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The REGISTER

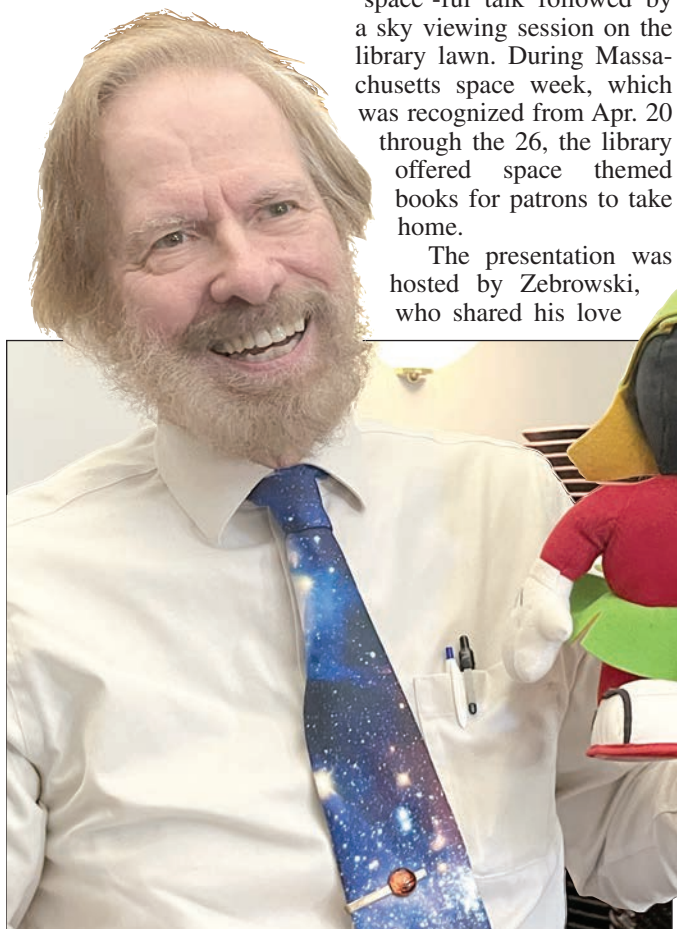
LOCAL NEWS | LOCAL STORIES | LOCAL ADVERTISERS

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Hubbard hosts 'Backyard Astronomy' to celebrate **SPACE WEEK**

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – “I want the next generation to love space



Turley photos by Amanda Munson
Jim Zebrowski of the Aldrich Astronomical Society smiling with Marvin the Martian at Hubbard Memorial Library.

as much as I do and understand why.” On Apr. 23, the Hubbard Memorial Library hosted Jim Zebrowski of the Aldrich Astronomical Society, who presented a ‘space’-ful talk followed by a sky viewing session on the library lawn. During Massachusetts space week, which was recognized from Apr. 20 through the 26, the library offered space themed books for patrons to take home.

The presentation was hosted by Zebrowski, who shared his love

of space, further speaking about how he got involved with the Aldrich Society and his excitement of the library telescope. Zebrowski began, “When I moved to Massachusetts, I lived in Rhode Island for a while, and I came back here and bumped into a bunch of people at Arunah Hill. They were giving a talk at the Northeast Forum in Northfield, and it was an energy place manufacturing energy; they had a beautiful talk with 70 to 80 members; all astronomer clubs all over the area.

I told them I wanted to join their club, and he asked if I belonged to my local club, I said no and he encouraged me to join my local astronomy club and support them. I joined up and I’ve been a member for around 40 years now.

They were formed in 1932, and it was named af-

ter Fred Davis Aldrich, a much-beloved professor and in the 1900s, on the side he would go out with his telescope and show people the night sky, especially the youth. That’s how we got connected with the scouts, got them involved because they’re the next generation and I don’t want everything to go away when I disappear,” said Zebrowski.

Zebrowski shared an experience meeting the vice president for Grumman, an aircraft engineering corporation responsible for the Lunar Module program, during the Apollo 11 mission when Neil Armstrong landed on the moon in 1969 and was happy to share his love of space with him. Zebrowski also added how he was able to handle moon rocks after being certified by the FBI and NASA, saying how honored he was to be offered the opportunity to do that.

During the conversation, The Register asked Zebrowski for his advice on overcoming the fear of space and his words of encouragement. “Once you get dark adapted, you can see things that have been seen by human beings over 10,000 years, from the

Please see **SPACE WEEK**, Page 3

Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 11

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On May 11, the Ludlow High School will host the Annual Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m., with elected precinct members voting on a total of 32 warrant articles presented by the Select Board, Town Committees, and Boards. Residents are welcome to attend and share feedback, subject to the Town Moderator’s approval.

All warrant articles were reviewed at the Pre-Town Meeting Gathering on Apr. 27.

Article 3: Electronic Voting Devices - Used by cities and towns to automate record keeping and speeds up and replaces hand, voice, and paper votes, the EZ VOTE system utilizes a keypad with five voting buttons with yes, no, and abstain. Participants are able to see the warrant item on the screen and vote; the vote is recorded and once the moderator closes the vote, the system automatically calculates the votes and displays the warrant item if it passed or failed.

This system is a one-time purchase and if approved, the first Town Meeting to use the EZ VOTE devices would be Oct. 2026; it’s anticipated a majority vote will be necessary to pass this article.

Article 5: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget - To raise and appropriate and/or otherwise provide such sums of money that’s necessary for Town purposes and charges during FY27 to fund the first year of a two year contract with the Ludlow Supervisors & Patrolmen’s Unions. Also to fix the salary of all elected officials of the Town for the same fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2026.

This Omnibus Budget Article allows the Town to raise sufficient funds as it deems necessary to defray all charges and expenses that it will incur during the upcoming fiscal year. This eliminates the need for printing and reading of a warrant article for each departmental budget, segregates each department’s funds and pro-

Please see **TOWN MEETING**, Page 5

Town Meeting to vote on Unreasonable Noise Bylaw amendment

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – At the Annual Town Meeting on May 11, 7:30 p.m. at the Ludlow High School Auditorium, elected precinct members will vote on 32 warrant articles, including two that focus on the unreasonable noise by-law amendment and a virtual

cryptocurrency ATM bylaw.

The unreasonable noise bylaw amendment comes after the approval of the bylaw in Oct. 2025 and since, the Town has heard from residents requesting more specific metrics to define what an unreasonable noise constitutes.

The amendment includes the dBA levels to determine when exterior noise is un-

reasonable. The bylaw notes three standards that define the noise specifically, like exterior noise standards, construction noise standards, and maintenance noise standards.

Exterior is defined as any location sited outside of any structure with weight-bearing walls and intended to provide shelter and protection from inclement weather or similar hazards. Construction

is defined as the process involved with erecting buildings, structures, infrastructure, industrial facilities, and associated activities including demolition, dismantling, or decommissioning of the same. Maintenance is defined as the process involved in maintaining or preserving a building, structure, infrastructure, industrial facilities, personal property, and asso-

ciated activities.

During the Pre-Town Meeting, a resident questioned Town Administrator Marc Strange how many dBA a lawn mower has and if it qualifies as an unreasonable noise; Strange did not have an answer for that resident.

Exterior noise standards - It shall be unlawful for any person at any location within

the Town of Ludlow to create any loud noise, or to allow the creation of a loud noise, on property owned, leased, occupied or otherwise controlled by such person, which causes the sound level when measured at the property line of the location of the noise or

Please see **NOISE BYLAW**, Page 8

Linda Yarber honored at Myrtle Street Park with bench dedication



Submitted photos
The Indian Orchard community with Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno and the bench dedicated to Linda Yarber.

