

Opinion: 6  
 Sports: 9  
 Obituaries: 11  
 Notices: 13  
 Classifieds: 15



# The REGISTER

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## Attorney General finds town violated bidding laws

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer  
 mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW – In a recent hearing, the Attorney General found that the town violated public bidding laws in its contract to upgrade and replace the fire station’s vehicle exhaust system.

The office of Attorney Gen-

*“The town provided no evidence that it considered other brands of VES when it decided to replace its current system,”*

– Attorney General’s statement said

eral Andrea Joy Campbell issued a statement about the case, which asserted that the protestor, Murphy Specialties, Inc., claimed that the town violated public bidding laws by conducting a sole source procurement for the project to upgrade and replace its vehicle exhaust system. The town’s defense was that it executed the contract with

Air Cleaning Specialists of New England, LLC with then-current guidance regarding Operational Service Division contracts.

At a hearing on April 29, which was attended by representatives from Murphy, ACS, and the town, the Attorney General found that the town violated bid laws by not bidding the project.

This project is to replace the 27-year-old Plymovent vehicle exhaust removal system in the town’s fire station, which will include eleven drop hoses, new tracks, a control panel, and an exhaust fan. ACS installed the original VES in 1997, after successfully bidding for the project, and determined the system had become too costly to repair in 2022.

“The town provided no evidence that it considered other brands of VES when it decided to replace its current system,” the Attorney General’s statement said.

Around December of 2022, the town applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Federal Grant to partially fund the project and solicited a quote for the new Plymovent VES system from ACS. A representative from ACS conducted a site visit on Dec. 21 to develop an estimate of \$98,620, which was emailed to the town.

The cost estimate did not itemize labor and materials, and stated that the VES replacement would include a switch from a pneumatic to a magnetic sys-



Turley photo by Marcelo Gusmão

**The town reported no delays in replacing the fire station’s vehicular exhaust system, despite the public bidding law violation.**

tem, which would require minor alterations to vehicle tailpipes, with the cost included as part of the proposal.

A second proposal on Oct. 30, 2023 confirmed the original estimated cost of \$98,620, and ACS confirmed its status as a TRD03 vendor, which asserted that the company is “the sole dealer of Plymovent VES in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and parts of Massachusetts.

“ACS has the exclusive

rights to sell, install and service Plymovent’s vehicle exhaust extraction systems,” the statement said.

On May 25, the town was awarded \$89,654.54 by the Department of Homeland Security through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, with the town responsible for the remaining 10% of the budget, totaling \$8,965.46. A cost breakdown was also provided, which budgeted the full \$98,620 to equipment, and \$0.00 towards personnel, fringe bene-

fits, or construction.

“In the Jan. 26 cost estimate, ACS identified for the first time in a written proposal that \$9,900 of the \$98,620 price budgeted for the project represented the cost of labor for the installation of the system,” the Attorney General’s statement found.

In March of this year, Murphy learned of the project, and a representative contacted the town’s Chief Procurement Offi-

Please see **BIDDING**, page 4

## ZBA grants variances for pair of properties

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – At its meeting last week, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to approve variances for two properties that were under the required square footage.

At the July 31 ZBA meeting, Rob Levesque from R. Levesque Associates represented Anlo Realty Corporation to request variances to construct single family homes on properties owned on Swan Avenue and Loopley Street.

Alan Aubin started the meeting by explaining that a developer is not entitled to a variance, and in order to grant a variance for the lots, certain conditions need to be met, such as the soil shape or topography of the land, or to demonstrate that the enforcement of the by-law would involve substantial hardship to the petitioner, be it financial or otherwise.

“Hardship entitling a landowner to a variance is usually present when the landowner

cannot reasonably make use of the property for the purposes or in the manner allowed by the zoning law,” Aubin read.

Levesque explained to the board what was going on with the property, and gave some history on the project.



“Ludlow Gardens was a development that developed Swan and Loopley,” Levesque said. “Goofy little lots, 25 feet wide, a series of them. They were conveyed out at different times.”

Levesque provided site plans for the lots, designating existing properties, and noted that the zoning regulations

changed in 1954 and 1957.

“The subject property was conveyed in 1966 to two different owners,” Levesque said. “In 1954 this Residence A zoning district had a 10,000 square foot requirement for area; in 1957 it then went to a 15,000 square foot.”

Levesque said that the goal would be primarily for housekeeping, to bring both properties up to the same square footage rather than having one that is inadequate.

“Variance is a tool to be used sparingly,” Levesque said. “In this particular case, there was arguably this lot that was conventional, this lot that was substandard, and the idea was to redistribute the property so that it was more logical.”

Levesque added that these lots are comparable to the median size with other properties in the neighborhood, and provided information on the planned home for each lot as well, which he described as “colonial style structures” with

Please see **ZBA**, page 4

## Planning Board approves pair of home offices

By Marcelo Gusmão  
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LUDLOW – Last week, the Planning Board approved two home offices for businesses in town at its regular meeting.

The July 25 meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Joel Silva. Aside from the public hearings about the home offices, the board also looked over a site sketch for the placement of a storage building by Linton Holdings on West Street.

Kevin Silva approached the board to request a permit for his landscaping business and real estate investment company, Eco Land. The Vice Chair read a letter the board had received from neighbors of the address that expressed concerns about the business office license.

“According to the bylaws, some home occupations must not disrupt the residential nature of the neighborhood or generate excessive noise, traffic, or oth-

er disturbances,” the letter said. “We believe that the composed business may not fully comply with these regulations.”

The letter noted that the owners already store a significant amount of heavy equipment on the lawn and on a trailer in the street, describing it as “not only unsightly, but also poses potential safety risks.”

“Additionally, the noise generated by the equipment and the increased traffic have already disrupted the peace and tranquility of our residential area,” the letter continued.

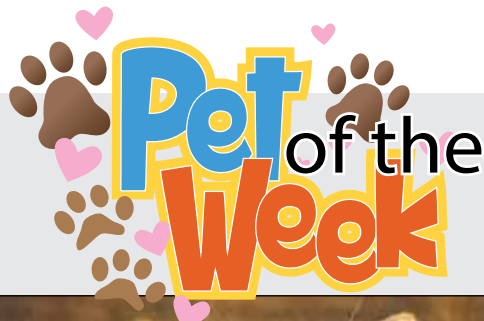
The letter alleged that recreational vehicles have been parked outside the property, blocking fire hydrants and condensing the street to a single-lane by parking vehicles on either side of the street. Photographs were included that depicted where and how the vehicles were parked.

“These existing problems make us apprehensive about the

Please see **PLANNING**, page 12



# LUDLOW



HARLOW

Hi! My name is Harlow, I'm 2 years old I just got adopted by Lauren Cole of Palmer and I love my new home and family already! I love treats, Vera Bradley blankets, and my belly rubs! 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 [journalregister@turley.com](mailto:journalregister@turley.com).

## ElderCare holds online auction

REGION — WestMass ElderCare is thrilled to announce its fabulous 50th online auction, an event commemorating five decades of dedicated service to older adults and individuals with disabilities. This milestone celebration not only highlights WMEC's unwavering commitment to enhancing the quality of life for those in need but also showcases the generous support of the communities we proudly serve.

Since its inception in 1974, WestMass ElderCare has been a pillar of strength and support for the older adults and individuals with disabilities across Western MA. Our comprehensive services, which include in-home care, nutrition programs, caregiver support, and more, have touched countless lives, fostering independence and dignity for our consumers.

"The impact of WestMass Elder-

Care over the past 50 years has been profound," said Roseann Martocchia, executive director of WMEC. "Our programs have provided vital assistance to individuals, allowing them to maintain their independence and live with dignity. This auction is a testament to the strong bonds we've formed within our community and the unwavering support we've received."

The fabulous 50th online auction promises to be a remarkable event, featuring an array of exciting items and experiences generously donated by local businesses and supporters. From dining gift cards and gift baskets to Thunderbirds, Red Sox and Bruins tickets, there will be something for everyone to bid on and enjoy. The auction will run from Aug. 8 to Aug. 30, and all proceeds will directly benefit WMEC's programs and services.

The success of this event is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of the community partners and sponsors. Their continued support enables WMEC to expand its reach and impact, ensuring that we can meet the growing needs of our clients.

