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The REGISTER

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Town-Wide Clean-Up held Saturday



Volunteers gathered at Veterans Park on East Street to participate in the town-wide clean-up.

LUDLOW – The Annual Town Clean-Up was held at Veterans Park this past Saturday.

The third annual Town-Wide Clean-Up was held this weekend, with volunteers gathering on the morning of Saturday, May 4, at 9 a.m. at the veterans memorial at Memorial Park on East Street.

Family, town officials, and volunteers were deployed to areas of the town in need of some tender love and care. People brought brooms, garden tools, gloves, rakes, shovels and wagons to come together to help make the town a better, cleaner place.

The clean-up was advertised by the 250th Committee, who urged people to help prepare the town for the upcoming 250th Parade and the Block Party Picnic. If you're interested in working with the 250th Committee for the town's quincentennial celebration, call Kathy Quimette at 413-589-7994 and ask about volunteering options.

Volunteers come together to participate



250th Committee Chair Linda Collette waves to the camera along with volunteers Addy Bouchard and Christina Yacono.



Kathy Quimette was seen helping the volunteers at the park.



Selectman Derek DeBarge sported an encouraging T-shirt as he helped out with the clean-up.

Charter Committee discusses outreach and feedback from the public

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – Last week, the Charter Committee voted on language to include in the proposed charter, and discussed potential outreach events for the future.

Selectman Derek DeBarge, who chaired the meeting while Chair Marissa Dahan was attending remotely, read an email to the committee about a committee's intentions about adding a seat to the School Committee in the new town charter. Committee Member Martin Fanning outlined the

plans as they were voted by the committee.

"What we are proposing is to have a Town Council member on the School Committee," Fanning said. "It would be the President of the Town Council, as a voting member, but not as Chairperson or Clerk or any other position on the School Committee. That person would run for the Town Council, elect to the Town Council, and then the Town Council would elect their own President, who would also serve on the School Committee."

Fanning went on to describe the benefit this would Please see **CHARTER**, page 16

Ride to Remember continues rich tradition of giving in Ludlow

By Harrison Giza
Staff Writer
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LUDLOW - President of the Ride to Remember, John Delaney, is beyond appreciative for the amount of support his team has received over the years.

"It takes a really good team and I am thankful to have that for the Ride to Remember," said Delaney. "We are going into our 12th year right now and for all this time I have pretty much had all the same volunteers that put together these events to raise money so that we can continue with the Ride and make donations to the local charities that we have."

Delaney has retired from the police force after serving as



Turley Photo by Harrison Giza

A sign for the event outside of Vanished Valley Brewing.

sergeant of Springfield for over 35 years. Each ride, he gives his

all to ensure that the people in

Please see **RIDE**, page 15

LUDLOW

Kendall St. residents speak out at meeting



The Planning Board wrapping up their frustrating half hour discussion of Kendall St. It should be noted the board was laughing with Chairperson Phoenix and not at them.

By Harrison Giza
Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – The Planning Board continued a public hearing regarding an estate lot special permit on Kendall St.

Board members continued to hear information on the issue at the April 25 meeting, though there was very little to offer the many residents who had come to learn more about the permit application, which has been open for several months.

Andrew Mirkin, president of Associated Building Wreckers submitted correspondence to the board, and it was read in for the record by Planning Board Chairman Raymond Phoenix.

“I am now following up in writing to the planning board on behalf of the owners of the property Zane and Brenda Mirkin,” the letter states. “I understand their

land is on tonight’s planning board agenda for the town. Both owners are out of state until June as they reside in Florida. They would like to have a continuance on this agenda regarding the Kendall land until they are back to prepare and attend the town meeting.”

Phoenix said there seemed to be a lack of communication about the original continuance to April 25. The issue had been continued back in January to the date last week, and Phoenix and others had expected the applicants to be in attendance.

Phoenix also said another individual, Paul Smith, was handling the permit application, and the applicants had not appeared in front of the board during previous hearings on the matter. He appeared frustrated the Planning Board was not informed there was a conflict with the April 25 continuation until it was too late.



More than 90% of those in attendance were concerned members of Kendall St

“It has been continued to this night for three months,” Phoenix said. “Nobody noticed that conflict in the 90 days? That seems unexpected. I do not know if I want to try and move this forward without the applicant here so I suspect that we’re probably going to be looking to continue anyway, but it does not leave a particularly good taste in my mouth.”

Concerns raised earlier in the process over areas such as wastewater and drainage plans have yet to be addressed.

Select Board Vice Chairman Joe Siliva expressed frustration over the fact no changes have been made to the estate lot plan and continuances are frustrating residents.

Town Planner, Douglas J. Stefancik, said the continuance request came in the same day as the meeting.

“We got that after 2 p.m.,” Stefancik said. The office followed up, and a written request was submitted shortly after.

One Kendall St. resident asked the board if water testing had been performed at the site yet.


“My question is for the last meeting,” resident Gail O’Conner said. “Is my understanding that the owners were supposed to address this about the water runoff and they were supposed to do a test or something. Weren’t they supposed to present the results from a test of water?”

Discussion then ensued about the water planning and whether or not proper modifications could be made to satisfy the concerns about stormwater and drain-

age on the roadway and the property.

The Kendall St. matter was continued to the June 13 meeting.

The Planning Board meets at the Ludlow Town Hall the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00pm. For further information, they may be reached at 413-583-5600.




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CHANEL

Chanel is a rescue from T.J. O'Connor. Her family adopted her last February. She's a four-year-old loveable and beautiful Pitbull. She just finished level one dog obedience and will continue to level two. She loves long walks, other dogs, and our family. We feature your pets here. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mgusmao@turley.com.

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Commission on Disability updates on ongoing projects and upcoming concerns

By **Marcelo Gusmão**
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – People with disabilities in town have an advocacy group in the form of an appointed volunteer commission, which meets every month at Town Hall.

The Commission on Disability was established to advocate for the needs of people with disabilities in our community. The committee is made up of town residents who volunteer for the appointed positions.

Through its authority as granted by the town, the commission works within the town's bylaws to make sure the town as a whole is compliant with the regulations put forth by the Americans with Disabilities Association.

Jenny Wright and Chris Harkins are two of the members of the commission, who said that there are no titles for their positions. The two of them serve on the commission with Beverly Barre and Joanne Oda-to-Staebe, with up to seven active positions as of 2022.

"There are no special titles," Harkins said. "All members are just commission members."

Wright and Harkins said that they each have differing versions of dwarfism. Though the town prefers that a majority of the appointed

members have a disability, Wright added that the commission is aware of invisible disabilities, and that this provision was included to ensure that the commission be made up of people advocating for themselves as much as it is made up of concerned citizens.

So what are the concerns of the commission? According to Wright and Harkins, the commission's main duties are to make sure that the town's municipal services are accessible to people with disabilities, such as schools, town buildings, and libraries, as well as businesses and other agencies and organizations that operate in town.

"We recently worked with Exit 7 to raise money for an interpreter," Wright said.

The commission is also involved in ensuring that the schools have adequate accommodations for students with disabilities, and that there is adequate mobility for people with handicaps.

Though the commission does not currently work with any unions or employee advocacy groups to ensure accommodations for people with disabilities at work, they did express an interest in pursuing such partnerships in the future.

Right now, the big project has been to get a handicapped spot at the CVS Pharmacy on Center Street,

which has been a long battle for the commission. There was also talk about a wheelchair lift in the school gym that's been broken, though the members seemed unhopeful that it will be dealt with in the immediate future.

Traditionally, the town has an ADA Agent in the form of the Building Inspector, but since the departure of Leslie Ward, the commission has been patiently awaiting the appointment of a new agent to work with them on ADA compliance.

In the meantime, the commission continues to work with the town by appearing at fundraisers and supporting local events. Wright mentioned that the commission has been involved with the 250th Committee's upcoming picnic.

"Last year we were invited to participate in Color Ludlow with Love," Wright said.

The commission also made a donation to the Michael J. Dias Foundation of \$499 back in February.

The Commission meets once a month at Town Hall, on the fourth Thursday of every month, at 6 p.m.

If you'd like to contact the Commission on Disability about any concerns or volunteer opportunities, you can visit its Facebook page, or send an email to Dis.Comm.Ludlow@gmail.com.

Great Songs from Great Movies at the Wilbraham Public Library

WILBRAHAM— Instrumentalist and vocalist David Polansky will perform "Great Songs From Great Movies" at the Wilbraham Public Library on Monday, May 20 at 6 p.m. In addition to taking audience requests, his concert will span several decades of film history, from *Singin' in the Rain* to *Star Wars*. An accomplished musician, David is in constant demand throughout the New England area. Loved by every-

one from preschoolers to grandparents, his songs have been compared to those of Stephen Sondheim and Tom Lehrer. He has performed at the Wilbraham Library since 1997.

Registration for this free event is encouraged and space is limited. To register, please contact the library

at 413-596-6141 or visit the Event Calendar at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org. This program is sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

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Local sophomore crowned Miss Western Mass Teen

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – A sophomore at the High School has been crowned Miss Western Massachusetts in the Teen division, and is using her title to boost awareness for children with learning disabilities.

Back in January, Mathias attended the Miss Western Massachusetts Teen competition, saying that she scored the highest out of all the competitors.

Mathias shared the process of the competition.

“You start with an interview in the morning,” Mathias said. “It’s just an eight-minute interview with five judges. They ask you questions on your Community Service Initiative and what you want to do throughout your year as the title-holder.”

Mathias said that she also provided a “fact sheet,” which was functionally a resume of accomplishments for the panel of judges to ask questions off of. She said that the answers are scored out of 10.

Mathias’s community service initiative has been focused on supporting children with learning disabilities through the Cameron Project.

“It’s named after my younger sister, Cameron,” Mathias said. “It’s to bring awareness to children with learning disabilities, and raise money to support them. I came

up with the idea because of her, and now I do this for her.”

