

INDEX

Opinion: 4
 Sports: 7
 Notices: 10
 In the Classroom: 12



The REGISTER

LOCAL NEWS | LOCAL STORIES | LOCAL ADVERTISERS

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Breaking down LudlowPowerChoice, town's new electricity program



The room was packed full for the Ludlow Power Choice presentation at the senior center.

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – Last week, Vice President of Program Management for the Peregrine Group Marlana Patton

led an in-depth presentation that reviewed, answered, and acknowledged the residents most asked questions, comments, and concerns regarding the new Ludlow Power Choice program beginning on Aug. 1. Learning all about

the LudlowPowerChoice electricity program and what that means as a resident in the town, how it will impact future billing beginning in Sept., and further explanation on certain topics, residents were pleased overall with the

explanation.

But first, what is the Peregrine Energy Group and how does it relate to the LudlowPowerChoice electricity

Please see **LUDLOW POWER CHOICE**, Page 6



Turley photo by Amanda Munson
 Chief Pease of the LFD and Chief Valadas of the LPD together to speak about summer safety.

Chiefs talk about summer safety

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – “We care about the people who live here.” As a continuation of the summer safety series for The Register, I wanted to bring together Chief Pease of the Fire Department and Chief Valadas of the Police Department, and get their advice with both

of their informative safety backgrounds. In the afternoon of July 1, meeting at the Safety Complex before the First Responders Night at the Elks Lodge, I asked them a series of questions that hopefully will provide answers to the most asked summer questions.

Please see **SUMMER SAFETY**, Page 6

Creature comfort



Turley photos by Amanda Munson
 Stan Lupa with a ferret that is in the same family group as weasels, known as Mustelidae.

Lupa Zoo visits library

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On July 7, Stan Lupa from Lupa Zoo visited the Hubbard Memorial Library to show off 15 creatures that brought furri-ness, slithering, flapping, and fantastic fun. From a Madagascar hedgehog to a red eyed tree frog, tortoise



The three-week-old baby monkey was met with admiration from all the attendees at the zoo visit.

Please see **LUPA ZOO**, Page 9

Celebrate Ludlow is back and ready to roll out memorable town events

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – On July 7, Linda Collette of the Celebrate Ludlow Committee spoke about the immense planning they’ve been working on for the upcoming fall and winter seasons. Although it is well into the hot summer, Collette reached out to The Register to review all the committee’s plans for the colder months and when the leaves begin to turn orange and red.

After the success of the 250th Committee and the events that made the celebratory year most memorable, Collette spoke about the beginnings of the fall and winter events and what residents and families can expect in the near future.

“Celebrate Ludlow is back, although we never really left but we’re back on track and we’re really excited about going forward with some events. Due to the 250th, some of those events went so well and people really liked them that they asked us to bring things back and keep



Submitted photos
 The 2024 Falling into Fun event had a variety of vendors and booths that everyone could find items to purchase.

it going. We’ll definitely be doing the ‘Falling into Fun’ event at Veterans Memorial Park on 11 East Street on Saturday, Oct. 4th from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. We’ll have space for 65 craft vendors there, five to six food trucks coming, local civic groups involved like the scouts, veterans group, the American Legion, the Boys

and Girls Club. We want all the Ludlow groups to come. The churches get to have the opportunity to sell either popcorn or hotdogs, hamburgers and things like that to make money for their organization. We’ll also have the National Guard there with their obstacle course we had last year, with musical entertainment

throughout the day from the CCG group and Acousticca.” Collette continued saying that families can expect a free craft corner for kids and games throughout the day, the Hubbard Memorial Library

Please see **CELEBRATE LUDLOW**, Page 9



Submitted photos
 Earning recently Miss Bay State's Teen, Madison Mathias waves to the crowd containing close family and friends.

Madison Mathias earns first runner-up for Miss MA Teen

By Amanda Munson
 Staff Writer
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LUDLOW – “It’s all about empowering women.” On July 9, First Runner-up for Miss Massachusetts Teen Madison Mathias sat down and spoke all about her experience growing up in town, managing her education and pageant competition lifestyle, and sharing her projects that give back to the people closest to her. Learning about the pageant world and what it means to compete at 17 years old, Mathias’ went back to the beginning and shared why she did it in the first place.

Competing for three years and attending high school as a senior in the fall, Mathias

explained the pageants are great for scholarship opportunities, like when she earned the first runner-up spot at Miss MA Teen, she was awarded \$1,000 in scholarships.

“This year was my third year and I definitely put in a lot of work over those three years competing and so being first runner-up was so special to me, not only because I’ve been competing for so long, but I really got to see my hard work come to fruition. I love competing and being on the stage, I also



Madison Mathias is known to be a standout in pageantry, academically gifted, and deeply involved in extracurricular activities.

have some of my best friends’ backstage and so having their support was a great opportunity as well,” said Mathias.

Mathias mentioned a list of family members and friends that have supported her, mentioning Miss Blackstone Valley’s Teen Iaila Hosnander, Miss Southeastern Massachusetts Teen Marianna McCalum, Emilia Alves, Sophia Alvaro, and family members Robert, Danielle, and Cameron Mathias.

portion of the competition, the competitors do an interview and Mathias specifically highlights her community service initiative called the Cameron Project, “I advocate for children with learning disabilities. In my interview they asked me a lot of questions about that and then moved onto asking questions that are on my fact sheet.”

The Cameron Project began when Mathias’ younger sister was dealing with her ADHD and saw her sibling struggle in school, sharing that it was something she wanted to advocate for and make the future generations’ experiences easier. “With the

Please see **MADISON**, Page 9

The day before the stage

DL&G TREE

Tree
Removal



Structural
Pruning



Crane
Service



Storm
Damage



Stump
Grinding



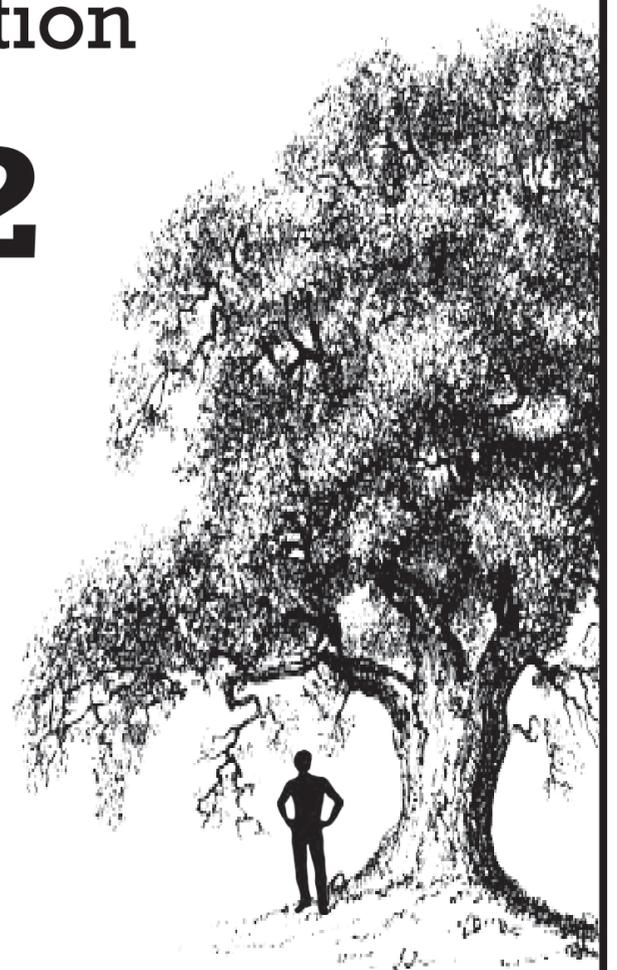
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LUDLOW

Hubbard Memorial presents *Becoming Darlene* by Author Ed Orzechowski

By Amanda Munson
Staff Writer
amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On July 10, Author Ed Orzechowski visited the Hubbard Memorial and presented his second book, *Becoming Darlene*. Orzechowski has written two books *Becoming Darlene* and *You'll Like it Here* that tell and reveal the stories of two individuals and their experiences when attending the Belchertown State School that opened in 1922 and closed in 1992.

The Belchertown State School for the Feeble-Minded is known due to the inhumane conditions, poor treatment of the patients who suffered with intellectual and physical disabilities, lack of privacy and medical treatment, solitary confinement, misuse of restraints, and much more. The presentation at the library focused on the book *Becoming Darlene, The Story of Belchertown Patient #4952* and Orzechowski connection to her whilst creating her story over five years.

