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The REGISTER

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Recreation Commission's Easter Egg Hunt held at Whitney Park

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

LUDLOW -- This Saturday, the Recreation Department held their annual Easter Egg Hunt at Whitney Park.

This event is held every year for children in the community between the ages of 2-8 years old. March 30 was a delightfully sunny, but very windy day for the kids to come to the park and hunt for eggs.

"Our turnout was approximately 45 children this year," Debbie Gates said in an email. "Everyone's baskets, bags, etc. were full. In anticipation of the hunt, the children were limited to the grassy area in front of the clubhouse as the eggs were hidden, some in plain sight, on the playscapes, in the kiddie land park, on the grounds, and around the other playground equipment."

Families were instructed to arrive at the park around 11 a.m., and the hunt began at 11:30 a.m. As Recreation representatives warned, the egg hunt ended very quickly, as the chil-



Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Emrys, age 7, Leilani, age 5, Caelin, age 10, Jake Graveline, and 1-and-a-half-year-old Keoni arrived at Whitney Park early for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

dren were very good at finding those "not-so-hidden" eggs.

"It started about 22-23 years ago, just before I started as Recreation Commissioner," said Recreation Commissioner

Sean McBride. "It started as an opportunity for kids from the neighborhood and the community to engage in something fun and creative."

McBride commented that the

event usually coincides with the Easter Egg Hunt held at the library. When the library's event ended at 11 a.m., coordinators would observe families hustling over to Whitney Park for a sec-



Jayce, age 8, held out a basket full of eggs he was collecting.

ond Easter Egg Hunt.

"The library did theirs a little bit differently this year, that

Please see **WHTNEY EASTER EGG HUNT**, Page 10

Town Clerk shares details about position with Charter Committee

Kim Batista spoke to the Charter Committee about what her position entails, and how to define it in the upcoming town charter

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – At the March 21 meeting of the Charter Committee, Town Clerk Kim Batista was invited to weigh in on

"I've been serving the town of Ludlow as Town Clerk for seven years," Batista said. "Since becoming Town Clerk, I was asked to be on the executive board for the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association, which I served for two years. I received my Massachusetts Municipal Clerk Certification in 2020, and will receive my re-certification in 2025. I'm the Chief Election Official for the town and I run the elections on election day and prior to election day."

The first question the committee posed was whether or

not the position of Town Clerk should be elected or appointed. Members of the committee were divided on whether appointing a professional clerk would ensure they have the expertise needed for the position, versus the necessary independence from elected Town Council members that a separate election provides.

"I feel my position should remain elected," Batista said. "Since the Town Clerk was incorporated, Ludlow has always had an elected Town Clerk. The Town Clerk knows what staffing needs are and is best qualified to make such an appointment. An elected Town Clerk is directly accountable to the people of the community and thus serves at the will of the people. The Town Clerk has a sensitive role in the administration of elections and Town Meetings, and that would be ill-served by being beholden to those who are seeking re-election."

Committee member Martin Fanning, noting that he has known Batista for a long time, described her as "certainly well-qualified for the job," and said that if the position were

Please see **CHARTER COMMITTEE**, Page 9

Library embraces new format for annual Easter Egg Hunt

LUDLOW – This weekend, the Hubbard Memorial Library held its annual Easter Egg Hunt.

On a sunny, albeit blustery, Saturday morning, kids and families lined up to participate in the library's revamped Easter Egg Hunt.

After over 500 people attended last year's hunt, the library's Youth Services Department decided to revamp the format, to ensure that all the kids who attend get to go home with candy and prizes.

"Last year close to 500 people attended, and if you've ever been to an egg hunt it's a mad dash melee for about four and a half minutes, and that's about it," said Youth Services Assistant Kristin Santos.

This year, the event was turned into a scavenger hunt for pictures of eggs submitted by residents and extended to two hours.

"We had an egg coloring contest and the kids did an amazing job," Santos said. "We got 98 submissions total and they were so good. We're going to use the eggs that the kids colored for a scavenger hunt, so instead of looking for plastic eggs, they'll be searching for pictures that they colored."

The Friends of the Library had tables set up to hand out the game boards and prizes.

If you'd like to learn about more events at the library, you can visit their website at hubbardlibrary.org.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Katerina LaWare and Jessica Nordstrom brought Fotini, age 4, and Allison, age 3, to the library for the egg hunt. See more photos on page 11.





Upcoming Events!

To register for any events

Visit us at Ludlowma250.org

Tag Sale!

Saturday, April 20th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL – SELL YOUR STUFF

1 parking space size \$20, 2 parking spaces \$35.

Rain date Sunday, April 21. Registration form on our website

Ludlow 250th Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Saturday, May 18

4 Person Scramble

at Westover Municipal Golf Course

Team Total: \$500. Registration due by April 26.

Send team name, contact person, contact person's email and phone, and the four participants names to:

ludlowma250@gmail.com along with a check made out to:

Ludlow 250th Golf Tournament, 488 Chapin St., Ludlow, MA 01056

For more information call Paul Chrzan: 413-636-1527

or Linda Colette 413-427-3072.

For a sponsorship opportunity, please contact

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Kids Bike Parade and Bike Rodeo

Saturday, May 25th, 10am-noon

Ages K-5th. Decorate your bike, trike, wagon, etc.

Prizes awarded! Parade starts at the Mill Clock Tower, travels down River Walk, ends at Iron Duke parking lot. Randall's will be serving cups of ice cream to all registered participants.

Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27th

Be A Part Of The Parade!

Sign up your organization or business today.

Contact ludlow250parade@gmail.com

250th Celebration Block Party Picnic & Parade

Saturday, June 15th

Volunteer!

We need YOU to help out at the picnic or parade.

Join The Parade!

All are welcome: athletic clubs, businesses, civic organizations, service members, veterans and youth groups. Email: ludlow250parade@gmail.com or contact Bruce Durand at 413-547-8998

Follow us on Facebook [ludlowma250](https://www.facebook.com/ludlowma250)

LUDLOW



QUINCY

This is our boy Quincy. He is a five-year-old English cream golden retriever that we received through the North Star Foundation in Connecticut. Quincy is a trained therapy dog with Bright Spot Therapy Dogs. Quincy and I visit children who are in state foster programs once a week. Quincy can tell when someone is sad and he will plop his giant head near them. He also will shove his head under your hand until you pet him. Quincy is a giant love sponge and is loved by our whole family.



Scholarship deadline extended

LUDLOW— The Ludlow Lions Club is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the James and Mary O'Neil Scholarship (\$40,000 paid over 4 years), the S. Louis Marceau and the Paul R. Baird scholarships (\$1,000 each). Due to difficulties with the new FAFSA process the deadline for the Scholarship applications has been extended to April 28, 2024.

Mail applications to the Ludlow Lions Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 72, Ludlow, MA 01056-0072.

Eligible applicants must be residents of Ludlow, regardless of the high school

attended, and entering freshman year at an accredited college or technical school in the fall. The James and Mary O'Neil scholarship is available only to students who will be attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus.

Applications may be obtained from the Guidance Departments of Ludlow High School, or Pope Francis Preparatory School, by using the "Scholarship" button on the Ludlow Lions Club Web page (https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/ludlow_ma/index.php), by request at LUDLOWLIONS@YAHOO.COM or by contacting a Ludlow Lions Club member.

Wilbraham Garden Club April meeting takes place April 4

WILBRAHAM - The April meeting of the Wilbraham Garden Club will hold a sandwich luncheon at Noon on Thurs., April 4. We do need a reservation for this meeting as we are inviting all surrounding Garden Clubs. Please call Norma at 596-8173 for a reservation.

The speaker for the day will be the

well-known, Bob Whitney, whose topic will be "Stix, Twigs, Moss, Stones & Flowers." Bob brings a "breath of spring" to us at this meeting. His program will consist of arrangements using items from nature that can be found in our yards. His finished creations will be raffled at the end of the program.



Open House
Saturday, April 6
9:30-12:30

www.macduffie.org to register



Teachers discuss the work to bring back High School Senior Show

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – On the weekend of March 15-16, the high school put on their annual Senior Show, which was a labor of love for teachers, students, and the community.

Teachers Natalie Smith and Katie Ziano, both graduates from the high school who participated in their class's Senior Shows, worked hard to bring back the school's tradition.

"It's open to the entire senior class," Smith said. "We had roughly 60 kids and there's probably 160 kids in senior class, so it wasn't the whole year. Last year there were 30-40 kids that participated, same with the previous year."

Interest in the Senior Show died down around 2020 due to the COVID-19 lockdowns. Smith said that they hoped to inspire students to want to be part of it, and to maintain the tradition of the kick-off to the end of senior year.

"Because there were a couple years where there wasn't a show, these grades that were juniors and under never saw a senior show," Smith said. "We're hoping for more participation now that they saw the upperclassmen participating and saw the energy kids brought."

The Senior Show is a big fundraiser for the senior class, with revenue going towards activities such as the class picnic, field trip, and banquet. Smith estimated that the show made approximately \$8,000 from ticket sales, though some of that went to paying for T-shirts and program covers.

"We sold 430 tickets the first night and 370 the second," Smith said. "So it was around 800 tickets total. We were pleasantly surprised."

The show is traditionally structured as a variety show with a mix of skits submitted by students, which are then fleshed out into full scripts. Smith said that the amount of work that goes into putting on the show is often more than anticipated.

"When we did it previously, we were a well-oiled machine, so we didn't think twice about the amount of work," Smith said, "but when you have families to come home to, it re-

ally is a lot."

Preparation for the show began in January, and then in the first week of February the directors started going over skits. From that point until the show, Smith and Ziano were after school with the seniors Monday through Thursday, from school letting out at 2 p.m. to 4:30-5 p.m., working even later nights during the last week before the show.

"We do it because we love the tradition," Smith said. "We love seeing it come together and seeing how excited the kids are. Sometimes they gripe and groan along the way, but in the end, seeing how much fun they have, how excited they get about the show, and the memories they're making makes it worth it."

Smith talked about a student who had tickets to a concert that conflicted with one day of the show. Though an understudy was arranged, Smith said that at the dress rehearsal, the student decided to prioritize his Senior Show over the concert.

"He was a big part of several skits," Smith said. "We didn't want to pressure him, but after the dress rehearsal he said he can't miss it."

This year, to fit with the "throwback" theme, Smith posted on community forums on social media to ask graduates to send in scripts from their Senior Show as well.

"We have a big hand in it along the way, helping with dialogue and putting in jokes that appeal more to a broader audience," Smith said. "A lot of the time, they don't understand that the people in the audience are your parents; they're not going to get your inside jokes, even in the throwback skits."

Smith said that part of preparing for the Senior Show is figuring out how to translate the students' humor to the stage.

"They'll come up with ideas and we'll sit and talk about it. We'll say, 'that isn't going to work because of x-y-z, let's change it to this,' or work with them to develop ideas and then have them write scripts," Smith said. "They see it as funny on social media or TikTok, but on a stage it needs to be bigger and broader. Or this was funny when it happened in class, or funny at that moment, but everything needs to be bigger and more exaggerated.

