

School district welcomes two new administrators

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

LUDLOW – School officials welcomed two distinguished educators to the district’s leadership team. Interim Principal Bill Wehrli takes over at the helm of Baird Middle School. District officials are excited about the experience he brings across several facets of educational leadership.

Additionally, Jacilyn Berriman was hired as the district’s new Director of Special Services. Ludlow Public Schools Superintendent Sharon Cournoyer told The Register she is excited to add a pair of gifted educators to her team.

“Mr. Wehrli is an accomplished educational leader with extensive experience as a principal, leadership coach, and former Associate Director for Accreditation and School Improvement with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges,” stated Cournoyer, who is also new to the district this summer. “His background in leading schools through improvement efforts and organizational change makes him well-prepared to support the Baird community during this transition.”

School officials also recognize Baird Middle School Assistant Principal Jessica Torres for her commitment to the Baird community. “Mrs. Torres’s knowledge of the school, her dedication to students and staff, and her partnership with Mr. Wehrli will be invaluable as they work together with Ms. Hennessey to support the school throughout the coming year,” Cournoyer added.

As Wehrli transitions into his new role, Berriman is also getting familiarized with her position as Director of Special Services. She joined the district’s leadership team this summer and will be ready to begin the 2026–27 school year.

“Jacilyn brings more than two decades of experience in special education and a deep commitment to ensuring that every student has access to high-quality, inclusive educational opportunities,” Cournoyer added.

Berriman previously served as the special education coordinator for Chicopee Public Schools, where she oversaw district-wide, language-based learning disability and social-emotional disability programs.

Berriman also has experience in supporting compliance and programming across multiple schools, as

Please see **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS** Page 3

Berriman previously



A project is underway to expand parking options for Hubbard Memorial Library. Submitted Photos

Project increases parking at library

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

LUDLOW – Decades-old parking challenges will soon be in the rearview mirror for Hubbard Memorial Library patrons and staff, who are looking forward to the completion of a parking expansion project.

Library patrons, trustees and staff members have long advocated for a solution to parking difficulties in a congested lot. They were thrilled this past spring when voters approved the expansion lot project during the May Town Meeting (budgeted at \$52,000).

The site where the new parking area will be located, 13 Park Place, was purchased by the town in November 2010 for \$175,000 for this purpose.

Over the past several years, the need for expanded parking was accentuated during busy programs and high-traffic hours. On many occasions each week, the library lawn has been used as a makeshift spillover lot for patrons.

“Drivers frequently circle the library parking lot, looking for a place to park. Almost daily, we have an occurrence of both our parking lot and lawn being full of cars,” said Library Director Melissa Rickson. “Parking was identified as the largest area to improve upon in our 2024-29 Strategic Plan, which echoed an action item of the library’s 2017-22 Strategic Plan.”

As the popularity of library programs has steadily increased since the pandemic, officials knew the already difficult parking situation would only get worse unless an expansion project was green lighted.

“Melissa Rickson and her staff do a great job with programming, which draws more visitors to the library than we can comfortably accommodate at times,” said Town Administrator Marc Strange. “The library is a treasure in our community, and we hope even more residents and neighbors come and enjoy all it has to offer.”

Construction work at the new parking area began on July 20. Site work was completed.

Please see **LIBRARY PARKING**, Page 6

when no one is home.

Furthermore, regularly cleaning the AC filters improves air flow and extends the life of the AC unit.

It is also important to check that an AC unit is correctly draining any and all moisture. AC units remove moisture from the air as they work, and incorrect drainage can lead to leaks, mold and a broken AC.

A simple way to prevent this is when installing a window AC unit, ensure that the unit is tilted backward slightly. This ensures that the water drips down and out, rather than into the room the AC was installed in.

Furthermore, when installing the AC unit people should make sure that there is at least five feet of clearance from walls, trees, hedges or yard ornaments.

If there is not enough clearance it can block airflow and reduce the efficacy of the unit.

Another tip for keeping costs low, as suggested by Lisa Sullivan from Holyoke Gas and Electric, is sealing any air leaks in windows and doors to help keep all cool air in.

Please see **ENERGY TIPS** Page 6

Ludlow Police Department warns about uptick in scams

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

LUDLOW – Facing an uptick in scam investigations, police are urging residents and business owners to take precautions.

In recent months, the Ludlow Police Department has seen a rise in several types of scams. These include government impersonation, grandparent scams, bank fraud, and scams related to tech support.

“Chief Michael Brennan and the Ludlow Police Department remind residents to remain vigilant when receiving phone calls, text messages, and emails from unknown senders,” read a statement issued by the Chief. “Scammers often impersonate trusted organizations, government agencies, financial institutions, or even family members in an attempt to steal money and personal information.”

Scams frequently include false claims about purchases, account closures, or fines. A popular recent scam involves text messages related to tolling charges, driving infractions and RMV fines, among others.

“The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles is alerting the public of a new text message scam which tells recipients they owe money for driving infractions, and that the recipient must immediately visit a fraudulent website to make payment that is due,” read a statement released by the agency. “Everyone should be suspicious of texts that tell the recipient it is urgent to act and make payments, as the RMV does not send people text messages requesting payment.”

Meanwhile, local police departments continue to investigate reports of fraud ranging from romance scams to fake job postings. Scammers, often international-

ly based, have gone as far as impersonating the hiring staffs at major companies.