Mathias said that the Cameron Project has been focused on providing tutors at Baird Middle School. She mentioned that she is also interested in tutoring at St. John the Baptist School as well.

For the talent portion of the competition, Mathias chose dance, as she has studied ballet, contemporary, jazz, lyrical, and tap at All-American Dance Academy. She said that her favorite style of dance is lyrical, and this was the form of dance that she did for her talent.

Mathias described other kids playing the flute and telling “herstories,” which were personal stories on the competitor’s life, for which they were judged on their speaking skills.

As part of her community service initiative and the Cameron Project, Mathias has been running a feature on her social media which she calls “Stop the Stigma Saturdays.”

“I post tracks about learning disabilities on Instagram,” Mathias said. “I post most weekends, but sometimes I forget. The judges asked me what my favorite post that I did was, and I said the one about Cameron, because I told Cameron’s story about her life.”

Mathias’s father, Rob, has been driving his daughter to her competitions, and said it’s been a great experience.

“It’s kind of fun to watch the progression,” he said. “Her public speaking is amazing,



Madison Mathias is a sophomore at Ludlow High School, and tutors at the local middle schools.



Submitted photos

Madison Mathias was crowned Miss Western Massachusetts Teen back in January.

and the amount of community service that she does now really shows a lot of character-building within the organization for the teens and even for the Misses.”

Rob said that because Mathias’s mother, Danielle, works on Saturdays during the day, he is the one who usually chaperones Madison.

“I’m lucky enough to be able to go to all the different events,” he said, adding, “I tend to do a lot of driving and a lot of watching her be more important than me.”

From Miss Western MA

Teen, Mathias will now go to the state competition, which will be held in Fall River in June. Depending on how she places in Miss Massachusetts Teen, she could also compete nationally.

“Miss Western MA is local, so you don’t have as much following and popularity and all that,” Mathias said. “With

the local title, I can go to appearances and stuff like that, but with the state title you do more, there’s more prestige to it.”

The Miss Massachusetts Teen competition will be held in Fall River. For more information about the organization, go to MMAOTeen.org.

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Oliveira stops by brewery, reflects on 'SenaTOUR' event

By Harrison Giza
Staff Writer
hgiza@turley.com

LUDLOW - Last Tuesday, State Senator Jake Oliveira gave a warm welcome to Ludlow residents at Iron Duke Brewery, in hopes of addressing the region's priorities through his "SenaTOURS" event.

The tour was part of a larger series of policy events organized by Senate leadership, where each member of the Senate welcomes the delegation to their respective districts to showcase the region, share vital community issues as well as discuss further projects in their established communities.

Though Oliveira's SenaTOUR began in the morning at UMass's Cold Springs Orchard in Belchertown, it continued at the Ludlow Mills, where attendees heard from WestMass Area Development Core President and CEO, Jeff Daley, as he discussed the potential to explore opportunities for economic development and housing initiatives in the region.

Reflecting on the event's success, Senator Oliveira underscored the significance of addressing regional priorities collaboratively.

"The SenaTOUR provides a unique opportunity for members of the Legislature to learn from one another and work together for the betterment of not only our respective districts but all of Massachusetts," remarked Senator Oliveira. "By coming together and uniting stakeholders and policymakers, we can drive the initiatives that strengthen our communities and the Commonwealth."

Senate Majority Leader, Cindy Creem, was in attendance that day, showing up to support Oliveira.

"The SenaTOURS program is an incredible opportunity for members to showcase the very best of their district, and Senator Oliveira did just that for Pioneer Valley," said Creem. "From transforming existing mills infrastructure into both market rate and affordable housing to highlighting the important role agriculture plays in the Commonwealth's economy and academic research, members of the Senate surely got a sense of some of local organizations and businesses that are at the heart of western Massachusetts."

Senate President, Karen E. Spilka, was just as excited as Creem.

"Today's tour underscored that Western Massachusetts is an economic hub and regional leader that sits squarely at the intersection of agriculture and industry," said Spilka. "The Senate is proud to support every region of the Commonwealth in becoming a more affordable, equitable, and competitive home for residents and businesses, and today made it clear why it's important to keep making those investments. I'm grateful to Senator Oliveira for organizing a wonderful tour of his district and to all of the members who joined us in the field."

Oliveira thanked Senate leadership for implementing the SenaTOUR series and for the opportunity to highlight the region.

"I want to thank my colleagues in the Legislature who joined me for today's tour to learn more about our priorities in Western Mass," Oliveira said. "Special thanks to Senate President Karen Spilka, Majority Leader Senator Cindy Creem, Assistant Majority Leader Senator Sal DiDomenico, and their offices for their hard work planning and collaborating on the tour with

Please see **SENATE**, page 8



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Saturday, June 15th

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11:30 a.m. Block Party Picnic at Ludlow Memorial Park/Veterans War Memorial Park
9:20 p.m. Fireworks

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OPINION



Widower's retirement stymied by Social Security's WEP and GPO rules

Dear Rusty

My wife passed away four years ago. I want to retire so called SSA and was told I can collect my own SS at 62, reduced by Windfall Elimination Provision.

My wife's SS was greater than mine, but they said I do not qualify for hers at age 60 because of the Government Pension Offset. This seems odd that I get zero for her, however I can collect mine at the two thirds reduction at 62. Is this true? This zero dollar amount places my retirement on hold for now. I was counting on her SS.

Signed: Discouraged Widower

Dear Discouraged

The Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset are two of the most confusing and unpopular of Social Security's myriad rules. From the way you describe your conversation with the Social Security Administration, it doesn't appear to have concluded with you fully understanding how these provisions work, so allow me to elaborate.

WEP and GPO affect anyone who has a retirement pension from a federal, state or local government agency which did not participate in Social Security, meaning neither the employee nor the employer paid into Social Security based on the employee's earnings. Obviously, you have such a pension, which means that WEP will reduce any Social Security retirement benefit you have earned from other employment where SS payroll taxes were withheld and the GPO will affect any survivor benefit you are entitled to.

WEP affects only the SS retirement benefit you earned elsewhere; WEP does not affect any surviving spouse benefit you might be entitled to from your wife. Rather, it is the GPO, which affects your survivor benefit, again because of your state retirement, called a "non-covered pension" - one earned without contributing to Social Security. The GPO will reduce any surviving spouse benefit you might be entitled to by 2/3rds of the amount of your "non-covered" state pension. Depending on the size of your state pension, that reduction may entirely eliminate your surviving spouse benefit from your wife.

Under normal SS rules, a surviving spouse does not become eligible for survivor benefits until they reach age 60 (age 50 if disabled). Normally, a surviving spouse benefit claimed at age 60 is reduced by 28.5% and it is the GPO that will affect your survivor benefit whenever you claim it. However, even without GPO, your age 60 survivor benefit amount would be only 71.5% of the amount your wife was receiving or entitled to receive at her death. If you are already collecting your non-covered state pension when you claim your SS survivor benefit from your wife, then that reduced age 60 survivor benefit would be offset by 2/3rds of the amount of your state pension. And that, according to what Social Security told you, is what eliminated your age 60 eligibility for a surviving spouse benefit from your wife. If you don't claim it at 60 your survivor benefit will continue to grow until you reach your Full Retirement Age of 67, but if 2/3rds of your state pension is more than 100% of

Please see **SOCIAL**, page 13



GUEST COLUMN

Pointers for happy plants

I read somewhere that the new frost free date for our area is May 8.

In discussing this finding with a fellow gardener, she said, "I still wait until Memorial Day. It just seems way too early to put peppers or tomatoes into the garden." I wait too.

It is more than just the frost free date, it's also about how sufficiently the soil has warmed up. With temps hovering in the mid 40's today, I can't imagine our tropical loving plants would be very happy dealing with that.

Besides choosing an appropriate planting date, there are a few other pointers at this stage of the game will help to get your garden off to a good start.

Whether you purchase plants at a local garden center or grow your own on windowsills or under lights, it is important that they be hardened off before being set into the ground.

Some nurseries take care of this for you by removing them from the greenhouse and placing them on benches outdoors where they get accustomed to wind, rain, fluctuating temperatures, and hot sun. If the plants you purchased came from inside the greenhouse hardening them off at home is relatively easy.

Introduce seedlings to the outdoors gradually, by placing them in a protected location, safe from whipping winds and scalding sun, for a small amount of time each day. Water frequently but withhold any fertilizer.

Over the course of a week to 10 days the amount of time spent outdoors should increase until plants have spent a full day outside. Once they have, they can be considered "tough enough" to be planted in the ground.

Transplanting is best done on a cloudy, drizzly day. Early evening is another option should nice days persist.

Under these circumstances roots will be allowed some recovery time before having sustain the plant in the sun and wind. Seedlings should be watered well prior to transplanting.

On occasion I have even kept a bucket of water with me in the garden in which I submerge six packs of plants for a few seconds to moisten them thoroughly before planting in dry soil.

The planting hole should be dug slightly larger than the container in which the plant was growing. Depending on the type of plant, compost and fertilizers can be added to the hole and mixed with the surrounding soil to insure adequate fertility.

Plant the seedlings at the same depth they were growing in their containers, no deeper. One exception to this rule is tomatoes, whose stems sprout roots!

For less leggy tomatoes, plant them deeply, even in trenches with only a few sets of leaves above ground.

Examine the root ball of seedlings carefully. If the roots are tightly woven together, they may need to be "butterflied," or gently pulled apart to encourage future rooting in new soil.

After planting, firm soil around roots, and water well. If water drains away from the seedling make a basin of soil a few inches from the plant's stem to keep water where it is needed.

If sunny days and warm temperatures are expected soon after transplanting it is a good idea to shade plants for a few days with overturned pots, tree branches, or other devices. Again, less transplant shock means less time spent on recovery, and more time spent on making fruits and flowers!