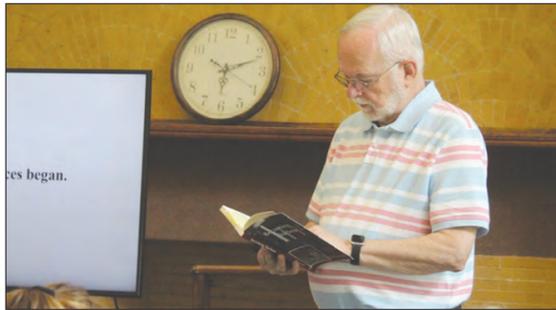
Showing pictures of Darlene and Donald, sharing personal stories and interactions with both individuals, and previewing what the school looks like now, the audience was invested in Orzechowski's presentation from the very beginning.

Sitting down with Orzechowski, he began by describing his co-writing experience creating her memoir, and how publishing a book of this subject was closer to home than people may realize.

"I co-wrote her memoir. It's about her growing up at the state school and how that experience affected the rest of her life. I've written two books; the first one was about a man named Donald who had also went to the state school and was there about ten years earlier than Darlene. We were here, referring to his wife Gail, for Donald's book event and I was in Florence at a coffee shop talking with him about book events when a woman overhead and said, 'I grew up in the Belchertown State School too.' Meeting



Ed Orzechowski presented pictures of the Belchertown State School and specifically, before and after pictures of the school, showing patrons photos as it stands today.



Ed Orzechowski read the first chapter of *Becoming Darlene* that gave critical insight of Darlene's beginnings of the Belchertown State School and how she was able to grow afterwards.

Darlene was a real coincidence, so she came to the table, and they started talking and before Darlene left, I gave her a copy of *You'll Like it Here*. I told her there's a lot of pictures in the back of the book of the school and when she opened the back and saw the pictures of where she had grown up, her hands started to tremble. That's when I knew I'd like to talk to her about writing her story," explained Orzechowski.

Orzechowski added that his wife Gail's sister was also a resident at the school and the couple has dedicated their lives advocating for her at each level of government, going all the way to Washington, DC. When Orzechowski was asked about what people can expect at his future book events, "It's for Darlene and Donald, Donald wanted his story to be told because he didn't want what happened

there to happen again, the abuse of them and the neglect they experienced. Donald has since passed. Darlene was in a similar situation. She said because there's so much re-development of the property now, a lot of the buildings are gone and there's new construction, it's hardly recognizable. She said eventually, there's going to be nothing there and eventually all those buildings are going to be gone, they'd be like she never existed," said Orzechowski.

With a background in teaching high school English, working in radio, magazines, and newspapers, Orzechowski retired and took up these writing projects in an opportunity to keep telling their stories. *Becoming Darlene* launched in Dec. 2024 and Orzechowski had the chance to speak with Darlene's sons who both attended their mom's book launch, where

Orzechowski commented that they were pleased with Darlene's trust in him and their trust in their mom in writing her story.

Orzechowski wrote *You'll Like it Here* about Donald's story in seven years, "It took that length of time because I had to learn how to write a book. I took courses and workshops and joined writers' group. I'm still a member in those writing groups so I get a lot of feedback from them and for Darlene's book, it was at least five years."

Orzechowski's book was recognized by New York Times best-selling author Jacqueline Sheehan, PhD, and quoted praising Orzechowski for *Becoming Darlene* saying, "Ed Orzechowski's masterful rendering reveals the unspeakable conditions of institutional life for children in mid-twentieth-century America. He writes with searing honesty about the survival of a remarkable girl who creates her own inner resources to emerge with her dreams intact."

Orzechowski ended by words of advice to aspiring authors, "Share your writing with others so they can give you feedback. Read your work out loud, you miss things and if you hear things that you don't catch otherwise and read a lot."

Orzechowski books are available at www.levellerspress.com

Concerned resident worries about seniors moving trash bins

By Amanda Munson
Staff Writer
amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – During the week of July 7, The Register was contacted by a long-time resident about the new trash barrels rolled out into town in June and was questioning how senior residents will be able to move their bins to their curbs. Bringing up seniors with mobility issues that must use walkers and canes, this resident wanted to know if there were any programs for seniors in town to help move their 64-gallon trash cart and 96-gallon recycling cart to the curb.

Contacting the Senior Center and asking if they knew of or offered any trash help programs, the center unfortunately does

not currently but encourages those who would like a program like that to contact DPW; call at 413-583-5625 or email at dpw@ludlow.ma.us.

There have been talks about a trash program like this offered in town but nothing concrete has been offered as of July 7, 2025. If there are residents interested in a program like this, contact DPW to make them aware of the issue impacting the town's seniors.

Please note that Waste Management will no longer service the town as of July 1, 2025. Going forward from July 1, 2025, USA Waste and Recycling will be used for trash and recycling services. The Register will continue to follow this issue in future editions.

Crafters wanted for Nov. 8

LUDLOW—Crafters Wanted for the Rosary Sodality's Saint Nicholas Craft Fair and Raffle on Saturday, November 8, at Christ the King Church, 41 Warsaw Avenue, Ludlow, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost is a non-refund-

able \$40.00 fee for an 8-ft table which will be provided by the church. To reserve a table/s or for more information contact Debbie Martell at 413-547-8739 or Lorraine Bernier at 413-519-7658.

Light refreshments will be available.

Polish Food Sale July 19

INDIAN ORCHARD—Polish food sale will be held on Saturday, July 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday, August 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church Hall located at 25 Parker St. in Indian Or-

chard. Golombki (3) \$12, Kapusta (Large) \$10, Pierogi (12) Cabbage, Potato & Cheese \$14, Sweet Cheese, and Blueberry \$15. Payment by cash or check, no credit cards will be accepted.

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

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OPINION

LETTER TO EDITOR

To the editor,

Dear Deputies of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Nick Cocchi and command staff,

It's indeed my honor and privilege to have been designated as an honorary deputy sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office by Sheriff Cocchi. I served in several honorary capacities with the NYPD. And served in several important commands within the NYPD and been designated as an honorary member of the NYPD. I served as an honorary NYPD Lieutenant of the Special Operations Division. I am friends with Retired NYPD Transit Bureau Police Chief Joe Fox retired 37 years as chief of Transit Bureau and retired as Chief of Brooklyn South. I am honored and distinctly proud and privileged to have accepted this honorary role as honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. This role I accepted proudly. And it was my honor to do so at this time. I would like to thank Sheriff Nick Cocchi for his vote of confidence that got me where I am today because of him. I thank Sheriff Cocchi and his deputies for bringing me on as honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. As an honorary Deputy Sheriff, I would like to say that I appreciate the support and gifts that was sent to me by Sheriff Cocchi that I was proud to receive as an honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. And Sheriff Cocchi I am proud to be one of your deputies as an honorary Deputy Sheriff

of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. I will do you guys proud in my role as honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. And I will do great things and great work for the Hampden County Sheriff's Office and in my role as Honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. Which is why I issue this statement on today accepting the role as honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office. I thank Sheriff Cocchi for this great and special honor that I have been given and been designated as.

Thank you, Sheriff Cocchi, very much for this honor and a privilege and blessing to be designated as an honorary member of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office as an honorary Deputy Sheriff.

I will not let you guys down. You guys mean the world to me. And I will do great things, and I will do whatever it takes to impress you all and make a wonderful first impression to my fellow Deputies and command staff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office.

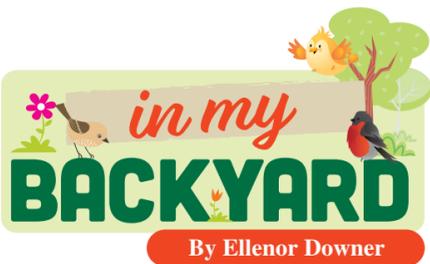
And I will be the best Honorary Deputy Sheriff of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office because of Sheriff Nick Cocchi and his Deputies and his command staff.

Stay safe and have a safe tour,

Respectfully In Public Safety

Honorary Deputy Sheriff Billy Prevatte
Middletown, Connecticut

GUEST COLUMN



Cooper's hawk



My neighbor has a Cooper's hawk in his yard. Cooper's hawks are common woodland hawks and skilled fliers.

They will fly at high speed through cluttered tree canopies in pursuit of other birds. They may be seen at the forest edge or a field taking a few wingbeats followed by a glide.

Males are smaller than the females. They build the nest and supply nearly all the food to females and young during the nesting period.

During migration, ridge tops in both the East and West are great places to spot Cooper's hawks in large numbers. Coopers hawks perch upright and have a long, rounded tail with dark banding. The band at the end of the tail is white. They have a small, hooked beak.

Adults have a gray back, reddish barred chest and red eyes. They also have a black cap. Cooper's hawks are

similar to sharp-shinned hawks, but are larger. They inhabit deep forest to backyards.