"We are deeply grateful for the incredible support we receive from our community," added Martocchia. "It is this collective effort that allows us to continue our mission and celebrate this milestone. We invite everyone to join us in this exciting auction and help us make a difference in the lives of those we serve."

For more information about the fabulous 50th online auction and to preview the items up for bid, please visit the website at [www.wmelder-care.org/online-auction](http://www.wmelder-care.org/online-auction).

## Help needed to stock pantries shelves

INDIAN ORCHARD— On Saturday, Aug. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join in for the Annual Stock our Shelves Food Drive at one of the following drop off locations: Stop & Shop, 1600 Boston Road, Springfield; Stop & Shop, 415 Coolley Street, Springfield; and Randall's Farm & Greenhouse, 631 Center Street, Ludlow.

The local Community Survival Center shelves need some help

during the summer months. Items to donate are peanut butter, tuna, chunky soups, beef stew, canned ham, canned chicken, pancake mix, and more. The Center provides bagged groceries for low-income households from Ludlow, Wilbraham, Hampden, Indian Orchard, and Sixteen Acres. Also, low-income seniors (60 and older) from anywhere in Hampden County. Please help to stock the shelves; quite frankly, the

center can't do this without donors.

The Center also has a Thrift Shop that sells donated clothing and many other items and uses the proceeds to support the pantry and programs.

The mission of the Community Survival Center is to relieve hunger in our community by providing emergency food to individuals and families in times of need.

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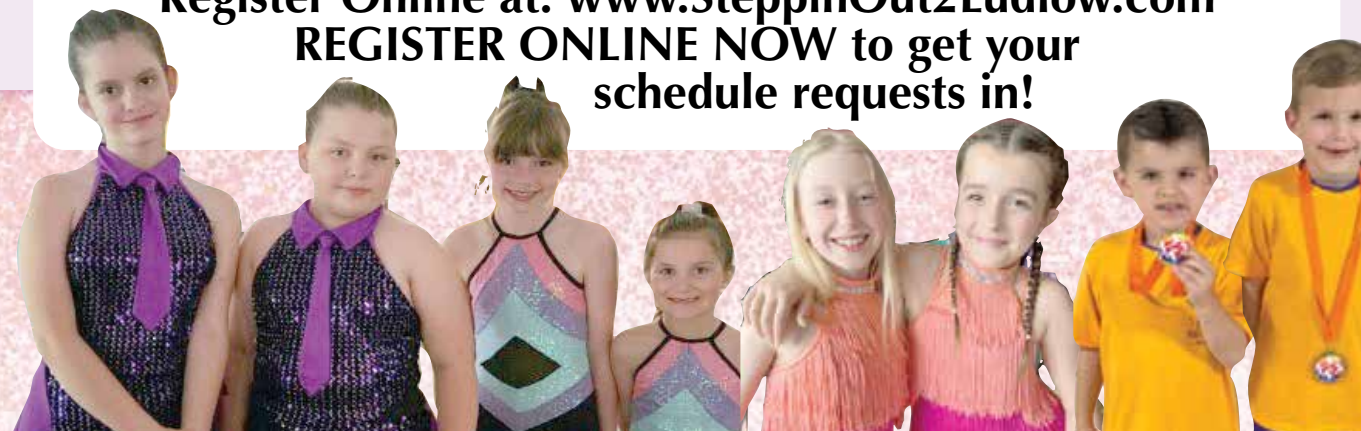
Thursday, August 22nd 5-7pm

Tuesday, September 3rd 5-7pm

★ Classes start Monday, September 9th ★

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# Town announces Early Voting In-Person Schedule for State Primary

LUDLOW – The Town Clerk has provided the in-person schedule for early voting for this year’s state primary. It will be held from August 24 to August 30 at the Town Clerk’s Office on the second floor of Town Hall.

August 24, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
 August 26, Monday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 August 27, Tues., 8: a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 August 28, Wed., 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 August 29, Thurs., 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 August 30, Friday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
 The last day to register to vote and/or change party enrollment is

August 24 by 5 p.m. The last day to request an early and absentee ballot by mail is August 26 by 5 p.m. To contact the Town Clerk’s office, call 413-583-5600, extension 1231, or send an email to Clerk@Ludlow.MA.US.

# Season Subscriptions on sale for SSO

*SSO subscribers receive substantial savings on ticket prices and many additional benefits; 2024-25 season to feature nine concerts*

SPRINGFIELD – Season subscriptions are now on sale for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra’s (SSO) 2024-25 season, “A Tapestry of Music,” opening in October with nine concerts.

Subscriptions can be purchased on the SSO website, SpringfieldSymphony.org, or by calling the Box Office at (413) 733-2291. Subscription renewals for previous subscribers can be reserved through August 30.

SSO season subscribers receive many benefits, including substantial savings on ticket prices; 15% off additional tickets purchased for any of the season’s performances and youth tickets for \$10; invitations to special SSO events; the SSO Arts

Card, which offers discounts at Greater Springfield restaurants and attractions; and free concert ticket exchanges. Individual concert tickets will be on sale at a later date.

Due to popular demand, the coming season will include five matinee performances. Two performances - “A New Musical World” on Jan. 18 and “Something New” on April 19 -will also feature projections on the big screen while the orchestra plays, a feature that audiences also enjoyed during previous seasons’ concerts.

The 2024-25 season will feature two performances conducted by the SSO’s newly-named Artistic Advisor, Mei-Ann Chen, including its opening night performance on Oct. 19, “New England Reverie,” featuring works by two of the “Boston Six” and America’s great composers. Chen will also conduct the Valentine’s-themed concert, “The Harmony of Love,” on Feb. 15, 2025, which will feature Asian folk-themed repertoire highlighted by Butterfly Lover’s Concerto (Chen Gang / He Zhanhao) and music from West Side Story.

“Echos of the Americas” on Saturday, Nov. 16, will offer an exciting program that explores Latin American and Spanish composers, featuring a violin concerto by Puerto Rican composer Ernesto Cordeiro, tango and conga. “Heralding the Holidays” on Dec. 14 will feature vocalist Shayna Steele, an American singer, songwriter and Broadway stage actress; the Springfield Symphony Chorus; and Cantor Elise Barber.

The season will also include the SSO’s annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration concert, “A New Musical World,” on Jan. 18, 2025; the return of Byron Stripling, a popular guest conductor for the SSO, who will conduct “Gershwin, Berlin & Friends” on Feb. 1; and a concert highlighting the fusion of choral and orchestral music with “Eternal Echoes” on March 15, featuring the Springfield Symphony Chorus.

The final two concerts of the season will be “Something New” on Saturday, April 19, with guest conductor JoAnn Falletta; and “Variation and Virtuosity” on May 3 with guest conductor Marcelo Lehninger.


According to Paul Lambert, President and CEO of the SSO, “Our entire SSO Family is thrilled and honored to bring a season of such beautiful music representing the range and excitement of many musical traditions to our audiences. We will continue to welcome remarkable conductors and guest artists to join our Orchestra in continuing our outreach to new and returning audiences.

“We especially hope that many will join us for our special “Romance” concert, featuring beautiful music from both eastern and western traditions, that serves as an additional concert to our Classical and Pops offerings for the season,” Lambert said.

In addition to the scheduled season’s concerts, the SSO will again plan to host its third annual June-teenth celebration in 2025.

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## Craft Fair to be held, looking for vendors

Saint Nicholas Craft Fair and Raffle at Christ The King Parish will be held on Nov. 9, 2024 in the Parish Hall. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Light refreshments will be available.

Crafters are wanted, the non-refundable fee is \$40 for an 8 ft. table, provided by the Parish.

Make checks out to The Rosary Sodality. To reserve a table, contact Debbie Martell by calling 413-547-8739, or Cheryl Orszulak at 413-583-2123.

## Water pipes to be replaced on Pine Street

LUDLOW —The Town of Ludlow announces that the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission will be conducting a water pipe improvement project in Ludlow starting on Monday, July 29.

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission will be replacing water pipes on Pine Street in Ludlow. The project is expected to continue through November with typical working hours of 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., depending on the weather.

Pine Street will be converted to a one-lane alternating traffic pattern throughout the project. Access to adjacent properties will be maintained, and pedestrian and vehicular traffic will be managed with posted signs and police details.