The rise of A.I. innovations has led to new opportunities for scammers to pull off convincing acts of fraud, officials warn.

“Staying informed is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your loved ones from fraud,” read the statement issued by Chief Brennan. “Never share personal or financial information over the phone, by text, or via email. Do not answer or respond to calls or messages from unknown numbers if they seem suspicious.”

Police also caution residents against clicking on links or downloading attachments from unexpected text messages or emails.

Additionally, residents are advised to report and block phone numbers and email addresses that appear to be fraudulent. Never share your

Please see **SCAMS**, Page 6

and visitors of temporary traffic pattern changes that will be in effect during the Festa celebration to help ensure the safety of pedestrians, motorists and emergency responders.

The temporary traffic pattern will affect the areas of Canterbury Street, Newbury Street and East Street during the following dates and times: Thursday, Sept. 3 (5-10 p.m.); Friday, Sept. 4 (5 p.m.-midnight); Saturday, Sept. 5 (noon-midnight); Sunday, Sept. 6 (7 a.m.-midnight) and Monday, Sept. 7 (noon-6 p.m.).

“These traffic pattern changes are in effect only during the dates and times listed above. Normal traffic flow will resume outside of these designated periods,” read a statement released by the police department.

During the periods of pattern shifts, access to Newbury Street from East Street will be restricted to emergency vehicles only. Residents who need to access Newbury Street should do so via Canterbury Street or Winsor Street.

Canterbury Street will operate as a two-way street from its entrance to the end of the Tony & Penny’s parking lot.

“A Ludlow Police officer will be stationed at the intersection of Canterbury Street and Newbury Street to assist motorists, answer questions, and help maintain safe traffic flow,” the statement read.

Community members and visitors attending the event are encouraged to allow extra travel time, follow posted signs, and obey the directions of officers and traffic control personnel.

“The Ludlow Police Department appreciates the public’s patience and coop-

Please see **FESTA TRAFFIC**, Page 6

Temporary traffic pattern announced for Festa

By Kevin Flanders
Staff Writer
kflanders@turley.com

LUDLOW – Even though it seems like summer only just began, residents are already counting down the days until the beloved Festa tradition returns.

Set for Sept. 3-7, the five-day Our Lady of Fatima Festa will once again take place over Labor Day weekend. This year’s program will feature a packed schedule of musical acts and other entertainers.

Additionally, carnival rides, an array of foods, raffles, candlelight processions, fireworks and several other highlights will be offered.

The event has been celebrated in town since 1949. The location is 438 Winsor St.

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Please see **FESTA TRAFFIC**, Page 6

BBB® of Central New England 2026 Barbara J. Sinnott Student of Integrity Scholarship recipients

WORCESTER – The Better Business Bureau® (BBB) of Central New England and its Consumer Education Foundation are proud to announce the five recipients of the 2026 Barbara J. Sinnott Student of Integrity Scholarship.

Now in its 12th year, this annual scholarship honors high school seniors who exemplify ethical leadership, integrity, and a commitment

to their communities - core values championed by the late Barbara J. Sinnott, former president and CEO of the BBB of Central New England.

This year's winners were selected from a highly competitive pool of more than 110



Benjamin Goodreau

applicants from across Central and Western Massachusetts and Northeastern Connecticut. Each recipient will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to support their higher education goals.

The 2026 scholarship recipients are:

- **Estelle Baden**, Monument Mountain Regional High School
- **Benjamin Goodreau**, Ludlow High School
- **Elizabeth Matheson**, Quabbin Regional High School
- **Reid Ohanesian**, Ayer Shirley Regional High School
- **Isabella Sotiropoulos**, South Hadley High School

Free leadership program offered for high school girls

REGION – Applications are now available for HERizon, a free leadership and empowerment program for high school girls across Hampden County.

Offered by the Hampden District Attorney's Office, the program is designed to help young women develop confidence, leadership skills, and lasting connections.

HERizon provides participants with mentorship programs, engaging discussions,

and interactive opportunities to learn from area professionals and community leaders.

The program meets bi-weekly at the Hampden District Attorney's Office in Springfield. Sessions are led by young women who serve in a variety of roles throughout the DA's Office.

As the program progresses each year, participants explore such topics as maintaining healthy relationships, building confidence, mental

wellness, women's health, and self-advocacy, among others.

"HERizon is about helping young women recognize their own potential and giving them the tools and support to become confident leaders in their schools and communities," said Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni. "When young women feel empowered to use their voices, advocate for themselves and support one another, the

impact extends far beyond the classroom. Programs like HERizon are an investment in the future of our community."

The free HERizon program is open to high school girls throughout Hampden County. Applications for the upcoming program are now being accepted.

Students interested in applying can learn more about the program by emailing Halie Matthew at: Halie.Matthew@mass.gov.

Golf for Good: tee off for women and girls

BELCHERTOWN – Join us for the 32nd Annual Zonta Golf Tournament and help create a brighter future for women and girls in our community. On Saturday, Sept. 12, at Cold Spring Country Club in Belchertown, we'll tee off at 8:30 a.m. for a day of fun, friendly competition, and making a difference.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just looking for a fun day out, everyone

is welcome. For \$120, you'll enjoy a round of golf, a delicious box lunch, and the chance to win amazing prizes.

Your support directly funds scholarships and grants that empower women and girls to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential. We're working to end child marriage, domestic violence, and human trafficking, while also supporting climate

justice, education equality and women in decision-making positions.

