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# The REGISTER

LOCAL NEWS | LOCAL STORIES | LOCAL ADVERTISERS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

April 1, 2026 | Vol. 82, No. 38

www.register.turley.com



Turley photo by Amanda Munson

Ludlow Police Chief Mike Brennan with LPS officers, representing the Town of Ludlow and the Polish community.

## Polish National Credit Union host 4th annual luncheon

*Invites surrounding community members to celebrate*

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – On Mar. 24, the Polish National Credit

Union held their 4th annual St. Joseph's Day luncheon at the Polish American Citizens Club that brought together community leaders, members, and local partners to celebrate Polish heritage, faith, family, and spirit. The lunch served was a traditional Polish cuisine catered by Bernat's Polish Deli, based in Chicopee, and featured several speakers

throughout the day.

The main host was AVP, Area Manager at Polish National Credit Union Zaneta Graskis with Member Service Representative and Polish Miss Massachusetts 2026 Dominika Jasinska, opening prayer by Father Twohig, and guest speakers ranging from State Senator Jake Oliveira and Vice Consul Wiktor Cichcki, Consulate Gener-

al of the Republic of Poland in New York. The keynote speaker was locally known business owner of MMK Virtual Solutions Magdalena Kafilinska.

Beginning her career at the bank in her senior year of high school, Graskis

Please see **LUNCHEON**,  
 Page 3

## Rozki Rides visits School Committee

*Members talk ongoing transportation issues*

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – At the School Committee meeting held on Mar. 24, the transportation company called Rozki Rides, LLC, visited members and shared their experience regarding the collaboration and communication between the Ludlow Public Schools.

Beginning the meeting was Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano, who stated the significant transportation issues LPS was dealing with and followed, "After much work trying to rectify the situation, this committee authorized, your administration, to seek support from another transportation vendor.

We contracted with Rozki Rides to support LPVEC, more importantly our students and families. They began their service for Ludlow on Monday, Oct. 27, with bus routes 12 and 13.

I can tell you that not only have we been pleased with their service, so has

our family. At our invitation, CEO and Owner Jessica Rozki will share a presentation for you all," ended Tiano.

Sharing that she's been part of the field for over 20 years, Rozki introduced Operations Manager Romelo Medina who is the first line of contact when a principal, parent, or guardian needs to contact the business. Taking over the routes that impacted East Street Elementary, Ludlow High School, and Baird Middle School, Medina shared survey responses that parents filled out with their experience with the transportation company over the last six months.

"We're not coming in as a company that's looking to invade or take over, but to act as the helping hand in the community all over Western Mass. Coming into Ludlow was a big overview of Western Mass transportation and what it was lacking in many areas.

Our goal as a smaller company is to find a better solution and to provide better service not only for the students, but the families as well," said Medina.

Medina clarified that  
 Please see **ROZKI RIDES**,  
 Page 6

## Dual enrollment expands for LHS, Nemeth visits School Committee

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – At the Mar. 24 School Committee meeting, Dr. Frank Tiano began by introducing LHS Principal Lisa Nemeth and explaining that LPS is continuously looking for more ways to better prepare students for life after Ludlow High School. The dual enrollment program is expanding from LHS to Westfield State University, creating more opportunities for LHS students, like taking college-level courses while still in high school.

This design for dual enrollment is at no cost for LHS families and parents, striving for more opportunities beyond AP, advanced placement, courses and expanding a wider net explained by Tiano.

Nemeth began, "Our dual enrollment kicked off this year where we let the

students know about it, have a contract with Westfield State and we've agreed to pilot our first psychology course. We offered this course to our juniors and seniors who signed up for courses when they were picking their electives and mentioned the whole package to them.

"It's a great opportunity, you get college credit, there's a possibility for more courses down the road, and we did have 47 students sign up for psychology 1 and nine students for honors psychology 2. We did not advertise it as part of a Westfield State college course. We wanted to pull from everybody and talk to them if they wanted to take a college-level course," said Nemeth.

Nemeth went on to describe the feedback from students' willingness to take a college-level course and if they would want to

stay after school to take it, with most students wanting to take the course but not wanting to stay after school for it. Nemeth stated that this is still work in progress, like asking if the university would be willing to offer the class during the day, instead of the night.

"If it's successful, which it will be, in the fall Westfield State has made the commitment to offer another course like an English elective. It's something we are excited to offer credit, like Tiano said. We do offer college courses and currently have nine students taking them at Elms College and Post University.

It gets them college experience and we're putting it together," said Nemeth. This program also benefits LHS teachers with professional development by training with college professors, benefiting the overall LPS experience.



Submitted photo

Ludlow Elks members worked at the Scantic Valley Health Fair at the Scantic Valley YMCA.

## Ludlow Elks sponsor Scantic Valley Health Fair interactive event

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On Mar. 24, the Ludlow Elks sponsored the Scantic Valley Health Fair at the Scantic Valley YMCA through the Beacon

Grant from the Elks National Foundation. Grant Coordinator Susan Petzold shared a few words on how the event went and why it's deemed the lodge's favorite event of the year.

"It was a successful event with over 80 participants. We

had 15 organizations presenting their information at the event including clinical students from Western New England University, Springfield Technical Community

Please see **HEALTH FAIR**,  
 Page 5

## Pond Management Committee raises concern over Minechoag Pond condition

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On Mar. 26, Chairman of the Ludlow Pond Management Committee Judy Breault contacted The Register with concerns regarding Minechoag Pond on East Street, right next to the Ludlow Golf Course. In the past couple of weeks, an abnormal large fish kill due to overgrown weeds has taken over the pond, with many neighbors and the committee

worried they're going to lose the pond if treatment doesn't get underway soon.

The reason for the standstill is the protected plants that were identified almost 60 years ago and cannot be touched until the proper permits are obtained. The treatment needed for the pond is ecosystem-friendly, pet and human safe, and will bring the pond back to life when the treatment is done at the correct time of year. A great example is how Murphy Pond cleaned up after the

work the committee did.

Breault shared that the committee has been working hard to clean up the pond and has support with the Town, but the large fish kill due to low oxygen levels from the overgrown weeds is not normal and needs to be addressed soon. The permits needed are from Boston, with Breault stating that for the pond to be restored in time, the permits need to be approved faster.

"We have been working the last three years on

cleaning and treating several ponds in Ludlow with great success. We are working on trying to get permits to treat Minechoag Pond but due to some plants identified in the 70's as protected plants, we've hit a standstill.

However, this pond has had an extraordinarily large fish kill over the winter and we want to bring attention to this issue," explained Breault.

Following up with Breault and Bill Simons of the committee, both shared disturbing photos of the killed fish

floating on the pond water and another with a closeup of the actual fishes, explained what they need from the community to make this process faster.

"There's a group of us that has taken over starting around 2022, and since then, we've done a lot with some of the area ponds. We've cleaned up Haviland, Murphy, Alden, and Harris ponds through the work with a company called Water n' Wetland; they've been our partners providing survey

information about the weed growth, the recommended treatments, the actual treatments, and doing the permitting process.

You have to get those permits through the Department of Environmental Protection. We started on the path with Minechoag Pond and identified that there were some endangered plant species around the perimeter of the

Please see **MINECHOAG POND**,  
 Page 6

# LPS Food Services program continues to stock the shelves with community 'celebrity' event

By Amanda Munson  
Staff Writer  
amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – Last week, the Shamrock Share Week to stock the shelves, the Ludlow Public Schools Food Services program held a community celebrity event at The Fort in Springfield with locally known celebrities. The celebrities featured were Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano, Director of Veteran Services Sgt. Eric Segundo, Board President at the Community Survival Center Ron Hokanson, and Secretary of the School Committee Jeffrey A. Laing.

The music at the event was well-known local band, the Kitchen Jam Trio, and offered additional opportunities to help fundraise and donate to the Community Survival Center and the Ludlow Veterans Services.



Director of Food Services Kathleen Keady with Town residents, friends, and LPS faculty at The Fort.



Director of Veteran Services Sgt. Eric Segundo smiling with the generous donations from the celebrity event.



Secretary of the School Committee Jeffrey A. Laing, Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano, Board President at the Community Survival Center Ron Hokanson, with Steve Nagle of Rock102.



Director of Food Services Kathleen Keady smiling with the Kitchen Jam Trio.

## Wilbraham Women's Club Fashion Show

WILBRAHAM – The Wilbraham Women's Club is sponsoring a Fashion Show Luncheon on Thursday, April 23, at the St. Cecilia Parish Center, 42 Main St., Wilbraham.

Clothing from Chico's in the Longmeadow Shops will be featured. The catered luncheon choices are Salmon with dill sauce or Chick-

en Francaise.

There will also be a raffle for many prizes and gift certificates. Join us at 11:30 for a social time with hors d'oeuvres followed by lunch at Noon. The donation is \$42 and is a fundraiser for the club's scholarships and charitable donations to needy organizations in the area.

For reservations, please make checks payable to Wilbraham Women's Club and mail to Sue Agnew, 7 Aspen Dr., Wilbraham 01095. For questions, call Sue at 596-9480. Be sure to include meal choice in memo of check. Also, include with whom you wish to sit. Thank you for your support.