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

INDIAN ORCHARD – During the last week of Apr., the Indian Orchard neighborhood honored the life and legacy of Linda Yarber at Myrtle Street Park. Commu-

nity members, local officials, and longtime friends gathered Saturday afternoon in Myrtle Street Park to honor the life and legacy of Linda Yarber.

A steadfast advocate for the Indian Orchard neighborhood who passed away in 2023. The ceremony centered

around the dedication of a memorial bench installed in her name, a tribute organizers described as both fitting and deeply earned.

Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, joined by

Please see **BENCH**, Page 8



Turley photos by Amanda
PNCU Host David Fernandes, Senator Jake Oliveira, and Consul-Geral Tiago Araujo and a PNCU member.

PNCU celebrates Dia Da Liberdade

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On Thursday Apr. 30, the Polish National Credit Union celebrated Portugal’s Freedom Day, widely known as the country’s most cherished national holidays. Based on the Real Algarve website, this day commemorates the country’s transition from

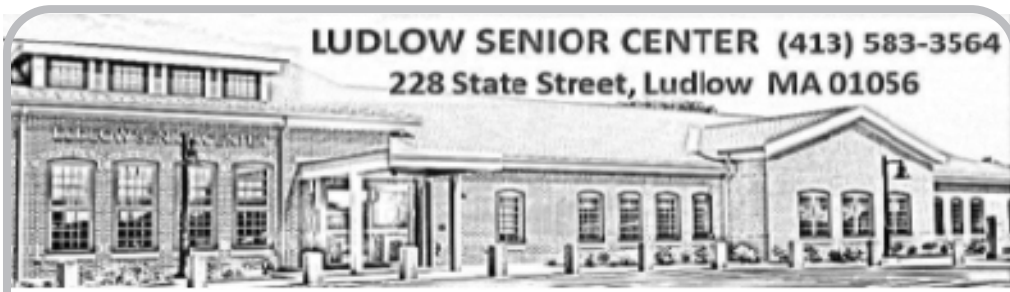
dictatorship to democracy in 1974, the Carnation Revolution, and is still celebrated throughout the rest of the country 50 years later.

The fourth annual exclusive luncheon named Dia Da Liberdade was held at the Gremio Lusitano and hosted by the Polish National Credit Union, serving delicious food, engaging conversation, and raffle prizes. The lunch served up kale soup,

salad, tomato rice, grilled cod and potatoes, chicken marsala, beef tips and mushroom sauce, with coffee, mousse de chocolate, and pudim bolacha.

Hosted by PNCU Senior Vice President of Retail David Fernandes, the opening prayer was led by Friar Brad Milunski, with

Please see **LUNCHEON**, Page 6



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

Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

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

The outdoor Gardening Club is back and needs volunteers to help keep the outside of the Center beautiful. We have several new events and activities to keep you busy, including a performance of Anne Frank, A Life to Remember by Sheryl Faye, a presentation on Parkinson's Basics, and Kumihimo bracelet making with the Girl Scouts. Our monthly newsletter is at the Center or share your email with us to have it delivered directly to your inbox. You can also explore programs, find important forms, and learn more about what the Senior Center has to offer at ludlow.ma.us/coa/. For the latest news and photos, be sure to "like" the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook!

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

Activities Calendar:
Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, May 7

9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
12:45 p.m. Mahjong
1 p.m. Art of Card Making*
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, May 8

8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
9 a.m. Reiki by Appointment*
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
10:30 a.m. Trivia
1 p.m. Ceramics
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
1:30 p.m. Bracelet Making w/Girl Scouts*

Monday, May 11

9 a.m. Knitting Club
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
10 a.m. Computer Help by Appointment*
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
10 a.m. Parkinson's Info Talk*
1 p.m. Scrabble
1:15 p.m. Pitch
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, May 12

9 a.m. Quilting
9 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Cribbage
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
10 a.m. Love Your Skin Info*
1 p.m. Swing Your Partner Western Dance Class
1:30 p.m. Bingo
4:30 p.m. Power Pump
5 p.m. Movie: *Mother's Day* (2016)

Wednesday, May 13

8:45 a.m. Zumba Gold
9 a.m. Ceramics
9 a.m. Dental Hygiene Clinic by Appointment*
10 a.m. Fun with Opera
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
1 p.m. Movie: *Mother's Day* (2016)
4:30 p.m. COA Board Meeting

Thursday, May 14

9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
10:30 a.m. Friends of the Center Meeting

10:30 a.m. Sen. Oliveira Office Hour
12:45 p.m. Mahjong
1:30 p.m. Anne Frank Story Performance*

2 p.m. Writers Block
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga
*PLEASE register for Boomer Boot Camp, Healthy Bones & Balance, Foot Care, and other programs as noted by calling 583-3564

Daily Events:

Café: Monday – Friday 8-11 a.m.
Exercise Room: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Open until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.
Open Billiards: Monday –Thursday 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. Fridays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesdays 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Menu:

Thursday, May 7: Seafood Salad/Croissant/Orzo Salad
Friday, May 8: Ranch Chicken/Au Gratin Pot/Carrots
Monday, May 11: Chicken & Veg Primavera Over Pasta/Roll
Tuesday, May 12: Stuffed Cabbage/Caesar Salad
Wednesday, May 13: Sausage Grinder w/Onions, Pepper, Cheese/Tater Tots
Thursday, May 14: Fish Tacos/Black Beans & Rice/Corn Slaw
Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. all on Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.
For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to inquire about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

DATEBOOK

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

ONGOING

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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 FAMIL-

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

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

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

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

The 'sandwich generation' free presentation

LUDLOW—The Ludlow Senior Center will offer a free presentation on May 22, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. as part of its Compass & Anchor Caregiver Program. Melissa Hudson of *Chronically Well Counseling* will lead an interactive session focused on caregiver stress. The discussion will explore the unique challenges faced by the "sandwich generation," strategies for supporting loved ones with dementia or phys-

ical limitations, and ways to cope with anticipatory grief.

The Compass & Anchor Caregiver Program is an ongoing initiative at the Senior Center designed to support care partners of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Through educational workshops, support groups, and access to helpful resources and products, the program aims to reduce the stress and burden of caregiving while

improving the quality of life for caregivers and those they support.

Please call the Ludlow Senior Center to register for this event or ask for Heather Jolicoeur if you have questions. 413-583-5364

The Compass & Anchor Caregiver Program is funded through a grant from the Massachusetts Councils on Aging in partnership with the Executive Office of Aging & Independence.

Pancake supper to be held May 9

MONSON—Pancake Supper on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church.

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Reservations are preferred, deadline for ordering is May 7.

Walk-ins are welcome. Call 413-267-5207 to place your order.

Meal includes fluffy & delicious pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee, tea. Our specialty pancakes include blueberry and chocolate chip. Toppings include your choice of strawberries, apple/cinnamon, whipped cream, butter, and we are featuring Monson's own: Bryson's 100% pure maple syrup.

Price is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children.

Come enjoy a mouth-watering special breakfast for supper.

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NOTICE

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

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**. To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 21**

— Thank you! —

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Purple donations. . .



The Purple Dragon came to show support for the Ludlow Police Dept. food drive. The Purple Dragon donated 9 bags of food to the food drive. Submitted photo

SPACE WEEK from Page 1

building of the pyramids to the founding of the Roman Empire, all the way across multiple generations in multiple histories and cultures.

We have one thing in common, one common earth that we live on, and we look up and share one common sky. The moon is the same right across the globe.

It's just a wonderful feeling when you're seeing something that people thousands of years ago looked up and looked at, the same wonder that you're looking at today. Once you do that, you just forget about fear or anything like that, especially if you start being able to identify constellations...it's like seeing old friends!

You get to know when the seasons are changing as you see different constellations; you can physically better understand them. Understand your presence in the way



Turley photos by Amanda Munson

Jim Zebrowski is shown presenting his space presentation to the Ludlow residents before checking out the night sky with his own telescope in the library lawn.

we go about our yearly orbit around the sun and how things do change over a period of time.