We work with the kids to take their ideas and bring them to the next level."

However, not every skit is a hit. During the Saturday show, it was decided that one skit from the previous night had not elicited enough laughs to put on a second time.

"This was one of the skits that we had done, I believe, in 2012," Smith said. "The premise was two people who couldn't find love because they had baby arms and legs growing out of their head. It stemmed from a Saturday Night Live skit where Kristin Wiig has little arms and we kind of went on that. It got so many laughs that we decided to recreate it."

However, when the skit was put on Friday night, the audience did not laugh, aside from a handful of the actors' friends who had turned up to support the class.

"What didn't translate this year is the kids who did it in 2012 were big personalities, they fully committed to it," Smith said. "The kids who did it for us this year were great sports, but you could tell they weren't really feeling it. They came to us after the first night and said it was really weird and nobody laughed. We said 'we're not going to make you do this,' and the show was long enough to begin with, so we rearranged a couple things.

"It just goes to show that we're more than willing to admit when things that we thought were going to be funny didn't pan out," Smith said. "It's all about rolling with punches."

Smith said that Class President Melina Denise and Nico Coelho were a great help.

"Coelho is the type of kid that any time we needed something or needed a role filled, he was like 'I'll do it,'" Smith said.

In terms of feedback on how to improve next year's show, Smith said that the main complaint was that the show was very long.

"Everyone's attention was held, but we're going to put a time limit on skits," Smith said. "We're hoping we don't have another three to four hour show."

If you'd like to see the high school's Class of 2024 put on their Senior Show, it has been uploaded to ludlowtv.org.

Ragtime Five Brass Quintet to perform free concert

LUDLOW - The "Ragtime Five Brass Quintet" will perform a concert of varied genres of music including ragtime, swing, marches, 20th century popular, and more! – on Sunday April 14 at 3:00 p.m. at First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St., Ludlow, MA. The concert is free and open to the public and handicap accessible. Funding is provided by The Ludlow Cultural Council. Contact 413-535-7220 for more information.



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- Locally Grown
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CB appoints new Senior Vice President

LUDLOW— Country Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Thomas Dufault as the senior vice president of the Retail Lending Department. With an impressive thirty-five years in the mortgage industry and an entrepreneurial and construction background, Tom brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to his new role.

Dufault has gained extensive experience in construction standards, business acumen, and process improvements throughout his career. His diverse background, including being a previous business owner, makes him the ideal candidate to lead Country Bank's Retail Lending team.

In addition to his professional achievements, Dufault is also committed to community service. He has served on the Board of Habitat for Humanity North Central MA for ten years, with the past four years as the Board President. Dufault supports various charitable initiatives, including the United Way of North Central MA, the American Cancer Society, Heif-



Submitted photo

Country Bank announces the appointment of Thomas Dufault as the senior vice president of the Retail Lending Department.

er Project International, and the Alzheimer's Association. Dufault has also served on various committees and boards in the town of Rutland where he lived for twenty-six years with his wife and two daughters.

"I am excited to join Country

Bank and contribute to its continued success in helping customers obtain their dreams of homeownership," said Dufault. "I will focus on offering innovative products to help meet our customers' needs with a simple application and approval process while offering a superior customer experience. I am eager to make a difference for the retail lending team and for our customers."

"We are incredibly pleased to welcome Tom to our leadership team; his extensive background in Retail Lending brings an exciting level of strategic insight and direction to the Country Bank brand of Community Banking. His commitment to strategic and empathetic leadership, community support, and entrepreneurial spirit align with our iSTEP Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity. We are proud that Tom has chosen Country Bank as his Employer of Choice," stated Miriam Siegel, first senior vice president and chief Culture & Development officer.

Committee challenged to combat hate and special interests

By Harrison Giza
Staff Writer
hgiza@turley.com

LUDLOW – Public comment continued to yield challenges to the Ludlow Public Schools as the Ludlow School Committee met for the first time last week following the election.

Resident Michael Kelliher told the new committee it was up to them to have policies that do not discriminate against people.

"Where we go from here depends upon what you guys do from hereon," Kelliher said. "The community spoke very loudly and I hope you understood that. They do not want what you have been pushing for the last year. They do not want the discrimination and the policies. They do not want the outside hate groups. It is time to move forward. And how are we going to do that?"

Kelliher continued to implore committee members Diaz and Ronald G. Saloio to consider his proposal.

"You guys have got a couple options," said Kelliher. "You can kind of keep going on and on the way you have been doing for the past year, you're going to lose a bunch of 3 - 2 votes, alright? The community is going to keep being riled up and we are going to just go nowhere and it is going to make things worse. The other option that I really hope you take is that you try to find some common ground with the rest of your board members, with your administrators and with the community. Find some things that you can work on together. You are not going to agree on everything, and that is fine, but it does not mean that we have to keep battling. Ron, it was you that lit the fuse on this - you're the one that can make it stop."

Kelliher urged Saloio to denounce "hate groups" and other special interests the committee member had supported in the past.

"If you can't do that," said Kelliher. "And I do not mean this in a disrespectful way, step aside and let someone take your spot that really cares about our public education. A parent with some kids in school with a bested interest. Let them come in and do the job that needs to be done. I really hope we can get past all this stuff because it is not good for the town, it is not a good look, and we are going to lose good teachers and we are going to lose good administrators and we want people to be confident in our schools."

Though not all speakers echoed Kelliher's thoughts on Saloio's educational input, almost all of them mentioned hope for a more inclusive and less hostile future for Ludlow Schools.

Following the election, new officers were selected at the beginning of last week's meeting.

Sarah Bowler was named the new chair of the committee.

Member Jeffrey Stratton nominated Bowler for the position, and his nomination passed unanimously.

Jeff Laing was selected by the group to be the vice chair of the committee and Stratton remained the secretary.

All School Committee meetings will be held at the Harris Brook Elementary School Library, located at 209 Fuller St. For additional information, please contact their District Office at (413) 583-8372.

Sport Court to hold Ribbon Cutting April 5

LUDLOW— The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club will celebrate the grand opening of the outdoor Sport Court with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, April 5.

Members of the community and media are invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. with festivities immediately following. The new courts are located at the rear of the Club's building at 91 Claudia's Way, and parking is available in the Club's front and back lots.

Ludlow youth athletes are scheduled to put on a show in an inaugural basketball game begin-

ning at 5:15 p.m. and adult Club members will show off their skills in the inaugural pickleball games. Open court sessions will provide the community with a chance to step out onto the courts. Information about court schedules will be available at this event.

Jenn Aldworth, executive director of the Massachusetts Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs (and former LBGC CEO/president) will perform the ribbon cutting alongside Sen. Oliveira, Rep. Saunders, the State Senate Ways & Means Chair, and Club staff.

Funding for this project would not have been possible

without support from state legislators and local stakeholders. The Club is tremendously grateful for the Massachusetts Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs for their advocacy and work towards procuring ARPA grants to local Boys & Girls Clubs across the state.

The Club would also like to thank our local selectmen and town leaders for seeing the positive investment and difference the ARPA dollars will make in communities all across the state. The Sport Court is one of several projects that the Club will be undertaking this year that will benefit not only members, but the general public.

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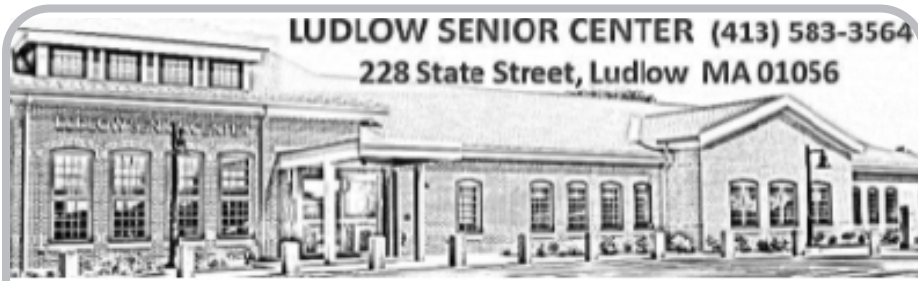
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Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

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

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

Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, April 4

- 8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 1 p.m. Mahjong
- 1 p.m. Fishing Club
- 1:30 p.m. Chair Volleyball Hubbard Mem. Library
- 2 p.m. Writer’s Block*
- 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, April 5

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

Monday, April 8

- 9 a.m. Knitting
- 9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
- 10 a.m. Computer Help*
- 10 a.m. Learn Adaptive OT Techniques
- 11 a.m. Lunch Bunch*
- 1 p.m. Scrabble
- 1:15 p.m. Pitch
- 1:30 p.m. Watercolor Pencil Class*
- 2:15 p.m. Total Eclipse Viewing
- 2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, April 9

- 9 a.m. Quilting
- 9 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Cribbage
- 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
- 10:30 a.m. Meditation
- 12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks
- 1 p.m. Western Dance Class
- 1:30 p.m. Bingo
- 4:30 p.m. Power Pump Class
- 4:30 p.m. Creative Corner with Tammy*

4:45 p.m. Movie: The Hold Overs (2023)

5 p.m. Parade Planning Session
5:30 p.m. Volleyball at East Street School

Wednesday, April 10

- 8 a.m. Mobile Hygiene*
- 9 a.m. Ceramics
- 9 a.m. Zumba Gold
- 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
- 12:45 p.m. Movie: Teidi GHhhey The Hold Overs (2023)
- 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
- 1 p.m. Make a Terrarium*

Thursday, April 11

- 8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Dominos
- 10:30 a.m. Sen. Oliveira Office Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Friends of the Center Meeting
- 1 p.m. Mahjong
- 1:30 p.m. Chair Volleyball Hubbard Mem. Library
- 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:

1. Café: Monday – Friday 8-11 a.m.
2. Exercise Room: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Open until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.
3. Walking Club: Monday – Friday 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., leaving from the parking lot.

Menu:

- Thursday, April 4: Vegetable Frittata/Roasted Potatoes
- Friday, April 5: Ham & Broccoli Casserole/Biscuit
- Monday, April 8: Chicken Patty Sandwich/Lettuce & Tom/Tater Tots
- Tuesday, April 9: Shepherd’s Pie/ Cornbread
- Wednesday, April 10: Veggie Lasagna/Garlic Bread
- Thursday, April 11: Tuna Salad/ Macaroni Salad/Roll

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

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

Hartsprings Drive coming to Hampden Senior Center April 6

HAMPDEN – A Hartsprings Drive will be taking place at the senior center on Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine.

