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Grand Marshall Lou Casagrande recognized by selectmen

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - At this week's Board of Selectmen meeting, the board recognized the Grand Marshall for its anniversary celebration parade.

On July 9, the Selectmen took some time to recognize Lou Casagrande, who served as the Grand Marshall for the 250th Anniversary Parade.

"This is a little special thing that we get to do tonight, which I'm very happy to do," said Select Board Chair Derek De-Barge. "I met you through baseball – a great sport – and you have amazed me since the first day I met you.

DeBarge recalled Casagrande asking him about his sons at the parade, and said he was astounded that he remembered them. "It's amazing to me," DeBarge said. "You are an amazing man."

DeBarge read the letter by Tony Curto printed in a previous issue of The Register.

"I am honored and humbled by your kind words," Casagrande said, "but the Board of Selectmen should be honored for their support and confidence you've placed in the two young ladies as chairpersons of the Ludlow 250th celebration. Their leadership, with help from the countless volunteers, made our celebration the envy of surrounding communities.'



Lou Casagrande, pictured with his wife, was chosen as Grand Marshall by the 250th committee (from left) Kathy Ouimette, Bruce Durand, Linda Collette, and Tony Curto.

"Thank you, Linda Collette, and Kathy Ouimette for a job well done," Casagrande continued. "Finally, thank you, Parade Marshall Committee, for the honor you bestowed on me as Grand Marshall. Tony Curto, Bruce Durand, John Diotalevi, thank you. I have been a proud Ludlow citizen for 92 and a half years. God bless the town of Ludlow, and God bless

America."

Selectman Sil-Manny va joked that he was glad Casagrande didn't include "how terrible (he) was" to him when he used to go to the park every single day. "No one was ever terrible," Casagrande said. "Sometimes had misunderstandings, but no, not in Ludlow. We get

This recognition was somewhat delayed by a meeting with Barburrito Inc. over a beer and wine license, which had to be continued as the board found the application had not notified the appropriate abutters. Bar-Burrito Director William Collins said that he had notified all the

Please see **CASAGRANDE**.

Page 8

Color Ludlow with Love approved at Memorial **Park**

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - After some discussion over a proposed policy pertaining to use of public spaces, Color Ludlow with Love has been approved with a date of Sept. 14.

Last year's inclusivity event, Color Ludlow with Love, applied for use of Veterans Memorial Park this year, but approval was tabled in order to discuss a proposed policy on the use of the town's public spaces. At the end of the meeting, the board voted to approve the event's use of the park on the proposed date of Sept. 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a rain date of Sept. 21.

"We are thrilled to get the approval to move forward with Color Ludlow with Love to be hosted at Veteran's Memorial Park and Mack Donnelly Gazebo," said Kelly DeGobbi, the applicant for the event.

"We were able to obtain approval so we can move forward with our planning process while the Selectmen finalize the details of the policy," DeGobbi said.

Please see **COLOR LUDLOW**,

Charter Committee discusses transition to new form of government

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW - At its July 11 meeting, the Charter Committee discussed an article in the charter pertaining to the transitional months of the government.

The committee will be having a public information event at the Polish-American Citizens Club on East Street on Monday, July 22, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The meeting began with Pat Lavoie of the Collins Center catching the meeting members up on the sections of Article X that had already been discussed. Article X focuses on the language that will guide the transition from the current form of government to the proposed Council/Manager form.

According to Lavoie's recap, the first section asserts that existing laws, town bylaws, Town Meeting votes, and other rules and regulations will continue except where they are inconsistent with the charter. The second section says that agencies and officials will continue to perform their duties until reappointed, their successors are appointed, or their duties are transferred.

"Section three is just housekeeping," Lavoie said. "If things change over, records will move with it. So, for example the Board of Selectmen records will continue along and be given to whomever needs to use them after that."

Section four concerns the continuation of personnel, positing that employees of any town office or in service to the municipality will keep their offices or positions unless there is reorganization, and the change in government will not affect time of service.

"We should boldface this on anything we present to the public so that there's no confusion in Town Hall or with employees of how the stance is as we transition," said Committee Member



Martin Fanning. "That should be out there for people to be 100% aware."

Lavoie read that section five states that all contracts and obligations will move forward to the new government unless provided otherwise in the charter.

'10.6 is where we start talking about the phasing in, so that's what we're going to pick up on tonight," Lavoie said.

This section notes that the charter will come into effect, once it goes through the legislator and is signed by the governor, on ratification by the voters, in accordance with the schedule

Special Election for the Town

"Last time we talked about the Town Council being put into place a few months before the June elections in order for the Town Council to put rules together, get a plan together for a Town Manager, and prepare,"

This election was moved from the proposed date in January to the first Tuesday in February, as this would give candidates seven weeks to campaign without overlapping with the

"The three candidates receiving the first, second, and third greatest number of votes shall each serve a three-year term," Lavoie read, adding, "plus the time elapsed between the first special election and the first regular election, so that's really going to be between February and June."

Committee Member Brian

Bylicki suggested to amend this Section 10.7 is relating to a item, so that the top two candidates get three-year terms, the next two get two years, and the remaining three candidates each get a one-year term.

"I think we're becoming top-heavy there," Bylicki said. "I'd rather have the top two, the favorites, be the longest serving, and the bottom three will have the least amount of votes, and should be up for reelection

Committee Member Kathy Green worried that turning over three candidates in one year would go by too fast. Lavoie added that this could lead to one candidate having to run three years in a row.

Selectman Derek DeBarge echoed Green's suggestion that the third, fourth, and fifth highest votes should be two years, citing the interest of keeping the elections staggered.

> Please see **CHARTER COMMISSION**, Page 8

LUDLOW

LPD arrest local man

LUDLOW — Chief Daniel Valadas reports that the Ludlow Police Department has arrested and charged a local man with multiple firearms violations following a disturbance on Bristol Street on Saturday, June 29.

Joao C. Afonso, 44, of Ludlow was arrested and charged with; Carrying a Firearm Without a License (felony), Possessing a Large

Capacity Feeding Device (felony), Possession of Ammunition Without an ID Card, Possession of a Firearm with Defaced Serial Number (felony)

Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Arrest (Two counts).

Afonso was arraigned on July 1 at Palmer District Court and released on bail.

Shortly after 8 p.m., multiple 911 callers reported a disturbance involving a male yelling and screaming near a parked vehicle on Bristol Street. Several police officers responded to the scene and located the man, later identified



Joao C. Afonso

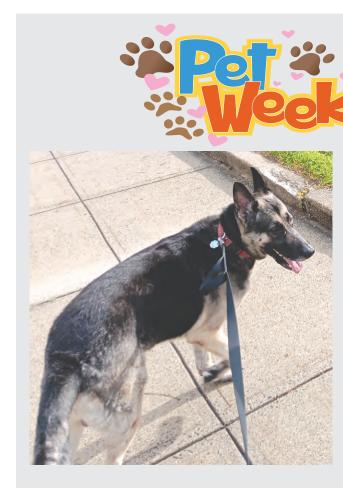
as Afonso. Upon investigation, officers found an unloaded firearm, a large capacity magazine and ammunition on the suspect.

As Afonso was in an excited state, potentially creating a danger to himself and others, officers requested an ambulance. The Ludlow Fire Department transported him to a local hospital for evaluation.

After being discharged from Baystate Health, he was brought back to the Ludlow Police Department for booking.

ing.