It's wonderful sharing that with people and communicating that too, I want people to have that same sense of awe that I have," ended Zebrowski.

The Hubbard Memorial Library has the Library of Things which is a collection of non-traditional library items available to check out and to take home...the telescope

is one of them. Available for anyone 18 or older, the Orion Starblast telescope can be taken out and used right on your doorstep.



The Orion telescope that patrons 18 years or older can check out of the Hubbard Memorial Library.



Turley photos by Amanda Munson

The Hubbard Memorial Library celebrated Massachusetts Space Week by selecting space themed books ready for patrons to take out.

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BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

The Belchertown Public School District is now accepting applications for the following School Choice openings for the 2026-2027 school year:

Grade	Openings	Grade	Openings
Grade K	3	Grade 6	1
Grade 1	3	Grade 7	7
Grade 2	3	Grade 8	7
Grade 3	1	Grade 9	14
Grade 4	2	Grade 10	14
Grade 5	1		

The Belchertown Public Schools combine innovation and tradition to provide positive educational experiences for all of our students through quality programs, dynamic teaching and healthy relationships

The deadline for submitting a complete application is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 29, 2026.

The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces. There will be two drawings for this purpose. The first will take place on **May 29, 2026**, and in the event of unexpected additional openings, a second drawing will be conducted on **August 15, 2026.**

The application and guidelines can be downloaded at www.belchertownps.org or picked up at 14 Maple St., Belchertown, MA 01007.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMNS



I want to do everything right when I claim Social Security

Dear Rusty:
I will be 62 in two years. I plan on signing up for SS at age 62, but I have heard there are details that are important when signing up. When it comes time, I want to make sure I do everything right. Can you help me understand?
Signed: Claiming Soon

Dear Claiming Soon:
Deciding when to claim your Social Security benefit is a decision you should make only after careful consideration of your personal circumstances. And details are, indeed, important. For example, if you claim at age 62 (when you first become eligible), your monthly SS benefit will be only 70% of the amount you would get by waiting until age 67 to claim. And there are other considerations as well, including:

If you are still working and claim at 62, you will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET) which limits how much you can earn from working while collecting early SS benefits. The earnings limit changes each year, and for 2026 it is \$24,480. If the annual limit after you claim early is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. And, if your work earnings substantially exceed the annual limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible for early SS benefits (until you either stop working full time or reach your SS full retirement age). FYI, the AET lasts until you reach your FRA (age 67).

The benefit reduction for claiming SS early is permanent. After you claim, you will only get increases for Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) which occur annually according to inflation. FYI, the average annual COLA adjustment is about 2.5%.

If you are married, the reduced benefit you get by claiming early will potentially be the basis of your spouse's survivor benefit if you pass first. Surviving spouse benefits are based on the amount you are receiving at your death, thus waiting longer for a higher

personal benefit may also provide your spouse with a larger survivor benefit as your widow.

If you wait longer than age 62, your monthly benefit will continue to increase (by approximately 6% per year) until you reach your FRA, when you get 100% of the amount you are entitled to from a lifetime of working. FYI, you can even wait longer - up to age 70 - to claim an even higher monthly amount (8% more for each year of delay after FRA). At age 70, your SS benefit would be about 75% more than your age 62 benefit amount.

If you haven't already done so, I suggest setting up your personal online "my Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to see what your SS benefits are estimated to be at various ages. Then, when you are closer to age 62, contact us again to talk about your specific personal circumstances at the time, and we can provide you with everything you need to know about applying for Social Security.

In the end, when claiming your Social Security benefits, you should consider your financial need, your health and life expectancy, your plans for working, and your marital status. We commend you for exploring this well in advance of becoming eligible and we will be here to assist when it is time for you to apply.

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



By Ellenor Downer

These yellow-rumped warblers, also known as Myrtle warblers, flitted around the edges of Lake Wallace in Belchertown, on April 22.



Photos by Doug Moore

This photo shows a side view of a yellow-rumped warbler.



This is a back view of a yellow-rumped warbler recently seen in Belchertown.

A Belchertown resident sent an email reporting he saw two yellow-rumped. He attached the above photos. The second photo a rear view of the warbler clearly shows the yellow rump of this aptly named warbler.

These warblers are about the size of black-capped chickadee and have a long bill and narrow tail

They are gray with yellow

on their sides, a small patch on the head and of course, the large patch on the rump. They have white on wings, throat and underneath. They have black and white streaking on the breast Males have a large black patch around the eye. The female is duller.

In summer, yellow-rumped warblers inhabit open coniferous forests and edges and not as often deciduous forests. They primarily feed on insects in the summer. On migration and winter they eat fruit and berries particularly bayberry and wax myrtle. Their song is a series of high-pitched notes often described as "chewy" or "chip-chip."

When males court females, they fluff their feathers, raise their wings and the feathers of the crown and hop from perch to perch, chipping. They may also make display flights in which they glide back and forth or fly slowly with exaggerated wingbeats. The yellow-rumped Warbler's flight is agile and swift and the birds often call as they change direction.

The female builds the nest and sometimes uses material the male brings to her. The nest is a cup of twigs, pine needles, grasses and rootlets. The female also may use moose, horse and deer hair, moss and lichens. The nest takes about ten days to complete. She lays a clutch of one to six eggs speckled with brown or reddish gray.

Bluebirds

A Rutland couple say two bluebirds in their yard

on April 25. They hope they will nest in the yard.

Great blue heron

I finally saw a great blue heron perched in a tree at the beaver pond, which abuts my hayfield. Every year, one or two are frequent visitors and even nested there.

Purple martins

A purple martin watcher spotted the first purple martins in Massachusetts for 2026 in Rehoboth on April 4. The largest species of swallow in North America, they wintered in Brazil and flew 7,000 miles to the United States and Canada.

Hummingbirds

Soon the ruby-throated hummingbirds will be back. It is time to get out the nectar feeders. Instead of purchasing prepared nectar in powder or liquid form, avoid the harmful dyes and boil a one to four ration of sugar to water. I preferred to mix small batches, ¼ cup white sugar to 1 cup water on a more frequent basis to avoid spoilage. It can be stored in the refrigerator for about one week if making larger amounts.

Tom turkeys

In my travels, I spotted in three different locations Tom turkeys displaying their tail feathers for one or more hen turkeys. I noticed one Tom with two hens strutting about as the females kept on eating near him.

Bird fact

Annually, over 50 million Americans purchased more than one billion pounds of bird seed and suet.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005. The Palmer office has a new phone system and I will be getting an extension where messages may be left. I will publish the number as soon as it is set up.

COVID isn't done with us yet

Here we go again!
A new, "highly mutated" COVID strain is quickly gaining ground around the country, according to new data. This time, unlike in 2020, it's barely causing a ripple in the headlines - and that's a good thing.

Still, it pays to be aware of it if you're in one of the vulnerable populations - over 65, immunocompromised, underlying health conditions such as diabetes or heart disease. If it's been six months or more since your last immunization, roll up your sleeve again for your 412th COVID shot. (An exaggeration, but isn't that what it feels like?)

This variant, BA.3.2, is nicknamed "Cicada" because, like the rarely emerg-

your health

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

ing insect, it has largely remained undetected or "underground" since its discovery, Dr. Robert H. Hopkins Jr., medical director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, told USA Today.

It's considered highly mutated because its 70 or so mutations distinguish it from the JN.1 strain, which has predominated over the last two years.

Most people are either vaccinated or have had COVID, so there's a fair amount of immunity out there. Cicada may be able to evade current immunity; however, public health officials say that the vaccine in current use, which was based on JN.1, will very likely keep you out of the hospital with a serious illness even if you do get COVID.