Please see **GARDEN**, page 10



Election letters policy

The Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered

for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the

newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in *The Register*.

The REGISTER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

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

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

For All Ages

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

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

For Adults

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

Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday until June 27, 1:30 p.m. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

Who picked this book? Book Club Meeting, first Thursday of the month (May 2), 3:30 p.m. Join us for this month's Who picked this book? Book Club meeting! You can pick up a copy of the book at the circulation desk.

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

Mini Mindfulness Retreat, Saturday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. Learn and practice strategies that can support you in times of anxiousness, stress, in addition to developing self care tools you can use every day. These strategies include gentle, grounding postures for all levels of ability and breathing and meditation

techniques. This workshop is accessible for people of all abilities. No previous yoga experience needed. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

How To Use Libby, Wednesday, May 8, 11:00 a.m. Read for FREE on your phone or tablet! Get e-books and e-audios on your smart device! This class will get you signed into Libby and walk you through using the app. You must bring your smartphone or tablet and library card with you. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Meditate with Amy, Thursday, May 9 and 23, 7:00 p.m. Join Certified Meditation Instructor Amy Rutledge for an Anxiety and Stress Relief workshop during May Mental Health Awareness Month! Participants will learn healthy anxiety coping skills, breathing techniques, and the first session will end with a meditation (and the 2nd will end with a sound bath). Class is 60 minutes with an intro, guided practice, then time for Q&A. Open to all levels and beginners welcome! These sessions will be held virtually on Zoom. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Health Plan Options, Wednesday, May 15, 1:30 p.m. Presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, this informative presentation will discuss what health plan options you have like Medicare, Medigap, Medicare Advantage plans, and more. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Sourdough Starter Workshop, Tuesday, May 21, 6:30 p.m. Learn how to make, maintain, and store a sourdough starter from local sourdough baker and food blogger Sourdough Brandon. You'll even leave with some free sourdough starter! Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Introduction to Tarot Card as a Whole System, Thursday, May 30, 6:00 p.m. Join Winifred for a fun and interactive evening where you will be introduced to the "big picture" view of tarot as a system and get started demystifying tarot. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

For Teens

Nintendo Switch Night, every other Tuesday (4/30, 5/14, 5/28, 6/11, 6/25), 6:00-7:45 p.m.

Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Nintendo Switch games. For 6th-12th graders, space is limited to 16 people, please register.

Anime Club, Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 p.m. Meet each week to watch & talk about anime, eat snacks, & try out your cosplay. The group decides what to watch each week. Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, Every other Tuesday (5/7, 5/21, 6/4, 6/18), 5:00-6:00 p.m. For ages 10 & up. For beginners up to experienced crocheters, supplies provided or bring your own. Please register.

The 'Fellowship of the Pages' Book Discussion Group, Every Thursday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Meet each week to discuss books, eat snacks, play games, and make friends. This month the group is reading "The Storm Runner" by Jennifer Cervantes, copies are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred

Hydro Dipping for YAs, Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m. Ages 10+ Bring shoes, water bottles, or other non-fabric items and turn them into marbled works of art. Please register.

Mass Kids Lit Fest: Writing Workshop w/ Author Erin Dionne, Thursday, May 9, 5:30 p.m. For tweens & teens. Renowned author Erin Dionne will use her book, "Lights, Camera, Disaster" as inspiration to conduct a writing workshop for students with fun writing activities and a peek into how authors write books. Sponsored by Mass Kids Lit Fest & MA Center for the Book. Please register.

Dungeons & Dragons High School Adventure Ensemble, Fridays 2:30-4:30 p.m. This group is for experienced high school players; the group is currently full but you can sign up now to be part of the summer campaign. Please register.

"Read Between the Lines" High School Book Group, April 26, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Book chat and snacks for ages 14 & up. This month's book is "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton; copies of the book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

For Children & Teens

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

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

Minecraft Club, Saturdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Minecraft players of all skill levels can bring their own devices, or may use one of the library's eight computers to build, play & create. For upper elementary & up. Drop-in.

Mother's Day Gift Making, Saturday, May 11, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. All ages. Stop by the library to make snow globes, handprint vases, and thumbprint magnets. Drop in.

For Children

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

Storytime for 3-5 year olds, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. A five-week series of stories, songs, & games relating to the theme of space, tailored for 3-5 year olds, with a craft & snack at the end. Please register.

Sing With Me, Tuesdays 10:30-11:00 a.m. For ages 0-5. Does not meet April 16. Join Youth Services Librarian July for 30 minutes of favorite children's songs & movement. Drop-in.

Princess & Knight Yoga, Wednesday, May 1, 4:00 p.m. For 2 & up with caregivers. Wear a costume if you'd like and learn yoga poses to make you strong, just, elegant, & regal! Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Storytime for 2-3 year olds, Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. A five-week series of stories, songs, & games relating to the theme of space, tailored for 2-3 year olds, with a craft & snack at the end. Please register.

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

Read to Karl the Dog, Wednesday, May 8, 3:15 p.m. For beginner readers. Therapy dog Karl is a great listener! Join him and his trainer, Ludlow Animal Control Officer Octavia Anderson for 15 minutes of solo reading. Please register.

Homeschooler Storytime: True Tales, Wednesdays 12:00-12:45 p.m. For ages 5-8. A fun, gently educational storytime that uses picture book biographies to share inspiring stories about real people and historical events. Please register.

Grow, Play and Learn, Thursdays, 9:45-10:30 a.m. for babies and toddlers; and Thursdays 10:45- 11:30 a.m. for 2-5 year olds. Stories, songs and skill building, led by Kelly Castor, Early Childhood Developmental specialist, who will guide caregivers in strengthening interactions with their children. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents. Please register.

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Local finalists nominated for 27th annual Howdy Awards



Howdy Award Winner in the Food Table Side category, Catherine West of McCarthy's Pub in Belchertown.

Catherine West named 2024 Food Table Side winner

Staff Report

SPRINGFIELD – The Greater Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau hosted the 27th annual Howdy Awards at the MassMutual Center on April 29.

The Howdy Awards event was created to highlight Hospitality Excellence to the front line employees in the hospitality industry and receive the best “tip” they could, recognition for having the ability to brighten other people’s days all while performing their hard work.

With 997 nominations in the nine categories, 73 nominees made it into the finalist round.

Belchertown had two of the town’s local businesses



Many supporters of Catherine West were in attendance at the Howdy Awards. Shown from left are Ethan West, Raina Langlois, Elise Diemard, Donna Bristone, Janice McCarthy Rogers, Fred Sturm, Catherine West, Maureen McGarrett Hall, Audrey West, Siobhan Koske and Kim Simons.

present that evening as finalists, McCarthy’s Pub coming out with not only a finalist but an overall winner in the of the Food Table Side category, taken home by Manager Catherine West.

West is known to many in and around the Pioneer Valley through years of service at many local restaurants, The Lord Jeffery Inn in Amherst,



Finalist Kayla Syriac of Three Rivers, middle, is shown with her father Wyatt Syriac and mother Caskielena Syriac. Syriac is the Lead Front Desk Agent at the Holiday Inn Express in Ludlow.

Stables Restaurant in Hadley, Roberto’s Restaurant in Northampton, Casa Antonio’s in Hadley, Wood Bridges in South Hadley and she has spent her last 20 years at McCarthy’s Pub in Belchertown.

West is known to many in and around the Pioneer Valley through years of service at many local restaurants, The Lord Jeffery Inn in Amherst, name but she was Please see **HOWDY**, page 9

SENATE from page 5

my office. It was a great day for Western Mass.”

The tour finished with lunch at Iron Duke Brewing in Ludlow, where Baystate Health President Mark Keroack delivered a presentation on healthcare in the region, Baystate’s importance to its many patients and the region’s economy, and the future of healthcare in Western Mass.

A fourth-generation resident of Ludlow, Senator Jake Oliveira proudly serves the residents of the Hampden, Hampshire & Worcester District, which includes

Ludlow, Belchertown, Granby, Palmer, Warren, Hampden, South Hadley, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, parts of Springfield, parts of Chicopee, and Wilbraham. Before being elected in 2022, Senator Oliveira served as the State Representative for the 7th Hampden District.

For information regarding the Statehouse and other general building information, please call the main Statehouse phone number, (617) 722-2000. For more information regarding the Statehouse Tours, call (617) 727-3676.

Congratulations Samantha

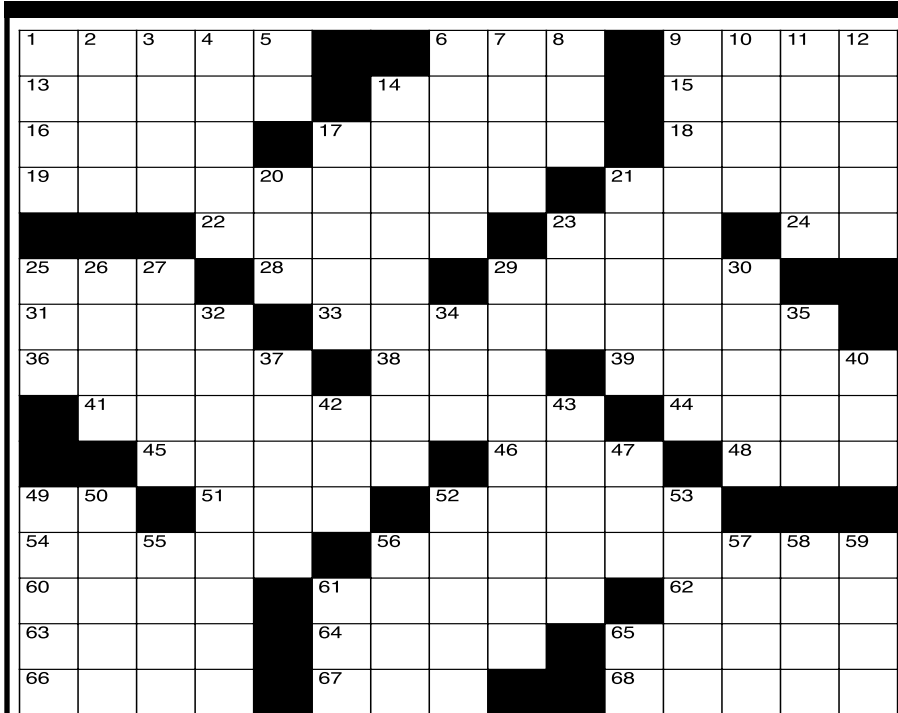


We are thrilled to announce the graduation of Samantha Ribeiro from Syracuse University College of Law’s JDi program.