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission manages a large portion of the water main pipes throughout Ludlow.

The Town of Ludlow would like to thank residents and community members for their patience during construction.

For any questions, please contact Springfield Water and Sewer Commission Customer Field Service at 413-310-3501.

## Dakin celebrates with lower adoption fees for cats

SPRINGFIELD— In 2019, the Honorable Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor of Springfield, proclaimed Aug. 1 “Dakin Day” in Springfield to honor the organization’s 50 years of work in the animal welfare industry, as well as the community. The event also coincided with the 10th anniversary of Dakin opening its Union Street location.

This Aug. 1, Dakin will celebrate 55 years of improving the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them by keeping them where they belong, together. During that anniversary week, from Tuesday, July 30

through Saturday, Aug. 3, Dakin will lower adoption fees for cats six months and older to \$55, and also discount adoption fees for kittens by \$55. The adoption center will be open from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on each day of the promotion. All cats and kittens available for adoption will have undergone spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, and received age-appropriate vaccinations before they leave the building.

According to Dakin’s Executive Director Meg Talbert, the organization will also celebrate Dakin Day by sharing stories and celebrating the animals helped within our com-

munity, and those who make our work possible. “Summer always means lots of animals who need rehoming,” she said “Cats and kittens, especially, arrive in large numbers at Dakin, and we’re hoping that by reducing adoption fees we can help them find homes that much faster.”

People interested in adopting a pet at Dakin can see a listing of currently-available pets online at <https://www.dakinhumane.org/adopt-a-pet>. The web page continually updates; removing pets that have left the building, and adding pets who become available for adoption, within minutes.

### ZBA from page 1

two-car garages, in keeping with the neighborhood.

“We do receive variances oftentimes in cases like this, where it allows us to do something that is in keeping with the neighborhood and is arguably consistent with the surrounding properties,” Levesque said.

Board Member Joseph Wlody-

ka asked if the soil conditions on the property met the requirements for the variance. Levesque said that he didn’t know of any soil conditions, but was under the impression it was not a requirement to meet all three of the requirements.

“That would be inconsistent with the 100s of variances that we have received,” Levesque added.

Levesque consulted the Massachusetts Handbook of Land Plan-

ning Law, and the board members found that the book specified only one of the three criteria.

“We have to look at this objectively so that we can make the correct decision in this matter and future matters pertaining to this type of variance request,” Wlodyka said.

The board voted 4-1 to approve both variances requested to the Swan Avenue and Loopley Street properties.

### BIDDING from page 1

cer and sought documents concerning the project.

The town executed the contract on Jan. 31, and ACS began work on the project on April 9. An instant bid protest was filed on April 11, though the project continued due to safety concerns over the department not having an operational VES.

The Attorney General dismissed calls to bar Murphy’s protest due to the work being near completion.

“There is no time limit in the statute granting the Attorney General jurisdiction to investigate potential

violations of the competitive bidding laws,” according to the precedent set by the New England Regional Council of Carpenters v. Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

“The town’s assertion that Murphy’s protest is untimely has no merit,” the statement reads. “The town does not dispute that Murphy had no knowledge of the project until sometime in March 2024. Once it learned of the project, Murphy had several conversations with the town to discover what transpired with this procurement. As the town’s brief admits, between March 22-29, Murphy communicated with the town at least three times seeking documents and information about the project.”

The statement also noted that the town provided no evidence that it was disadvantaged by the timing of Mur-

phy’s protest. At the hearing, the town stated that once ACS started the project, it was obligated to finish the work due to safety concerns, which the Attorney General saw as an acceptable explanation for the work to continue while the matter was being investigated.

The Attorney General found that the town violated bid laws by conducting a sole source procurement for the project.

“In its defense, the town alleges that when it received its initial estimate from ACS, the then-guidance for the TRD03 contract stated that sole source procurement was permissible for projects with labor costs estimated below \$10,000,” the statement said.

Two previous cases, Murphy Specialties, Inc. v. City of Revere and Northeast Regional Council of SMART v. Town of Falmouth, had previously ruled that TRD03 could not be used to sanction sole source procurements. The town stated it was not aware of these decisions.

“The only time an awarding authority may conduct a sole source procurement for a public construction project is when the total estimated contract price is less than \$10,000,” the Attorney General stated.

The Attorney General ruled that the town is under a legal obligation to comply with competitive bidding laws, which includes keeping itself apprised of the latest developments in public procurement law.

The town also argued that because it was making an upgrade to the same system, it was authorized to proceed with a sole source procurement. The Attorney General noted that “every stage confirms that this was a replacement, not an upgrade,” and so this defense was unwarranted.

“I do not find that the town demonstrated sound reasons in the public interest for considering options outside of the Plymovent brand,” the Attorney General stated. “It simply failed to do so.”

The Attorney General allowed the protest by Murphy. The town was not available for comment on the issue.



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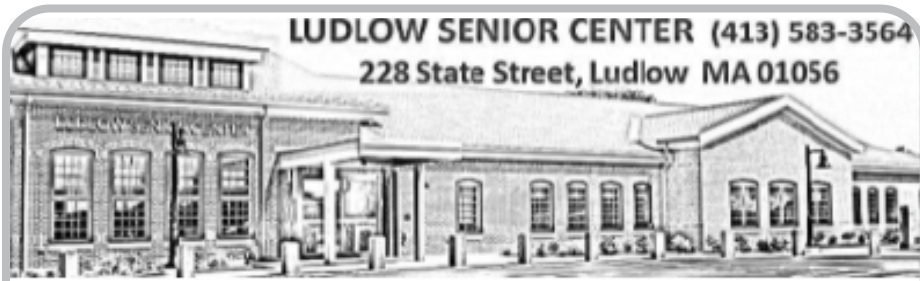
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**The Register**





## Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

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

For full program and activity descriptions and general information about what a senior center is and does go to: [Ludlow.ma.us](http://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, Aug. 8

8:45 a.m. Foot Care by Appt.\*  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:30 a.m. Friends of the Senior Center Mtg.  
10:30 a.m. Sen. Oliveira Office Hour  
1 p.m. Mahjong  
1 p.m. Fishing Club  
1:30 p.m. Paint with Jessica\*  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

#### Friday, Aug. 9

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

#### Monday, Aug. 12

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

#### Tuesday, Aug. 13

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. Big Y Tour\*

1:30 p.m. Bingo  
4:30 p.m. Power Pump Class  
4:30 p.m. Creative Corner w/Tammy\*  
4:30 p.m. Jewelry Making Class\*  
5 p.m. Movie: Dave (1993)

#### Wednesday, Aug. 14

8 a.m. Garden Club  
9 a.m. Zumba Gold  
9 a.m. Ceramics  
9 a.m. Dental Appt.\*  
9 a.m. Jewelry Class\*  
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class\*  
1 p.m. Movie: Dave (1993)  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class\*  
1:30 p.m. Hawaiian Performance

#### Thursday, Aug. 15

8:45 a.m. Foot Care by Appt.\*  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
1 p.m. Mahjong  
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, Aug. 8:** Baked Cod/Wild Rice/Cucumber Salad  
**Friday, Aug. 9:** Chicken Patty Sand/Lettuce & Tom/Macaroni Salad  
**Monday, Aug. 12:** Lazy Turkey Pot Pie  
**Tuesday, Aug. 13:** Ham & Broccoli Casserole/Garbanzo Bean Salad  
**Wednesday, Aug. 14:** Hawaiian Day, Huli Huli Chicken/Pineapple/White Rice  
**Thursday, Aug. 15:** Birthday Lunch, Stuffed Shells/Side Salad

Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. Call on Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.  
For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to ask about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

## This Week in History August 6



Devastation and destruction left behind following the Hiroshima bombings of August 6, 1945.

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

On August 1, 1589, King Henry III of France was stabbed by a Jacobin friar and died the next day after acknowledging his Bourbon ally, Henry of Navarre, as his successor.

On August 2, 1920, Marcus Garvey, black leader and founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, presided at an international convention in New York City.

On August 3, 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail on his first transatlantic voyage, departing from Palos, Spain, with the Niña, Pinta, and Santa María.

On August 4, 1892, the parents of

Lizzie Borden were murdered in Fall River, MA. Borden was tried for the crime and acquitted.

On August 5, 1914, the first electric traffic light was installed in Cleveland, OH.