Grape jelly warning

I received a link about the dangers of feeding grape jelly to hummingbirds from a Granby resident. The link said, "Bird experts are raising the alarm that a common practice done to attract some birds is actually killing hummingbirds. Raptor Education Group, Inc. said just this week they had three adult ruby-throated hummingbirds brought in covered in grape jelly. One had already died. The others are alive, but struggling."

The central Wisconsin nonprofit shared photos to raise awareness that grape jelly is a sticky danger for the delicate birds. They said, "It has become common practice for people to put out jelly for orioles. However, when it is this warm, the jelly melts and sticks in other bird's feathers and feet." The group recommends buying bird-safer jelly from a specialty store or feeding orange halves.

Brimfield bird report

I received an email recently from a Brimfield resident. He said, "It's been a different spring/summer in the yard this year. I didn't see the first Baltimore oriole until June when a male showed up at the bird

Please see **BACKYARD**, Page 10



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

GUEST COLUMN



Why can't I get my Social Security payment plus my Railroad Pension from my ex-spouse?

Dear Rusty:

I have a question. I now get a Railroad Pension from my ex-husband. I did not know it was from the Social Security Administration. I want to collect my SS benefits and my Railroad pension. Can I do that? I do not understand why I cannot collect both. Please advise.

Thank you. Signed: Railroad Ex-spouse

Dear Railroad Ex-spouse: Railroad pension benefits and Social Security benefits are fully coordinated – that is, your Railroad pension payment from your ex-spouse already includes your earned Social Security retirement benefit. That's because the two government agencies, Railroad Retirement Board and Social Security Administration work together and pay your benefits in one single payment, usually managed by the RRB if some of your benefit includes a railroad pension component. The RRB and SSA are two separate government agencies, but they fully coordinate benefits for beneficiaries. This is exactly the same

as if you were collecting regular SS ex-spouse benefits instead of RR benefits from your ex-husband; your personal SS retirement benefit is always paid first, and you receive an additional amount (a spousal boost) from your ex-husband. In your case, your "spousal boost" is the difference between your personally earned SS retirement benefit at your Full Retirement Age and half of your ex-husbands Tier I Railroad retirement benefit amount at his full retirement age. A railroad pension usually consists of two pieces – a Tier I benefit and a Tier II benefit, with Tier I benefits being the equivalent of the pensioner's Social Security.

Your ex-spouse benefits under the RRB are handled the same way. The two agencies fully coordinate with each other, evaluate your SS entitlement, and then reduce the amount of your RRB Tier I ex-spouse benefit by your SS retirement amount and pay both amounts together. In this way, you only get one payment, consisting of both your earned SSA component and the RRB component.

And whenever there is a railroad component, the RRB is usually responsible for making pension payments.

You may find the information at this RRB website helpful: <https://rrb.gov/RB-9/> Social Security Benefits and you can also contact your local RRB field office by accessing this link: <https://www.rrb.gov/Field-Office-Locator>.

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.



In the eye (or nose) of the beholder

So many things in life are a matter of preference, and there is no exception when it comes to likes and dislikes in the garden.

Take, for example, the hydrangea in my front yard that is truly a kaleidoscope of blues, purples and magenta. My husband prefers all blue hydrangea flowers, and would love if I would give the bush a watering of "Miracid" so that it will conform more to his liking.

But alas, I tend to enjoy the circusy feel, and will probably continue to let it do its thing without any help from me. Likewise, if you prefer the pink shades instead, you can use lime to make the soil more alkaline.

Do you ever wonder how this process works? It's a matter of making aluminum ions more readily available or not, and that process is pH dependent.

Another area where he and I tend to disagree is

whether or not Bugbane, *Actaea* (formerly *Cimifuga racemosa*), deserves a place in our perennial border. The plant is really unique, in that it sends up loads of four-five foot tall white flower spikes, even in the shade.

It's a beefy plant once full grown. I consider it a "specimen" like the Peony or Baptisia, where one will do the trick.

The flowers are blooming now and will continue to put on a show for a good few weeks.

So, you ask, what is the problem? Simply put, it's the smell. The plant reeks. It's all for good, though, since the acrid smell lures flies to pollinate it!

My husband loathes the smell and has given it the not so nice nickname of "stinky flesh plant." I am not sure how he came up with that, but each year he is always pretty vocal about the stench when it is in bloom.

As a sidebar, the flies are doing their job, in turn making viable seeds. I know this for certain, since a few of them have sprouted over the years. Welcome volunteers, at least as far as I am concerned!

What is the consensus on Hosta flowers? Should they stay or go? I used to be of the "go" camp until earlier this morning, in fact, when I saw a hummingbird frequenting the blossoms! That changed my mind in a hurry.

While it's true that Hostas are better known for their foliage which is often beautifully variegated, the light lilac flowers are pretty in their own right. A handful of pendulous bells hang from the tips of the stems that seem to float above the foliage.

Hostas are not very demanding and are best known for their use in a shady border. Most will burn if planted in the sun, although golden leaved varieties seem to fair better in sunnier locales. In general, most varieties look great paired with Astilbe and Ferns.

I've mentioned the "take it or leave it" attitude in prior columns towards the smell of Marigolds. I am definitely a "take it" girl on this one. In fact, the fragrance, in and of itself, transports me back to the Grange Hall of my youth

Please see **GARDEN**, 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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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.

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. 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

Social Services Drop-In, Wednesday, July 2, 11 a.m. Come meet with our Social Worker for assistance with getting connected to food pantries and applying for food stamps, health insurance questions, referrals to treatment and support groups, supporting those with mental health concerns, free fentanyl test strips and condoms AND MORE! This program is made possible through the Mill Town Public Health Coalition.

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

FOR ADULTS

Becoming Darlene: The Story of Belchertown Patient #4952, Thursday, July 10, 6 p.m. Come and hear the story of Darlene, the focus of Ed Orzechowski's new book. At the age of 7, Darlene was sent to the Belchertown State School among more than 1200 patients where she stayed until she was 17. Upon release, she had very little social skills, yet she persevered and created a life of her own. Hear this story of tragedy, humanity, and hope! Please register.

Tuesday Movie Club: Jaws, Tuesday, July 15, 12:30 p.m. Jaws (1975), directed by Steven Spielberg, is a thrilling summer classic about a small beach town terrorized by a giant great white shark. Police Chief Brody, a marine biologist, and grizzled shark hunter team up to stop the deadly predator. The film stars Richard Dreyfuss and Roy Scheider. Drop in or register!

A Love Story Book Club Meeting (new!), first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Join us for the 1st meeting of our new book club! Every book chosen will represent themes of love & romance. Come pick up your copy of *Beach Read* by Emily Henry at the circulation desk.

Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge Each month, you'll be challenged to read a book based on a chosen theme. Those who participate will be entered to win a free book! For more information and to sign up, please visit massbook.org/readingchallenge.

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

Who picked this book? Book Club Meeting, first Thursday of

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

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

FOR TEENS

Anime Club, every other Thursday, July 10 and 24, 3:30 to 5 p.m. For middle and high schoolers. Watch and talk about Anime, eat snacks, try out your cosplay, and learn about Anime. Registration recommended.

Paper Making for ages 13-17, Thursday, July 17, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Learn how to make paper using a blender, mesh screen, and recycled materials. Please register.

Book Binding for ages 13-17, Thursdays, July 31 and August 7, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. In the July session you will learn how to sew pages of handmade paper for the inside of your book. Please register. NOTE: You must attend both sessions to make your book.

Read Between the Lines High School Book Discussion Group, last Friday of month, July 25, 3 to 4 p.m. For ages 14 -18. Fun, relaxed book discussion for high schoolers. The group picks the books. This month's book, *My Lady Jane*, by Cynthia Hand, Jodi Meadows, and Brodi Ashton is available in the Youth Room. Please register.

Nintendo Switch Night for YAs, Tuesday, August 5, 6 to 8 p.m. For middle and high schoolers. Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Switch games. Free pizza sponsored by the Friends of the Library! 16 person limit. Please register.

FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

Bingo, Tuesday, July 15, 6:30 p.m. For kids, families and teens. Play for a chance to win an awesome prize! Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, every other Tuesday, July 15 and 29, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For ages 10-17. For beginner to experienced crocheters; supplies provided or bring your own. Registration recommended.

Make Icy Slime! Thursday, July 17, 1 p.m. Ages 6 to 17. Kids' favorite concoction, made to look icy! Please register.

Watercolor Painting Day, Friday, July 18, 9:00 to 5 p.m. We'll break out our watercolor sets and provide a variety of pictures to paint on. Drop-in.