"The Ludlow Police officers involved in this case demonstrated outstanding police work by swiftly responding to the disturbance and safely securing an illegally possessed firearm," said Valadas. "In today's environment, dealing with armed individuals is a growing concern. Our priority is always the safety and well-being of our community, and we are committed to addressing these challenges head-on to ensure everyone's safety."



SHADOW

This is Shadow, who lives with Sean in Ludlow.

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.

Records destruction notice

LUDLOW - Temporary school records for members of the Ludlow High School Class of 2017 will be destroyed on or about Dec. 31 unless claimed by individual former students, the district announced. The temporary record consists of all information in the student record which is not contained in the transcript. Such information may include standardized test results, class

rank, school sponsored extracurricular activities, discipline records, immunization-health records and evaluations by teachers, counselors, and other school staff. Persons wishing to claim their temporary school records may request them in writing and sent to: LHS Counseling Department, 500 Chapin Street Ludlow, MA 01056. For more information, call 413-589-9001, ext. 2407.



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MMWEC educates on electrical safety

LUDLOW— Campers at the Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club are now equipped to prevent electrical safety accidents thanks to a presentation taught by safety expert Ray Gouley from the R.F. Gouley Company. The program is sponsored by the Ludlow-based Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company.

This year, 160 children aged three to 13 from the Massachusetts communities of Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Indian Orchard, Ludlow, Monson, Palmer, South Hadley, Springfield, Ware, Wilbraham, as well as Enfield, CT participated in the program, which spanned four days in June and July. MMWEC has sponsored the workshop for more than 16 years and holds a similar electrical and gas pipeline safety presentation for the Ludlow Senior Center annually.

Gouley utilizes several different types of media during his presentations including posters, videos, and props. The presentations begin with an interactive safety video that takes children through each step of an electrical accident and guides them on how to respond. To further demonstrate the importance of electrical safety, Gouley shows the campers props from actual electrical accidents. He explains to them what happened and how the accident could have been avoided. This year's presentation featured a toaster that caught fire after a fork was inserted into it.

Due to the large age range of campers, Gouley adjusts his presentation

based on the campers' ages. Preschoolers, the youngest group, are introduced to a squirrel cartoon character named "Mr. Ouch" and taught the simple phrase "Stop, Think, and Stay Away" to respond to various electrical incidents. Older children are given more specific instructions on how to react in electric safety situations, such as staying three poles away from a damaged utility pole and keeping electronics away from bathtubs and sinks. This year's presentation featured a new segment on lithium battery safety and the importance of knowing when and where drones can be flown to avoid contact with electrical

The safety presentations concluded with a visit from South Hadley Electric Light Department employees. First Class Lineman Brian Jerome and Working Foreman Jon Szymonik brought SHELD's bucket truck to the Boys and Girls Club campus to explain how the truck is used to reach power lines during accidents or power outages.

Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club President and Chief Executive Officer Josue Irizarry says the campers enjoy learning from Gouley each year.

"Each year, our children look forward to the electrical safety presentation at the Club," Irizarry said "It is important that our children learn these skills and are reminded on what to do in case of an emergency. We are thankful for everything MMWEC does for the Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club," Irizarry says.



MSB gives local scholarships

MONSON— Monson Savings Bank frequently shows their dedication to supporting local community members. This includes supporting the younger generations, like high school students who will make a difference in surrounding communities for years to come. Monson Savings recently announced they have awarded \$28,000 in scholarships to 14 graduating seniors of local high schools.

In early June, the Bank held their annual Monson Savings Bank Scholarship Ceremony at their Corporate Office located in Monson. At the ceremony students and their loved ones enjoyed refreshments while mingling with Monson Saving Bank's team members before receiving their scholarship checks and a gift to take with them on their journey into higher education.

Monson Savings Bank awarded \$2,000 scholarships to the following local high school recipients:

Aniah Myrie, Monson High School

Ciara Monaghan, Monson High School

Colin Beaupre, Monson High School

Delianah Wolf, Monson High

Emily Baker, East Longmeadow High School

Emily Chagnon, Ware Junior/ Senior High School

Emily Roberts, Monson High School Grace Moltenbrey, East Long-

meadow High School Maggie Stevens, East Long-

meadow High School Noah Fales, Ware Junior/Senior

High School Norah Dumala, Minnechaug

Regional High School Rose Caltabiano, Minnechaug

Regional High School Serina Chan, Minnechaug Re-



At the Monson Savings Bank scholarship presentation reception, attending recipients were awarded their scholarships by Dan Moriarty, president & CEO (right), and Michael Rouette, EVP & COO (left).

gional High School

Tyler Bonilla, Ware Junior/Senior High School

President and CEO of Monson Savings Bank Dan Moriarty and Michael Rouette, EVP and COO of Monson Savings Bank each gave a brief speech to the recipients at the ceremony. Moriarty expressed how proud he and the whole Bank were of the graduates for their resilience and commitment. He encouraged them to listen to the guidance of their elders and enjoy life.

"Everyone at Monson Savings Bank is very proud of these

students for the dedication they have demonstrated. The past four years have been challenging for everyone, and despite it all they persevered through a pandemic and completed high school," said Moriarty. "We are glad to extend financial support to help offset the costs of pursuing further education."

To learn more about Monson Savings Bank's community commitment, please visit: https://www. monsonsavings.bank/connect/ our-community/our-community-commitment.html

Wilbraham Hiking Club announces July hikes

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Hiking Club has five hikes currently planned for July, all starting at 9 a.m.: Monday, July 22 - Mill River Conservation Area in

Sunday, July 28, Miller Forest Tract in Monson More information about these hikes can be found on the club's TeamReach pages, or write to wilbrahamhiking@gmail.com.



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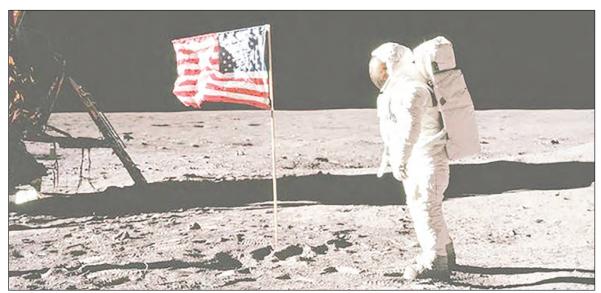
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY - JULY 20, 1969



Neil Armstrong landed on the Moon on July 20, 1969.

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

On July 14, in 1789, a mob advanced on the Bastille and demanded the arms and munitions stored there, capturing the prison.

On July 15, in 1965, the Mariner 4, launched by NASA a year prior, returned close-up pictures of Mars that proved that the rumored canals on its surface were an illusion.

On July 16, in 1377, Richard II was officially named king of England, a month after the death of his grandfather, Edward III.

On July 17, in 1955, the Disneyland amusement park opened in Anaheim, California.

On July 18, in 1918, French General Ferdinand Foch launched a counterstrike against the Germans that forced them into a hasty retreat during the Second Battle of Marne in World War I. On July 19, in 1545, during the Battle of the Solent, a warship called the Mary Rose, which often served as the flagship of the English fleet, sank in a strait of the English Channel. It was raised in '82 and has been on display since 2013

Finally, on July 20, in 1969, the Eagle lunar landing module, carrying U.S. astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, landed on the Moon.

