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By Abigail McCoy Staff Writer amccoy@turley.com

LUDLOW—The low Senior Center, located at 228 State St, held a special birthday lunch last Thursday, offering a meal that brought together the community of seniors and volunteers alike.

The event was marked by a festive atmosphere, with each table adorned with "Happy Birthday" bouquets and colorful paper frills. Seniors could enjoy coffee, water, and tea while conversing and playing games with one another.

The meal served that day included Salisbury steaks, cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, mashed potatoes, and gravy, topped off with slices of birthday cake for dessert. The kitchen was a hive of activity, with volunteers diligently preparing and serving plates of food. As they were taken out on carts in groups of 12, one volunteer said,

"It's amazing what Ludlow provides for their seniors, it's \$2 for a full meal, even for us volunteers.

This sentiment echoed

Please see **LUNCHEON**, page 10

FinCom sets calendar for budget approval

By Marcelo Gusmão Correspondent mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - Last week. the Finance Committee set its calendar leading up to voting on recommendations for the town's budget, and answered some questions about negative encumbrances.

The March 19 meeting began with the committee going over the budget calendar for fiscal year 2025. The committee noted that Town Administrator Marc Strange will be presenting the budget to the Board of Selectmen on Tuesday, April 1, and that the board would vote on the budget by April 15.

Committee Chair Tony Sanches asked if the board could schedule a meeting with FinCom for May 7, saying that the committee wanted to "try to avoid meeting at Town Meeting to discuss articles, because we have to make recommendations."

There will be a budget on April 15, so any time after that when you want to meet to review it," Strange said. "Same thing with the warrant, everything will be finalized April 15."

Committee Member Mike Kelliher asked if the committee would be expected to vote on a recommendation at its April 16

"We need some time to digest what comes to us," Kelliher said. "Are we really going to be ready to

meet on the 16th if they're approving the budget on the 15th?

Sanches said that the April 16 meeting would just be to review the budget, and assured Kelliher that the committee does not expect to vote that night.

"'24 has to be closed out before we can have proper numbers."

- Committee Member Darlene Cincone

"We could review everything on the 16th and then set another meeting on that day," Sanches said.

Vice Chair Aneta Lombardi pointed out that the warrant will be due April 18, and suggested that the committee meet shortly after that. Sanches recommended that the committee set a meeting on May 7.

"We meet on April 16 and review the documents presented, and then on May 7 if there's any warrant or other documents, we would meet again and then do our vote on May 7," Sanches said. "That way we're not rushing an hour before the Annual Town Meeting.'

The meeting was set to be held in the first floor meeting room on May 7, to accommodate the Conservation Commission's use of the regular meeting room.

> Please see **FINCOM**, page 6

Library hosts Book Club to vote on Children's Book Awards

There was a "Happy Birthday" centerpiece on every table.

Turley photos by Abigail McCov

By Marcelo Gusmão Correspondent mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - The Hubbard Memorial Library has been offering a book club for kids who want to vote in the state's Children's Book Awards, with an ice cream party to be held on April 10.

The Massachusetts Children's Book Award is a program administered by Salem State University to recognize one book annually, based on the votes of fourth through sixth graders throughout the state. Head of Youth Services July Siebecker explained that she sees the award as "very authentic.'

"There is a list of 25 books that are nominated each year that span a nice, equitable range of easier reads to hard reads, graphic novels and short books to longer books with more complex themes, and a variety of genres," said Siebecker. "There's always some mystery, some sports, some fantasy and sci-fi, and so on to make sure that every fourth to sixth grader can find books that will appeal to them to read."

"What compelled me to do this book group, after thinking about it for so many years, is seeing how important it is to continue to support kids to read full length, in print books."

- July Siebecker

The rules dictate that each participating judge read at least five of the nominated books in order to qualify to vote. The library has been offering a book club that runs from October through April, right up until voting day.

"What compelled me to do this book group, after thinking about it for so many years, is seeing how important it is to continue to support kids to read full length, in print books," Siebecker said, adding that it's also fine for kids to listen to audiobooks. "As more and more distractions have come up into the lives of children, in terms of phones and internet as well as all the regular activities kids do like

sports, I think it's my duty to find kids who could use a little extra support to go ahead and read a whole book for pleasure once a month."

Siebecker started this program last year, and was excited to report that it has gotten more popular.

"We had some nice interest in the first year, but many of the kids who start-

ed last year came back this year and brought their friends," Siebecker said. "I think an ideal number for a book club is six to eight kids who are faithful regular participants, and we've had seven all year."

Siebecker said that she used the first year to learn what the kids liked to do in order to expand the activities of the club.

"These are mostly elementary school kids, so we're not going to just sit there and discuss themes from the book; we want it to be fun," Siebecker said. "We have games and activ-

> Please see **BOOK CLUB**, page 3

Planning Board discusses Home Occupation bylaw changes

By Marcelo Gusmão Correspondent mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - At last week's Board of Selectmen meeting, the town approved a pole, a motor vehicle license, and a grant application, and said farewell to the Select Board Chair.

The March 18 meeting included public hearings with Verizon for a pole on Guertin Avenue, and a Class III Motor Vehicle License for T&J Auto Body, both of which were approved unanimously by the board.

The board also expressed its condolences to Sharon LaDuke for the passing of her husband.

Community Development Block Grant

The board was approached by Erica Johnson from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to discuss the proposed Community Development Block Grant for fiscal year 2025. Johnson explained that the town has been working with PVPC for the last two years to put in applications for the Block

"Looking at this year's



Select Board Chair Derek DeBarge (center) was recognized for nine years of service to the town by Select Board Members (from left) Tony Goncalves, Manuel Silva, James Gennette, and Bill Rosenblum.

application, the proposal is doing the next phase of work in the Roberts Street area," Johnson said, adding that this would include work on Roberts Street and Chmura Street.

"Estimate is approximately \$415,000 for 400 linear feet of roadway," Johnson said. "Also being proposed in the application is additional housing rehabilitation work, and then the fee for the Planning Commission to manage all of this on behalf of the town, which includes full service management."

Select Board Member Tony Goncalves read a motion to authorize PVPC to submit the proposed CDBG application to the state's Executive Office of Housing in order to begin the next phase of the Roberts Street neighborhood infrastructure improvement project and the housing rehabilitation assistance program. The motion passed unanimously.

Please see **BYLAW**, page 6

DI>REE

Tree Removal



Crane

Storm

Stump Grinding

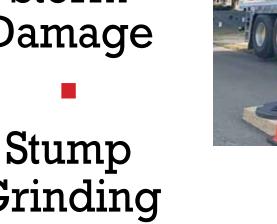
Lot Clearing

Give us a call for your free estimate

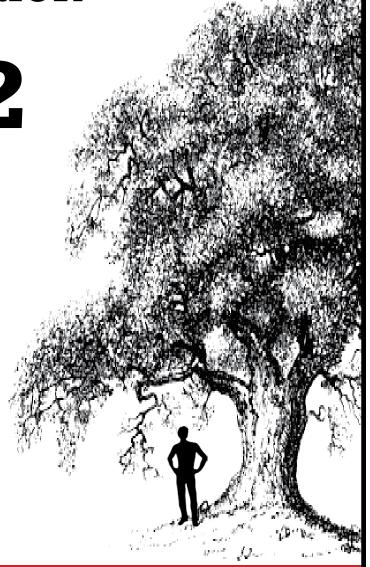
and tree evaluation

Service

Damage



413-478-4212



INSURED AND CERTIFIED



Portuguese club shows their spirit

to support the Ludlow High School Portuguese Club's Carnaval celebration. They organized a celebration and Bifana lunch for the school to enjoy. A big thank you to the club for putting it all

PV Financial was excited together. We were proud to help make the celebration even more special by sponsoring the t-shirts!

We apologize for the error regarding these photos in our publication last week.

Friends of the Ludlow Public Library seeking new members

LUDLOW, MA - The Friends of the Ludlow Public Library, a dedicated volunteer group that provides crucial support to the town's beloved Hubbard Memorial Library, is seeking new members. With only six active members, the organization is in desperate need of additional support to continue its fundraising efforts and community events that in turn support the year-long programming of the town's library.

To encourage new involvement, the Friends invite all interested individuals to join them at their annual Egg Stuffing Party on Thursday, April 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Hubbard Memorial Library. This event plays a vital role in preparing for the library's Eggstravaganza popular Egg Hunt, which will take place on April 19. Volunteers will help stuff 3,000 eggs while learning more about the Friends' mission and how they can get in-

"The library fills a critical role in our community by providing access to knowledge and information," said Michelle Goncalves, secretary of the Friends. "The Friends play an essential role in supporting the library's programs and events. We fund its free museum pass program, purchase STEAM equipment

for the Youth Room, help to recognize our library volunteers, and more. But we need more help to make sure these activities can continue."

The Friends encourage all residents who value the library and want to make a difference in town to attend the Egg Stuffing Party or reach out for more information to ludlowlibraryfriends@gmail. com. Donations to support the Eggstravaganza and future library programming can also be mailed to the Friends of the Ludlow Public Library c/o Hubbard Memorial Library, 24 Center St., Ludlow, MA 01056.

Reminder to return your 2025 Annual **Town Census** form

LUDLOW—Census second notice forms have been sent out by the Town Clerk's office. Please return your signed annual town census form as soon as possible to the Office of the Town Clerk. Annual Town Census forms can be mailed to the Office of the Town Clerk, 488 Chapin St, Ludlow, MA 01056 or returned in the Town Clerk drop box located behind Town Hall.

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

St. Cecilia Women's Club upcoming April meeting

WILBRAHAM - The St. Cecilia Women's Club will host their next meeting on April 8.