Samantha is the daughter of Jorge and Rosemary Ribeiro, granddaughter of Alfredo and Isabel Ribeiro and granddaughter of Dores Pinto and the late Abilio Pinto.

Samantha worked full time throughout law school while also actively participating in the low-income taxpayer clinic, extending legal support to those in need. Samantha’s involvement extended beyond academics, serving as a dedicated member of the Student Bar Association, representing her peers as a class senator. Additionally, she contributed to the Women’s Law Society and the Syracuse Animal Legal Defense Fund, embodying a commitment to justice and equity.

Samantha completed her coursework in December and successfully passed the bar exam in February. We are proud to share that Samantha will be embarking on the next chapter of her career as an Associate Attorney with Donohoe Law PC in Marshfield, MA



CLUES ACROSS

1. It wakes you up
6. A place to sleep
9. Czech village
13. Appetizer
14. African country
15. Dark brown or black
16. Parent-teacher groups
17. Saturates
18. ESPN personality Kimes
19. Songs to a lover
21. Cavalry-sword
22. Begat
23. Patriotic women
24. Famed Princess
25. One who does not conform
28. Neither
29. Nigerian monetary unit
31. Body parts
33. Hit Dave Matthews Band song
36. Depicts with pencil

38. Make into leather without tannin
39. Plants grow from them
41. Alias
44. Fingers do it
45. More dried-up
46. Clod
48. Senior officer
49. A way to listen to music
51. The bill in a restaurant
52. Historic center of Artois region
54. Cyprinid fishes
56. Poisonous perennial plant
60. Scottish Loch
61. Heads
62. Extra seed-covering
63. Wings
64. Britpop band
65. Forearm bones
66. Small immature herring
67. Female sibling

CLUES DOWN

1. Vipers
2. Not on time
3. Resembling a wing or wings
4. Tears down
5. Professional designation
6. Noise a sheep made
7. Type of lodge
8. Speak poorly of
9. Ties the knot again
10. Apron
11. Studied intensively
12. City in Finland
14. One who monitors
17. 18-year astronomical period
20. Trent Reznor’s band
21. Takes to the sea
23. Split pulses
25. Valentine’s Day color
26. Wyatt ___
27. Type of rail

29. One from the Big Apple
30. Asteroids
32. Made more sugary
34. Change in skin pigment
35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
37. Koran chapters
40. A place to relax
42. Young woman ready for society life
43. Female horses
47. Half of Milli Vanilli
49. Icelandic poems
50. Indiana town
52. Golden peas
53. Closes tightly
55. It’s mined in mountains
56. Cliff (Hawaii)
57. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
58. Monetary unit
59. Primordial matter
61. TV station
65. Rise

HOWDY from page 8

honored and humbled to receive such an amazing award.

Owner of McCarthy's Pub, Janice McCarthy Rogers, said, "I cannot be more delighted for Catherine to have received this award and I know in my heart that there is no other server in western Massachusetts that could surpass Catherine's ability to make everyone feel warm, welcomed and at home while dining at McCarthy's Pub each and every visit all while performing in her managerial position."

David Dunston, an employee of Hulmes Transportation Services in Belchertown, was a finalist in the Transportation category. Dunston has been with Hulmes Transportation for just over a year's time and has already made a lasting impact on the families and staff he comes into contact with.

He recently found out it was a consumer's family who put in his nomination, and he was honored to have made it to the top round of finalists.

When asked what he think sets him apart from others in his industry, Dunston said, "I make it a priority to treat the families I come into contact with as if they were my own."

Dunston is no stranger to the Howdy Awards as he was also a past nominee three years ago while employed with the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield. Many know him from his 10 years of Security Services at the Springfield School Department and his local IAABO Board 31 Basketball referee services for the past 33 years.

Also in attendance was finalist Kayla Syriac from the Three Rivers section of Palmer who made it to the finalist round for her excellence in service as a Lead Front Desk Agent at the local Ludlow Holiday Inn Express in the Accommodations category.

Syriac started working at the Ludlow Holiday Inn Express straight out of high school, through a co-op program offered from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High school in which her focus choice was in Hospitality.

She was so honored to have been chosen a finalist out of 993 nominations in western Massachusetts for such a local prestigious hospitality award.

Nominees in all nine categories include:

Accommodations

Brittany Cote: D.Hotel Suites & Spa, Judy Linarez: Gelling Hilton Garden Inn, Kayla Syriac: Holiday Inn Express, Samantha Douville: Residence Inn and Angelica Moser: Inn on Boltwood.



Turley Staff Photos

Guests in attendance for finalist David Dunston of Hulmes Transportation Services in Belchertown, from left, are Tony Smith, Claudia Byrd, Aida Monserrate, Christina Stafinski, Faye Ford, Matt Anziano, Dave Dunston, Paul Anziano, Rebecca Cantwell and Erin Marchese.

Attractions

Sabrina Brizzolari: MassMutual Center, Henry Lockett: Springfield Museums, Demetria Wood: MGM Springfield, Cindy Burke: MassMutual Center, Sue Ellen Pevlin: The Big E, Gary Laprade: Mullins Center, Michael Furman: Look Park Zoo, Ann Norman Harpin: Springfield Museums, Brett Forgette: Stanley Park, Lauren Blanchard: Springfield Thunderbirds, Matthew Ferri: MassMutual Center and Drew Superior: Springfield Thunderbirds.

Beverage

Tony Berardi: Milano's, Christopher: Camus Brennan's, Kristin Matthew: Olive Garden, Tad Mosher: Mill River Tavern, David Garcia: Commonwealth Bar, Niko Basile: Plan B Burger Bar, Rachel Smith: The Duck/Avelinos, Jen Seaford: The Student Prince, Brian Flynn: The Tunnel Bar, Sarah Clancy: Sheraton MVP Pub, Brittany Houghton: Murphy's Pub and Jillian Wilkins: Munich Haus.

Banquets & Meetings

Michael Riordan: MGM Springfield, Jim Crowley: The Log Cabin, Brenda Lee Glanville: Summit View, Nicole Nell: Visual Sound Productions and Kathryn Campbell: MassMutual Center.

Food-Casual

Brittney Bussiere: EB's, Josie Losado: South End Market, Carlye Netto: North Shore Seafood and Shelly Flag: Little George's.

Food-Tableside

Elliott Castellano: Amadeo's, Arthur Hill: Johnny's Bar & Grille, Cathy West: McCarthy's Pub, Jolene DiCioccio: Partner's Restaurant, Jeff Culy: The Student Prince, Robert Vermast: Lola's, Bernie Fontaine: Figlio's, Rachel Locke: Posto Italian, Aliya Johnson: Tap Sports Bar, Sonya Bastarache: Chandler Steakhouse, Lyndsey Bousquet: Osteria and Chase McTaggart: Posto Italian.

Public Service

Laurie Fontaine: Elms College, Cailen Wagner: Mercy Medical Center, January Russell: Bluestone Insurance, Ramon Perez Guerra: Baystate Health, AmyRose LaDue: Baystate Medical Center, James Watts: Baystate Health, Caroline Robinson: Baystate Health and Mike Dion: Kleen-Rite Services

Retail

Fernando Rodriguez: Marcotte Ford, Devon Lane: Father's & Sons Volvo, Kate Gourde: Cooper's Gifts & Apparel, Helen Baker: Baker's Country Store, Eric Stone: Big Y, Nancy Filkowski: Big Y, Ashley Fill: Big Y, Kimber Bennett: Yankee Candle Village, Takisha Burton: Yankee Candle Village and Stephen Ross: Yankee Candle Village.

Transportation

Jose Lisboa: Peter Pan Bus Lines, David Dunston: Hulmes Transportation, Alexa Barkyoub: Peter Pan Bus Lines and Rob Lawson: Peter Pan Bus Lines.

250th Committee Children's Bike Parade and Safety Rodeo

LUDLOW – The 250th Celebration Committee is holding a bike parade on Saturday, May 25, from 10 a.m. to noon, for age groups from kindergarten to 2nd grade, and 3rd to 5th grade.

The parade route will start at the Mill Clock Tower parking area at 100 State St., and then follow the Riverwalk to end at the Iron Duke parking lot.

Following the parade, the Police Department will host a bike safety rodeo in the Iron Duke parking lot. The safety rodeo will include a bike inspection, a road course, and more.

Decorate anything you can push, pull, tow or pedal on a 250th Birthday Celebration theme. The two age groups will have prizes awarded for the following categories: silliest, most creative and best in class.

Don't wait, register your bike, trike, or wagon today.

Randall's Farm is graciously donating Elsie's famous ice cream for all children who register for the Bike Parade.

Registration is required at www.ludlowma250.org. Please fill out the registration form online and print out the liability form. You must bring the completed liability form for your child to participate.

For more info on 250th Celebration events, please go to ludlowma250.org, or check out their Facebook page at Ludlow MA 250.