Rocket into adventure on July 20

LUDLOW— Children in K to 4th grade are invited to explore model rocketry on Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fields of the former Veteran's Park School located at 486 Chapin St.

Not only is it an opportunity to view the rockets and launch sites but a number of free kits are available to build launchable rockets. Plenty of help will be available for each parent/child team to complete making the simple Estes rocket kit.

The sky is the limit and there will be enough action to satisfy your adventure level.

Sponsored by Cub Scout Pack 180 it's also a no obligation opportunity for parents to see the Scouts in action and learn at the information tent what fun Scouting is for all ages.

For further info you may email info@scouts180.org with any questions.

Rotary Club selling fundraising calendars

WILBRAHAM – When the calendar rolls around to August there will be 31 winners of the Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club Lottery Calendar Fundraiser this year. There will be a chance to win a prize each day in August, either a gift card or cold hard cash.

The raffle calendars are being sold by Rotary Club members. See any club member for a chance to win. Raffle calendars are also on sale at the LUSO Federal Credit Union branch at 1 Crane Park in Wilbraham during business hours.

There will be a winner every day and after the daily drawing, your ticket goes back into the mix for another chance to win.

This year's raffle prizes are heavily laden with nationally known household names like Starbucks, Dunkin, Panara and Home Depot.

Topping off many chances to win gift cards will be two lucky cash winners of \$100 each, according to the chairman of the fundraiser Tim Tracey of LUSO.

The fundraiser will benefit local community projects and scholarships. Calendars will be on sale now through the end of July for \$10 each. "There will be a winner every day. That gives every entry 31 chances to win. The calendars can make good presents for birthdays, holidays and other summer celebrations.

To purchase a calendar call Tim Tracey at 413-682-4094 or email TTracey@LUSOFederal.com.

For more information about joining the Rotary Club, call 413-537-4171.

Henna at the Wilbraham Library

WILBRAHAM— Mandy Roberge of Wicked Good Henna will be at the Wilbraham Public Library on Monday, July 22 to offer henna to adults ages 18+. Typically red, orange, brown, or burgundy in color, henna is a natural dye that has been widely used around the world for thousands of years. Participants will choose one of several pre-made designs to be applied to their skin. Henna is safe for all skin types.

Registration opens July 8 at 9 a.m. and space is limited. Each participant must complete an individual registration form and select one 15-minute time slot. To register, please visit the Event Calendar at www. wilbrahamlibrary.org, or contact the library at 413-596-6141. This free program is sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

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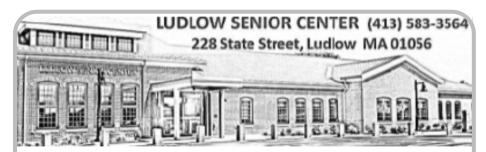
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Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

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

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

Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, July 18

8:30 a.m. Foot Care by Appt.* 9 a.m. Tai Chi

9:30 a.m. Dominos

10 a.m. SHINE Medicare Counseling by appt.*

1 p.m. Mahjong 1:30 p.m. Painting Class* 2 p.m. Writers Block* 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, July 19 8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp* 9 a.m. Reiki*

9 a.m. Fitness Advisor Appoint-

10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp* 10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks 1 p.m. Ceramics

1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

1 p.m. Magic Class 1 p.m. Guidance by Li Grief Support*

Monday, July 22

9 a.m. Knitting

9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*

9:30 a.m. Computer Help*

1 p.m. Scrabble

1 p.m. Better Together*

1:15 p.m. Pitch

2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, July 23

9 a.m. Quilting 9 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Cribbage

10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga

10:30 a.m. Mindful Meditation 12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks

1 p.m. Western Dance Class

1:30 p.m. Bingo

4:30 p.m. Power Pump Class

4:45 p.m. Shane (1953)

Wednesday, July 24

8 a.m. Facials*

8 a.m. Garden Club

9 a.m. Zumba Gold

9 a.m. Ceramics

10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*

12 p.m. Lunch & Learn Estate

1 p.m. Movie: Shane (1953) 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

Thursday, July 25

8:30 a.m. Foot Care by Appt.*

9 a.m. Tai Chi

9:30 a.m. Dominos

10 a.m. SHINE Medicare Counseling by appt.*

10:30 a.m. Big Y Tour*

1 p.m. Mahjong 1:30 p.m. Painting Class*

1:30 p.m. Happiness for Seniors:

What Is It & How to Attain It? * 2 p.m. Writers Block*

2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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

Daily Events:

Café: Monday – Friday 8-11 a.m. Exercise Room: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Open until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Walking Club: Monday - Friday 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., leaving from the parking lot.

Menu:

Thursday, July 18: Birthday Lunch: Breaded Pork Chop/Scalloped Pot/Veggies

Friday, July 19: Vegetable Lasagna/Caesar Salad

Monday, July 22: Stuffed Sausage/Peppers/Onions/Mushrooms/ Steak Fries

Tuesday, July 23: Beef Stew/Bis-

Wednesday, July 24: Lunch & Learn! Asian Chicken Salad (contains

Thursday, July 25: Fish Taco/ Black Beans/Rice

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

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

Senator and State Representative call for investigation into Pioneer Valley **Health and Rehabilitation Center**

SOUTH HADLEY -- State Senator Jake Oliveira and State Representative Dan Carey have issued a joint letter to Attorney General Andrea Campbell and Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh requesting their agencies conduct a formal investigation into what they are calling "severe concerns" at the Pioneer Valley Health and Rehabilitation Center in South Hadley.

The facility, currently operated by BluPoint Healthcare, has been the subject of allegations and evidence of misconduct for months.

For several months, nursing home employees have faced numerous problems, including bounced checks, understaffing, and unpaid wages. Now, the staff is sounding the alarm, and Senator Oliveira and Representative Carey are listening.

The situation has led to staff protests outside the facility, where they have highlighted their financial struggles and the inability to meet patients' basic needs. These issues have persisted for five months following the change in ownership to BluPoint Healthcare.

"The residents and staff at the South Hadley nursing home deserve better," said Senator Oliveira. "Unpaid wages, deteriorating and unsanitary working and living conditions, and clear financial mismanagement by Blupoint have created a dire situation for the employees and residents at Pioneer Valley Health and Rehabilitation Center. We're calling on the Attorney General and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to launch an official investigation and hold those responsible account-

"This is a terrible situation for the residents, their family members, and the entire staff. Everyone deserves better. I will continue to work to hold those at fault accountable and to bring dignity

and respect back to those who so deserve it," said Rep. Carey.

Staff members allege they have gone unpaid for the last four weeks due to bounced checks, causing significant financial hardship and forcing employees to pay out of pocket for materials to care for patients. The workers also claim that severe staff shortages have forced employees to work over 60 hours per week, leading to extreme fatigue and fear among the staff, jeopardizing both employee well-being and resident safety.

The town has also reported multiple grievances, including a lack of essential resources such as cleaning products, to the point of residents are described being forced to sit in excrement and staff resorting to using pillowcases for cleaning due to the absence of proper sup-

In addition, BluPoint Healthcare owes the town \$160,000 from outstanding bills to utility companies and other vendors, raising concerns about the facility's financial stability and ability to provide care and essential services.