On August 6, 1945, the United States government dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, killing over 70,000 people, including civilians, in the highly populated area.

Finally, on August 7, 1978, following the leak of toxic chemicals buried beneath the Love Canal neighborhood of Niagara Falls, NY, President Jimmy Carter declared a federal health emergency in the worst environmental disaster involving chemical wastes in American history.

## Big Y appoints new director of meat and seafood

SPRINGFIELD— Board of Directors of Big Y Foods, Inc. is pleased to announce the following changes to their Sales team. Norm E. Vernadakis, director of meat & seafood is retiring, and Megan L. Moriarty will be appointed to the same role.

After 39 years of leadership in the meat and seafood industry, Vernadakis is retiring on Aug. 1. He started his Big Y journey in 1985 as a meat cutter and has held many positions such as meat and seafood manager, merchandiser/trainer and director of deli, bakery & kitchen.

Vernadakis' contributions helped to build the company's new fresh foods strategy. "Norm has dedicated his career to his passion for learning and passing his knowledge on to others," said John Fraro, senior director of fresh foods. "We will miss his guidance and direction," he added.

Moriarty started her career with Big Y in 2015 as a store director. In 2017 she

became floral sales manager and then seafood sales manager until her new appointment, director of meat and seafood.

In addition, she participated in the Big Y's Women L.E.A.D. program, an employee resource group focused on personal and professional development. Prior to Big Y, Moriarty worked in retail operations for over 20 years and attended Penn State College. In 2020 she was named Top Women in Grocery by Progressive Grocer and in 2021 was the recipient of the Food Retail Leader Certificate from The Food Industry Association. Moriarty lives in Westfield, Ma with her fiancé, Chris and enjoys reading and travel. "Megan's visionary leadership, strategic thinking, and unwavering commitment have earned her this significant advancement," said John Fraro, senior director of fresh foods. "I'm confident she will bring innovative solutions and drive continued success in this new role," he added.

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# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN



### I was self-employed and don't have enough credits for Social Security

Dear Rusty:

For a thirty-year period, I was making a living as an independent contractor and freelancer.

I was working on behalf of myself. Thus, I was only paying state and federal taxes when applied. Due to changes in the employment landscape, I wish to apply for benefits at age sixty-four, as receiving said SS benefits would serve as supplemental income to what I would be receiving from outside sources.

I recently discovered through the SSA that I do not have enough "points" to apply for Social Security benefits. What would be the method to obtain those required points in order to receive benefits?

**Signed: Needing Points**

Dear Needing:

Social Security is an earned benefit and eligibility is attained by contributing to SS through FICA payroll taxes or Self-Employment tax on your net earnings from self-employment, over your lifetime. You must have at least 40 "quarters of credit" to be eligible for Social Security benefits essentially you must work one quarter of each year earning at least a specified amount during that quarter to earn one credit and you can earn a maximum of four credits for each year you work.

The amount of earnings per credit varies each year, but for 2024, work earnings of \$1,730 give you one credit (annual work earnings of \$6,920 earn four credits). Usually, you must contribute to Social Security for about ten years to be eligible for benefits.

You must have earned at least 40 quarter credits to collect Social Security retirement benefits/ If you have less than 40 you are not eligible for SS retirement benefits.

For self-employed individuals, SECA SS tax is paid when you file your federal income tax return – you pay into Social Security when filing your annual Self-Employment income tax return (the self-employed must pay both the employee and the employer portion of Social Security tax).

If you did not file an income tax return for each year over your lifetime you were self-employed, you didn't earn any SS credits for that year. You pay SECA tax on your net earnings from self-employment (after all business expenses are deducted).

If you are just a few credits short of the 40 necessary to be eligible for benefits, you can still earn those extra credits needed by working and paying SS FICA or SECA taxes on your work earnings. For each \$1,730 earned this year, you will earn one SS credit, up to a maximum of four per year.

But you must contribute to Social Security from those earnings – if you work as a company employee you will have FICA taxes withheld from your earnings, and if you are still self-employed you would need to pay SECA taxes on net earnings over \$6,920 when you file your self-employment income tax return. You would need to do that for as long as it takes for you to attain the minimum 40 quarter credits needed to be eligible for Social Security retirement benefits. (FYI: you cannot "buy" the extra points needed; you need to earn them by working and contributing to Social Security from your earnings).

One final point: whenever SS benefits are claimed before one's Full Retirement Age

Please see **SOCIAL SECURITY**, page 13

### 2024 Paris OLYMPICS...



## GUEST COLUMN

### Maintenance tips for flowering annuals

Recently, we've had a lot of heat and humidity, and a fair share of downpours, too.

There are many times that I don't feel like going out into the flower garden. But then, sometimes around 7 or 8 o'clock at night, after it has cooled down a bit, I'll get out there like a woman on a mission.

Read on for a reminder of important tasks you should consider tackling this month to keep your annuals blooming through to the first frost!

I deadhead. A lot. Deadheading is a fun term used to describe the removal of spent flowers.

A plant produces flowers for one purpose: to survive. You see, once a flower has been pollinated it will produce seed, seed that will grow future plants. If a plant has produced enough flowers that have gone to seed it will consider its job to be done, flower production will cease, and it will begin to decline.

By deadheading, we keep the plant in reproductive mode, in other words, in flower! When you remove dying blossoms, make sure to pinch off the entire flower, not just the petals, or it will do no good. Include the stem as well to keep the plant tidy.

Petunias, marigolds, zinnias and salvia, among others, are examples of plants that require regular deadheading to look their best throughout the growing season.

Some annuals start to get a leggy appearance about now. Others may have brown tips.

These plants require more drastic measures to bring back youthful good looks. Consider shearing them back.

Usually you can look within the plant and find healthy, green growth. Cut calendulas, pansies and snapdragon back to that point. Plants like alyssum or lobelia can often be sheared to within inches of the ground.

Don't worry; they won't look bad for long! You can jump start regrowth with a bit

of liquid fertilizer.

I feed, feed, feed them, especially if lower leaves start to yellow. It means flowering plants are hungry for nitrogen.

If flowering has slowed, phosphorus may be in low supply. Annuals planted in soilless mix of containers or "reused" soil in raised beds will especially need a boost.

You can use a balanced, water soluble, liquid feed every couple of weeks. If going natural is your cup of tea, make some!

Compost or manure tea has long been used to keep growth lush. Steep a burlap bag of either compost or aged manure in a large

trash bucket filled with water and use as needed.

Smaller batches can be made right in a watering can. Likewise, there are numerous blends of seaweed and fish emulsions on the market that can be watered in or

sprayed on the surface of the leaves as a foliar feed.

If Mother Nature decides to delay the deluges, don't forget to water your plants. I know this task is not nearly as much fun as it was when they were first installed, but don't stop now!

Sometimes plants show signs of a nutrient deficiency, especially a nitrogen deficiency simply because they haven't had a drink. When you water the garden, remember to do so longer but less often to encourage deep, penetrating roots.

Watering at the soil line either early in the day or after the sun has set are your best options.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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.*

### 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](http://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](http://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 desk.

Virtual 50+ Job Seekers Networking Group, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays through December on Zoom, 9:30 a.m. The Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group is for unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, re-entering the job market, or recently retired and looking for your "Encore Career". Meetings are facilitated by Deborah Hope, MBA PCIC, and experienced executive career coach. Register on our website.

Lawn Art Sculptor's Reception, Thursday, August 15, 6:00 p.m. Come join us on the library lawn to learn about the current art installation titled "Solar Reflective Movement"! Artist Brendan Livio Stecchini will be on hand to talk about the inspiration for the project, techniques used, and the creative process. The outdoor reception will offer a blend of art and conversation! Come view this unique work and see how art can enhance the public spaces around us!

## 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](mailto:hubbardyouthroom@gmail.com).

Chess Club, Aug 5 & Aug 19, 3:00-4:00p.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.

Snack Wars for YA, Tuesday, August 6, 6:00 p.m. Taste test some familiar and not so familiar snacks for a snack war! Please register.

Anime Club, Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 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 starting June 20, 3:30-5:30 p.m. An introduction 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, Aug 20, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Monthly book chat for ages 14 & up. This month's book is "The Natural" by Jennifer Lynne Barnes; copies of the book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

Summer Olympics Scavenger Hunt, Friday, August 9, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. All ages. Celebrate the end of the 2024 Summer Olympics with a scavenger hunt for a chance to win a prize! Drop-in.