The Hartsprings Truck will be at the Hampden Senior Center, 104 Allen St., Hampden to collect your items that may be too large to put in the bin. As you begin your spring cleaning, please save all your unwanted clothing, books, dishes, towels, sheets, bedspreads, glassware, sporting equipment, suitcases in good condition. However, we cannot accept bed pillows or baby items such as car seats or toys. We accept small kitchen

items, such as toasters, microwaves and toaster ovens

If you have any questions in regards to what you may bring or if assistance is needed, please contact Joan Shea at 566-8224. The Hartsprings Bin will remain in place before and after the Truck Drive in the parking lot of the Hampden Senior Center. This special pick-up will assist you with the many bags you may have or if they are large in size.

Again, thank you for your continuing support of this special fundraiser which raises money for The Hampden Senior Center Building Fund.

The Theatre Guild of Hampden presents ‘Oklahoma!’

Tickets are on sale now

HAMPDEN – Tickets are now on sale for The Theatre Guild of Hampden’s production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical “Oklahoma!”

The musical, which was the first collaboration from the legendary composers, is set in 1906 and centers on farm-girl Laurey Williams, who is courted by two rival suitors, cowboy Curly McLain and farmhand Jud Fry.

The directors are Christopher Rojas and Mark Giza, Bobby Scott as music

director and Dina DelBuono serving as choreographer.

The show takes place at The Red Barn at Fountain Park at 883 Tinkham Rd. in Wilbraham, with the show dates scheduled for April 5, 6 and 7 and April 12, 13 and 14.

The Friday and Saturday evening shows take place at 7 p.m., while the Sunday matinee shows take place at 2 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.theatreguildofhampden.org/tickets.html>.

To learn more, contact Mark Giza at 413-204-5333 or 413-543-4203.

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OPINION

LETTER TO EDITOR

To the Editor

To the Ludlow citizens and taxpayers, on March 14, *The Ludlow Register* had a letter to the editor making a political endorsement for a candidate currently running for re-election on the school committee, by union members, Michelle D'Amore (a non-resident of Ludlow) and Shannon Anderson co-presidents of the Ludlow Education Association. First, let me address a similar action taken by them in the form of a letter against me prior to last year's election. This letter was distributed amongst teachers, not so much as an endorsement of anyone, but more as a direct hit on my school committee candidacy; I have a copy of that letter. At that time I let it go, as I was confident that the residents and teachers would vote for me.

However, this year the LEA co-presidents have written a letter to the editor endorsing one of the candidates who is currently running for re-election for the school committee. As LEA Co-presidents, their endorsement creates a few questions, in reference to the teachers' contract online under the section titled, **Code of Ethics**, section 1. 2. and 4.

I do not have an advanced college degree, however, I have some pertinent questions that need to be addressed. (both have been asked to explain and have not responded)

Does this endorsement violate any of the following which can be found in the LEA contract with the school committee?

"In Fulfilling his obligation to the public, the educator-

1. Shall not misrepresent an institution or organization with which he is affiliated and shall take adequate precautions to distinguish between his personal and institutional or organizational view."

Question: Did they inquire with all the teachers as to what their wishes were?

Question: If so, when did they do this, during school/ teaching time or off campus?

2. Shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political citizenship rights and responsibilities.

Question: While acquiring the consent of the teachers (if acquired as per #1), was any undue influence or coercion asserted?

4. Shall not use institutional privileges for private gain or to promote political candidates or partisan political activities."

I don't have anything to question or add to #4 as it speaks for itself.

As a long time resident of Ludlow and taxpayer on multiple properties in Ludlow, I would appreciate clarification as to how you have not breached your duties and responsibilities.

Regards
Joao Dias



GUEST COLUMN



Asparagus plants - upkeep, harvest and oddities

It was so much fun to be outdoors on Easter Sunday.

I enjoyed just sitting on the deck, talking with family and moseying around the yard while the little kids enjoyed an Easter egg hunt. It's funny that being outside is one of those things that once you do it, you want to do it more often.

It got me thinking of some of the tasks back home I have to do to get the gardens ship-shape.

One of the tasks concerns my asparagus bed. The grocery stores are teasing us lately, with spears from Mexico making an appearance in the sales circular.

I usually hold off buying it, preferring my home-grown to anything store-bought. I never did get to cut back the foliage in the fall after the first frost.

Presently, its laying down in the beds, making a catch-all for leaves. I'll get in there with a pair of sharp clippers, cutting away the foliage, then with a rake to further tidy up.

Once complete, I'll sprinkle lime on the beds, followed by some compost, since asparagus prefers fertile soil on the alkaline side.

It'll be a few weeks still before the spears start to poke through the surface. Since my beds are several years old at this point, I will be able to harvest for a good eight weeks.

Be on the look-out for the asparagus beetle midstream and the black eggs that are laid horizontally shortly thereafter, usually apparent on the upper portion of the spears. I monitor my beds often and flick the bugs into a yogurt container of soapy water while squishing the eggs in-situ.

I don't do more than that in terms of

pest control and I'm able to keep populations down.

Weeds are another foe. It's important to keep the beds weeded - especially free of perennial grasses, and you will likely have a productive asparagus patch for decades to come.

I usually harvest asparagus with a knife, so that the cut is clean. If the spear has gotten a bit too tall, but the buds haven't opened too much, I will still harvest it at the appropriate length of 6-8" long, and cut the rest of the stem off at ground level.

If the buds have opened and are too far gone to be edible (at least in terms of looking like traditional asparagus) I will just allow the foliage to grow, figuring that the photosynthesizing will benefit the roots in the long run, just as later foliage does after the harvest period is over. I usually let really skinny spears go to foliage as well - they are usually kind of tough.

Speaking of tough, what about those really thick spears, the kind that are "thumb-thick?"

If you notice the base of these spears to be woody and tough in appearance, get out the potato peeler and remove the outer skin, revealing a much more tender interior portion. An old friend taught me this trick, and it works out pretty well.

I'd be in remiss if I didn't address the stinky smell associated with eating asparagus.

Yesiree, it can happen even 15 minutes after ingesting it. Use the bathroom and voila, your urine will have a pungent, asparagus-like smell. Only maybe worse.

Our bodies convert asparagusic acid into sulfur-containing chemicals that are volatile enough to fly from the toilet up your nose, that is, if you have the ability to perceive it. Some people don't.

Call them lucky, perhaps. I consider myself lucky to have such an amazing vegetable growing right in my backyard, stinky or not.

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

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Register, please email register@turley.com.

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Election letters policy

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

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

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

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to

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

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

The REGISTER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

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

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

FOR ALL AGES

National Book Week Favorite Book-a-thon April 8 - 13. All ages. Fill out a bookstack page (available in the library) with the titles of your ten all-time favorite books & hand it in any time this week to win a prize; adults will win a raffle ticket for a local history prize basket, teens & children will win a free book.

Eclipse Watch Party, Monday, April 8, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Join us on the library lawn to watch the eclipse! We'll have safety glasses and pinhole viewers for everyone, along with hula hoops, bubbles, coloring pages and crafts for the kids. You'll also have the chance to help NASA with their Eclipse Soundscape Project. In the event of rain or clouds, we will offer a live stream of the eclipse inside. Thank you to StarNet and SEAL for supplying the glasses. All ages are welcome!

Summer Safety, Wednesday, April 17, 10:00 a.m. Get prepared for summer! Town Nurse, Angela, will be here giving tips for staying safe this summer. All ages are welcome! Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Sarah Clay and the StarCats: "Blue Skies", Thursday, April 18, 6:00 p.m. Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month! Each year, Sarah Clay and the StarCats create a new themed concert that is both entertaining and informative. All ages are welcome. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

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

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

FOR ADULTS

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

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

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

Who picked this book? Book Club Meeting, first Thursday of the month (April 4), 3:30 p.m. Join us for this month's Who picked this book? Book Club meeting! You can pick up a copy of the book at the circulation desk.

How To Use the New Library Catalog, Wednesday, April 10, 11:00 a.m. Did you know the library catalog changed in March? Learn how to navigate the new one, sign into your library account, place holds, and more! This class is limited to 4 people. Please call Olivia at 413-583-3408x114 to sign up.

The True Story of the Lincoln Assassination: The Nest That Hatched Evil, Thursday, April 11, 6:30 p.m.

Many of the commonly-held myths about the murder of our 16th President are utterly false. Although assassin John Wilkes Booth fired the gun that killed the President, there were many fingers on that trigger. Join Honorable Dennis J. Curran, Justice Massachusetts Superior Court (Ret.), as he thrills us with the story of Lincoln's assassination and the conspiracies surrounding the murder. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

Planning for Medicare, Wednesday, April 24, 1:30 p.m. Presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, this informative presentation will cover topics like COBRA, Medigap, Medicare Advantage, programs available to early retirees, and more. Please sign up on our website or by calling the circulation desk at 413-583-3408.

FOR TEENS

Nintendo Switch Night, every other Tuesday (4/2, (not 4/16), 4/30) 6:00-7:45 p.m. Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Nintendo Switch games. For 6th-12th graders, space is limited to 16 people, please register.

Anime Club, Tuesdays 4:00-5:30

p.m. Meet each week to watch & talk about anime, eat snacks, & try out your cosplay. The group decides what to watch each week. (Does not meet April 16). Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, Every other Tuesday (4/9 & 4/23, 5/7, 5/21, 6/4, 6/18), 5:00-6:00 p.m. For ages 10 & up. For beginners up to experienced crocheters, supplies provided or bring your own. Please register.

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

Pour Painting for Tweens and Teens, Thursday, April 4, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Learn the gorgeous abstract art technique as seen on social media. Please register.

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

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

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

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

Massachusetts Children's Book Award Book Group for 4th-6th Grade, Thursday, April 11, 6:00-6:45pm. 4th-6th graders across the state are the ones to decide who wins this award after reading at least 5 of the nominated books. Everyone who has read at least 5 of the books by April 11th can come to our ice cream party and cast their vote, and will be featured in an article in the Register! Please register.

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

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

FOR CHILDREN

Daily Drop-In Crafts, All ages. DIY crafts available in the Youth Room

Daily. New craft each week.

Storytime for 3-5 year olds, Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Does not meet April 8 or 15. A five-week series of stories, songs, & games relating to the theme of space, tailored for 3-5 year olds, with a craft & snack at the end. Please register.

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

Storytime for 2-3 year olds, Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Does not meet April 17. A five-week series of stories, songs, & games relating to the theme of space, tailored for 2-3 year olds, with a craft & snack at the end. Please register.

STEAM Program for ages 3-6, Wednesday 4/3, 4:00 p.m. After a book to introduce the theme, children will work together in small groups to plan, draw and build creations using Picasso Tiles Building Blocks. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE.

Story Art for ages 4-6, Wednesday April 10, 3:30 p.m. A storybook introduces and inspires a fun, gently educational hands-on creative art project. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

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

Homeschooler Storytime: True Tales, Wednesdays 12:00 p.m.-12:45 p.m. Does not meet April 17. For ages 5-8. A fun, gently educational storytime that uses picture book biographies to share inspiring stories about real people and historical events Please register.

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

Shel Silverstein Scavenger Hunt, Friday April 5, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. All ages. Celebrate National Poetry Month by searching the Youth Room for poems & pictures by the author of "Where the Sidewalk Ends," and win a prize! Drop-in.

