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# The REGISTER

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## Health and Wellness Fair held at Myrtle Park

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer

INDIAN ORCHARD – The second annual Health and Wellness Fair was held at Myrtle Park this past Saturday.

Working the booths were a number of locally-based small businesses, such as Soul Care by Latoya Fort, which sells various candles and lotions for the purpose of healing from the soul.

Another booth, Square One, provided information about home visitation for young patients. The company's website said that it "provides a range of family-friendly education and support services that are unique to each child and every family served."

"Our focus is on providing opportunities for children and families to build the foundation for lifelong learning, to make smart choices, and to grow strong cognitively, emotionally, socially and physically," the website reads.

Another table at the fair was Raw Beauty Branch, which was launched by Crystal Headley. The business recently engaged in a crowdfunding campaign so that they could expand from Headley's home and secure a store to better meet the demands, with Mass Growth Capital Corporation offering a grant to match Headley's crowdfunding if she met her goal.

The event was sponsored by the office of Representative Orlando Ramos, and included a DJ and food trucks.



Jayvion, age 7, sold lemonade and cookies at the fair. See more photos on page 8.

## Friends of Ludlow clean up our parks

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer

LUDLOW – This past weekend, some dedicated volunteers took a couple days to clean up the parks around town, as organized by the burgeoning Friends of Ludlow group.

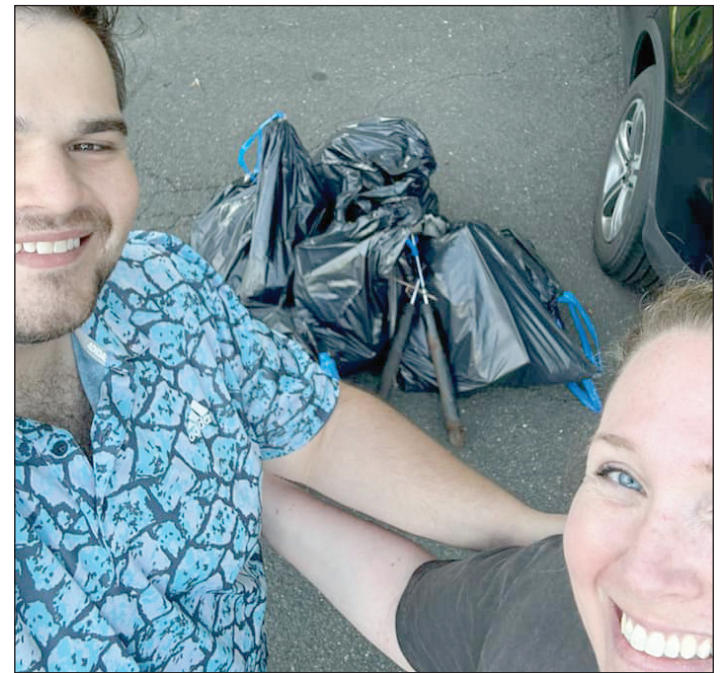
On Saturday, Kelly De Gobbi and Joe Lupa teamed up to clean up Whitney Park and Field, followed by cleaning up Memorial Park, Monument Park, and West Street Park on Sunday. From conversations with Lupa, they intend to schedule these clean-ups every

other week, with the next one to be held on August 12 to 13.

"I reached out to Joe (Lupa) about starting up a Friends group," De Gobbi said. "It seemed like we really needed the community to come together and have an outlet where, collectively, we could make a difference. We all love our parks, but we know that things could be better."

"Kelly De Gobbi is the leading community member at large that's helping to develop the Friends of Ludlow," Lupa said, "she's spearheading the

Please see **CLEAN UP**, Page 11



Joe Lupa and Kelly De Gobbi show off bags of trash that were picked up from the parks.

Courtesy photo

## Brave Book Story Hour to be held at Memorial Park Gazebo

By Marcelo Gusmão  
 Staff Writer

LUDLOW – Resident Grace Burek approached the Board of Selectmen last week to request approval to use the gazebo in

Memorial Park for the "Brave Book Story Hour" on August 5, in conjunction with the "See You at the Library" movement.

Burek found out about the event through a television commercial, and though she has

not spoken directly with Cameron, she coordinated with the 250 events that are being held nationwide through a conference call. She said she hopes this story hour will "bring back the morals and values that our country was founded on."

"Brave Americans, are you ready to help me stop the indoctrination of our children?" said actor Kirk Cameron in a video to promote the national event. The website, BraveBooks.us, provides information on the movement, saying "We are on a mission to turn our nation back to God."

"My mission, personally, is to bring a fun educational day to the community," Burek said. "I was brought up as a Christian, and I simply want to share those same values with like-minded families. Our forefathers came and didn't know what to do with this nation, so (I believe) they looked to God

to find those answers."

At the Selectmen meeting, where Burek's use of the gazebo was approved, concerns were raised that the subject matter might invite protesters to the event, and how such a counter-protest might cost the town.

"It's not a secret, the potential of what can come with this book," said Selectman Tony Goncalves. "I did some reading, and it appears that wherever there's a book reading, you end up having some disturbances, normally. It's attracting other groups that are protesting against this type of thing."

Goncalves mentioned that a recent protest, a Black Lives Matter march from the high school to the police station, cost the town \$19,000 in police overtime and ambulance services. The Selectmen shared his concern, but voted to uphold Burek's free speech.

"This is a public area, and this is free speech," said Chairman James Gennette.

Selectman Manuel Silva asked what was offensive about the book in question, One Nation Under God, and Selectman Bill Rosenblum said that he did not want to censor anybody, though he shared Goncalves's concerns.

Selectman Derek DeBarge said that he was supportive of Burek's story hour for political reasons.

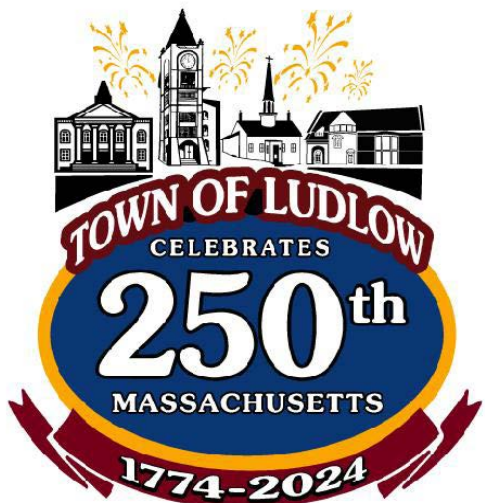
"Anything that preaches family unit, patriotism and all of that, I am all for," DeBarge said, "If we approve this, will we have somebody come in front of us with some kind of other show – a drag queen story hour, or something like that, (...) – well, I will not vote for that, and I have no problem saying that."

Please see **STORY**, Page 14



The gazebo in Memorial Park, where Grace Burek will hold the Brave Book Story Hour.

# LUDLOW



## CELEBRATION CALENDAR UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS [Ludlowma250.org](http://Ludlowma250.org)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH **River Hollow Family Golf Center** 15 Hospital Road, Monson

Mini golf, driving range, ice cream and more!  
25% of the day's proceeds will be donated to the Ludlow 250th. Have fun and help us fundraise!



### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH **"Dine for a Cause"** at the Villa Rose 1428 Center St. Ludlow



Tony Tavares invites you and your family to dine at the Villa Rose where 20% of food purchases will be donated to the 250th events.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH **Golf Tournament Fundraiser** 4 Person Scramble

Westover Municipal Golf Course

Register your foursome or be a Sponsor.  
Visit our website [Ludlowma250.org](http://Ludlowma250.org)



### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH **An Evening of Irish Music** Featuring Billy Eagen

Concert starts at 5pm at the Mack Donnelly Gazebo  
Bring your own chairs. This event is in partnership with the Ludlow Cultural Council

#### ONGOING

### **Fire Hydrant Painting Contest!**

Ludlow residents of all ages are encouraged to show off their artistic abilities by painting a fire hydrant.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration is now open to submit proposed design. Hydrant painting can begin after approval notification. Applications are available online at [ludlowma250.org](http://ludlowma250.org) or can be picked up at the Ludlow Town Hall: 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow. All applications must be submitted to the Ludlow Town Hall.

**HYDRANT JUDGING:** Participants will have until May 30, 2024 to complete their approved design. Judging will take place between May 31, 2024 - June 8, 2024.

**PRIZES:** Prizes will be awarded for:

- Most 250th / Ludlow Anniversary Oriented
- Most Patriotic (Military/ First Responders)
- Most Creative

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Bruce Durand, 413.563.1057, [ludlow250parade@gmail.com](mailto:ludlow250parade@gmail.com)

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## Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary



Childhood sweethearts, Dolly and Steve Sawyer sharing a smile in their younger days.

LUDLOW – Childhood sweethearts, Steve and Dolly Sawyer, celebrate 60 years of marriage this month, on July 29.

Steve Sawyer said the couple met at just 12 years old while leaving church.

"We were childhood sweethearts, dating on and off," said Sawyer.

Dolly, an Indian Orchard native, and Steve, originally from Springfield, eloped to New York City after

drawing their marriage license in Manhattan when Dolly was 20 and Steve was 21 years old.

While the couple celebrated their 50th anniversary in Ireland, for their 60th, the Sawyers are celebrating with a vacation in San Francisco.

The Sawyer's share one daughter, Eileen Ribski, and granddaughter, C.C Towse.

Sawyer thanked Dolly for 60 years of marriage.

## Friends of HML offer a little fun with Little Library Tour

LUDLOW – The Friends of Hubbard Memorial Library are inviting kids to a photo tour of the Little Libraries recently installed by Eagle Scout Thomas Caproni, for a chance to win a prize pack of board games.