## 'Cabaret Jazz' concert to be presented at Ludlow Community Center April 16

LUDLOW – Mary Jo Maichack, professional vocalist, and pianist Stephen Page will present an hour's program of songs from the Great American Songbook, "Cabaret Jazz—The Songbook Voice and Piano" for adults (free and open to the public) at Ludlow Community Center on Thursday, April 16 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

This program is supported in part by the Ludlow Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Ms. Maichack has spent decades as a full-time singer and storyteller. She is known for her beautiful vocals and as a storyteller, attention to the nuances of lyrics.

"I longed to sing these tunes that I grew up hearing and meant so much to my family, as they did to others. To interpret the standards—songs loved by Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Barbara Streisand and their peers—is a moving experience. The composers of the day from Gershwin to Rodgers and Hart were superb, creating sublime music and lyrics. Many of the greats

were immigrants to America, for whom English was a second language, making their accomplishments even more staggering."

Mr. Page of Amherst offers decades of experience as a jazz pianist. An exciting improviser, he has performed and taught in countless venues, accompanying legendary Sheila Jordan at the Iron Horse, playing with bass player Avery Sharpe and others, and in solo concerts. He teaches piano performance at Amherst College, Deerfield Academy and in his private studio.

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### Correction

In the last week's edition, The Register's story about The Lion King production contained an error. The correct individual who portrayed Banzai is named Evan. We apologize for the error.

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AVP, Area Manager at Polish National Credit Union Zaneta Graskis with Linda Collette.

**LUNCHEON** from Page 1

said her career spans over 20 years, "I love it here! I grew up in Chicopee, the heart of Polish people, and I currently live in Ludlow.

We have seven branches in Western Mass, and our closest one is in Wilbraham, right over the bridge, and Ludlow holds a special place in my heart. It's my adopted hometown.

I immigrated to the United States from Poland when I was five years old and went to Saint Stanislaus School from first to eighth grade and then went to Chicopee High School. Chicopee has been a central location for a lot of immigrants that came from Poland, the factory workers, and I think that it's a great city and full of traditions and heritage," said Graskis.

When asked about the plannings of this luncheon, Graskis shared that PNCU CEO James Kelly encouraged the staff to celebrate the culture, heritage, and traditions. "He gave me the opportunity to host the luncheon, which Saint Joseph is the patron of Poland, and we celebrate that every year on Mar. 19.

This is now our fourth annual luncheon where we invite local business owners, entrepreneurs, non-profit organizations, police and fire departments, teachers; bringing our Polish roots together and celebrating the hard work of first, second, or third generation immigrants. It's about celebrating the success and achievement of Polish people.

Every year we try to outdo ourselves, it's definitely



Turley photos by Amanda Munson

Polish Miss Massachusetts 2026 Dominika Jasinska represented the Commonwealth at Miss Polish America national competition, who shared that her mom is her biggest supporter and is proud to represent Poland in her community.

growing with the number of people in attendance. I just look forward to meeting new guests and faces; our lists keep growing every year!

In collaboration with the Polish American Citizens Club, Club President John Diotalevi, he and his team have been amazing. Helping us and doing everything they can to make this lunch a success, this being my new ad-

opted hometown, I'm really proud to have a PACC here in Ludlow, I am a member!

It's important to have our younger generations join these clubs and organizations, to keep these traditions alive for generations to come. Thank you to my husband and my kids, to the committee, and the employees that came together to create this event," said Graskis.



The City of Chicopee was represented by officers from the CPD and CFD, like the Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski.



State Senator Jacob Oliveira shared his connection with the Ludlow community and was accompanied by his mom at the luncheon.

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# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN

## The REGISTER

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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](mailto:theregister@turley.com). The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:mharrison@turley.com).

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

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The Register is published every Wednesday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



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### ELECTION LETTERS POLICY

The Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to [theregister@turley.com](mailto:theregister@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

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

### Campaign news

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

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



## Nature is our Cathedral

By Julie Midura

I belong to two churches. One is brick and mortar-built by human hands. There is a large sign out front. A foundation. Walls. A ceiling. Padded chairs are lined up in rows. Carpeting covers the floor.

A worship team plays music. Guitars, a keyboard and drums. A harmony of voices blend with my own, ringing out in praise. The lyrics speak to me. Words which stir my emotions and feel more like a spiritual encounter than mere singing.

My other church is a cathedral. There is no sign out front. No doors or windows. No foundation. No floor or



walls or ceiling. At least not in the manmade sense.

Gravel, granite and earth are the floor. The vast canvas of blue sky is the ceiling. The sentinel of trees lining the path form the walls. The foundation is made from mountains rather than poured cement, but they hold me up and give me far more strength than concrete ever could.

In my church, I listen to our pastor preach words of truth, faith and hope. Inspiring me. Redirecting me. Providing spiritual nourishment. Leading me along the path to a life of purpose.

In my cathedral, I listen to nature preach a homily in a language all its own. No words are needed, but it speaks to me nonetheless. Giving my life meaning and purpose. Deepening my faith. Restoring my soul.

The melody here is different. The music does not reach my ears from a speaker in the corner of the room, but through a tapestry woven from rustling leaves, cascading streams and roaring waterfalls. The sounds blend together, proclaiming God's glory not through spoken words, but through something equally powerful.



This place is no less sacred than the church where I worship every Sunday. It is a sanctuary created by the hands of God himself. Built out of unflinching love. When I am standing in the quiet stillness and immense grandeur of Creation, I bear witness to God's profound greatness.

There is a sacredness in this cathedral of earth and trees and sky which transcends human understanding. A peace which contradicts life circumstance. A gratefulness in spite of the many trials and challenges.

Out here, I experience deeply personal moments of

connection. As though there is a thread joining heaven to earth. A yarn woven of reverent awe and immeasurable joy linking my human heart to the Divine.

My worship is not restricted to the confines of a building. It flows from me in equal measure out here in the wild places... where the wind dances and the water flows and the heavens themselves declare glory.

My soul is fed at both my church and my cathedral. But some days, I can hear God speaking to me louder in the church that was *not* built by human hands.

## GUEST COLUMN

## Pruning your hydrangeas

It was encouraging to see so many gardeners out in force this past weekend, regardless of the fact that it remained a little chilly.

I got outside too, mainly to clean up some leaves and debris from a bed near the front door. While I was there, I began pruning my pink flowered Hydrangea (H. paniculata), mainly by removing last year's blooms.

I often get questions about blue hydrangeas and how to prune and what to do to coax it into bloom. So, before you get the pruners out and have at it, read on.

Most established hydrangea bushes, the "Mophead" types (Hydrangea macrophylla) say those older than 15 years or so, flower on "old" wood, in other words, from buds made on the previous season's stems. That is why they are not pruned in the fall or in the spring for that matter, unless the stem is dead or partially dead.

An early autumn frost, a hard winter, or a late spring frost can kill buds or even entire stems. If the stem does not leaf out at all the further we get into spring, it is likely dead, and you should cut it down to the ground.

Usually the plant's roots are not harmed, and new growth will emerge from the base of the plant.

However, with these older cultivars, you will be left with just foliage in summer because the buds made the previous year will have been cut away. Sometimes a stem is only partially winter killed and it may leaf out midway down the stem.

In that case, just prune away the portion that is dead and leave the rest. Don't worry that you may remove flower buds in the process; more occur further down the stem and will bloom if they too haven't been eliminated by Old Man Winter.

Perhaps you have one of the newer cultivars such as "Endless Summer," "Penny Mac," or others that bloom on new growth as well as old growth. In that case how much you cut away is not as critical.

You should get flow-ers even if last sea-son's stems are cut to the ground because soon enough new stems will produce new buds.

Sometimes people complain that they still don't get flowers and this is very perplexing. I've been to forums where everything from proper siting (morning sun, dappled shade) to fertilization is discussed (not too high in nitrogen, please).

One complaint was that our growing season is just borderline long enough for flowers to appear on new growth and reportedly some of these early repeat bloomers are being phased out because of it. If that's the case, I am sure they are breeding more dependable cultivars as we speak.

I had always wanted a hydrangea and finally bought one as a Mother's Day gift to self maybe four years ago. It is a newer generation and so far I have been very happy. It's filled out nicely and had well over two dozen flowers last year.

Hopefully the harsh winter will not effect my hopes for a repeat performance this summer. I wish you much success and many blooms on your hydrangeas!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 34 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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

## I'll be 70 on New Year's Day. When should I apply for Social Security?

Dear Rusty:

I was born on Jan. 1, 1958, so I believe Social Security considers me to be 70 as of December 2027. I'm planning on filing when I turn 70 to maximize the payment. I'm not sure if I should start in December, with the first payment in January 2028. Or should I start in January with the first payment in February 2028? I know I can start anytime, however I don't want to file before the maximum payment, even by one month.

**Signed: Wanting Maximum Benefit**

Dear Wanting:

You are correct that if your birth date is Jan. 1, 1958, you are entitled to your full age 70 benefit in December 2027. So, if you claim your SS benefit to start in December 2027 you will get your maximum benefit amount and you will receive that payment in January 2028 (on the second Wednesday). Basically, anyone born on the first of any month is considered to have been born in the previous



By Russell Gloor

month for SS benefit purposes.