Senator Oliveira and Representative Carev's request for a thorough joint investigation by the Attorney General and the Secretary into BluPoint Healthcare's operations at the Pioneer Valley Health and Rehabilitation Center calls to ensure that all owed wages to the staff are promptly paid, to investigate the unsafe and unsanitary conditions reported at the facility, assess the staffing levels and their impact on resident care and safety. examine BluPoint Healthcare's financial practices and compliance with contractual and legal obligations to the town and other vendors, and provide transparent updates to the Town of South Hadley and the affected parties regarding the investigation and any remedial

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



We want to claim SS at 62. When should we apply?

Dear Rusty:

My wife and I are going to be taking Social Security at 62. She will be 62 on April 15, 2025. I will be 62 Aug. 7, 2025. When should we apply for Social Security?

Signed: Ready to file

Dear Ready:

Social Security recommends you apply for benefits about two – three months prior to when they want their benefits to start to get them time to process the application. You will specify on your application when you wish your benefit to start, so applying early isn't a problem. Just a few things to keep in mind:

Your first month of eligibility will be the first month you are 62 for the entire month. In your wife's case, her first month of eligibility will be May 2025 and in your case your first month of eligibility will be September 2025. Your wife's benefits will be paid on the third Wednesday of every month and your benefits will be received on the second Wednesday of every month, payment dates depend on when your birthday falls.

Social Security has an earnings test for those collecting early benefits (before your full retirement age). If you are working and exceed the earnings limit, SS will take away some of your benefits. The earning limit for 2024 is \$22,320 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefit for every \$2 you are over the limit (the limit changes annually, so the 2025 limit will be more.

Thus, if you plan to work after collecting, you must stay aware of the earning test. If you earn substantially more than the earnings limit, you even may be temporarily ineligible to collect benefits until you either earn less or reach your Full Retirement Age when the earning test no longer applies.

By claiming at 62, you will incur a cut in benefits of about 30% from the amount you would get by waiting until your FRA to claim. And, except for annual cost of living adjustments, that is a permanent reduction. FYI, your benefit will continue to grow if you wait longer to claim.

Deciding when to claim Social Security should take into account your financial needs, your life expectancy and your goals as a couple. Claiming at 62 is the right choice for many, but waiting longer, if feasible, will result in a higher monthly amount, which could be beneficial if your life expectancy is long. Of course, we are here for you if you have any additional questions, so please don't hesitate to contact us again if needed.

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.

ITEM: FOX & COYOTES BECOMING MORE BOLD...



GUEST COLUMN



Whip-poor-will



I received an email from a Belchertown resident, she said, "I have had a whip-poorwill in my yard for about a month."

She also said, "I hear the call every morning around 4 a.m.and in the evening around 9 p.m. I have not had one for the past 10 years and am quite lucky to have

She said she lives in a quiet neighborhood and she was wondering if any other folks have them. She is fortunate. It has been many years since I heard the call of the whip-poor-will.

The whip-poor-will is ten inches long and are mostly heard calling in the evening. It is a brownish to dusk colored bird, which blends in well with its surroundings. In flight, the rounded wings and long tail are visible. They eat aerial insects and feed mostly at night on moths. They are nocturnal and rest during the day. They also eat beetles and grasshoppers.

The whip-poor-will nest on the woodland floor and lays two white eggs with gray or brown spots. Their call is "whippoor will," with emphasis on the last syllable. They inhabit open woods, canyons and dry, brushy areas.

Green heron and more

My daughter saw a green heron fly across Route 32 in Ware, near the power supply at the town line on Thursday, June 27. It landed in a small, swampy area.

Green herons unlike the great blue and blue heron has a short neck and legs. They have a blue-green back, reddish brown neck and chest and a long, pointed bill.

The week before she saw a family of raccoons near the pond across from Church Street. The little ones frolicked in the grass; it was the cutest thing. She also saw a pileated woodpecker at the Lucy Stone Park in Warren on a new section of trail. She said, "It flew ahead and landed on a tree. I've never seen one so close before." On June 29, she saw a pair of cedar waxwings at Hardwick Pond.

Loon facts

The Loon Preservation Committee provided this interesting information in one of their newsletters.

"Loons diving to deeper depths tend to spend more time underwater than those diving in more shallow areas. In a study of loons using Lake Michigan as a stopover site during fall migration, Kenow et al. (2018) found that loons diving to depths of 131 feet were spending, on average, 139 seconds, over two minutes, underwater per dive. In contrast, loons diving to depths of 65 feet in that study were spending less time under water per dive, 87 seconds, on

The article also said, "It can be difficult to quantify the absolute maximum amount of time that a loon can spend underwater, as loons likely have no need to test their limits during normal bouts of foraging. While there have been anecdotal reports of loons spending up to five minutes at a time underwater, the maximum documented dive duration that we were able to find in the published literature for loons was 219 seconds or 3.65 minutes. However, given that the loon that was documented making this dive was doing so in the process of normal foraging, it is possible (and likely) that under duress, loons may be able to stay under even longer, perhaps up to the fabled five minutes, or even more.'

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

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 must authenticate authorship prior to publication.

We reserve the right to edit or

withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated personal 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 Readers, groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send The vour hometown news and should be sent via email to mharrison@ turley.com as an attachment AND pasted directly into the email message

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

We need first and last name. nometown, 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

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

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



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Election letters policy

The Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues. should be sent to The Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to 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 quide. 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.

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. The Hubbard Memorial Library is now closed Saturdays for the summer.

FOR ALL AGES

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

Public Art Installation, July and August The Hubbard Memorial Library is hosting the sculpture Solar Reflective Movement by local sculptor Brendan Livio Stecchini. It will be on display on our lawn for July and August. Come check out this cool piece of local art!

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? We can help you get started. Call 413-583-3408 x114 to make an appointment.

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. 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 August 29, 1:30 p.m. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408. Walk-ins are welcome.

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

desk

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

Digitizing Our Past, Tuesday, July 16, 6:30 p.m. The Hubbard Memorial Library, in conjunction with the Historical Commission, has been digitizing our archival treasures. Learn about what it takes to digitize our glass plate collection. This collection is from the 1890s-1920s and was taken by the Ludlow Manufacturing Associates. Celebrate our 250th anniversary with this historic collection! Register at hubbardlibrary.org or by calling 413-583-3408.

Summer Candle Workshop, Thursday, July 18, 6:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of candle-making where you will explore the art of crafting your own personalized candles while discovering the nuances between fragrance oils and essential oils. You'll leave with your own candle. For adults only. Register at hubbardlibrary.org or by calling 413-583-3408.

FOR TEENS

Apply to be a Summer Volunteer The Library needs volunteers aged 11 & up (or going into 6th grade in the fall) during the summer help. They will put away books, help prepare arts & crafts projects, help set up and break down outdoor programs, & assist with the younger kids' programs. Volunteers generally work one hour a week. See website for application or email hubbardyouthroom@gmail.com.

Chess Club, Every other Monday 3:00-4:00 p.m. For ages 9 & up. All experience levels welcome, some instruction provided. No matter what level you start at in June, you'll be a better player by the end of August! Please register.

Nintendo Switch Night, Tuesday August 13, 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 2:30-4:00 p.m. Meet each week to watch & talk about anime, eat snacks, play anime-themed games & try out your cosplay. The group decides what to watch each week. Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, every other Tuesday July 30, Aug 13 & 27, 4:00-5:00 p.m. For ages 10 & up. For beginners up to experienced crocheters, supplies provided or bring your own. Please register.