Let's make a lasting impact together! Sign up today at zontaqv.org/golf or contact Mary Knight at 413-323-4806. We also welcome sponsorships from local businesses.

Be a champion for women and girls. Join us on the green!

Polish food sale Aug. 15

INDIAN ORCHARD – There will be a Frozen Polish Food Sale at Immaculate Conception Church Hall located at 25 Parker St. in Indian Orchard, Mass. on Saturday, August 15, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Golabki are 3per package for \$12; Kapusta large container is \$12; Pierogi (cabbage, potato & cheese, sweet cheese, blueberry) one dozen for \$15.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

from Page 1

well as assisting with budget development.

Having earned both a Bachelor of Science degree in education and a Master of Special Education degree from Westfield State University, Berriman holds professional licensure in both Massachusetts and Connecticut as an elementary educator, a special education teacher,

and a special education administrator.

"Throughout the selection process, Jacilyn distinguished herself as a collaborative, student-centered leader with exceptional knowledge of special education programming, compliance, and instructional leadership," Cournoyer added. "Jacilyn will spend the coming weeks working closely with our administrative team to ensure a smooth transi-

tion into her new role. I am confident that her expertise, leadership, and passion for supporting students with diverse learning needs will make a tremendous impact on our schools and community."

School officials congratulate both newly hired team members on their positions. They look forward to the many contributions Wehrli and Berriman will make to the school community.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

When should my wife file for spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty:

My wife is 66 (born February 1960) and started taking Social Security retirement benefits just over one year ago at age 65.

She was a stay-at-home Mom for most of her adult life. I turned 62 this past March and received my first SS payment recently for a May 2026 start. We are scheduled to meet with SSA in late July to initiate spousal benefits because my wife's current benefits are less than 50% of mine.

We also have an adult disabled son, who receives Supplemental Security Income and Social Security benefits (this split in benefit sources happened after my wife filed - that whole process was confusing and we don't understand it).

My question relates to spousal benefits (I was a career finance person but don't completely understand these rules). We were going to file in July but is there any benefit to waiting until she turns 67? And will her 50% benefit be 50% of my lower benefit due to my filing at 62 or is that based on another amount?

Signed:
Confused Finance Guy

Dear Confused:

First, be aware that your wife's spousal benefit will be based on her age when she claims it, and half of your Full Retirement Age, (although you claimed at 62, her benefit as your spouse will still be based on your FRA entitlement).

Because she claimed her SS retirement at 65, your wife will not get 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get her own reduced SS retirement benefit (which was reduced by about 13% from her FRA entitlement) plus a "spousal boost." The amount of that "boost" will be the difference between her own FRA entitlement and half of your FRA entitlement, but that boost amount will also be reduced because she will be claiming in July before her FRA.

Your wife will reach her FRA in February 2027, so by claiming her spousal boost in July her boost amount will be reduced by about 5% and the "boost" will be added to her already reduced SS retirement about. The result will be your wife's benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. And, FYI, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit, she will not be able to defer claiming it.

As your son is now collecting SS benefits based on your wife's personal SS record, you should ask Social Security to switch him over to payments based on your record because you

have the higher SS benefit.

FYI, because your son is now receiving Supplemental Security Income, the SS disability benefit he receives will offset by his SSI benefit, and the payment amount will consist of two sources - SSI and SSDI. Nevertheless, he cannot get more than 50% of your SS retirement amount and will likely be affected by the Family Maximum, which may further reduce his SSDI entitlement.

Your wife's benefit as your spouse will also be affected by the "Family Maximum," which limits how much can be paid on any one person's SS record (on your SS record).

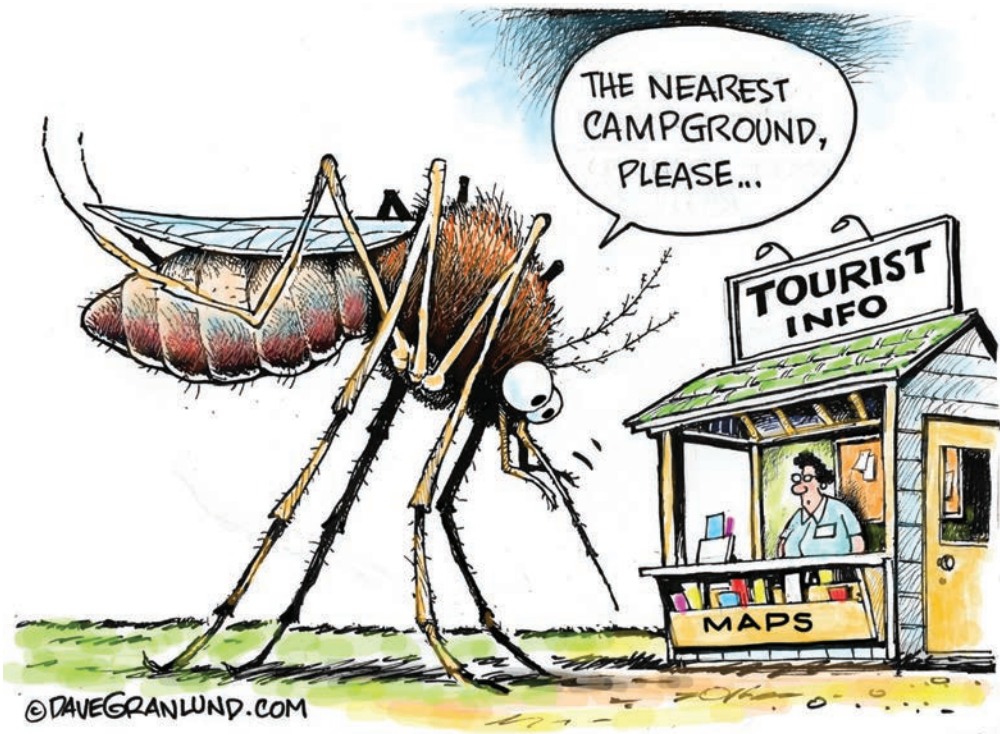
That also means that your wife will not get a full 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get less because the family maximum limits how much all your dependents can receive to somewhere between 50% and 88% of your FRA benefit amount (after subtracting your own SS entitlement).