To participate, all you have to do is find the Little Libraries located at: West St./Cady St. park, Whitney Park, Electric

park and East Street school.

Then, just take a selfie or have a friend or parent take a photo at each one. Come into the library and show the staff your four pictures and receive a raffle ticket.

One winner will be drawn at the Spider-Man movie night on August 17. Good luck and happy reading!



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### *Correction*

In a previous entry in the Random Acts of Kindness column about Bella Couture Salon & Spa, it was stated that Michele had lost her mother. We are happy to report that that was inaccurate; she is very much a survivor after completing her cancer treatments five years ago.

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# Selectmen discuss paving roads, utility poles, and poll pads

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer

LUDLOW – In addition to approving the Brave Book Reading, the Board of Selectmen meeting last Tuesday also discussed several other issues, including addressing a complaint about Eversource’s utility poles, approving the purchase of poll pads, and the expense of paving roads.

## Utility poles

The first order of business was to discuss utility poles that were installed in front of the Miller St. property of Kristopher and Deborah Walsh. Kris Walsh approached the board to discuss utility poles that were installed in front of their property.

“Our first concern is we got no communication whatsoever,” Walsh said, “we had no one come to us saying ‘this is what’s happening, (...) we’re gonna put a new pole up, we’re gonna put some other stuff on it.’”

Walsh described an incident that occurred when one of the poles was being installed where his wife tried to get some answers.

“My wife works from home now,” Walsh said, “So she was interacting, asking for a supervisor from Eversource, and they called and they were waiting for the Eversource person. (...) And then I guess the traffic officer on site had a conversation and came up the driveway and spoke to her, and stated that he gave them the right to go ahead and keep working before the supervisor showed up, and that if she does anything, he basically threatened to arrest her, without any, really, transaction.”

“We still don’t have in writing what that stuff is on top of those poles,” Walsh said.

Matthew Fuller, Eversource’s Field Engineering Designer, explained that the piece on top of the new poles is called a “recloser.”

“What that does is, it allows our

dispatcher from a computer in our office to open and close, essentially like a switch,” Fuller said, “the box that’s down below is the manual field control for that device.”

Fuller said this was to upgrade from the “air brake switch,” which could not be operated remotely.

Fuller informed Walsh that he did not have the authority to offer to remove the poles, but offered to bring the complaint back to Eversource, to someone who would be able to make that call.

Fuller also said that Eversource will likely be installing more of these upgrades. Selectman Manuel Silva recommended that Eversource communicate more with homeowners in the future, “and see if there’s ways that you can alter the location, and so on and so forth, to keep the homeowner, at least, appeased.”

“Let’s see what we can do to see to kind of make the resident a little bit happier here,” Select Board Chair James Gennette asked Eversource. “They obviously don’t like it there, they feel like they should have been contacted at some point.”

“See if there’s something that you can do on your side, and please report back to here, to us, so that we know that something’s going on with it,” Gennette said.

Gennette added that Eversource has “always been accommodating in most things, they’ve always been pretty upfront.”

Walsh also passed along a message from his wife to Town Administrator Marc Strange, saying she was “very appreciative and thankful for (his) communication through this whole process.”

## Street paving

In the Town Administrator’s Report, Strange said that the street paving plan “took on a life of its own.”

“At the last meeting, the Chairman asked the (Department of Pub-

lic Works) for a street paving plan,” Strange said, “we started that conversation with the DPW and we really haven’t done a formal plan, like a five-year paving plan, in the past, so we’re working on that, we’re working on getting that started.”

Strange said that through those conversations, he was surprised to find out how expensive it is to pave roads. The town is set to receive approximately \$685,000 in Chapter 90 funding for Fiscal Year 2024, “which is one of the lowest allocations we’ve received since before COVID hit,” Strange said, comparing it to the almost \$700,000 the town received in 2019.

In addition to the Chapter 90 funds, Strange said that there is \$190,000 for street maintenance in the DPW’s operating budget. The total of \$875,000 for road repair and maintenance, Strange said, “is a paltry number, because the cost of paving streets has exploded.”

“With any luck, we may be able to pave five roads this year,” Strange said.

Gennette added, “Patching the streets – potholes and things like that – if we know about them, then we can tell the DPW they’re there, and we can do some small patch in the meantime.”

## Poll pads

The Board voted unanimously to approve the use of \$19,000 in 40R funds to purchase 12 poll pads for elections.

“It’s mainly for the check-in list, because we get a lot of people, especially in certain precincts, there’s usually lines, there were a lot of lines in Precinct Six,” Batista said, “it will make it easier, even at the end when they go to finalize the election, they’ll be able to see how many voted and be able to finalize election a little bit easier and bring the information back to my office.”

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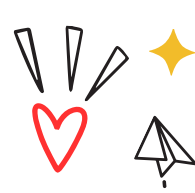
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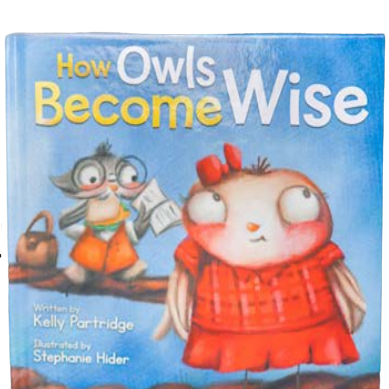


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# Legislators hope to head off more attempts to ban books

By Michael Harrison  
Correspondent

LUDLOW – A proposal that could have created a book banning policy in local school libraries may have stalled last spring, but a pair of state legislators with shared roots have introduced a bill intended to stay ahead of any future attempts.

The legislation, SD.2679, titled “An Act protecting against attempts to ban, remove, or restrict library access to materials,” was referred to the Joint Committee on Rules on July 6. Its sponsors, Sen. Jake Oliveira and Rep. Aaron Saunders, both said they are confident it will proceed on a track that will lead to an eventual public hearing.

“The situation in Ludlow was unfortunate to say the least, but we shouldn’t have to wait for the next time opponents of First Amendment freedoms attack another one of our towns,” Saunders said.

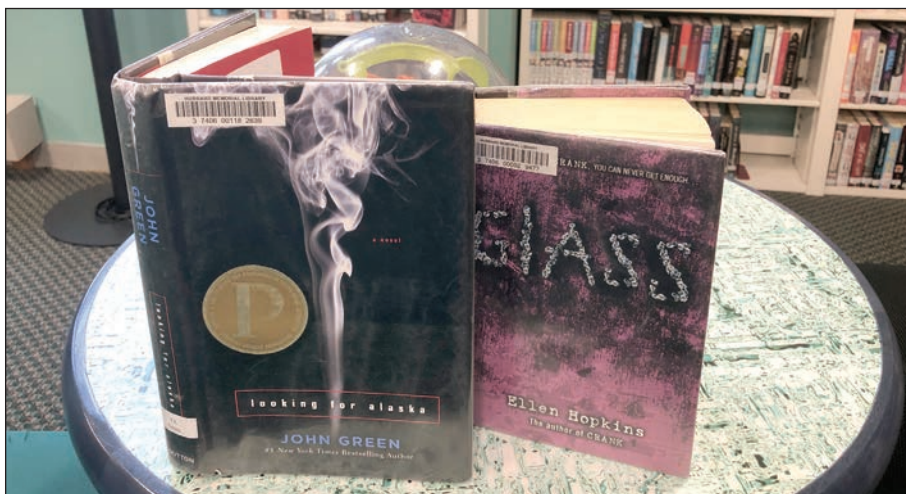
“The real value of this library protection bill is that it is a proactive measure that will provide our public libraries with a measure of protection against book banning efforts.”

According to Oliveira, “I’ve found attempts to put in place policies that could lead to book bans growing across the country for some time, but once it arrived here in Ludlow, I knew it was time to take immediate action.”

Last spring, after prior public discussions over the appropriateness of certain books in Ludlow schools, School Committeeman Joao Dias made a motion during a meeting to enact a new policy that could have removed a pair of young adult novels – “Crank” by Ellen Hopkins and “Looking For Alaska” by John Green – and possibly dozens of other titles from school libraries.

The motion did not receive a second and never came to a vote.

Neither Dias nor any other Ludlow School Committee member responded to a group email sent to all of their official accounts seeking comment. Committee member and Secretary Jeffrey Stratton, reached by text, declined to comment. Committee Vice Chair Sarah F. Bowler did not respond to a text. Ludlow Superintendent of Schools Frank Tiano did not respond to a voice message left on his extension at the district office.



Copies of “Crank” by Ellen Hopkins and “Looking For Alaska” by John Green borrowed from shelves at Hubbard Memorial Library last week. Those are two of the books that could have been removed from Ludlow school libraries if a proposed policy was approved last spring.

Turley photo by Michael Harrison

During discussions earlier this year, Dias said he modeled his policy proposal on one he read about online when it was enacted by the Central Bucks School District in Pennsylvania. That policy has since been challenged in a federal lawsuit filed by the ACLU.

“These attempts, like the proposed Ludlow School Committee policy ripped off the internet from a school district in Pennsylvania, could censor age-appropriate materials because of a political or xenophobic viewpoint,” Oliveira said.

“What’s happening in our public schools could easily happen in our public libraries. I am proud to partner with Rep. Aaron Saunders to protect our libraries from these attempts to censor books. It’s a strong bill that I’m incredibly proud to sponsor. I’m prepared to champion it until we get the results needed to protect our literature and free thought from extremists pushing a fringe political agenda.”

The two legislators behind SD.2679 are Ludlow natives. Oliveira still resides there while Saunders resettled his family in Belchertown. Both said they want to head off any statewide movement toward censorship in school and public libraries.

