each year. We can live without the HSA, but the taxes and IRS penalties concern me.

Signed: Wanting to Claim SS (but concerned)

Dear Wanting to Claim:

I'm afraid that what you've read is correct – it is mandatory for you to take Medicare Part A (inpatient hospitalization coverage) when receiving Social Security benefits after age 65. Medicare Part A is free to you and even though you are still covered under your employer's creditable high deductible healthcare plan and can delay taking Medicare Part B, you must take Medicare Part A to collect Social Security after 65. Medicare and your employer's plan will coordinate healthcare benefit payments.

That does, however, also mean your Health Savings Account will be affected because, as you have found, Medicare will backdate your Part A coverage by six months. And because Part A is not a high deductible plan (a requirement for HSA), any contributions you make after the effective date of Part A will be subject to an IRS penalty, and your HSA contributions won't be considered tax-exempt. This will mean the IRS will likely assess a 6% excise tax on any contributions made after your Part A effective date and you'll need to pay income tax on those contributions.

What you may wish to consider is stopping your HSA contributions now and waiting an additional six months or so to claim your Social Security benefits (to get beyond the HSA penalty phase). This would have the advantage of avoiding the IRS penalty on your HSA contributions and would also increase your Social Security benefit due to Delayed Retirement Credits. You earn DRCs at the rate of .677% for each month beyond your FRA that you wait to claim, which means an SS benefit about 4% higher if you wait six months longer to claim SS.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Christopher Manfredi in the upcoming election for the Ludlow School Committee. As a former student of Mr. Manfredi in fifth grade, I have firsthand experience with their dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to education.

Even back then, Mr. Manfredi created a classroom environment where every student felt valued and encouraged to succeed. Their ability to listen, inspire, and advocate for students made a lasting impact on my education and personal growth. I have no doubt that they will bring that same energy and leadership to the school committee.

Our schools need strong voices who truly understand the needs of students, teachers, and families. Christopher Manfredi has the experience and heart to make thoughtful decisions that put students first. I urge my fellow community members to support them in this election, our schools will be better for it.

Sincerely,

Samantha Merceri
Ludlow



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

Leave it to fate

I never thought I would say this, but I am out of ideas for this week's column.

Every topic I come up with has been covered at one time or another. So, as the snow falls every so furiously outside, I am going to resort to the "stick your finger in the gardening encyclopedia, and see where it lands" trick.

I'll leave the topics of the week to fate.

Here goes: For the first topic, my finger landed on a funny picture of geranium plants with their rootballs wrapped in newspaper hanging from the beams in someone's basement. I have written before about my success in bringing my geranium plants inside for the winter and placing them in a south facing window.

Just yesterday I was looking at the plants more closely, knowing that soon enough, I will be snipping the tips to take some cuttings. But I digress, the picture I saw is just another way to overwinter your geranium plants, especially if you don't have a sunny window or a lot of indoor gardening space.

Many old timers used to talk of this method a lot and had great success with it. You could either try and pot the plants up ahead of time or go right from the basement to the outdoors after the threat of frost has passed and after a thorough hardening off process, of course.

Second topic: My finger landed on the herb Lovage (*Levisticum officinale*). I have started lovage from seed nearly every year for the last 30 years.

This celery substitute is always on the list of transplants needed for the herb garden at Old Sturbridge Village. Lovage seed is not viable for long, so new seed is needed each year, or germination will be sparse.

The plant is considered a perennial, meaning it will return year after year, but in my experience, the best foliage production will be in the first year. The flowers are "umbrella" like dill and fennel but flowers only take away from foliage production, so they

are best snipped off.

The hollow stems are used in place of celery in soups and stews. My mom always enjoyed drying the leaves for use during the winter months.

Topic three: Hostas! I was never a big fan of Hostas until I had a yard that had substantial amounts of shade. These versatile plants are a perfect companion for many shade loving perennials, especially if they are planted in fertile soil with ample moisture.

Like other perennials, Hostas need a period of dormancy to succeed, so they will do well in our climate, and down to Zone 8 or so. Most varieties are grown for their foliage only; I find it funny that some gardeners snip off the flowers as they begin to form, saying that it actually takes away from the look of the plant.

There are so many types to choose from and in colors ranging from grass-green to yellow and even blue-gray! Some are variegated or splashed with color.

Leaf sizes range from minuscule to huge! One pest that loves Hosta leaves is the slug. To lessen their interest in the plant, be sure to remove decomposing foliage.

Use any number of traps, homemade or otherwise to keep your plants damage free.

And the last fate-filled topic is: Chile peppers! There are all kinds of hot peppers out there for the gardener to experiment with. You might think that growing instructions may differ for fire-hot peppers, but they are grown in the same manner as regular bell peppers.

Start the seeds inside, or purchase transplants. Warm the soil ahead of installing the plants, and don't overdue it fertility-wise. Provide supplemental water if the summer gets droughty.

Harvest when the peppers turn color, and do so wearing gloves being ever mindful not to touch your eyes. I had always heard that a milk bath should help ease the sting of an accidental burn; others say ingesting starchy food does the trick.

Well, I hope this unconventional column was an enjoyable read. It's never too late to pull out a reference book or two for some interesting factoids.

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

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.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

This Week in History Feb. 19

REGION – A look back through history at the momentous anniversaries this week.

On Feb. 19, in 1945, in World War II, U.S. Marines invaded Iwo Jima to wrest control of the strategically important island from the Japanese.

On Feb. 20, in 1962, John H. Glenn, Jr., became the first American to orbit Earth, doing so three times.

On Feb. 21, in 1965, Malcolm X, who articulated concepts of racial pride and black nationalism in the United States, was assassinated.