Me, You, & We: Social Emotional Playgroup, Fridays from March 1-April 12, 9:30-10:30 a.m. (does not meet on 3/29). This playgroup will support 3-5 year olds and their caregivers in developing and practicing social-emotional skills. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents. Please register.

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The Register

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285 Three Rivers Rd. solar project: an investigation

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

WILBRAHAM - After learning about a solar project on 285 Three Rivers Rd. during the March 4 Select Board meeting, the Times wanted to investigate further.

On March 22, we got a firsthand look and learned how it's impacting residents from public safety concerns to health and quality of life.

Mura Bacon-Erickson provided the project timeline, explaining the solar company, named AMP US at the time and later named PureSky Energy, approached the town to propose a 20-acre solar field and remove the mature timber on the property.

The town denied the request.

"So, the solar company went through Land Court and won against the town. We have a bylaw from 2021 --which I later found out--that would have controlled some of the solar issues here. They would only be allowed to have 25% of the 20 acres paneled," Bacon-Erickson said. "But, unfortunately, because they went through Land Court and lost, they are following a very old bylaw. So they are not following the new bylaw the town has approved."

Bacon-Erickson shared she got involved when she researched what Hampden was doing with their solar fields, later seeing Allison Ouellette's posts of moose and "very loud horrible, noise, drilling noise" on the Wilbraham Open Community Forum on Facebook.

"I, also, in the interim, had, twice, log trucks going up and down Maynard Road where I live that took out my cable line just underneath my electric line. We repaired it and they took it out again and I was like, 'Where were all these trees



Photo courtesy of Joe Roberts
A shot of construction vehicles working with piles of boulders and dirt in the construction area of the 285 Three Rivers Rd. solar project.

coming from?'" Bacon-Erickson said. "So that all happened at the same time. Ally was posting the noise and I had realized those trees were coming from this area."

Ouellette, an abutter, who has lived in the area for 35 years, said it was "very emotional" to see the trees cut down and the loss of wildlife.

Redistributing animal migration patterns is also a concern.

"It was devastating, to be honest with you," Ouellette said. "I retired two years ago, so for me, with this going on, with all the noise and stuff, it's been bad. It's just been bad. I don't want to be home, it's too loud."

After Ouellette and Bacon-Erickson connected to see what they could do, Bacon-Erickson then learned about Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40a, Section Three, established in 1985 and known as the "The Dover Amendment."

"What it is is to loosen up zoning for schools and churches," Bacon-Erickson

said. "What they've done at Boston level and why we lost in Land Court is because they've added solar fields, now, to that."

From there, she examined Hampden's bylaw, which was tested, for solar fields and later organized a petition for a warrant article to be put on Town Meeting to put Hampden's bylaw in for Wilbraham.

Wilbraham also has three other solar fields, which were approved before the new solar bylaw was approved.

"Ours is good. It's just this is not under the bylaw, which I was not aware of," Bacon-Erickson said.

William Jebb got involved five years ago, explaining in the last few months there's been a rock pile right behind his house due to boulders being crushed.

"The noise is relentless from 7:30 in the morning to about 3:30, 4 p.m. in the evening, every day, nonstop, to the point where it was so disturbing, I had to make a phone call and file a complaint with the town," Jebb said. "My house is vibrating. I got dust all over my car from the smashing of these rocks, all over the house."

Ouellette later added the noise level was 86 decibels.

This equates to the sound of a hairdryer, blender, forklift, lawn mower or subway train.

Jebb said in addition to these concerns, the unknowns greatly worry him, including the potential effects on wells, his septic system and foundation and the overall value of his house.

Public safety is another issue concerning a walking path for foot traffic.

"I'm concerned that, potentially, people could fall victim walking on that bike path. People could become victims with their houses broken into, have easy access in and out based on that bike path alone," Jebb said. "So there's just so many unknowns, so many factors that we're starting to look into."

Jebb stressed he wants to meet with the developer and stay on top of this to "try to avoid some of those concerns" along with documenting them.

"I've lived here for almost 30 years, and in 30 years, I've been able to enjoy peace and tranquility, watch nature at its best," Jebb said. "It's all just a beautiful environment that is now gone."

On the walking path, Bacon-Erickson explained the residents learned about this during the March 21 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, adding she wished the public had an opportunity to learn more.

"It's felt, to me, like I've had to pull teeth to get the information, that it was not free-flowing information. There's not a place for people to voice opinions, there's not a place for people to voice concerns," Bacon-Erickson said.

Currently, at the state level, House Bill 3230 from State Reps. Aaron Saunders (D-Belchertown) and Joanne Comerford (D-Northampton) and Senate Bill 1319 from State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) would change MGL Chapter 40a, section three if passed.

"It's not anti-solar. It's just to return zoning back to the local people," Bacon-Erickson said.

The bills, Bacon-Erickson explained, are currently stuck in the Telecommunications, Energy and Utility Committee,

overseen by State Sen. Michael Barrett (D-Middlesex), and would need to be petitioned to get them out of committee and on the floor for a vote around mid or late April.

"It's already been looked at by the House and Senate and then it went back into committee. Those happen in a year cycle. If we don't get it out of that and into a vote and have it vote in the affirmative, we would not have a chance for another year," Bacon-Erickson said.

On the current solar project, Bacon-Erickson said the focus would be to keep safety and health "under control," citing small signs poorly placed about the construction site and the number of trucks on residential streets carrying or delivering materials.

During our visit, one of these trucks was on the road, struggling to back up and turn around.

"I am asking that the town and the DPW increase signage with the construction manager and they do a safety audit of the area," Bacon-Erickson said.

Going from here, all three residents are looking for the community to reach out to them through the Wilbraham Open Community Forum or individually to share their concerns.

Residents can also email their testimonies and concerns to noahgreen@ma-house.gov.

Ouellette stressed the developer would need to work with and listen to the residents, hoping they do.

"We didn't want this to begin with and it's here. It's here, but at least make it less traumatic for the people that have to look at it, that have to deal with this. Have some compassion," Ouellette said.

Jebb stressed he understands the construction and hopes it ends soon, but the concerns about the long-term effects are important and need to be heard.

"We don't know what we don't know and that's part of why we're starting to activate more now than before. Because they won in a lawsuit, they're developing that, we can't control that. But there are some components of this project that we would like to get under control and that's where we're at right now," Jebb said.

Bacon-Erickson encouraged anyone being affected to document everything, also hoping the developer will listen to the abutters.

"As I speak, I bet 80% of this town does not know this is here," Bacon-Erickson said.

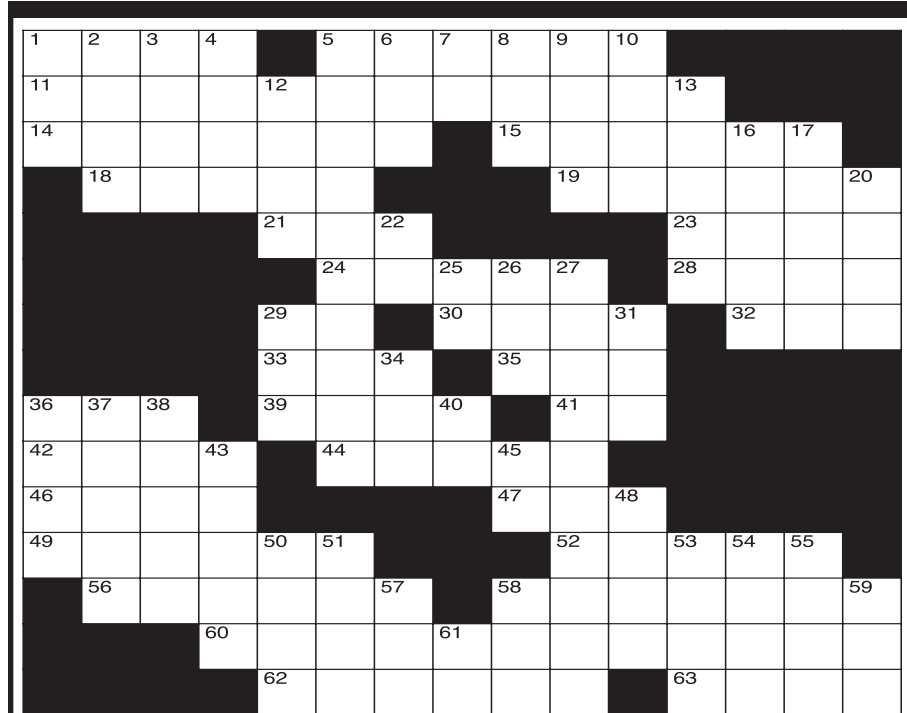
Jebb summed it up best on the importance of being concerned and speaking up.

"I'm not looking for support from the residents in town. I'm looking to ensure that the safety and peace and tranquility of the abutters in this general area is somehow maintained," Jebb said.

Updates

Since this report, the Times received several updates. They are the following.

On March 26, signage was put in, rock removal began on March 27, plans for a walking path will not be taking place at this time, well testing for abutters will be paid for by the solar company and additional shrubbery for abutters will be considered for anyone after the buffer is installed.



- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. A minute amount (British) | (archaic) | city | 37. Doctor ___: children's book author |
| 5. Mystical or magical | 41. Commercial | 4. Clip | 38. Hebrew calendar month |
| 11. Shortening | 42. Spots where golfers start | 5. In a way, misleads | 40. Designated hitter |
| 14. More satisfying | 44. Polite form of address (Indian) | 6. Human gene | 43. Northern Poland village |
| 15. Other side | 46. French river | 7. The Golden State (abbr.) | 45. A passport is one form |
| 18. Philippine island | 47. Reduce the light | 8. Lizard genus | 48. Hand (Spanish) |
| 19. More unnatural | 49. Blood-sucking fly | 9. Parasites that invade the skin | 50. Hit with the open hand |
| 21. Mutual savings bank | 52. A way to categorize | 10. Took apart | 51. Actor Idris |
| 23. Famed designer Chanel | 56. Procrastinates | 12. Mild yellow Dutch cheese | 53. Shakespeare's nickname "The ___" |
| 24. Makes less wild | 58. Tall slender tower | 13. S. California town | 54. Northern U.S. lake |
| 28. At some prior time | 60. Where researchers work | 16. Suffix plural | 55. Marvin and Horsley are two |
| 29. The cops who investigate the cops | 62. Office of the Pope | 17. Painting technique | 57. Soak |
| 30. Immune system response | 63. Office furnishing | 20. Small Eurasian deer | 58. Partner to cheese |
| 32. Distress signal | | 22. Mr. T character | 59. Expression of disappointment |
| 33. Engine additive | CLUES DOWN | 25. Microsoft | 61. College dorm employee |
| 35. "No Scrubs" trio | 1. Possesses | 26. Shock therapy | |
| 36. Very fast airplane | 2. American Board of Orthopedic Surgery | 27. Able to be sold | |
| 39. A reward | 3. Ancient Syrian | 29. A doctrine | |
| | | 31. These three follow A | |
| | | 34. Pulse | |
| | | 36. Quantitative fact | |

CHARTER COMMISSION

from Page 1

to become a council appointment, she would be a good candidate for the role.