Oliveira, who served 12 years on the Ludlow School Committee before he was elected as a state representative in 2020, also has a background in higher education, serving as assistant executive officer of the Massachusetts State Universities

Council of Presidents. Saunders is a former Ludlow Select Board member, former chief of staff to state Sen. Gale Candaras and is a co-founder of Loophole Brewing. He also served on the staff of former U.S. Senator John Kerry.

Oliveira, who was first elected to the School Committee in 2009, said he recalls past discussions over books.

“During my time on the committee, removal of books in school libraries started to bubble up in Ludlow when national politicians began making this a wedge issue,” he said.

“When a challenge to certain books in a school library was brought to the attention of the school committee, we followed our district politics and formed a review committee with parents, teachers, administrators and librarians to review the challenged books. I sat on that committee and read personally the challenged material and shared it widely with friends with children and the committee determined unanimously that most materials were age-appropriate.”

Oliveira said his background in education “certainly informs my position, but this goes far beyond education.”

The bill he filed with Saunders “focuses on our public libraries,” he said.

“I have been working with colleagues in the legislature on other legislation focused on our public-school libraries. This legislation is needed across the common-

wealth because it’s about protecting not only our students’ education but also free thought, freedom of expression, diversity and marginalized communities that the proponents of the proposed book bans can’t accept.”

Both said they have received positive feedback from constituents and fellow legislators.

“The book banning effort in Ludlow was a wake-up call to ensure that the Legislature is doing everything it should to protect our public libraries,” Saunders said.

“The bill Senator Oliveira and I filed will help provide those protections.”

According to Oliveira, “Since these aggressive attempts to put in place narrow-minded policies have been proposed, I have received messages of concern from parents, students, teachers, community members and colleagues from across the state. I have received an overwhelmingly positive response from constituents and from members of the State Library Board of Commissioners. They want to see books kept on the shelves at our public libraries and schools.”

He added that, “Book bans are nothing new. They are ways to suppress free thought and have been employed by Communist China, the Soviet Union, and Nazi Germany.”

Kristin Santos, youth services assistant at Hubbard Memorial Library, said she’s aware of the proposal the school committee ultimately did not vote on and the controversy over “Crank” and “Looking For Alaska,” which she said have been increasingly checked out by local adults.

“People do come into the library to check out books that are being questioned to see what’s going on inside and decide for themselves if they are appropriate for their own children,” Santos said.

The mother of a local middle school student herself, “I didn’t read ‘Crank’ – I listened to ‘Crank’ because I didn’t have a lot of time to sit down and read the novel, but I listened to it to make my own decisions on the book,” Santos said.

“You can read a part of a book but that doesn’t mean you understand the whole book. I need, by myself, to make those decisions for my child.”

She declined to share her personal opinion of the book.

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# Little Free Library coming to Wilbraham in early August

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer

WILBRAHAM – A little free library will be installed outside the LUSO Federal Credit Union on Crane Park Drive in early August.

Ana Parrelli, vice president of Business Development, explained they heard about the little free library after an Eagle Scout in Ludlow put one up for a project, with more popping up in other areas.

Parrelli shared many of the staff read and enjoy books, with residents also giving books to them.

“We were like, ‘What a great idea! Let’s do that too!’” Parrelli said.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization whose mission is about building community and inspiring readers by providing access to books through volunteer-led Little Free Library book exchange boxes.

They are found all over the country.

“Sometimes they’re at schools, sometimes they’re at businesses like ours, sometimes they’re just in neighborhoods. Sometimes people have them at their house out front and stock them with books,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli said when one was put up at the Ludlow branch, it was “full of books.”

“We started with some books, but it is just full now and people have been coming. Taking books, leaving books, so it’s pretty cool,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli added LUSO sponsors the One Book One Community program the school district runs during the summer.

“We do so much with our schools and we’re such big readers that it just made sense to kind of offer that as a community thing,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli said offering a little free library “is who we are, it’s what we do” as a credit union.

“We are very involved in the community. Any time we can help, especially with the kids but just in general, we love just being out in the community and giving back,” Parrelli said. “We saw it as an opportunity to be able to give back and we took it. It tied in nicely with our core values, it tied in nicely with just our staff and what they are passionate about and it made sense.”

Parrelli looks forward to “seeing people coming and using it” after the Wilbraham branch puts it up, adding she “gets a thrill out of” people coming by and using it.

“The one at Ludlow we have right it by the front door too, so you kind of see people. When they’re coming in they’re stopping and looking or even people that are just walking by on the street that come, they’re not there to go to LUSO, but they are there for the little free library,” Parrelli said.

She added one of their staff members follows Little



The Little Free Library at the FUSO Federal Credit Union branch in Ludlow. A little free library will be coming to the Wilbraham branch in early August. Turley photo by Kristin Rivers

Free Library and “always looks for them” in whatever community she’s in.

“So there are people that are followers of the Little Free Library and it’s just cool to be a stop on the map for those people,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli and her family have used the little free libraries too.

“I’ve used a ton of them. I’m rotating books out every day for them, so it’s really great,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli said residents can learn more about Little Free Library by visiting the organization’s website.

“There’s a ton of information. If they want to build one there are blueprints that tell you how to build them, so that’s what we did,” Parrelli said.

Parrelli wants the community to know they’re here to support them.

“We are a part of the community and we want people to know we’re part of the community. We work here, we live here, our kids go to school here so we all have a vested interest in our local community,” Parrelli said.

To learn more about Little Free Library, visit [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org).

## Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a “hands on” energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

### Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

### Please send resume and writing examples to:

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24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)

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The Massachusetts Trial Court hereby gives notice of the availability of one or more Bail Commissioner appointments for the Eastern Hampshire District Court located in Hampshire County.

A Bail Commissioner is appointed by the Massachusetts Trial Court to make release and bail determinations for persons arrested when courts are closed (overnights, weekends and holidays.)

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is an appointment only. No salary or benefits are included but fees may be collected from the person in custody at the time of release. The base fee is \$40.00.  
Bail Commissioners are required to have reliable transportation in order to travel to the Eastern Hampshire District Court and the police departments located in Amherst, Belchertown, Granby, Hadley, Pelham, South Hadley and Ware. Proximity to the communities listed and familiarity with criminal law and procedures helpful.

*If you are interested in being considered for appointment please contact:*  
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STATE BAIL ADMINISTRATOR  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE TRIAL COURT  
[tcbaill@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:tcbaill@jud.state.ma.us)

*The appointing authorities do not discriminate against any applicant because of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, status as a veteran, basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class.*

# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN

### My Baystate story: From 'candy striper' to the ED

By Patricia Michalski

I started my career in healthcare in 1976 as a candy striper at Mary Lane Hospital. We were called "candy strippers" because of the red-and-white striped aprons we wore.

As volunteers, we did a range of duties to help the nurses comfort their patients. My first role in healthcare led to my love for caring for people. When I was old enough to get a job, I worked as a nurse's aide and later as a unit secretary on the Med/Surg floor and the Oncology Unit.

In 2016, I moved to Baystate Wing Hospital and now work as an Operations Associ-



Patricia Michalski

ate in the Emergency Department.

Throughout my career, I have witnessed many changes and worked through many challenges, but COVID-19 brought the greatest challenges to our team. Working in the ED during the pandemic was difficult; Our patients were very sick and many of our team members worked long hours to help care for them. I am thankful that we are no longer in the middle of a pandemic and I am exceptionally proud of the work we did to help care for our community members and each other over the past two years.

The work of an operations associate in the ED requires me to stay calm and work in

a fast-paced environment. We often care for patients with extreme illnesses who are in pain and suffering. On busy and hectic days, I keep things organized and moving.

I have a special place in my heart for older patients and veterans and my role in the ED allows me to be a friendly face as I help care for them.

Throughout my career, as I worked in diverse roles, every day has been different. What has not changed is the comradery I have witnessed among my colleagues each and every day and the commitment we have to place our patients at the center of everything we do.

*Patricia Michalski is an operations associate in the Emergency Department at Baystate Wing Hospital.*

### The daylily, both friend and foe



I have never been a daylily aficionado, but as of late, they are growing on me. Why I write is because on Cape Cod they are everywhere. The last few days I have seen them paired with shrubs, other perennials and even as a backdrop to carefully placed annuals.

Read on as I resurrect a column from the archives with new and updated factoids.

We've all seen the clumps of orange daylilies (*Hemerocallis fulva*) blooming along roadsides each summer. These remnants of long ago have oftentimes outlived the people who planted them and the farmhouse in which they were planted around.

Arriving from Asia in the late 1800s, the common daylily is now considered invasive because it crowds out native plants. While experts advise not planting daylilies that are known to run amok, there are many cultivars that rightly deserve a place in the landscape.

Two varieties of daylilies presently occupy space in my landscape, one that is a family heirloom, and another that was purchased on a whim.

The lemon lily (*Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus*) was a family heirloom, although I am not sure where it originated. I think it was my grand babi that first gave it to my mother back in the 1950s.

It has been almost entirely choked out of the banking of my childhood home by lily of the valley, but I am lucky enough to have saved a piece and it is thriving in my perennial garden. It is delicate as far as daylilies go, perfectly lemon yellow and subtly scented.

The lemon lily has a short bloom time, a week or less in early June, but it makes a per-



Orange daylilies (*Hemerocallis fulva*)

fect bed fellow to deep purple bearded iris.

Today, thousands of cultivars of daylilies are available, many of which bloom for longer periods of time than the old-fashioned types. They are offered in shades of all colors except blue and pure white.

Minatures look great in rock gardens, while more beefy types work well to stabilize bankings. The majority blend nicely with annuals, perennials, and shrubbery, as mentioned.

Daylilies belong to the genus *Hemerocallis*- *hemero* being Greek for "beautiful," and *callis* Greek for "day." Individual flowers do open and perish in 24 hours or less.