Tabletop RPG Club, Every Thursday 3:30-5:30 p.m. An introduc-

tion to tabletop role playing games, including Dungeons & Dragons, Call of Cthulhu, Vampire the Masquerade and Mutants and Masterminds. After trying out a different game for the first 4 weeks, participants will vote for which game to continue with for the rest of the summer & into the fall. For ages 14 & up.Please register.

"Read Between the Lines" High School Book Group, July 23 & Aug 20, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Monthly book chat for ages 14 & up. This month's book is "The Naturals" by Jennifer Lynne Barnes; copies of the book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

FOR CHILDREN & TEENs

The Summer Reading Program Has Begun! All ages. Sign up on the Beanstack app or website. Anyone can participate. Read and do activities for raffle tickets for a chance to win a grand prize basket. Everyone who completes the program gets a beanie baby.

Sewing Workshop, Monday, Jul. 22, 3:30p.m. For Middle Schoolers. Please register.

Pokemon Club, every other Monday 2:00-3:00 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.

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

Roblox Club, Fridays, 12:00-1:30 p.m. Meet new friends or play with old ones while playing Roblox. For ages 8+.

Please see **HUBBARD**, Page 12





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CASAGRANDE from Page 1

abutters in the list provided by the town.

"The problem with not having the right abutters on the list, we can go through it and do it but if anybody claims that they didn't get a notification and they are within it, the meeting's no good," said Selectman Manuel Silva.

I have been a proud Ludlow citizen for 92 and a half years. God bless the town of Ludlow, and God bless America.

- Lou Casagrande

"That's where I was headed too," said Selectman James Gennette. "We're going to have a problem with the abutters that didn't get notified, whether it was an incomplete list or not. If abutters come back saying they were never notified, then we have a different issue."

Collins assured the board that he would address concerns, and mentioned that the license was previously intact and no changes were being made to the hours or amount of beer and wine being sold.

Town Administrator Marc Strange said, "All the abutters have a right to be notified and an opportunity to be heard, so if one of the abutters that didn't receive

notice, they object to it, it's going to really throw a wrench into things and could really elongate the process even more than if we just tabled it and sent out the right notices, and then maybe reschedule it."

Collins said that waiting a month while the issue was tabled would set him back "quite a bit."

"I pay right now \$2,700 a month in rent, and I've been paying that to renovate the place, and so I was hoping that within a month's time we're going to be open and serving," Collins said. "That really sets us back."

Silva said that Collins would be able to open the business to serve food, but not be able to serve beer and wine.

"If you come back a month from now and you didn't have the proper notification, you're going to be another month," said Selectman Tony Goncalves, "versus if we table it now, make sure notices are in place, this meeting that we opened will be continued."

Collins suggested holding the meeting over Zoom and sending the abutters a notice in the next few days, but the Selectmen assured him that the public meeting needed to be advertised.

"We understand completely where you're coming from, and we want to be able to do what we can do for you, but legally we have to do it the right way," Genette said. "There was obviously a misstep because all the abutters, whether the list wasn't provided to you correctly or whatever, the abutters still have to be notified."



Submitted photo

Lou Casagrande was honored to serve as Grand Marshall. Pictured, from left: John Diotalevi, Casagrande, Bruce Durand, and Tony Curto.

Goncalves said that a meeting could be scheduled in two weeks. DeBarge took responsibility on behalf of the town for the incorrect list.

"If the incorrect abutters list was given to you, that's on us," DeBarge said. "We

will correct that and we will get that to you tomorrow or as soon as possible."

DeBarge said that if the abutters could be notified within two weeks, that Collins would be invited back for the public hearing for the meeting on July 23.

COLOR LUDLOW from Page 1

The proposed policy was to limit nontown-sponsored functions to Cady Street Park and Whitney Park, and to save Veterans Memorial Park for events that were put on by town committees.

"Individuals, groups, and associations involved in educational, cultural, civic, and/or recreational activities will be permitted the use of Cady Street Park and/or Whitney Park on a space-available basis, provided these do not interfere with town operations," said Select Board Chair Derek DeBarge, before opening the meeting to public comment.

DeGobbi, who attended the previous BOS meeting to seek approval for this event, pointed out that the policy was dated after her initial request, and asked why approval for her event was being tabled for a policy that wasn't in place when she applied. Several members of the public spoke in support of the event.

'That's like saying that you're going

to apply for something in January and then we're going to come up with a policy in February, but your application here is going to have to adhere to whatever we come up with in February," said Michelle Annecchiarico.

The Selectmen agreed that the policy was unfinished, citing the fact that numerous parks in town were not mentioned and it lacked guidance for the town to follow.

"I like seeing the policies, I like seeing the procedures, but we don't have one for Memorial Park, and that was your request," Gennette said. "Next year, we'll create a policy and that may not get in line with what you're looking for, but at least you know what you're getting into at that point, just like everybody else"

When asked why the board was limiting the use of Veterans Memorial Park specifically, they said they wanted to keep the park "sacred."

"To me, it's a monument," said Se-

lectman Tony Goncalves. "We have the Veterans Monument down there, it's what you see when you come into the town of Ludlow, and we want to just keep that for special things."

Goncalves listed town events, veterans events, and the weekly Sunday concerts, and said that improvements could be made to the other parks in town to host events.

"I just think that down at the gazebo, that should be almost sacred to me, quite honestly," said Selectman Manuel Silva. "There should only be certain things allowed there."

Members of the community disagreed with this statement, and advocated that the park, which is right across from the bridge from Springfield, is a perfect place to showcase the vibrancy of the

"Why would we not want to have a lot of events down in that area?" said Mike Kelliher. "We want to show a vibrant, energetic community. We want people to come to Ludlow and say 'wow, this is a great place with lots of great things going on, I might want to move here.' Why on earth would you say 'we're not going to do that down there, we're going to move these things out into other places.' I don't understand the pub-

lic interest, there's no safety issue."

The policy was tabled until the July 23 meeting. A motion was made to table Color Ludlow with Love's event as well, but did not pass.

The board then voted to approve the event as it appears on the application, and it was approved with a two-to-one vote, with one abstention.

"It was a stressful wait to get through that process, having gone back to the board a total of three times while they created and reviewed iterations of a new policy that governs public use of Ludlow's parks," DeGobbi said. "While the event's purpose is to celebrate and promote the acceptance of the diverse community that makes up the fabric of Ludlow, it is open to the public and was attended by folks from all over Western Massachusetts last year."

DeGobbi shared that the event will feature the same attractions as last year's event, including music by Junior Marques, community information tables, a kids' play space, and a snack table to benefit the Ludlow High GSA club."

"We even have a few fun extras that we're working on," DeGobbi said. "We're looking forward to celebrating on September 14th and hope the community will come out to join us."

CHARTER COMMISSION

from Page 1

"The top two, I agree with," DeBarge said, "the middle and the back end I think could go either way. I agree with maybe the last three being one year may be a little much, maybe two would be better at one year, but I could go either way."

Selectman Bill Rosenblum said he would be fine with a two, three, two spread as described by Green and De-Barge. Committee Chair Marissa Ribeiro Dahan suggested that this might confuse voters, but Bylicki said it would be set up in the charter so that people understand going in.

It was decided t.

hat the charter would specify two three-year terms for the candidates with the highest number of votes, three twoyear terms for the candidates after that, and two one-year terms for candidates with the lowest number of votes.