That also means that your son's SS payment, as well as your wife's SS payment as your spouse, will be reduced to less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. SSA will be able to guide you through the Family Maximum calculations for both your son and your wife when you meet.

To recap all of this: a) your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit; she cannot delay until her FRA. b) her amount as your spouse will be less than 50% of your SS FRA entitlement. And c) both your wife's and your son's SS benefit will likely be also affected by the Family Maximum and, thus, be less than half of your FRA entitlement.

Nevertheless, it was likely the right decision to claim as you have, considering that your son and wife have been receiving SS benefits for some time now, and both will continue to receive more as your dependents.

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



GUEST COLUMN

Privet pruning leads to instruction

Every year when we head off to the Cape, the "yard" talk becomes privets, and bunnies, but that is a whole other column.

When we visited in June, the privets where we stay had been cut way back in an effort to reduce height and width. This trip, I noticed those cuts had grown back nicely, achieving the desired results.

Read on while we revisit a column from the archives on pruning hedges.

A living hedge offers multi-seasonal interest. A number of shrubs suited for hedges flower or have appealing fall leaf color.

Others are evergreen and fulfill the "need for green" even in the offseason.

Some make great homes for wildlife, and others are the perfect backdrop for our holiday decorations.

Whatever the case, a hedge doesn't have to be old and overgrown to require your attention. Perhaps it is a little misshapen, or too tall and gangly. Maybe it has lots of dead wood.

Anyway, there is no time like the present to get out the loppers and hand clippers and do some pruning.

Old and overgrown

Hedges that fall into this category should be rejuvenated over the course of three years. The general rule of thumb is to remove no more than one-third of a shrub's mass at one time.

Working from the interior of each plant, cut out the oldest stems first to ground level. Fresh new growth will fill in the gaps.

Repeat in years two and

three, until all the old wood has been pruned away. If you prune more drastically than recommended, there will be less leaf power for photosynthesis, and vigor may be reduced; curb your impatience and stick to the three year rule.



Misshapen

Hedges can sometimes be disproportionate and appear top or bottom-heavy. Proper pruning can alleviate this problems.

Before horticulture college, it never occurred to me that I could determine the direction in which my shrub will grow based on the pruning cuts I make. I used to think I was merely shortening stems!

Grab a branch and examine the buds closely. Some point inward while others point out. Voilà!

For a top-heavy shrub make cuts at inward facing buds on the upper section- this will curb outward facing growth. On the lower portion make your cuts at buds facing out to encourage outer branching.

Best cuts are made on a 45 degree angle just after the bud of choice. Try this pruning method on privet.

Too tall and gangly

Hedges that are tall and thin need more than just "a little off the top." Here you will employ pruning strat-

egies that you've already learned.

Cut deep into the plant to bring down its height, then prune the sides of the shrub to outward facing buds to encourage a wider hedge.

This technique works especially well with hedges comprised of Rose of Sharon.

Lots of dead wood

The quickest way to prune a hedge has always been to employ shears or electric trimmers and simply remove new growth each season. Unfortunately this method makes for lots of green leaves at the plant's tips but for very little on the interior of the shrub.

If you should decide you want to reduce the overall size of the hedge you will be in for trouble - all that will be visible is dead wood. Start making "windows" now by cutting out large stems back to main branches.

Light will penetrate inside the plant spawning lots of fresh green growth. Eventually you will be able to cut the hedge back to that point. The three year, one-third rule that I spoke of earlier should apply here as well.

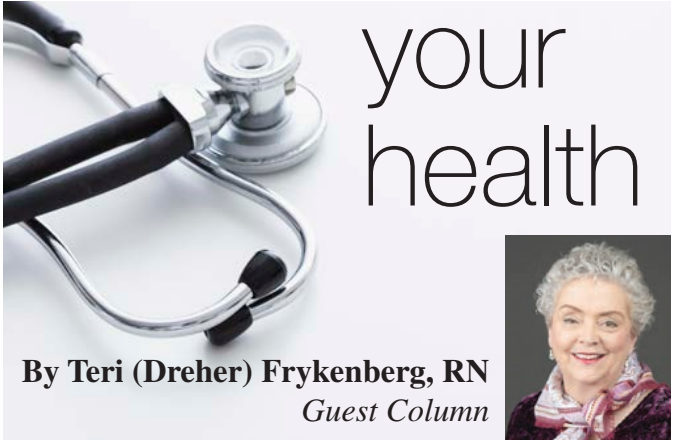
Boxwood and yews benefit from this type of rejuvenation.