Nature Sunprints, Tuesday, July 22, 2 p.m. For ages 5-17. Turn items from nature into art with photo-sensitive paper. Please register.

Tween Graphic Novel Book Group, Thursday, July 24, 5 to 5:45 p.m. For ages 9-13. Meet to discuss graphic novels, play games,

Please see **HUBBARD** Page 10

Financial literacy event asks critical thinking questions to tweens

By Amanda Munson
Staff Writer
amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On July 7, the Hubbard Memorial hosted Country Bank for a tween financial literacy course that teaches youth how to make smart choices and manage their coin treasure wisely. Set up next to the youth room, the First Vice President of Community Relations Jodie Gerulaitis and Community Relations Specialist Lucia Sanches at Country Bank held a money island adventure exercise, teaching them a guide to smart spending.

Taking them through five stops, the treasure sorting cove, the budget shack, the saving sandbar, the surprise storm rock, and the treasure reflection cove, the audience began by sorting through cut-out items that the tweens could determine needs versus wants. Labeled as pirate needs and pirate wants, each tween decided which items are true needs and which are wants, with one choosing food, water, and a toothbrush for needs and an iPhone, watch, and a Nintendo Switch as wants; for example.

Next up was the budget shack that had predetermined careers and salaries for each attendee. Then choosing the 'pirate lifestyle', like the shelter, grub, gear, transport, and entertainment/fun, they all learned how to budget since some lifestyles were more expensive than the rest. Each guest was given a pouch with coins, each pouch became lighter and lighter after they picked their desired food menu, transportation, and more.

Landing on the 'saving sandbar', the floor was open for a discussion revolving around the topic of saving and asked the tweens what they are saving for in real life and in this pirate scenario. After counting their coins and how much they have at this point of the program, every tween had to visit the 'surprise storm rock' that had everyone spin the wheel and discover an unexpected event.

From repairing the pirate ship and losing coins to dis-



The tweens went through each step and learned how to budget, even navigating fake scenarios that made them use their critical thinking skills.



Jodie Gerulaitis and Lucia Sanches showing the tweens the wheel that determines whether they lose or win money in the money island adventure. Money2



Jodie Gerulaitis and Lucia Sanches handing out randomized careers to the audience.

Turley photos by Amanda Munson

covering a treasure chest and earning additional money, the tweens learned that budgeting and practicing good saving methods before an unexpected event is important. While also having enough to spend on the good times like entertainment and fun.

Afterwards the tweens visited the treasure reflection cove that asked two questions, what did you learn and if you could give a younger pirate a piece of advice what would that be? Throughout the entire program, every tween seemed a bit over-

whelmed about learning new terms and saving concepts, sharing what they were actively saving up for in their own lives, and becoming frustrated that they couldn't have the newest and most expensive 'want' that the other pirates had.

Siblings who had drastically different careers and salaries on the made-up pirate boat were arguing that one sibling had more money than them and having to pay for a repair of the ship that the other didn't have to pay for. This program brought up real life

scenarios that adults face every day, unexpected expenses that must be paid for and learning that certain sacrifices may need to be made on future expenses.

Gerulaitis and Sanches were pleased with how the tweens responded and commented saying they were both happy the tweens enjoyed the money island exercise. The financial literacy event at the Hubbard Memorial was powered by Country Bank, offering financial education to communities since 1996.

Kids on Track event Aug. 2 and 3

PALMER—On August 2 & 3, the Amherst Railway Society, CTrail, and Springfield Union Station are jointly sponsoring Kids ON TRACK at Union Station in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Area model railroad clubs will have operating model railroads set up in the Union Station concourse, and children (of all ages) will have a chance to run trains. Model railroads are fascinating to watch. But, the real thrill is getting a chance to run your own train. And, that's what Kids ON TRACK is all about.

CTrail is offering \$5.00 round-trip train rides between Springfield and Hartford both mornings, August 2 & 3 from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Maggie the Railroad Clown will be at the event both days performing magic tricks, juggling, and creating balloon wizardry. Maggie is a graduate of the prestigious Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College. She spent four years traveling with the Greatest Show On Earth.

Kids ON TRACK is an

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emerging national effort by the model railroad industry to encourage young modelers, and link model railroading to STEM education.

There is no charge for this event and the Union Station

parking garage, located on Main Street, will be offering a special \$2 event parking fee.

For more on Kids ON TRACK, visit: <https://amherstrail.org/kids-on-track/>.

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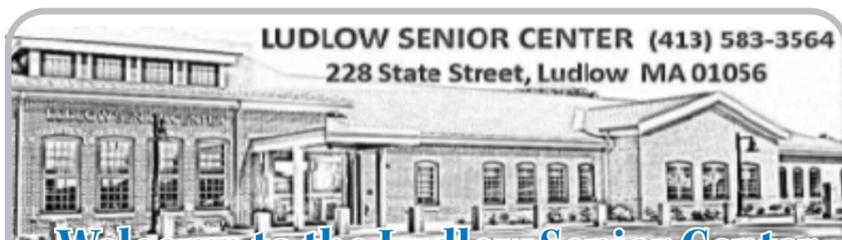
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228 State Street, Ludlow MA 01056

Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

Our 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, July 17

8:45 a.m. Foot Care Appointments*
9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
1 p.m. Mahjong
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, July 18

8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
9 a.m. Reiki by Appt.*
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
10:30 a.m. Slow Strollers
1 p.m. Guidance by Li*
1 p.m. Ceramics
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*

Monday, July 21

9 a.m. Knitting
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
10:30 a.m. Slow Strollers
1 p.m. Scrabble
1:15 p.m. Pitch
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, July 22

9 a.m. Quilting
9 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Cribbage
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks
1 p.m. Western Dance
1:30 p.m. Bingo
4:30 p.m. Power Pump Exercise Class

5 p.m. Movie: Beach Blanket Bingo

Wednesday, July 23

8 a.m. Garden Club
9 a.m. Ceramics
9 a.m. Zumba Gold
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*
1 p.m. Movie: Beach Blanket Bingo
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance*

Thursday, July 24

8:45 a.m. Foot Care Appointments*
9 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Dominos
10 a.m. Sunshine Paint
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation*
1 p.m. Mahjong
2 p.m. Book Club
2 p.m. Writers Block
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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

Daily Events:

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

Menu:

Thursday, July 17: Birthday Lunch!
Cheese Lasagna Rolette/Salad/Garlic Knot
Friday, July 18: Loaded Nachos
Monday, July 21: Stuffed Sausage/Onions/Peppers/Mushrooms/Tots
Tuesday, July 22: Salmon Burger/Arugula/Sauce/Salad
Wednesday, July 23: Vegetable Frittata/Hash Brown/Biscuit
Thursday, July 24: Salisbury Steak/Roasted Pot/Veggies

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

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

LUDLOW POWER CHOICE

from Page 1

program? Peregrine Energy Group is an energy consulting company specializing in community choice aggregation and energy efficiency, specializing for public entities in Massachusetts and with their flagship program named MassPowerChoice, it offers towns like Ludlow a transparent and stable approach to electricity and supports carbon reduction initiatives. LudlowPowerChoice electricity and the town is one of those chosen municipalities.

Based on the LudlowPowerChoice website, which was used for the presentation and source material for The Register articles, LudlowPowerChoice is a group electricity buying program for Ludlow residents and businesses. Using the purchasing power of the community, the program will provide three new electricity supply choices, stable and consistent pricing, and the freedom to leave anytime with no fee or penalty.

In Massachusetts, there are three ways to buy electricity, the utility (Eversource) buys it for you which is basic service, you sign a private contract with a commercial electricity supplier and they buy it for you, or the town signs a contract with an electricity supplier (LudlowPowerChoice) that you can benefit from and they buy it for you. Important to note, LudlowPowerChoice will not replace Eversource as your electric utility, LudlowPower-

Choice will act as the town's electricity supplier (company that puts electricity on the grid for us) and lock in long-term pricing for the electricity supply charge on the bill.

Eversource remains Ludlow's electric utility and will continue to handle the billing, address power outages, and deliver electricity with no interruption. During the presentation, Patton added that the delivery charge will not be impacted with this change, noting that MassPowerChoice can't do anything about it.

Based on the level of price picked by the consumer, Ludlow Basic (lowest program price) which residents were auto enrolled in, Ludlow Greener that's 80% from renewable sources, and Ludlow 100% Greener from renewable sources, the title LudlowPowerChoice will appear on the supplier charge line on the right of the bill. The town decided to opt-out of Eversource being the town's electricity supplier due to the everchanging prices every six months or less, making LudlowPowerChoice a better option altogether due to the guaranteed price fix until Nov. 2027.