“What I think some of us on this committee have been fearful of is the story that the gentleman from Bridgewater told us,” Fanning said. “It becomes another popularity contest, and your job requires certain skills that you have. We could easily elect somebody without those skills.”

Selectman Derek DeBarge thanked Batista for attending on behalf of the committee.

“I know it’s kind of an intimidating room to walk into with this table full of people with a lot of questions, so I really appreciate you coming in and I appreciate your candor,” DeBarge said.

DeBarge agreed with Batista that the position should remain elected, as an appointed Town Clerk might feel beholden to the council members that voted to appoint them.

“I go to Kim and Chris and the staff for just about anything,” DeBarge said, “and none of that is tainted by her coming in front of me on the Board of Selectmen and looking to me to appoint her to another three years. None of that is tainted by me having any part of authority over her, because she answers to the public, and that makes me very comfortable walking into that office as an elected official and asking a direct question, because I’m not going to get an answer that I feel is biased

because I have no dominion over her whatsoever.”

The next issue was the position of a designated Clerk for the Town Council. The committee asked if Batista believed it would be feasible for the Town Clerk to fill this position.

“The Clerk with the Council is a very complex position,” Batista said. “I’m just not sure, on top of everything else I do, how I would handle that.”

Batista said that she spoke with clerks from other communities in preparation for the meeting, and that in most cases, the Clerk of the Council was a separate position due to the workload.

“From what I’m hearing, over half of the work that they do is for Clerk of the Council,” Batista said. “I would probably ask for additional staffing if that were to happen.”

Another question the committee had was whether other positions and committees had enough interest to remain elected. Marissa Ribeiro Dahan, the Chair of the committee, asked Batista for her opinion.

“One of the things we’ve talked about is whether or not there’s sufficient competition among a lot of these

positions for it to, in our opinion, make sense to remain an elected position,” Ribeiro Dahan said. “We were wondering if you could talk about recent trends among elections in town and the level of competition that you’ve seen.”

Batista said that there tend to be candidates interested in the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, and the School Committee, but that other boards have less competition.

“I see vacancies, like for this election we have vacancies for Recreation and for Housing,” Batista said.

There were also discussions about whether the new charter should move town elections to November or continue to hold elections in the spring.

“People are used to voting in November,” said committee member Brian Bylicki. “Traditionally, that’s when we’ve voted for the most important positions. I think that brings out more people to vote.”

Bylicki mentioned talking to someone one year ago who was looking for where to vote in November.

“I had to explain to her, we’re in Ludlow, we vote in March, and she thought that was the most ridiculous

thing in the world,” Bylicki said. “People are used to voting in November, and we look at our numbers for our March elections which are anywhere from 8-15% on average.”

Batista advocated for keeping the elections in the spring.

“I have to say that most communities are about the same average, whether it’s in November or not,” Batista said.

When asked about moving voting day to Saturday as another way to drive up community participation, Batista said that it would mean paying the clerk’s office overtime. She also mentioned that if the elections to Tuesday, she would ask that the deadline for voter registration be pushed to Friday for similar reasons.

After the discussion with Batista, the committee went on to discuss how to denote compensation for Town Council members in the new charter.

Charter Committee meetings are open to the public. If you’d like to learn more about how the plans to restructure our town government, you can attend the committee’s meetings on the first and third Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

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2	1BR 1BA	\$23,950	2	1BR 1BA	\$47,820	7	1BD 1BA+		30%	LIHTC/PBV
3	2BR 2BA	\$26,950	3	2BD 2BA	\$53,820	16	1BD 1BA		60%	LIHTC/PBV
4	2BR 2BA	\$30,000	4	2BA 2BA	\$59,760	22	1BD 1BD+		60%	LIHTC/PBV
						1	2BD 2BD		30%	LIHTC/PBV
						2	2BD 2BD		60%	LIHTC/PBV
						3	2BD 2BA+		60%	LIHTC/PBV

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Submission of an application will not guarantee housing for occupancy. There will be a screening process. Once the initial lease up has been completed, your housing application lottery placement number will become your waitlist number for future occupancy. Once completed and signed, applications will be considered for the lottery.

Anticipated occupancy is September 2024. For more information or reasonable accommodations, call The Residences at Mill 8 at 413-308-5300, TTY/TDD: (800) 439-2370 or email mill8@wincco.com.

Applications will be available April 15, 2024, through June 15, 2024, at the following locations:

- **The Residences at Mill 10 Leasing Office:** located at 68 State St Ludlow, MA 01056, Mon-Fri 9:00AM-5:00PM
- **Hubbard Memorial Library:** 24 Center St Ludlow, MA 01056, MWF 9AM-5PM, T/TH 9AM-8PM & Sat 9AM-1PM
- **Ludlow Housing Authority:** 114 Wilson St, Ludlow MA 01056, M-TH 8:30AM-12PM and M-TH 12:30PM-4:30PM
- **You may also request an application by emailing mill8@wincco.com or calling 413-308-5300. Visit www.livemill8.com for more details.**

Informational Public Meeting:

Springfield Central Library located at 220 State St Springfield, MA 01103: Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 5PM-7PM.

Housing Lottery:

Springfield Central Library located at 220 State St Springfield, MA 01103: Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 10AM. Applicants and the public are welcomed to attend. Applicants are not required to be present.



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Kate McGraw, Quinn, age 8, and Rob K. were at Whitney Park to help direct people to where they needed to go.



Josiah, age 7 (left), stopped by to give a hug to Susana Sousa.



Heather Gomes, Capri, age 3, Jalen, age 7, and Tayson, age 5, had their picture taken again, after being featured at a previous egg hunt.

Recreation Commission's Easter Egg Hunt

WHITNEY EASTER EGG HUNT

from Page 1

may have impacted our numbers this year," McBride said, but added that "it was well-attended, a great opportunity for kids to enjoy a nice family activity. Most days we have it are nice but a little chilly, but it's nice for kids to get out there with family and friends."

McBride was quick to point out that the real heart of the event is Debbie Gates, who works as the Office Assistant for the commission.

"The work to put it together really falls on Debbie Gates's shoulders, she is really the one who organizes it," McBride said. "She has a group of volunteers that include our before- and after-school workers and counselors from our before- and after-school programs. They help organize the folks, making sure that kids were able to get their eggs and be safe. We have them posted at the 2- to 5-year-old playground, other volunteers posted inside to help with snacks and baskets, and another volunteer in the older kids section."

McBride described Gates as the



Younger kids had a separate hunt at the playground at Whitney Park.

event's "official Easter Bunny," in charge of everything from organizing community support, to filling the eggs with candies, and hiding them around the park.

"Debbie organizes everything from getting the eggs, filling them, and organizing volunteers," McBride said. "She's been doing it for as long as I've been there, and this is my 20th year as Recreation Commissioner. She's done a fantastic job."

After the hunt, all participants were invited back to the clubhouse for refreshments while the coordinators drew names for the Easter baskets raffle.

"We had a total of maybe 15-18 baskets that were purchased by the Recreation Department and organized by Debbie," McBride said.

McBride described the baskets as having a variety of candies and sports equipment. To participate in the raffle, families either signed up in advance with the commission's before- and after-school programs, or they signed up the day of the event.

The lucky winners of the Easter Basket Raffle were Jiovanny A, Keyshawn Chelte, Kaylee Duarte, Emrys Fales, Aria Girard, Damien

Girard, Quinn Graff, Keoni Graveline-Rys, Keilani Graveline, Perry Lopes, Ruby Mateus, Josiah Medina, Kasma Sierra, and Jalen David Gomes Taco.

The Recreation Commission, including McBride and members Joseph Lupa and John Archambeau, extended their thanks to Victoria Melanson, Kathryn McGraw, Ethan Swartz, and Meghan and Grace McBride for helping out with the event.

The Commission also thanked Sherry Azevedo for her generous donation of filled Easter Eggs, and everyone who participated to help make it a success.

"We hope everyone enjoyed their day," Gates said. "Remember, it's rain, shine, or snow. See you next year."

The Recreation Commission has big plans coming up, including a park redesign to improve Whitney Park with updated playground equipment and sports courts. A public meeting will be held Monday, April 22, at 6 p.m. at Town Hall to allow members of the public to provide input and see the proposed improvements.

Regular meetings about the park are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m.



Kaelin, age 10, and Emrys, age 7, helped each other collect eggs.



Joshua Grandfield, Grace McBride, and Kyle Procon volunteered to help with the event.



Natalina and Jack Zina, Bruno and Jessica Duarte, and Kaylee, age 4, sat at a table while the raffle was being drawn.



Prize-winners picked up their baskets from a table after their names were called.



A refreshment table was laid out for the attendees in the Whitney Park building.




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Hubbard Library annual Easter Egg Hunt



The library's Youth Department, Kristin Santos and July Siebecker, braved the cold and wind to put on this event for the town's children.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão



Mary Beth Silva wore her iconic Easter hat to sit with Isabella Ruiz, who was dressed as the Easter Bunny.



Cristiane Fischer and Jasper, age 4, braced against the wind to participate in the library event.



Michael, age six, pictured with the colored egg he submitted for the library's contest.



When the wind tried to take away the paper egg markers, Kelly DeGobbi of the Friends of the Library had to rescue them



A family dressed in bunny ears for the annual egg hunt, (from left) Mario Rodrigues, Maria, age 8, and Renata Rosario.



Debbie Piesz handed out prizes to Natalie and Vella, both aged 7.



An egg submitted by a local youth, Azdelea Narey, that kids would hunt for on the lawn.

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Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Members of the Ludlow track team work on agility drills.

Track team prepares for season opener

LUDLOW – Last week, members of the Ludlow High School track team work on their various events with their season opener scheduled earlier this week at Chicopee Comprehensive. It is possible rain postponed the event as it was in the forecast by press time. The Lions are next scheduled to face West Springfield at 3:30 p.m.



The high jump bar is set up indoors for practice.



Devyn Skiba takes on the hurdles in full stride.



Track team members work on their long jumps.



Kiersten Harvey easily clears a hurdle during practice.

Lions indoor track celebrates recent successful season

LUDLOW – The Ludlow Indoor Track and Field had two state champions this year.

Elena Chaplin won the All State meet in the shot put with a throw of 41'9" ranking her 46th in the Nation.

Logan Walsh won the division 4 State Championship in the Mile and the 1000 becoming Ludlow's first male to win an individual state title.

Chaplin and Walsh also won Western Mass titles in those

events.

Devyn Skiba also had an amazing season taking home the WMASS title in the 55 hurdles.

Chaplin, Walsh, and Skiba all competed in Nationals in their events. Chaplin finished 13th in the shot put. Walsh finished 29th in the 800 and 111th in the mile. Skiba finished 194th in the 60 m hurdles.