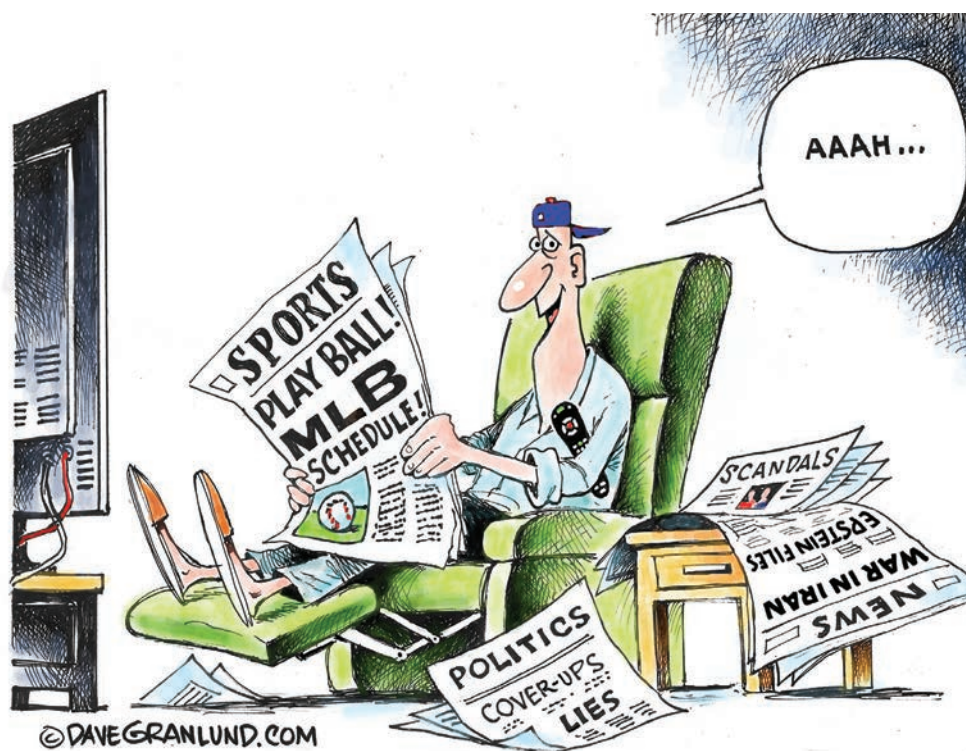
You can apply for your benefits up to four months prior to your birthday month and SS usually suggests applying about three months in advance to give them time to process your application. When you complete the application, you will specify the month you wish your benefits to start, so applying early does not present a problem. You can either call SSA at 1-800-772-1213 to make an appointment to apply over the phone or you can apply online at [www.ssa.gov/apply](http://www.ssa.gov/apply).

The one thing you might want to do is put the following in the "Remarks" section of your application for SS benefits: "I do not wish to receive any retroactive Social Security benefits. I want my benefits to become effective with the first month of my age 70 eligibility (December 2027 because I was born on the first of January)."

Including that remark will ensure that your benefit will be the full maximum amount you are entitled to at 70 years of age,

without any reduction. And I congratulate you on choosing a strategy which maximizes your monthly benefit and will likely provide you with the most in cumulative lifetime Social Security benefits.

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.



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# Keep Homestead to open on April 12

MONSON—The Keep Homestead Museum on 35 Ely Road in Monson, will open for the season on April 12 with the program Indian Baskets of the Northeastern Woodlands with Lorraine German. Lorraine, owner of Mad River Antiques in North

Granby, Conn. will discuss the development of basket making among Native Americans in New England and New York including their stylistic differences. This program starts at 1:30 p.m. in the barn and is open to the public free of charge through donations

are welcome. The museum will be open for viewing of new displays and for light refreshments from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The Friends of Keep Homestead Museum meeting will take place after the Open House at 3:30 p.m.

## ROZKI RIDES from Page 1

the survey was given to the families they were servicing on buses 12 and 13. Rozki added that the company began with one school district and now serves three school districts, stating they continue to grow and have all the updated systems needed for transportation.

The survey went through several questions revolving around the overall satisfaction of Rozki Rides and 90% of parents reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the services provided, with most parents reporting an improved experience since the company assumed transportation services.

Medina noted that the advantage of a smaller company is narrowing an issue down to a specific number of drivers and saying they can be on point if there's any delays, backups, or traffic and better communicate with parents if that situation arises. Medina also shared his email and direct number to parents and guardians to make sure they know if they have any questions or concerns. He's there for them.

For punctuality of pick-up and drop-off, Medina noted that parents reported consistent and reliable times for their children. "We only have a certain amount of time for schooling and academics is the number one priority when you have students of this age group ranging from kindergarten to senior year of high school. How would you rate communication with delays, changes, and updates? Most parents rated communication positively, with opportunities for continued improvement during un-

expected delays or changes. Recently you guys had the water main break. We were able to coordinate with our drivers the efficient routes for drop-offs during that day," explained Medina.

Medina went on with the survey noting transportation safety for children within the buses, cleanliness of the buses itself, and notable positive changes since the transition. Common answers were improved punctuality, more consistent routes, better communication, professional drivers, and increased reliability.

Newly appointed School Committee Chair Sarah F. Bowler shared the following words to Medina and Rozki, "I want to say thank you for stepping in and helping us when we needed you guys desperately and getting our kids to school on time.

Coming in and picking up the pieces, as a parent with a kid in school, getting the kids home in time is so important for those extracurricular activities. Many kids were missing school and getting to school late in the day for a long time. It wasn't fair to them or to their parents who were late to work, so this just helped alleviate a lot of the stress at home and the missed learning opportunities," said Bowler.

Rozki added her gratitude to Tiano and the School Committee, "I am extremely grateful for you all allowing us to come to this territory. This was a fairly new territory for us even though we have been working for many years in different school districts. It's an honor to come in and spread us over here."

Director of Operations and School Business Own-

er Mickey Buhl was questioned by Member Jeffrey Stratton on what's next for Rozki Rides, Buhl answered. "Our experience has been outstanding, I had many conversations with Rozki leading up to the partnership and complicated as you all have been very involved, so we had to make sure it was going to work.

Through all those conversations, I had high expectations with professionalism, motivation, and communication going through. Referencing Rozki Rides, their performance exceeded my expectations.

From a professional standpoint, we would definitely want to keep working with Rozki Rides. The situation is so complicated that for a number of reasons, we talked about some of them, we felt like we couldn't.

It's still very unclear going forward, there were zero delays on Rozki's part, the number of bus alerts went down after they started, but we couldn't sustain the relationship given the complexity of LPVEC. If we had the chance to get them back, we would," said Buhl.

Member Christopher Manfredi encouraged families to participate in the surveys since the committee bases decisions off those responses. "Transportation in this Town is a big thing."

Vice Chair Amanda Codding highlighted the transparency from Rozki Ride's presentation, explaining the parents leaving an unsatisfied review and Medina identifying the cause and solution right away.

To contact Rozki Rides, email [contact@rozkiRIDES.com](mailto:contact@rozkiRIDES.com).

## HEALTH FAIR from Page 1

College, Springfield College, Wilbraham Fire Department, the Parkinson's Foundation, New England Donor Services and many more!

The Ludlow Elks sponsored the event, helped set up and clean up, provided the food, prepped the food, and served it. We applied for a Beacon Grant through the Elks National Foundation and with this grant, we hosted the Health Fair. We purchased items for the Scantic

Valley's Parkinson's program and provided scholarship money for the Parkinson's program," said Petzold.

The Beacon Grant through the Elks National Foundation is a chance for lodges to start a new, charitable-led project like the health fair. The health fair itself was an interactive event that focused on healthy eating, weight management, balance and blood pressure screening, chronic disease programming, and more.

Every participant, which

was free and open to the public, was able to create a healthy meal prep option and take home a mason jar meal. This event aimed for people ages 40 to 100 and was designed to help take simple, meaningful steps toward better health.

The event also featured blood pressure and balance screenings, resources on nutrition, weight management, chronic disease, and prizes.

For more information about the Scantic Valley YMCA, visit the website.

# What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library

To register for programs or find out more information, visit [ludlow.cwmares.org](http://ludlow.cwmares.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:** Mon 9-5, Tue 9-8, Wed 9-5, Thu 9-8, Fri 9-5, Sat 10-2. Closed Saturdays during the summer, Sundays and holidays.

**Friends of the Hubbard Memorial Library, third Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.** Get involved! Join the Friends of the Library for their monthly meeting and learn how you can help support the library.

## FOR ADULTS

**Burial Grounds of Ludlow, Tuesday, March 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Presentation on the cemeteries of Ludlow, given by Robert Comeau. Will appeal to anyone interested in genealogy, ancestry, and local history. Sponsored by the Ludlow Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Please register.

**Discovding Your Roots, Thursday, April 9, 6:00-7:30 p.m.** Go beyond Ancestry.com to discover the immigration story of your family! Learn about the FREE websites available for genealogy searches and which records you'll need in your quest. Something for everyone - whether you're an amateur or seasoned genealogist! Please register.

**Sound Energy Healing Series, One Saturday per month, 10:30 a.m.** Enjoy an hour of peace and calm absorbing healing vibrations from instruments like the quartz crystal bowl. Session led by Mystic Willow. Bring a yoga mat, towel, or something to lay on during the program, as well as a blanket. Dates: 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, 6/13. Sign-ups are for the individual session, not the entire series. Please register.