Electricity consumers on Eversource's Basic Service will be eligible for automatic enrollment in Aug., the state law, and will see a LudlowPowerChoice price on the bill in September. The formal notification bearing the Ludlow town seal was sent previously notifying residents before they were enrolled. Understand that participation

is not required, residents can opt-out right on the website before being enrolled or at any time in the future with no penalty or fee.

Patton announced one of the most asked questions, what happens if everybody opts-out except one person, does that person get the higher price? The answer was no that one person would still get the program price because that's the contract the town signed, this program is not contingent on the number of people participating.

The next question was what happens after Nov. 2027? The town's intention is to go out to bid before that date comes to get competitive prices from electricity supplies, like they did in this scenario, that makes the most sense for the Ludlow community. The town's intention is to sign a new contract before this one ends with a new price announcement so residents could decide whether they want to move forward with the new prices.

For an example of the bill that will show LudlowPowerChoice, program prices, price calculator, or more information on how this all works, visit LudlowPowerChoice.com. Please note, Eversource will never knock on your door or call you to talk about your electric bill. Only provide your Eversource account number if you are ready to change your electricity supplier, which you can by clicking on the 'Change your Option' button on the top of the website.

SUMMER SAFETY

from Page 1

Pease began, "If you have air conditioning use it and check on your elderly neighbors, and if you do have some make sure they have some sort of relief like air conditioning. Find someplace you can stay cool, there's plenty of public places around like the senior center and in the library where people can go during the day. Other safety things that we've preached with the kids and we talk about them during the slide into the summer event was water safety. Water safety is a big deal. Make sure if there are children that they're having an adult present when they are swimming, then making sure they're using the appropriate floatation devices and staying away from moving water and rivers. Knowing your limitations in the heat, you're going to be sweating a lot and losing a lot of fluid so make sure you're replacing that with adequate liquids."

Valadas spoke about motor vehicles and the internal temperature cars can get during the summer heat. "If the vehicle is not operational and the systems aren't working, it's common sense that the interior temperature of the vehicles are going to rise. To leave any living person or pet in a car for any length of a period of time, just min-

utes, it's just too risky. It's one of those things you cannot risk."

Pease added saying there's a reason why people are still spreading this message and Valadas agreed explaining that people are sometimes too focused on what they're doing that they forget. Continuing with the motor vehicle subject, Valadas commented that fatality rates during the warmer months are higher than winter months where there are statistically more accidents.

"It's kind of the reverse where in the winter months for some reason, people reduce their speed so the collisions of the impacts are less traumatic. "Inexperience plays a part too and there's usually more younger drivers on the road," said Pease.

Additionally, during the warmer months there are more hours of daylight, more motorcycles on the road, more pedestrians enjoying their bicycles and walking around. For kids with bicycles and on wheels, Pease encouraged them to wear protective clothing that is high visibility, and most importantly obey the rules of the road.

"If you're on a bike, stay on the roadway and if you're a pedestrian, don't take it for granted that the driver can see you," said Pease. Valadas continued explaining that during a change of visibili-

ty like dusk and dawn, and a change of weather conditions, that is where and when the most accidents happen. Being alert and aware of the changing weather conditions and paying attention is important to be reminded of.

When questioned why they think the community trusts both departments, Pease explained that the fire and police departments would never lie to them. "We're always here because we want to be and looking out for them on their behalf. That's our job. We both care about the people and the people who work for our community and the people who live in our community. I think that's genuinely felt on both sides of the line. It's not just our job, it's passion and it's something we care about. Both of our families live in town and we treat everybody how we want to be treated."

Valadas added, "The people who work in our agencies are invested in the community. There's a certain level of responsibility and professionalism, I think that's reflected."

For both chief's favorite family summer activities, Valadas loves to go to Disney and Pease enjoys visiting the beach. To learn more about the SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education) and Senior SAFE programs, visit ludlowfire.com/safe-program/



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Luke Slattton makes his way up the field.

Lions take down Agawam

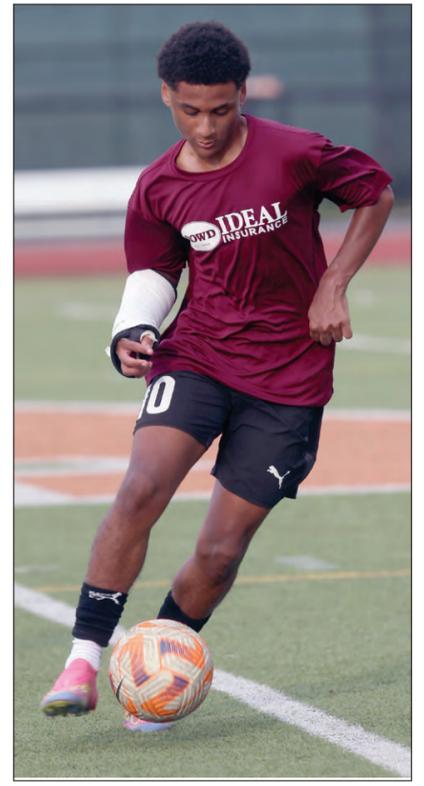
AGAWAM – Last Tuesday evening in A Division action, Ludlow boys soccer defeated Agawam 3-1 at Harmon Smith Field at Agawam High School.

The Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League resumed action last week. Ludlow is now a perfect 8-0 and a lock for the PVSSL playoffs. Agawam well to 3-5 and are on the outside of the playoff picture with nine points. Eighth place currently has 13 points.

Turley photos by David Henry
www.sweetdogphotos.com



Gabe DiRosa goes for the header.



DJ Danso swipes a pass away.



Ethan Love sends a pass forward.



Anthony Schuko tries to break away with the ball.



Ethan Steigmeyer makes the stop.

Extra time goals hurt Pioneers in draw



Juan Hermoso chases after a loose ball.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The task wasn't a very difficult one for the Western Mass. Pioneers entering the regular season finale against rival Vermont Green FC.

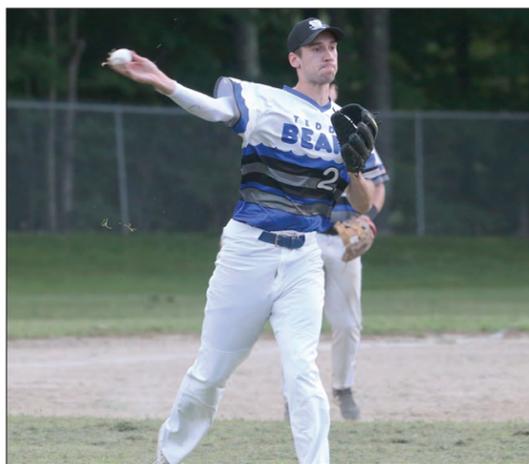
The Pioneers needed a victory to clinch the top spot in the USL League Two Northeast Division table for the first time since 2021.

The home team held a 2-0 lead in the 90th minute before referee Stephanie MacFarland decided to add 10 minutes of stoppage time. That's when everything fell apart for the



Robert Lyons eyes an opponent up the field.

Please see **TRI-COUNTY**, Page 8



Breddan Fournier cuts across the diamond and gets the out.



Devin Slattery, of Ware, makes the stop.

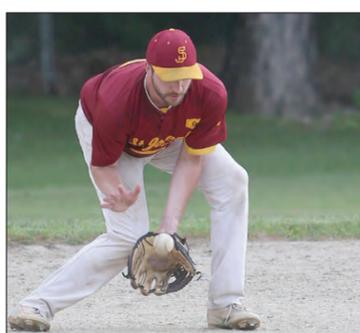
Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Saints keep first place in Tri-County

PALMER – Following the Fourth of July, Tri-County Baseball League action resumed with a full week of action. Teddy Bear Pools and St. Joseph's were among the several games that took place. Both teams had a few games during the week. With a couple of weeks remaining in the season, St. Joseph's holds first place with 20 points and a 10-6 record. PeoplesBank is second with 16 points and an 8-2 record and several games to make up. BankESB is third with 11 points, and Teddy Bear Pools holds fourth with nine points and a 4-7-1 record.



Colby Harrington delivers a pitch for St. Joe's.



Brandon Magni fields a grounder to third.



Jake Delaney picks the ball out of the dirt.



Mason Barcomb slings a throw to first.

T-Birds reveal schedule for upcoming season

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud American Hockey League affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, released their full schedule for their 2025-26 regular season on Thursday in conjunction with the AHL. The T-Birds will be celebrating their 10th year as an AHL member club during the upcoming campaign, as well as their fifth playing season in affiliation with the Blues. Springfield has qualified for the Calder Cup Playoffs in three of its past four seasons.