Kudos to the privet pruner; you did well!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

GUEST COLUMN

DWA: Driving while aging



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

Many of the articles I see about older drivers focus on how families can have The Talk: "Mom/Dad, it's time for you to stop driving."

That's not a helpful way to approach it. It's better to observe their driving, take notes and have a conversation about road safety, looping in their doctor if necessary. But this column isn't about that.

Instead, I think senior

drivers themselves (and I am one!) should be assessing their own fitness to drive and take that burden off their kids. The fact is that medications, physical limitations and cognitive difficulties can make driving very dangerous for older folks.

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration says that the majority of people killed in traffic crashes involving old-

er drivers are 65 and older. About 66% of the deaths in 2024 were either the older driver or their passenger, also 65 years of age or older.

The risk of serious injury and death increases with age. Older drivers may have fewer accidents than younger ones, but when you look at accidents per mile driven, the math is clear: Getting older behind the wheel can be very risky.

Massachusetts law requires drivers 75 years of age or older to renew their licenses in person every five years at a Registry of Motor Vehicles office or AAA. If you have a medical condition or are taking a medication that affects your driving, you must self-report to the RMV.

But between the ages of 75 and 80, how many drivers develop conditions like arthritis that limit their ability to turn their head? How many are taking medications that can potentially impair their ability to not only drive

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The REGISTER

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

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

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

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

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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.

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

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register.turley.com

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

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

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

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage. For more information on news or community features for The Register, please email theregister@turley.com.

What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library

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

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

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

FOR ADULTS

VIRTUAL - “Act Worthy of Yourselves” with author Salina B. Baker, Monday, August 10, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Learn about the life of Dr. Joseph Warren, a Boston medical man and scholar who became a warrior and revolutionary during the American Revolution. Register online for your Zoom link or call (413) 583-3408 x114 for assistance.

Footprints and Fossils, Thursday, August 13, 6:30 to

7:30 p.m. Interested in dinosaurs? Would you like to see a fossil up close? Curious to learn more about evidence of prehistoric life in the local area? Retired HCC Professor Steve Winters discusses these topics and more! Geared for adults. Please register.

VIRTUAL—Celebrating America’s 250th with Presidential Doodler Heather Rogers, Monday, August 17, 7 to 8 p.m. “Presidential Doodler” Heather Rogers shares trivia and her own original artwork in this fascinating talk about lesser-known figures from American history. Please register.

Suncatcher and Earring-Making Workshop, Thursday, August 27, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join Sandy Merrill for an evening making colorful beaded sun catchers and earrings. All supplies provided! Please register.

Creative Writing Hour, Tuesday, September 1, 2 to 3 p.m. Drop in and get some writing done! The facilitator will provide prompts for various genres (fiction, poetry, memoir) and a quiet space for writing. Share what you’ve written if you like! Please register.

Chair Volleyball for Seniors - PLEASE NOTE - No Chair Volleyball on Monday, August 3 or Monday, August 10! After that, we will return to our regular schedule: Every Monday and Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Have some fun and join us for chair volleyball! No running or jumping required. Walk-ins are welcome!

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

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

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

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

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

FOR YOUTH

“Unearth a Story” Summer Reading, through August 17! Log your reading on the Beanstack App by midnight on August 17. Raffles will be drawn after the 11:30 am Ed Popielarczyk Magic Show on August 18. All participants will receive a small

prize and a ticket to the Inter-skate event on August 20th. Please see staff in the youth room.

Make Shrinky Dinks for your Backpack, Friday, August 7, 11 a.m. For ages 5-17. Please register.

Dino Bingo, Monday, August 10, 2 p.m. For youth of all ages and families. Please register.

Youth Chess Club, Mondays (biweekly) August 10, 24, 3:30 p.m. Ages 9-17. Please register.

Youth Crochet Club, Tuesdays (biweekly), August 11, 25, 5:30 p.m. For ages 10-17. Please register.

Anime Club, Tuesdays (biweekly), August 11, 25,

3:30 p.m. For middle and high school. Registration recommended.

Ready 4 K, Wednesday, August 12, 10:30 a.m. For those entering kindergarten. Learn essential Kindergarten readiness skills. Sponsored by Pathways for Parents CFCE. Please register.

Dino-Mite Puzzle Art, Thursday, August 13, 4 p.m. For ages 8-17. Use old puzzle pieces to make art! Please register.

Teddy Bear Picnic, Friday, August 14, 11:30 a.m. For ages 0-5 and families. On the library lawn. Bring your favorite stuffie and your picnic lunch. Please register.

Please see **HUBBARD**, Page 9

Immaculate Conception concert on Aug. 16

INDIAN ORCHARD – Listen, Pray, Share & Thank. A concert in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be held at Immaculate Conception Church at 25 Parker St. in Indian Orchard, Mass on Sunday, Aug. 16. 2026 starting at 3 p.m.

Join our Parish Choir in singing Polish, English & Latin Marian Hymns.

Guest speakers during the Concert will be Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist- Sister Faith Marie Woolsey FSE will speak about the Rosary and its significance and

Sister Rosario Ongayo FSE will speak about real life experiences related to the mysteries of the Rosary. Light refreshments after the concert.

Program is sponsored by Parish Rosary Sodality, free will offering will benefit the parish.