On Feb. 22, in 1997, a team of British scientists working under the direction of Ian Wilmut at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh announced the birth of Dolly the sheep, the first clone of an adult mammal.

On Feb. 23, in 1905, the first Rotary Club was founded by Chicago attorney Paul P. Harris



During World War II, soldiers raised the American flag in Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945.

On Feb. 24, in 1991, U.S. ground operations began in the Persian Gulf War, more than a month after an air war was launched against Iraq to free Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Finally, on Feb. 25, in 1986, Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos, under pressure from the United States, fled his country for Hawaii after a fraudulent electoral victory over Corazon Aquino, who replaced him as president.

SEND US YOUR EVENT PHOTOS



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.



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

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. 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

Friday, Feb. 21

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

Monday, Feb. 24

- 9 a.m. Knitting
- 9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 10 a.m. Computer Help*
- 10:30 a.m. Music Class
- 10:30 a.m. Rep. Saunders Office Hour
- 1 p.m. Scrabble
- 1 p.m. Limitless Legends by Li*
- 1:15 pm. Pitch
- 1:30 p.m. Watercolor Pencil Class
- 2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, Feb. 25

- 9 a.m. Quilting
- 9 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Cribbage
- 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
- 1 p.m. Western Dance Class
- 1:30 p.m. Bingo
- 4:30 p.m. Power Pump Exercise Class
- 4:30 p.m. "Souper" Supper Tuesday

•4:45 p.m. Movie: Cabaret (1972)

Wednesday, Feb. 26

- 9 a.m. Ceramics
- 9 a.m. Zumba Gold
- 9 a.m. Facials by Appointment*
- 10 a.m. Opera Appreciation
- 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. Movie: Cabaret (1972)
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. TED Talk Hour

Thursday, Feb. 27

- 8:45 a.m. Foot Care by Appointment*
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10 a.m. Sunshine Painting Class*
- 10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
- 1 p.m. Mahjong
- 2 p.m. Book Club: Age of Repose by Wallace Stegner
- 2 p.m. Writer's Block*
- 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. 20: Birthday Lunch, Ranch Chicken/Au Gratin Pot/Broccoli
Friday, Feb. 21: Loaded Baked Potato/ Must-Go Soup
Monday, Feb. 24: Shepherd's Pie/Biscuit

Tuesday, Feb. 25: Chicken Patty Sandwich/Let & Tom/Fries/Pickle
Wednesday, Feb. 26: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce/Garlic Bread
Thursday, Feb. 27: Southwest Chicken Salad

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.

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

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

Open Sew Saturday, Saturday, February 22, 10:00 am-Noon. Drop into the library's program room for sewing space and support! The library will have sewing machines (or bring your own), tables for laying out projects, and seasoned seamstress Janet on hand to provide advice and support. Not recommended for beginners. Open to adults, tweens, & teens.

Ukulele Night, Thursday, March 6, 6:00 pm. Musician Julie is back with another in-demand Ukulele class! Have you been wanting to try an instrument that's fun and easy to play? Come catch some island vibes during this frigid cold and learn the fundamentals of ukulele playing! Register.

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 mass-book.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, March 10, March 24, 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, March 11, March 25, 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, March 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.

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 ex-

pand 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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2025

KINDERGARTEN READINESS NIGHT

Welcome Students & Caregivers to East Street School!

Wednesday, March 5th • 508 East Street

5-6pm: Last names A-M
6-7pm: Last names N-Z

*Families looking to experience their 1st school bus ride together, please park @ Ludlow High School and ride to East St School

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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 lia-

bility insurance. ASSE students are carefully selected based upon academics and personality, and host families choose their student from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries and personal interests.

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

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



Great futures start at the Boys & Girls Club, where the CARES Coalition stuffed a number of Valentine's Day gift bags.

Valentine's Day Gift Bags

VALENTINE from page 1

"The best part of this entire bag," said Gomulka, "are the Valentine's Day cards by the children."

Because of the winter weather over the holiday, distributing the bags was delayed until this Wednesday.

Ludlow CARES is an all-volunteer foundation dedicated to improving mental health and providing educational support to members of the community of all ages. Volunteers come from all sorts of different local organizations, including members from the library, the police and fire departments, school administration, students from the middle and high schools, and the local churches.

If you'd like to learn more about the CARES Coalition, you can visit their website at LudlowCaresCoalition.org.



Volunteers from the CARES Coalition stuffed bags with goodies to be distributed to the town's seniors.

Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Joel Freitas volunteered to help stuff Valentine's Day Gift Bags with the CARES Coalition.



Submitted photo

Caitlin Clemons (center) was recognized with the Harold Grinspoon Award, pictured with Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano (left) and Principal Jason Taylor.

AWARD from page 1

in every single day, and every kid in that room feels most important, most special."

Reed said that she expects Kilgerman's students will remember her fondly for years to come.

After a round of applause for Kilgerman, Jason Matthew Taylor, the Principal at Baird, introduced Clemons.

"She is our Special Education Teacher, she has a group of students who are very involved in her classroom," Principal Taylor said.

Taylor praised Clemons for her professionalism, her collaboration with her colleagues, and her rapport with students' families, saying that she knows them on a first-name basis.

"I feel very fortunate to have her in my building, to be quite honest with you," Taylor said. "I know I can always depend on her, and any time I ask her to do something, it's with fidelity. She's always one to volunteer, and the kids know her, the kids love her, and she just has that special attention to her kids and she always wants to make sure that they feel welcomed at the school."

Taylor said that he feels very fortunate to work with her, and said that the kids and families that Clemons works with are very fortunate to have her as a teacher.