It will be an Evening of followed by soup & sand-Reflection with Fr. Douglas McGonagle.

Liturgy is at 5:30 p.m.

wiches at 6 p.m.

Fr. McGonagle will be the guest speaker following mass

Please bring children's clothing to this meeting for infants and toddlers in need.

BOOK CLUB from page 1

ities that incorporate talking about the books, but we keep it light and fun."

Siebecker described one activity that the club enjoyed was "Pass Around Stories," where each kid wrote an introductory sentence about the book they had read, describing the main character and inciting incidents, and then folded the paper to hide everything but the last line and passed the paper to another member of the club to add a

"The kids quickly realized that they could set up their neighbors with really difficult things to follow, and there was a lot of laughing

and groaning," Siebecker said. "They loved it, because when we unfolded the stories, we started with a story that they were reading, but ended with a really crazy concoction of what happened, and they thought that was hysterical."

The club is now gearing up for the ice cream party on voting day, which will be held on Thursday, April 10 at 6 p.m. Siebecker will submit votes for the club online, and the participants will enjoy ice cream donated by the Friends of the Library.

To learn more about what the Hubbard Memorial Library has to offer, you can visit their website at HubbardLibrary.org.

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

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

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

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

EASTER PYROHY (PIEROGI) SALE

at Saints Peter and Paul **Ukrainian Catholic Church** 45 Newbury Street, Ludlow

Potato with Cheese or Cabbage filling \$12/dozen

Please call in your order by Sunday, April 6 to be picked up Saturday, April 12. Call 413-219-2126.

Limited availability, first ordered first served. All orders will be packaged in disposable containers. (No personal containers.) Like us on Facebook.

Madhukar R Medipally, DMD

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Spring Specials March 26 - April 1

Maine Cluster Tomatoes On The Vine......\$1.49 lb

Slicing Tomatoes \$1.49 lb Seedless Hot House Cucumbers ..99¢ ea

Red Slicing Onions...... 99¢ lb Romaine Lettuce Hearts 3 Pack \$2.99

Red & Green Seedless Grapes .. \$2.99 lb Red Raspberries 6 oz Pack \$2.99

Golden Lemons Extra Large.....**5 for \$3.00** Boar's Head

Honey Maple Ham..... \$9.99 lb

Boar's Head

Maine Beefsteak

Vermont Cheddar Cheese \$7.99 lb

Welcome Spring!



SPRING BLOOMING BULBS

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Fresh Cut Daffodils \$4.99 Bunch

FRAGRANT HERBS

Rosemary, Lemon Grass and Lavender 4-inch Pots **\$4.99**

Time To Start Garden Seeds!

2025 Flower & Vegetable Seeds Heirloom And Organic Too!

ONION SETS, BABY GREENS & SPROUT SEEDS

Seed Starting Supplies

Cow Pots ~ Pots You Can Plant! Made From Composted Cow Manure

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OPINION



Will my Medicare premium change because I sold investment property?

Dear Rusty:

I have questions concerning the deduction of money from my Social Security benefit amount as relates to the sale of investment property.

I am 66 years old and have been drawing Social Security since I turned 62. My wife is 56 and is a housewife and has no taxable income. Our income comes from our rental property and my Social Security benefit. I have decided to liquidate two of our properties, one was sold in December 2024, and one is in Escrow and is scheduled to close in March 2025.

My normal Adjusted Gross Income has been running about \$30K-\$32K. However, last year with the sale of the property I will receive a longterm capital gain profit of about \$255,000. I did a rough calculation on what my AGI will be for 2024 and it looks to be about \$318,000. How will this affect my Social Security benefit and will it have an effect on the amount I pay for my Part B Medicare Plan going forward? I have Medicare Advantage

My next question is about 2025, after the next property closes and I file taxes), my AGI with the long-term capital gain profit could be between \$700,000-\$800,000. How will this affect my benefits going forward?

Signed: Prudent Investor

Dear Prudent Investor:

Actually, the gross amount of your Social Security benefit will not be affected by these transactions, but the net amount of your SS benefit payment will change due to a provision known as Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount. IRMAA affects the Medicare premiums you pay from your Social Security benefit and a higher Medicare premium will result in a lower net

Social Security payment. Here's how this will work for you:Your Medicare premiums each year, typically for Medicare Part B and Part D are determined by looking at your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income," or "MAGI" from two years prior. MAGI is your normal AGI plus any non-taxable interest you may have had. Since the property you sold in 2024 will be reflected as part of your 2024 income, IR-MAA will cause your 2026

Medicare premiums to be higher than the standard monthly 2026 amount. How much higher depends on how much you exceed the income level for your IRS filing status. Using 2025 rules, if you file as married/jointly and your taxable income (MAGI) is more than \$212,000 but less than \$334,000 then, instead of paying the standard 2026 monthly Part B premium, you'll each pay \$370 per month for Medicare Part B and likely a supplemental amount of \$35.30 if your Advantage plan includes prescription

drug coverage. Your Medicare premiums are recalculated every year, again based on income from two years pri-or. Thus, in 2027, IRMAA will also affect your Medicare premiums and your net Social Security payment because of your 2025 real estate transaction. If your MAGI in 2025 will be over \$750,000, then IR-MAA will increase each of your 2027 Medicare Part B premiums to \$638.90 and likely also add a supplement of \$85.80 per month each to your Medicare Advantage premium for prescription drug coverage.

The good news is in 2028 all of this will be behind you and your Medicare premiums will revert to whatever the standard monthly premiums are for that year because your income levels thereafter will presumably be below the then-IRMAA thresholds).

For reference, here is a link to Medicare's information on the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, or "IRMAA:"

https://www.cms. gov/newsroom/factsheets/2025-medicareparts-b-premiums-and-de-

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



www.register.turley.com





Early spring questions for the Garden Lady

Belchertown, had this question for the Gar-

den Lady: "I saw a video online of someone using a weed whacker to cut down their raspberry plants. Why would they be doing that now? Aren't they cutting off all of the fruiting buds?

It's sure interesting that you mention this particular topic!

My husband and I stared at our raspberry plants and talked about getting out there to prune as well.

Before you grab the weed whacker and head out, though, you have to know your raspberries. Do you have "summer bearing" or "ever-bearing?"

If you have raspberry plants that bear one crop each summer, you would not cut them down to the ground now because you would be removing all of the fruiting buds. The berries grow on canes that are a year old.

All you would do to summer bearing raspberries now is prune out the canes that fruited last year if you haven't already done so. They will look old and the bark will be shedding a bit. Another giveaway is that when you cut into them there is no green "living" tissue.

Very thin canes, or canes that are growing closer than six inches apart can also be cut down to the ground.

Pruning is a bit different for those of us that have "ever-bearing" raspberries. You must decide if you want two smaller crops – one in the summer and one in the fall or

isa, who gardens in one bumper crop in the fall. Chances are that the vid-

eo you saw was of someone

turning their "ever-bearers"

into "fall bearers" instead,

by cutting the canes that

fruited in the fall all the way

down to the ground. New

canes will grow and in late

they will fruit, in abundance,

two crops, then do not prune

away the canes that fruited

last fall, but do cut off the

tops of these canes. You'll

see evidence of old berry

clusters. Cut just below that

point, leaving the rest of the

and these will be your first,

summer crop. Do also cut

away any remaining dead

canes, and thin or too close

together canes as mentioned

question about her Rhodo-

dendrons, "I noticed that

parts of my rhododendron (as

well as others in my neigh-

borhood) are curled and per-

haps dead. They normally

curl when it gets really cold,

but unfurl when it gets warm.

Today is 65 degrees and parts have still not unfurled. I was

wondering why this hap-

pened and what suggestions

tall, 45," gray,

New buds will form here,

If you like the idea of

September

August-early

leaves in the cold as a de-

reduce the overall surface area of the leaf in an effort to curb moisture loss. Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't work as well.

Take, for example, if the plant was already stressed when it entered winter; then this process

may not have the same effect. ficient rain and supplemental especially the incredibly

Once the ground thaws, give the shrubs a drink and if indeed these branches don't respond as spring weather continues, it may be time to do some corrective pruning. Oftentimes, stems that are cut back to well within the shrub respond with new growth that will rejuvenate the rest of the plant, making it look better and better. Good luck!

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

saw common mergansers.

The Brimfield resident in

an email on March 8 said,

"Yesterday in Ludlow I vis-

ited an eagle's nest on the

bank of the Chicopee River.

Eagles have nested in this

area for over ten years with

four different nest locations.

I first found a nest across the

Chicopee River in Spring-

field that was visible from

Ludlow. Then the nest was

on the Ludlow side of the riv-

er for one year. I lost track of

the nest for a few years when

it was in a tree that subse-

quently fell down. I was told

about the fourth and current

nest three years ago. If the

bird on the nest is the fe-

male that has been nesting in

this area and had at least one

you might have."

Rhododendrons curl their

fense mechanism to

Perhaps we didn't have sufwater wasn't provided, then the plant's efforts of curling their leaves may not get them through the winter unscathed, windy winter we had.

Christi wrote in with this subject line.

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 We must authenticate authorship prior to

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

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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

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ELECTION LETTERS POLICY The Register welcomes readers

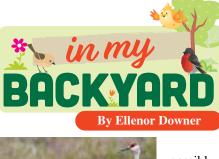
to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or sent to The Register, care of Turley Publi cations, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 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 newspaer. 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.





Sandhill cranes

I received an email from a Worthington resident, who saw two sandhill cranes on Sunday, March 16.

It was most likely was just a coincidence. However, the next day March 17, I spotted a pair of sandhill cranes in my hayfield, a first ever sighting at that location.

Several people reported seeing sandhill cranes at various locations in town last year. There is a breeding pair, who successfully raised young, in nearby Hardwick.