Other people who should consider a vaccine, according to public health experts, are health-care workers, caregivers, those in high-contact environments (teachers, college students) and pregnant women. Of course, you should go with your doctor's recommendations.

The symptoms are what we've come to expect:
Joint and muscle aches

Fever
Coughing
Sore throat

COVID tests on the market are considered highly effective at detecting the virus, even Cicada, especially if you take it within 24 to 48 hours of noticing symptoms. If you do have COVID, you'll want to steer clear of those who are unvaccinated or who have underlying medical conditions.

While COVID is no longer as serious as it was during the pandemic's heyday, it nonetheless caused an estimated 390,000 to 550,000 hospitalizations and 45,000 to 64,000 deaths during the 2024-2025 respiratory virus season, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. So, it's nothing to be trifled with.

Cases are not overwhelming right now, but they are surging in parts of the country. How do officials know this?

Poop.

The viruses that cause COVID and other infectious diseases are shed through a person's stool. Public waste-

Please see **YOUR HEALTH**,
Page 10

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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EDITOR

theregister@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Jocelyn Walker
jwalker@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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WEB
register.turley.com



PHONE
(413) 283-8393



ADDRESS
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069



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ELECTION LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library

To register for programs or find out more information, visit ludlow.cwmars.org, or call (413) 583-3408 x113. Weather-related announcements for outdoor events will be made on the library's Facebook page the morning of the program.

Library Hours: Mon 9-5, Tue 9-8, Wed 9-5, Thu 9-8, Fri 9-5, Sat 10-2. Closed Saturdays during the summer, Sundays and holidays.

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

FOR ADULTS

Creative Writing Hour, First Tuesday each month, beginning May 5, 2:00-3:00 pm. Drop in and get some writing done! The facilitator will provide prompts or exercises for various genres (fiction, poetry, memoir) and a quiet space for writing. Choose a prompt or work on something already in progress; then, share what you've written if you like! Please register.

Community Appraisal Event, Saturday, May 9, 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Rick Keller from Perfect Pastime 617 is offering a community-wide collectibles appraisal event. Gather all your Pokémon/sports cards, coins, watches, video games/consoles, comics, fine/broken jewelry, sterling silver, etc. to see if you have treasure or trash. All items welcome! Preregister for a 10-minute time slot at ludlow.cwmars.org or call 413-583-3408 x113. Registrants must supply photos of items well before the event. This program is fully supported by the Ludlow Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural

Council, a state agency.

Meet Charles T. Hubbard, Thursday, May 21, 6:30-7:30 pm. Dennis Picard brings Charles T. Hubbard, founder of the Ludlow Manufacturing Company and individual for whom the Hubbard Memorial Library is named, to life for this entertaining, one-of-a-kind evening. Held on the 138th anniversary of the town's vote to accept the gift of the library from the Hubbard family. Sponsored by the Ludlow Historical Commission. Please register.

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

Chair Volleyball for Seniors, every Thursday, 1:30 pm. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Please register, though walk-ins are welcome.

Technology Appointments, Have questions about your smartphone, tablet, or laptop? Book a 30-minute, one-on-one technology appointment by visiting the reference desk or calling (413) 583-3408, x114.

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

Mass Center for the Book Monthly

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

Who picked this book? Book Club Meeting, first Thursday of the month, 3:30 pm. Join us for this month's Who picked this book? Book Club meeting! Pick up a copy of this month's book at the circulation desk.

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

FOR YOUTH

Mother's Day Drop-in Card Making, through May 9. For youth of all ages. All day. Drop-in.

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

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

Make a Fairy Terrarium, Thursday, May 7, 5:00 pm. For ages 8-17. Please register.

Online Gaming Club for YAs, Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28, 3:30 - 5:00 pm. For ages 10-15. Drop-in, first come first served.

Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 0-2 year olds, Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28, 9:45 - 10:30 am. Sponsored by Path-

ways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup for 2-5 year olds, Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28 10:45 - 11:30 am. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Make a Mother's Day Keychain, Saturday, May 9, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. For youth of all ages. Drop-in.

Minecraft Club, Saturdays, May 9, 16, 23, 30 noon to 1:50 pm. For ages 7-11. We have Minecraft accounts. Please register.

Nintendo Switch Night for YAs, (monthly) Tuesday, May 12, 6:00 - 8:00 pm. For middle and high school ages. Pizza provided by the Friends of the Library. Please register.

Sewing Clinic, Thursdays (biweekly), May 14, 28, 5:30 pm. For middle and high school. Please register.

Recycled Art Studio, Saturday, May 16, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. For ages 8-17. Drop-in.

Youth Chess Club, Mondays (biweekly), May 18, 3:30 pm. For ages 9-17. Please register.

Anime Club, Tuesdays (biweekly), May 19, 3:30 pm. For middle and high school. Registration recommended.

Youth Crochet Club, Tuesdays (biweekly), May 19, 5:30 pm. For ages 10-17. Please register.

Pokemon Club, Wednesdays (biweekly), May 13, 27, 3:30 to 4:45 pm. For gr. 3-8. Please register.

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

Lego Build Challenge, every Wednes-

Please see **HUBBARD**, Page 6

TOWN MEETING

from Page 1

vides a mechanism for Town Meeting members to be able to vote on each segregated budget.

"Chapter 41, Section 108 of the Massachusetts General Laws provides that the salary and compensation of all officials of a town be fixed annually by a vote of the Town Meeting."

Article 9: Chapter 90 Funds - To vote to accept and appropriate all State Chapter 90 Highway Aid Funds for engineering, construction, reconstruction and/or repairs to Town roads and bridges. This

standard article authorizes the Select Board to utilize funds made available from the State through Chapter 90 programs for various road construction and maintenance projects directed by the Select Board.

The estimated State Chapter 90 apportionment received for FY27 is \$1,093,781; no Town funding is required for this article.

Article 10: MASS DOT Contract - To vote to authorize the Select Board to enter

a contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the construction and maintenance of public roads for the ensuing years, through Chapter 90 funds allocated to the Town from the State for road projects. No Town funding is required for this article.

Article 16: LHS Turf Field Replacement Fund - To vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money

for deposit into the LHS Turf Field Stabilization Fund. The new turf field at LHS has an estimated life expectancy of between 10 to 15 years, depending on weather, wear and tear, and regular maintenance.

Annually funding this new stabilization fund will allow the Town to replace the field in the future without incurring a large one time capital expense.

Monson plant sale is May 9

MONSON—Monson Garden Club will hold its annual PLANT SALE on Saturday, May 9 at a NEW LOCATION in front of Memorial Hall on Main St. in Monson starting at 9 a.m.

A wide selection of perennials in addition to wildflowers, vegetables, shrubs, house plants, bulbs and herbs will be available. Prices range from \$3 and up.

There will also be an assortment of special gift plants for Mother's Day gifts.

The plants come from members' gardens, and members will be available to answer questions about the plants they enjoy.

Proceeds from the sale are used for local community projects such as the downtown plantings, holiday greens, and scholarships.

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LUNCHEON from Page 1

Guest Speakers Senator Jake Oliveira, and Consul-Geral Tiago Araujo. Welcoming over 200 people from around Town and surrounding communities like Wilbraham and Hampden, the food was catered by Tony & Penny's Restaurant.

Speaking further with Fernandes, he shared that this day means to him personally and how it was to see the number of people in attendance. "This event is amazing. This celebration is where we come together to celebrate Portugal's liberation from the dictatorship of Antonio Salazar.

It's our fourth time and we actually started this in a much smaller room. It was about 70 attendees and we're pushing 200 now! It just shows how the Portuguese people come together, celebrate our culture and our heritage.