The members of the School Committee congratulated the teachers and thanked them for the positive impacts they make with the students.

SCHOLARSHIP from page 1

student, in that he is very involved in giving back to his community. He's involved in a lot of groups that support different community efforts to better their environment and community and people who are struggling," Karen said. "He does it because he believes that there is a better world that is possible to live in, if you are willing to do something about it."

In his dedication to better his community, Favata has gotten involved with many local and statewide organizations. A formative experience for him began when he became an ambassador for Project 351, an organization that unites stu-

dents from all 351 towns and cities in the commonwealth.

"Pretty much since I was chosen as a Project 351 Ambassador, I have gone on a journey about human purpose and what we're all here for," Favata said. "I figured out that my purpose is to serve with others. A big thing I've realized is that service to understand challenges and execute lasting change is done with others, rather than doing it for others."

After his year as a Project 351 Ambassador, Favata has stayed involved with the project. Favata is also a member of the Hampden County District Attorney Youth Advisory Board, and has joined the Massachusetts Attorney General Youth Council, which he described

as "an eye-opening experience."

"As I've thought about what I want to do as a career, I've gone into the policy side of things into the inequities and injustices on the politics side," Favata said. "It's been an eye-opening experience to see what's going on in the state from a policy standpoint. I've definitely been community-focused, and I mesh that with my love for political science."

Now a Senior Legacy Fellow with Project 351, Favata continues to participate in the organization's community involvement public service events, including donation drives for food, toys, and clothing, Sept. 11 services, and the Martin Luther King Weekend kick-off. He also created a non-profit to raise

money for charities every month.

"When he was a sophomore in high school, he and another Ludlow High student started a non-profit company called Totes Promotes," Karen said. "That's a non-profit company that they design different tote bag every month around a different charity. They sell the tote bags and any money made goes directly to the charity that the tote bag was designed around."

Karen Favata said that she raised Jack and his brother Matthew in Ludlow, and is surprised that Jack finds time amongst all his extracurricular activities to walk his dog, Bentley.

"He was a pleasure to raise," Karen said. "I was lucky; especially with COVID, you hear so many

stories about parents that had to push their kids to get online and do homework and stay involved in school. I never had to do that; they pushed themselves and each other, I was blessed."

Favata was eager to add that he is hardly the only student at the high school deserving of this award, and he was humbled to be chosen amongst so many equally qualified peers. He thanked his parents, his family and friends, his grandma, all the teachers that nominated him, and the school administration, which he described as "nothing but supportive."

"Pretty much all the people surrounding me have been my cheerleaders," Favata said.

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SPORTS

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Lions prep for sectional championship

LUDLOW – Weather postponed their meet by about a day, but the Ludlow High School wrestling team held its final dual meet of the season, a 59-18 win over Chicopee High School. The meet concluded the league season for both teams. Ludlow competed in the sectional championship at Wayland High School last weekend and is looking forward to the upcoming state tournaments



Kyle Rodriguez tries to avoid the takedown.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ahilyas Sanchez goes for the takedown.



Lucas Alvan gets his match going at 175.



Ryan Gomes takes advantage at 132.



Elle Libizewski looks to get a match started at 126.



Tristin Stephens goes for a takedown.



Samantha Bertini holds the leverage at 113.

HoopHall announces award winners

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the recipients of the 2025 Curt Gowdy Media Award and John Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award at NBA All-Star Weekend.

Legendary Detroit Pistons play-by-play announcer George Blaha, renowned CBS analyst Clark Kellogg, veteran women's basketball writer Michelle Smith, and influential NBA journalist Adrian Wojnarowski are the 2025 Curt Gowdy Media Award recipients. Boston Celtics long-time Vice President of Media and Alumni Relations Jeff Twiss is the recipient of the 2025 John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Curt Gowdy Media Award is named in honor of the late Curt Gowdy, a legendary sports broadcaster and former Hall of Fame Board member and President. This prestigious award is presented to members of the print, electronic, and transformative media whose efforts have made a significant con-

tribution to the game of basketball.

The Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award was instituted by the Basketball Hall of Fame's Board of Trustees in 1973 and is the most prestigious award presented by the Hall of Fame outside of Enshrinement. Named in honor of Hall of Famer John W. Bunn (Class of 1964), the first chairman of the Basketball Hall of Fame Committee who served from 1949-64, the award honors coaches, players, and contributors whose outstanding accomplishments have impacted the high school, college, professional, and/or the international game.

Blaha, Kellogg, Smith, Wojnarowski, and Twiss will be recognized for their contributions to basketball during the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend on September 5-6. For further details, including ticket information, visit hoophall.com/events/enshrinement-2025.



Kayliana Monet makes her way down the court.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ava Friese goes for the jump shot.



Aneysa Donais gets around an opponent and drives to the hoop.

Ludlow girls fall to Lee

LUDLOW – Last Monday night, the start of a busy week for Ludlow High School girls basketball team was a defeat against visiting Lee High School. The Wildcats had the offense early and scored a 64-27 win over the host Lions, which was Ludlow's last home game of the regular season. The Lions complete their season in non-playoff action this week.



Abigail Rivera passes out of the paint.



Ryleigh Remillard sends a long pass away.

Lions scored huge win to make tournament

WORCESTER – Last Saturday evening, Ludlow got a hat trick from Nick Deroin and rode that to a 5-1 win over Saint Paul's of Worcester. The win brought the Lions over .500 at 8-7-4 and guaranteed the Lions a spot in the state tournament. Ludlow is in its first

season as a co-op program with Belchertown and the team is looking forward to an appearance in the state tournament next week. Ludlow also got goals in the Saint Paul win from William Mitus and Tannar Severyn. Donald Rogers made 24 saves.