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Register For Classes Online at:
www.SteppinOut2Ludlow.com

Thursday, Aug. 20 ★ 5-7pm
Monday, August 24 ★ 5-7pm
Tuesday, September 1 ★ 5-7pm

CLASSES START TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

For More Information
Text 413-393-0735 or Call 589-7751
Email Us at SteppinOut2DanceStudio@gmail.com



IN THE CLASSROOM

Regis College Spring Dean’s List

WESTON – Regis College announces the students named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2026 semester.

To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher. First-year students qualify with a GPA of 3.25 or higher.

Founded by the Sisters

of St. Joseph nearly a century ago, Regis College educates students to lead with integrity, purpose, and compassion.

Through an inclusive and innovative learning community, Regis prepares graduates to build meaningful careers and make a posi-

tive impact in the world.

The university congratulates the following Ludlow students on this significant achievement: Julia Dennis, Class of 2026, Tronillah Mangasa, Class of 2029 and Madelynn Philibotte, Class of 2026.

School records to be destroyed

LUDLOW – Ludlow High School Class of 2019, temporary school records will be destroyed on or about December 31, 2026 unless claimed by individual former students.

The temporary record consists of all information in the student record which

is not contained in the transcript.

Such information may include standardized test results, class rank, school sponsored extra-curricular activities, discipline records, immunization-health records and evaluations by teachers, counselors, and other school

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

If you have any further questions, please call (413) 589-9001 ext. 2407.

The classes of ’76 fall reunion set for Oct. 17

PALMER – The Palmer High School Reunion Committee invites the 1976 graduates of PHS AND the 1976 graduates of Pathfinder Regional High School to a 50th Anniversary Reunion Party on Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 5 to 10 p.m. Faculty is also welcome.

Graduates and guests are invited to eat, drink and be reunited in the outdoor venue at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center Street, Ludlow. The cost is \$35 per person, includes entertainment – Kingdom of Jones Band – and a BBQ style buffet with cornbread, sal-

ad, BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, pulled pork, mac n’ cheese, rice and beans and coleslaw.

Save the date and spread the word. Please RSVP by contacting Sue Warner Prosperi at suewpro@gmail.com. Registration and payment are due no later than September 30, 2026.



Submitted Photo

Drivers parking on the library lawn has become a common occurrence, but an expansion project will provide relief.

LIBRARY PARKING

from Page 1

pleted by the Ludlow Department of Public Works and Steve Santos Landscaping Services.

As of the latest press update, the DPW was scheduling paving on the site. Once complete, the project will add a projected 18 parking spots.

Additionally, a sidewalk will connect the new lot with an existing sidewalk. Offi-

cials are working with M.L. Schmitt Electric to add more lighting to an existing pole.

Library leaders thank everyone who helped advance the project.

“Library Trustee Linda Collette and Town Administrator Marc Strange were influential in this finally happening,” Rickson said. “Library patrons will experience less stress while trying to find a place to park when enjoying the library.”

The project will also have

benefits beyond improving access to the library.

“People are also welcome to park in the lot for events such as the Ludlow Cultural Council’s Summer Concert Series, and the annual Memorial Day Parade,” Rickson added.

The library is located at 24 Center St. To learn more about upcoming programs at the library, visit www.hubbardmemoriallibrary.org.

ENERGY TIPS

from Page 1

“Additionally, we encourage customers to consider installing a smart or programmable thermostat,” Sullivan said.

Having a programmable thermostat allows people to turn up the temperatures in their home while they aren’t there, effectively cutting down energy costs.

Moreover, when installing a thermostat in a home, ensure that it is out of direct sunlight. Having the thermostat in direct sunlight can lead to incorrect temperature read-

ings, which then cause an increased energy output.

The thermostat should also be kept away from windows and doors, as drafts from those can also alter temperature readings.

Additionally, many people find themselves adding appliances in the summer to keep on top of the heat.

Having multiple appliances plugged in can cause safety concerns, including power surges or electrical fires.

To avoid these problems, Sullivan recommended that people should avoid plugging multiple high-energy devices into the same outlet, inspect

cords for damage before use, and follow manufacturer’s instructions for installing and operating devices.

“If breakers are frequently tripping, outlets feel warm, or lights flicker when equipment is running, we recommend contacting a qualified electrician to evaluate the home’s electrical system,” Sullivan said.

HG&E also offers a surge protection program that will safeguard appliances. People can learn more about this at <https://www.hged.com/services/electric-service/surge-protection.aspx/>.

SCAMS

from Page 1

social security number, banking information, or credit card details with an unknown sender.

Scammers typically attempt to get victims to rush when requesting this information.

“Scammers often tell you to pay using difficult-to-recover payment methods, including cash, gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency,”

the Chief’s statement read. “Scammers often pretend to represent organizations you know and trust, including government agencies, banks, utility companies, and law enforcement.”

State officials continue to advise residents to be on the lookout for scams related to tolls and fines.

“Anyone receiving a text which asks for payment of driving infractions, tolls, fees, or other unpaid balanc-

es should immediately delete that text message,” said Massachusetts Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. “It is unfortunate that there are bad actors who have malicious intent.”

To learn more about scams related to motorists, visit www.Mass.Gov/RMV.

If you believe you were targeted by a scam, contact the Ludlow Police Department at 413-583-8305.

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The Register

FESTA TRAFFIC

from Page 1

eration, as these temporary changes are implemented to accommodate the Festa cel-

ebration,” the LPD statement read.