**Technology Appointments.** Have questions about your smartphone, tablet, or laptop? Book a 30-minute, one-on-one technology appointment by visiting the

reference desk or calling (413) 583-3408, x114.

**Seeking Local Artists.** Seeking local artists, craftspeople and collectors who would like to display their wares in the library's display case. Exhibits remain in place for one calendar month. For more information, or to arrange a showing, call (413) 583-3408, x113.

**Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge.** Each month, read a book based on a chosen theme. Participants will be entered to win a free tote bag full of books! For more information and to sign up, please visit <https://www.mass-book.org/readingchallenge-2>

**Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday, 1:30 pm.** Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please register, though 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! Pick up a copy of this month's 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! Pick up a copy of this month's book at the circulation desk.

## FOR YOUTH

**Dino Explorers: Unearth a Story - Storytime for 2-3s, Fridays (weekly) through May 8, 10:00-11:00a.m.** For ages 2-3. Please register.

**Dino Explorers: Unearth a Story - Storytime for 3-5s, Mondays (weekly) through May 11, 10:00-11:00 a.m.** For ages 3-5. Please register.

**True Tales Storytime for homeschooled 5-8s, Wednesdays (weekly) through May 6, 1:00-2:00 p.m.** For homeschooled 5-8 year olds. Please register.

**Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 0-2 year olds, Thursdays, April**

Please see **HUBBARD**, Page 8

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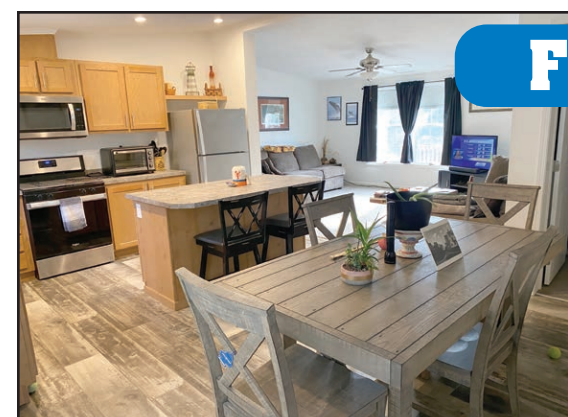
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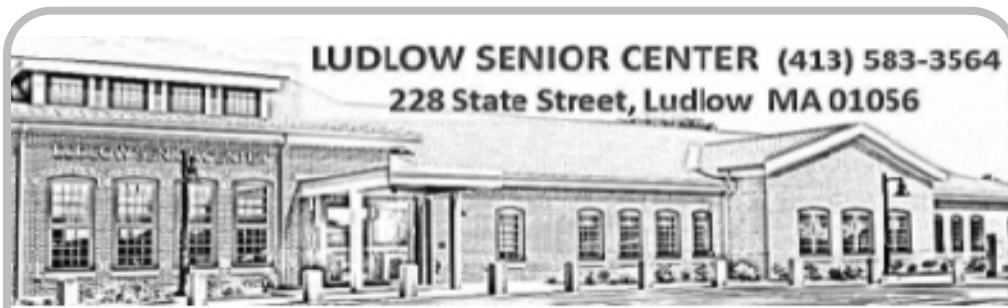
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**LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER (413) 583-3564**  
228 State Street, Ludlow MA 01056

## Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

Spring has sprung! Come gather with friends in the Center's beautiful dining room and enjoy a delicious lunch, complete with coffee, tea, and dessert. To join us, call 413-583-3564 at least one day in advance to reserve your \$2 lunch (call Friday for Monday reservations).

We have several new events and activities to keep you busy, including a Caregiver series and an important Lunch & Learn presentation. Pick up our monthly newsletter at the Center or share your email with us to have it delivered directly to your inbox. You can also explore programs, find important forms, and learn more about what the Senior Center has to offer at [ludlow.ma.us/coa/](http://ludlow.ma.us/coa/). For the latest news and photos, be sure to "like" the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook!

As the days grow brighter, we look forward to sharing warm meals, engaging programs, and good company. There's no better way to welcome spring than with a brisk walk! We are looking for facilitators to lead an early morning walking group beginning in April. If you're interested, please call the Center at 413-583-3564 and ask for Maria.

### Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with\*

#### Thursday, April 2

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation\*  
10:30 a.m. Peanut Butter & Jelly  
12:45 p.m. Mahjong  
2 p.m. Writers Block  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

#### Friday, April 3

8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
9 a.m. Reiki by Appointment\*  
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
10 a.m. Walker Access & Home Safety  
1 p.m. Ceramics  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*  
1 p.m. Decorating Committee Meeting

#### Monday, April 6

9 a.m. Knitting  
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
10 a.m. Computer Help by Appointment\*  
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
1 p.m. Scrabble  
1 p.m. Fishing Club  
1:15 p.m. Pitch  
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

#### Tuesday, April 7

9 a.m. Quilting  
9 a.m. Line Dancing  
9:30 a.m. Foot Care by Appointment\*  
10 a.m. Cribbage

10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga  
1 p.m. Beginner Mahjong  
1 p.m. Swing Your Partner  
1:30 p.m. Bingo  
4:30 p.m. Power Pump  
5:00 p.m. Movie: *Soul on Fire* (2025)  
5:45 p.m. Stuck in the Middle for Caregivers\*

Wednesday, April 8  
8:45 a.m. Zumba Gold  
9 a.m. Ceramics  
9 a.m. Dental Hygiene Clinic by Appointment\*  
9 a.m. Jewelry Making Class\*  
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*  
1 p.m. Dominos  
1 p.m. Movie: *Soul on Fire* (2025)  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*

#### Thursday, April 9

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10 a.m. Reclaim Your Hands\*  
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation\*  
10:30 a.m. Sen. Oliveira Office Hour  
10:30 a.m. Friends of the Center Meeting  
12:45 p.m. Mahjong  
1:30 p.m. Compass & Anchor Program w/Laura Lavoie\*  
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.  
Open Billiards: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. Fridays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesdays 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### Menu:

Thursday, April 2: Ham Dinner/Mashed Sweet Pot/Green Beans  
Friday, April 3: Potato Crunch Fish/Scalloped Pot/Power Salad  
Monday, April 6: Sweet & Sour Chicken/Rice/Asian Vegetables  
Tuesday, April 7: Cheese Tortellini Pizza Bake/Garlic Bread  
Wednesday, April 8: Rueban Casserole/3 Bean Salad  
Thursday, April 9: Southwest Chicken Salad

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

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

## Mass Button Show to be on April 11

THREE RIVERS—Massachusetts State Button Society's spring meeting will be hosted by the Metropolitan and Monson Button Clubs on Saturday, April 11 at the Amvets Post 74 on Main St. in Three Rivers from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the day's activities and to purchase buttons and button related items from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. There will be no button sales during the break from noon to 1:30 p.m. as lunch, a business meeting,

and auction will take place.

Morning visitors will be treated to coffee and refreshments provided by the hosting club; bring your own brown bag lunch, and dessert will be provided. There is no admission fee, and all are welcome.

## Springfield Garden Club hosts Gardening Series

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Garden Club will host a series of programs for anyone interested in gardens and gardening or just escaping the winter for an hour. On Saturday, April

11, 2026 - 10 a.m. "Planning and Growing a Bountiful Flower Garden" presented by Becky Sadlowski.

The programs will be held at The Monkey House in Forest Park at 10 a.m.

Admission is free to all with paid park admission.

More information can be found on the club's website [www.springfieldgardenclub-ma.org](http://www.springfieldgardenclub-ma.org) or on Facebook.

### MINECHOAG POND

from Page 1

pond and based on that, you have to go through a significant process to identify and protect the plants if you're going to do the treatments.

We've been working through that and in Mar. of 2023, that's when we were told about those protected plants. Through Mar. 2023 through all of 2024, we worked with a biologist to see if we could identify where those plants were located, if they were still in the area, but the belief is that due to the age it's unlikely they still exist.

But through the process, you have to determine if they really are there. You have to have perfect water conditions, meaning that the water has to be below a certain point. You have to do an actual survey through the growing season to see if those protected plants still exist around the perimeter of the pond, or maybe there's only one plant; we don't know.

We did that through the 2024 season and unfortunately, the water level did not get below a certain level for us to prove that they were or were not there until late in the fall, so we missed that growing season and we couldn't grow it. Another year went by and as you can imagine, it's at the

point where the weed growth is choking the pond.

You can literally walk across it in the summer when the weed growth is so high, Simons has pictures of deer and geese getting stuck in it, it's nasty and it smells. In comparison, we've done the treatment to other ponds in the area that if we can treat this pond, it clears out the weed density, not to the point where there's nothing but to a point where it's good fresh open water for more oxygen and better for the ecosystem," said Breault.

Breault and Simons explained that they are at a standstill because the committee hasn't been able to prove or disprove that those plants exist. The Ludlow Pond Management Committee has worked with several Town organizations like the Conservation Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection but now need the National Heritage of Endangered Species Group process to go faster.

"We have to get through this NHESG. There's a process to do that, we're working towards that, and we just need that to move faster. Our prime time for treating a pond with weeds is now, the spring through the summer, and now after the snow has melted, we've had a huge fish kill in the pond.

It's beyond normal and our biologist is calling it an anoxic fish kill, a lack of oxygen, what's causing it is not only the snow and ice but the enormously dense weeds and is just sucking the life out of this pond. What's happening now is that we're going to lose Minechoag Pond if we can't get through this process.