## 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.

Pokemon Club, Monday Aug 11, Aug 26, 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.

Nature Sunprints, Monday, August 19, 11:00 a.m. Ages 5 & up. Use photosensitive paper to turn leaves and flowers into art. Please register.

Minecraft Club, Wednesdays starting

June 26, 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.

Learn How To Play Jacks, Thursday, August 8, 6:00 p.m. Ages 6 & up. Learn how to play this classic game, and go home with a rubber ball and set of jacks. Please register.

Interskate Party, Thursday, August 15, 6:00-8:00p.m. All ages. Free skating to celebrate the end of the Summer Reading Program. Pick up tickets from the Youth Room.

Roblox Club, Fridays, 12:00-1:30 p.m. starting June 21. Meet new friends or play with old ones while playing Roblox. For ages 8+.

Carrie Ferguson & the Grumpytime Band, Friday, August 16, 12:00 p.m. All ages. This family-friendly concert to celebrate the end of the summer reading program! Sponsored by Ludlow Cultural Council.

## 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.

Yoga For Little Ones, August 14, 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6 & their caretakers. Simple yoga poses are woven together with stories, songs, games, and crafts to create a fun, interactive program. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE.

Grow, Play and Learn, Thursdays July 25, Aug. 1, Aug. 8, Aug 15, 10:00 a.m. 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.

Teddy Bear Picnic, Thursday, August 8, 12:30 p.m. Ages 2-8. Join us for a teddy bear picnic! Bring your stuffie & a picnic lunch. Drop-in. (inside if raining)

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# 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](mailto:jwalker@turley.com).

Please include your name and your pet's name.



### PET OF THE MONTH Meet Misty Rose!

She is a 1 year old Cavachon. She is a sweet, smart & happy, little girl that loves everyone she meets. She loves playing ball, wrestling with her sister, Honey Bun and helping take care of her 2 senior siblings, KD and Molly. Her favorite time of the day is getting to go on the big bed and snuggle with Mom, Dad and her sisters. Misty Rose lives with RoseMarie & Charles Laramee in Ludlow.



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Wednesday Evenings 6-7pm  
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**Learn Training, Pointers, Obedience & Handling Techniques.**

**Only \$20 per dog/per class**

## Six Common Reasons Why Dogs Like Belly Rubs So Much?

We all know that dogs enjoy a good belly rub now and then. It may even be something that they look forward to as some dogs are known to turn onto their back near you indicating that they want their belly rubbed. The reasoning behind this behavior is interesting, and it may be something you did not know before.

**1. It feels good** - Dogs love belly rubs because it feels good. Giving your dog a belly rub feels enjoyable and calming. It shows that they feel safe by you touching an area that dogs will usually only show as an act of submission if they feel overpowered. It is basically like a massage for your dog and rubbing their belly can release the happiness hormone, serotonin which helps to improve their mood.

**2. Stimulating hair follicles** - The hair follicles on a dog's stomach are sensitive. By rubbing them, you are stimulating a relaxing experience

for your dog. Various nerves are located near your dog's belly and by rubbing those areas your dog is getting massaged and a form of grooming.

**3. Comfort** - Most dogs love their owners, and better yet, they love getting attention from you. If your dog sees that you enjoy rubbing your belly and that it is one of the best ways to get your attention, then your dog will repeat this behavior several times throughout the day to feel your comfort.

**4. Submission** - If you have ever scolded your dog for doing something naughty, or if you have walked in on your dog doing something they shouldn't, your dog's first reaction may be to roll over onto their back and show their belly. If you try to go near them or touch them, they may simply roll back over or move away from your touches. This can indicate that your dog does not want a rub, but they are rather showing you can act of

submission and that they do not want any trouble from what they did wrong.

**5. Grooming** - When a puppy is born, their mother will clean them up by licking their stomachs and body to clean them. This is typically a puppy's first bonding interaction with its mother. Grooming is a comfortable and loving interaction. When you rub their belly or any other area like behind their ears, they are taken back to a memory when they felt safe and comforted by their mother's touch.

**6. Making social connections** - Dogs are social creatures that thrive on attention, love, and care. Dogs can see how much you may like rubbing their belly and ogling over how cute they look in that position. This sparks a social response in dogs, and they feel that lying on their backs will get a response out of you to rub and cuddle them.



# SPORTS

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## Lions upset in quarterfinals



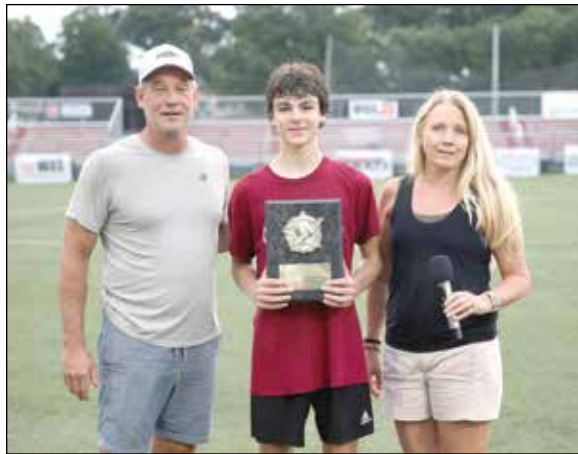
Ludlow Ideal A boys summer soccer captured the A Division championship on Saturday.

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—During the past three years, the Ludlow Ideal boys' soccer team celebrated two victories against rival Belchertown and another one against West Springfield in the A-Division championship match of the prestigious Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League.

Third-seeded Ludlow made it four in a row following a 3-1 victory over top-seeded Pittsfield in this year's A-Division championship match played on a damp night at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Saturday.

"This is just a great group of kids, and it has been a lot of fun coaching them this summer," said first-year Ludlow boys summer league coach Ian Premo. "Soccer is a very big tradition here in Ludlow. The universe in



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Evan Dias was named the MVP of the game.

Please see **LIONS**, page 10



Audrey Afonso advances the ball up the field.

## Lions upset in quarterfinals



Maeve Carter looks to get around an opponent.



Giana Rivera tries to corral the ball off her shin.

LUDLOW – Last Tuesday evening, fourth-seeded Ludlow B girls summer soccer fell to Palmer 5-4 in the B Division playoffs. With the defeat, Ludlow turns its attention the upcoming fall season, which gets underway in a couple of weeks.

## Here for Beer scores upset



Joanna Mull, of Belchertown, makes her way up the field.

MONSON – Facing the higher-seeded Monson Mustangs last Monday in the PVSSL Women's Division quarterfinals, Here for Beer scored a 4-3 upset at Rogers Field. They would make it all the way to the finals before falling to the Lusitano Women last Friday night. Highlights from that matchup will be in next week's edition.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Mackenzie Shean, of Agawam, fights to keep the ball.



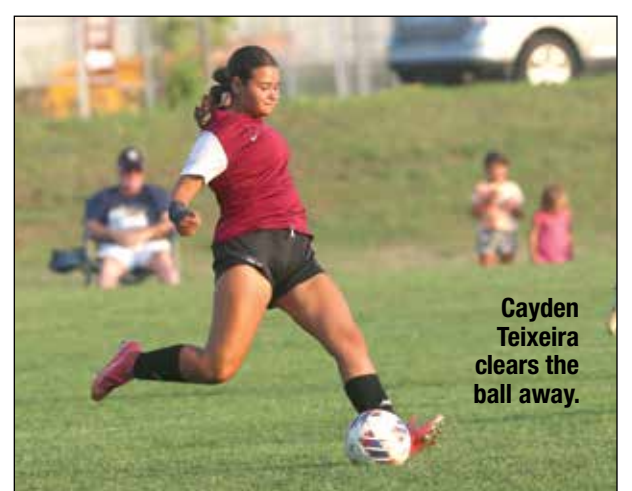
Gwen Duggan, of Palmer, looks to get around a Monson player.



Paige Marjanski, of South Hadley goes for the header.



Kelly Callahan, of Monson, punts the ball away.



Cayden Teixeira clears the ball away.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



# Heat falls in semifinals



Emily Ottomaniello, of Agawam, makes her way up the field for the Heat.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Kassandra Liquori sends a pass away.