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SPORTS

Lusitano Red falls in men’s quarterfinals



Joey Bianco looks for an open teammate.



Jordan Martins heads up the field.

LUDLOW – This year, the Lusitano Red men’s summer soccer team was defeated in quarterfinals of the year’s Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League playoffs held at South Hadley High School. They were defeated by CF Arbor 1-0 as they failed to make it forward in this year’s summer playoffs.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Ryan Sunshine socks a free kick away.

CF Arbor reaches semifinals

SOUTH HADLEY – In last week’s PVSSL summer playoffs, the CF Arbor Men’s soccer team, which was the No. 4 seed in the playoffs, was able to advance into the semifinals and took on Mt. Carmel,

which defeated CF by a score a 2-0, ending CF Arbor’s chances of reaching the championship game this year. Mt. Carmel would capture this year’s men’s championship.



Goalie Antonio Centracchio makes a save.



Ben Walsh navigates through the middle of the field.



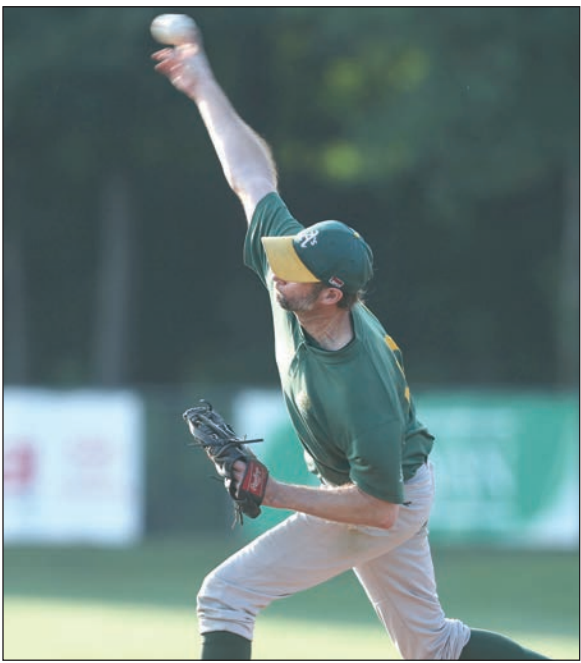
Owen Dieterle heads up the field.

Valley Wheel regular season concludes

WILBRAHAM – The regular season has concluded for the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, one of several adult baseball leagues that plays in the region. This year, with play concluding this past Sunday, the Angels were able to finish the regular season with the top record, going 11-4. The Angels matched the Twins with the same record, but won two out of three head-to-head for the tiebreaker advantage in the playoffs. The Orioles finished third and the Cubs overcame the A’s by tiebreaker for the final of four playoff spots. The semifinals for the league are set for this Sunday at Spec Pond in Wilbraham. In the first matchup, the No. 2 Twins host the No. 3 Orioles at 2:30 p.m. Then, the top-seeded Angels face No. 4 Cubs at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held on Sunday, Aug. 16 at Spec Pond at 3 p.m.



Nate Woodland makes a catch for the A’s during regular season action in the Valley Wheel league.



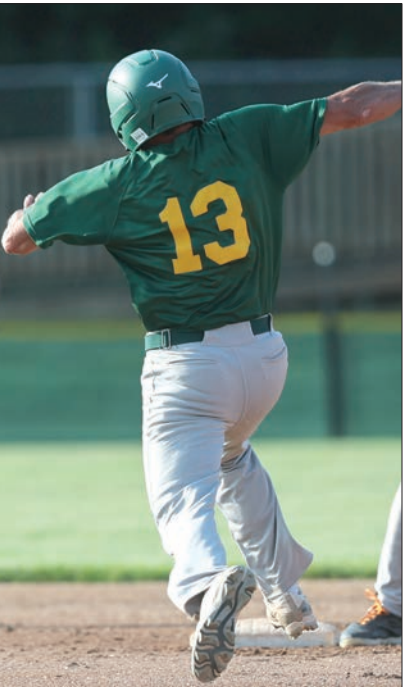
Pitcher Mike Bielen fires to the plate.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Adam Strain fields a grounder.



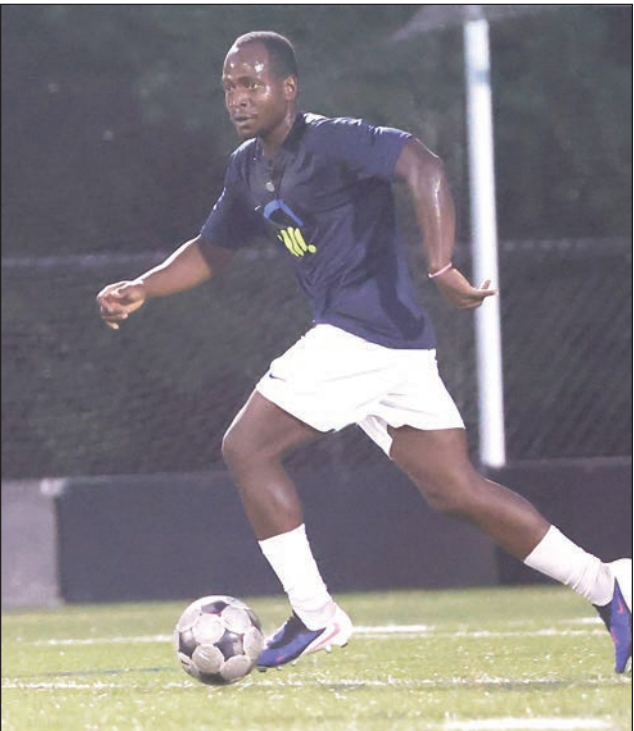
Sam Ribeiro takes a swing.