We're hopeful if we get enough attention to spread the word and get some answers on how to move forward on this pond. The Town or the Conservation Committee can't do anything. We need Boston to help us out here but the more publicity around this, the better," said Breault.

Simons shared that he's lived near the pond for 40 years and has never seen it this bad, explaining that he used to swim in that pond when it was crystal clear, and you could see the bottom. Simons also added the factor of property taxes that he and his neighbors are paying for, stating the following, "I'm worried and there's a lot of homes invested in this property and pay pretty substantial taxes because we're on a lakefront," said Simons.

Breault ended by saying that they're working hard to try to clean this pond up and said that they're hoping to submit for the permits in the next week, as of Mar. 26, and could take up to three months to get a permit to do the work needed for the proper treatments. Breault encouraged residents to check out Murphy Pond and how beautiful the water is there, stating that it was in a bad state before and with the treatments, it was able to be restored.

Breault, Simons, and the Ludlow Pond Management Committee stated their gratitude for the support the Town has given them in this process. To follow along with the work the committee is doing, follow them on Facebook.



Submitted photo

Dead fish at Minechoag Pond, due to low oxygen levels from overgrown weeds in the warmer months.

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## Lions offense struggles in season opener

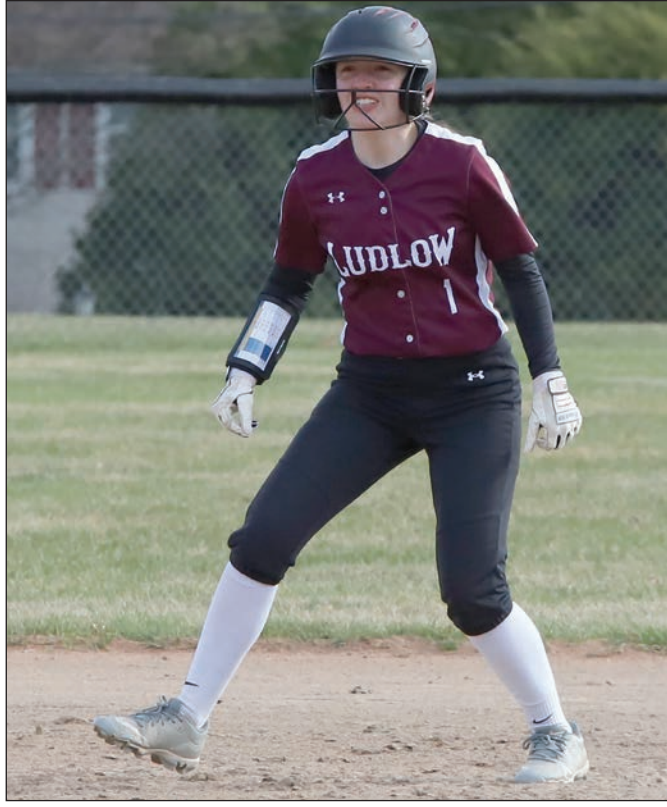
By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

MONSON— Monson's junior lefthander Chelsea Hull pitched very well during the first two innings of last Friday's season opening softball game against Ludlow.

Hull, who struck out six of the first nine Lady Lions batters that she faced, also contributed at the plate. She hit a grand slam in the second inning, which helped the Lady Mustangs build a 7-1 lead.

Ludlow, who had lost their previous two meetings on the softball diamond against Monson, battled back by scoring nine runs in the fourth inning. The Lady Lions put five more runs on the scoreboard in their final two at-bats leading to a 15-9 victory on a chilly afternoon.

"We're a very young team this year with no seniors, but we never gave up in today's game," said Ludlow head coach Missy Rocker. "You hardly ever face a lefthanded pitcher in softball, but we made some adjustments after seeing her for the first time. We were a little more patient at the plate and we got some



Khloe Davis leads off second base.

big hits in the fourth inning."

The Bi-County League match-up was originally scheduled to be held at the Paul R. Baird Middle School softball field in Ludlow. It was moved to the Quarry Hill

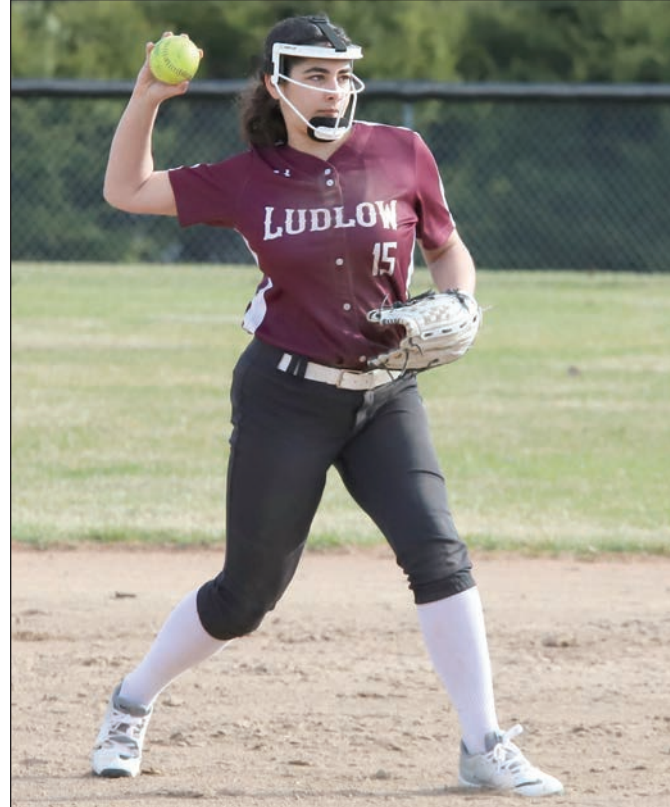
Community School softball field in Monson due to field conditions.

It marked the first time that the Lady Lions celebrated a season opening victory since they defeated West Springfield, 6-1, at home in 2023.

The Lady Mustangs, who also don't have any seniors listed on their roster, hadn't lost a season opening game since 2021.

"We're a very inexperienced team," said Monson head coach Matt Hull. "We only have two players who are starting at the same positions that they did last year. We took an early lead, but we just had one bad inning."

Chelsea Hull, who's the only junior listed on the Monson roster, has been a



Isabella Leutsch sends the throw to first.

pitcher for the varsity team since she was in the seventh grade. She wound up allowing nine runs on seven hits in 3 2/3 innings. She recorded seven strikeouts and issued three walks.

Monson's other returning starter is sophomore first baseman Maddy Caron, who contributed with a sacrifice fly in the third inning.

Two other returning varsity players for the Lady Mustangs are sophomore's Cali Zielinski and Grace Berry. Zielinski made the switch from left field to shortstop, while Berry, who started at third base a year ago, was the starting catcher in the season opener.

Ludlow sophomore righty Olivia Slatton, who allowed seven runs on five hits during

the first three innings, escaped a bases loaded jam in the bottom of the first without allowing any runs.

That wasn't the case in the following frame.

The Lady Mustangs second inning rally began with a walk by freshman third baseman Audrey Edmunds-Martinez. Then freshman right fielder Keeley Syzmanski was hit by a pitch and freshman left fielder Noella Parker also drew a walk loading the bases with no outs.

The home team took a 1-0 lead when freshman second baseman Mai Uliana, who had singled leading off the bottom of the first, drew a walk with the bases loaded. Then Hull stepped into the

Please see **LIONS**, Page 8



Abby Monette fires a throw home from right field.



Olivia Slatton sends a pitch home.



Madelyn Goncalves-Korny takes a swing.

## Safety first: Extra bag coming to baseball

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Over the past decade, safety has been a key theme for many of the rule changes that come through either the National Federation of High Schools, or the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Rule changes have centered around taking care of athletes, limiting unsafe play, and especially anything that can result in concussions.

Years ago, softball implemented an orange bag, a safety bag, at first base. It's more commonly known as a double bag since there are literally two. The orange bag is directly to the right of first base and is mostly for the runner's use.

Any runner running out a ground ball in a way where they would run through first base, utilize the second bag, typically colored orange. The runner is required to step on the orange bag while the fielder can use the standard white bag. The purpose has been to avoid collisions between a hustling runner and the first baseman, who could get carried in a different direction by an errant through. The second bag puts a little space between the runner and the fielder.

After seeing success with safety in softball, the double bag is coming to high school baseball. The NFHS is making the base a requirement for high schools beginning in 2027. However, sever-



Softball has utilized the double first base bags for safety for many years.

al high schools, including Agawam and South Hadley, have opted to install the double bags this season and implement the new rules to help high school students get used to playing with them before the rule is fully implemented.

Some schools will wait until next year depending on the time it takes to install another anchor for the double bag.

High school umpires are also being educated on the new rules concerning using the double bag in a baseball game. Andy Rogers, who is the coordinator and assignor for high school games, said it has been a part of recent meetings with umpires to prepare for this year. There are nuances to the double bag rule that umpires will need to enforce.

Among them, while the standard practice is that runners running through first base such as in the situation of trying to beat out a ground ball will use the orange bag and fielders trying to record a force out will utilize will use the white

bag, there are couple of exceptions.