The charter also specified that ties will be decided by a coin toss, then moved on to the section outlining an exception to the charter's prohibition of holding two offices at the same time for the Select Board and Town Council during the transition.

"I think it's probably a good exception for a transition, because if they're both on the Board of Selectmen during this time and the Town Council, there's a natural overlap in planning, which is great," Lavoie said.

"But it occurred to me we may want to add Town Meeting members, because there will be one last Town Meeting after this to create the budget, because of the way your Town Meeting is," Lavoie continued.

"On the other hand, we can just say this applies to all elected people in office."

Lavoie explained that if a number of positions are vacated as of February, the town will have to fill vacancies in the interim. Lavoie suggested the exception be amended to include all incumbent officials, subject to conflict-of-interest provisions.

The committee members ultimately voted to approve this article of the charter, contingent with the changes discussed during the meeting being implemented.

If you'd like to learn more about the charter that the town is working on, you can visit the Ludlow Charter Committee Facebook page, or attend the informational session at the Polish-American Citizens Club on Monday, July 22, at 6:30 p.m.



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Ludlow gets by Granby



Kutay Gokcek is pursued by a defender.

LUDLOW - Last Tuesday evening, Ludlow Ideal B boys summer soccer defeated Granby by a close 5-4. Despite the warm weather, there was a lot of action and a lot of scoring on both ends. The win brought Ludlow to 3-3-1 and they are currently in contention for a playoff spot in the B Division. Granby is 2-2-3 and hold the No. 8 spot.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Anthony Shuko gets pressured as he moves upfield with the ball.



Anthony Shuko looks to break away from an opponent.



Spencer Huntley follows through on a pass.

Mutiny successful in league semifinals

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Entering Friday night's United Women's Soccer East Conference semifinal match, the New England Mutiny had outscored their previous five opponents, 35-3.

After a scoreless first 45 minutes of the contest, Steel City FC took a 1-0 lead by scoring an own goal in the 53rd minute. The Mutiny quickly tied the score by converting a penalty kick.

The score remained tied until the 68th minute. That's when Emma Pedolzky, who lives in Westfield, became the hero for the home team. She scored a corner kick goal giving the Mutiny a 2-1 victory at historic Lusitano Stadium.

"Scoring the game winning goal is really exciting," Pedolzky said. "I'm glad that we were able to win tonight's game. We're now looking forward to playing in the finals on Sun-



Turley photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, fights to get the ball by the goalie.

day."

Emma Pedolzky, who began her collegiate soccer career at Bryant University transferred to UMass-Amherst last year. One of Emma's teammates at UMass is her twin sister, Chandler, who also plays for the Mutiny.

They'll be seniors on this year's squad.

"It has really fun playing on the same college soccer team with my sister," Emma Pedolzky added. "I'm looking forward

Please see **MUTINY**, Page 11



Geia Guzman heads up the field.

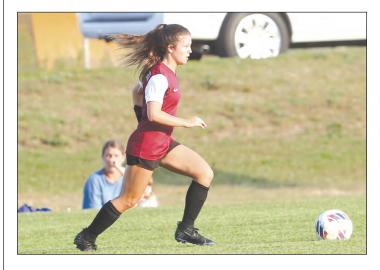
Lions strong in big win

LUDLOW - Last Thursday night, Agawam girls B summer soccer was defeated by host Ludlow 9-0. The Brownies 2-1-1 in summer action and are tied for a spot in the B Division playoffs heading into the final two weeks of the regular season. Agawam has several games to play over that time period. Ludlow is 2-2-1 on the summer and also has seven points and tied for a playoff spot.

Turley photos by David Henry



Rhiley Corneau sends a kick forward.





Molly Bernier looks to make a pass.

T-Birds win community service award

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds received more recognition from the American Hockey League on Thursday night during the Awards Gala at the Board of Gov-

Awards Gala at the Board of Governors' Annual Meeting at Hilton Head Island, S.C.

The franchise was presented with the Eastern Conference Award of Excellence for Community Service following a record-setting year in the community. During the 2023-

24 season, the Thunderbirds raised more than \$128,000 for local charities, while players and mascot Boomer combined to make over 300 visits in the area for various charitable causes.

"Being ingrained in the community has been among the top priorities for our franchise since the day we were established," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "We take immense pride in this award and are honored to be recognized by our peers, but ultimately, we want to continue to do right by the wonderful Springfield community in any way we

can. As with everything else in our business, we want to raise the bar even higher."

A number of the Thunderbirds'
m a r q u e e game nights in 2023-24 had distinct tie-ins to the community, from the annual Pink in the Rink to benefit the Rays of Hope

Foundation to the return of the annual Sensory-Friendly Sunday game in conjunction with the Center for Human Development (CHD).

The organization is currently planning the 2023-24 promotional schedule, which will feature many returning events to benefit the local community around Springfield. A complete list of such promotions will be available later this summer.

Blue Sox return home to get win

HOLYOKE – After not being home for seven days, the Valley Blue Sox played host to the Upper Valley Nighthawks. On a beautiful early Sunday afternoon, the players came out energized and bats hot, as the offensive later proved. The stage was set for a great game of summer baseball in Holyoke Massachusetts.

With Ethan Lyke starting on the mound for the Blue Sox, pitching was off to a good start. In six innings, Lyke gave up three runs, off five hits, with four additional strikeouts. While it was not the best day for the pitching crew, the offense picked up the slack.

Led by a monster Jonathon Hogart home run in the third inning, nine total runs over three innings. From the third to the fifth, it was an absolute clinic put on from the Blue Sox offense to take a strangle hold of this game as the lead bloomed to 9-1 at one point.

The Blue Sox biggest issue in today's game seemed to be fielding. With two errors notched in the stat sheet, the Blue Sox also gave up ten total runs in this game, as well four runs over the last four innings. This may seem like a simple stat, but with under a month left in the season, every game is crucial and an opportunity to touch up these smaller issues that can show up against tougher competition. At the end of the day, it was another great showing from the home team. With this

win, Valley broke even once again with a 0.500 record at 15-15.

Martha's Vineyard 10, Blue Sox 3

The Blue Sox were plagued once again by one bad inning against the Martha's Vineyard Sharks.

Last Friday night's game featured a similar outcome to Wednesday afternoon's game: One bad inning. Valley gave up five runs in the first inning en route to a 10-3 loss.

Blue Sox starter Gregory Shaw had a rough bottom of the first inning. He started off by giving up three straight singles. The inning was highlighted by a Reese Robinett grand slam to put the Sharks ahead 5-0.

Valley added two in the top of the third to make it a 5-2 game. But Vineyard responded with three in the bottom of the fourth to make it 8-2.

Robinett hit another home run, his seventh of the season, in the bottom of the fifth to make it 9-2. Derek Williams hit an RBI single in the top of the sixth to make it 9-3.

Tryston Mccladdie hit a solo home run in the bottom of the eighth to make it 10-3. Out of the 10 runs Valley allowed, only seven of them were earned.

Vineyard starter Harry Deliyannis went 3 innings and allowed just two runs on four hits. He walked one and struck out four.

Hammann picks up win in late model event

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT — Stafford Speedway's Limited Late Model division took center stage on Friday, July 12 with their lone extra distance feature event of the 2024 season, the Riley Generators 30. Rich Hammann was the big winner of the night, taking advantage of a late race restart to win the Riley 30. Hammann becomes the first repeat Limited Late Model feature winner after there were 9 different winners in the first 9 races. Other feature winners included Michael Christopher, Jr. in the SK Modified® feature, Adam Gray in the Late Model feature, Alexander Pearl in the SK Light feature, and Travis Hydar in the Street Stock feature.