Joining them at Nationals was freshmen standout Audrey Afonso. Afonso finished 19th in

the freshman division for the 60 meter sprint. Afonso also finished third at the Western Mass. championships.

All four of those athletes also broke school records this season. Walsh broke records in the 600, 800, 1000, and mile. Afonso broke records in the 55m, 300m and the 4 x 200.

Chaplin set the shot put record and was also on the 4 x 200 team. Skiba lowered the record in the 55 hurdles



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Juri Schlingmann looks to avoid losing possession.

Pioneers look to keep adding

LUDLOW – With about a month remaining until the regular season begins, the Western Mass. Pioneers got a look at their potential 2024 team in the Open Cup match, a loss, held two weeks ago. Now, the Pioneers will continue prac-

tice at Lusitano Stadium until they have a "friendly game" exhibition contest on May 10 against Third Eye FC. The home opener for the Pioneers will be on Thursday, May 18 against Pathfinder FC, a familiar opponent for the Pioneers.



Abdel Talabi settles the ball for the Pioneers.



Tomas Duben looks to get through an opponent during an Open Cup match.



Ben Awashie works on the offensive side of the field.

Ludlow 2024 spring varsity schedule

BASEBALL	BOYS TRACK	BOYS TENNIS	GIRLS TRACK	GIRLS TENNIS
Friday, March 29 Home Chicopee 10:30 a.m.	Thursday, May 2 Home Drury 4 p.m.	Thursday, March 28 Away Northampton 4:30 p.m.	Thursday, May 2 Away Chicopee Comp 4 p.m.	Thursday, March 28 Away Westfield 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2 Home Amherst 4 p.m.	Monday, May 6 Home Mt. Everett 4 p.m.	Monday, April 1 Home Longmeadow 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Friday, March 29 Away West Springfield 10 a.m.
Thursday, April 4 Away Ware 7 p.m.	Thursday, May 9 Home Chicopee 3 p.m.	Wednesday, April 3 Away Central 4:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8 Home Frontier 4 p.m.	Monday, May 13 Away Chicopee Comp 4 p.m.	Friday, April 5 Away Holyoke 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10 Away Granby 4:45 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Chicopee Comp 4 p.m.	Monday, April 15 Home Belchertown 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 12 Away South Hadley 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Thursday, April 25 Home Southwick 5:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16 Home Monson 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Friday, April 26 Home Southwick 5:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 18 Away Palmer 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Monday, April 29 Away Agawam 6:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22 Away Monument Mountain 4:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Wednesday, May 1 Home Agawam 5:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24 Home Ware 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Monday, May 6 Away Longmeadow 6:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26 Away Hopkins 4:45 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Thursday, May 9 Away Sci-Tech 5:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30 Home Granby 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Friday, May 10 Home Holyoke 6 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 2 Home South Hadley 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Monday, May 13 Home Chicopee Comp 5:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 3 Away Easthampton 4:45 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Thursday, May 16 Away Minnechaug 6:15 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 6 Away Monson 4:45 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8 Home Palmer 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 10 Home Chicopee Comp 4 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15 Away Amherst 4:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
SOFTBALL	Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, March 29 Home Minnechaug 11 a.m.	Tuesday, April 9 Home E Longmeadow 4:45 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2 Home Hoosac 4 p.m.	Thursday, April 11 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 4 Away Mahar 4:45 p.m.	Monday, April 15 Home Belchertown 4 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 5 Home McCann Tech 4 p.m.	Thursday, April 25 Home Central 5 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 8 Away Mt. Everett 4 p.m.	Friday, April 26 Home Northampton 5 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 9 Away Drury 4:30 p.m.	Monday, April 29 Away Minnechaug 5 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 10 Home Hampshire 4 p.m.	Wednesday, May 1 Home Agawam 4:45 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16 Away Chicopee 4 p.m.	Tuesday, May 7 Away Belchertown 4:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 17 Away West Springfield 1 p.m.	Wednesday, May 15 Home Amherst 4:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19 Home Chicopee Comp 4 p.m.	GIRLS TENNIS		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22 Home Monson 4 p.m.	Thursday, March 28 Away Westfield 4:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24 Away Holyoke 4:45 p.m.	Friday, March 29 Away West Springfield 10 a.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25 Away Hoosac 4:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.		Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29 Away McCann Tech 4 p.m.			Tuesday, April 9 Away West Springfield 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 2 Away Agawam 4:30 p.m.

Late power-play goal sinks T-Birds

UTICA, N.Y. -- The Springfield Thunderbirds (29-30-3-2) battled back from an early two-goal deficit, but a late power-play goal from the Utica Comets (29-26-4-5) resulted in a 4-3 Comets win on Saturday night at Adirondack Bank Center.

For a second straight evening, the T-Birds relented a goal to their opposition in the opening half of the first period. Just 4:00 into the action, Shane Bowers skated the puck across the T-Birds blue line, creating a 2-on-1. Bowers opted to take it himself, beating Colten Ellis on the glove side and making it 1-0 for Utica.

Springfield's power play had two chances in short order to try to equalize, but the man-advantage came up empty each time. Utica made the T-Birds pay for that at 12:26 when Will MacKinnon let go a seeing-eye wrist shot from the blue line that nicked the inside of the post and beat Ellis to give the Comets a 2-0 lead.

The Comets continued to have penalty troubles, though, and at 16:28, Tanner Dickinson got Springfield's power play on the board with a perfectly placed wrist shot over the glove of Akira Schmid, and the lead was cut to 2-1.

The Comets, though, were undeterred, and they restored the two-goal cushion just 1:29 later when Erik Middendorf crashed the net from the right-wing side. Ellis made the first save, but the rebound sat in the crease, and Middendorf polished it off to give Utica a 3-1 advantage at 17:57, a lead that carried through to the break.

The T-Birds' power play again had a chance to turn the tide of the game when a pair of Utica penalties gave Springfield some time on both 4-on-3 and 5-on-3 advantages. Unlike the night before, though, the T-Birds came up empty, and the 3-1 score carried past the midpoint of the game.

With Utica on a power play at 12:15 of the period, Springfield used its shorthanded unit to claw back into the game when

Will Bitten won a footrace to a loose puck at the Utica blue line, storming in on Schmid and roofing a shot over the goaltender's trapper to make it a 3-2 game on Bitten's 17th goal of the season.

Bitten's goal got the T-Birds' mojo back, and 3:12 later, Ryan Suzuki tied the game on his second point of the night. After Adam Gaudette narrowly missed the top corner, the T-Birds' leading scorer retrieved the puck in the left corner and laid it off to Hugh McGing. With little space available, McGing slid a perfect pass through the top of the blue paint to Suzuki, who one-timed it through Schmid to tie the score.

The stalemate carried to the second intermission, and the two teams cautiously played the opening 15 minutes of the third scoreless. Unfortunately for the T-Birds, a Bitten minor penalty opened the door for Utica's power play, and after a Justin Dowling shot rang off the post, Bowers was in the right place to lift the loose change into the twine with 3:18 to play. Bowers' fourth point of the night and eighth goal of the season proved to be the dagger, and for the fourth straight time in the season series between Springfield and Utica, the home team came away victorious.

Bonsignore picks up win ahead of Thompson Speedway return

RICHMOND, Va. -- For the 41st time in his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour career, Justin Bonsignore was celebrating in Victory Lane on Friday night.

Bonsignore bested defending series champion Ron Silk in a final dash to the finish to score his second career Richmond Raceway victory and first of the 2024 season driving the No. 51 Modified for Kenneth Massa Motorsports.

Bonsignore started from the second spot, and swapped the lead back and forth with Silk for most of the race. But, the real battle started on the final restart, with just three laps to go, when Silk restarted first and Bonsignore second.

Bonsignore got behind Silk coming off turn two coming to the white flag and crossed underneath him going into turn three. The two drivers raced side-by-side for the final lap with Bonsignore on the bottom of Silk coming to the checkered flag, edging out for the win.

The victory - his 41st career - all driving for Kenneth Massa Motorsports - places Bonsignore just one win away from tying the late Ted Christopher for third all-time on the NASCAR Whelen

Modified Tour wins list. He is also just three away from tying Reggie Ruggiero for second on the all-time list as the series heads for Thompson Speedway next weekend.

"The last restart went pretty smooth, it was a wild finish," Bonsignore said. "Ron and I have had a rivalry going and tonight was some good, hard racing. For 150 laps, we just battled our guts out. Anytime our series gets to run at a NASCAR Cup Series venue - it's huge. These facilities are unbelievable and we've been able to win at a handful of them. The trophies definitely stay out front and center when you get home."

The win came with Coastal Fiber LLC on the side of the Kenneth Massa Motorsports machine. Coastal Fiber, LLC, a local Virginia business that is a full service fiber optic construction and splicing company, is owned by Mark Langevin, the owner of Phoenix Communications Inc. - Bonsignore's normal primary sponsor.

Justin will return to the track at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Icebreaker 150 on Sunday, April 7.

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OBITUARIES

Lillian D. Lewison, 1926-2024

LUDLOW - Lillian D. (Buczoki) Lewison, 97, of Ludlow, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 2, 2024, with family by her side. She was the daughter of the late Peter and Frances (Shewchuk) Buczoki and was born in Southwick, MA, on Aug. 12, 1926. She was a 1944 graduate of Ludlow High School, where she was the class valedictorian. She earned her B.S. in Horticulture from Mass Agricultural College, Amherst, MA, in 1948 and went on to obtain her teaching certificate from American International College. She taught 1st grade at Chapin Street School in Ludlow for 32 years and was a longtime member of Bethesda Lutheran Church in Springfield.



She was also a former member of the Ludlow Historical Commission and her favorite interests were flower gardening, shopping, reading, and knitting.

Lillian is survived by her children Michael P. Lewison (Marybeth), Diane Cousineau and Elaine Hodgman, all from the local area, and Karen Drzek (Roger) of Ripley, ME. She also leaves her 7 grandchildren Amanda Hebert (Jim), Rebecca Lewison, Russ Drzek, Sarah Lewison, Andrea Rollins (Ernest), Nathan Hodgman and Samantha Hodgman, and 2 great granddaughters, Josephine and Hazel Mae. Sadly, she was predeceased by her husband Michael J. Lewison in 1988, her brother Theodore Buczoki and her son-in-law Dave Hodgman.

Visiting hours for Lillian will be Friday, April 19, 2024, from 9-10 a.m. at Christ the King-Epiphany Church, 758 Main St., Wilbraham, MA, followed by a service at 10 a.m.. Burial will follow at 1:00 PM in St. Joseph Cemetery, Plain Road, Hinsdale, NH. In lieu of flowers, donations in Lillian's memory may be made to Draft Gratitude (Draft horse rescue farm) 148 Ashuelot St., Winchester, NH 03470.