SPORTS

Bonsignore scores third-place finish in opener

Four-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Justin Bonsignore opened his 2025 NASCAR season with a third-place finish in the Whelen Modified Tour opener at New Smyrna Speedway last Saturday night. Now, his eyes will turn to the World Center of Racing.

Bonsignore will make his second career NASCAR Xfinity Series start for Joe Gibbs Racing in Saturday's United Rentals 300 at Daytona International Speedway.

The New York native made his Xfinity Series debut in 2024 with Joe Gibbs Racing at New Hampshire Motor Speedway and ran inside the top-five for a long portion of the race. He also competed in the ARCA Menards Series event at Daytona in 2024, his only Super-speedway experience leading into this weekend.

"Running the ARCA race at Daytona certainly helps a bit with the learning curve of a superspeedway and the drafting," Bonsignore said. "The Joe Gibbs Racing team and Toyota have proven over the years they have incredibly fast cars. I'm excited to get out there in practice and learn as much as possible in our No. 19 M3 Technology, USNE Power, Toyota GR Supra. I know our goal will be to get to the end of the race with a shot... that's about all you can ask for at a place like Daytona."

T-Birds suffer one-goal loss to Rockford

ROCKFORD, Ill. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (23-19-2-3) suffered a second straight gut-wrenching loss in the closing moments, falling 4-3 to the Rockford IceHogs (19-22-5-1) on Saturday night inside the BMO Center.

Things got off to a rocky start for the T-Birds, who fell behind 1-0 just 64 seconds into the game after a misplayed puck wound up on the tape of Joey Anderson inside the right-wing circle. Anderson made no mistake in snapping it through Colten Ellis on the stick side, giving Rockford the 1-0 advantage.

Ellis solidified things over the next 15 minutes, turning away the next nine IceHogs attempts while the T-Birds struggled to find offense. Finally, a pair of Rockford penalties afforded Springfield a 4-on-3 power play, and Matt Luff unleashed a perfect wrist shot that squeaked past Ben Gaudreau's blocker to tie the game, 1-1, at

18:17. Springfield's momentum would not last long, though, and just 32 seconds later, Brett Seney picked off a loose puck in the high slot and quickly wristed a try under the crossbar to restore the IceHogs lead, 2-1, heading into the intermission.

Anderson's hot hand carried over into the early stages of the second, as he found a gap through the five-hole of Ellis to make it a 3-1 score at 5:19 of the middle stanza.

Through the opening 30 minutes of play, the T-Birds had managed just six shots on goal. However, the visitors clawed their way back, beginning with Illinois native Hugh McGing tucking home a rebound outside the blue paint at 12:55 to cut the Rockford lead to 3-2.

Dylan Peterson thought he had brought the T-Birds back even when he shuffled a loose puck across the goal line just over

a minute later, but the call was changed to no-goal after the referees congregated. Nevertheless, Springfield pressed on, and on the next shift, Matthew Peca punched home a rebound off an Alek Kaskimaki shot, and the game was deadlocked at the 14:56 mark of the second.

Ellis and Gaudreau did their part to lock things down from that point, as the two netminders kept the score locked in the 3-3 stalemate into the game's final minutes. Unfortunately for Springfield, they succumbed to a late game-winner for a second straight game when Andreas Athanasiou broke up the ice in a 2-on-1 with Anderson and tucked a backhand around Ellis to win it for Rockford with just 1:59 left in the third. Ellis suffered only his second loss in his last 11 starts, and the Springfield goalie also saw his five-game win streak get snapped in the process.

Railers take care of Americans

ALLEN, TX — The Worcester Railers HC (23-20-2-4 52pts) beat the Allen Americans (13-27-7-2, 35pts), on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 3-1 in front of a crowd of 3,144 at the Credit Union of Texas Event Center. The Railers are back on the ice next at the North Charleston Coliseum taking on the South Carolina Stingrays on Wednesday, February 16th at 10:30 a.m. EST.

Worcester got the scoring started as they tacked on the first three goals of the game in the first period. The first came from Jordan Kaplan (1-0-1), followed by Tyler Kobryn (1-0-1) and it was Lincoln Hatten (1-0-1) who finished off the first period trifecta. Brayden Watts

(1-0-1) scored the first goal for Allen on the power play 11:35 into the second period making it 3-1. Neither team would net one in the third period leading us to the 3-1 Worcester win.

For the second time in the weekend series the Railers jumped out to a 3-0 first period lead. Jordan Kaplan (16th) started the scoring party 11:21 into the first period. Tyler Kobryn (4th) followed up Kaplan 15:06 into the first, and it was Lincoln Hatten (5th) who scored the third Worcester goal in the period giving them a commanding 3-0 lead heading into the second. Shots favored Worcester 16-4 in the first period.

Allen had three power play op-

portunities in the second period, it was not until the third power play that they grabbed their first goal of the night. It was Brayden Watts (17th) who cut the Railers lead to two. Watts had the only goal of the period, giving Worcester a 3-1 lead heading into the third period. Shots favored Allen 17-10 in the second period.

Despite a 5-on-3 power play chance for Worcester as well as an Allen power play chance neither team was able to cash in on their respective opportunities. The scoreless period led to a 3-1 final, with Worcester walking away with the series sweep over the Allen Americans. Allen outshot Worcester 16-8 in the third, and 37-34 in the game.

COLLEGE NEWS

Gaffron named to the Univ. of Hartford's Dean's List and President's List

WEST HARTFORD, CT—The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that **Callie Gaffron** of Ludlow has been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the spring 2024 semester. The entire UHart community is proud to celebrate Callie's hard work and academic success.