In the 30-lap Riley Generators Limited Late Model feature event, Jeremy Lavoie brought the field to the green flag and he took the lead on the opening lap. Gary Patnode took second behind Lavoie with Connor Jencik, RJ Surdell, and Matt Clement making up the top-5. Surdell took third from Jencik on lap-5 while Adrien Paradis, III was on the move and he took fourth place on lap-6 to drop Jencik back to fifth as Lavoie continued to hold the lead with Patnode giving chase from second place. Mike Hopkins backed into the turn 1 wall to bring the caution flag out with 9 laps complete.

Lavoie took the lead back under green with Patnode still holding second. Sur-

dell was third in line with Kevin Cormier moving up to fourth. Rich Hammann took fifth on lap-13 to drop Paradis back to sixth. Surdell made a move on lap-19 to move into second and that move allowed Hammann to take third and drop Patnode back to fourth as Lavoie continued to lead. Ari Jencik spun in turn 1 to bring the caution flag back out with 22 laps complete.

Lavoie took the lead on the restart with Hammann moving into second. Surdell was third with Kevin Cormier up to fourth and Paradis in fifth. Hammann made a move in turn 3 to take the lead from Lavoie but Matt Winter, II spun in turn 2 to bring the caution flag out with 26 laps complete and negate that pass. Patnode was sent to the rear of the field by Stafford officials for making contact with Winter.

Hammann was able to stay even with Lavoie on the restart and Hammann led lap-27 by a nose. Hammann cleared Lavoie on lap-28 while Surdell was third and Devon Jencik took fourth place from Paradis. Hammann took the checkered flag to pick up his second win of the season and become the first repeat Limited Late Model winner in 2024. Lavoie held off Surdell for second with Kyle Theriault and Devon Jencik rounding out the top-5.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® event, Wesley Prucker took the early lead at the

drop of the green flag while Keith Rocco quickly moved up to second. Marcello Rufrano and Anthony Flannery were wheel to wheel for third with Andrew Molleur in fifth place. Rocco made a move to the inside of Prucker on lap-3 and he took the lead from Prucker on lap-4. Prucker came right back to the inside of Rocco on lap-5 and he retook the lead. RJ Marcotte and Curt Brainard spun on the frontstretch with Ethan Durocher getting collected to bring the caution flag out with 6 laps complete.

Prucker and Rocco went wheel to wheel on the restart with Rocco holding the lead by a nose to complete lap-7. Prucker got clear into the lead on lap-8 with Rufrano taking second. Rufrano took the lead from Prucker on lap-10 with Flannery taking second. Michael Christopher, Jr. took third with Prucker falling from the lead back to fourth place with Rocco in fifth.

Michael Gervais, Jr. took fourth on lap-15 with Rocco taking fifth and Prucker falling back to sixth while Flannery took the lead from Rufrano on lap-16. Prucker's great night came to an end against the backstretch wall to bring the caution flag out with 16 laps complete.

Flannery took the lead back under green with Rufrano slotting into second behind him. Rufrano didn't stay behind Flannery for very long as he made a

into turn 3 and came out of turn 4 with the lead. Christopher was third now behind Rufrano and Flannery with Rocco in fourth and Cory DiMatteo in fifth. Christopher started apply heavy pressure to Flannery for second, but Flannery was able to keep Christopher behind him. Flannery then started looking high

and low for a way to get around Rufrano for the lead but wasn't able to make a pass. Flannery lost second to Christopher on lap-27 and Christopher immediately began to hound Rufrano for the race lead. Christopher made a bottom shot move going into turn 1 and he took the lead from Rufrano on lap-30.

With 5 laps to go it was still Christopher in the lead with Rufrano, Flannery, Rocco, and Gervais lined up behind him. Christopher led Rufrano and Flannery to the checkered flag to pick up his second win of the season. Rocco finished fourth and Gervais rounded out the top-5.

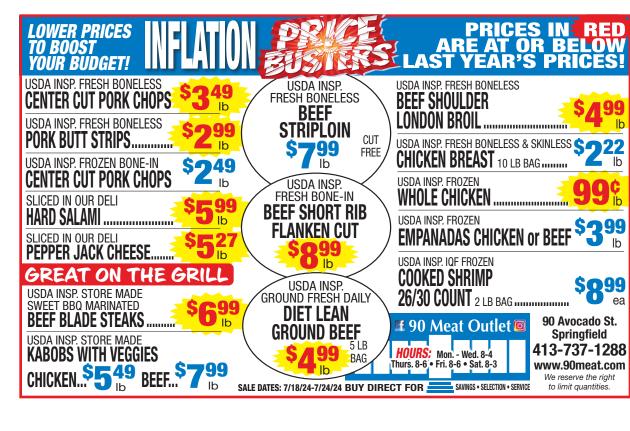
In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, Alexandra Fearn streaked into the lead at the start of the race with P.J. Zarrella in second. Tom Fearn was third in the early going followed by Tom Butler in fourth and Andrew Durand in fifth place. Darrell Keane spun in turn 4 to bring the caution flag out with 5 laps complete.

Alexandra Fearn took the lead on the restart with Tom Fearn moving up to second. There was a scuffle midpack that saw cars scrambling but there was no contact or spins and everyone continued on under green. Durand moved up to third with Adam Gray up to fourth and Chris Buffone was now up to fifth on lap-8 with the two Fearns leading the field.

Gray took third place on lap-11 with Durand falling back to fourth. Paul Varricchio, Jr. was up to fifth while Buffone fell back to sixth, just in front of Kevin Gambacorta, who was on a charge through the field after starting 12th. Varricchio took fourth on lap-13 with Durand and Gambacorta following him through to move into fourth and fifth and drop Buffone back to sixth.

Tom Fearn caught Alexandra Fearn on lap-15 and began to look for a way to move into the lead. Tom made his move on lap-17 to the inside of Alexandra in turn 4 and he took over the race lead. While the Fearns were contesting the lead, Gray ran the two leaders down and on lap-19 it was now a 3-car fight for the lead with Varricchio just behind the lead trio in fourth. Gray worked his way around Alexandra on lap-20 to move into second with Varricchio now applying heavy pressure to Alexandra for third while Gray was all over the back bumper of Tom Fearn looking to take the lead.

Gray got to the inside of Tom Fearn on lap-25 and he took the lead on lap-26.



IN THE CLASSROOM

Ludlow High School Term 4 Honor Roll

HIGH HONORS

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MUTINY from Page 9

to playing with her for one more season.

The semifinal victory improved the Mutiny's overall record to a perfect 9-0-0. It was also their first playoff win in

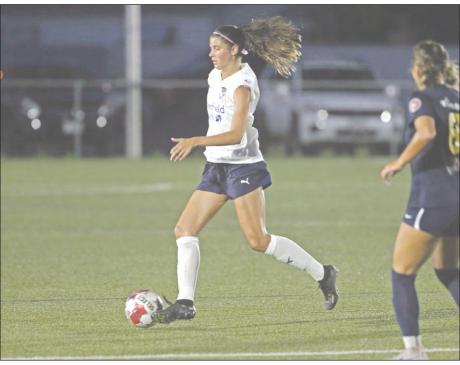
Steel City FC (5-1-3) also didn't lose a match during the regular season.