For more information please go to www.kapinos-mazurfh.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Magiera, Elizabeth A. (Bator)
Lillian D. Lewison
 Died March 2, 2024
 Services
 April 19, 2024
 Kapinos Mazure
 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 \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School Wins Mass. Bar Association's 2024 Mock Trial State Championship

SOUTH HADLEY -- Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School defeated Gann Academy, the New Jewish School from Waltham, to become State Champion of the Massachusetts Bar Association's 2024 High School Mock Trial Program.

In a rematch of last year's state final, PVPA prevailed against 2023 champion Gann Academy at the 38th Annual State-wide High School Mock Trial Competition Final, which was held at the Boston Public Library. This year's state title is PVPA's fourth Mock Trial state championship.

PVPA will have the honor of representing Massachusetts at the National High School Mock Trial Championship to be held in Wilmington, Delaware, from May 3-4. A portion of the trip will be funded by a \$2,500 donation from the Massachusetts Bar Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the Mass. Bar Association. The team will be fundraising to support the balance of the cost of the trip.

Mock Trial is an interscholastic competition in which students portray lawyers, defendants and witnesses in a "mock" court case supplied by the state

bar association. This year the teams were presented with a criminal case, with the defendant being charged with larceny, burglary and filing a false police report. PVPA played the role of the prosecutor in the finals, and Gann Academy played the role of the defense. Over 100 schools statewide competed this year in a competition graded on presentation skills and knowledge of the law.

PVPA has won three previous titles in 2005, 2011 and 2012, as well as being finalists on nine other occasions since the team and school was founded in 1996. PVPA is the only charter school to win the state title, as well as the only school from either Western or Central Massachusetts to lay claim to the state title in the 38 years of the competition.

PVPA's team is coached by faculty members Gary Huggett and Assistant Coach Anna Furr, along with Attorney Coach Mary Lou Rup (retired). Coach Gary Huggett is justifiably proud of this year's competitors, saying "They are a wonderful group of human beings as well as an awesome team." Mr. Huggett has been the team's coach since its inception, and will be stepping down from that

BBB Tip: Don't let solar eclipse excitement block good judgment

Paula Fleming
pfleming@boston.bbb.org

There's a lot of excitement surrounding the total solar eclipse that will be seen in much of North America on April 8, 2024.

Many people are planning to travel to the cities in the eclipse's path of totality to catch a glimpse of it in person. BBB wants to enjoy yourself while also staying safe and supporting businesses you can trust. Check out the tips below if you're planning eclipse-related activities.

Travel tips

With a rare event like this, you can expect crowds and plenty of traffic. If you do not live in the path of the eclipse and are planning to travel, pack your patience, know that hotels will be booked, and be prepared to potentially pay higher prices. Always use reputable vacation rental companies and be sure you're visiting a legitimate website. For more travel tips, visit BBB.org/travel. Viewing party/event tips

Celebrating a unique event like this with a crowd can be fun. If you are looking for an event or a viewing party, BBB recommends doing some research first.

- Know the time the eclipse is hap-

pening in your area.

- Check venues for any special instructions, admission fees, and parking options.

- If you are unsure about an event or venue, reach out to your local BBB for information.

- Be sure to bring your eclipse glasses or other viewing props.

- Call the venue if you have any questions.

Glasses

You will need special glasses to view the eclipse. Experts warn that looking at it without protection could cause eye damage, so read up and be sure your glasses are safe. When buying glasses, look for businesses you can trust, like those displaying the BBB Seal of Accreditation.

When purchasing anything online, use the tips on BBB's online shopping hub to keep your purchase safe and secure. For more information


Can you recognize a fake website if you see one? Check out BBB's Spot a Scam hub to be alert for any potential scams.

For more information about the eclipse, read NASA's article and this guide from USA Today.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

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The Register



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Wilbraham Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale returns in May

WILBRAHAM - Wilbraham Friends of the Library (WFOL), are delighted to announce their annual book sale will be held May 1-4! The WFOL Annual Book Sale is a major fundraiser providing funds for programs for children, teens and adults as well as museum passes, furnishings and other library equipment.

We know the sale is a little way off still, but this is the time to collect your old books. How would we have a sale without donated books? Start your spring cleaning now and box or bag up your extra books, CDs and DVDs for us. Children's and adult books, fiction

or non-fiction, hobby books etc. in good condition are all welcome. Due to space restrictions, we cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines or Readers Digest condensed novels.

As a thank you for their support, donors will receive a coupon good for two free books of their choice from the sale when donations are dropped off. Donations of books and materials will be accepted at the library from Friday, April 26 through Monday, April 29 during regular library hours.

For more information or questions about the sale contact friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org.

Monson Savings Bank hosting 'A Cup on Us' at Village Store Café on April 26

MONSON - As a local community bank for over 150 years, Monson Savings Bank is celebrating being a staple in the community of Wilbraham by hosting their "A Cup on Us" event, Friday, April 26, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., at the Village Store Café, 462 Main St, Wilbraham. The Bank welcomes community members to stop by to the café for a FREE coffee, tea, or beverage courtesy of Monson Savings Bank.

Monson Savings Bank "A Cup on Us"

Friday, April 26, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Village Store Café, 462 Main St, Wilbraham, MA

Additionally, all who visit Monson Savings Bank "A Cup on Us" event at Village Store Café will have a chance to win a \$250 YETI ROADIE® 24 Hard Cooler, a \$50 Village Store Café

Gift Card and \$38 YETI Rambler 20 oz. Travel Mug.*

Monson Savings Bank's Wilbraham Branch, conveniently located at 100 Post Office Park, is a dependable cornerstone in the neighborhood. Last year, the branch celebrated 20 years as a reliable, supportive, and convenient community branch. The Wilbraham Branch has an expert team of professionals who are dedicated to helping personal, business, and residential customers with their banking needs, including Monson Savings Bank Wilbraham Branch Manager Vicki Baldyga and Assistant Branch Manager Amber Messer.

Monson Savings Bank has consistently demonstrated its support for the Wilbraham community, contributing to various organizations, such as Rick's

Place, The Scantic Valley YMCA, Wilbraham Public Library and the Bank recently supported the Wilbraham Senior Center Building Campaign with a generous donation of \$25,000.

The Bank is also a loyal supporter of community happenings, contributing to the overall positive tone of the area. Alongside providing financial support for fundraisers and community events, the Bank maintains an in-person presence at events, such as the Wilbraham Summer Concert in the Park and Wilbraham Peach Blossom Festival.

"I am proud to say Monson Savings Bank is here to stay. It is unfortunate that many individuals and businesses have been experiencing their bank closing locations, merging, or exiting the area, leaving those consumers frustrated and having to travel

to locations further away," said Dan Moriarty, Monson Savings Bank President & CEO. "Our roots are here, and we are not going anywhere. Monson Savings Bank is local. We are community focused. We are committed to providing our personal and business customers with the high-quality customer experience they deserve. We are ready to help."

Moriarty continued, "For us, it is an honor to serve all of our local community members and businesses." "Our Wilbraham Branch alone has a 20-year track record of support and service that we are proud to uphold, and all together Monson Savings Bank has 150 years of community banking experience. We love helping others find happiness through financial empowerment. It is what we do best."

PET OF THE MONTH Meet Cocoa!

He is 12-years-old - part dachshund, part chaos incarnate. Cocoa loves to sing! When the happy birthday song starts, Cocoa is the first to chime in and the last to stop. He is a connoisseur of cozy naps and loves leisurely strolls around HIS property, relishing every sniff. He reigns as king in his loving household in Sixteen Acres, Springfield with the Hillman Family.



Making a match

So you've decided to rescue a pet from a shelter! Now what?

Before you go to the shelter: Take an honest look at your lifestyle, family members, pets, activity level, housing, etc. If you're a laidback person then you don't want a cute bouncy dog barking in your face every 10 minutes needing attention. If you're a busy household with three kids and two dogs, you don't want a pretty cat who will just hide all the time.

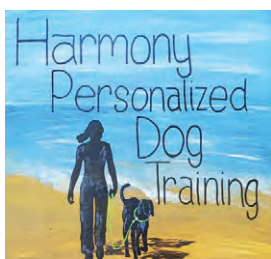
At the shelter: Pictures are great, but the most important thing is to meet the animals. Bring your whole family to pick out your new pet. If you're adopting a dog, see if the shelter will let you bring your dog too. Be sure to ask the staff and volunteers any questions you have about the individual animals.

After you get home with your new pet: Animals are often confused when moving into new homes. They don't know your house or your rules. It is up to you to make their transition period as easy as possible. Proper introduction to your house and to any other animals is essential to making your new pet a welcome and forever member of the family. Don't be afraid to call the shelter for help if you run into any bumps in the road. Be patient. You'll be well on your way to having fantastic furry family member!

PET PAGE

READERS!

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



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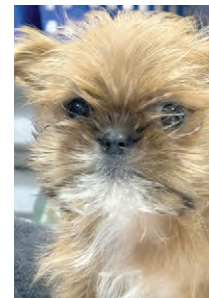
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DATEBOOK

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

ONGOING

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

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

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

LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER 55 AND OVER CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE: At East Street

School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. the cost to take part is \$5 per year. For more information contact Maria Ardolino, activities director at activity@ludlow.ma.us or call 413-583-3564.

AQUACISE AT THE CLUB: The Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club, at 91 Claudias Way, continues to offer Aquacise throughout the week. Aquacise is a low-impact, full-body workout performed in the water to put less stress on your joints and muscles while building strength. Classes are open to all members with pool-inclusive memberships and do not require prior registration. Classes are held 8:30-9:15 a.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For questions, call 413-583-2072, ext. 124.

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

H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP: Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have experience with addictions, grief, anxiety and depression, (including anxiety and depression due to COVID-19) and for loved ones who might need help in their recovery. This group is also for those who can

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

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

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

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

9th Annual 5K Falcon Trail Race Sign-Ups

WILBRAHAM - Every year the Friends of Recreation hosts the Annual 5K Falcon Trail Race to support improvements at Town of Wilbraham Recreational Facilities.

The race is held at McDonald Nature Preserve on Washington Road in Wilbraham. This year the race is scheduled for Sunday, April 14 with a start time of 10 a.m., rain or shine. All ages are welcome to run, but please leave strollers and dogs at home.

Prizes will be awarded for all age groups and all pre-registered participants will receive a custom designed moisture-wicking long sleeve shirt. Registration is available online through active.com or the day of the race at the registration table.

Grab a family member, friend, or neighbor and join others at the 9th Annual Falcon Trail Race on Sunday, April 14!

'They're Irish, They're Catholic & They're Guilty' at Wilbraham Library

WILBRAHAM— The Wilbraham Public Library will host "They're Irish, They're Catholic & They're Guilty" on Monday, April 8 at 6 p.m. in the Brooks Room. The informational presentation will cover the 1806 trial of Dominic Daley and James Halligan, two Irish immigrants who were unjustly hanged for a Wilbraham murder they did not commit. Convicted due to their ethnic and religious ties, the trial is considered one of the earliest documented examples of prejudices faced by Irish immigrants in America.