Samara Robles looks to make a save in goal.

CHICOPEE – Last Wednesday evening, the Heat, which features players from throughout the region, fell in the semifinals to Luistano Women in the Women's Division playoffs of the PVSSL 3-1.

# Quabbin League seeking to start fall league

The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League is looking to start an eight-game fall program for the over-28 population. The league, which plays a spring/summer regular season with six teams for 15 games followed by playoffs, is hoping to continue the fun into the fall with a short eight-game schedule for interested players.

Preliminary details are still being worked on, but the league is looking to have four teams with six "regular season" games followed by a semifinal in the seventh week, and a final/consolation game in the eighth week.

The league will be a bit more informal than the regular spring/summer league with the goal being for players to have fun playing more baseball, work on field and batting skills through more innings in the field and extra at-bats, or potentially working on or trying out pitching.

As has been traditional in other fall leagues, the Quabbin League will likely be wood-bat only for the fall.

There is an interest form and survey interested players can fill out at [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org). The league is open to all current Quabbin league players as well as players from other leagues who are age 28 and over during the calendar year of 2024.

The league will look to keep the cost very low for the league with preliminary indications having the league in the \$40-50 range to play eight games.

Games will likely be held in the West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick area and are likely to be held on Sunday mornings, though a few games may be held at alternate times. Games are scheduled to begin in September after Labor Day.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Gavin Vala heads up the field.



Jonathan Goncalves tries to break away from the opposing defense.



Owen Wurszt socks a free kick away.



Thomas Wadas passes ahead of pressure.



Michael Mariani looks to get possession.

## LIONS from page 9

Ludlow revolves around this field. These guys just want to create their own tradition."

The 2024 Ludlow Ideal A-Division champions are Lucas Alvan, Alexander Coelho, Evan Dias, James Dias, Nicholas Dion, Gabriel DiRosa, Matt Ganhao, Chris Goncalves, Jonathan Goncalves, Ethan Love, Michael Mariani, Owen McCarthy, Griffin McCarthy Noah Pedro, Daniel Pires, Samuel Pontes, Jayden Premo, Devyn Skiba, Luke Slatton, Ethan Steigmeyer, Luke Stejna, Gavin Vala, Thomas Wadas, Cristiano Williams, Aleksander Wojcik, and Owen Wurszt.

The Ludlow assistant coach-

es are Antonio Dias and Jacob Wadas.

"It's very special to win another championship with my boys," said James Dias, while holding the championship trophy. "We always try our best to win every game that we play. We're now looking forward to winning our fourth consecutive Western Mass. championship title this fall. Everyone in Ludlow just loves soccer."

The Ludlow boys squad entered the summer league playoffs with a 7-3-1 record.

"We started off the summer season slowly. One of our losses was at Pittsfield," Wadas said. "We've now defeated every team that we've lost to in the summer league regular season

during the playoffs."

Ludlow defeated sixth-seeded East Longmeadow, 3-0 in the quarterfinals, which was also held at Lusitano Stadium on July 30. They then dispatched second-seeded Longmeadow, 3-1, in the semifinals on the turf field at South Hadley High School.

Evan Dias, who scored a pair of goals in the finals against Pittsfield (8-3) was selected as the MVP of the A-Division finals.

"I wouldn't have been selected as the MVP without the help of my teammates," said Dias, who'll be a sophomore in the fall. "This is the first year that I've been playing for this summer league soccer team. It feels

great to win a championship title.

About 15 minutes into the opening half, Dion, who was Ludlow's starting goalkeeper, made an outstanding save on a shot attempt from Bashiru Je Sowe, which kept the contest scoreless.

"Nick has been playing very well in goal this summer," said Wadas, who's entering his senior season. "He's a very good goalie."

Dion, who'll also be a sophomore, is the leading candidate to replace Anthony Shea as the starting goalkeeper for the Lions varsity soccer team this fall.

"Nick is a very good goalie and has played in some big games at the club level in the

past," coach Premo said. "I'll be very surprised if he's not the starting goalie for the varsity team.

Late in the first half, a shot attempt by Evan Dias bounced the wet turf field before going into the net past Pittsfield goalie Diego Cruz.

Pittsfield tied the score at 1-1 when Kyle Cardoso converted a penalty kick eleven minutes into the second half.

Ludlow retook the lead ten minutes later on a pair of corner kick goals.

Jonathan Goncalves scored the go-head goal on a header and Evan Dias scored Ludlow's third goal, which pretty much sealed Ludlow's fourth summer league title in as many years.



# OBITUARIES

## Maria E. (Viegas) Marques

Maria E. (Viegas) Marques, 84, of Ludlow passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home on Thursday, August 1, 2024. Born in Faia, Guarda, Portugal she immigrated to the United States in 1970 and has lived in Ludlow ever since. She was a faithful communicant of Our Lady of Fatima Parish and a former member of the Portuguese American Citizens Club. Maria enjoyed sewing, knitting, and crocheting but her greatest joy in life was the time spent with her family, especially cooking Sunday dinners. Maria leaves her beloved husband of 62 years Zeferino of Ludlow; loving son Jose and wife Carla of Ludlow and adored grandchildren Chelsea and Joel; caring sister Maria de Lourdes Almeida of Portugal as well as several loving nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.



Sadly Maria was predeceased by her brothers Joao Lourenco and Jose Viegas and her son Fernando in 1979. Maria's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Elba Pires Morgado, Maria Joao White, Maria J. Quelha and the entire care team at Baystate Health Organization for the compassionate care they provided for her. Funeral services for Maria was held on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 from the Ludlow Funeral Home. Visitation was Tuesday morning from 9-10:15 a.m. with a Liturgy of Christian Mass celebrated at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of Fatima Parish followed by burial in Island Pond Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make donations in Maria's memory to: D'Amour Center for Cancer Care, 3350 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01107. For additional information please visit [ludlowfuneralhome.com](http://ludlowfuneralhome.com)

## Robert Rodrigues, 1949-2024



HOLLAND – Ludlow native Robert Rodrigues, 74, passed away Friday, Aug. 2, after a short illness. Born in Ludlow on Sept. 26, 1949, Bobby was the son of Jesse Rodrigues and Helen (Costa) Rodrigues, both of Ludlow. A graduate of Ludlow High School, Class of 1967, he joined the U.S. Army Reserves, serving in the Infantry from 1968-1975. After leaving the U.S. Army, Bobby returned to Ludlow, where he worked in construction before joining the Ludlow Police Department in 1976. He had a long and distinguished career in law enforcement. He was a member of the Eastern Hampden County Drug Task Force, and he rose through the ranks, serving as the department's lieutenant before retiring in 2009.

Bobby leaves his longtime partner Paula Killough, of Hol-

land, his three daughters and their husbands Pamela and David Kuras, of Smithfield, N.C., Debra and Rapy Cabral, of Ludlow, and Susan and Timothy Dzik, of Granby, and his grand-children, Tyler and Chapin, Brendan, Dylan, Noah, and Bella, and Edward and Cole, and extended family, including Noelle Pflanz, and her partner, Patrick Kalita, of Springfield, Ore.

He leaves his siblings Joan Labier, and her husband Ronald, of Sarasota, Fla., Thomas Rodrigues, and his wife, Cindy, of Chicopee, Sandra, and her husband, Donald, of Ludlow, and Manuel and Joseph Rodrigues, of Ludlow.

Services are private.

To share memories of Bobby and to offer condolences to his family, please go to: <https://www.comfortcremation.com/obituaries/robert-rodrigues>.

## DEATH NOTICES

**Maria E. (Viegas) Marques,**  
Died August 1, 2024  
Services August 6, 2024  
Ludlow Funeral Home

**Robert Rodrigues**  
Died August 2, 2024  
Services are private

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# CAMPUS NOTES

## Ludlow resident named to Clark University's spring Dean's List

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

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

## Western New England University Celebrates Graduate Class of 2024

Western New England University held its graduate commencement ceremony on May 19 at the MassMutual Center, celebrating the Class of 2024. The keynote speaker, MA Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner Ashley Randle L'14, encouraged the students to "be willing to do what's right despite opposition" after sharing how her time as a student at Western New England set an example for her career path.

Congratulations and best wishes to the newest Golden Bear Alumni. WNE is proud of you!