The Thunderbirds will begin their regular season on home ice for a sixth consecutive season when they play host to the defending Eastern Conference champion Charlotte Checkers on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 6:05 p.m. inside the MassMutual Center for Opening Night.

Fans are advised that all Saturday games at the MassMutual Center will now start one hour earlier at 6:05 p.m. for the 2025-26 season.

The Thunderbirds will face every Eastern Conference team at least twice

during the 2025-26 regular season, except for the Cleveland Monsters. Once again, the AHL season will consist of all 32 clubs playing 72 games (36 home, 36 away).

Springfield will play 54 games against Atlantic Division opponents, including 27 at the MassMutual Center. Their most frequent opponents are the Providence Bruins, who will visit the Thunderdome six times, including 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Dec. 6, Saturday, Dec. 27, Saturday, Feb. 21, and Wednesday, March

11. The two teams will also square off on New Year's Eve for a 3:05 p.m. matinee on Wednesday, December 31, as well as a 7:05 p.m. puck drop on Wednesday, March 25.

The home-ice portion of the I-91 rivalry series against the Hartford Wolf Pack begins on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 6:05 p.m., and the two foes will square off five times in each building during the 2025-26 season. Other I-91 game dates include Friday, Jan. 9 (7:05 p.m.) and 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Jan. 31, Saturday, April 11,

and Saturday, April 18.

The Bridgeport Islanders will also make five appearances in Springfield against the T-Birds, starting with a 7:05 p.m. contest on Friday, Nov. 7, followed by meetings on Saturday, Nov. 29 (6:05 p.m.), Sunday, Dec. 28 (3:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 2 (7:05 p.m.), and Friday, Feb. 20 (7:05 p.m.).

The most frequent visitor from Pennsylvania is the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, who visit the Thunderdome on Saturday, Jan. 10 (6:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 30 (7:05 p.m.),

and Wednesday, April 15 (7:05 p.m.). Springfield will also host two games each against the Hershey Bears and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins.

The Thunderbirds will also play 18 games (9 home, 9 away) against North and Central Division opponents. The Iowa Wild are the lone Western Conference team on the T-Birds' schedule, visiting Springfield on Friday, March 6 (7:05 p.m.) and Saturday, March 7 (6:05 p.m.).

Blue Sox suffer loss to Ocean State

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were the away team for the first game in the doubleheader at Mackenzie Stadium against the Ocean State Waves last Friday. Valley's third baseman Wyatt Hunt had himself an incredible day at the plate. Hunt went four for four with three singles, a double, two runs scored and one RBI. Blue Sox's Bryan Matuschat relief pitcher led the team in strikeouts with three in two innings pitched.

This game did not disappoint as scoring started early on for the Waves (14-15) in the top of the second. Waves' Gavin Greger hit a single and stole second. Coen Niclai's single advanced Greger to third. Niclai seized his opportunity and stole second base quickly. Kayle Pisano ripped a sac-fly to center field, scoring Greger and advancing Niclai to third. Ocean State's second baseman, Jack LaRose knocked a single to score Niclai to make it 2-0 after two innings.

Valley found their footing in the top of the third. Hunt doubled into left field off of the diving catch attempt by left fielder Kolton Reynolds. Hunt stole third on a wild pickoff attempt by Ocean State starting pitcher Rhys

Bowie. Nicholas Spaventa cracked a single right up the middle, scoring Hunt to cut the lead to one.

The Blue Sox found more momentum in top of the fifth thanks to Hunt's single and steal that was followed up by Michael Elko's line drive ball to left field that scored the speedster Hunt to tie the game at two apiece before the inning ended.

The Waves punched back in the bottom of the inning. With two outs and no runners on base, Brandon DeGoti demolished a triple into right field to put a runner into scoring position. Ryan Gerey then doubled off the right field wall and scored DeGoti to make it 3-2. Reynolds followed suit with a single into the outfield to score Gerey to extend the lead even further. Greger doubled into right field, advancing Reynolds to third. Niclai singled to score Reynolds but Gerey got out at home due to an incredible throw by right fielder Rees Kozar for out No.3. The score was now 5-2.

Valley's Mike Lucarelli walked to start the top of the sixth. Lucarelli stole second, third and home on a wild throw by Waves' catcher Brandyn Durand. Andrew Loikits singled into left field.

Sean Darnell crushed the ball deep into left for a double to advance Loikits to third. Gavin Schrader came into the game to pinch hit for Hayden Perry. He hit a sac-fly to center field, scoring Loikits to make it 5-4. Hunt came back up to the plate and hit a clutch single to score Darnell. The game was now tied 5-5.

In doubleheaders in the New England Collegiate Baseball League, games are only seven innings with the exception of two extra innings. No runs were scored until the bottom of the ninth inning. Ocean State and Valley were on the cusp of having the first tie in the NECBL this season.

Justin Hackett started as the ghost runner for the Waves. LaRose hit a sac-bunt to advance Hackett to third. Ocean State was 90 feet away from scoring the game winning run. Greg Pettay has been out since June 26 due to a knee injury and ripped a game winning single to score Hackett to walk it off in style against the Blue Sox.

Game two of the doubleheader got canceled due to rain against the Ocean State Waves, but the Blue Sox were up 2-0 before it got canceled.

Registration open for 3v3 soccer jamboree

BELCHERTOWN – The Third Annual Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree is scheduled to be held at the State Street Fields in Belchertown on Aug. 16. The annual event is held in memory of 13-year-old Julia Haynes who passed away in March of 2023 following a battle with brain cancer. All of the funds the Jamboree raises benefit the Julia Haynes Scholarship Fund, which is a 501(c)(3) founded by four

of Julia's classmates.

The first two events hosted more than 60 teams, each year, in grades 3 through high school for the all-day event bracket which also featured food trucks, raffle and dunk tank.

Registration is open until July 20 and is \$100 per team for up to four players and includes an event t shirt. There is also a new bracket for class of 2022 - 2025 participants. There

will again be food trucks, a DJ and some fun activities for attendees including a raffle. Those interested in registering a team, becoming a volunteer, sponsor or donating to the raffle can get more details on the @julias3v3jamboree Instagram or Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree Facebook pages or through Rungsignup: <https://rungsignup.com/Race/MA/Belchertown/Julias3v3SoccerJamboree>

PIONEERS from Page 7

Pioneers like a house of cards.

The Green managed to score two goals during extra time and last Friday night's match, which was played in front of the largest crowd of the regular season at historic Lusitano Stadium, ended in a 2-2 draw.

"I've never been involved in a soccer game before where the referee added ten minutes of stoppage time," said Pioneers captain Aidan Kelly. "We just crumpled under the pressure, but it's something that we're going to learn from. It's very disappointing, but we're looking forward to the playoffs now."

Longtime Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari was upset with how the home match ended.

"I have no words to describe tonight's game," Molinari said. "We played very well until extra time. There isn't anything we can do about it now."

The scoreboard clock was stopped when the match reached the 90th minute. MacFarland kept the rest of the time. Soccer is the only sport that uses a clock where the players and fans have no idea when the match is going to end.

While it was a heartbreaking way to end the regular season, the Pioneers (10-1-3), who lost, 2-0, to the Green on June 17, were scheduled to host the Long Island Rough Riders in an Eastern Conference play-in match on Tuesday night.

"We've qualified for the playoffs again," Molinari said. "We just have to prepare for Tuesday's playoff match now."

The Pioneers qualified for the playoffs for the sixth time since 2019. They've also finished in second place in the Northeast Conference standings in each of the past four seasons.

Vermont (12-0-2) captured the League title for the first time since joining USL League Two in 2022.

When the Green made their annual visit to Lusitano Stadium a year ago, they clinched a playoff berth with a 3-1 victory over the Pioneers. The first meeting of the 2024 regular season ended in a scoreless draw.

The overall series record between the two squads is now tied 3-3-2.

The Pioneers posted a pair of 1-0 victories against Vermont during the 2023 regular season.

Since suffering the shut-out loss at Vermont back in June, the Pioneers had gone 5-0-0 and outscored their opponents, 18-1 during that span.

The start of last Friday's contest was delayed about



Jaiden Williems gets the quick touch.



Jose Suarez Monaco tries to make a stop.

30 minutes due to a thunderstorm.

The Pioneers starting goalie was Trey Sheppard, who started a home match for the first time this season.

"We decided to go with him (Sheppard) tonight," Molinari said. "He's been training with us the whole season and he deserved a chance to play."

Sheppard, who'll be a sophomore on the Amherst College men's soccer team in the fall, started his first match of the season for the Pioneers on the road against New England FC, which was a 3-1 victory on July 7.

During the third minute, Sheppard made an outstanding save on a shot taken by Arnaud Tattevin resulting in a corner kick.