"We didn't know very much about Steel City, but they were organized and played well in the first half," said Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari. "I thought we dominated in the second half after allowing a goal. It was very important for us to score the tying goal right away."

The Mutiny were awarded a penalty kick in the 55th minute after Jess Mazo was fouled hard in the box. She was forced to leave the match with a right shoulder injury. Abbey Jones stepped up to the line and booted a low shot into the right corner of the net.

"I've been taking a lot of PK's at practice," Jones said. "It was the first time that I've taken a penalty shot during a game this season. I wasn't very nervous before making the shot."

Jones, who plays college soccer at UConn, also assisted on Emma Pedolz-

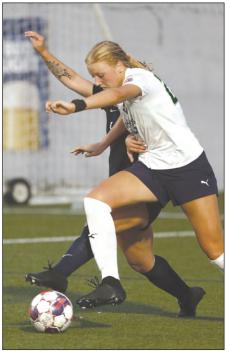


Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, moves up the field.

ky's game winning goal.

"Abbey is a very good technical soccer player," Molinari said. "She understands the game very well."

The Mutiny had an opportunity to take a 3-0 lead at the end of regulation, but a breakaway shot attempt by Palmer's Maddy Theriault was saved by Steel



Maddy Theriault, of Palmer eludes a defender.

City goalie Payton O'Malley.

Highlights from the Mutiny's appearance in the finals will be in next week's

RACING from Page 10

Varricchio was now side by side with Alexandra Fearn for third with Varricchio taking the position on lap-27. Gambacorta was now in fifth with Durand back to

Gambacorta took fourth on lap-29 to drop Alexandra Fearn back to fifth but it was Adam Gray taking down the feature win, his first of the season. Tom Fearn finished second with Varricchio, Gambacorta, and Alexandra Fearn rounding out the top-5.



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DATEBOOK

DATEBOOK

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

ONGOING

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

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

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

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

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

Big Y investigates skimmer incident

SPRINGFIELD— On June 29, Big Y discovered an unknown individual attached a skimming device to one single terminal in each of the locations in Naugatuck and Plainville, CT.

Big Y is actively investigating the circumstances surrounding this incident, and has notified and are working with law enforcement.

Big Y has inspected all of the terminals and will continue to do so. If the company learns that any particular customer's information was compromised, it will promptly notify them and provide them with additional information so that they can take steps to protect themselves.

As a best practice, customers should always review their bank and credit card statements for any signs of fraudulent activity and, if they have any questions or concerns, contact their bank or credit card company directly.

If any Big Y customers have questions or concerns about this matter, please contact the company at 1-800-828-2688.

The security and privacy of customers is of utmost importance to us Big Y. As such, the company takes its daily security protocols to protect our customers and business very seriously.

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 Iudlowfellowship.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 584 West St., Ludlow 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-

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

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 Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday(3-10) 11- 12 noon

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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.
stelizahethludlow.org

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Check out our Parish App

Wednesday, July 17, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy
Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C),
Thursday, July 18, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C),

 $\label{eq:thm:condition} Thursday, July 18, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), \\ Friday, July 19, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), \\ Saturday, July 20, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), \\ Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C), \\ \end{aligned}$

Sunday, July 21, - Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Take & Eat - 8:00 a.m. (FLBH/K), Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C) Monday July 22, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)

Tuesday, July 23, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita Choir - 2:30 p.m. (C), Vacation Bible School Committee - 6:30 p.m. FLBH/JR/), Boy Scout Troop Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (ER).

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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.

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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.

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Tee Off for women and girls

BELCHERTOWN— Join in for the 30th Annual Zonta Golf Tournament and help create a brighter future for women and girls in the community.

On Saturday, Sept. 7, at Cold Spring Country Club, tee off will be at 8:30 a.m. for a day of fun, friendly competition, and making a difference.

Whether a seasoned golfer or just looking for a fun day out, everyone is welcome. For \$120, individuals will enjoy a round of golf, a delicious box lunch, and the chance to win amazing prizes.

Support directly funds scholarships and grants that empower women and girls to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Sign up today at zontaqv.org/golf or contact Mary Knight at 413-323-4806. We also welcome sponsorships from local businesses. Be a champion for women and girls. Join in on the green.

HUBBARD from Page 7

FOR CHILDREN

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

Sing With Me, Tuesdays 10:30-11:00 a.m. For ages 0-5. Does not meet June 25. Join Youth Services Librarian July on the lawn (in good weather) for 30 minutes of favorite children's songs & movement. Drop-in.

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

Grow, Play and Learn, Thursdays, 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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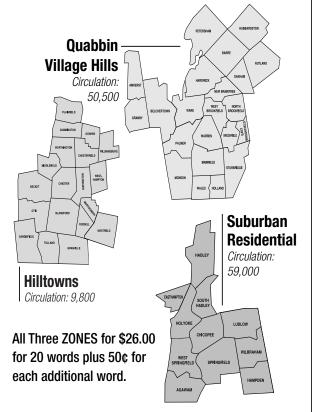
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Division** Docket No. HD24P1465EA Estate of: Mary Jane Leone **Date of Death:** March 30, 2024 INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Kathleen M. Gilmore of Blue Point, NY a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Kathleen M. Gilmore of Blue Point, NY 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 peti-

tion 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. 07/17/2024

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, July 31, 2024, at 6:40 p.m. on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at 0 Loopley Street-Lot D, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 11D, Parcel 79, Zoning: Residential A). The applicant is seeking a 4,170 SF Variance from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals to allow for the construction of a single-family home to be located on a lot with 10,835 SF of lot area. The minimum lot area requirement in the Residential A (RA) zoning district is

Manny Lopes, Chairman 07/17, 07/24/2024

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, July 31, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at 0 Swan Avenue-Lot A, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 16A, Parcel 8, Zoning: Residential A. The applicant is seeking a 2,500 SF Variance from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals to allow for the construction of a single-family home to be located on a lot with 12,500 SF of lot area. The minimum lot area requirement in the Residential A (RA) zoning district is 15,000 SE

Manny Lopes, Chairman 07/17, 07/24/2024

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, July **31, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.** on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at 0 Loopley Street-Lot C, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 11D, Parcel 78D, **Zoning: Residential A)**. The applicant is seeking a 5,240 SF Variance from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals to allow for the construction of a single-family home to be located on a lot with 9,762 SF of lot area. The minimum lot area requirement in the Residential A (RA) zoning district is 15,000

Manny Lopes, Chairman 07/17, 07/24/2024

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, July 31, 2024, at 6:20 p.m. on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at 0 Swan Avenue-Lot B, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 16A, Parcel 7, Zoning: Residential A). The applicant is seeking a 2,500 SF Variance from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals to allow for the construction of a single-familv home to be located on a lot with 12.500 SF of lot area. The minimum lot area requirement in the Residential A (RA) zoning district is 15,000 SF.

Manny Lopes, Chairman 07/17, 07/24/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 7:10 p.m. on the application of Kevin Silva of 41 Crest Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 27A, Parcel 61) for: office for landscaping business & real estate

investment company.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 8, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman

07/10, 07/17/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. on the application of Kalee Kenney of 126 Winsor Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 14B, Parcel 14) for: office for vehicle graphic installation.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 8, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman

07/10, 07/17/2024

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