The sandhill crane is a

heron like bird. A Brimfield resident, who It has a dark sends bird reports on a regured patch on its lar basis, saw common mergansers at a pond in Warforehead and ren last week. There was a a black bill. Some of the large section of open water. He also saw lots of mallard. feathers on the sandhill crane's Canada geese, a few black back are iron ducks and a hooded merganstained **Bald eagles**

possibly to preening from mud rich in that mineral.

Immature cranes are grayish with more rust stained feathers. They keep this plumage for two years. The female sandhill crane lays one to three olive eggs with dark marks in a mound like nest of weeds, grasses and marsh like plants placed on the ground or in shallow water. They migrate in flocks, feed on agricultural fields and roost in the center of shallow lakes or rivers. They display courtship behavior of jumping off the ground during their migration. They feed on seeds, agricultural grains and small animals.

Common mergansers

I received reports of seeing common mergansers. My daughter saw common mergansers in Hardwick. A Hubbardston couple also

young two years ago she is Please see BACKYARD,

page 8

SENIORS

Announcement from the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee

Call for parade participants, parade sponsors needed too

LUDLOW — Parade Chairman Bruce Durand along with Director of Veteran's Services and the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee are currently working very hard to bring a great Memorial Day Parade. The parade will kick off on Monday, May 26, 2025 at 10 a.m. at the Portuguese WWII Veteran's War Memorial at the corner of Winsor & Worcester Streets, please mark your calendar for this important

The Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee encourages all those who wish to march such as; Veteran's groups, active members of our military, civic organiza-

LUDLOW - Dog licens-

Licenses are now avail-

es will expire on March 31.

All residents are required to

license their dogs annually.

able in the Town Clerk's of-

fice during normal business

hours. You must have a valid

rabies certificate to renew or

tion to obtain a license

in-person or by mail. A form

is available on the town's

website for your conve-

Residents have the op-

obtain a new license.

nience.

Dog Licenses to be renewed

through Town Clerk's offic

tions, church groups, social groups, youth organizations, athletic organizations and businesses to become part of our parade. If interested, please register by going to the Ludlow 250th website at ludlowma250.org to participate in the parade. To register for the Memorial Day Parade, please go to the Ludlow Veterans Services page, go to the menu drop down on the left side of the page and select Memorial Day Parade 2025 and sign up electronically for the parade. If you have any questions about participating in the parade, please contact Bruce Durand at (413) 547-8998 or email him at vetsparade01056@ gmail.com. The cut-off date for participating in the parade is Saturday, April 19, Please register now.

The Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee needs support from all local and

Please include a self-ad-

dressed stamped envelope

and a valid rabies certificate,

along with a check payable

to the Town of Ludlow. Mail

it to Town Clerk, 488 Chap-

dogs; \$20 for Not Spayed/

Neutered. There will be a

tions, please contact the

Town Clerk's office 413-

583-5600 ext. 1 or email

clerk@ludlow.ma.us.

If you have any ques-

\$10 late fee starting July 1.

Neutered/spayed

in St., Ludlow, MA 01056.

surrounding communities. The committee is also looking for sponsors for musical units that will be marching in the parade. We would love to add more entertainment, so please support our endeavor.

If interested in sponsoring a musical unit, please contact Bruce Durand at (413) 547-8998 or email him at vetsparade01056@gmail.com for sponsorship levels. The Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee appreciates your support in honoring our military personnel!

The Memorial Day Parade Committee has announced a Tag Sale Fundraiser to be held this spring to raise money for the Memorial Day Parade. The Tag Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, May 18. It will be held in the parking lot of the High School.

St. Elizabeth

Parish ends

LUDLOW—St Eliz-

We thank you for your

abeth Parish, Ludlow,

will no longer have their

monthly spaghetti suppers

participation with our

parish family each month

Much appreciated.

spaghetti

suppers

starting in April.

over many years.

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

Our calendar is packed with many fit- • 1 p.m. Western Dance Class ness programs, entertainment, education sessions, and more! Reserve your 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, March 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: Code Name Lise by Larry Loftis
- 2 p.m. Writers' Block*
- 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, March 28

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

Monday, March 31

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

Tuesday, April 1

- 9 a.m. Quilting • 9 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Cribbage • 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
- 12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks
- 1 p.m. Slime Making*

- 1:30 p.m. Bingo
- 4:30 p.m. Power Pump Exercise Class
- 5 p.m. Movie: Megan Leavy (2017)

Wednesday, April 2

- 9 a.m. Facials by Appointment*
- 9 a.m. Ceramics
- 9 a.m. Zumba Gold
- 10 a.m. Opera Appreciation
- 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. Movie: Megan Leavy (2017) • 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
- 1 p.m. TED Talk Hour

Thursday, April 3

- 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: Code Name Lise by
- Larry Loftis
- 2 p.m. Writers' 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.

Menu:

Thursday, March 27: Vegetable Chili/ Small Baked Potato

Friday, March 28: BBQ Salmon/Wild Rice/Mixed Veggie

Monday, March 31: Rueban Casserole/ Side Salad

Tuesday, April 1: TBD Wednesday, April 2: TBD Thursday, April 3: TBD

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.

Cookbook Club at the Wilbraham Library

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Public Library Cookbook Club is meeting on Wednesday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m.

This month's selection is "The Pepper Thai Cookbook" by Pepper Teigen.

Please let the library

know what you're bringing when registering so we do not duplicate recipes. Cooking is encouraged but not required for attendance. Copies of the book are available now at the Service Desk.

The Cookbook Club meets on the first Wednesday

of every other month at 6:30

This program is free and open to the public, and registration is required. For more information or to register, please call the library at 413-596-6141.



get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and whipped cream can dispensing. Also trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little informa--Chantal and Jimmy Beauchamp tion to theregister@turley.com.



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PV Financial makes donation to Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Establish a partnership with Baystate Health

LUDLOW-Pioneer Valley Financial Group (PV Financial) is proud to announce a meaningful partnership with Baystate Health in recognition of the exceptional care provided by the Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit staff. PV was inspired to collaborate with the Baystate Health Foundation after Andrea Lebeau, a valued member of our PV Financial team, experienced an emergency early delivery of her daughter, Blake, who required a 102-day stay in the Baystate Health's NICU.

Since her arrival in late November, Blake has received round the clock care. Andrea and her husband, Shawn are deeply grateful not only for the support extended to their family but the Kellogg Krew, giving also for the care given to countless others relying on the Davis NICU. Inspired by this experience, PV Financial felt compelled to give back in a way that would directly benefit the Davis NICU and its families.

Through ongoing discussions with the Baystate Health Foundation, PV Financial has made a generous \$5,000 donation to support the Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In addition to this donation, PV Financial staff also volunteered at the Baystate Health Foundation Annual Radiothon, held in partnership with WMAS 94.7. PV volunteers manned the phones during the Radiothon, helping to collect donations that will directly support the vital work being done at Baystate Health Children's Center. During the event, Andrea shared her personal journey in a moving interview with the community a heartfelt glimpse into the life-changing care families receive daily in the NICU.

Looking ahead, PV Financial is excited to continue its support of Baystate Health through participation in the Baystate Children's Hospital 33rd Annual Golf Tournament this June. As part of their contribution, PV Financial will donate a pair of Red Sox vs. Yankees tickets for the Live Auction during the event. All funds raised from the tournament will go toward advancing pediatric health research, purchasing child-sized equipment, and enhancing the experiences of children receiving care at Baystate Children's Hospital.

PV Financial is honored to have the opportunity to give back to the NICU and raise awareness and funds for a cause that has deeply touched their lives.



Andrea and Shawn with their daughter Blake at the Davis Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Lenten Penance Service

LUDLOW-A Lenten Penance service will be held at St Elizabeth Parish, 191 Hubbard St, Ludlow at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 3.

Please join us as several priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation . Come and receive the gift of God's mercy and love.

Lenten Parish Mission

Hope: Encountering How the Catholic Church provides the anchor we need to see God's Plan for our lives.

The Mission will be held at St. Elizabeth Parish at 6:30 p.m. on March 24, 25 and 26 in the Church at 191 Hubbard Street, Lud-

Dr. Daniel Baillargeon, national speaker, president of Mission Driven Catholic and former Superintendent of the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Springfield will be our speaker for the three evenings. "Let us take some time to quiet our hearts and truly walk with our Lord in His Passion and Death, so we may be filled with great hope in His Resurrection. All ages are welcome.

BYLAW from page 1

Select Board Chair

The meeting began with commemorating Select Board Chair Derek De-Barge's last meeting on the board, as he had chosen not to seek re-election after nine years of service. His wife and sons were invited for a surprise visit to Town Hall to participate in the ceremony.

"A little bit more than three years ago, I was tuning into the meetings to do some prep work for my interview, and I said 'who the hell is this loudmouth with all the tattoos and the unapologetic opinions?' and I wondered what the heck I was getting myself into," said Town Administrator Marc Strange. "Much to my pleasant surprise, working with you has been such a great pleasure. I'm not sure if there's anyone in town who cares more about Ludlow, and more importantly acts on that love by getting involved and making a difference with their time."

Strange thanked DeBarge for being a reliable and committed public servant, adding that he couldn't have imagined that "someone with such

strong opinions that I don't always agree with would turn out to be such a good friend."

"We're going to miss your leadership, and your omnipresence, and your loud opinions," Strange said.

Goncalves presented De-Barge with an official Certificate of Recognition from the board, congratulating him for his work on the construction of the Harris Brook Middle School, the new Senior Center, the Veterans' Center, and the Mills Project. DeBarge was also presented a plaque of the American flag by his colleagues.