Referring to the revolution, it was a peaceful military; they took over and not a single shot was fired. They were actually placing carnations in the barrels of the rifles of the soldiers, so it's just a beautiful transition to the democracy now in Portugal.

The Town of Ludlow, there's quite a bit of immigration from Portugal and we have a very strong culture here. Coming together to celebrate it and laying the foundation for freedom and democracy is nice.

Everybody is upbeat and smiling, it's amazing food and we're sharing this time together. If you are reading this, I hope you come next year because we want to continue running this!" ended Fernandes.

In attendance was Select Board Member Manuel Silva, Police Chief Mike Brennan, Assistant Deputy Superintendent Sonia Piscotano of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department, and



The Polish National Credit Union staff with Host David Fernandes, Senator Jake Oliveira, and Consul-Geral Tiago Araujo.



During the PNCU Portugal Freedom Day lunch, an accordion player played music for the room of guests.

surrounding town police chiefs. Oliveira said a few words, "It's an honor to represent the Town of Ludlow in the Massachusetts General Court.

I am proud to be the first of Portuguese descent to represent the Town of Ludlow of the Massachusetts legislature. For many years, Ludlow has been synonymous with



The food served from Tony & Penny's Restaurant had fabulous servers, cooks, and help from the Gremio Lusitano.

the Portuguese American community and a strong connection of immigrants that came in the early part of the twentieth century.

We celebrate electing representatives to represent our interests, and not to have a dictator, but to have people elected by citizens of their

kind. It's an honor to be a Portuguese American, and thank you to the PNCU," said Oliveira.



The PNCU was represented by current employees, like Christine Gagnon and Maribel Torres.



The Ludlow High School Honors Portuguese #5 class attended the luncheon in support of Portugal's Freedom Day.

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USDA INSP. FROZEN ST. LOUIS PORK RIB.....	\$2.89 lb				

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Happy Mother's Day



Police Chief Mike Brennan was accompanied by the LPD, LFD, and community members.

HUBBARD from Page 5

day, noon to 5:00 pm. Drop-in.

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

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

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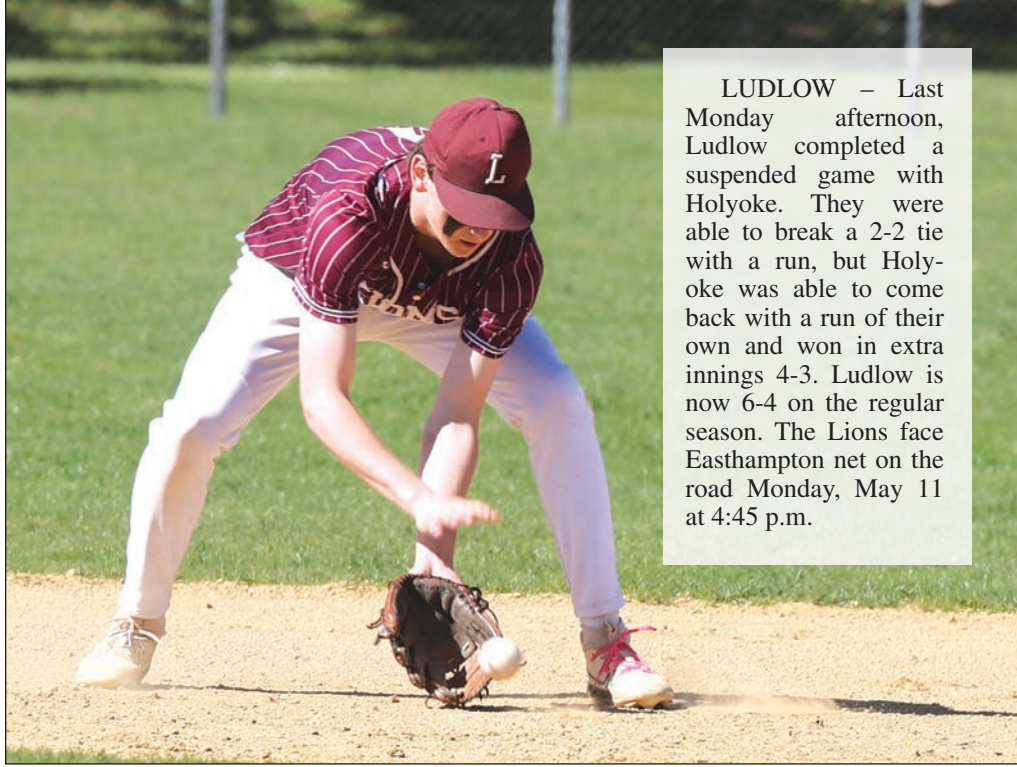
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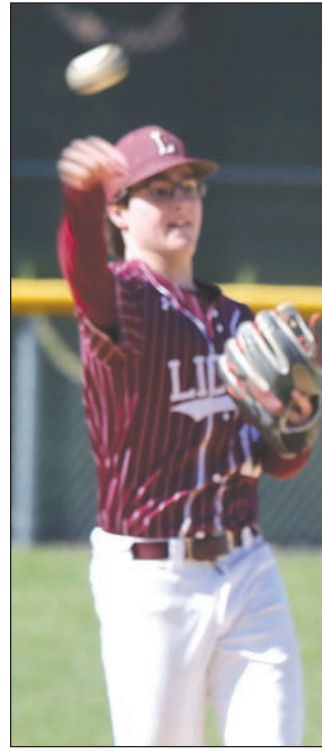
Lions lose as they complete game with Holyoke



Mason Morace collects a ground ball.

LUDLOW – Last Monday afternoon, Ludlow completed a suspended game with Holyoke. They were able to break a 2-2 tie with a run, but Holyoke was able to come back with a run of their own and won in extra innings 4-3. Ludlow is now 6-4 on the regular season. The Lions face Easthampton net on the road Monday, May 11 at 4:45 p.m.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



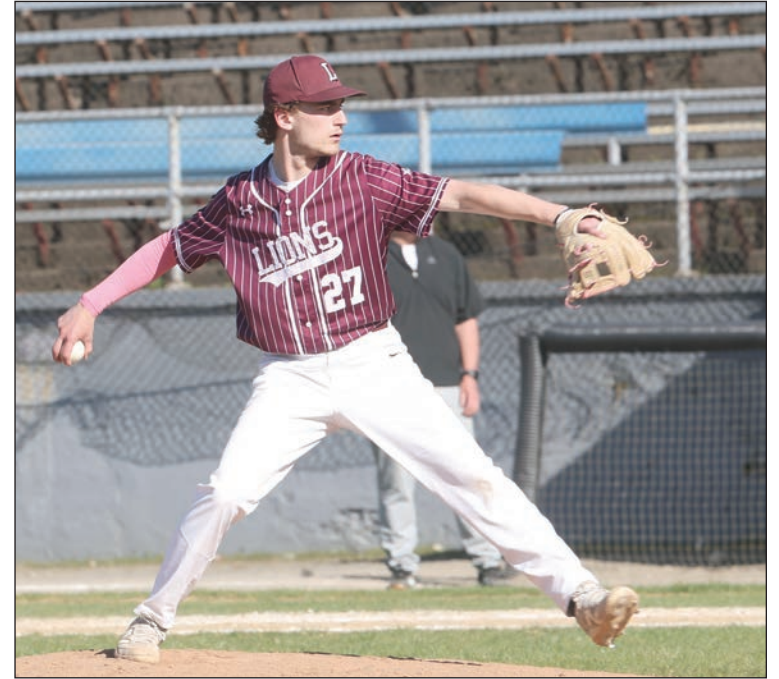
Christian Kochanek makes a throw to first.



Ryan Sargent makes a pitch home.



Connor Sylvestre dives back to first base.



Luke Stejna hurls in relief for the Lions.