Presenters Bill O'Riordan, W. Michael Ryan, Tony Ryan and David Sullivan are dedicated to keeping the public aware of the history of Daley and Halligan. Members of the Daley & Halligan Bicentennial Committee, the four have hosted numerous ceremonies and speaking engagements throughout the area to discuss the events that took place more than 200 years ago.

Registration for this free event is encouraged and space is limited. To register, please contact the library at 413-596-6141 or visit the Event Calendar at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.

To learn more, contact Emilie Lang at 413-596-6141 or elang@wilbrahamlibrary.org.

Hampden Senior Center to host Pie Sale

The Hampden Senior Center, 104 Allen St., is having another great Pie Sale. This year, the fundraiser is offering juicy Apple, delicious Fruit of the Forest and mouth-watering Blueberry.

Orders for pies at \$19 each will be taken at the senior center starting March 1, paid in full in advance.

Pies will be boxed and bagged and available for drive-up pick up at the center on Saturday, April 27 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. Call 413-566-8271 with any questions.



Church DIRECTORY

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL

A Church of the Nazarene
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875
Email: faithcommunitychapel8@gmail.com
faith-communitychapel.org
Lead Pastor: Reverend Lisa Morrison
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs

Sunday Services:
Discipline Groups 9:45 a.m. WorshipService11 a.m.
and Facebook Live Stream

OTHER PROGRAMS

MONDAYS at 6:30 p.m. H.O.P.E. Meeting Recovery meetings for those with addictions, anxiety, and grief SMC. Call 413-519-4591
TUESDAYS at 7 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study WEDNESDAYS at 7 p.m. Ludlow Christian Fellowship Meeting Hank Bastos, Leader, 413-348-6487
SMC and Facebook Live Stream ludlowfellowship.org
FRIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m. Church Fellowship Hall
SATURDAYS at 10 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

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584 West St., Ludlow 413-583-8454
S Sunday services
Sacrament Meeting 10-11 A.M.
Sunday school for adults, Young single adults (18-30) and teens (11-18) - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon
Classes for Young Men(11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
Classes for Young Women (11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon
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Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

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Wednesday, April 3, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Training - 10 a.m. (JR), Youth Group - 3:30 p.m. (JR), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Confirmation Class - 5:30 p.m. (JR), Scouts - 6 p.m. (FLBH), Scouts - 7 p.m. (JR)
Thursday, April 4, - Daily Mass - 9 a.m. (C), Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Training - 12 p.m. (JR) Friday, April 5, - Daily Mass - 9 a.m. (C) Saturday, April 6, - Saturday Mass - 4 p.m. (C), Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Training - 9:30 a.m. (JR), Eucharistic Adoration - 2 p.m. (C), Scout Spaghetti Supper - 5 p.m. (FLBH)
Sunday, April 7, - Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Sunday Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Confirmation Class - 8 a.m. (JR), Faith Formation - 10:15 (All Rooms)
Monday April 8, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus - 1 p.m. (JR), Faith Formation - 6 p.m. (JR/ZR), Bible Study - 6 p.m. (ER)
Tuesday, April 9, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), St. Rita Choir - 2:30 p.m. (C), Spaghetti Supper - 4:30 p.m. (FLBH)

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Sunday Mass: 8:45 a.m. (English), 10 a.m. (Polish)
Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7:45 a.m. (English)
First Friday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (Polish/English)
First Saturday Mass: 9 a.m. (Polish/English)
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

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Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

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Sunday Masses - 9 a.m. (Portuguese); 11 a.m. (English)
Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses - 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)
Tuesday and Friday Masses - 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 p.m. (English)
First Saturday of the Month - 8:30 a.m.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LUDLOW ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:40 p.m.** on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at **0 Loopley Avenue, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 11D, Parcel 78D & 79, Zoning: Residential A)** The subject of the hearing is a Special Permit for a proposed creation of two (2) single family home lots to be located at the above-referenced properties with approximately 9,762 s.f. (Lot C) and 10,835 s.f. (Lot D) of proposed lot area from the minimum requirement of 15,000 s.f. as referenced from the Town of Ludlow Table of Dimensional Regulations-Table 2 within the Residential A (RA) zoning district. Section IV Dimensional Regulations 4.0.4 Lots of Less than the Required Width or Area.

Manny Lopes, Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:20 p.m.** on the application of Anlo Realty Corporation-Joan Foster for the property located at **0 Swan Avenue, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 16A, Parcel 8 & 7, Zoning: Residential A)** The subject of the hearing is a Special Permit for a proposed creation of two (2) single family home lots to be located at the above-referenced properties with approximately 12,500 s.f.

(Lot A) and 12,500 s.f. (Lot B) of proposed lot area from the minimum requirement of 15,000 s.f. as referenced from the Town of Ludlow Table of Dimensional Regulations-Table 2 within the Residential A (RA) zoning district. Section IV Dimensional Regulations 4.0.4 Lots of Less than the Required Width or Area.

Manny Lopes, Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:40 p.m.** on the application of Nathaniel Sarrasin / Andre Martins of **55 Pleasantview Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 15C, Parcel 160)** for: **print shop.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SITE SKETCH

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 8:10 p.m.** on the application of Jim Blackburn, PE, PMP (Hopkinton LNG Corporation d/b/a Eversource Energy Service Company (Eversource) for the property located at **76 Ravenwood Drive, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 29, Parcel 41)** for the purpose of: **Construction of an approximately 12,000 square foot**

electrical yard with associated work, and construction of a 24,000 square foot electric building inside existing facility fence-line.

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:50 p.m.** on the application of Matthew Costa of **386 Chapin Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 27B, Parcel 112L)** for: **home office for electrician.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SITE SKETCH

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** on the application of Volta Charging, LLC c/o Raquel Clement for the property located at **433 Center Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 12C, Parcel 82-1)** for the purpose of: **Convert 7 parking stalls into 6 electric vehicle (EV) parking stalls & 1 accessibility aisle.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday,

April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** on the application of Marcel Nunes for the property located at **681 Center Street, Ludlow MA (Assessors' Map 17D, Parcel 1, Zoning: Agriculture)** The subject of the hearing is a special permit for an addition of 630 sq ft for a master suite to create a 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, which will be greater than 25% of the original house square footage. The addition is also on a non-conforming lot because of the frontage being 125 sq ft instead of the required 140 sq ft and the square footage of the lot itself being 25,000 sq ft when 40,000 sq ft is what is required by this zoning district. The applicant is seeking relief from the Town of Ludlow Zoning Bylaw under Sections 3.4.2 (b)

Manny Lopes, Chairman
03/20, 03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.** on the application of Nathan Pulowski of **735 Center Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 17D, Parcel 11-2)** for: **home office for handyman & cleaning business.**

If for any reason this

hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways MassDEP Boston Office 100 Cambridge Street Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26 - 53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for the replacement of Bridge #L-16-026, Piney Lane over Broad Brook in the Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation - Highway Division, Ten Park Plaza, Room 7360, Boston, MA 02116. The main objective of this project is to improve the existing crossing over Broad Brook. The project is needed since, according to the latest bridge inspection report the culverts are rated in serious condition due to rust, holes and settling within the culverts, erosion due to undermining, scour and poor condition of the pavement and guardrail. Additional information may be obtained from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation - Highway Division at the above address, attention Courtney Walker or by emailing courtney.l.walker@dot.state.ma.us. Written comments should be sent to Heidi Davis, MassDEP Wetlands Program, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114 or heidi.davis@mass.gov within twenty-one days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the envi-

ronment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** on the application of Dominick Corsetti of **115 Laconia Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 14C, Parcel 40)** for: **home office for pressure washing business.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

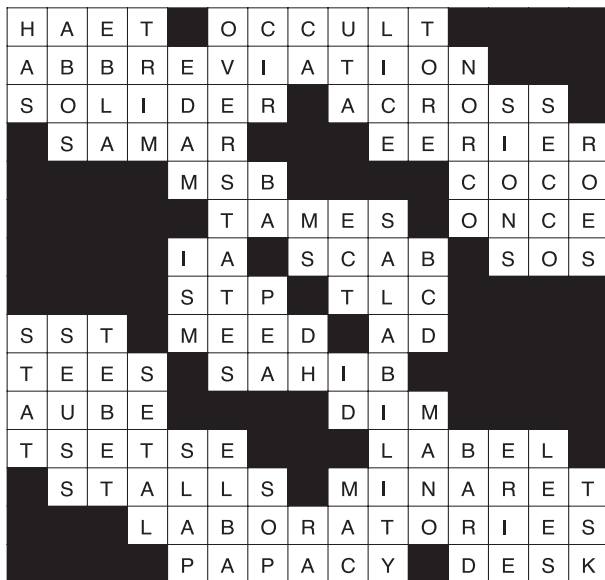
Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024

LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION

The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:20 p.m.** on the application of Christopher A. Coelho of **149 Poole Street Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 31, Parcel 93A)** for: **home office for real estate & consulting business.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Raymond Phoenix Chairman
03/27, 04/03/2024



Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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TOWN OF WILBRAHAM FIREFIGHTER/EMT

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill a vacancy for Firefighter/EMT. Paramedic Certification or currently attending paramedic school highly preferred. For application and more info, visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Deadline 4/17/24

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

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The benefits of local newspapers

Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe. The Information Age has changed the way many people get their news, but local newspapers continue to serve as valuable resources for readers interested in learning more about and becoming more involved in their communities.

While local publishers continue to adapt to the changes brought about by technology, the following are a handful of benefits unique to local newspapers.

- **Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.** Globalization may be here to stay, but that does not mean local communities are no longer home to newsworthy events. National and international newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels can keep men and women up-to-date on national and world news, but in many instances, local newspapers are the only means people have to learn about what's going on in their own communities. Local politics impact residents' lives every day, and

local newspapers cover local politics extensively.

- **Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.** Small business owners often connect with community members via local newspapers. A strong, locally based small business community can improve economies in myriad ways, creating jobs in the community and contributing tax dollars that can be used to strengthen local schools and infrastructure. And local newspapers do their part by providing affordable and effective advertising space to local business owners looking to connect with their communities.
- **Local newspapers can strengthen communities.** Local newspapers are great resources for residents who want to become more active in their communities and learn more about community events. Local newspapers often showcase community events like carnivals, local theater productions and projects like park cleanups. These are great ways for readers to become

more active in their communities and build stronger communities as a result.

- **Local newspapers can benefit children.** National newspapers may have little age-appropriate content to offer young children, but local newspapers tend to include more soft news items than national periodicals, and such stories typically are appropriate for young readers. According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in an NIE group in Florida performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary than nonreaders.



Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class.

Many local newspapers have played vital roles in their communities for decades, providing a go-to resource for local readers and business owners.

12 Weekly Newspapers Serving The Local Communities

Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Chicopee Register • Country Journal • Journal Register • Quaboag Current • The Register Sentinel • The Holyoke Sun • Town Reminder • Ware River News • The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

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