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CAMPUS NOTES

Costa Receives Phi Kappa Phi Award

LUDLOW -- Michael Costa, a town resident and graduate of the Ludlow High School Class of 2023, was recognized by the UMass Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi for exceptional academic performance and awarded with a Certificate of High Scholastic Achievement this spring semester.

Costa, a sophomore at the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, placed within the top 10 percent of his university graduating class of 2026.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa was founded in 1897 and is the nation's oldest, largest, and most selective all-discipline honor society, with membership by invitation only.

Resident awarded Salisbury prize

WORCESTER— Worcester Polytechnic Institute has announced that Ryan Malaquias, Class of 2024, majoring in Civil Engineering, was awarded the university's Salisbury prize.

A total of 21 undergraduate students, out of a class of more than 1,200, were nominated by their departments to receive this award. The Salisbury Prize was instituted in 1871 by Stephen Salisbury, a 19th century businessman and philanthropist who was one of the founders of WPI. Salisbury, who also served as President of the Board of Trustees, established the award to recognize outstanding members of the senior class "who have faithfully, industriously, and with distinguished attainment" completed all course and project

requirements for the bachelor's degree.

"These students exemplify the spirit of WPI," said Professor Arthur C. Heinricher. "WPI is more than an academically elite university; from the moment our students set foot on this campus, we challenge them to use their intelligence and their abilities to solve problems and help people around the world. In addition to their exceptional coursework, each recipient of a Salisbury Prize has done outstanding work in all three of WPI's required projects, one in the Humanities and Arts, one addressing a problem at the intersection of science and technology with human need, and one in their major area of study. These students have helped make WPI a better place to study and work."

GARDEN from page 6

Continue to water well and deeply for the first week or two. Deep watering will encourage deep rooting, and deep roots will best withstand summer droughts.

Taking good care of your plants in the early stages will certainly insure a summer of productivity.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



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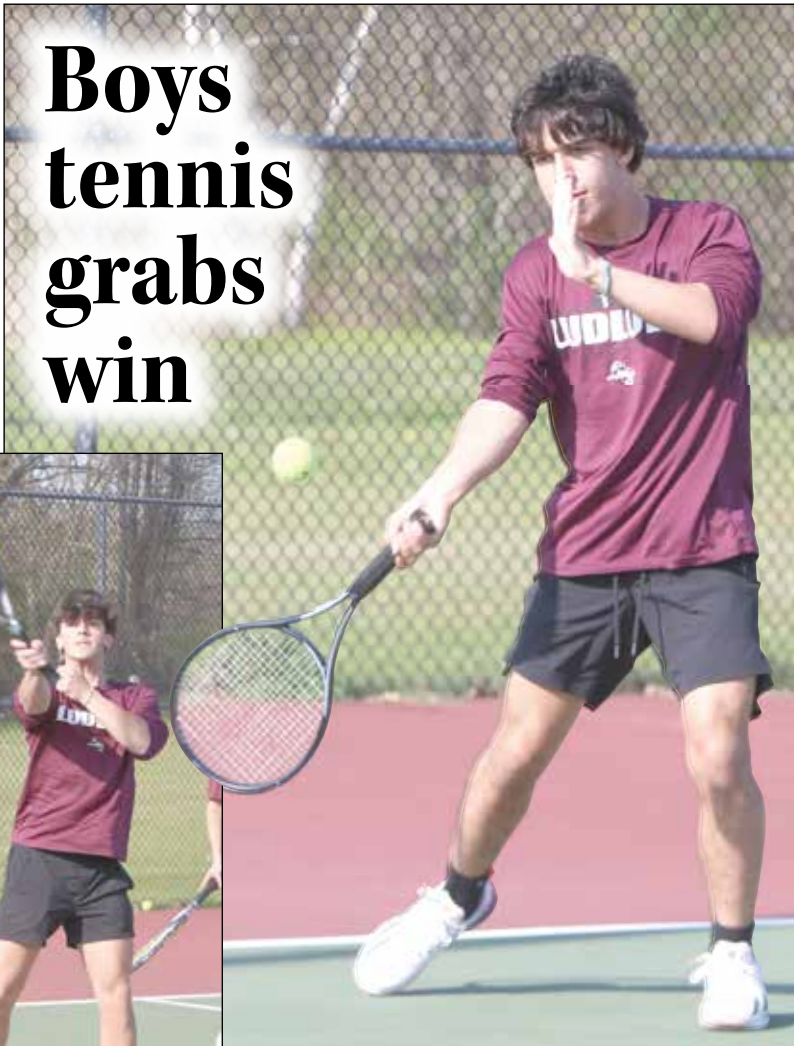
Ryan Gomes nearly dives to keep the play going.



Chris Goncalves ranges to his left.



Darren Zaldivar flies overhand for a return hit.



Boys tennis grabs win

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ryan Gomes goes for the underhand return.

LUDLOW – The Ludlow High School boys tennis team snuck past Central 3-2 last Friday afternoon. The win was Ludlow’s third straight. The Lions are 4-4 this season.

Lions suffer shutout against Minnechaug

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Mackenzie Blair has tossed a couple of no-hitters since becoming a member of the Minnechaug Regional varsity softball team as a freshman.

The senior righthander has also pitched a perfect game for the Western Mass. Warriors, which is her summer travel team.

Blair hurled her first perfect game at varsity level last Wednesday afternoon, as the Lady Falcons posted a 13-0 shutout victory over the Ludlow Lady Lions in a non-league contest held at the Paul R. Baird Middle School softball field.

“It just feels great to pitch a perfect game for my high school team,” said Blair following the road win which finished after six innings due to the 12-run mercy rule. “My teammates really helped me a lot out there.”

Twenty-four hours earlier, Minnechaug (4-5) lost a hard-fought battle at Westfield High School by the final score of 6-0. The Lady Falcons players made the short bus ride to Ludlow with a little extra motivation.

“We had a tough loss at Westfield yesterday. That game was a little bit closer than the final score indicates and we really wanted to win it,” Blair added. “We were determined to win today’s game.”

Minnechaug varsity softball coach Molly Cole could tell that Blair was probably going to pitch very well against Ludlow while she was warming up.

“I just heard the catcher’s glove pop when Mackenzie was warming up before the game,” said Cole, who was also a pitcher for the Lady Falcons. “She was firing the ball very hard, and I knew that she was going to be on in today’s game. All her pitches were working very well.”

Cole recalls pitching a couple of no-hitters during her varsity softball career, but she doesn’t remember ever hurling a perfect game.

Blair finished the only meeting of the regular season against the Lady Lions (5-7) with 14 strikeouts which increased her career total to 491. She struck out the side in order in the first, third, and sixth innings.

The Lady Falcons defense only had to make four plays.

Ludlow senior first baseman Debora Rosado-Pagan led off the bottom of the second inning by hitting a flair which

Please see **LIONS**, Page 13

Lions suffer sweep against Agawam

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Ever since losing to North Division rival Ludlow in the 2022 Western Mass. Class B finals, the Agawam boys volleyball team has dominated the series.

Following last Friday’s 3-0 win at Mullins Gymnasium, the Brownies haven’t lost a single set to the Lions in their last six

meetings. The game scores of the second meeting of this season between the two teams were 25-15, 25-17, and 25-17.

“When I was a sophomore, we defeated Agawam in the Western Mass. finals,” said Ludlow senior Tristan Moss. “We haven’t been able to beat them since then. We really wanted to win tonight’s match. I’ve played on a club volleyball team with a couple of the Agawam players

during the offseason, and I’m friends with them. They’re just a very good volleyball team.”

The Brownies, who are the defending Division 2 state champions, swept both games against the Lions during the regular season a year ago. They also defeated them twice more in the Western Mass Class B semifinals and in the Division 2 state tournament round of 16.

Because Agawam moved

up to Class A, the two rivals won’t be facing each other in this year’s Western Mass. Tournament. They could possibly meet for the third time in the Division 2 state tournament.”

“We won’t be playing Agawam in this year’s Western Mass. tournament. Our

Please see **VOLLEY**, Page 12

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Collin Doyle gets the bump from the back line.



Andrew Provost reaches out for a bump.



Anthony Shea sends a spike from near the sideline.



Cameron Dawson goes for the spike.

SPORTS

T-Birds front office members wins award

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds earned their second-ever Howdy Award recognition on Monday night during the 27th annual event inside the Mass-Mutual Center. T-Birds Manager of Brand Development and Merchandise, Drew Superior, earned the Howdy in the "Attractions" category, one of 10 local hospitality workers spotlighted on Monday.



The Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau presents the Howdy Awards annually to recognize the outstanding service hospitality industry employees provide. Superior's award victory marks the second time the Thunderbirds organization has taken home a Howdy. Team mascot "Boomer" captured the same honor in 2018.

"We want to thank the GSCVB for recognizing Drew and Lauren Blanchard

from our staff as finalists for their category," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "As someone who has been with our franchise since our first day in 2016, Drew has embodied what it means to be a service champion to his customers. On top of that award-winning trait, he has been instrumental in creating some of the best merchandise lines of any team in the American Hockey League, and we could not be prouder to have him represent our organization for this much-deserved honor."

During the T-Birds' immensely successful 2023-24 season, the box office records also translated into the brand and merchandise space. Superior's team was instrumental in generating a 10% increase in online and in-arena sales compared to the prior season. The store's full rebrand on specialty nights led to big

crowds looking to stock up on T-Birds gear, including the single-game record for merchandise sales on the club's annual Ice-O-Topes Night this past February.

Since their inception in 2016, the Thunderbirds' merchandise sales have grown in each of the team's first seven seasons of play. Total merchandise sales for the Springfield AHL franchise have grown 6x from the final year of the Falcons organization in 2015-16 to today.

"Merchandise plays a vital role in representing your brand in the area and is not just a means of generating revenue," explained Costa. "When you visit downtown Springfield on game nights, you can see T-Birds gear everywhere. People of all ages wear it proudly, which speaks volumes about Drew and his team's ability to bring in products that people genuinely want to wear and show off."