LHS softball team defeats Easthampton

LUDLOW – Last Wednesday afternoon, Ludlow High School softball defeated Easthampton 12-0. That win followed a 19-2 rout of Pope Francis.

The Lions are a perfect 10-0 and have already qualified for the state tournament and are a likely candidate to make the Western Mass. tournament this season. Ludlow has six games remaining on its regular season schedule. Coming up, the Lions will have tough challenge from Monson High School on Friday, May 8 at 5 p.m. on the road. The Mustangs will then travel to Central for a game on the artificial turf on Monday, May 11 at 6 p.m.

Lions stay perfect with win over Easthampton

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Cooper Champigny looks to spike between a pair of blockers.



Jordan Gray goes for a point.



Jake Canoa sets up near the net.



Nathan Quiterio tries to get straight down with a hit.



Damien Martinez comes down with a spike.



Ben Sanches reacts to a serve with a set.



Nick Deroin squares up a bunt.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

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

IN THE CLASSROOM

64-year-old digital photography student stays focused through health challenges

SPRINGFIELD – When Candy Oyler walks into a classroom at Springfield Technical Community College, she brings decades of resilience and reinvention – and she carries a spirit that refuses to stop moving forward.

Now in the Digital Photography program, Oyler is on track to graduate with a certificate this spring. Her path to STCC is unlike any other – shaped by extraordinary health challenges, an impressive career in technology and business and a lifelong determination to create meaning, beauty and purpose in every chapter of her life.

Fifty years ago, Oyler was just 14 years old and living in Chicopee when she was diagnosed with bone cancer. The treatment was grueling. She underwent 18 months of chemotherapy and lost her leg. But she pushed forward, finishing high school and earning admission to Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. At the time, she imagined becoming a doctor or another type of health professional, inspired by her early medical journey, but life pulled her in a different direction.

After graduating, she entered the tech world in the early 1980s, an era when few women held sales roles in the booming computer industry.

She thrived.

“It was crazy,” said Oyler, now 64. “I was one of the few women locally selling computers and software... and I built my career on that.”

That career eventually took her across the country and around the world as vice president of business development for North America. But just as she was soaring professionally, her health took another turn.

At 58, she learned that her heart and other organs were failing. Within days of being placed on the transplant list, she received a donor heart at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

“It’ll be eight years this June,” said Oyler, now living in Southwick. “I did really well. And you move on.”

But even after the transplant, she wasn’t done confronting medical adversity. She later developed stomach cancer. The treatment needed for that was the most difficult experience of her life. She lost more than 80 pounds.

“It was the darkest time I ever had out of everything I’ve been through,” Oyler said.

It was her partner who planted the seed for a new beginning: “He said, ‘You’re so good at taking pictures. Why don’t you become a photographer?’”

Oyler had always loved



Candy Oyler at STCC campus.

capturing moments for friends and family. But formal training? At her age? After everything she’d endured? She wasn’t sure, until she realized nobody could walk her through learning a camera. So she did what she has done her entire life. She reinvented herself.

Oyler enrolled at STCC in fall 2024. The switch from PCs to Macs was humbling. She had to learn a new operating system. But she embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, notebooks and humor.

“Being in class with young people was so much fun,” she said. “I liked to talk to young people to see what was going on. So, it was fun, but it was hard.”

Despite the learning curve, she excelled. Oyler made the Dean’s List, joined the Honor Society, and began producing work that earned praise from faculty. She credited STCC faculty, including Professor Philip Ruderman, with supporting and inspiring her to do her best work.

Wendy McCann, an adjunct faculty member, also provided support that Oyler called “invaluable,” helping her learn editing techniques, use new software and build confidence in the studio.

“Without that opportunity, I don’t know if I’d be the student I am,” Oyler said. “She helped me learn editing, how to use the computer – everything. I felt comfortable going to her.”

Miah Dreger, Dean of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), said STCC welcomes students from different generations and backgrounds.

“Students like Candy remind us of what makes STCC such a special place,” Dreger said. “Her determination and joy in learning show that education truly is for everyone, and that it can be a powerful source of purpose and connection at any stage of life. We’re proud to support her and all students who choose to pursue their passions with us.”

Alongside her coursework, Oyler has continued to manage ongoing cancer treatments and Mohs surgeries for the skin cancers caused by immunosuppression. But STCC gave her something to return to – something grounding, creative and forward-looking. She forged many friendships at STCC – students from different age groups and with different backgrounds.

“School gives me a reason to come back,” she says. “I don’t sit home dwelling on it. I have a schedule. I love it.”

Last year, in an advertising photography class, Oyler created a logo and brand for herself, “Victory Road Photography.”

“It says a lot about me,”

she reflected. “My life is re-inventing and moving on.”

And the business is already taking shape. She has photographed weddings, baby showers, children’s holiday portraits and a writers’ conference where she shot 33 professional headshots. With every job, her confidence grows.

“I know how to network, how to knock on doors,” she said. “Showing up is more than half of it.”

Her next goal: building a website and continuing to refine her craft through advanced courses at STCC.

For Oyler, photography is more than a hobby or a career pivot. It is a way of reclaiming life after profound loss and illness – a medium through which she captures beauty, memory and the simple joy of being present.

“I’m doing this because of all the challenges and trying to be new and creative,” she said. “People say I’m reinventing myself, but I reinvent for survival. I want to be contemporary and have a purpose.”

“I don’t know how the rest of my story is written,” Oyler said. “But for today, I’m pursuing photography. And it’s fun. Once you get past the classes, you can really dream.” Top of FormBotom of Form

BENCH from Page 1

State Representative Orlando Ramos, School Committee Member Ayanna Crawford, City Councilor and Indi-

an Orchard Neighborhood Council Leader Zaida Govan, and members of the Indian Orchard Citizens Council spoke to Yarber’s decades of commitment to the neighbor-

hood she called home.

Sarno reflected on knowing Yarber since the mid 1990s, when both were involved in efforts to support the court, involving youth in

the Orchard. “Even with her health challenges, Linda never wavered when it came to advocating for the residents and business community of our Indian Orchard area,” Sarno said.

Noting that Yarber’s legacy of love for her neighborhood and city will live on, Ramos echoed that sentiment, calling Yarber an example of what it means to show up for one’s community. “Through every challenge, she never stopped giving, never stopped caring,” Ramos said.

“This bench is a small tribute to a woman whose impact will continue to be felt for generations,” added Ramos. Family members and neighbors described



The dedication plaque reads, in memory of Linda Yarber, Former President of the Indian Orchard Citizens Council and Beloved Community Stalwart.

Yarber as a constant presence at meetings, events, and problem solving sessions, someone who pushed for improvements, supported local businesses, and made sure residents’ concerns reached the right ears.

The bench now sits along a welltraveled path in Myrtle Street Park, a place where

residents say Yarber spent countless hours listening, advocating, and encouraging others to get involved. For many in attendance, the dedication marked not just a memorial, but a reminder of the kind of steady, everyday leadership that shapes neighborhoods like Indian Orchard.



Families and friends of Linda Yarber attended the dedication ceremony and shared memories together.

NOISE BYLAW from Page 1

any other property to exceed the greater of 65 dBA from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and 50 dBA from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Construction noise standards - Noise associated with construction is permitted between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays. Between the hours of 8 p.m. and

7 a.m., noise associated with construction shall be limited by sound levels set forth in the exterior noise standard section; construction activities are generally prohibited on Sundays.

Maintenance noise standards - Noise associated with maintenance permitted between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays. Between the hours of 8 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays and Saturdays, noise associated with maintenance shall be limited by the sound levels set forth in the exterior noise standard section; maintenance activities are generally prohibited on Sundays.