One is the dropped third strike. If there is a dropped third strike and a catcher throwing on the outside of the baseline to first base, the first baseman is allowed to utilize the orange bag to field the throw and record the out. The runner, in this situation, can use either base.

After a runner has run through first base, typically after beating out a ground ball, that runner must come back and touch the white bag. If the runner comes back and touches the orange bag, that runners is in play once they touch the orange



Now the double first base is coming to high school baseball fields.

bag and can be tagged out.

On situations like a clean base hit, a batter/runner who heads for first and rounds the bag, will utilize the white bag. But a runner running out a ground ball who touches the white bag instead of the orange bag could be called out on appeal because it can be treated like missing a base.

While the normal white base is the border of fair territory, the orange bag is in foul territory. If a batted ball hits the orange bag, the ball will be called foul. A ball that hits the white bag or rolls over it is still fair.

The second bag at first base is orange in most cases, but can be another color.

For 2026, players playing on fields that have the double first base bag will use them with the rules that come with them. Adult leagues in the region have pledged to observe the rules of the double bag if they play on fields that have them. Most adult leagues go by MLB rules, which do not require a double bag at first base.

## Bay State Games announces new leadership changes

BOSTON — Bay State Games has announced new staff appointments and board leadership changes leading into the 2026 Summer Games.

Alanis Tirabassi has been promoted to deputy executive director. Alanis has been with Bay State Games since 2017, when she began as an intern while attending Salem State University. She was hired full-time as sports coordinator in 2020 and later promoted to director of operations before her recent promotion.

She joins Kevin Cummings, who has been with the Bay State Games since 1984 and has served as executive director since 1999, as part of the organization's two-person full-time staff.

In addition to her role with Bay State Games, Tirabassi serves as a committee chairperson for the National Congress of State Games. She also works as a consultant for Dave McGillivray Sports Enterprises and Conventures Events, Communications & Marketing.

After more than 22 years as chair of the Bay State Games Board of Directors, Phil Gloudeans will step down this spring. Under his leadership, Bay State Games has grown into one of the largest multi-sport nonprofit organizations in New England. He joined the Board of Directors in 1987 and he will continue to serve on the board and its executive committee.

Gloudeans is the associate director of media rela-

tions at Boston College. Prior to his BC position, he held senior media relations roles at Brown University and Boston University, as well as with three international public relations firms in Boston.

The Board of Directors has elected Dan Adams of Polsinelli PC Law Firm in Boston as its new board chair. Adams has served on the Bay State Games board for nearly 20 years and is head of sports and entertainment at Polsinelli PC. He holds a bachelor's degree from Boston College, a law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and an MBA from Harvard University.

In addition to his volunteer work with Bay State Games, Adams serves on the Board of Directors of the East Greenbush Miracle League. His experience with state games spans decades, including as a three-time participant in the Empire State Summer Games of New York.

Registration for the 2026 Bay State Summer Games will begin in early March. The 2026 Summer Games will feature events from May 9 through July 25 across 30 different sports throughout eastern and central Massachusetts.

Players from Western and Central Massachusetts schools have consistently participated in the Bay State Games during the summer, especially in sports like soccer, field hockey, and volleyball.

# SPORTS

## T-bird grab win over Phantoms

ALLENTOWN, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (26-29-6-2) got big performances from their leadership group en route to a 5-3 win over the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (27-30-3-3) on Friday night in a pivotal Atlantic Division battle inside the PPL Center. With the win, the T-Birds jumped back into the sixth and final playoff position in the Atlantic Division with nine games remaining.

Veteran leaders helped set the early tone for Springfield as captain Chris Wagner dropped a pass inside the blue line to Dillon Dube, who wired a wrist-past Aleksei Kolosov at 7:28 of the first to hand the T-Birds the 1-0 advantage.

Lehigh Valley got a response courtesy of one of their veteran leaders 4:17 later as Anthony Richard finished a backhand bid past Vadim Zherenko off a set-up pass by pro debutant Cole Knuble to tie the score, 1-1.

Numerous scoring chances and one power play for each team also came up empty as Zherenko finished a busy first with nine saves, while Kolosov stopped the other 11 offerings that came into his crease.

The T-Birds' leader-



ship group was not finished putting their stamp on the contest, as Dube created a turnover deep in the Lehigh Valley zone, nudging the puck into the slot for Wagner, who rifled a forehand through Kolosov at 7:09 of the second, extending the Springfield advantage to 2-1.

Zherenko barely had to lift a finger in the middle period as the T-Birds allowed a season-low two shots in the frame. However, the Phantoms' penalty kill, which had been struggling mightily against the T-Birds, answered the bell with two man-down successes to keep their deficit at a single goal heading into the final period.

After failing to equalize on a power play to begin the third, the Phantoms eventually got the game squared up again at 6:32 when David Jiricek found Zayde Wisdom crashing the net to make it a 2-2 score.

Unruffled, the T-Birds

then turned the game on its head with three goals in a 4:28 blitz, beginning with Alek Kaskimaki scooping up a rebound in the blue paint at 9:08 to restore the Springfield lead, 3-2. Wagner and Dube each picked up their third points of the night on the helpers.

Just 2:10 later, Marc-Andre Gaudet made an alert read up on the right-wing wall to steal a puck off a Phantoms defender before setting up Juraj Pekarcik for an insurance making tally and a 4-2 lead. Pekarcik also drew a Springfield power play following a post-goal cross-check by Sawyer Boulton.

The T-Birds did not score on the ensuing power play, but it set the table for Hugh McGing to join the party at 13:36, firing a perfect shot into the top shelf from the left circle and giving Springfield the 5-2 advantage.

Oscar Eklind finally halted the T-Birds scoring run at 17:44, but it proved to be too little, too late for Lehigh Valley. Zherenko needed to make just 18 saves for his 14th win of the season, while Kolosov had 27 stops in the losing effort for the Phantoms.

## Railers suffer loss to Wheeling

WHEELING, WV — The Worcester Railers HC (27-28-5-2, 61 pts) fell short to the Wheeling Nailers (41-16-3-3, 88 pts) in a narrow 2-1 loss on Saturday, March 28th at WesBanco Arena, in front of a crowd of 3,588. The Railers will wrap up their weekend road trip in Wheeling with a final matchup against the Nailers on Sunday, March 29th, with a 4:10 p.m. EDT puck drop.

Anthony Repaci (1-0-1) got things going for Worcester as he collected a chance bounce off a Nailers' skate at 7:16 in the first. Wheeling evened the score with a bar-down tally ten minutes later from Connor Lockhart (1-0-1)(1-1). A tip from Matty De St. Phalle (1-0-1) at 19:20 closed out scoring for the first period and put the Nailers ahead by one (2-1). There were no other goals scored for the remainder of the game for a narrow 2-1 final.

Worcester got themselves on the board early in the first as Anthony Repaci (20th) lit the lamp unassisted at 7:16. Repaci maneuvered the puck out in front after a ricochet off the heel of a Nailers' skate kept the game alive in the zone. Connor Lockhart (20th) erased the one-goal lead ten minutes later with a bar-down shot sent sailing high over netminder Parker

Gahagen. A shot from Brent Johnson was tipped along the way by Matty De St. Phalle (10th) at 19:20 and sent the puck wide of Gahagen to put the Nailers in the lead as the game transitioned into its second frame. Wheeling narrowly led in shots on goal with 14 to Worcester's 13.



The sole penalty of the period was called on Wheeling's De St. Phalle for tripping at 12:55.

The middle frame was an action-packed affair of shed gloves and flying fists. Tensions ran high between Max Dorrington and Matt Quercia, who kicked off the stream of penalties to follow. Dorrington and Quercia squared off at center ice and put on a show for the onlooking crowd. The pair skated to their respective penalty boxes for a five-minute stretch as play returned. Lincoln Hatten and Aidan Sutter eagerly kept things going and soon joined their teammates in the box for roughing 25 seconds lat-

er. Cole Donhauser and Brent Johnson would complete the trifectas for each side as well, with less than a minute gone from the clock. As the boxes emptied, Riley Piercey and Max Graham took their turn in the ring at 14:08, and much like Dorrington and Quercia, would remain there for the next five minutes. Gleb Veremyev capped off the second period rap sheet with a holding call at 18:36, which handed Wheeling their only power play opportunity of the evening. Shots in the period were 20-10 in favor of Worcester.

Veremyev's call from the close of the second carried over for 36 seconds into the third and gave the Nailers an extra man advantage in the final frame. Worcester put on another offensively-dominated performance with three consecutive power play chances that bracketed the split of the period. Neither side found the back of the net, which left the Railers down by one at the close as the Nailers clinched the first spot in the Kelly Cup Playoffs for the North Division. Worcester's shots on goal totaled 50 across the evening to Wheeling's 27. Worcester skated away clean with no penalties in the final frame, while Wheeling collected three.

### LIONS from Page 7

batter's box and blasted a pitch to deep centerfielder for an inside-the-park grand slam, which gave the Lady Mustangs a 5-0 advantage.

After Hull struck out the first two batters in the top of the third, sophomore first baseman Khole Davis lined a single into right field. Junior centerfielder Caitlyn Peczkka reached first base after being hit by a pitch before Slatton singled to left field scoring Ludlow's first run.

Monson answered right back with two runs in home half of the frame and it was beginning to look like they wouldn't have very much trouble winning another season opening game.