Quabbin League wants to fill remaining spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun its season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

Registration for the 2024 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 plays most Sunday from late April through late 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 used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

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 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team. The league can also prorate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN - Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 - July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check

each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

Benjamin's Star Speedway mastery continues with Spring 100 checkers

EPPING, N.H. - Travis Benjamin won two of last year's Granite State Pro Stock Series stops at Star Speedway. With only one visit to the popular bullring on the schedule in 2024, the reigning GSPSS champion made it count.

The Belfast, Maine, veteran withstood challenges from Ryan Green and Casey Call to win Saturday night's Spring 100, opening his title defense the same way he started off last year's title chase.

"I've got a wicked good car here," Benjamin told series announcer Marco Thomas in Star's winner's circle. "I can't thank my crew enough."

Benjamin and Green flexed their muscle early, winning their respective heats to lead the field to the first green flag of the new season. Green, sporting new colors and with former GSPSS champion Joey Doiron in his pit stall, worked the outside line to take the early lead, with Benjamin haunting in second.

In a mad scramble for the lead after a lap-34 restart, Benjamin got the better of Call and Green, retaking the top spot as the field slowed for a competitor's tire trouble. Call settled into second on a long green-flag run, with Green threatening for second.

Jamie Wright's spin on lap 82 erased Benjamin's advantage, with Green and Call poised to make it exciting in the final laps. But Benjamin cleared himself of Green, driving away from the pack to post his fourth career GSPSS win and his third Star win in the last four series races held at "The Place to Race."

Call, last July's GSPSS winner at Star, settled for second, with Green matching his best career GSPSS finish in third. Dan Winter was fourth in his first series start since 2017, while Speedway 95 winner and Wiscasset Speedway veteran Josh St. Clair managed a fifth-place run despite spinning twice early.

Title hopeful Evan Beaulieu was 11th at the finish, leaving the Durham, Maine, driver at a deficit, as Benjamin sits atop the points standings with eight races to go.

The next race on the GSPSS calendar is at Claremont Motorsports Park, as the series returns to its long-time home venue after a year's absence. On Sunday, May 26, Key Auto Group presents the GSPSS 100 with a \$5,000 share going to the race winner of the Memorial Day showdown.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.



VOLLEY from Page 11

main rival in the Western Mass. tourney is now Longmeadow," Moss added. "We're hoping to play Agawam again in the state tournament. It would be a great way to cap off my volleyball career."

The home loss evened the Lions overall record at 7-7.

"We've improved a lot since the start of the season," said Ludlow head coach Nicole Kane. "This wasn't our best match of the season."

Moss, who's a setter, entered last Friday match needing 27 assists to reach the 1,000 mark for his varsity career. He finished the contest with 11 assists. He collected more than 500 assists as a junior.

"Tristan's teammates really didn't help him very much in tonight's match," Kane said. "He's a very good volleyball player and is one of our captains."

When Moss was a sophomore, the Lions varsity volleyball coach was Fred Glanville, who's his grandfather. Glanville, who retired following the 2022 season, was replaced by Kane.

"It was a lot of fun being coached by grandfather," Moss said. "He's a very

good volleyball coach and he has a lot of knowledge about the sport. My uncle (Morgan Glanville) was also a very good volleyball player at Ludlow High School, so I'm following in his footsteps."

Fred Glanville is still coaching the women's volleyball team at Westfield State University.

Moss and senior Anthony Shea are the Lions co-captains.

The other Ludlow seniors are Michael Saloio, Theryn Pelletier, Andrew Provost, Thomas Deroin, Idriss Rozki, and Austin Moorhouse.

The Brownies (13-2), who also posted a 3-0 home victory against the Lions four days earlier, won their eleventh consecutive match.

"It's very difficult defeating a team two times during the same week," said Agawam head coach Kevin Pender. "They played very hard against us at our gym at the beginning of the week. They do have a couple of talented players."

One of the Brownies' talented players is senior co-captain Emil Zhmaidziak, who finished last Friday's match with a team-leading 15 kills.

"I thought we worked very well as a team in today's match," Zhmaidziak said.

"We were able to win the first set, which was very important for us."

Ezekiel Nguessean is the Brownies' other senior co-captain.

Agawam won the opening set without very much trouble, but the second set was a hard-fought battle. There were a couple of ties and lead changes.

The Lions took their first lead of the match at 4-3 early in the second set following an ace by Provost.

A kill by junior Dennis Nesen gave the Brownies a 12-11 lead.

The score was tied 14-14 before the home team took the lead for the final time.

Agawam would lock up the second set with the help of an 11-2 run.

The run began with a couple of kills by Zhmaidziak with Nguessean handling the serving duties.

After the home team closed the gap to 20-17, the visitors reeled off the final five points of the set. Agawam sophomore Aiden Therrien sealed the deal with a kill.

The Brownies won the first six points of the third set with junior John Cote doing the serving and they didn't look back after that.

The Ludlow Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Nancy Z. Cavin, 1933-2024



Nancy Z. Cavin, 90, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2024 in Springfield, MA. She was born in 1933 in Ludlow, MA to parents Frederic Theodor and Maria Zajczkowski. She was the youngest of five children. She grew up in a very tight-knit community and graduated from Ludlow High School in 1952. Nancy went on to a fulfilling career with the Telephone Company, eventually retiring from there after more than 30 years. She was the beloved wife of Lonnie A. Cavin for 61 years and they made their home in Chicopee, MA. He preceded her in death in 2019, as did both her parents, and her siblings Steve, Rose, Ann, and Walter precede her. Nancy was very proud of her Ukrainian heritage and enjoyed travel-

ing with her husband, friends and family. She is survived by three nieces - Marjorie, Renee & Denise, one nephew- Peter, multiple grand nieces and many close friends.

A service will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1390 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001. A celebration of her life will follow at 4:00 p.m., at Tony & Penny's, 18 Canterbury St., Ludlow, MA 01056. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the: Catholic Relief Services in Ukraine. <https://www.crs.org/our-work-overseas/where-work/Ukraine> The family would like to thank the hospice staff at Baystate Medical in Springfield for their kindness & peace-

ful care. More importantly, Thanks to all friends who visited her and the wonderful staff and administration at Keystone Commons. They generously provided a warm, activities filled, loving environment which she called home for the last 6 years. We can never fully express our gratitude to everyone there for their friendship, compassion and attentiveness. Ludlow Funeral Home has been entrusted with her services for more information please visit ludlowfuneralhome.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Nancy Z. Cavin, 90
Died on March 2, 2024
Services May 9, 2024
Ludlow Funeral Home

Wilbraham Troop 359 Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale May 11

WILBRAHAM - Wilbraham Troop 359 will have their annual Mother's Day Plant Sale on Sat, May 11 in St. Cecilia's Church parking lot from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sales and donations help pay for camping equipment, supplies, program materials, registration and activity fees throughout the year. People come and shop the troop's plant sale year after year. The generous community support is greatly appreciated. Thank you from Troop 359. For more information, contact Lorna Lawrence 413-214-8771.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

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

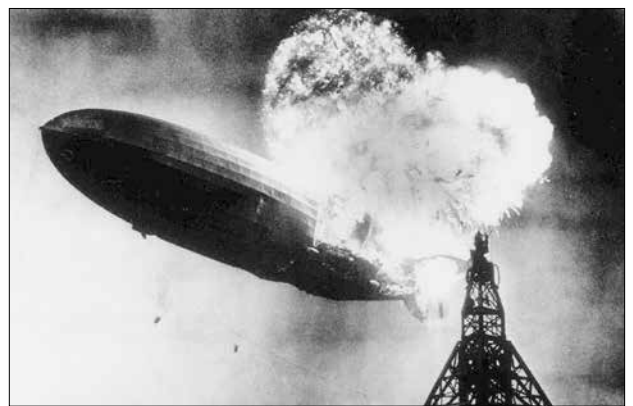
On May 5, in 1862, Mexico defeated Napoleon's forces at the Battle of Puebla in a victory still celebrated as a national holiday, Cinco de Mayo.

On May 6, in 1937, a German zeppelin called the Hindenburg burst into flames and was destroyed on its first transatlantic crossing of the year.

On May 7, in 1896, H.H. Holmes was hanged. Holmes is considered America's first known serial killer, having confessed to at least 130 murders.

On May 8, in 1980, the World Health Organization declared smallpox as having been eradicated, following a global vaccination initiative.

On May 9, in 1974, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee began its investigative hearings to impeach President



The Hindenburg blimp burst into flames as it was landing in Lakehurst, NJ.

Richard Nixon.

On May 10, in 1872, Victoria Woodhull was selected by the Equal Rights Party as its candidate for that year's federal election, making her the first woman to be nominated for president.

Finally, on May 11, in 1894, railroad workers for Pullman Palace Car Company went on strike until the federal government intervened on July 20 of that year. The strike is said to have been a turning point in U.S. labor law.

LIONS from Page 11

was caught by freshman second baseman Veronica Ouimet. Then Ouimet fielded a ground ball hit by senior second baseman Ariana Fitzpatrick before tossing it over to junior first baseman Abby Peyman for the second out of the frame. Blair struck out the next batter.

Two innings later, Ludlow senior shortstop Julianna Coelho hit a ground ball to Minnechaug senior shortstop Amy Dunklee for the third out.

Fitzpatrick hit another ground ball, which was fielded by sophomore third baseman Alexis Adorno, with one-out in the fifth. Adorno's throw across the diamond was a little bit high, but Peyman was able to pull it down just before Fitzpatrick foot touched the bag.

"That was a huge defensive play," Blair said. "I threw a change-up and the batter hit the ball hard. My heart skipped a beat, but Alexis fielded the ball cleanly, and Abby was able to catch it. It was just an amazing play. I gave them a high-five in the dugout."