"The one compliment that would most impress me if somebody gave it to me is that I acted on the behalf of my supporters to the best of my abilities, and I think that you've done that through and through," said Board Member James Gennette. "Ad nauseam, you've fought for them, and it's to be commended."

"What you've done is incredible," said Board Member Manuel Silva. "Thank you so much, you've done so much for this community, you're going to be sorely missed.

"What's amazing is, when



Derek DeBarge was recognized for his service to the town at last week's meeting, pictured here with his wife Glenda and their sons, Justin and Brady.

you sit on a board like this and you really find out what can and can't be done and realize the guidelines you need to follow and that everything isn't what it seems, is that then you have the dialogue," said Select Board Member Bill Rosenblum. "There have been times that we have not agreed, and there was one time – and I'm not going to let you live this down when we sat in the Charter Committee, that I actually

changed your mind once. "He mentions it every of the Marines, my inten-

time I see him," joked De-

"There's a big segment of the population that doesn't want to believe that we do much more than two or three hours twice a month, they forget about the 14 subcommittees everybody serves on," Goncalves said. "Mr. DeBarge was here during COVID, and if people don't realize it, he was in Town Hall every day during COVID."

"When I moved here out

tion was to go to the police academy and go to Arizona," DeBarge said. "When I tell people why I stayed, I stayed because of the community. Ludlow has this way of just grabbing you – I could go on about culture and everything else, but it's the people, it's the relationships that have been more important to me than everything else."

After thanking the town's municipal workers for their service, and various individuals who helped him throughout this career, DeBarge praised the board.

"I'd like to say that we have been a very good example of a group of five, from different dynamics, different beliefs, and different likes and dislikes, that have argued on-camera, that have argued harshly off-camera, and yet walk out of the building and I can, without a doubt call each and every one of you my friends," DeBarge said. "That's what brings the town closer, is when they see us trying to govern over this and still be able to get along and not have a lot of the drama that you see in other places muck things up."

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FINCOM from page 1

The committee then moved on to a discussion of the town's negative encumbrances, having requested an explanation about them from Town Accountant Chervl Allen. Sanches read Allen's response to the quest, explaining that this relates to a portion of fund balances reserved for outstanding encumbrances related to prior-year expenditures.

"When the purchase commitments are recognized, for example, a department made purchases at the end of the fiscal year but the service or

goods will not be made before June 30, then the department will submit a request to encumber the funds to next year so the invoice could be paid in the next fiscal year," Sanches read.

Allen explained that encumbrances were recorded in the town's supply system, but had not shown up in fiscal year 2025, as the books for fiscal year 2024 are still in the process of being closed, and so the encumbrances had not yet carried over into

"We paid invoices with the understanding that the no people, but how can we

corresponding funds will be encumbered to fiscal '25," Sanches read. "Once fiscal '24 is officially closed, the negative balance in fiscal '25 will be cleared and the balance will be zeroed out."

Committee Member Darlene Cincone emphasized that the committee can't have accurate figures while dealing with negative encumbrances and prior year expenditures.

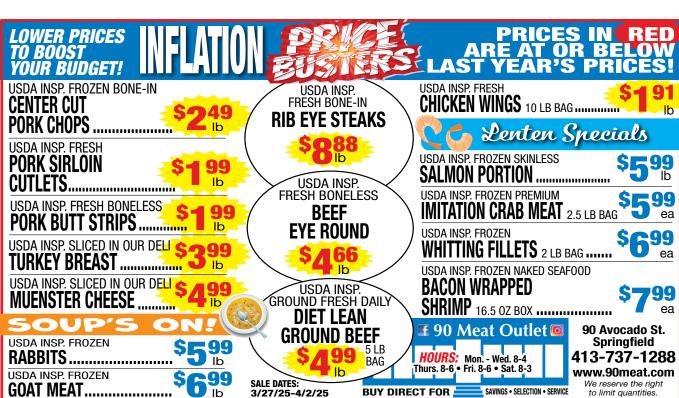
"24 has to be closed out before we can have proper numbers," Cincone said. "I know it's a pain, we had

AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

depend on these numbers if some of them are 2024?"

Strange told the committee that the budget for FY24 was expected to close on March 21. The committee had some discussion over whether money was waiting to be paid, but determined that the work had already been paid for and was just waiting for the Munis system to close out.

The committee will have its next regular meeting on April 16.



Public AuctioN THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH at 11:00 A.M. MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE • LUDLOW • **5 ROOM / 3 BEDROOM** SINGLE STORY RANCH STYLE HOME ONE CAR ATTACHED GARAGE 15 Loopley Street LUDLOW, MA • Single Story Ranch Style Home • ±8,100 S/F of Land • Total of (5) Rooms w/ (3) Bedrooms & (1) Bath • Total of (5) Rooms w/ (3) Bedrooms w/ (• ±1,045 S/F of Gross Living Area Above Grade • Fireplace • • Oil Hot Water Baseboard Heat • Full Basement • Brick Exterior • • Enclosed Breezeway • Public Water & Sewer • • Assessor's ID: 11D-9450-59 • ★ ONE CAR ATTACHED GARAGE ★

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IN THE CLASSROOM

COLLEGE NEWS

Honor society of Phi Kappa Phi elects new members

The following people recently were elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Alex Lourenco of Ludlow at University of Massa-

Nicole Kelder of Ludlow at University of Massachu-

They are among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Germain named to the Dean's List at Emmanuel College

BOSTON — **Sydnie Germain**, of Ludlow, has been named to Emmanuel College's Fall 2024 Dean's List in recognition of academic excellence. Germain is a Criminology & Criminal Justice major.

To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

* * *

Emerson College Dean's List Honors

BOSTON—Elizabeth Pereira of Ludlow is majoring in Political Communication and is a member of the Emerson College Class of

The requirement to make the Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

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 cam-

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, by request at Ludlow-Lions@yahoo.com or by contacting a Ludlow Lions Club member.

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

Junior Achievement welcomes Nicole **Baltazar as Education Pathways Director**

Ludlow resident brings more than 20 years of experience to her new role

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. -Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts (JAWM) recently welcomed Nicole Baltazar as its new Education Pathways Director. In this role, she will be overseeing traditional, experiential, and entrepreneurial learning experiences, guiding their alignment with JAWM's mission and objectives to meet the needs of our community.

Nicole's responsibilities will include a particular emphasis on stakeholder engagement, especially coordinating volunteer and educational partners. This will involve recruiting, training, supporting, and recognizing these valuable contributors. Additionally, she will manage administrative programming procedures to uphold quality standards for the organization, ensuring adherence to program models and evaluating impact to deliver high-quality educational experiences.

"I'm thrilled that Nicole has joined our team," said Amie Miarecki, JAWM president. "She comes with more than 20 years of experience in the field of early education and care, is a strong advocate for youth, and enjoys mentoring and coaching."

Baltazar is Director 1 & 2 Qualified through the MasEarly Education and Care. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst's University Without Walls Program, with a concentration in early education and administration.

In her previous role, Baltazar served as the center director for the Valley Opportunity Council (VOC) in partnership with the Holyoke Public Schools, Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative.

About Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts

Junior Achievement Worldwide (JA) is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their

sachusetts Department of economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA learning experiences are delivered by educators and community volunteers and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from ages 5 through 25 knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship. JA was founded in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1919, making Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts (JAWM) the organization's first chapter. Today, it serves thousands of young people in Western Massachusetts and parts of Worcester County and Vermont who participate in JAWM learning experiences annually. For more information, visit jawm.org.

Valley Press Club Scholarships available to journalism students

REGION—The Valley Press Club, based in Springfield, Mass., will award \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism.

The Valley Press Club Scholarships, funded by contributions and dues to the Press Club, are for students planning careers in print, online or broadcast journalism.

The Republican Scholarship, funded by The Republican, is for students living within the newspaper's circulation area who are planning careers in print journal-

The 22News Scholarship, funded by WWLP-22News is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism.

The MassLive Scholarship is for a Massachusetts high school senior planning pursue a career in print, online or broadcast journalism/ communication. This scholarship is available to a student who is underrepresented in the field of journalism and is planning to attend an institution of higher education in the field.

The Edward J. Malley Jr. Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of a chief photographer for the Springfield Newspapers, is for students planning careers in photojournalism.

The Rhonda Swan Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of the award-winning journalist, editor and author, is for students who are underrepresented, in the Springfield, Mass. area, planning careers in journalism.

Primary emphasis is placed on career goals, writing ability, scholastic aptitude and overall achievement as measured by an applicant's high school transcript, class rank, academic awards, SAT scores and extracurricular activities. The deadline for submissions is April 4, 2025.

Scholarship applications are available at www.ValleyPressClub.com high school guidance offices. Applications may be sent by mail to Noreen Tassinari, Scholarship Chair, Valley Press Club, P.O. Box 5475, Springfield, Mass. 01102 or electronically to NTassinari77@gmail.com

Over the course of six decades, The Valley Press Club has presented over \$140,000 in scholarships to eligible students. The Valley Press Club consists of active and retired journalists and public relations professionals from corporate and nonprofit organizations.

Polish Junior League of Massachusetts awarding scholarships

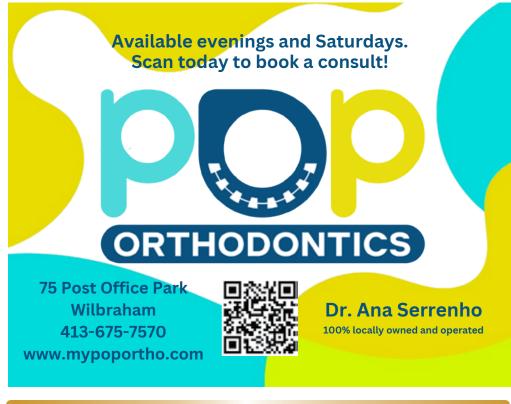
REGION - The Polish Junior League of Massachusetts has announced that it will be awarding scholarships again this year for college students of Polish Heritage.