However, when the Lady Mustangs came to bat in the following inning, they were trailing by three runs.

The Lady Lions exploded for nine runs on four hits in the top of the fourth.

With one-out, freshman right fielder Abby Monette walked before stealing second and third. She crossed the plate following a throwing error by the catcher.

Ludlow's final eight runs of that frame were scored with two outs.

Davis knocked home two more runs with a hard

shot off the second baseman's glove for a base hit. Slatton also helped herself with a two-run triple down right field line. Sophomore catcher Maddy Goncalves-Korny drove home the tying run with a single to left. Another triple by freshman Madison Goncalves, who started the game at third base before replacing Slatton in the pitcher's circle, gave the Lady Lions the lead for the first time at 8-7.

After Hull allowed an unearned run, she switched places with Uliana, who's a righty.

Ludlow sophomore second baseman Marlie Fuentes capped off the fourth inning rally with an RBI single.



Madelyn Goncalves-Korny tags a runner out at the plate.

Monson scored single runs in their final two at-bats.

Goncalves, who was the winning pitcher, allowed two runs on four hits over the final four innings.

"This was Madison's first appearance in a varsity game, and I thought she pitched very well," Rocker said. "She did exactly what I was hoping she would do. It's nice to have two very good pitcher's."

Ludlow plated a run in the sixth inning before scoring four insurance runs in the top of the seventh.

The second meeting of the regular season between the two Bi-County League teams is scheduled to take place in Ludlow on May 8.

## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of

photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports

sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

### HUBBARD from Page 5

**2,9,16,30 (NOT 4/23) 9:45 - 10:30 am.** Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

**Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 2-5 year olds, Thursdays, April 2,9,16,30 (NOT 4/23) 10:45 - 11:30 a.m.** Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

**Online Gaming Club for YAs, Thursdays, April 2,9,16,23,30, 3:30 - 5:00 pm.** For ages 10-15. Drop-in, first come first served.

**Sewing Clinic, Thursdays (biweekly), April 2,16,30, through May 28, 5:30 p.m.** For middle and high school. Please register.

**Let's Make Bookmarks! Friday, April 3, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** For youth of all ages. Drop-in.

**Minecraft Club, Saturdays, April 4,11,18,25, noon to 1:50 p.m.** For ages

7-11. We have Minecraft accounts. Please register.

**EGGSTRAVAGANZA, Saturday, April 4, 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m.** For youth of all ages and families. Outside on the library lawn. Find all the eggs on your gameboard and win candy filled eggs for your basket! Drop-in.

**Youth Chess Club, (bi-weekly) Mondays, April 6, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.** For ages 9-17. Please register.

**Anime Club, (biweekly) Tuesdays, April 7,21, 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.** For middle and high schoolers. Please register.

**Youth Crochet Club, (biweekly) Tuesdays, April 7,21, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** For ages 10 - 17. Please register.

**Pokemon Club, (bi-weekly) Wednesdays, April 15,29, 3:30 to 4:45 pm.** For gr. 3-8. Please register.

**April Showers Tissue Paper Stained Glass, Friday, April 17, 2:00 - 3:00**

p.m. For ages 5-10. Drop-in.

**Saturday Morning Pajama Party, April 18, 11:00 a.m.** For youth of all ages and families. Drop-in.

**Spring Into Reading Readathon, Sunday, April 21 through Friday, April 25.** For youth of all ages. Sign up or log into the Bean-stack app and log your reading each day to earn extra tickets to put towards the Summer Reading Program raffles.

**Tween Graphic Novel Book Club, Thursdays (monthly), April 23, 5:00 p.m.** For ages 10-14. Please register.

**"Read Between the Lines" High School Book Group, Fridays (monthly), April 24, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.** For high school age. Please register.

**Sing With Me, every Tuesday, 10:30 to 11:00 am.** For 0-5s. Drop-in.

**Lego Build Challenge, every Wednesday, noon to 5:00 pm.** Drop-in.

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

**Young Adult Volunteer Program, ongoing.** For 6th grade through high school. Volunteer one hour a week in the youth room. Please see our website calendar for more information and to submit an application.

### Estate Planning



- Wills
- Power of Attorney
- Health Care Proxy
- Life Estates
- Declaration of Homestead

**MARTA LAW OFFICES** (413) 610-1122 • Fax: (413) 610-1126  
77 Winsor St., Suite 202, Ludlow  
pmarta@martalawoffices.com

### NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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

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

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

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

### HELP WANTED

- Produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.
- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines.
- Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo.

### EXPERIENCED WRITERS & JOURNALISTS

**Send writing samples with resume to:**

GREG SCIBELLI  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
**or email directly to:**  
gscibelli@turley.com



## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

**Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.**

**visit www.publicnotices.turley.com**

# DATEBOOK

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

## ONGOING

**PLAY CRIBBAGE IN INDIAN ORCHARD** - Cribbage players of all ages and ability are welcome to enjoy a fun time with other local cribbage players. Join us at Club #72, "Pegging Fools", Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at St. Gregory Armenian Church, 135 Goodwin St., Indian Orchard. For more information, contact Peter Setian, 413-552-6336.

**VOLLEYBALL** at E Street School began Sept. 16th at 5:30 p.m. They play Tuesday and Thursdays. Call the Ludlow Senior Center for more information 413-583-3564.

**BI-MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE** On the first Saturday of each EVEN month (February, April, June, August, October, December) First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St, collects non-perishable foods. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., drive through the back parking lot. We will take your donations out of your car & bring them to the Community Survival Center to be distributed to those in need.

**FREE CLOTHING.** Ev-

ery 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

# OBITUARIES

## Christine G. Mariani

August 18, 1961 - March 25, 2026

**MONSON** - Christine G. (Cote) Mariani, age 64, died on March 25, 2026. She was born in Miami, FL to the late Norman and Joan (LaPierre) Cote. A bright, savvy businesswoman, Christine worked as a Manager for Dow Jones for over twenty years. She was a National Champion accordion player in her teenage years, playing for the Falcetti Music orchestra. Chris also volunteered for many animal rights organizations. She was a graduate of Ludlow High School and attended Holyoke Community College.



Chris loved playing games, planning holidays and vacations with her family, shopping (especially for anything sparkly), going to the beach, painting ceramics, yoga, exercise, reading, and days spent as "Mimi" to her two grandchildren. Her sense of fashion and jewelry were always impeccable. She will be remembered for her spot-on impressions, self-deprecating sense of humor, and her wonderful smile and laugh.

She will be dearly missed by her loving partner John Mariani of Monson, her devoted daughter Heather Greene and her husband Mark Fitzpatrick of Greenfield, adored grandchildren; Emma and Ethan Fitzpatrick of Greenfield,

sister Gayle Dragicevich and her husband John of Lakeville, MA niece Rebecca Goulet of Somerset, MA and grand nephew Matthew Goulet, former husband and father of her daughter Frank Greene of Springfield, step mother Antonia "Toni" Cote of Ludlow, step brother Anthony Costa and his wife Rhonda of Palmer and step nephews; Brandyn and Evan Costa. In addition to her parents, Christine was also predeceased by her second husband Thomas Laliberte

and over a dozen beloved pets. The family would also like to thank the entire staff at Encompass Health in Ludlow for their excellent care at the end of her life.

Visitation will be held on April 7, 2026 from 9:30 to 11:30AM at Wilbraham Funeral Home, 2551 Boston Rd., Wilbraham. Christine's Funeral Mass will follow at 12:30 PM at St. Cecilia Church, 42 Main St., Wilbraham. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Foundation, Inc., 3634 W. Market St., Suite 110, Akron, OH 44333 or online at [www.cjdfoundation.org](http://www.cjdfoundation.org) or to the TJO Animal Control and Adoption Center, 627 Cottage Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

## DEATH NOTICES

**Christine G. Mariani**  
Died March 25, 2026  
Services  
April 7, 2026  
Wilbraham  
Funeral Home

**Nancy Enos**  
Died Feb. 21, 2026  
Services  
April 11, 2026  
10-11:30 a.m.  
Ludlow Funeral Home

## The Ludlow Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) 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.*

Please remember to recycle this newspaper

# LEGALS

**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.  
HD26P0643EA  
Estate of:  
Maria L Eugenio  
Date of Death: 02/03/2025  
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 **Manuel Eugenio 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 **Manuel Eugenio 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 04/23/2026.** 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. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 26, 2026  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
04/01/2026

## Town of Ludlow LEGAL NOTICE

you are hereby notified that a **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held at the Town Hall Select Board's Conference Room, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA 01056 on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 5:45 P.M.**

Upon petition of **EVER-SOURCE** to locate poles, wires, cables and fixtures including necessary anchors, guys and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, along and across the following public way or ways.

**WEST STREET:** to install one (1) 45' fully owned pole on West Street as well as an anchor. The pole will be labeled 223/B30 and located 22' east of the center line and 80' south of the pole 223/B31 in order to run underground wire for the removal of a right of way for a solar panel array. Also, permission for Ever-source to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such pole and buildings as it may desire for distributing purposes.

Manuel Silva, Chairperson  
William Rosenblum, Vice Chair  
James Gennette  
Anthony Alves  
**Ludlow Select Board**

04/01, 04/08/2026

## Finance Committee Town of Ludlow Legal Notice

In accordance with Chapter 1, Section 14 of the Town of Ludlow Bylaws, the Finance Committee has called a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, April 15th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Select Board's Conference Room, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA to discuss the FY27 Budget.