Luckily though, there are usually several flowers per scape (stem), and when one goes by another is waiting to take its place. A desirable variety will bloom for at least two weeks, or will repeat blooming later in the season.

When shopping for daylilies at the nursery simply count the number of buds per scape of the potted plant. The number of buds (or the number of scars if blooming is nearly



Lemon lily (*Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus*)

finished) coincides with the number of days that particular variety is expected to bloom.

Unfortunately, my lemon lily had a mere four.

If you choose carefully and plan accordingly by including early, mid, and late season bloomers in your mix, it is possible to achieve continuous bloom over a three month period in a mixed border of daylilies.

Many people are opting to plant a single variety for a season's worth of flowers. Different than varieties that rebloom, everbloomers offer a nonstop performance from the beginning of their bloom period until frost.

It is said that Dr. Darrel Apps, a geneticist and master breeder evaluated some 11,000 seedlings to end up with a mere few that flower continuously.

Breeding continues, so look for the newest introductions each year. My whim purchase from a few years back is a rebloomer called "Purple D'oro." I bought it because it was blooming in the nursery alongside Gayfeather, orange Helenium, and Purple Coneflower.

They are a power quartet in my summer border for sure, and the rebloom factor surely stretches out the show.

Locate daylilies where they will receive at least six hours of sun a day. Average soil, as long as it drains well, will grow strong plants.

Vigor determines whether clumps need to be separated and divided every few years, or if they can grow uninterrupted for many seasons. Division is best accomplished in early spring or immediately after bloom.

If you take the later approach, just be sure the plant has at least one month of growing time before frost hits. This way it will have an opportunity to root well, anchoring itself before winter freezing and thawing can heave it from the ground.

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

## 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 mharrison@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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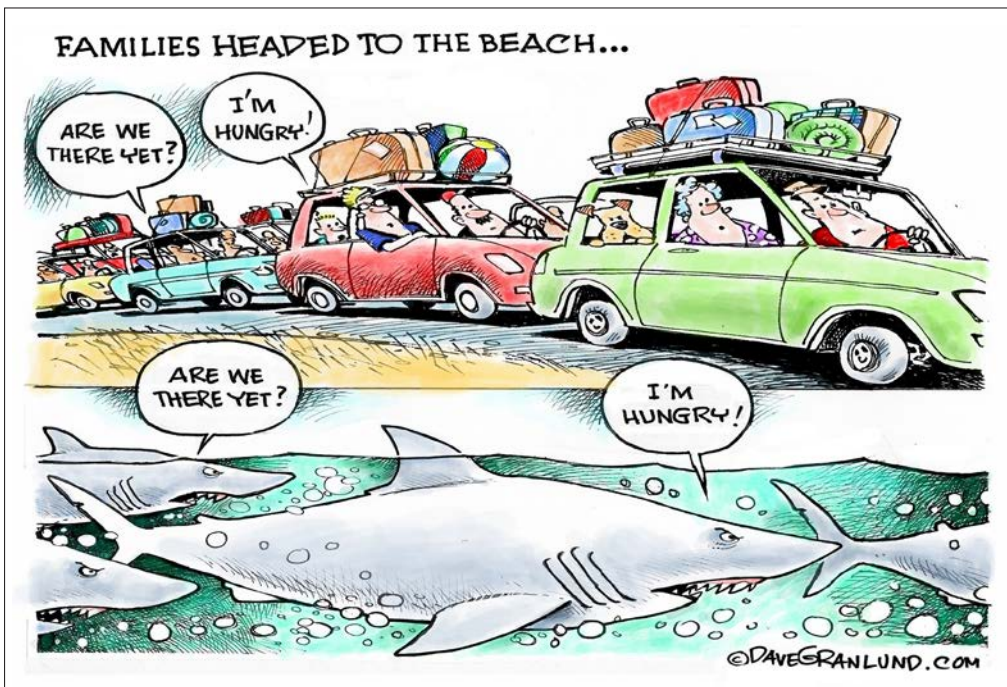
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# What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

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

Library Hours: M, W, F 9-5, TU, TH, 9-8, S 9-1. Closed Sundays and holidays; closed on Saturdays for the summer starting 6/17.

## For All Ages

THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM IS HAPPENING, with programs for preschoolers, kids, teens and adults! Sign up to participate here: <https://hubbardlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>

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

## For Adults

The Happy Hour Book Club discusses "Small Things" by Claire Keegan, Thursday August 31, 6:30 p.m.

The "Happy Hour Book Club" meets the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.. New members are always welcome.

The "Who Picked This Book?" Book Club discusses "Still Life" by Louise Penny, Thursday August 3, 3:30 p.m.

The "Who Picked This Book?" book club meets the first Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m.. New members are always welcome.

## For Teens

Nintendo Switch Night, every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month during the summertime, 6-8 p.m.

Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Nintendo Switch games. Free pizza is generously donated by Domino's of Wilbraham. For 6th-12th graders, space is limited to 16 people, please register.

Book Flower Craft for YAs, Tuesday August 8, 5:00 p.m. Use recycled book pages to make beautiful and unique flowers. Please register.

Anime Club, every Tuesday, 3:30-5 p.m. Meet each week to watch & talk about anime, eat snacks, & try out your cosplay. Please register.

Fellowship of the Pages: Tween Graphic Novel Book Discussion Group, Every Thursday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Meet each week to discuss graphic novels, eat snacks, play games, and make friends. This month the group is reading Alexis Castellano's *Isla to Island*, copies available in the Youth Room. Please register.

Dungeons & Dragons High School Adventure Ensemble, Fridays 2:30-4:30 p.m. This group for experienced high school players is currently full, but check back during the summer to see if there are openings.

"Read Between the Lines" YA Book Group, Next meeting Friday September 1, 3-4 p.m. Book chat and snacks for ages 14 & up. Copies of next month's

book available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

## For Children & Teens

Paper Airplane workshop for kids, Monday August 7, 2:30-3:00 p.m. Learn a few variations on basic airplanes and then take them for a test fly. Please register.

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

Minecraft Club, Wednesdays 3-4:45 p.m. Minecraft players of all skill levels can bring their own devices, or may use one of the library's eight computers to build, play & create. For upper elementary & up. Drop-in.

Star Wars Trivia Night, Thursday August 3, 5:30 p.m. Put your Star Wars knowledge to the test for a chance to win cool prizes. For kids, teens & families. Please register.

Roblox Club, Fridays 3:30-4:45 p.m. Meet new friends or play with old ones while playing Roblox; the library will help match kids up according to age and game types. For ages 8+.

## For Children

"Color Me A Story" Storytime for 3-5 year olds, Mondays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Little ones will enjoy stories, games and songs related to the colors of the rainbow, followed by a craft and snack. Please register.

Sing With Me, Tuesdays 10:30-11 a.m. Join Youth Services Librarian July for 30 minutes of favorite children's songs & movement. Outdoors and drop-in in good weather (please bring chairs

or a blanket), indoors with an attendance limit when raining so please register. Weather announcements will be posted on our Facebook page the morning of the program.

"Ready 4 K" Kindergarten-Readiness Series, Tuesdays 2:00-2:45 p.m. Early Childhood Development specialist Kelly Castor will teach essential Kindergarten-readiness skills in this 3-part series of fun classes sponsored by Pathways for Parents. Please register.

"Color Me A Story" Storytime for 2-3 year olds, Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Toddlers will start with a free play period, then enjoy stories, games and songs related to the colors of the rainbow, followed by a craft and snack. Please register.

Lego Build Challenge, Wednesdays 12-5 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.

July Grow, Play & Learn, Thursdays 9-10a.m. Stories, songs and skill building led by early childhood development-trained leaders who will introduce pre-literacy curriculum in a fun, playful environment. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Drop-In Outdoor Storytime, Fridays during the summer, 12:00-12:30 p.m.

Best for ages 2-5, we meet on the library lawn. Will cancel due to bad weather, check Facebook for updates.

Mermaid Party, Friday August 4, 1:30 p.m. Mermaid-themed games, crafts & snacks, & a chance to meet Ariel from the new live-action Disney movie in person. Costumes welcome! Indoors in case of rain.

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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.

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We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

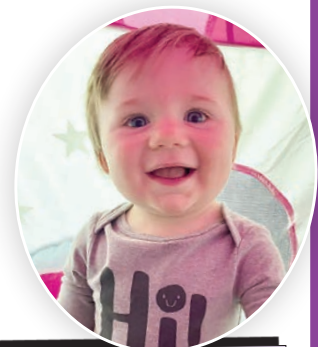
For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).

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# Health and Wellness Fair held at Myrtle Park



Manning the Square One booth were Alba Page and Sheneva Johnson.



Kathy Gonzalez had a table for her store, Everlasting Treasures.



Latoya Fort had a booth for her business, Soul Care.



The Raw Beauty Brand table was worked by Mikaila Perez, Crystal Headley, and Marina Echevarria.

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# SPORTS

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## Boys fall, make playoffs

LUDLOW – The Ludlow B boys summer soccer team suffered a narrow 1-0 loss to South Hadley, but have made the playoffs at 5-6. They narrowly missed a rematch with the Tigers, who are the No. 3 seed. Instead, Ludlow was scheduled to face Chicopee in the quarter-finals of the B Division playoffs earlier this week.



Evan Dias stops with the ball as he runs into an opponent.



Andre Costa makes a throw-in.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



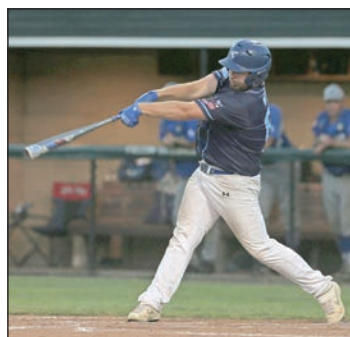
Jayden Premo circles around and looks to shoot.