Scholarships will be awarded to undergraduate students, and one scholarship will be granted to a graduate or returning student. Application information and forms may be obtained at www.polishjuniorleaguema.org/applications.

Deadline for receipt of application materials is May 1, 2025.

Selection is based upon financial need and academic achievement.

Applications are available online at www.polishjuniorleaguema.org/appli-







Created in recognition of Janis Santos and her tenure at HCS Head Start, Inc.

In an effort to provide a pathway to the Early Childhood Education profession, the

Janis Santos Scholarship Fund

is available for HCS Head Start alumnae, past or current HCS Head Start parents, or current HCS Head Start staff.

One \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded annually.

TO APPLY

https://hcsheadstart.org/janis-santos-scholarship

QUESTIONS?

email: JSScholarship@headstart.org

Deadline April 25, 2025



EDUCATING children. SUPPORTING families. BUILDING healthy communities.

DATEBOOK •

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

APRIL 6

PYROHY PIEROGI" SALE

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church will host Annual Easter Pyrohy (Pierogi) Sale. Two different varieties will be offered, potato with cheese or cabbage filling for \$12 a dozen. Please call in your order to 413-219-2126 by Sunday, April 6. To be picked up on Saturday, April 12, at 45 Newbury St., Ludlow. There is limited availability, be sure to order early. All orders will be packaged in disposable containers, no personal con-

APRIL 8

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next 6 week session of St. Elizabeth Parish, Ludlow, Bereavement support group will take place from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8 in the Zechariah room of the Pastoral Center.

Our group meets for 6 consecutive Tuesday evenings. For additional information please call Pat at 413-531-6997.

ONGOING

SAVE THE DATES

Ludlow High School "Class of 1975" 50th Class Reunion - Sept. 12, 13 and 14, 2025. Our committee is searching for classmates. If you have any info, please call Denise at 413-735-3751 or Celeste at 413-583-6041.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Ludlow Public Schools Kindergarten Registration

2025-2026 is underway. If you are a Ludlow resident and have a child(ren) who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2025, they are eligible to enter Kindergarten in the fall of 2025. Registration is currently online at www.ludlowps.org. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Foye at registration@ ludlowps.org or call 413-583-5695 ext. 6.

FOOD DRIVE **BI-MONTHLY**

On the first Saturday of each EVEN month (February, April, June, August, October, December) First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St, collects non-perishable foods. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., drive through the back parking lot. We will take your donations out of your car & bring them to the Community Survival Center to be distributed to those in need. Bring all food items to drop off at our next Food Drive on April 5, 2025.

Thanks for your generos-

DATEBOOK

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-

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. Gentlyused 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-

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

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 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.

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

H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP: Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have experience with addictions, grief, anxiety and depression, (including anxiety and depression due to COVID-19) and for loved ones who might need help in their recovery. This group is also for those who can help lead others in their recovery by example. This meeting in no way replaces professional therapies. It is a time for sharing strength, encouragement and hope. No fees. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage. Pre-packaged snacks are available. Small group structure based on basic Christian principles, concept, purposes and confidentiality. COVID-19 guidelines are observed. Masks required. 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at Fellowship Hall in Faith Community Chapel, 485 East Street in Ludlow. Parking lot behind Chapel. Fellowship Hall entrance at back of Chapel. Seating is limited. To reserve yours, call 413- 519-

OUABBIN 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 de-



Tickets now on sale for 2025 Difference Makers awards gala

SPRINGFIELD— Tick- in 2009 to recognize and ets are now on sale for the 17th annual Difference Makers awards gala, hosted by BusinessWest, the business journal of Western Massachusetts. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Log Cabin in Holyoke.

Tickets cost \$95 per person, and tables of 10 are available. They can be purchased at businesswest. com/eventcalendar/difference-makers-tickets/.

The 17th annual Difference Makers program is sponsored by Burkhart Pizzanelli, the Royal Law Firm, Trinity Health Of New England/Mercy Medical Center, and TommyCar Auto Group.

The Difference Makers program was launched celebrate the work of individuals, groups, businesses, and institutions that are positively impacting the Pioneer Valley. As our winners have shown, there are many ways to make a difference within our community: through work on initiatives to improve quality of life; through success in business, public service, or education; through contributions that inspire others to get involved; through imaginative efforts to help solve one or more societal issues; or through a combination of the above.

For more information, call Natasha Mercado-Santana, Marketing and Events manager, at (413) 781-8600, ext. 100, or email mercado@businesswest.com.

BACKYARD from page 6

banded and is twenty years

Two of my grandchildren and I saw a mature bald eagle perched in a tree at the edge of my hayfield on Saturday, March 15. I stopped the car and my granddaughter, Lizzie, got out of the car to take a photo with her cellphone. I said the eagle will probably fly away. As she approached, the eagle turned its head to watch her. As she approached it bent down, opened its tail feathers displaying the white feathers and then took off. She got a photo of its white tail.

The Brimfield resident saw two bald eagles at a pond in Warren, an adult and an immature. The immature eagle flushed up some ducks while flying around the pond. On another day he saw four eagles, two adult and two immature. An Oakham resident also saw a bald eagle recently.

Other birds

The same person saw a great blue heron, hooded mergansers, three ringed bill gulls and a small flock

of red-winged blackbirds. Earlier this month, he said, "Two fox sparrows showed in the afternoon, always nice to see them. A pair of blue birds are irregular visitors as are sharp-shinned hawks. Last week an adult chased juncos into a quince bush without success. And this week an immature sharpie was in the yard for awhile."

He said he takes in his feeders at night as bears should be out and about. He read an article that the skunk cabbage is up and is a sign that so are the bears. Black bears eat skunk cabbage leaves in the spring when they first emerge from the dens to "kick start" their digestive system. They also return to their favorite feeding grounds, often back yard bird feeders.

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

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Spring preseason underway



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Adam Riley sets near the net.



Alek Wojcik gets low for a hit.



Ben Sanches attempts a



Cooper Champigny sends a bump away.

much warmer, there were

less participants in costumes,

though plenty of harriers

were wearing the green tutus

that are often a part of each

lent cooperation from the

Holyoke Police Department,

Holyoke Fire Department,

the Massachusetts State Po-

lice, and Cataldo Ambulance,

which provided public safe-

ty services for the event this

The race was kicked with

beautiful rendition of the

Please see **RACE**, page 10

The city also had excel-

year's race.

League starts new award in honor of late coach

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE— The Pioneer Valley Girls Suburban Basketball League was always very special to Eileen Monaghan.

Growing up in Chicopee, Monaghan played for a Suburban League basketball team. She then coached her daughter's Suburban League teams. In recent years, Monaghan was one of the referees in the league.

Monaghan most likely would've been back on the basketball court refereeing Suburban League games this winter, but she was tragically killed last April.

Suburban League Commissioner Joe Ciejka, who's from Ware, couldn't recall another person who played, coached and was a referee in the Suburban League during the past 40 years.

"I believe Eileen is the first person to play, coach, and has been a referee in the Suburban league," Ciejka said. "Eileen brought an incredible spirit to the Suburban League and the kindness of hearts. Even though her heart has been silenced, we're not going to let her spirit ever die."

The inaugural Eileen Monaghan Sportsmanship Award was given to the Gateway 5/6th grade basketball team prior to the start of the 5/6th grade Division 2 championship game between Easthampton and Hampshire, which took place at Chicopee Comp on March 9.

"I think the sportsmanship award is very special because it shows how many lives that my mom touched," said Kathleen Brooks, who is Eileen's youngest daughter. "She just loved girls sports, especially basketball. She probably would've been very proud of this award."

Brooks, who presented the sportsmanship award to Gateway, graduated from Chicopee Comp in 2019 where she played soccer, basketball, and lacrosse.

Her older sister, Ashley Rouleau, played two sports at Comp.

The Gateway Suburban League basketball team didn't win any games this season, but the players celebrated small victories and kept a positive attitude on

> Please see **LEAGUE**. page 10

Sun shines bright on 48th Road Race

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE - For the first time in several years, it was gorgeous weather for the Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race last Saturday afternoon the city streets.

participated in this year's event, with nearly 5,000 participants finishing the 10K, Matt Provost of Monson was or 6.2-mile course.

This year, it was Samuel Davis of South Hadley was a

Whittaker of Salem, CT, who close 20th at 35:10. Lindsay finished the race in 31:24. Alex Corbett, who placed second in last year's race, came in 23 seconds later at 31:47.

The top female finisher was Angelia Rafter at 34:13 and she placed 12th overall. More than 6,000 people Rafter is from Glastonbury,

> Among local finishers, 19th overall at 35:09. Ryan

Smith of South Hadley finished 22nd at 35:12. While the race course, commonly known as a "hilly" course throughout downtown Holyoke end-

> there was one noticeable change in this year's event. Presidential Timing took over the official timing duties after 4RUN3 went out of business last year. Those

looking for more results from the events can go to www. presidentialtiming.com look at more specific results from the race. Like previous timers, you can look up people by name and bib number to get more specific results.

ing with a turn off Beech St.

and up the hill on Hampden

St. toward the finish line re-

mained largely the same,

The road race once again kicked off an excellent weekend celebrating the St. Patrick's Day holiday and also helped to prepare several participants in this year's event for future races in the coming months, including the Boston Marathon, which will take place on Monday, April 21.

With the weather being



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Samuel Whittaker

crosses the first

line first overall.

The participants are off in the 48th running of the Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race.

ck's Road Race

Female winner Angelia Rafter crosses the finish line at 34:13.