Chad Mullin, Vice Chairman  
Ludlow Finance Committee  
04/01, 04/08/2026

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**  
584 West St., Ludlow  
413-583-8454  
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 provided for 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.

**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**  
Monday 8:00am  
Tuesday 8:00am  
Wednesday No Mass  
Thursday 6:00pm  
Friday 6:00pm  
Saturday 4:00pm  
Sunday 8:30am (English) 10:15am ( Polish)  
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

**ST. ELIZABETH PARISH**  
191 Hubbard St., Ludlow  
413-583-3467  
Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin  
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton  
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Keith Davies  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Visit our website at [www.stelizabethludlow.org](http://www.stelizabethludlow.org)  
Like us on Facebook Check out our Parish App

**Wed., April 1** - Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), Holy Mother Choir - 4:30 PM (C), Cub Scouts - 6 PM (FLBH), Bible Study - 6:30 PM (JR)  
**Thurs., April 2** - **HOLY THURSDAY** - Morning Prayer - 9 AM (C), Holy Thursday Mass - 7 PM (C), Repository Adoration - 8 PM until Midnight  
**Fri., April 3** - **GOOD FRIDAY** - Morning Prayer - 9 AM (C) Stations of the Cross - 3 PM (C), Passion of the Lord - 7 PM (C)  
**Sat., April 4** - **EASTER VIGIL** - Morning Prayer - 9 AM (C), Easter Vigil Mass - 7:30 PM (C)  
**Sun., April 5** - **EASTER SUNDAY** - Sunday Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11 AM  
**Mon., April 6** - **Daily Mass** - 7:30 AM (C), Faith Formation - 6 PM (JR), Women's Bible Study - 6 PM (ER)  
**Tues., April 7** - **Daily Mass** - 7:30 AM (C), Middle School Youth Ministry - 3PM (JR), St. Rita Choir - 4 PM (C), Faith Formation Adult Confirmation - 6 PM (JR) Bereavement Support Group - 6:30 PM (ER), Parish Eucharistic Revival Committee Meeting - 6:30 PM (FLBH)

**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)

**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 DeOliveira  
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).

**FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL**  
A Church of the Nazarene  
485 East Street, Ludlow  
(413) 583-7875  
Email: [FCCPastorLisa@gmail.com](mailto:FCCPastorLisa@gmail.com)  
Lead Pastor: Rev. Lisa Morrison  
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs  
Sunday Morning Discipleship Groups meet at 9:45am  
Worship service meets at 11am  
OTHER MEETINGS  
Tuesdays: Zoom Bible Study 7pm  
Fridays: After School Club for Children 5pm  
AA Group 7pm

**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)

Visit us at  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

**Haluch's MEMORIALS**  
[haluchsmemorials.com](http://haluchsmemorials.com)

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Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

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**BUSINESS FOR SALE**

**BIOLINKS OF NEW ENGLAND**  
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Verne, 413-539-8246.

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**AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING**  
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**HELP WANTED**

The Town of North Brookfield is looking for a **part-time Program Assistant** for the Council on Aging. Please submit a resume with a letter of interest to the **Selectmen's Office, 215 Main St., North Brookfield, MA 01535**; or by email to **selectmen@northbrookfield.net**.

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

**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.

**LAND WANTED**

**Seeking 8-20 peaceful acres** in Central MA for pet memorial sanctuary. Especially interested in lease-option, phased sale, or seller financing. Respectful, serious inquiry. Patrick | 508-735-3232 | **founder@rainbow-meadow.org**

**FOR RENT**

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.

**2026 TAX TIME**

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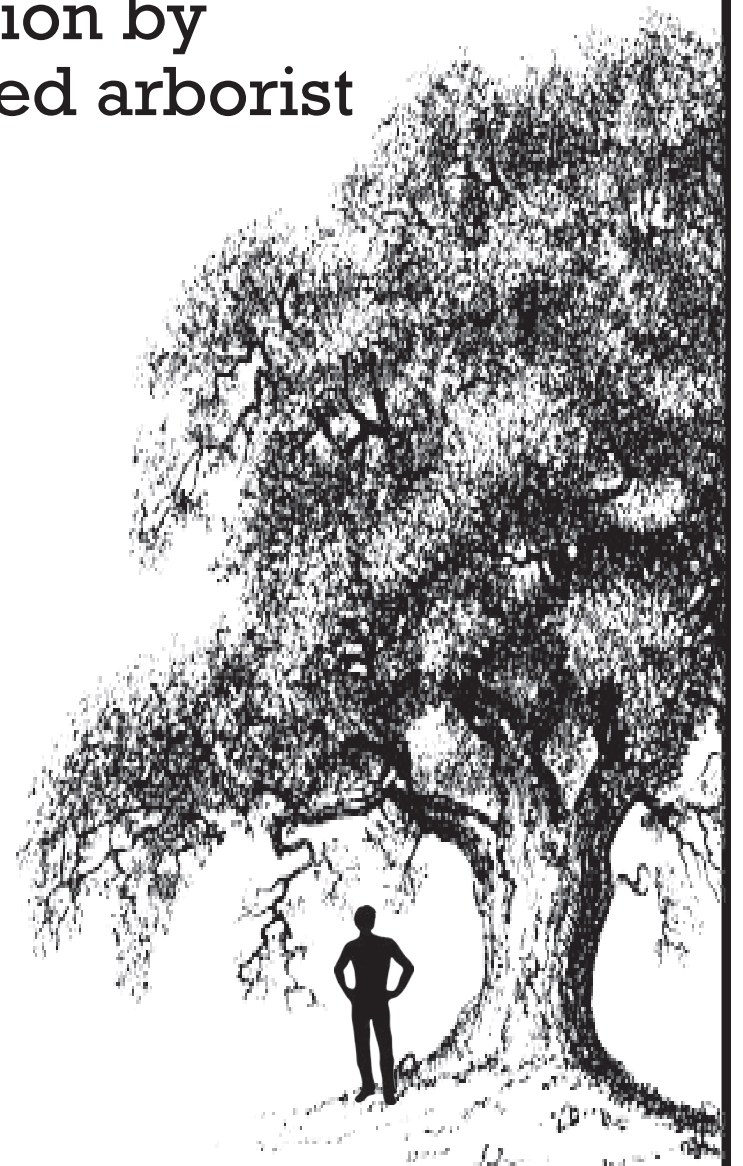


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# DL&G TREE

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**INSURED AND CERTIFIED**



A great time was had by all the pooches Sunday at the Barks and Recreation Dog Park located on Munsing Street. Turley photos by Kara Walsh-Vey



# PET PAGE



## PET OF THE MONTH Meet Enzo!



He is an eight year-old rescue from the Houston floods in Texas who is now happy to call Wilbraham home with the Mannion family. Enzo's hobbies include long leisurely walks to the Fern Valley Farm stand (where he expects a treat for his efforts) and to shamelessly beg for pup cups at Rice's Fruit Farm. While we aren't sure what breed he is (likely a Pyrenees lab mix) he's 100% a good boy in our books.

### ATTENTION 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.



### PACK WALKS

- Every Saturday in Post Office Park Wilbraham at Noon.
- Every Sunday in Bechertown behind the Police Dept. at 10 a.m.

All Ages And Breeds Welcome  
\$20 Each - Weather Permitting

### NEW CLASSES!

- Starting April 6th: Basics in Obedience & Socialization Group Class at Belchertown Rec Dept. 5:30 p.m.\*
  - Starting April 15th: Obedience & Confidence Building Group Class (Noncommittal) at the common area in front of the Belchertown Day School & Christopher Heights at 5:30 p.m.
  - Starting June 1st: Life Skills at the Belchertown Rec. Dept.\*
- \*Sign Up Online for these classes at the Belchertown Rec Dept.

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Classes held every Monday-Thursday evenings



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Open Evenings & Saturdays

## Speaking Your Cat's Language

Scientists agree that meowing is a form of cat language. Cats in feral colonies rarely, if ever, meow at each other. So, if a pet cat is meowing away, you can be reasonably sure it's directed toward her humans. Understanding the meaning behind your cat's meows allows you to respond appropriately, which can strengthen the bond you share.

**Meows**  
Understanding the meaning behind different types of meows is important. Conversational meows tend to be at a regular volume and vary in pattern and pitch. Demand meows are louder and more repetitive. Distress meows are not only loud, but longer, often with a drawn out 'owwww' at the end.

**Body Language**  
Interpreting cat body language involves understanding the various positions of their ears, eyes, nose, mouth and whiskers and other body parts. The carriage and movement of a cat's tail says a lot. Cats will loosely wave their tail if they are relaxed but will more quickly or sternly flick their tail if irritated.

A fearful cat will crouch while lowering her tail, while a focused cat will flick just the tip of his tail. Also consider their posture. Cats that are standing comfortably are likely content. Crouching with a flat body and feet underneath means your cat is ready to pounce, while lying on her side could indicate she's ready to scratch with all four

feet! These postures mean the cat is frightened or agitated, and you should give the cat her space. A feline who looks like she's kneading dough is a super relaxed kitty! When a cat rubs her nose or body on you, she is often marking you with her scent, but the action could be a sign of affection or anxiety, depending on the circumstances.