For unreasonable noise bylaw amendment exception, enforcement and penalties, these are the following exceptions: Town-approved events, transportation infrastructure, public utility work, operations at Westover Air Base, and any other use or activity explicitly permitted by the Select Board. The Ludlow Police Department is responsible for enforcing this bylaw to the extent necessary and any violation of this section of the Town Bylaws shall be punishable by a fine of no more than \$300 per violation.

The virtual cryptocurrency ATM bylaw, cryptocurrency automated teller machines, comes after Detective Bureau Supervisor LT. Knox

noted an increase in the use of such devices that posed risk to residents and being used for several purposes by criminals to victimize residents. The purpose of this bylaw is to prohibit the use of these kiosks and machines within the Town to protect citizens.

Virtual currency kiosks and Cryptocurrency Automated Teller Machines are being used by criminals to defraud Ludlow citizens, including financial fraud, money laundering, and lack of recourse for users. These machines can convert currency into virtual currency instantaneously and irreversibly, exposing the most vulnerable of our citizens to unnecessary risk. “The Town further finds that the current absence of sufficient federal and state consumer protections and regulatory oversight for such devices necessitates a municipal prohibition to safeguard residents and preserve public safety.”

Please note, cryptocurrency is defined as a digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for security and operates independently of a central bank, including but not limited to Bitcoin, Bitcoin Cash, Dash, Litecoin, Ripple, ZCash, Ethereum, and similar blockchain-based tokens. Consumers should be cautious of investing in cryptocurrency, which is defined by the mass.gov as highly volatile and largely unregulated. If you are a victim of a cryptocurrency scam, report the crime to the LPD or your local police department and file a report with the FBI.

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LEGALS

OBITUARY

LUDLOW ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Ludlow Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Ludlow Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** on the application of **Nicholas K Goggin** for the property located at **40 Turning Leaf, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 30, Parcel 272, Zoning: Agricultural)** The subject of the hearing is for a Variance for a single-family home under construction which inadvertently was built encroaching within the front setback. The front porch and corner of the building were built within the forty-foot setback.

Alan Aubin, Chairman
04/29, 05/06/2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD22P1472PM
In the matter of:
Marion Kusek of Ludlow, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Third** account(s) of

Alison Bartlett-O'Donald of Holyoke, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney

must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **05/22/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

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

Witness, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 17, 2026

Rosemary A. Saccamoni
Register of Probate

05/06/2026



Joseph R. White, Esq.



LUDLOW - Joseph R. White, Esq., 84, passed away peacefully with his family by his side at Baystate Medical Center on April 24, 2026. Born on September 4, 1941, in Worcester, Massachusetts, he was the son of the late Joseph V. and Kathryn M. (Ziembra) White. Joe was raised in Palmer and went on to build a life defined by service, dedication, and leadership.

Joe was a proud and distinguished veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Gulf War era. His final active-duty assignment was during Operation Desert Shield, where he worked at the Pentagon. A counter-intelligence officer, Joe attained the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and retired as the Commander of a Massachusetts Army Reserve unit. He also shared his expertise as an instructor at the US Army Judge Advocate General school in Charlottesville, Virginia. Joe was also honored to serve as a member of the adjunct faculty of the US Army Command and General Staff College at Leavenworth, Kansas, and the faculty of the First Army Intelligence School at Ft. Meade, Maryland.

Joe earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1970. He graduated from Suffolk University Law School in 1973 and was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar that same year. He began his legal career practicing with Attorney Jim Rooney in

Palmer, Massachusetts, before opening his own private practice, Law Offices of Joseph R. White in Palmer. He was joined by his daughter, Elizabeth, in 2007 and together they created White Law Offices, P.C. Joe proudly owned and operated the practice for 50 years.

Throughout his legal career, Joe was a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and the Hampden County Bar Association. He was admitted to practice before the Massachusetts Federal District Court, the Court of Military Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. He also served as Assistant Registrar of the Hampshire Division of Probate and Family Court in Northampton, and as a law clerk to Justices of the Massachusetts Superior Court.

Deeply committed to civic service, Joe served as Town Moderator for the Town of Belchertown for 20 years. Outside of his professional life, he held a private pilot's license and enjoyed reading, listening to music, spending time with his grandchildren, and proudly attending their sporting events.

Joe recalls many significant memories during his life with his late wife Phyllis and treasures the many accomplishments of his children, especially when he was honored to admin-

ister to Peter the oath of induction into the military service; to make the motion to the US Supreme Court to admit Elizabeth to the bar of that court; and to witness Susan receive the Green- spoon Foundation award for excellence in teaching.

Joe was predeceased by his beloved wife, Phyllis A. (Hoffman) White, in 2025; his sister, Beverly Sherman; and his nephew, Eric Sherman.

He is survived by his son, Peter White; his daughter, Elizabeth Chouinard and her husband Robert of South Hadley; and his stepdaughter, Susan Murphy and her husband Daniel of Belchertown. He is also survived by his eight cherished grandchildren.

Joe will be remembered for his unwavering integrity, dedication to service, love of family, and the many lives he touched throughout his distinguished career.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, May 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home. Funeral service will be held on Friday, May 15 at 12 p.m. at the funeral home followed by burial at 2 p.m. with military honors at the Massachusetts Veterans' Cemetery in Agawam.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Joes memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

DEATH NOTICE

Joseph R. White, Esq.
Died April 24, 2026
Services
May 15, 2026
Beers & Story
Funeral Home

The Ludlow Register OBITUARY POLICY

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

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Church DIRECTORY

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

Sunday services
Sacrament Meeting 10 - 11 A.M.
Sunday school for adults,
Young single adults (18-30) and teens (11-18)
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon
Classes for Young Men (11-18)
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
Classes for Young Women (11-18)
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon
Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday(3-10) 11-12 noon
Nursery providedfor ages 18 month- 3 yr

CHRIST THE KING CHURCH
41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow
413-583-2630

Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys
Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,
413-543-3627

Very Rev. Piotr Calik
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAY
MASS SCHEDULE
Monday 8:00am
Tuesday 8:00am
Wednesday No Mass
Thursday 6:00pm
Friday 6:00pm
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am (English) 10:15am (Polish)
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

ST. ELIZABETH PARISH
191 Hubbard St., Ludlow
413-583-3467

Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Visit our website at www.stelizabethludlow.org
Like us on Facebook Check out our Parish App
Wednesday, May 6 - Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), Holy Mother Choir - 4:30 PM (C), Bible Study - 6:30 PM (JR), Cub Scouts - 6:00 PM (FLBH)
Thursday, May 7 -Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), K of C Council 3535 Meeting - 5:30 PM (JR)
Friday, May 8 -Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), First Eucharistic rehearsal - 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM (C)
Saturday, May 9 - First Holy Communion - 10 AM (C); First Holy Communion - 1 PM (C) Confessions - 2:30 PM (C), Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 PM (C)
Sunday, May 10 - Sunday Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM (C)
Monday, May 11 - Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), Ladies Auxiliary of K of C - 1 PM (JR), Pre-Baptism Class - 6:30 PM (C)
Tuesday, May 12 - Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C)
Middle School Youth Ministry - 3:30 PM (JR)
St. Rita Choir - 4 PM (C), Pasta Supper - 4:30 PM (FLBK/F), Bereavement Support Group - 6:30 PM (ER)

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Indian Orchard, MA 01151
413-543-4204

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Sunday School for all ages, 9:45 a.m.
Worship in person, 11 a.m.
Or watch our livestream.
See our website for more information: orchardcovenant.org.

STS. PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Ludlow, MA 01056
Phone: 413-583-2140

Pastor: Father Andriy Krip
Liturgy schedule:
Wednesday 9 a.m., Friday 9 a.m.
Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

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413-583-2312

Father Pedro DeOlivera
Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 9 a.m. (Portuguese); 11 a.m. (English)
Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses - 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)
Tuesday and Friday Masses - 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 p.m. (English)
First Saturday of the Month - 8:30 a.m.
For more information, visit ourladyoffatimaparish.org.