Lance Tomlinson crosses the finish line at 44:32.



Sarah Kelly came in at 45:03.



Torcato Zina finishes the course at 44:53.



Alex Corbett takes second in the race for the second year in a row.



Benjamin Farias was one of Ludlow's top finishers at 39:13.



Michael Goodreau comes in at 43:28.

T-Birds suffer loss as they pursue playoff spot

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-26-2-4) stumbled on the road and fell to the Bridgeport Islanders (14-40-4-3) by a final score of 4-1 on Saturday inside Total Mortgage

For a ninth straight game, the T-Birds spotted their opponent a 1-0 lead as 35-yearold Chris Terry cleaned up a rebound off the pads of Vadim Zherenko at 4:36 of the first to give Bridgeport the

The T-Birds answered

power play at 8:21, as Matthew Peca led a streaking Nikita Alexandrov to the blue paint for a backhander that found its way through Henrik Tikkanen to even the game,

Zherenko and Tikkanen dealt with some chaos near their creases early in the second, but the 1-1 tie carried into the midpoint of the game before a costly too-manymen penalty hurt Springfield.

With their first power play of the night, the Island-

back thanks to their red-hot ers struck as Adam Beckman fired a wrister to the top shelf just moments after he clanged one off the post, and Bridgeport had the 2-1 lead at 11:27 of the second.

Beckman was not finished with his exploits either, as the newly-acquired Islanders cashed in on 2-on-1 setup from Brian Pinho at 17:09 to give Bridgeport an insurance tally heading into the third,

Cam Thiesing added further to the lead just 1:37 into the third, intercepting a puck

in the Springfield zone and backhanding a chance past Zherenko to make it a 4-1 game. Springfield managed only seven shots in the final period, and Tikkanen finished a relatively stress-free night with 21 saves in the Bridgeport win.

The T-Birds return home on Friday and Saturday for the first-ever matchups on home ice against the Iowa Wild, with 7:05 p.m. puck drops slated for both nights inside the Thunderdome.

Railers scored big sweep of Lions

WORCESTER

Worcester Railers HC (30-27-2-4 68pts) take down the Trois-Rivières Lions (41-13-5-2, 89pts), on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 5-4 in front of a crowd of 6,047 at the DCU Center. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Colisée Vidéotron in Quebec on Friday March 28th at 7pm where they take on the Trois-Rivières Lions again for a three game away series.

The Railers stayed hot after last night's when they grabbed a 1-0 lead over the Lions off of a tipped goal from captain Anthony Repaci (1-1-2). Just eleven seconds into the second period Anthony Callin deked his way through the defense and finds the back of the net for a short handed goal extending the Railers lead to 2-0. Lincoln Hatten(1-0-1) and Connor Welsh (1-0-1) picked up goals of their own just a minute and one second apart from each other extending the Railers lead to 4-0 over the Lions

early into the second period. Trois-Rivières got back within two with goals from Logan Nijhoff (3-1-4) and Tyler Hylland(1-1-2). The third period was quiet until Cole Donhauser (1-1-2) scored an empty net goal increasing the Railers lead to 5-2. Logan Nijhoff scored two more goals to give him a hat trick on the night. The Railers prevailed and defeated Trois-Rivières 5-4 in the

weekend finale. Anthony Repaci (26th) deflected Anthony Callin's shot past Cavallin in net for the Lions to give the Railers a 1-0 lead 7:52 into the first period. The Railers out shot Trois-Rivières 9-7, ending the period with a one goal

The Railers got back to work quickly in the second period. Just 11 seconds after the puck dropped, Anthony Callin (20th) dangled through Trois-Rivières defenders and finished it off with a goal to give the Railers a 2-0 lead. 4:12 into the second period the Railers

kept on their scoring frenzy with a goal from Lincoln Hatten (7th) and just a minute and one second after that Connor Welsh (8th) nets one for Worcester to set a career high for the defender. Trois-Rivières responded after 8 unanswered goals within the last 24 hours from Worcester by making it a 4-1 game off a goal from Logan Nijhoff (21st). Trois-Rivières took advantage of their power play with a goal from Tyler Hylland (13th) cutting the score down to 4-2 at exactly 14:00 into the 2nd period to wrap up the scoring in the second period.

The third period was a quiet one compared to the second period. But the Railers were able to extend their lead to 5-2 with an open net goal from Cole Donhauser (9th). Trois-Rivières kept fighting as Logan Nijhoff (22nd, 23rd) scored two more goals giving him a hat trick. The Railers held them off and won 5-4 over the Lions to end the weekend se-

ST. PATRICK'S ROAD RACE

RACE from page 9

Star Spangled Banner sung by Kate Caligaris and JFK Award winner and celebrity Bridget Moynahan shot the ed walkers on the course. opening gun.

This year, there were four waves of runners followed by the fifth wave, which includ-

Among the participants, there were nearly 400 participants in the race who were under 18-years-old.

Valley Wheel tryouts set for April 6

Players looking to join the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League can attend the tryouts beginning Sunday April 6. The time and location of the tryout is to be determined.

The league, which plays its games in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut, makes sure that everyone gets a fair share of the action. Everyone plays a minimum of 4 innings in the field, and everyone bats. The league follows MLB rules with some modified rules adapted with safety in mind.

The Valley Wheel stands apart from other leagues across the country for this reason:

Their league charter and one of their main goals, is to work toward having a league with teams of equal strength.

The league is now seeking new players to fill open roster slots. Enjoy the competition and camaraderie with a great group of guys who enjoy the game as much as you do. Stay in shape and make new friends. Be part of something that happens once a year, and with luck, win a championship that might be once in a lifetime. Grab your glove and cleats and join a great adventure. It's not too late don't miss out; opening day is just around the corner. For more information, contact Jim Nason at 413-433-4308 or visit the website www.Valley-WheelBaseball.org



Quabbin League holding open practice for new players this weekend

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to infuse new talent into its league for the 2025 season.

Coming up this Sunday, March 30, and Sunday, April 6. Both practices are scheduled to be held at Beachgrounds Park in South Hadley and are weather-permitting. Both practices will begin at 10 a.m. and following the April 6 practice, new players will be drafted to teams in the league as the league works to fill its open roster spots.

Registration for the 2025 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league. The league website will also be updated over the next month with information about the upcoming season.

There are many open roster spots available in the league for the 2025 season, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, April 27. The league plays most Sunday from late April through mid-August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley normally used.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2025.

LEAGUE from page 9

the court.

"Being selected as the first sportsmanship award winner in the Suburban League is very special," said Gateway head coach Peter Sadler. "We didn't have a lot of experienced players this year, but we kept improving throughout the season. We came close to winning a couple of games. We just focused on doing one thing to get better in each game. The girls never gave up and kept a positive attitude."

The members of the Gateway girls' basketball team are Victoria Barnes, Riley Chornyar, Liv Dulude, Lila Castro, Senavieve Rosseau, Fiona Hallowell, Faith Chretlen, Evey-In Sadler, Abigail Sadler, Emma Johnson, and Alyvia Kaynowski.

The Suburban League referees voted for the Sportsmanship Award.

Unlike her daughters, Monaghan graduated from Chicopee High School. She played soccer and basketball for the Lady Pacers. She was inducted into the Chicopee Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. Monaghan also played soccer and basketball at Western New England College. She was inducted into the WNEC Hall of Fame in 2006.

"My mom was always very humble, but she always told us that she loved playing sports," Brooks said. "She didn't score 1,000 career point in high school, but she did at WNEC. She always worked very hard and that's what she wanted

everyone else to do."

iff's Department.

graduated Monaghan from college with a bachelor's degree in management. She was the Chief-of-Staff for Chicopee State Representative Joseph Wagner for twenty-one years. She was also the Executive Assistant to Sheriff Nick Cocchi at the Hampden County Sher-

Monaghan was also a summer league soccer coach. Her older brother, John, coached the girls' summer league soccer team at that same time. The two siblings battled against each other several times.

"It was a lot of fun coaching against my sister's summer league soccer team," John Monaghan said. "Having the Suburban League name their sportsmanship award in her honor really means a lot to the family. She put a lot of time and effort into sports. She just wanted to help the kids get better."

A high school girls varsity basketball team will also be receiving the Eileen Monaghan Sportsmanship Award on March 20.

"We had high school Sportsmanship Award for about six or seven years, but then it stopped due to the COVID-19 Pandemic," Ciejka said. "We're going to be bringing the high school sportsmanship award back in Eileen's name at our referee's banquet on March 20."

The Gateway players didn't get to play in the Suburban League finals this year, but it was still a very special day for them.

LUNCHEON from page 1

the general satisfaction with the center's dedication to offering nutritious meals at an affordable cost. The food offered is consistently praised, with previous meals this week including corned beef on Monday for Saint Patrick's Day, ziti with marinara and garlic bread on Tuesday, and stuffed sausages with tater tots on Wednesday.

About 175 seniors were served at this birthday lunch, a turnout that was a bit smaller than the 240 who attended the Saint Patrick's Day event. The center's executive director, Jodi Zepke, was actively involved, helping to coordinate the volunteers in the kitchen, making plates, and assisting both citizens and volunteers in finding seats. Zepke mentioned that the birthday lunch is a monthly tradition, though she couldn't say exactly when it

started, as it predates the senior center's current location. The center, which employs a full-time cook and several part-time staff members, relies heavily on volunteers for events of this scale.

Ludlow Senior Center has become a central hub for the community, offering more than just meals. Its mission extends to providing culture, art, exercise, education, and access to resources for seniors in need. The average attendance at a meal at the center ranges from 120 to 200 seniors, and the center consistently serves a large portion of the Ludlow senior population. Additionally, the center's event decorations, including those for the birthday lunches and holidays, are created by a dedicated decorating committee.