The Western Mass. squad took a 1-0 lead following a free kick goal during the 41st minute.

Gustavo Barbosa booted the ball into the box with his left foot from the right sideline near the Pioneers bench. Juan Hermoso, who's a defender, headed the ball into the right corner of the net past Vermont goalie Niklas Herceg. It was Hermoso's third goal of the season.

"It was very important for us to score the first goal of the match," Hermoso said. "I saw the ball heading towards me, and I was able to head it into the net. It was a great feeling."

A year ago, Hermoso was a senior on the University of Charleston men's soccer team, which lost to Lynn University, 3-2, in the NCAA Division 2 finals.

It was the first time that Vermont, who only needed a tie to finish in first place, had trailed in a match this season.

The Pioneers had a couple of other scoring chances early in the second half before Israel Neto blasted a shot into the back of the net in the 64th minute. Barbosa was credited with his second assist.

Twenty minutes later, Neto had another shot on goal, but Herceg was able to make the save.

The visitors cut the deficit in half following a goal from Zach Zengue.

A couple of minutes later, Owen O'Malley, who had entered the match in the 69th minute, lined a shot from the top of the box over Sheppard that landed in the right corner tying the match.

Then the Vermont players raced across the field and celebrated with their many supporters, who made the three hour trek to Ludlow from Burlington.

It wasn't the way the Pioneers players wanted the regular season to finish, but they had a clean slate entering Tuesday's home playoff match.

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Total circulation of 85,000 which reaches over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley. Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____



MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO: Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email* them to: jamie@turley.com *Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.

LUPA ZOO from Page 1

and land crab, to a bearded dragon from Australia and prairie dogs, the zoo's animals and creatures created lots of amusement from kids to adults attendees.

Held upstairs next to the Youth Room, the patrons were all seated and looking at the variety of animals and creatures that were in the front, held in cages and looking right back at the audience. Opening one cage at a time, holding each one with care and attention, Lupa walked around the room and explained where each creature was from and fun facts about each one.

Whilst answering questions from kids and adults, Lupa provided an interactive and educational fun event for the whole family, alongside encouraging everyone of all ages to take out books from the library and read more about the creatures shown.

From the Lupa Zoo website, the property is a 20 acre conservation and education institution demonstrating the value, beauty and interdependence of all living things. The part enhances the guest experience by providing education and entertainment value, as well as outreach efforts in the community.

Many parents and children were excited to see the creatures up close and touch them with the assistance of Stan and the zoo workers,



Kim Bamford and Vera Conroy smile after visiting the library to see the Lupa Zoo event.



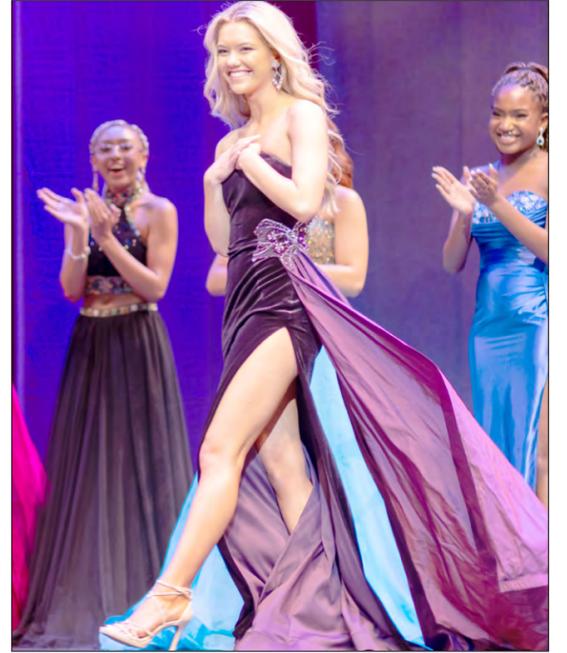
Chaco Golden Knee Tarantula was one of the scarier animals brought from the zoo.

MADISON from Page 1

Cameron Project, I started something called stop the stigma Saturday where every week I take to Instagram and post a new fact or statistic. I also have a fundraiser going on right now that's called Pancakes for Purpose where I'm selling little pancake jars and using that money to go towards a scholarship at my school for someone with a learning disability. I also do peer tutoring every single week as well at school. I love being able to offer myself as a resource in a way and making sure they can succeed. Overall, it's all about advocating for children with learning disabilities and making sure they have the resources for an equitable education."

Getting back to the pageant portion, Mathias continued, "After that we have the stage portion and start with an opening number, then a stage question on our community service initiative, and after that we go into fitness. We're modeling fitness but also showing our alignment with the Miss America fit opportunity that makes sure that us women are keeping our hearts very healthy by staying active."

During Mathias' first year competing, she commented that she didn't know what she was getting herself into, explaining that she was lucky to have a supportive board that not only wanted her to



Madison Mathias walking across the stage at one of her many pageant competitions.

succeed in pageantry but also in school. In Mathias' first year competing, she was Miss East Longmeadow Teen and a freshman in high school, balancing both worlds meant having to be well organized and making sure not to be overwhelmed.

When asked about her connection to Ludlow, Mathias' ended by saying, "I love this town so much. I've grown up here basically my whole life and I love having those connections. I have so many

close friends and it's so nice having that community, I always know there's a village behind me no matter what I'm doing. For the future, I have the drive to work hard at what I really believe in, and I plan to compete while I am in college. I cannot thank my family and friends enough."

To keep up to date with Maddie, visit her Instagram at maddiemathiasmao and direct message her for her Pancake for Purpose fundraiser.

CELEBRATE LUDLOW from Page 1

will be participating as well. The 'Falling into Fun' will be rain or shine, with no admission fee and Collette hopes it's a fun thing for the town, the residents, and the people in the surrounding areas.

Moving onto the winter months and the holiday season, "The Ludlow 250th Celebration Committee worked really hard to make money at some of our events and to get fundraising for our events, and we were very successful about things like that. One of the things we always wanted

to do was leave a legacy behind on behalf of the Ludlow 250th for the townspeople and Ludlow really came together after Covid. We brought out so many great events and we wanted to continue that in the winter Christmas tradition, like other areas around us like Ware and Palmer, we wanted to do a wonderful town tree lighting event. We continue to work with the Ludlow Rotary and many other civic organizations like the Veterans, the Scouts, the Lions Club. This tree lighting will be at the side of the town hall. The Ludlow 250th Committee and the Friends of the Lud-

low 250th Committee, that's a 501 non-profit group, together we have purchased a 22-foot Christmas tree to be put on the grounds at town hall for our annual town tree lighting and going forward. We also purchased a six-foot wreath to be decorated on town hall and garland to jazz it up a little bit. We will be purchasing a couple more things but our hope is to get this going. The town tree lighting will occur on the Sunday after Thanksgiving weekend. On that Sunday after Thanksgiving and going forward, we will still have our pancake breakfast followed by the afternoon

with this annual town tree lighting."

Collette has been speaking with Santa and says he's looking forward to it, "He knows so many of the children and families from Ludlow and loves to come to town to visit beforehand." There are also plans like the town-wide Halloween and Christmas home decorating contest

While speaking with Collette about her ongoing and numerous plans for the town, she seemed so thrilled to be

giving back to the town that made the 250th year so special. "I love more than anything to see this town come together and celebrate with the children in their families. It's all about family unity to me and the town coming together."

Collette ended with a few remarks from past vendors, "After the event and when these artisans are packing up and leaving, they always say 'keep me on the list! We really love you and Ludlow does

a good job with their events.'

"If anybody wants to participate, they can send a request for an application form to ludlowma250@gmail.com. There are also forms at Town Hall on the first floor on a bulletin board about town events that I keep up with," said Collette. If interested in volunteering for these upcoming events, visit the Celebrate Ludlow Facebook page for more information.

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Wilbraham Public Library holds Hand-Stitched Felt Pillows Program

WILBRAHAM - The Wilbraham Public Library Children's Department is pleased to announce that it will be holding a "Hand-Stitched Felt Pillow" program on Saturday, July 26, 2025 from 10 to 10:45 a.m..

This program is intended for children in Grades one through five and requires no prior experience. All materi-

als will be provided.

Children can come in and join in the fun, learn how to hand stitch and create their own unique pillow! Registration is required and can be done online at the Wilbraham Public Library's Website, www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.

This program is sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

St Elizabeth Parish to hold Summer Social

LUDLOW - St Elizabeth Parish, Ludlow, will have a Summer Social on Sunday, September 7th from 12-3pm on parish grounds and the Pastoral Center.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 3 and up, and children under 3 are free. Our Summer Social will be catered by Margarida Aniceto and we will have hot dogs, hamburgers, potato and/or pasta salad, chips and soda. Parishioners should bring a dessert (cupcakes, brownies or cookies) to share with all.