Ethan Steigmeyer sends a pass forward.



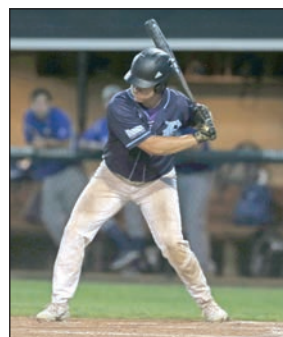
Dave Clark fields a grounder for PeoplesBank.



Nicholas Wilken, of Ludlow, swings and connects.



Braeden Lamirande gets an out at first for DiFranco.



Ryan Hemenway sizes up a pitch.



Cam McDonald throw to first.

Turley photos by David Henry



Agawam's Cam Rivest delivers a pitch for DiFranco Realty.



Zach Handzel, of Palmer, pitches for PeoplesBank.



Joe Ferry slides into third base.

## Bankers cash in for finals

WILBRAHAM – Last Friday night, PeoplesBank Tri-County baseball took down DiFranco in the opener of a best-of-three series 17-0 in five innings. The Bankers are the No. 1 seed in the Tri-County League playoffs. They would punch their ticket to the finals the following day when DiFranco forfeited the second game of the series, giving the Bankers the finals berth. The finals were scheduled to begin earlier this week.

# SPORTS

## Valley Blue Sox win the West, playoffs begin

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox are the 2023 NECBL West Division Champions. In their final game of the regular season, the Blue Sox defeated the Keene Swamp Bats 8-7, to finish 23-18-2 on the season.

In a game that saw 23 hits and four different position players on the mound, the Blue Sox scored runs in four different innings.

Brendan Yagesh started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching two innings while allowing four runs with three strikeouts.

Keene got on the board first in the top of the second inning, following three RBI singles and a wild pitch to put the Swamp Bats up 4-0 early.

Valley rallied back to quickly take the lead back in the bottom of the second inning, batting around their entire lineup. Conor Kiely hit an RBI single to score EJ Kreutzmann in his first at-bat of

the season. Zach Ketterman hit an RBI single to score Michael Zarrillo.

Will Gale walked with the bases loaded, AJ Guerrero hit an RBI single, then EJ Kreutzmann was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, to allow the Blue Sox to take the lead 5-4.

Kurt Thomas took over for Yagesh in the top of the third, pitching two innings while allowing one run.

Keene tied the game at five after Bryan Padillia was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Valley took the lead back in the bottom of the fourth after Michael Zarrillo walked with the bases loaded to put the



team ahead 6-5.

Third Baseman Zach Ketterman made his first appearance on the mound this season, taking over for Thomas in the top of the fifth inning. The right-hander pitched two innings with three strikeouts, allowing one run.

The Swamp Bats tied the game at six following an RBI single in the top of the fifth, but Valley quickly took the lead back in the bottom of the inning after Guerrero hit an RBI groundout.

Center Fielder Will Gale also made his first appearance on the mound this season, taking over for Ketterman in the top of the seventh inning. The speedy outfielder pitched one inning, allowing one run and striking out one batter.

The Swamp Bats tied the game at seven in the top of the seventh inning after an RBI single.

CJ Willis, a position player who has made four different appearances on the mound this season, once again saw himself on the mound after relieving Gale in the top of the eighth inning. Willis pitched two scoreless innings to earn himself his second win of the season.

The Blue Sox took the lead in the bottom of the eighth after 2023 All-Star EJ Kreutzmann hit an RBI single to score Collier Cranford.

Willis pitched a clean ninth inning to secure the victory and division title for the Blue Sox.

With the NECBL Playoffs beginning Monday night, the Blue Sox remained at home to host their division rival Bristol Blues in the first game of a best-of-three-game series.

## Belanger, Grenier get first career wins

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Joel Belanger and Carlos Grenier each scored his first career Monadnock Speedway victory Saturday at the historic high-banked oval.

Belanger won the nightcap 30-lapper in the NHSTRA Modifieds, while Nate Wenzel topped the first open-wheel go-round. Grenier earned his victory lap by holding Colton Martin at bay to win the 50-lap Pure Stock main event. In the NHSTRA Late Models, it was Hillary Renaud scoring her first win of the summer and, in so doing, becoming the fifth different LM victor this year.

Steve Miller Jr. won for the first time this year in the Six Shooters, and Adrian Smith continued to outrun everyone as he dominated en route to his third 2023 Young Guns victory.

Wenzel's win in the first Modified feature came gift-wrapped in the form of a Brian Chapin/Tyler Leary last-lap tangle that saw Wenzel avoid the mess immediately before him as he darted off to victory.

Chapin had taken control on lap three and was probably already making plans for where the night's trophy would later be displayed when he and Leary, up to second on lap 25, jingled in turn two as the checkers awaited them less than a lap away. Wenzel steered clear and blasted to his second win of the summer.

In the nightcap, Belanger held off all challengers to wire the event for his first career victory on the high banks. Geoff Rollins got up for second on lap 15 but, on this night, was no match for the speedy Belanger. Rollins was the night's overall Modified winner, putting together a pair of deuce runs. Aaron Fellows and Scott Zilinski each had a third for their hard night's work.

A field of 21 potent chargers went to war in the night's Pure Stock 50-lapper. Carlos Grenier, starting up front, had seen victory slip away from him in his last outing on the high banks and wasn't about to let it happen again.

He led Dominick Stafford on laps one and two, with two-time winner Colton Martin then taking over on a restart and riding in Grenier's shadow the rest of the way.

While the lap-two jingle didn't affect the race's outcome, it strongly impacted the mid-season points chase. Multi-time track champ and points titan Chris Davis, along with Zach Phillips and Andrea St. Amour were the big victims in this one, with Davis' early demise dropping him to 20th on the night.

Grenier and Martin fought hard the rest of the way, with Zach Zilinski in close tow until 2022 Claremont champ Chris Chambers claimed third on lap 42. Grenier, third

his last time out, prevailed to take a happy victory lap.

Hillary Renaud used her Saturday victory in the NHSTRA Late Models to leapfrog two spots in the points parade into second. She led all the way, with Haydon Grenier – up to second on lap two – strong in his runner-up performance. Points leader and reigning track champ Tim Wenzel used a final-turn blast to snatch third from JD Stockwell.

Steve Miller Jr. took the lead from Jacob Scott on lap three of the Six Shooter feature and never looked back. Scott then had his hands full for much of the race holding off Miller's father, Steve Sr., for second, as Scott, Miller Sr., and Andrew Scott took the checkers nose-to-tail.

Adrian Smith took the lead from Madison Cousino on lap eight of the Young Guns feature and then blasted off to his third win of the summer. Cousino, impressive all night, held strong the rest of the way to earn her first career podium finish in second, while Markus O'Neil came home third.

After a week off, Monadnock Speedway will return to action on Saturday, August 5, when the high-banked speedplant will host another full night of oval track racing featuring 50 Lap Mini Stock Challenge.

## Thunderbirds caravan event moved

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds today announced that the first installment of the Thunderbirds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin' has been postponed to Saturday, Aug. 12 due to potential inclement weather this weekend.

The T-Birds Community Caravan will still make a total of three stops in the Springfield area throughout the summer months:

- Saturday, Aug. 12 - Szot Park (Chicopee), 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 19 - Amelia Ice Arena (Westfield), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with the T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament
- Public skating from 10:50 to 11:50 a.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 - Forest Park & Cyr Arena (Springfield), 1 to 3 p.m.

Each event will feature an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, including a Dunkin' Taste Truck, street hockey activities, and various food options.

## Teams clinch playoff spots as Valley Wheel season nears close

WILBRAHAM – Sunday's action in the Valley Wheel Over-28 baseball league got a lot clearer as three teams cemented their spots in the playoffs while the fourth team will be determined by a matchup this week.

The Twins-Angels game held at Bruce Park in Suffield provided the stage for a preview to the playoffs.

The two teams have met in the last two playoff finals. It will not happen this year. Thanks to a complete game from Todd Bergstrom, as well as a two-run single in the ninth inning he also provided, the Twins prevailed over the Angels 6-4.

The game was close throughout, with the Angels and Twins trading leads a few times. Down 4-3 in the eighth, Trevor Portlock, of Wilbraham, drove home a run with a single to make the game 4-4. The Angels, unfortunately, could not bring home the go-head runs, which were at second and third with one out. Bergstrom was able to close the game in the ninth.

With the win, the Angels fell to 8-7 and their regular season is finished. The Twins are 8-6, and had a makeup game scheduled with the Tigers on Wednes-

day at Spec Pond under the lights. A win gets the Twins to 9-6 and the final playoff spot. But a loss would make the Twins 8-7 like the Angels, and put the Angels in the playoffs. The Angels hold a 2-1 advantage in their tiebreaker over the Twins this year, winning the first two matchups the teams had.

Elsewhere in the league, the Cubs cemented their playoff spot, winning their ninth game of the season with a 14-12 win over the Orioles. The Orioles would finish 1-14 and out of playoff contention.

The Cubs meet the Athletics on Thursday night with the top seeds on the line.

The Athletics defeated the Tigers on Sunday evening at Spec Pond 9-7. Both teams have already made the playoffs this year, but will look for momentum in their respective games later this week.

The two makeup games were necessitated from rainouts last Thursday night that wiped out all the action about two hours before the games were scheduled.

The playoffs are currently scheduled for this Sunday at Spec Pond with the 2 and 3 seeds playing at 2:30 p.m. and the 1 and 4 seeds playing at 6 p.m.