Then Blair struck out the final four batters that she faced putting her name in the Minnechaug athletics history book.

Not only does Blair perform very well on the softball diamond, she also does very well in the classroom with a 4.0 GPA. In the fall, Blair will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Her major will be Mechanical Engineering and she'll also be playing softball.

While the spotlight was on Blair during last Wednesday's contest, junior catcher Angelina Cross also deserves a lot of credit for doing an outstanding job behind the plate.

"This is my third year working with Angelina," Blair said. "We always work very well together, and I have a lot of trust in her back there."

The Lady Falcons

offense scored an unearned run against Ludlow freshman righty Caitlyn Peczkla in the second inning.

With one-out, Peyman reached on a throwing error by the third baseman, and she wound up standing on second base. Then Blair drove her home by ripping a single down the rightfield line.

The visitors from Wilbraham scored nine runs on six base hits in the fourth inning.

Their first run of the frame scored on a fielding error. A couple of batters later, sophomore right fielder Aezlin Rost had a two-run single to left. Cross drove home another run with an RBI single. Then a ground ball out by sophomore centerfielder Alexa Sherman plated another run giving the Lady Falcons a 6-0 lead. Peyman also had a two-run single before Adorno capped off the inning by smacking a two-run double to left.

The Lady Falcons sent a total of 14 batters to the plate in the fourth inning and it didn't impact Blair's pitching performance very much.

"I really don't think the long inning was a factor," she said. "It was actually a good break for me and it's always nice having a big lead."

After being set down in order by Peczkla in the fifth, Minnechaug scored three more times in the sixth.

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SOCIAL from page 6

your SS survivor benefit, you still won't get any surviving spouse benefit from your wife's record.

A further consequence of your non-covered state pension is that the SS retirement benefit you earned elsewhere will be reduced by WEP. WEP will reduce, but cannot eliminate, your Social Security retirement benefit. The WEP formula is complex but, generally, your WEP-based Social Security retirement benefit will likely be roughly half of what you would get if you did not have a state "non-covered pension." You could claim your WEP-reduced SS retirement benefit as early as age 62 or, if financially feasible, delay longer to get a somewhat higher, but still reduced amount.

Just For Your Information, your state employer had an obligation to fully in-

form you of the consequences of not contributing to Social Security while earning your state pension. It appears as though they may not have fulfilled that obligation.

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

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DATEBOOK

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

COMING SOON

MONSON GARDEN Club will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 11, at Dave Grieve Park Gazebo on Main St. in Monson starting at 9 a.m. A wide selection of perennials in addition to wildflowers, vegetables, shrubs, house plants, bulbs and herbs will be available. Prices range from \$3 and up. There will also be an assortment of special gift planters for Mother's Day gifts.

FROZEN Polish Food Sale (Golabki, Kapusta (Cabbage, Potato & Cheese, Sweet Cheese, Blueberry) Pierogi will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 25 Parker St.

ONGOING

SENIOR BINGO: Hosted by the Indian Orchard Citizens Council 3:30-5 p.m.

every Monday. Free to play with great prizes. For more information, call 413-209-8240.

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

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

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

AQUACISE AT THE CLUB: The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club, at 91 Claudias Way,

continues to offer Aquacise throughout the week. Aquacise is a low-impact, full-body workout performed in the water to put less stress on your joints and muscles while building strength. Classes are open to all members with pool-inclusive memberships and do not require prior registration. Classes are held 8:30-9:15 a.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For questions, call 413-583-2072, ext. 124.

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

H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP: Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have experience with addictions, grief, anxiety and depression, (including anxiety and depression due to COVID-19) and for loved ones who might need help in their recovery. This group is also for those who can help lead others in their recovery by example. This meeting in no way replaces professional therapies. It is a time for

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

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

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

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

Church DIRECTORY

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL
A Church of the Nazarene
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875
Email: faithcommunitychapel8@gmail.com
faith-communitychapel.org
Lead Pastor: Reverend Lisa Morrison
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs
Sunday Services:
Discipline Groups 9:45 a.m. WorshipService11 a.m. and Facebook Live Stream
OTHER PROGRAMS
MONDAYS at 6:30 p.m. H.O.P.E. Meeting Recovery meetings for those with addictions, anxiety, and grief SMC. Call 413-519-4591
TUESDAYS at 7 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study WEDNESDAYS at 7 p.m. Ludlow Christian Fellowship Meeting Hank Bastos, Leader, 413-348-6487
SMC and Facebook Live Stream ludlowfellowship.org
FRIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m.
Church Fellowship Hall
SATURDAYS at 10 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
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413-583-8454
S Sunday services
Sacrament Meeting 10- 11 A.M.
Sunday school for adults, Young single adults (18-30) and teens (11-18) - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon
Classes for Young Men(11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
Classes for Young Women (11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon
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41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow
413-583-2630
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Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

ST. ELIZABETH PARISH
191 Hubbard St., Ludlow
413-583-3467
Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
stelizabethludlow.org
Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram
Check out our Parish App
Wednesday, April 17, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Training for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults - 10 a.m. (JR), Youth Group - 3:30 p.m. (JR), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Scouts - 6 p.m. (FLBH), Scouts - 7 p.m. (JR).
Thursday, April 18, - Daily Mass - 9 a.m. (C), Training for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults - 6:30 p.m. (JR).
Friday, April 19, - Daily Mass - 9 a.m. (C).
Saturday, April 20, - Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C), Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C),
Sunday, April 21, - Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Take & Eat - 8 a.m. (FLBH & K), Confirmation Class - 8 a.m. (JR), Faith Formation - 10:15 (All Rooms).
Monday April 22, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Bible Study - 6 p.m. (ER)
Tuesday, April 23, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita Choir - 2:30 p.m. (C), Bereavement Support - 6:30 p.m. (ZR), Scout Troop Committee - 7 p.m. (ER).
ppper - 4:30 p.m. (FLBH)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,
413-543-3627
Very Rev. Piotr Calik
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAY
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:15 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:45 a.m. (English), 10 a.m. (Polish)
Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7:45 a.m. (English)
First Friday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (Polish/English)
First Saturday Mass: 9 a.m. (Polish/English)
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

STS. PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
45 Newbury St.
Ludlow, MA 01056
Phone: 413-583-2140
Pastor: Father Andriy Krip
Liturgy schedule:
Wednesday 9 a.m., Friday 9 a.m.
Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH
438 Winsor St., Ludlow
413-583-2312
Father Pedro DeOlivera
Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 9 a.m. (Portuguese); 11 a.m. (English)
Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses - 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)
Tuesday and Friday Masses - 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 p.m. (English)
First Saturday of the Month - 8:30 a.m.
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THE REGISTER	WARE RIVER NEWS

TurleyPublications

RIDE from page 1

involved as well as in attendance, have a good time celebrating a great cause.

"A lot of work went into this one," said Delaney. "Part of it was special because a good friend of ours, retired Trooper Ronald Gibbons, he has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma and he has done all the rides, all 11 of our Ride to Remember events. He has been such a big part of our Ride to Remember family."

Delaney then explained where the organization got its start over a decade ago.

"We honor the fallen," said Delaney. "People in the line of duty like police officers or fire fighters or corrections officers, but Ron is still alive and we wanted to let him to know that we were thinking of him and we made a \$10,000 donation to Cops For Kids With Cancer."

The organization is a law enforcement-based charity founded by the Boston police and state police.

"What they do is help kids that are suffering from cancer and their parents can't really make end's meet," Delaney ex-

plained. "What they do is they go to each family and they donate \$5000 at a time for families in need with hospitalization and different things, whether it is staying overnights or anything like that."

While the Ride was intent to help Gibbons' diagnosis, they also raised funds in remembrance of his late brother, John, who passed from multiple myeloma in 2023.

"He was a retired trooper also and the head of the marshals of Massachusetts," said Delaney. "When he died last year it really hit our family and for his brother to have the same thing as well... it's tough... but we have this special day to remember and honor him."

Delaney was floored by the amount of support he witnessed at Vanished Valley over the weekend. He noted a huge appreciation for the beloved Western Mass band, Trailer Trash.

"They are beyond phenomenal," said Delaney. "Trailer Trash donate half of their fees back to the charity. So, they are like our official Ride to Remember band and do a performance for us every year... and this year their must have been close

to 420 people I think counted... that came out yesterday in the rain. They are an awesome band and were a great draw at the event."

Trailer Trash played a longer set than they were signed on for, with droves of people dancing to their next level setlist. From 70's classics to modern day top 40 hits, they knew how to keep the Rider crew dancing despite the weather.

Delaney gave sincere thanks to co-owner of Vanished Valley Brewing, Mike Rodrigues.

"He donated all of the food," said Delaney. "He had two pigs for the pig roast, pasta, salad and all 400 or something people ate because of him, which was amazing. For him to do that we are so thankful and of course a lot of people bought liquor and beer and stuff so I hope he made out good because there were so many people there... but donating the food for the charities, I got to thank Mike. He is also a Ride marshall with us so he does the Ride with us too so he understands what we're all about."

The Ride to Remember was founded 12 years ago in honor of Delaney's friend, Kevin Am-

brose, who was killed in the line of duty after answering a domestic disturbance.

"We started the Ride to Remember because of him," said Delaney. "Instead of being one and done, we continued it year after year and it grown to represent all fallen police officers and all fire fighters and corrections officers... anyone in law enforcement who has helped the Massachusetts community. We donate money to fallen officers' memorials out the statehouse in Boston. We have given them close to \$100,000 over the years and we also are lucky to donate to Christina's House in Springfield."

Christina's House is homeless shelter dedicated to helping women in the area that have kids. The organization has two locations in Springfield.