Entertainment will be provided by the Ludlow Community Band 12-1 pm then Billy Eagen 1:30-3 pm. In addition there will be outdoor activities for adults and children.

Tickets will go on sale after all masses at St Elizabeth Parish starting August 2nd til the event. You may also purchase tickets at the rectory Monday-Friday from 8-4pm.

For additional questions please call Richard Landry at 209-0813 or Jim Meehan at 547-8822.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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, July 24, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.** on the application of Thomas & Jenna Alimberti, for the property located at **345 Holyoke Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 11B, Parcel 9)** for the purpose of: **school of dance.**

If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 14, 2025.

Raymond Phoenix, Chairman
07/09, 07/16/2025

Ludlow Public Schools Destruction of Special Education Records

Please be advised that the SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS from the Ludlow High School Class of 2018, along with the records of students released from special education services during the **2017-2018** school

year, will be destroyed the week of **August 4, 2025.** If you wish to obtain your records, **please contact the Special Education office at 583-8372, ext 1216 prior to Friday, August 1, 2025,** in order to make arrangements for pick up. Please note that identification will be required at the time of record retrieval.
07/09, 07/16, 07/23, 07/30/2025

Town of Ludlow Office of the Select Board Legal Notice

The Select Board opened the Warrant on July 8, 2025, for the October 6, 2025, Special Town Meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. at Ludlow High School. All Articles should be submitted to the Select Board's Office, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA no later than Friday, September 5, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. The Select Board will close the Warrant on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at their regular meeting.

Manuel Silva, Chairperson
Select Board
07/16/2025

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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 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.

www.turley.com

HUBBARD from Page 5

and make crafts. This month the group is reading Dungeons & Dragons: Dungeon Club: Roll Call, by Molly Ostertag, which is available in the Youth Room. There will be snacks! Please register.

Balloon Olympics, Friday, July 25, 11 a.m. All ages. Goofy fun - our version of Summer Olympics! Please register.

Book Making for ages 8-12, Tuesday, July 29, 3 to 5 p.m. Use handmade paper and learn how to sew pages together to make your own book. Please register.

Movie: The Wild Robot, Wednesday, July 30, 1 p.m. Rated PG. Enjoy free popcorn and drinks, and take home a Wild Robot activity packet after the show. Drop-in.

Harry Potter Scavenger Hunt and Celebration, Thursday, July 31, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Celebrate Harry's birthday! Find all the Harry Potter pictures in the Youth Room to win a prize, plus enjoy other wizarding-themed crafts and activities. Drop-in.

Pokemon Club, every

Wednesday through August 20, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. For ages 8-14. Trading, dueling, and gaming on your own handhelds, phones, or Nintendo Switch. Please have your name on everything you bring to the club. Please register.

Lego Build Challenge, every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 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.

Friday Online Club, every Friday, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Play Roblox, Minecraft or other online group games at the library. Meet new friends or play with old ones. Feel free to use one of the library Minecraft accounts: please sign up for your own Roblox or other accounts. For grades 3-8. Please register.

FOR CHILDREN

Storytime Session for 2-3 year olds: Color Our World, Wednesdays, through August 6, 10 a.m. Six weeks of stories, songs, and games about colors, tailored for 2-3 year

olds, with free play at the start and a craft and snack at the end. Please register.

Tanglewood Mariornettes Puppet Show: The Fairy Circus, Thursday, July 10, 10:30 a.m. Suitable for preK-8 years. The library is thrilled to welcome this award winning, nationally known company, thanks to a grant from the Ludlow Cultural Council. See the masters of this art form! Please register.

Shaving Cream Paper Marbling, Thursday, July 10, 2 p.m. Ages 5-10. Shaving cream, food coloring, and a little science turns plain paper into a swirling work of art! We'll go outside if the weather is nice. Please register.

Movie and Craft: Charlotte's Web, Friday, July 11, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Rated G. Celebrate the birthday of E.B. White, author of Charlotte's Web and other beloved children's classics, and stay after to make a craft inspired by the movie. Drop-in.

Paper Making Workshop for ages 8-12, Tuesday, July 15, 3 to 5 p.m. Learn how to make paper using a blender, mesh screen, and recycled materials. Please register.

BACKYARD from Page 4

bath and a few days later a female showed at the bird-bath. In previous years we have had a couple of pairs in the yard. I offer jelly and oranges during migration and then just oranges later in the year. I've only seen catbirds at the oranges, no orioles."

He saw a juvenile red-bellied woodpecker following an adult male around and begging for food recently. The catbirds are seen frequently and use the birdbath

regularly. He has a couple pairs of rose-breasted grosbeaks as well. Several years ago, he saw 11 rose-breasted grosbeaks in the yard at the same time. He has not seen an indigo bunting this year. Although he saw great crested flycatchers and house wren earlier in the spring, they did not stay and use the nest boxes in his yard as they did last year.

Nesting osprey

He also said in his email, "In Warren last week I saw one osprey nestling in the nest on South

Street, but on a visit today there was no sighting of the chick, but an adult was perched on the nest."

Alarming statistic

He also said, "Unfortunately the reports that there are billions of fewer birds in the country now than there were in the 1970s is very evident to anyone who has watched birds since then. Very sad what we humans have done to the planet." He said, "On another depressing note, there are way fewer butterflies in the yard this year."

Phoebes

Every year Eastern phoebes return to nest in my yard. Recently, I saw a fledgling following an adult around begging for food.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

GARDEN from Page 4

and their annual summer fair where I would, and still do enter the flowers in the "Cut Flower" category.

Both the larger doubled petal African and the smaller

French types are represented. Besides looking good in the vase, Marigolds are said to repel aphids and other insects from neighboring plants, and supposedly even able to keep underground nematodes at bay.

Maybe they are worth the odor. Or maybe the fragrance? You be the judge.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

Church DIRECTORY

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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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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Wednesday No Mass
Thursday 6:00pm
Friday 6:00pm
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am (English) 10:15am (Polish)
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Wed., July 16 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C)
Thurs., July 17 - Daily Mass -7:30 a.m. (C)
Fri., July 18 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m.(C)
Sat., July 19 - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. (C)
Sun., July 20 - Daily Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.(C), 8:00 am Take & Eat - (FLBH & K)
Mon., July 21 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)
Tues., July 22 - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)

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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.
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IN THE CLASSROOM

COLLEGE NOTES

Keating earns Spring 2025 Dean's List Honors at Roger Williams University

BRISTOL, RI—Ashlyn Keating, of Ludlow has been named to the Spring 2025 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

Dean's List honors announced at Tufts University

MEDFORD—Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the spring 2025 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tommy Caproni, Class of 2027, of Ludlow and Torcato Zina, Class of 2027, of Ludlow

Notice of school records to be destroyed

LUDLOW - Temporary school records for members of the Ludlow High School Class of 2018 will be destroyed on or about Dec. 31 unless claimed by individual former students, the district announced.

The temporary record consists of all information in the student record

which is not contained in the transcript. Such information may include standardized test results, class rank, school sponsored extracurricular activities, discipline records, immunization-health records and evaluations by teachers, counselors, and other school staff.

Persons wishing to claim their temporary school records may request them in writing and sent to: LHS Counseling Department, 500 Chapin Street Ludlow, MA 01056.

For more information, call 413-589-9001, ext. 2407.

Springfield College joins the Age-Friendly University Global Network

SPRINGFIELD—Springfield College has been accepted into the Age-Friendly University (AFU) Global Network, an esteemed international community dedicated to fostering age-friendly environments. Approved for a five-year cycle through December 2030, the network brings together institutions of higher education committed to supporting learning and engagement across the lifespan.

“By joining the Age-Friendly University Global Network, Springfield College is making a significant commitment to a strategic five-year plan focused on intergenerational learning and the advancement of positive aging initiatives,” said Pamela Sangeloty Higgins, Chair of the Department of Public

Health and Health Professions. “Our participation connects us to a powerful local and global movement, amplifying our voice in promoting healthy aging, career development for older adults, and expanded educational opportunities in higher education.”

Higgins, who served as the Distinguished Professor of Humanities for the 2024-25 academic year, led the charge throughout the year, culminating in her Humanities Lecture, Ageless Humanities: Empowering Health and Human Potential Across Generations. She also reconvened and led the Affirmative Approaches to Aging Task Force, a 22-member interdisciplinary group of faculty, staff, and students focused on advancing age inclusivity and com-

bating ageism. The task force is strengthening relationships with community-based organizations and expanding clinical services, educational programming, and creative engagement both on campus and in the surrounding community.

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 3,000 students, including 1,800 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanities philosophy - educating in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others.

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