**Natasha K. Jumba** of Indian Orchard, MA graduated with a MSE in Mechanical Engineering.

**Alexandre P. Pereira** of Ludlow, graduated with a Juris Doctor.

**Regan A. Joseph** of Ludlow, graduated with a Juris Doctor.

**Marissa Fabbo** of Ludlow, graduated with a Juris Doctor.

**Brooke D. Patterson** of Ludlow, graduated with a Juris Doctor.

**Melanie R. Fialho** of Ludlow, graduated with a MS in Organizational Leadership.

## WNEU celebrates students named to spring 2024 Dean's List

Western New England University (WNE) takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 670 students who have been named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester.

**Rayna Ferris** of Ludlow, is working toward a BA in Law & Society.

**Kaylie Vanzant** of Springfield, is working toward a BA in Law & Society.

**Amie Teixeira** of Ludlow, is working toward a BA in Secondary Education/History.

**Cameron Touchette** of Indian Orchard, is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

**Ryan Santos** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

**David Czartoryski** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

**Andrew Perkins** of Indian Orchard, is working toward a BS in Criminal Justice.

**Gavin Berube** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Criminal Justice.

**Nolan Ayers** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

**Christopher Fogg** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

**Robert Beyette** of Indian Orchard, is working toward a BS in Information Technology.

**Joseph Pires** of Ludlow, is working toward a BS in Information Technology.

**Jonathan Dubour** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Accounting.

**Catarina Pires** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Accounting.

**Kali Grimes** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

**Michael Riley** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in General Business.

**Adam Krutka** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Human Resource Management.

**Daniel Gesualdi** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Management & Leadership.

**Samuel Riley** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSBA in Sport Management.

**Matthew Saloio** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSE in Electrical Engineering.

**Krystian Kryczka** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

**Lance Tomlinson** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

**Christopher Lapointe** of Ludlow, is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

## WNEU spring 2024 President's List

Western New England University (WNE) takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 540 students who have been named to the President's List for the Spring 2024 semester.

**Nyah Rodriguez** of Indian Orchard, MA is working toward a BA in Law & Society.

**Kylie Hua** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BA in Psychology.

**Kyle Almeida** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

**Trevor Dowd** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

**Blanca Amaya** of Springfield, MA is working toward a BS in Criminal Justice.

**Tarik Hodzic** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

**Emma Forcum** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

**Hallie Dones** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

**Jacob Vautrain** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Information Technology.

**Andrew Ferrara** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Neuroscience.

**Jadie Garcia** of Springfield, MA is working toward a BS in Pharmacy Studies.

**Karina Dias** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BS in Psychology.

**Charlie Smith** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Accounting.

**Anthony Quiterio** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Accounting.

**Fiona Campbell** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

**John Collins** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

**Timothy Del Negro** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

**Jessica Morgado** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Finance.

**Joseph Snopek III** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSBA in Marketing.

**Nicholas Wilken** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSE in Biomedical Engineering.

**Anthony Saloio** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSE in Engineering.

**Jade Bamford** of Ludlow, MA is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

## 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

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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](mailto: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:** Closed for summer. Reopening Sept. 7. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## LHS Class of 2017 records to be destroyed

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.

## PLANNING from page 1

impact of adding a business operation to the mix," the letter said. "Allowing this business to operate officially could further exacerbate these issues and potentially decrease the property values in our neighborhood."

The letter also included signatures of residents from Crest Street and a list of violations. Silva said that the vehicles on his property were only temporarily stored there. He provided pictures of the property to confirm that the equipment had been moved.

"I bought a facility in Springfield," Silva said. "I keep all my equipment there."

Silva added that he had altercations with "everybody" in attendance at the meeting who had shown up to speak out against his application.

"I'm not going to be running my business out of the place," Silva said. "It's just the office, strictly."

The board then opened the discussion to the public. The first speaker was resident Joe Harrington, who asked about restrictions concerning the noise of testing the landscaping equipment.

"If the permit gets approved," said Silva. "He will have to abide by all those rules, and if he fails to comply with any of them, the permit gets taken away."

Board Member Chris Coelho noted that Silva could have one vehicle in conjunction with the business that is not over 10,000 pounds and no employees. Coelho outlined the procedure for responding to a violation.

"You'll first be inspected by the Building Inspector, then if the Building Inspector finds causes, he'll start fining at \$100 a day. Then we usually get back to him, we'll call him back here and we'll have another hearing where we can either revoke or figure it out."

Coelho added that all the neighbors would be notified of the public hearing in the event of a violation.

Member Josh Carpenter asked if a clause could be added to the motion to specify what times Silva would not be able to use maintenance equipment, but Coelho said that, though the neighbors are entitled to quiet enjoyment of their property, there is no bylaw specifying what reasonable hours entails, and doubted that it would be enforceable.

"Anything with his business, it's just a home office," Coelho said. "Anything he's doing out there shouldn't be of commercial use or associated at all with his business. If that's the case, then he's certainly in violation."

After the discussion, the board voted unanimously to approve the Special Permit for the business.

"Good luck, and let's all be neighbors," Coelho said.

The board also met with Sean and Kalee Kenney about setting up a "strictly administrative" office out of their home on Windsor Street. Kenney described her husband as a "vehicle graphics installation specialist"

"We are basically using our home for the address to establish the LLC entity and use it as office space," said Kenney. "There are no changes to the home."

After the board confirmed that the business will have no employees, Coelho specified that the business does most of its work in the field.

"We're looking for a brick-and-mortar location right now with an investor, but that's separate," Kenney said.

After confirming that there were no public comments, the board voted unanimously to approve the Kennes' Special Permit request to convert their house into a home office.

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Theresa Rodrigues to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., said mortgage being dated July 6, 2007, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16802, Page 94, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **2:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 29, 2024**, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely 22 Essex Street, Ludlow, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Ludlow in the County of Hampden, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron bar in the Easterly side line of Essex Street, said iron bar being distant Northerly One Hundred Ninety-two (192.0) feet from a stone bound at the intersection of the Northerly side line of State Street and the Easterly side line of Essex Street; thence running Easterly Ninety (90.0) feet to an iron bar at land now or formerly

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

The Mortgagor expressly reserves the right of homestead and does not wish to terminate said homestead by granting within conveyance their waiver of such homestead in the within mortgage.

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

6, 2006.  
Property Address:  
22 Essex Street  
Ludlow, MA 01056

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

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

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

**TERMS OF SALE:** The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer's check or certified check in the amount of **TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00)** at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify

as a bidder (the present holder of the mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held by the Mortgagee. The successful bidder will also be required to deposit an additional sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid less the \$10,000.00 deposit (but no less than \$10,000) with the Mortgagee's auctioneer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Inc., 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089 or the Mortgagees attorney as may be directed within five (5) days of the date of the sale to be held by the Mortgagee, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer's check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the pub-

lic auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/or to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

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

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

in this publication.  
Queen Equities, L.L.C.,  
Present Holder of said  
Mortgage

By:  
David A. Lavenburg,  
Its Attorney  
BACON WILSON, P.C.  
33 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
413-781-0560  
08/07, 08/14, 08/21/2024

## 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, August 22, 2024 at 7:10 p.m.** on the application of Ken Conley of **164 Lyon Street Ludlow, MA** (Assessors' Map 24, Parcel 39B) for: **home office for welding business.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, September 12, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix  
Chairman  
08/07, 08/14/2024

MORE PUBLIC NOTICES  
| page 15

## Bank promotes employees

EASTHAMPTON— bankESB recently promoted two of their employees to senior assistant branch manager.

Denise Clark, of Westfield, has nearly 13 years of banking experience. She joined bankESB in 2011 as a teller, and was most recently assistant branch manager of its 85 Broad St., Westfield office. She earned a bachelor's degree in art from Westfield State University, and currently volunteers for Westfield on Weekends and the Kiwanis Club of Westfield.

Robyn Michaud, of Indian Orchard, has six years of banking experience, and joined bankESB in 2018 as a teller. She was previously assistant branch manager of its 605 Granby Rd., South Hadley office. She earned a certificate in branch management from the Massachusetts Bankers Association. Michaud currently volunteers for Westfield on Weekends, and Veterans in the Park, and enjoys attending local chamber events.