Looking ahead, the Age & Dementia Friendly Ludlow planning committee encourages residents to attend listening sessions. These

sessions, which are part of an effort to make Ludlow a more age-friendly community, offer a chance for feedback on topics such as housing, aging in place, accessibility, health services, transportation, and social connections. Free ice cream will be provided by Berkshire Bank and Peoples Bank at the sessions, with the first session having taken place on March 20, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. The second session will be on April 30, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. To learn more about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, residents are encouraged to visit friendsofludlowseniorcenter.com.

The Ludlow Senior Center continues to be a cornerstone of the community, providing vital support to seniors and fostering a spirit of connection among the town's older residents.



Turley photo by Abigail McCoy

Volunteers hard at work in the kitchen making plates for all of the seniors

MMWEC Offers Scholarships to LHS Seniors

LUDLOW—Applications are now open for the 2025 Municipal Massachusetts Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) scholarship.

MMWEC is offering two \$1,000 scholarships to qualifying seniors from Ludlow High School who are planning to attend either a twoor four-year college. Eligible students must plan to pursue a degree in engineering, environmental sciences, finance, accounting, or a related discipline.

Scholarship recipients will be awarded based on several factors including academic achievement, area of study, and need. All seniors planning to pursue one of the specified academic areas are encouraged to apply, regardless of their class ranking.

To be considered, students must submit all required documents including a letter of recommendation from their school counselor and a letter detailing their educational and professional goals. Application and submission details will be shared with students via their school counselors. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 9.

As part of its commitment to the community, MMWEC has awarded \$66,000 in scholarships to help local students defray the cost of higher education since the inception of the scholarship program in 1998.

MMWEC is the joint action agency for public power in Massachusetts, providing a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state's consumer-owned, municipal utilities. MMWEC is the operator and principal owner of the Stony Brook Energy Center on Moody Street and has been a corporate resident of Ludlow for nearly 50 years.

Springfield Garden Club offers scholarship

SPRINGFIELD-The Springfield Garden Club is accepting applications for their annual \$2,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating high school senior, undergraduate or graduate college student majoring in a full-time plant science or environmental studies program, such as horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, plant pathology, environmental control, land management or other allied fields.

The candidate be a resident of Hampden County, demonstrate financial need and have adequate academic standing. High school seniors, undergraduate and graduate college students are eligible for consideration.

For additional information and to request a copy of the application contact Daniel Sheehy at SGCscholarship@gmail.com. Scholarship applications are to be complete and meet

for consideration. The SGC has awarded over \$90,000 to more than

the submission deadline of

April 1, 2025, to be eligible

60 students during the past 30 plus years. Funds for the scholarship are raised at the annual plant sale held each year in the Spring. The Annual Plant Sale this year will be held at Forest Park on Sumner Avenue in Springfield on Saturday, May 31 from 9 a.m. to Noon.

For more information on the Springfield Garden Club events go to www.springfieldgardenclubma.org visit them on Facebook at

https://www.facebook. com/SpringfieldMAGarden-Club/

Ludlow **Conservation Commission** LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under W.P.A. (M.G.L. Ch. 131, § 40) and Town of Ludlow Bylaws, Chapter XV, in Ludlow Town Hall, 3rd floor. Selectmen's Conference Room, on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. on the Notice of Intent application of Carolyn Harris, for the property located at 67 Lyon Street (Assessors' Map 24, Parcel 18). The subject of the hearing is: addition to single family home.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Wednesday, May 7, 2025.

Angela Tierney Chair

03/26/2025

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. HD25C0077CA In the matter of: Maria Green

CITATION ON PETITION TO **CHANGE NAME** A Petition to Change Name

of Adult has been filed by Maria Green of Ludlow, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Maria Kohulka-Green IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/16/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 19, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate 03/26/2025

Ludlow **Conservation Commission** LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under W.P.A. (M.G.L. Ch. 131, § 40) and Town of Ludlow Bylaws, Chapter XV, in Ludlow Town Hall, 3rd floor, Selectmen's Conference Room, on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at **6:55 p.m.** on the **Amendment to** Notice of Intent/Order of Conditions application of Andrew Rourke, for the property located at Lot 15 Church Street (Assessors' Map 17, Parcel 103D). The subject of the hearing is: re-

Please check

the accuracy of

your legal notice

prior to submis-

sion (i.e., date,

time, spelling).

the requested

publication date

coincides with

the purpose of the

notice, or as the

law demands. Thank you.

Also, be sure

moval of Riverfront Area and restoration, increase clearing in front of proposed home.

Angela Tierney, Chair 03/26/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **Probate and Family Court Department HAMPDEN**, Division

Docket No. HD24P1736PM

To all persons interested in the estate of Margaret Mileskie of Palmer, 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 Margaret Mileskie, for her

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 23rd day of April 2025, the return day of this petition.

Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice of said Court this thirteenth day of March 2025.

Rosemary A. Saccomani, Register 03/26/2025

Ludlow Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under W.P.A. (M.G.L. Ch. 131, § 40) and Town of Ludlow Bylaws, Chapter XV, in Ludlow Town Hall, 3rd floor, Selectmen's Conference Room, on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 6:50 p.m. on the Notice of Intent application of Town of Ludlow Pond Management Committee, for the property located at Murphy Pond (Assessors' Map 12B, Parcel 136C). The subject of the hearing is: ecological restoration & treatment of pond.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Wednesday, May 7, 2025.

Angela Tierney, Chair 03/26/2025

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. HD25P0483EA **Estate of:** Charles H Loud

Date of Death: 10/06/2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Late and Lim-

ited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by

Bryan Loud of South Hadley, 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: Bryan Loud of South Hadley, 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 04/04/2025. 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: March 07, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani. Register of Probate 03/26/2025

Wilbraham Housing Authority Request for Bids

The Wilbraham Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the The Pines Elderly 667-02 Development for the Wilbraham Housing Authority in Wilbraham Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Hill Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc.

The Project consists of: Reconfiguring and replacing the existing asphalt entrance drive and parking area. The work is estimated to cost

\$89,920.00 Bids are subject to M.G.L.

c.30 §39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149

§§26 to 27H inclusive.

General Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., Friday April 18, 2025 and publicly opened,

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be prepared and submitted online at Projectdog.com and received no later than the date & time specified above. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the Wilbraham Housing Au-

thority. Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available in electronic form and without cost or charge at Projectdog.com, project code 867432, beginning March 26, 2025. Persons desiring hard copies of the documents shall be solely responsible for all printing costs.

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection between 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. on April 11, 2025.

For an appointment call Jeanne Tyron at 413-543-1700. 03/26/2025

LEGAL NOTICE **Ludlow Special Town** Meeting of October 7, 2024 Case #11577

Warrant Articles 9 and 10 were approved by the Attorney General's office accordingly.

**see full context of text in Town Clerk's office.

tions and at the Ludlow Town

Precinct 1 Harris Brook Elementary School Precinct 2

Paul R. Baird Middle School

Posted in all 6 polling loca-

Precinct 3 Ludlow High School Precinct 4

East Street School Precinct 5 First Church in Ludlow

Precinct 6 Paul R. Baird Middle School 03/12, 03/19, 03/26/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD25P0277GD In the interests of Jahzora B Wilmot of Ludlow, MA Minor

NOTICE AND ORDER: **Petition for Appointment** of Guardian of a Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 02/10/2025 by Jessica L Dube of Ludlow, MA will be held 04/28/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor. Located: Judge Army - In Person: 50 State St Springfield, MA 01103

Courtroom 2 - 4th Floor. 2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business

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

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

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

Date: March 17, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 03/26/2025



10 14 15 18 23 26 24 28 30 34 42 48 50 51 52 54 58 59 60

CLUES ACROSS 1. State in

- southwestern India 4. Pashto 10. Corpuscle count
- (abbr.)
- from prison 12. Greeting
- 14. Type of drug Sagan, 15. _
- astronomer 16. Every year
- 18. Nasal cavities 22. Nova ___, province
- 23. In an inactive way 24. Cream-colored root
- 26. Nervous system disease
- 27. Guitarist Clapton 28. Three came to see
- Baby Jesus 30. Lebowski's nickname

- 31. Play a role 34. Not fresh 36. Where golfers begin
- 37. Negatives 39. Wild goat 11. Supervised release 40. Releasing hormone

41. Makes up

- 42. Fastens 48. Exists in large numbers 50. A connecting word
- 51. A phase of the heartbeat 52. Northern Ireland
- county 53. An independent ruler or chieftain 54. Pacific sea bream

55. Commercial

56. Azure 58. Doctor of Education 59. Protected oneself

against loss 60. Car mechanics group

CLUES DOWN 1. Pastes for filling

- crevices 2. Acquire 3. Heralds 4. News group
- 5. Exact copies 6. Particles 7. Noted 20th C. performer Lena
- 8. Tempted 9. Midway between north and east 12. Slotted, hinged
- metal plate 13. South American
- hummingbird 17. Neither
- 19. Walk with confidence 20. Omit when
- 21. İmperial Chinese currency 25. A bakery specializing in French pastry

speaking

31. Ethnic group of Nigeria 32. Longtime NY

29. Talk incessantly

- Times film critic 33. Beginners
- 35. Makes a trade 38. Sleep
- 41. Not moving 43. Popular drink: Pina
- 44. Potential benefits 45. A place you can get stuck in 46. Ancient Greek City
- 47. Chalcedony 49. Rover
- 56. Digraph
- 57. Investment vehicle

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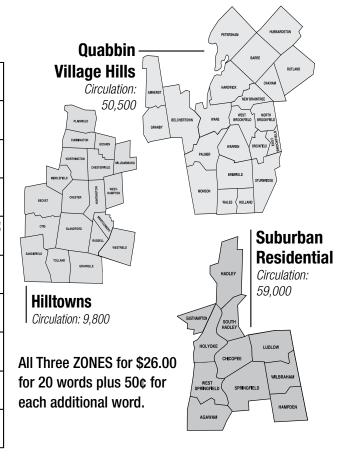
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Bumpy Roads Ahead: Pothole season enters its peak

AAA warns drivers of heightened risk of potholes as winter gives way to spring

REGION—It's the time of year known for dramatic temperature swings and bouts of heavy rainfall. The transition from late winter to early spring is also the time when drivers face the dreaded annual emergence of fresh potholes.