Ludlow resident named to Clark University's fall Dean's List

WORCESTER, MA — **Erin M. Lucas**, of Ludlow, Mass., was named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Fall 2024 semester.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

Dumas makes Goodwin Dean's List for Fall 2024

EAST HARTFORD, CT — **Meghan Dumas** has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for fall 2024.

Meghan, a student from Indian Orchard, is one of 503 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance.

Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Goodwin University congratulates Meghan on making the Dean's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

UAlbany fall 2024 dean's list

ALBANY, NY— The University at Albany has recognized Gabrielle Mariani of Ludlow, majoring in Criminal Justice for selection to the fall 2024 dean's list.

Zonta to celebrate women

LUDLOW— Each year in March, the global community recognizes women for their achievements regardless of national, ethnic, linguistic, economic or political divisions. The Zonta International community also celebrates Zonta Rose Day, a time to reflect and give tribute to the women who have empowered us.

In this spirit, the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley proudly announces its Women Making a Difference Award dinner on March 10, at the Ludlow Country Club. As the theme of this year's International Women's celebration is accelerate action, the club has chosen a keynote speaker who heads an organization fueling progress toward gender equity by funding the most promising solutions, collaborating with results-oriented partners, and by elevating the collective power of local women to take charge, and to lead with purpose; and four women leaders in the community deserving of recognition for exemplifying the ideals of Zonta and inspiring inclusion in their day-to-day work and volunteer efforts.

The public is invited to join us in celebrating women on March 10. RSVP by March 4, 2025 at info@ZontaQV.org. 5:30 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner followed by the program. Pay at the door for the buffet (\$30 for table of 8; \$35 individual) or pay online. Details at www.zontaqv.org/women.

IN THE CLASSROOM

St. John the Baptist School

LUDLOW— St. John the Baptist School names the following students to the Second Quarter Honors list.

First Honor:

Grade 5: Bailey Blake, Gianluca Caruso, Maya Checiek, Catherine Cochran, Nora Coelho, Karina Gibadlo, Jonathan Lopez, Avery McCray, Brenna O'Sullivan, Ayla Parrelli, Hunter Pease

Grade 6: Catherine Chapline, Sophia Chaves, Stella Coddling, Andreana Dzierwinski, Owen Ferreira, Lana Goncalves, Ryan Messina, Mila Outhuse, Logan Phaneuf, Fiona Placzek, Nevaeh Rose, John (Jack) Walsh IV

Grade 8: Madison Charette, Enzo DiCesare, Landon Florindo, Lilly Kudla, Fiona Leandro, Shawn Tierney, Maeve Warena

Second Honor:

Grade 5: Jocelyn Borecki, Milana Carvalho, Christopher Chapline, Cruz Dias, Julia Guberow,



Liam Leandro, Leah Oyler, Jordan Washington

Grade 6: Eleanor Alves, Sophia Asimakopoulos, Julia Flebotte, Liam Goncalves, Corrina Martowski, Addison Meffen, Mariana Najera, Grace Niedziela, Violet Rosati, Michael Sitnikov, Spencer Scowyra

Grade 7: Delaney Florindo, Nicholas Rosa

Grade 8: Dylan Chapdelaine, Nadia Rose Conrad, Lucas Goncalves, Maya Guberow, Michael Peritore

Effort Honor:

Grade 5: Bailey Blake, Jocelyn Borecki, Gianluca Caruso, Milana Carvalho, Christopher Chapline, Maya Checiek, Catherine Cochran, Nora Coelho, Karina Gibadlo, Julia Guberow, Callie Larouco, Jonathan Lopez, Avery

McCray, Brenna O'Sullivan, Leah Oyler, Ayla Parrelli, Hunter Pease

Grade 6: Eleanor Alves, Sophia Asimakopoulos, Catherine Chapline, Sophia Chaves, Stella Coddling, Andreana Dzierwinski, Owen Ferreira, Julia Flebotte, Lana Goncalves, Liam Goncalves, Corrina Martowski, Addison Meffen, Ryan Messina, Mariana Najera, Grace Niedziela, Mila Outhuse, Logan Phaneuf, Fiona Placzek, Nevaeh Rose, Michael Sitnikov, Spencer Scowyra, John (Jack) Walsh IV

Grade 7: Delaney Florindo, Nicholas Rosa

Grade 8: Madison Charette, Nadia Rose Conrad, Enzo DiCesare, Landon Florindo, Lucas Goncalves, Maya Guberow, Lilly Kudla, Fiona Leandro, Owen Messina, Michael Peritore, Shawn Tierney, Maeve Warena

Lions scholarship applications available

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

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

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

Wilbraham DPW seeks plow contractors

WILBRAHAM — The Department of Public Works is seeking plowing contractors to assist with town wide plowing.

If you are interested in plowing for the Town of Wilbraham, Massachusetts, USA please contact Wilbraham DPW 413-596-2800 x208 for more information.



Team Mass Boys & Girls AAU Basketball Tryouts

Cost: \$30 Covers both tryouts (players get t-shirt)
AAU card \$25 (purchase on our website, we'll pull them)

Tryout # 1: February 22, 2025

Location: Tantasqua Jr High School (320 Brookfield Road, Fiskdale, MA)

- Boys Grades 4th-6th 8:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.
- Boys Grades 7th & 8th 9:45 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.
- Boys Grades 9th-12th 11 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
- Girls Grades 4th-6th 12:15 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.
- Girls Grades 7th-8th 1:30 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Girls Grades 9th-12th 2:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Tryout # 2: March 1, 2025

Location: Oxford High School (100 Carbundle Drive, Oxford, MA)

- Boys Grades & Girls Grades 4th-6th (9 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.)
- Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th (10:30 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.)
- Boys and Girls Grades 9th-12th (12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.)