## SOCIAL SECURITY from page 6

Social Security's "earnings test" applies. The earnings test limits how much you can earn from working before some of your SS benefits are taken away. The earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA and, if you turned 64 this year, your FRA is 67. Self-employed individuals are also subject to an hourly limit of 15 to 45 working hours per month in their first year of early retirement.

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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

# Church DIRECTORY

**FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL**  
A Church of the Nazarene  
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875  
Email: [faithcommunitychapel@gmail.com](mailto:faithcommunitychapel@gmail.com)  
[faith-communitychapel.org](http://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](http://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**  
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- 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  
Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday( 3-10 ) 11- 12 noon  
Nursery providedfor ages 18 month- 3 yr

**CHRIST THE KING CHURCH**  
41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow  
413-583-2630  
Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys  
Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

**ST. ELIZABETH PARISH**  
191 Hubbard St., Ludlow  
413-583-3467  
Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin  
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton  
Deacons: Normand Groudin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
[stelizabethludlow.org](http://stelizabethludlow.org)  
Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram  
Check out our Parish App  
Wednesday, Aug. 7, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Beacon of Faith - 6:00 p.m. (FLBH)  
Thursday, Aug. 8, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m.  
Friday, Aug. 9, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C),  
Saturday, Aug. 10, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C),  
Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C),  
Sunday, Aug. 11, - 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)  
Monday, Aug. 12, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Set-Up for Spaghetti Dinner - 5:00 p.m. (FLBH/K), Beacon of Faith - 6:45 p.m. (ER)  
Tuesday, Aug. 13, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Spaghetti Dinner - 4:30 p.m. (FLBH/K)

**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.  
For more information, visit [ourladyoffatimaparish.org](http://ourladyoffatimaparish.org).

**FIRST CHURCH IN LUDLOW**  
859 Center St. Ludlow  
413-583-3339  
Reverend Darcy Borden, Pastor  
Office hours Monday & Wednesday 10 am to 2 pm  
Available by appointment at other times  
Sunday worship at 10 am alternating weekly with Grace Union Church, Wilbraham  
Call or check Facebook or the website for the schedule of worship and events  
Service live-streamed at 10 am on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow>  
Website: [www.ludlowfirst.com](http://www.ludlowfirst.com)

**ORCHARD COVENANT CHURCH**  
95 Berkshire Street  
Indian Orchard, MA 01151  
413-543-4204  
Revs. Karen and Nick Munn, pastors  
Sunday School for all ages, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship in person, 11 a.m.  
Or watch our livestream.  
See our website for more information: [orchardcovenant.org](http://orchardcovenant.org).





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**ESTATE SALE**  
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786 Old North Road,  
Worthington  
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Indian Orchard, MA

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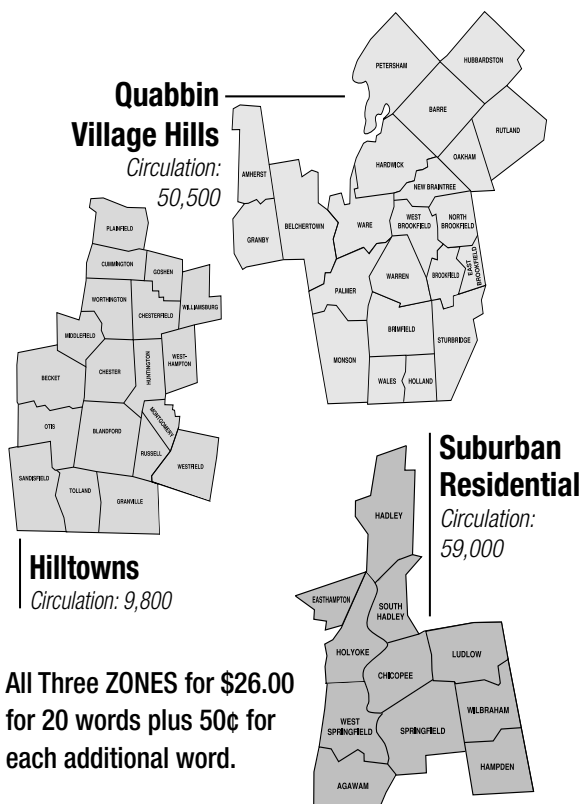


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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**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, August 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** on the application of Lukasz Wolanczyk of **218 Lyon Street Ludlow, MA** (Assessors' Map 24, Parcel 36) for: **office for landscaping business.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, September 12, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix  
Chairman

08/07, 08/14/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24C0225CA**  
In the matter of:  
**Thomas Matthew Allair**  
**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Thomas Matthew Allair**

**of Ludlow, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Damascus Alexander Waters IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/16/2024.**

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

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

Date: July 19, 2024

**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate

08/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD24P1100GD**  
In the matter of:  
**Alec Bray**  
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 **Department Of Developmental Serv of Springfield, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Alec Bray** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Christine Bray of Ludlow, 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 **08/23/2024**. 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: July 31, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate

08/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24P1603EA**  
Estate of:  
**Doris I Nichols**  
Date of Death: **12/10/2023**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

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

The Petitioner requests that: **Debra A Belisle of Ludlow, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/29/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

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

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

**estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration**

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

Date: July 31, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate

08/07/2024

**Destruction of Special Education Records**

Please be advised that the SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS from the Ludlow High School Class of 2017, along with the records of students released from special education services during the 2016-2017 school year, will be destroyed the week of September 2, 2024. If you wish to obtain your records, please contact the Special Education office at 583-8372, ext 1216 prior to Friday, August 30, in order to make arrangements for pick up. Please note that identification will be required at the time of record retrieval.  
08/07, 08/14, 08/21/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758**  
Docket No. **HD24P1558EA**  
Estate of:  
**Debra J St. Pierre**  
Date of Death: **06/05/2024**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Linda M O'Malley of Ludlow, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

The Petitioner requests that: **Linda M O'Malley of Ludlow, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/23/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

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

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration

directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration

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

Date: July 25, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate

08/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758**  
Docket No. **HD24P1582EA**  
Estate of:  
**Joanne P Szarlan**  
Date of Death: **11/19/2023**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Karen M Hourihan of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Karen M Hourihan of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

The Petitioner requests that: **Linda M O'Malley of Ludlow, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

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

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

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

Date: July 29, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate

08/07/2024

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**PIONEER VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Do You Want a Career and Not Just a Job? We have a variety of rewarding career options with opportunities for personal and professional growth. If you want to be part of a forward-thinking organization that helps drive the region, we have the opportunity you have been looking for. Current Career Opportunities are available at our various locations throughout the area.

- Springfield:**
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  - Mobility Manager
  - Travel Trainer
  - Accountant Assistant
  - Mechanic
  - Paratransit Van drivers
  - Paratransit Bus Washer/Fueler
  - Shuttle Bus Driver (CDL Required)
  - Quabog Connector Van Driver/Bus Driver (CDL Required)
  - Bus Operators (Full-time, CDL Preferred, but will train) \*
- Amherst:**
- UMass Transit Driver (must be a UMass Student)
- Northampton:**
- Bus Operators (Part-time & Full-time, CDL Required)

\*If you already have your CDL with Passenger Endorsement and no Air-brake Restriction, kick-start your new career today. If you do not have a CDL, but currently hold a Class D license and would like to be considered for our CDL Training Program, we want to hear from you. Please explore these positions on our website Careers page at **www.pvta.com**. Follow the instructions for applying for the position you are interested in. You can either upload your resume or complete a simple online questionnaire via our website. Feel free to call our job line at **(413) 266-3838** for additional information. We look forward to hearing from you. EEO/DF

**HELP WANTED**

**PIONEER VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY SENIOR ACCOUNTANT**

PVTA is seeking a full-time Senior Accountant to manage the general accounting and trial balance functions. This position will assist with the implementing all accounting systems following accounting control procedures, and ensure that all related supporting documentation is processed accordingly. Must have at least 5 years of hands-on accounting experience in a General Accountant or Controller role and be proficient with Excel and various accounting software applications. Normal schedule is M-F, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., with occasional evenings. Salary is \$1,538-\$1,730/week depending on experience with excellent benefits package including health, dental, 457b, and defined pension. Please review qualification and job requirements under Careers at **www.pvta.com**. Please upload cover letter and resume via our website or email to **humanresources@pvtransit.com**. EEO/DF.

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**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. 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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