AAA is reminding Massachusetts drivers they should expect potholes to appear over the coming days and weeks as roads crumble under changing temperature conditions. Driving into a pothole is not only jolting, but it can also be costly: a 2023 AAA survey found that the number of drivers who sustained vehicle damage from a pothole requiring a repair soared 57% from the previous year. In 2022, an estimated 44 million U.S. drivers were hit with pothole repair bills, up from 28 million in 2021. The average price tag was \$406 per repair.

It's not just wheels and tires that suffer when roads are pockmarked by potholes. Driving into a large pothole can damage vehicle suspension and steering components as well. In a worst-case-scenario, hitting a pothole - or taking evasive action to avoid one - can lead to a crash.

"Driving into a pothole can be jarring and upsetting, especially when it leads to a blown tire, bent rim or worse," said Mark Schieldrop, senior spokesperson for AAA Northeast. "While potholes might seem unavoidable this time of year, you can decrease the odds of hitting one by driving and reacting appropriately."

Here's how to avoid pothole damage:

Adjust your driving technique by slowing down and increasing the space between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. This gives you more time to spot a pothole and avoid It.

Avoid driving into puddles, which might hide a deep pothole underneath the surface of the water.

Be extra alert on days following heavy rain or when temperatures swing below and above freezing in a short period of time. Rainwater can rush into cracks and grooves and lift away broken segments of pavement. Lingering water expands when frozen, creating new cracks and fissures. This vicious cycle can rapidly deteriorate a road already subjected to the incessant pounding of vehicle traffic.

Make sure your tires are properly inflated. Follow the manufacturer's recommended inflation pressure, usually indicated on a sticker

inside the driver's side door jamb. Low-profile tires are increasingly popular, but they're more vulnerable to blowouts and damage.

If you can't avoid hitting a pothole, try the following:

Lift your foot off the gas and try to keep the wheel as straight as possible to prevent suspension damage. Slow down as much as possible but avoid braking hard as you go over the pothole as it will compress your suspension and put extra force on the tire.

Pay attention to any new or unusual noises or vibrations after driving through the pothole. If something feels off, it could be a sign of damage. Take your vehicle to a trusted repair facility for a thorough inspection.

Report the pothole to authorities and file a damage claim if applicable. In some jurisdictions, drivers may be entitled to reimbursement for pothole damage repairs, but there may be exceptions. In Massachusetts, potholes can be reported to Massachusetts of Public Works.

AAA Northeast is a notfor-profit auto club with offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6.5 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, financial and auto-related services.

OBITUARY

Orlando Tiago Rosa Fatal

January 12, 1936 - March 3, 2025

Orlando passed away on March 3, 2025 at 89 years old. He was the son of Tia-

go Maria Fatal and Maria da Conceicao Rosa. Born in Sobral da Lagoa, Portugal; he immigrated to Ludlow, MA, with his wife and son in 1966. He worked as a general laborer at manufacturing facil-

ities, including Moore Drop Forge (hand tools), Uniroyal (tires), and Carando (meats). In addition to his family and friends, his passions were vegetable gardening, maintenance and improvements to the home and yard (both in USA and Portugal), RTP Internacional, dominos, Ou Preco Certo (Portuguese version of the Price is Right), Benfica, traveling, and Old Orchard Beach. He was a member of Our Lady of Fatima and The Gremio Lusitano. He leaves behind his wife Ivone Zina Bras, son Gilberto Zina Rosa Fatal, grandson Nathan Inacio Fatal, granddaughter Janine Inacio Fatal (Mark Christopher Pelton II), and great-granddaughters Molly Rosa Pelton and Lillian (Lilly) Helene Pelton. He was pre-deceased by his siblings Angelo Maria Gomes Fatal, Maria de Lurdes Rosa Fatal, and Jose Rosa Fatal (Palmira Martins).

Obituário de Orlando Tiago Rosa Fatal

> Orlando faleceu no dia 3 de março de 2025, aos 89 anos de idade. Era filho de Tiago Maria Fatal e Maria da Conceição Rosa. Natural de Sobral da Lagoa, Portugal; ele imigrou para Ludlow, MA, com

sua esposa e filho em 1966. Ele trabalhou como operário geral em instalações de fabricação, incluindo Moore Drop Forge (ferramentas manuais), Uniroyal (pneus) e Carando (carnes). Para além da família e amigos, as suas paixões eram fazer jardím de vegetais, a manutenção e beneficiação da casa e quintal (tanto nos EUA como em Portugal), a RTP Internacional, o dominó, o Ou Preço Certo, o Benfica, as viagens, e a Praia de Old Orchard Beach. Foi membro de Nossa Senhora de Fátima e do Grêmio Lusitano. Deixa a esposa Ivone Zina Bras, o filho Gilberto Zina Rosa Fatal, o neto Nathan Inácio Fatal, a neta Janine Inácio Fatal (Mark Christopher Pelton II) e as bisnetas Molly Rosa Pelton e Lillian (Lilly) Helene Pelton. Ele foi pré-falecido pelos irmãos Angelo Maria Gomes Fatal, Maria de Lurdes Rosa Fatal, e José Rosa Fatal (Palmira Martins).

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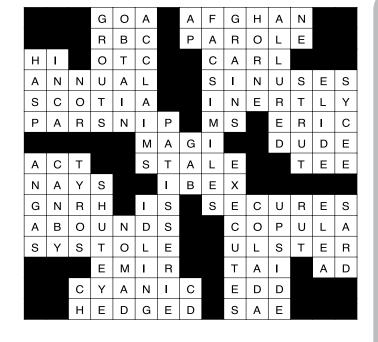
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Wed., March 26 – Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir 5:15 p.m. (C), Scouts 6:30 p.m. (ER/JR), Scouts 7:00 p.m. (ZR), Lenten Parish Mission 6:30 p.m. (C) Thurs. March 27 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Adoration 6:30 p.m. (C)

Fri., March 28 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m.(C),
Stations of the Cross 12:30 p.m. (C),
Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. (C),
Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. (C)
Sat., March 29 - Confessions - 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. (C),
Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C), Celebrate the Sacrament
of Marriage Dinner/Dance 5:00 p.m. (FLBH)
Sun., March 30 - Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C),
Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C),
Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C),
Confirmation Class 8:00 a.m. (7B)

Confirmation Class 8:00 a.m. (ZR),
Faith Formation -10:15 a.m.(All Rooms/FLBH),
LifeTeen 6:00 p.m. (JR)

Mon., March 31 - Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m. (C),
Faith Formation 6:00 p.m. (JR/ZR),
Ladies Bible Study 6:15 p.m. (ER)

Tues., April 1 - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita's Choir, 2:30 p.m. (C), Middle School Youth Ministry 3:00 p.m. (ER), Eucharistic Revival 6:30 p.m. (JR)

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Tag sale and craft fair fundraiser looking for participants

Support the Ludlow Memorial Day parade

LUDLOW—Are Spring cleaning? Do you have hand crafted items to sell? Do you want to make a few extra dollars? Please bring your items to the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee Tag Sale and Craft Fair to help support the Memorial Day Parade.

lot spaces to sell your items. A small 9' x 18' parking space is \$20 Have lots of items to sell? A double-parking lot space is two (2) 9' x 18' spots for \$35. Make your check payable to the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee and mail it with your registration form to: Mary Beth Silva at 455 Winsor Street, Ludlow, MA 01056. Reserve your spot now! Please email the committee at vetsparade01056@gmail.

You can purchase parking com to obtain the official Tag Sale / Craft Fair registration

> Set-up time is 7:30 a.m. and clean-up must be done by 4 p.m. The Tag Sale and Craft Fair will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. What you do not sell, must go back with you, the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee will not be responsible for your left-over items. The space must be totally clean when the vendor leaves.

Pop-up tents are allowed

and can be no larger than 10' x 12'. Tents cannot be staked in the parking space; you are responsible to bring weights to secure your pop-up tent. 2' x 6' foot tables are allowed for your merchandise. Electricity is not available. No generators and / or plugin power sources are not allowed.

All tag sale and craft vendors must act in a professional manner. At the discretion of the Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee, any tag ers and drinks, please come

sale and craft vendor who does not conduct themselves in a professional manner according to the said policies stated herein, may be removed from the event. The Ludlow Memorial Day Parade Committee and / or their coordinators reserve the right to remove any objectionable merchandise.

The Ludlow Boys and Girls Scout Troop 1774 will be there selling hotdogs, hamburgers, cheeseburghungry and support them. We also will have Taylor the Baker and Cookies by Ray with their delicious baked

The registration deadline is Friday, May 9, 2025. Therefore, start cleaning those closets out and / or making your creative crafts and join us on Saturday, May 17, 2025. If you have any questions, please call Mary Beth at (413) 583-6046 and / or Alesia at (413) 478-8611.



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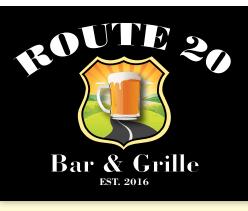
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