## West showcased in volleyball

BOSTON – In last month's Bay State Games, the Western part of the state featured a volleyball team. Here is a look at how they fared in some of their matchups held July 8 and 9:

The Central girls team opened up the Girls side of the showcase with strong play from Katy O'Connell (Northborough, Algonquin Reg. HS) and Lily Davidson (Rutland, Wachusett Reg. HS), leading them to a 25-13 first game win. The second game saw more of the same, as the Nault twins Victoria, and Sabrina (Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury HS) also helped power Central to a dominant game one performance, winning the second set 25-12.

### Coastal 2, West 0

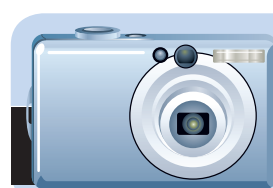
This match featured an impressive start for the West squad, as they held the lead numerous times thanks to Sasha Fyfe (Dalton, Waconah Reg. HS) and Gabrielle Adams (Greenfield, Frontier Reg. HS). Unfortunately, they were unable to hold the lead,

as Coastal stormed back to grab a 25:16 win in the first set, and rolled through the second game as well. Although closer in the end, the Coastal team found success thanks to consistent play from Haley Jenkins (Dartmouth, Dartmouth HS) and Hannah Storm (Swansea, Joseph Case HS).

### West 2, Southeast 0

During this match, Southeast used a 6-point run, along with multiple diving plays to help propel them to a quick 25-15 first-game win. In the second game, West used great efforts from Chloe Schott (Longmeadow, Longmeadow HS) and Gabriella Manes (Feeding Hills, Agawam HS), however it wasn't enough as Zoe Smallman (Weston, Weston HS) and Caroline Gray (Whitman, Whitman-Hanson Reg. HS) continued their good performances on the day, winning the second game 25-21.

The west would play in a challenge game on Sunday, July 9, but did not play in either of the medal games.



Send Us Your Sports Photos!

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**CLEAN UP** from Page 1

community development for this. She's coordinating all of it right now, I'm just helping with the groundwork."

"As a member of Recreation (Department), I can't directly be involved with the leadership – I can't be a sitting President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer – but I can assist in a subcommittee role with developing outreach and communications," Lupa said.

Lupa said that the Monument and Memorial Parks were easy to take care of. "The veterans utilize and take care of Monument Park," Lupa said.

"Between Whitney field and West St., there was a lot of matter that made it unsafe for kids to run around without shoes, or roll around and play in the grass," Lupa said.

"In Whitney Fields specifically, we were finding broken glass, little nip bottles," Lupa said. "Whitney had more trash that resembled teens and kids not really having anywhere to go, like vape pods, little tent nips, soda cans, etc."

In West St. Park, De Gobbi and Lupa found car parts, including a set of shocks, four or five liters of oil bottles, as well as wires, lawn trimmings, glass containers, and drug paraphernalia.

"We can see some tires clearly in the woods, al-

though we couldn't reach them," Lupa said.

Lupa said that the Department of Public Works does not have enough employees to clean up this trash, despite a lot of it being thrown into the receptacles at the parks.

"There aren't more than 13 guys taking care of the whole city," Lupa said, and theorized that squirrels, chipmunks, and other rodents might be digging through the trash and running it around the parks.

Lupa said he was "Really happy that we were able to coordinate people and request volunteer engage-



Kelly De Gobbi (pictured) coordinated with volunteers to pick up trash in Memorial Park. Courtesy photos

ment to start picking up these parks."

"The reason we're doing 7-8 a.m. clean-ups is so that we can have parks clean and ready for the kids that will be frequenting the park during the weekend," Lupa said.

If you're interested in volunteering for the Friends of Ludlow Parks, go to their Facebook page, or reach out to De Gobbi or Lupa directly.

DeGobbi said, "Preserving our parks is a community effort and we're looking forward to making these cleanup events a regular thing!"



It was through the help of a number of local volunteers that the Friends of Ludlow Parks were able to clean up the parks in town.

**PET OF THE MONTH**  
**Meet Gigi!**

She is a 12 year old brindle Chihuahua. She was adopted by Vincent Sinischalchi of Ludlow when she was 1 year old, from a customer on his letter carrier route. Gigi loves the beach!



**Benefits of Keeping Cats Indoors**

If you are new to caring for a cat, one of the decisions you need to make is whether you will allow your cat access to the outdoors. Many cats are perfectly happy and content to lead a life that is almost exclusively inside. There are also a number of benefits to keeping your cat indoor:

**Keeping your cat indoors can help keep it safe from other animals**

Foxes, raccoons, coyotes, and even large birds can all pose a considerable threat.

**An indoor cat is less likely to become lost**

**Accidents and injuries are less likely with an indoor cat**

There are countless ways a cat be injured outside the home ; being hit by a car, poisoned by a toxic substance, or injuries from falling or becoming trapped.

**Protect your cat from contagious diseases and parasites**

Vaccinating your pet against the most common infectious diseases is helpful. Keeping your cat indoors can further reduce risk of contact with fleas, ticks and other parasites.

*(Adapted from petwellnessclinics.com)*

**PET PAGE**



**READERS!**

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

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Lynn Dgetluck, DVM  
William D. Anderson, DVM  
Hannah Belcher-Timme, DVM  
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Leah Guidry, DVM  
Madison Harris, DVM

Amy Zander & Andrew Hersman, DVM

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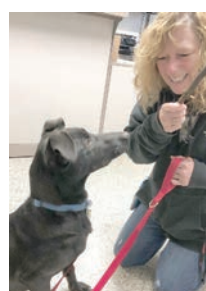
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# OBITUARIES

## Robert Armand Blais

Robert Armand Blais, 92, passed away July 21, 2023 at Baystate Medical Center. Bob was born and raised in Indian Orchard, MA, the youngest of 7 children of the late Cleophas and Yvonne (LeBlonde) Blais and was a Ludlow resident since 1955. He graduated in 1947 from Springfield Trade School at the age of 16. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Conger, and later on the Newman K. Perry during the Korean Conflict. Bob worked as a machinist for several local manufacturing companies, retiring from Center Machine at age 57, and enjoyed a long and happy retirement. He was a talented woodworker and wood carver, and enjoyed

antique dealing and traveling. He was an avid gardener, especially tending to the irises and daylilies that adorned his yard. Most especially, Bob was passionate about his family who meant the world to him.

He was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Carol (Moore) Blais; a beloved daughter, Vivian Morrissey, and his siblings: Joseph, Romeo "Tony", Claire, Ernest, Roland, and Florence. He leaves his loving children: Gail Blais of Colchester, CT, Robert C. Blais and his wife Susan of Warren, Joanne Bell and her husband Gregory of Wilbraham, David Blais and his wife Sherry of Hampden, and James Blais and his wife Kathleen of Panama City

Beach, FL; his cherished companion of 7 years, Carolyn Wikar; 22 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, other family members, and many friends.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 10:30am at Nowak Funeral & Cremation Services, 15 Ludlow Ave., Springfield followed by burial at Island Pond Cemetery, Ludlow. Calling hours will be held Sunday, August 6 from 2-4pm and also on Monday, August 7 from 9:30-10:30am at the funeral home.

To offer online condolences to his family, please visit [www.nowakfuneral.com](http://www.nowakfuneral.com).

### DEATH NOTICES

**Blais, Robert Armand**  
Died July 21, 2023  
Services August 7, 2023

**Fernandes, Lucia**  
Died July 29, 2023  
Funeral August 4, 2023

### The Ludlow Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

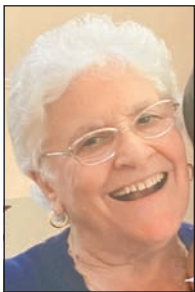
The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## Lucia Fernandes

Lucia Fernandes, aged 85, peacefully departed from this world at her home in Ludlow on July 29th, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in the town of Travassos da Cha, Portugal, to her parents, Dionisio and Ana Goncalves. She immigrated to the United States in 1966 alongside her family and settled in Ludlow. Lucia worked for many years in the textile industry, ultimately retiring from Unifirst Corporation. She was a faithful communicant of Our Lady of Fatima Church. Upon retiring, Lucia found immense joy in spending summers with her beloved husband in their cherished village of Travassos. In 2019, she experienced the heart-wrenching loss of her husband, Manuel, with whom she had shared 62 wonderful years. Their love was a testament to the beauty of a lifelong partnership. Lucia is survived




by her loving daughters: Senhorinha Dias and her husband Armenio of Belchertown, Anna Maria Bernard and her husband Jeff of Harwich, MA, and Ilda Panetta and her partner Ron LaRocque of Belchertown. Her memory will forever be cherished by her grandchildren: Jessica, Eric & his wife Samantha, Katie, Michael & his fiancée Netaya, Stephen and his wife Rachael, Kimberly, and Juliana. Additionally, she leaves behind her beloved great-grandchildren: Arya, George, Milo, Brayden & Teddy. She leaves behind her sisters: Teresa Carneiro of Portugal, Maria Fontoura of Ludlow and Rosa Fontoura and her husband Ildio of Ludlow and her brother Antonio Meireles and his wife Lourdes of Brazil. She was predeceased by her brothers Alexander and Lavalier Goncalves and her sisters Lucinda Alves and Laurinda Justo. She

also leaves behind cherished nieces, nephews, cousins, and a wide circle of friends who will remember her fondly. Lucia's family was her greatest joy in life, and she dedicated herself to their care and well-being. The loss of her beloved husband left an everlasting void in her heart, from which she never fully recovered. However, it brings comfort to know that they are finally reunited. In memory of Lucia Fernandes, may her love, kindness, and devotion to family live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. Funeral services for Lucia will be held on Friday, August 4th at 9:00am from the Ludlow Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Mass celebrated at 10:00am in Our Lady of Fatima Parish followed by burial in Island Pond Cemetery. Visitation is Thursday evening, August 3rd from 5:00-7:00pm at the Funeral Home. For additional information and online condolences please visit: [Ludlowfuneralhome.com](http://Ludlowfuneralhome.com)