Pre Register/pay on website: teammassbasketball.com

Questions Email: teammassbasketball@gmail.com or call 413-539-1548

AAU affiliated club for over 25 years!



PUBLIC 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 Shardoal 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 Probate
and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758**

Docket No. HD25P0257EA

**Estate of:
Mary Carolyn Cleary
Date of Death: 12/26/2024
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Cynthia White of Belchertown MA and Ann Marie Opalenik of Belchertown, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Cynthia White of Belchertown, MA and Ann Marie Opalenik of Belchertown, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/07/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

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

Date: February 07, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate

02/19/2025

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
Probate and Family Court
Department
HAMPDEN, Division
Docket No. HD23P0206PM**

To all persons interested in the estate of Daniel Bamford of Ludlow, in said County, a person under Conservatorship, single.

A petition has been presented to said Court for license to sell at private sale - certain real estate of said Daniel Bamford, for his maintenance.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at 50 State Street, Springfield, MA, before 10:00 a.m. on the 14th day of March 2025, the return day of this petition.

Witness, **BARBARA M. HYLAND**, Esquire, First Justice of said Court this tenth day of February 2025.

Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register

02/19/2025

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

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Theresa 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 foreclosure, 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 Street; 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 running 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 oc-

cur 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.

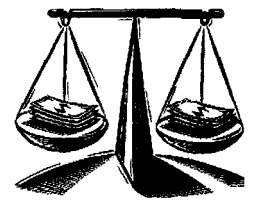
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of the sale.

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



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Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357
or email adventuretours@att.net
or go to www.adventuretoursforwarren.com

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CLUES ACROSS

- Tropical Asian plant
- Yankees' slugger
- Helps to preserve food
- Plant disease
- One who predicts
- Equally
- Burundian franc
- Pouch
- Arizona city
- Surround
- Hard, heavy timber
- Witnessed
- They ___
- French river
- A way to drink
- Small constellation
- Peruse a written work
- Type of hound
- Plant of the goosefoot family

CLUES DOWN

- Body art
- Boxing's GOAT
- Film for posterity (abbr.)
- Prayer
- Calculating machine
- Keyboard key
- Outburst
- Man-eating giants
- New Hampshire
- Type of sword
- Counting
- Pants style
- Political action committee
- U.S. government legislative branch
- Civil Rights Act component
- Contractors take one
- Spanish soldier
- A person's brother or sister

27. Expressed pleasure
29. Song of praise
32. Shock treatment
34. Patti Hearst's captors
35. Counteract
36. Goes over again
39. Popular Dodge truck
40. Male adult
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Rope used to lasso
46. Become less intense
47. Subway rodent
49. Lead alloy
51. Japanese honorific title
54. Advise someone
59. Famous NYC museum
60. Ocean
61. Cathode-ray tube
62. Cologne
64. It starts with these two

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Public Notice CHANGES

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 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.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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MISCELLANEOUS

TWO VINTAGE ARCTIC CATS. 73 Panther, 75 Puma. Both have 440 engines. Need a little TLC. \$500 each. **413-768-7226**.



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Worthington Police Department

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The Worthington Police Department is seeking qualified candidates for **Full-time Police Officer**. Applicants must be a minimum of 21 years of age or older, a U.S. Citizen and possess a valid driver's license. They should also have a high school diploma/GED, license to carry and be certified by Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee and be POST certified.

This is a benefited position with a salary range of: \$52,000.00 - \$75,733.00. The successful candidate shall be highly motivated, self-disciplined, possess a community policing philosophy and live in or near Worthington. This position has the potential to be elevated to Police Chief.

Send letter of interest, resume and three references with relevant contact information to:
Worthington Police Department P.O. Box 247 Worthington, MA 01098
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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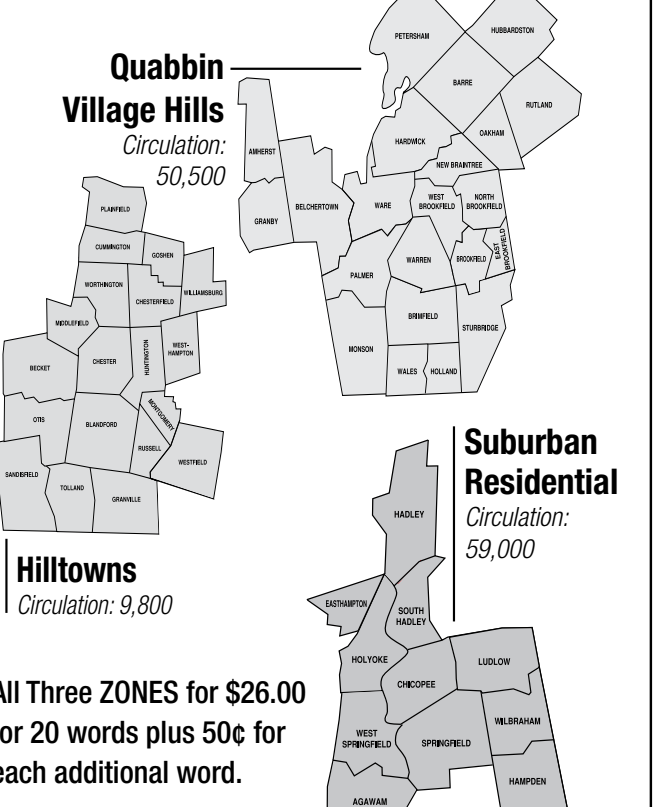
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OBITUARIES

Giant robot animals at the Springfield Museums

SPRINGFIELD— The Springfield Museums is excited to announce the upcoming arrival of The Robot Zoo at the Springfield Science Museum. On view through May 4, this special exhibition features three enormous robot animals that illustrate fascinating real-life animal characteristics, revealing the magic of nature as a master engineer.