"We have given them close to \$200,000 over the years," said Delaney. "We've also been able to help set up a soccer field, memorial, running track and playground in the center of Springfield for two other officers in the area. We were able to put together around \$150,000 to build that soccer field memorial in memory of police officers

Michael Schiavina and Alain Beauregard. They died in the line of duty 30 years ago."

Despite such darkness, Delaney is grateful to help shed a light on the lives of fallen heroes.

"I think we have done a lot of good to help out the community," said Delaney. "But we really could not do it without support."

The Ride to Remember this year is scheduled for Sept. 7, with riders going from Hartford, CT and back to the region, in honor of Hartford Detective Robert Garten. Garten also was killed in the line of duty.

"We are riding this year to honor him," said Delaney. "Hartford police will be driving out here and we already have over 450 sign ups to do the Ride this year, but you know, we'll still accept more applications if somebody wants to join."

For those that are interested in volunteering or learning more about the event, go to www.ridetoremember.bike to sign up.

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CHARTER from page 1

have to the town and to the school district. “The goal behind this is to get a little bit more of a collegial working atmosphere between the Town Council and the School Committee,” Fanning said. “This has been supported by the Collins Group from UMass Boston and other communities that we have spoken to.”

Dahan added that the memos from the Collins Group are available to any member of the public who would like to read them.

“We’re making some preliminary decisions, but they’re really decisions subject to what we hear from the townspeople,” Dahan said. “If it’s something that people are in favor of or not in favor of, we want to hear that from folks.”

Outreach to the public became the main topic of the meet-

ing once the committee voted on a few articles that would be written into the charter. Committee Member Brian Bylicki shared a report about a recent talk held at the Senior Center.

“There were 17 people that attended, and they talked about how well the Committee was working together and were respectful to each other, with a good give-and-take on many issues,” Bylicki reported.

During Public Comments, a member of the public who was at the talk at the Senior Center echoed this statement.

“I’m really impressed by sitting here and listening to a room of very diverse people taking a hard job and they’re doing it so well,” Pam said. “People are open to change their mind if they hear information that enlightens them. It’s just really nice to see that, it’s been a really good thing.”

Bylicki said that there was a question about various statistical comparisons between towns, and the relevance of information supplied by the Collins Center.

“(Fanning) explained that it’s similar to what schools do,” Bylicki said, “where you have cohorts tied in with demographics, budgets, and all kinds of different statistics. That’s what the Collins Center used.”

Bylicki said that there was also some concern over the term “Town Council” as it would refer to the town’s governing body, and “Town Counsel” as in the town’s legal counselor. The committee floated the idea of changing the designation of Town Council to Town Attorney.

Bylicki also mentioned a comment about the Town of Agawam, which changed from a Town Council to a mayor form of government.

“The feeling was that the

Town Manager became a political football,” Bylicki said, adding that it was “something for us to be aware of.”

The committee discussed holding another outreach event in the auditorium of the high school, in order to reach a larger portion of the town’s residents, and possibly reaching out to precinct members specifically. There were discussions about checking with the schools about availability in June, or potentially holding the meeting at the Boys & Girls Club or at another organization, depending on availability.

Fanning mentioned that the committee should have a meeting with someone from the Finance Committee to discuss its side of the budgeting process. DeBarge offered to talk to fellow Selectman Tony Goncalves, who serves as Chair of the committee.

After going over Article III, IV, and V, Dahan gave a small intro to the upcoming discussions on Article VI, which pertains to the budget process as described in the town charter, highlighting the topics that will be discussed at the next meeting.

“I know that there’s been a lot of interest in the budget process,” Dahan said. “We just wanted to give folks a heads up that this was coming. We will get a full memo from the Collins Center to go through, but if there’s anything that folks want to see in advance that you do not have already, let me know and we can try to track that down.”

The Charter Committee meets at Town Hall on the first and third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. It will hold its next meeting on May 16.

PET OF THE MONTH

Meet Bernadette & Taffy-Apple!

The two feathered friends are Benji Yiannacopoulos’s fancy pigeons, Bernadette (left) and Taffy-Apple (right).

They are a mated pair, and a happily “married” couple.

They spend their days flying around Benji’s room, preening one another, and collecting whatever paper scraps and nicknacks they can to make their monthly nest. They both badly want to hatch a baby of their own, but Benji is not ready to be a grandpa yet so they’ve been sitting on plastic eggs.

Both were rescues from the lovely Great Lakes Pigeon Rescue located in Chicago Illinois.



PET PAGE

READERS!

Send in your pet picture for our “Pet of the Month” and receive a free weekend get-away or spa package for your pet courtesy of Porter Road Pet Care. Email your photos to: jwalker@turley.com. Please include your name and your pet’s name.



Are Dogs & Cats Affected by Seasonal Allergens?

The answer is YES! The most common symptoms to look for in your pet include:

- Rubbing or scratching the ears with the paws or against furniture.
- Hair loss and redness around the muzzle, chin, and eyes.
- Waxy ear discharge with a foul odor.
- Brown discoloration or bald spots on the body due to excessive licking.
- Reddened, scaly skin.
- Foot inflammation due to excessive licking.

Many of the allergy symptoms cats and dogs show are similar to those of other health issues. So, it can be tricky to recognize them for what they are, but you must do so. As cats and dogs scratch their itchy places, they can create shedding, hot spots, and baldness. These can develop into infections and open sores. Your pet will only become more miserable without treatment. If you suspect your pet is suffering from seasonal allergies a visit to your veterinarian is important to help diagnose and correctly treat their symptoms.



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CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LUDLOW ZONING LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:40 pm** on the application of **Agostino J Calheno** for the property located at **0 Rood Street, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 17, Parcel 66A, Zoning: Agriculture)** The subject of the hearing is for construction of a single family dwelling (2,000 sq ft +/-); consisting of a 3-BR; 2 1/2 Baths; 2-car garage on a 30,000 sq ft residential building lot. As referenced from the Town of Ludlow Table of Dimensional Regulations-Table 2 within the Agriculture zoning district. Section IV Dimensional Regulations 4.0.4 Lots of Less than the Required Width or Area.

Manny Lopes, Chairman
05/01, 05/08/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD24P0899EA
Estate of:
Verna Mae Charron
Date of Death:
February 12, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Katherine C Doar of Newfields, NH**

Petitioner **Steven M Charron of Summerville, SC**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Katherine C Doar of Newfields, NH
Steven M Charron of Summerville, SC

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform

Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

05/08/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P0926PM
In the matter of:
Dolores Krawczyk
Of: Ludlow, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT
OF CONSERVATOR OR
OTHER PROTECTIVE
ORDER PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Baystate Wing Hospital of Palmer, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Dolores Krawczyk** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Nancy Godbout** of Granby, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed Conservator is appropriate.

The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **05/28/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 30, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/08/2024

LUDLOW ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:00pm** on the application of **Hopkinton LNG Corporation D/B/A Eversource Energy** for the property located at **76 Ravenwood Drive, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 29, Parcel 41, Zoning: Industrial C)** The sub-

ject of the hearing is a Special Permit regarding Section 3.0.04 of the Town of Ludlow's Zoning Bylaws, which specifies fence height no taller than 6.5 feet. The proposed fence height is 8 feet with 1-foot of barbed wire at the top, to match the height of the existing facility fence. We request this Special Permit mainly for safety, as the additional height provides greater security to the Facility.

Manny Lopes, Chairman
05/01, 05/08/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P0936GD
In the matter of:
Dolores Krawczyk
Of: Ludlow, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Baystate Wing Hospital of Palmer, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging

that **Dolores Krawczyk** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Nancy Godbout** of Granby, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **05/28/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right

to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 30, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/08/2024

TOWN OF LUDLOW LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 13 8 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Board of Selectmen has called a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA on the application of **Iron Duke Brewing, 100 State Street, Suite 122, Ludlow, MA** Annual Liquor License for Alteration of Premises and Change of DBA.

Derek DeBarge, Chairman
Ludlow Board of Selectmen
05/01, 05/08/2024

Fundraiser a success

HOLYOKE—On Friday April 12, Holyoke native, Harold Skelton a disabled veteran and the Founder of Fishing for the Mission 22, a non-profit organization that helps Veterans in crisis, filled Pics Pub & Pizzeria of Holyoke for one of their several annual fund raising events of 2024. The organizations sponsors, Pics Pub & Pizzeria, Lorenzi Health Care LLC, Gallagher Real estate, Jackie Dominguez of Keller Williams Realty, Inc. and Career Credit card consulting LLC, and the surrounding communities support made this an amazing event for all in attendance.



Submitted Photo

Left to right, Nick Dulude, Pic Dulude, Harry Skelton 4th, Harold Skelton III, and Jodi Dulude at Fishing for the Mission 22 fundraiser.

The event showcased amazing entertainment with the Flying Ivories "Dueling Piano's", featuring Greg Asadoorian, of Ludlow and Ricky Lauria of Boston. Fishing for the Mission 22 focuses on providing a therapeutic approach to help heal veterans through fishing with their programs, Common Ground 22 Connect

and Operation Tackle 22 supporting the missions goal to help "Heal our Nations Hero's". To learn more about this Fishing for the mission 22 visit fishingforthemission22.org.

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The Russell Public Library in Russell, MA is seeking a PART TIME (8 HOURS) LIBRARY CIRCULATION ASSISTANT. Required, strong interest in working with the public, good organizational skills and solid computer skills. Bachelor's Degree with 1 year of library/administrative/ public service experience or an Associates Degree, with 2 years of library/administrative/ public service experience. For more info see library page on **Town of Russell website.** Please send a cover letter and resume to **Russell Public Library Trustees P.O. Box 275 Russell, MA 01071** or email to **rpldirector@townofrussell.us** to be received by May 21, 2024.

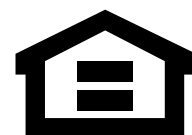
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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