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## Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

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**Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public**

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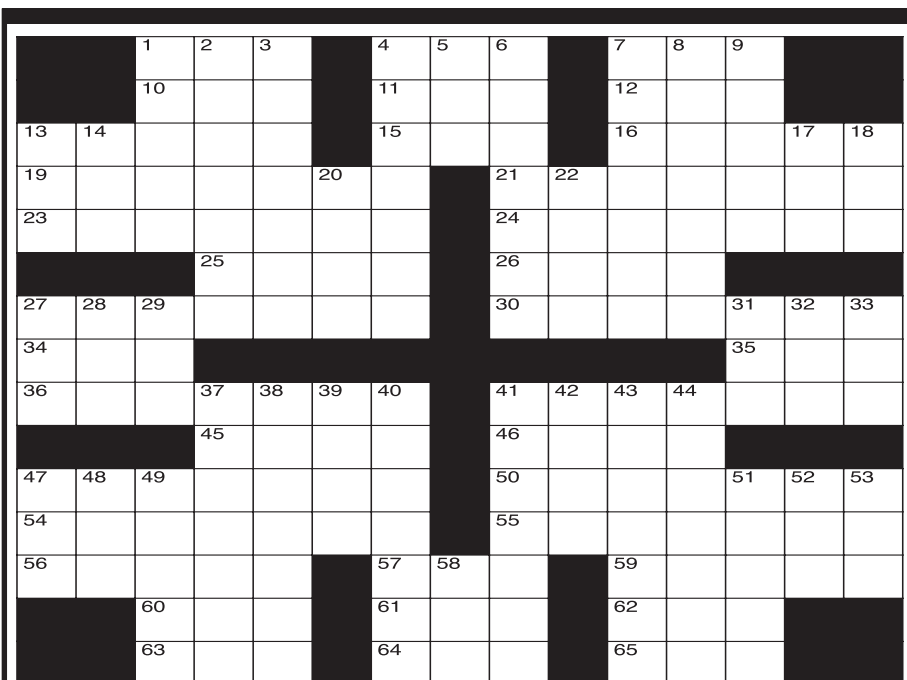
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Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_



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\*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event"  
in the subject line of your email.



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|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Indicates tire pressure</li> <li>4. Request</li> <li>7. Clairvoyance</li> <li>10. 007's creator</li> <li>11. Adult male</li> <li>12. Scandinavian god of battle</li> <li>13. Cloths spread on a coffin</li> <li>15. Breeze through</li> <li>16. Ladyfish genus</li> <li>19. It's good to take them</li> <li>21. Noble-governed territory</li> <li>23. Members of U.S. Navy</li> <li>24. Card game resembling rummy</li> <li>25. Affected by injury</li> <li>26. Member of a Semitic people</li> <li>27. Left</li> <li>30. Woman's cloak</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34. S. American plant</li> <li>35. Prohibit</li> <li>36. Offense</li> <li>41. Dish soap brand</li> <li>45. Ottoman military commanders</li> <li>46. Ancient Greek City</li> <li>47. Makes unhappy</li> <li>50. Discuss again</li> <li>54. Medical instrument</li> <li>55. Promote</li> <li>56. A beloved carb</li> <li>57. Tag the base runner to get him out</li> <li>59. Prehistoric people</li> <li>60. Large African antelope</li> <li>61. Vehicle</li> <li>62. Georgia rockers</li> <li>63. Scientific instrument (abbr.)</li> <li>64. A major division of geological time</li> <li>65. Attempt</li> </ol> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plant of the nettle family</li> <li>2. Fit to be sold</li> <li>3. Rather</li> <li>4. Collected</li> <li>5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal</li> <li>6. Patella</li> <li>7. Ageless</li> <li>8. Lists of course requirements</li> <li>9. Pokes at</li> <li>13. TV network</li> <li>14. They ___</li> <li>17. Cooking hardware</li> <li>18. U.S. Army title</li> <li>20. Iron-containing compound</li> <li>22. Swiss river (alt. spelling)</li> <li>27. Former French coin</li> <li>28. Electronic countermeasures</li> <li>29. Taxi</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31. Helps little firms</li> <li>32. Woeful</li> <li>33. Midway between northeast and east</li> <li>37. Glowing</li> <li>38. Tasks which should be done</li> <li>39. An informal body of friends</li> <li>40. Intrinsic nature</li> <li>41. Neural structures</li> <li>42. Brews</li> <li>43. Where ships unload cargo</li> <li>44. Singer</li> <li>47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)</li> <li>48. Southwest Scotland town</li> <li>49. Most worthless parts</li> <li>51. Viscous</li> <li>52. Put to work</li> <li>53. Old world, new</li> <li>58. Swiss river</li> </ol> |
|---|--|---|--|

# DATEBOOK

## DATEBOOK

Do you have a local event or activity to publicize? Please send the information as either a Word doc or plain text (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 mgusmao@turley.com.

## THIS WEEK

Come hear music from Jeff Gavioli and his Bad News Jazz and Blues Orchestra, a big band featuring Cindy Reed, on Sunday, Aug. 6, as part of Ludlow Cultural Commission's free concerts this summer at the Mack Donnelly Gazebo, 11 East St. in Ludlow.

## COMING SOON

**Magic in the Valley:** Internationally-renowned magicians promise to captivate audiences of all ages with mind-boggling illusions, comedic performances and awe-inspiring tricks at 7 p.m. Aug. 19, at the Polish American Citizens Club at 355 East Street in Ludlow. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under. Email tdg-magic@gmail.com or call 413-533-7653.

## ONGOING

**FARM FRESH:** Come to the Indian Orchard Citizens Council 3-5 p.m. every Wednesday all summer and early fall for free fruit and vegetables. Registration is required. For more information, call 413-209-8240.

**JIMMY FUND WALK:** Registration is now open for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1. Proceeds from the event support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. All four routes will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line in the Fenway neighborhood. If walkers want to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities, including virtually. Register as an individual walker, team member or start a team at JimmyFund-Walk.org or by calling 866-531-9255.

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

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

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

**LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER 55 AND OVER CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE:** At East Street School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. the cost to take part is \$5 per year. For more information contact Maria Ardolino, activities director at activity@ludlow.ma.us or call 413-583-3564.

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

**SUPPORT FOR FAMILY MEMBERS:** The Michael J. Dias Support Group meets 6-7:15 p.m. on the second and

fourth Tuesday of the month at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center. Education, resources, peer support, and hope for parents and family members coping with a loved one with a substance use disorder. Anyone needing help is welcome to attend. Masks are required and we will be seated six feet apart. For more information, call Maureen at 413-563-6226.

**H.O.P.E. RECOVERY GROUP:** Having Our Pathways Encouraged meetings are for those who have experience with addictions, grief, anxiety and depression, (including anxiety and depression due to COVID-19) and for loved ones who might need help in their recovery. This group is also for those who can help lead others in their recovery by example. This meeting in no way replaces professional therapies. It is a time for sharing strength, encouragement and hope. No fees. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage. Pre-packaged snacks are avail-

able. Small group structure based on basic Christian principles, concept, purposes and confidentiality. COVID-19 guidelines are observed. Masks required. 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at Fellowship Hall in Faith Community Chapel, 485 East Street in Ludlow. Parking lot behind Chapel. Fellowship Hall entrance at back of Chapel. Seating is limited. To reserve yours, call 413-519-4591.

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

**BIBLE STUDY:** A weekly Bible study

led by Ludlow resident Hank Bastos takes place at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at 485 East St., Ludlow. Call 413-348-6487 for more information.

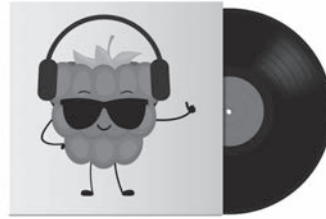
**SHARE YOUR SIGHT:** Volunteer to read, shop or walk with a blind or vision impaired person in your community. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired at 1-888-613-2777 for details.

## UPCOMING TRIPS

**Nashville and the Smokey Mountain Christmas:** Enjoy the Grand Ole Opry and the Country Music Hall of Fame, plus the show and extravagant holiday decorations of Dollywood, the Gaylord Opryland Resort, Gatlinburg and Biltmore, the Vanderbilt Mansion in Asheville, N.C., Nov. 29-Dec. 6. Contact Jim Martin at jamesmartin47@gmail.com or 413-583-6339.

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
Docket No. HD23P1595EA**

**Estate of:  
Elaine Louise English  
Date of Death:  
May 28, 2023**

**INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Sally G English of Holyoke, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.  
**Sally G English of Holyoke, MA**  
**Alice G English of Ludlow, MA**

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 08/02/2023

**Town of Ludlow, MA  
LEGAL NOTICE**

You are hereby notified that a **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held at the Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, MA 01056 on **Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 5:35 p.m.**

Upon petition of: **EVERSOURCE** requests permission to locate a line of poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, along and across the following public way or ways:

**Sewall Street:** Install one ( 1 ) fully owned pole tagged # 199/IM along Sewall Street located approximately one-hundred ninety four ( 194 ) feet north from the intersection of East Street and twenty-five (25) feet from the centerline of Sewall Street. Additionally, a new duct bank from pole 199/IM to the existing manhole in the intersec-

tion of East Street and Sewall Street (#68/6U) to the existing manhole adjacent to Riverside Drive (98/8U) with a crossing on Riverside Drive for the purpose of serving the Mill 8 building with new electrical service.