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL
A Church of the Nazarene
485 East Street, Ludlow
(413) 583-7875

Email: FCCPastorLisa@gmail.com
Lead Pastor: Rev. Lisa Morrison
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs
Sunday Morning Discipleship Groups meet at 9:45am
Worship service meets at 11am
OTHER MEETINGS
Tuesdays: Zoom Bible Study 7pm
Fridays: After School Club for Children 5pm
AA Group 7pm

FIRST CHURCH IN LUDLOW
859 Center St. Ludlow
413-583-3339 office
Office hours Monday & Wednesday 10 am to 2 pm
Reverend Darcy Borden, Pastor
413-285-3069

Call her at other times to make an appointment
Sunday Worship at 10 am alternating weekly with Grace Union Church, Wilbraham
Check our Facebook page or website for the schedule of worship and events
<https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow>
Website: www.ludlowfirst.com



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day,
PUBLIC NOTICES
EARLY AD DEADLINE
Place your public notice
no later than NOON

Thursday, May 21

- Thank you!

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Email: jamie@turley.com



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7th Annual Pioneer Valley Wine Festival takes place June 6 and 7

BRIMFIELD – Brimfield Auction Acres, Birthplace of the world-famous Brimfield Antique Shows will host the 6th annual Pioneer Valley wine festival on Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

2026 Marks the 7th year of the Pioneer Valley Wine and Food festival. This exciting event brings together New England Wineries, Cideries, Distilleries, and Meaderies from across the Pioneer Valley and Farmers of many sorts selling their wares.

The event started in

2018 by the collaboration with farm wineries throughout New England and local farmers to create a festival to highlight the magnificent products Massachusetts provides all in unison and support of Massachusetts Agricultural Department.

The festival will feature local vintners and craft brewers ready to spill their secrets.

Live Art demonstrations, sizzling chef panel starring culinary celebs - to be announced soon.

Last year celebrity guests included Brynn Gibson, the

youngest Black Jacket finalist from Fox's Hell's Kitchen with Gordon Ramsay. We also have Jarred Forman, the culinary mastermind behind Deadhorse Hill, who brought the heat on Food Network's Beat Bobby Flay.



YOUR HEALTH

from Page 4

water treatment facilities actively monitor wastewater for signs of not just COVID but also RSV, flu and measles. The purpose is to keep health officials informed of disease trends; help determine testing and treatment plans; decide locations of vaccination clinics or testing locations; and help hospitals plan for possible surges in admissions.

CDC's wastewater monitoring program, also known as the National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS), monitors infectious diseases through wastewater across the country at more than 1,200 sites.

There's even an online dashboard, WasteWater-SCAN, which was started by Stanford University (wastewaterscan.org).

Through wastewater, CDC tracked the presence of Cicada in 25 states, including Massachusetts.

In Massachusetts, the Department of Public Health collects COVID data from more than 20 wastewater treatment plants around the state.

These folks work hard to help improve the health of our communities and our fellow citizens. We can help their effort by getting a COVID vaccine if our doctor recommends it and staying alert to the symptoms to avoid spreading it.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, R.N., a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. A Monson, MA resident, she is the author of "How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones" and her new book, "Advocating Well: Strategies for Finding Strength and Understanding in Health Care," available at Amazon.com. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com to set up a free phone consultation.

PET PAGE



PET OF THE MONTH Meet Winnie!



She is a York Terrier and will be 1 year old this month! She loves to chase squirrels, birds, and anything that crosses her eyes. She also loves to chew on empty plastic water bottles. She lives in Hampden with Barb & Kenny Whitehead who adore her!

ATTENTION READERS!

Send in your pet picture for our "Pet of the Month" and receive a FREE weekend get-away or spa package for your pet courtesy of Porter Road Pet Care.

Email your photos to: jwalker@turley.com. Please include your name and your pet's name.



ELDOTC East Longmeadow Dog Obedience Training Club

Classes held at 546 Main Street, Hampden, MA
Classes held every Monday-Thursday evenings



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Obedience Training - Beginner to Utility

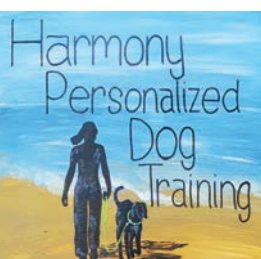
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MAY - EVERY WEDNESDAY

Obedience & Socialization Group Class at the common area in front of the Belchertown Day School & Christopher Heights. No registration necessary. - Join us at 5:30 p.m.

JUNE - SIGN UP NOW!

- Basics in Obedience & Socialization
- Beginners Tracking Class
- Life Skills

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*Sign Up Online for these classes at the Belchertown Rec Dept.

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Leah Guidry, DVM
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How to Read Your Dog's Body Language

Although we may not be able to speak to our dogs, we can still communicate with them by learning how to better understand their body language. Dogs communicate nonverbally, using their ears, tails, and more to express their emotions.

Relaxed dogs are happy dogs. This is when they are feeling their best, no matter whether they are resting or playing. Relaxed dogs are engaged with their surroundings and may be eager to receive or show affection. They may be squirmy if they're feeling

excitable, and their motions may be overdramatized during play. Their tail will wag in wide, gentle motions. Their ears will be held in a relaxed, natural position, and their eyes will be soft. Their forehead and mouth will have no tension.

Stressed or anxious dogs often display mannerisms meant to soothe or dissipate tension, avoid attention, and demonstrate their discomfort. These behaviors include looking or turning away, hesitant movements or darting away quickly, licking or smacking lips,

yawning, holding their body in a curve, raising a paw, scratching or pawing, trembling or freezing. If your dog appears distressed, try to find out what is agitating them. If the stressor is someone or something in their environment, remove the trigger so your dog can calm down.

When a dog is alert, they pay close attention to their surroundings. They are not necessarily agitated, but they may become agitated if they feel something is wrong. Alert dogs will have wide-open eyes and perked,

forward-facing ears. There will be no tension in their mouth or forehead. They will stand evenly on all four paws, poised and balanced so they can act at a moment's notice. As for their tail, it will extend outward and may wag slightly.

Appeasing body language can be deceptive to the human eye. While this behavior is submissive and geared to make them appear unthreatening, it can appear frightening to humans. Appeasing dogs may pull their lips back into a grin or snarl, which can be mistaken

for aggression. Other signs include pinned-back ears, squinted eyes, and a low-tucked tail. In addition to their scrunched-up mouth, they may lick their lips often.

Spotting signs of fear in dogs is often easy for owners. Scared dogs will have a stiff, hunched posture and hold their heads close to the ground. Their ears will be tucked close to their head, and their tail will be tucked and pressed close to the belly. They often turn their head away from whatever is frightening them, but they keep their eyes locked on

the stressor. They may keep their mouth closed tightly or pant as though they are hot. Be aware that a frightened dog can quickly become an aggressive dog, biting out of fear.

Aggressive dogs will react to a stressor with a rigid posture. The fur on their shoulders and the base of the spine will stand up straight, and their body will be shifted forward in a "ready" stance. Their eyes will be locked onto whatever is causing their aggression, and they will likely have wrinkles along the mouth and forehead.

Classifieds

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FOR SALE

ESTATE SALE

HUGE ESTATE SALE DON'T MISS IT!
2 Christopher Lane, Wilbraham
Saturday, May 9 only, 9am-3pm
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MISCELLANEOUS

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 Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

WANTED

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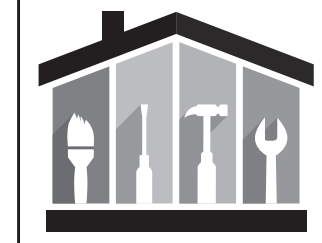
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