“Natural science and technology are the perfect combination to bring in new kinds of learning and delight visitors of all ages,” says Science Museum Director Jenny Powers. “The Robot Zoo will be as fun and popular as it is educational.”

The larger-than-life-size animated robots include a chameleon, a platypus, and a house fly with a 3-foot wingspread. Machinery in the robots simulates the body parts of their real-life counterparts. In these robot animals, muscles become pistons, intestines become filtering pipes and brains become computers. By comparing anatomy, environments, and size of the actual creatures to their mechanical counterparts, The Robot Zoo provides fantastic new insights into how animals work.

Hands-on sensory activities include “Swat the Fly,” a test of visitor reaction time (one-twelfth as fast as a house fly’s), and “Sticky Feet,” where visitors using special hand pads can try to stick like flies to a sloped surface. Triggering the “Tongue Gun” demonstrates how a real chameleon shoots out its long, sticky-tipped tongue to reel in a meal.

At the exhibit opening celebration on Saturday, Jan. 18, visitors can practice beginner coding skills, learn about animal adaptations with museum educators, create animal masks, and see demonstrations by a FIRST Lego League team. Opening day activities are presented free with museum admission.

“We are excited to welcome families and school groups to The Robot Zoo,” says Director of Educator Larissa Murray. “The comparisons made between biology and engineering provide many engaging learning opportunities.”

The exhibit is based on the book “The Robot Zoo” which was conceived, edited, and designed by Marshall Editions of London, England; and toured by Evergreen Exhibitions. MassMutual is the season supporter of the Springfield Museums.

Visit us at
www.turley.com

Eric Karl Giebner 1971-2025



Eric Karl Giebner, formerly of Ludlow and a resident of Winter Springs, FL, passed away peacefully on Feb. 12, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Springfield on March 6, 1971, Eric faced the challenge of a congenital heart defect that left him with only three chambers in his heart. At the tender age of five, he bravely underwent experimental open-heart surgery, a pioneering procedure for children at that time.

Eric was a proud graduate of Ludlow High School, class of 1989, and cherished his classmates and colleagues at UMass, where he served with dedication as an administrative medical assistant for many years.

He is survived by his father, Norman Giebner of Winter Springs, FL; his brothers, Norman T. Giebner of Agawam, and Mark Giebner and his wife Stephanie of Casselberry, FL; as well as his beloved nieces and nephews: Jordan Inglesby and her husband Patrick, Hallie Giebner, Colin Giebner, Logan Giebner, Morgan Giebner, Madison Giebner, and Quinn Giebner, Elizabeth Ritcher and Liam Richter; and grand niece Cecilia Inglesby. Eric also leaves behind countless friends he considered family. He was predeceased by his mother, Kathleen Giebner (2024).

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Feb. 21 at the Ludlow Funeral Home, 432 East Street, Ludlow, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by a reception at the Ludlow Country Club, 1 Tony Lema Drive, Ludlow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Boston Children’s Hospital Trust, 401 Park Drive, Suite 602, Boston, MA 02215-5301.

Relay for Life looking for participants

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

David S. Socha 1938 - 2025



LUDLOW – David “Dave” Stanley Socha, 86, a lifelong resident of Ludlow, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, Feb. 10, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Springfield, he was the son of the late Stanley and Melania (Frankowski) Socha. He proudly served in the US Navy Submarine Service stationed aboard the USS Croaker. As a frogman and sonar technician, he was trained in special-

ized operations that, by today’s standards, are equivalent to that of a Navy SEAL. Upon his release he served in the US Navy Reserves. David, a former Portsmouth, England, soccer player who found far greater success as the pre-eminent American referee of his era, worked NASL (North American Soccer League) matches from 1978-1984. He officiated at the highest levels of the game along with some of the world’s greatest ever to play the game. He became the first American to officiate in World Cup matches in 1982, the 1986 World Cup, the Soccer Bowl in ’82 and ’84, 1984 Olympic Games, and the 1982 and 1986 FIFA World All Star Games. He was inducted into the New England and Connecticut Soccer Halls of Fame, and was also a member of the Ludlow VFW Post 3236, Palmer American Legion Post 130, Polish American Veterans Club of Wilbraham and the Minos Cretan Association. After retiring from the game he loved, David worked for seventeen years, retiring from the MA Turnpike Authority. Above all, David was a man of great character, a proud veteran and friend to many. David is survived by his beloved, adoring wife of sixty-three years, Betty (Kaloroumakis) Socha; his loving children, Karen Surapine and husband Peter of Stafford Springs, CT, Jake Socha and wife Maureen of Ludlow, Melaina De Marco and husband Robert of Pound Ridge, NY, and Pamela Chaplin and husband Alex of Ludlow. David, “Dziadziu”, will be missed dearly by his incredible grandchildren, Emilie (Eric) Pacheco, Michaela (Robert) Smith, Paige (Adrian) Perkins, Molly (George Capen) Socha, Oscar De Marco, and Elena Chaplin; and treasured great grandchildren, Jacob Socha, Braydon and Declan Smith. He also leaves behind his great aunt, Cynia Kudla, his brother Daniel Socha, sister Kristine Gregory and many nieces and nephews whom he loved.