James Gennette, Chairman  
Derek G. De Barge  
Manuel D. Silva  
William Rosenblum  
Antonio Goncalves  
Ludlow Board of Selectmen  
08/02/2023

**LEGAL NOTICE  
Ludlow  
Annual Town Meeting  
of May 8, 2023 –  
Case #10926**

Warrant Articles 3, 27,

28, 29, and 31 were approved by the Attorney General's office accordingly.

**\*\*see full context of text in Town Clerk's office.**

Posted in all 6 polling locations and at the Ludlow Town Hall.

Precinct 1 Harris Brook Elementary School  
Precinct 2 Paul R. Baird Middle School  
Precinct 3 Ludlow High School  
Precinct 4 East Street School  
Precinct 5 First Church in Ludlow  
Precinct 6 Paul R. Baird Middle School  
07/19, 07/26, 08/02/2023

**STORY** from Page 1

The incendiary part of the movement seems to be Cameron's claims of "indoctrination" in the public school system. Resident Kelly Kapinos was present at the meeting to speak against the book reading.

"I belong to a church," Kapinos said, "I'm an army brat, I'm a patriot. My father fought for people to have the right to do this – he fought for the right for people to kneel at football games."

"The book isn't the problem," Kapinos said. "I went to BraveBooks.com; Kirk Cameron has a three-minute video, and the first sentence is that 'we're trying to stop indoctrinating our children.' That is where I have the issue."

"There are families that are two moms and two dads, and we represent all of them," Kapinos said. "The way they portray that for three minutes, the way he talks about what they're trying to do, is they're trying to get people to all believe that there's only one way to have a family, and that is just not what's real. It hasn't been real for hundreds, thousands of years."

Burek chose not to comment on the references to "indoctrination," though she said what she heard from the initial commercials was "nothing like what I'm seeing now."

"What I'm seeing now is more push toward the far-far-right," Burek said. "There seems to be no in-between. The word moderate has gone out the window."

To people intending to protest the event, Burek said, "I would ask them to listen. I would invite them to listen to the stories that are being read, and understand that I have no ill intent whatsoever."

For the folks that plan to attend the event, Burek said "Bring lawn chairs, bring blankets."

"I will be providing waters," Burek said, "I just want everybody to come out and have a great time."

## Church DIRECTORY

**FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL**  
A Church of the Nazarene  
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875  
Email: [faithcommunitychapel@gmail.com](mailto:faithcommunitychapel@gmail.com)  
[faith-communitychapel.org](http://faith-communitychapel.org)  
Lead Pastor: Reverend Lisa Morrison  
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs  
Sunday Services:  
Discipline Groups 9:45 a.m. WorshipService11 a.m. and Facebook Live Stream  
OTHER PROGRAMS  
MONDAYS at 6:30 p.m. H.O.P.E. Meeting Recovery meetings for those with addictions, anxiety, and grief  
SMC. Call 413-519-4591  
TUESDAYS at 7 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study WEDNESDAYS at 7 p.m. Ludlow Christian Fellowship Meeting  
Hank Bastos, Leader, 413-348-6487  
SMC and Facebook Live Stream [ludlowfellowship.org](http://ludlowfellowship.org)  
FRIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m.  
Church Fellowship Hall  
SATURDAYS at 10 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**  
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413-583-8454  
S Sunday services  
Sacrament Meeting 10- 11 A.M.  
Sunday school for adults, Young single adults( 18-30) and teens ( 11-18) - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon  
Classes for Young Men( 11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon  
Classes for Young Women ( 11-18)- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon  
Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday( 3-10 ) 11- 12 noon  
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**CHRIST THE KING CHURCH**  
41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow  
413-583-2630  
Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys  
Saturday Vigil Masses – 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday Masses – 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Mass – 5:30 p.m.

**ST. ELIZABETH PARISH**  
191 Hubbard St., Ludlow  
413-583-3467  
Pastor - Rev. Msgr. Homer P. Gosselin  
In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton  
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Visit the website at [www.stelizabethludlow.org](http://www.stelizabethludlow.org)  
Wednesday, August 2, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C), Eucharistic Revival - 6:30 p.m. (JR)  
Thursday, August 3, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Knights of Columbus - 6p.m. (JR), Knights of Columbus Honor Guard - 7p.m. (FLBH)  
Friday, August 4, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)  
Saturday, August 5, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Mass - 4 p.m. (C)  
Sunday, - August 6, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Mass - 5 p.m. (C)  
Monday, August 7, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)  
Tuesday, August 8, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Spaghetti Supper - 4:30p.m. (FLBH)

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH**  
25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,  
413-543-3627  
Very Rev. Piotr Calik  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. —1 p.m.  
CLOSED FRIDAY  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:15 p.m.  
Sunday Mass: 8:45 a.m. (English), 10 a.m. (Polish)  
Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 7:45 a.m. (English)  
First Friday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (Polish/English)  
First Saturday Mass: 9 a.m. (Polish/English)  
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15–4 p.m.

**STS. PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
45 Newbury St.  
Ludlow, MA 01056  
Phone: 413-583-2140  
Pastor: Father Andriy Krip  
Liturgy schedule:  
Wednesday 9 a.m., Friday 9 a.m.  
Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH**  
438 Winsor St., Ludlow  
413-583-2312  
Father Pedro DeOlivera  
Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.  
Sunday Masses – 9 a.m. (Portuguese); 11 a.m. (English)  
Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses – 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)  
Tuesday and Friday Masses – 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)  
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m. (English)  
First Saturday of the Month – 8:30 a.m.  
For more information, visit [ourladyoffatimaparish.org](http://ourladyoffatimaparish.org).

**FIRST CHURCH IN LUDLOW**  
859 Center St.  
Ludlow, MA 01056  
413-583-3339  
Reverend Donald Fenestre-Marek , Pastor  
Sunday Services 9 am  
Website: [www.ludlowfirst.com](http://www.ludlowfirst.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow/](http://www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow/)

**ORCHARD COVENANT CHURCH**  
95 Berkshire Street  
Indian Orchard, MA 01151  
413-543-4204  
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Worship in person, 11 a.m.  
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See our website for more information: [orchardcovenant.org](http://orchardcovenant.org).

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# Local resident promoted to branch officer at FCU

SPRINGFIELD – Freedom Credit Union announces the promotion of Eric Garcia from assistant branch officer to branch officer at its main office in Springfield. The Ludlow resident first joined the Freedom team in September 2020 as a member services representative and, due to his potential and initiative, was quickly pro-



Eric Garcia

moted to the role of assistant branch officer in November 2021. With this latest promotion to branch officer, he will assume responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the main branch.

“Eric’s dedication, professionalism and commitment to our members make him the perfect fit for this leadership role,” said Free-

dom Credit Union President Glenn Welch. “He has frequently filled in for officers at other branches and had the employees singing his praises.”

Throughout his tenure at Freedom Credit Union, Garcia has been recognized for his outstanding contributions. He is a recipient of both the prestigious GEM award and the President’s award, highlighting his exceptional work ethic, commitment to excellence, genuine kindness and positive impact on the or-

ganization.

Welch continued, “Eric has consistently demonstrated exceptional management skills and has earned the trust and respect of his entire team. We are confident that under his guidance, our main branch will continue to thrive and provide our members with the exceptional service they deserve.”

# Serisser studies in Sorrento, Italy

SPRINGFIELD – Malik Serisser from Ludlow, was among 18 Western New England University students who traveled to Sorrento, Italy, for three weeks this summer to immerse themselves in the study of Italian culture.

The students were accompanied by Professional Educator of Communication Brenda Garton-Sjoberg, director of the Sorrento study abroad program. Accompanying the group was Brandon O’Brien, President of WNE’s alumni association and College of Business adjunct professor.

Serisser enrolled in two courses, Business Communication, taught by Professor Garton-Sjoberg, and Italian Culture, taught by a professor from the Sant’Anna Institute, WNE’s international partner school in the study abroad program.

Students describe the Sorrento Study Abroad Program as, “life changing” as they experienced international travel skills and global business practices while studying and living in Italy.

“When first arriving, I was in shock. I didn’t think that I was actually here

in Italy. The first day was so amazing being able to just look around and take everything in and begin to start to see how things were different,” said Serisser a junior Criminal Justice major. “When looking at the trips that we went on they were all breathtaking and unique in their own way. Whether it be the structures of the buildings and the rich history behind them or how crystal clear the waters were from place to place. I think that this was truly a once in a lifetime experience.”

Tours, guest lectures, and site visits allowed students to learn beyond the classroom as they studied the Italian culture and business communication taught in the classes. Throughout their stay, students had the opportunity to participate in various activities, such as making their own gelato, cooking an authentic Italian dinner, and touring the world-famous Amalfi Coast.

Students also visited Naples, Pompeii Ruins, Villa Rufolo, Capri Island, Positano, Ravello, Amalfi, and the Royal Palace of Caserta.

They immersed themselves in the

Italian lifestyle with lectures from experts at olive oil and lemon farms, a mozzarella cheese factory, and a specialty coffee business.

“It is extremely rewarding to take students on this study abroad trip every summer. These three-weeks provide transformative educational experiences to see students grow and learn more about themselves as they discover a different culture in another country” said Garton-Sjoberg. “These life-changing lessons in world-famous site visits provide instruction that could never be taught from a textbook or in a classroom. Besides lectures at our partner school, the classroom setting is every time students step outside into the beloved Italian culture. The entire region is their campus.”

This unique learning opportunity for students to attend Western New England University’s Study Abroad Program at the Sant’Anna Institute is made possible through a longstanding partnership between the two schools. This was Western New England Universities’ sixth trip to Sorrento, Italy.

## PET OF THE WEEK

*Daisy*



This is Daisy, the coolest bunny in town wearing these blue shades! Email us a photo of your pet to [register@turley.com](mailto:register@turley.com).

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