Funeral services for David will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 19, with a Mass at 11:30 a.m. in St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 22 St. George Rd., Springfield. Burial with Military Honors will follow in MA Veterans’ Memorial Cemetery, Agawam. Calling hours are at Kozikowski Funeral Home, 565 Front St., Chicopee, on Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m., and in church on Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. George Greek Orthodox Sunday School Program, Tunnel to Towers Foundation, or The Michael J. Fox Foundation. kozikowskifuneralhome.com

DEATH NOTICES

David S. Socha
Died Feb. 10, 2025
Services
Feb. 19, 2025
Kozikowski Funeral Home

Eric K. Giebner
Died Feb. 12, 2025
Services
Feb. 21, 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.

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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
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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.

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Wednesday, Feb. 19 – Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir 5:15 p.m. (C), Scouts 6:30 p.m. (FLBH/JR)
Thursday, Feb. 20 – Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C)
Friday, Feb. 21 – Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C)
Saturday, Feb. 22- Confessions - 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. (C), Saturday Mass – 4 p.m. (C)
Sunday Feb. 23 - 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), Faith Formation 8 a.m. (JR), Faith Formation 10:15 a.m. (All Rooms/FLBH), Confirmation Class 3:45 p.m. (JR), Lifteen 6:00 p.m. (JR)
Monday, Feb. 24, - Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C), Faith Formation 6 p.m. (JR/ZR), Ladies Bible Study 6:15 p.m. (ER)
Tuesday, Feb. 25, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita’s Choir, 2:30 p.m. (C), Boy Scouts Troop Comm. Meeting, 7 p.m. (ZR)

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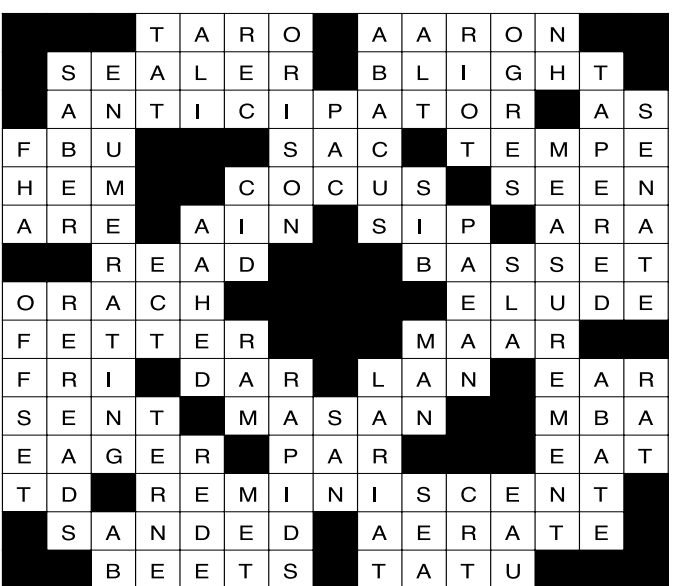
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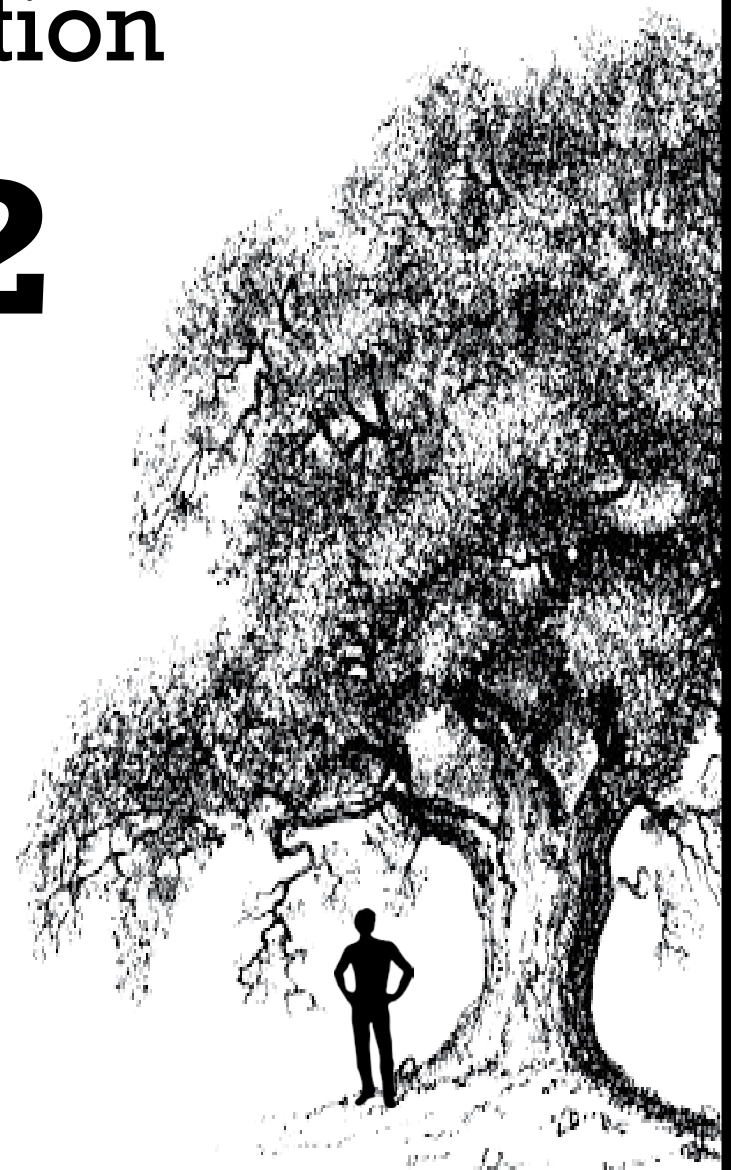
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