Ken Schubert heads into second base.



Troy Remillard outplays an opponent for the ball.



Landry Kwawu goes to meet up with a loose ball.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD26P1452GD
In the interests of
Jessa Buoniconti of Ludlow, MA
Minor
NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 07/02/2026 by Tara Jean Buoniconti of Ludlow, MA will be held 08/27/2026 10:00 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located: Judge Stoudemire-In Person: 50 State St., Springfield, MA 01103 Courtroom 4 - Fl 4.
2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
Date: July 23, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/05/2026
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758

Docket No. HD26P1635EA
Estate of: Irving R Johnson
Date of Death: 11/14/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Rachel Ann Ilnicki of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that Rachel Ann Ilnicki of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/27/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and

objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 29, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/05/2026
LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD
LEGAL NOTICE
SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION
The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Select Board's

Conference Room on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:05 p.m. on the application of Ursula Knolton of 115 Prospect Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 15A, Parcel 355) for: interior design office.
If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 27, 2026.
Raymond Phoenix, Chairman
07/29, 08/05/2026
LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD
LEGAL NOTICE
SITE PLAN
The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Select Board's Conference Room on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:10 p.m. on the application of Sewall & Hubbard LLC for the property located at 120 Hubbard Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 14B, Parcel 20) for the purpose of: update existing site plan.
If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 27, 2026.
Raymond Phoenix, Chairman
07/29, 08/05/2026
LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD
LEGAL NOTICE
SPECIAL PERMIT HOME OCCUPATION
The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Select Board's

low Town Hall, Select Board's Conference Room on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. on the application of Michael Modzelewski of 147 Kendall Street, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 11B, Parcel 108) for: landscaping business.
If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, August 27, 2026.
Raymond Phoenix, Chairman
7/29, 08/05/2026
TOWN OF LUDLOW
LEGAL NOTICE
Ludlow Annual Town Meeting of May 11, 2026 – Case #12252 Warrant Article 29 (General) was approved by the Attorney General's office. "Such Bylaws have been posted according to the Bylaws and copies are available at the Town Clerk's Office".
**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
07/22, 07/29, 08/05/2026

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Palmer High School Class of '76 plans reunion

PALMER – Do you have the Spirit of '76? With the 50th anniversary of Palmer High School's Class of 1976 this year, a reunion of classmates and faculty at the end of the summer has been planned for Aug. 28 at Salem Cross Inn, 260 W. Main St., West Brookfield. It will be a summer option for those un-

available in the fall, when a separate Class of '76 group is planning a reunion on Oct. 17.
The event at Salem Cross will begin with cocktails at 5 p.m., and dinner will start at 6 p.m., offering a menu of cheese and crackers, garden salad, and entrees of Rustic Chicken, Honey Dijon

Salmon or Vegetarian Option. Tickets for the summer event will be \$50, which will include a tip. For the Aug. 28 registration link, which includes payment options online and by post, contact Suzanne Strempek Shea at sess7@comcast.net. RSVP and payment are due no later than Aug. 10.

HEALTH

from Page 4
but react to an unexpected situation, like a deer in the road? How many are having trouble remembering where they were going but get behind the wheel anyway?
Are there 95-year-olds who are still safe on the road? Of course. But we older drivers need to be honest with ourselves and not assume that, just because we've been driving for 60 or 70 years, we should still be driving.
Here are some things to ask yourself:
Can you comfortably turn your head to back out of a parking spot or check a blind spot before merging or changing lanes?
Do you have the muscle strength, reaction time and control to slam on the brakes if needed?
Are you able to clearly read signs?
Do you get confused at roundabouts, when making left turns or getting on or off the interstate?
Do other drivers honk at you?
Have you narrowly missed having an accident and said to yourself, "That car/pedestrian/bike came out of nowhere"?

Vision, hearing, motor abilities, cognitive abilities all decline naturally with aging. That doesn't mean you have to hang up your keys at a particular age. It just means to be aware of those changes and adjust to them.
For example, take time to stretch your arms, legs and neck every morning to maintain flexibility. If your doctor prescribes a new medication, ask whether it will have any impact on your ability to drive. Maybe stay on surface streets rather than highways or drive only during the day if night vision and glare are a problem. Assistive devices can also help.
From a cognitive standpoint, it's important to keep distractions to a minimum. Don't try to eat or drink while driving. Tell passengers to keep conversation to a minimum. Set your GPS before putting the car in drive. And, for the love of all that is holy, stay off the phone – hands free or not.
Cars these days are packed with safety technology. Your car may alert you when you're following too close, wandering into another lane or have a car sitting your blind spot. It may automatically correct a skid or even parallel park for you. All of that technology is great, but remember: You are still the one in the driver's seat.
Every so often, invite a trusted adult to ride shotgun and note your driving be-

haviors for later discussion. They may spot things, like driving too slow or being in the left lane when you're not passing. If they identify concerns, talk to your doctor or an occupational therapist who specializes in driver safety and sign up for an older driver course.
After an honest self-assessment, you can decide for yourself if it's time to stop driving and, guess what? There's life after cars! Friends, family, taxis, ride-shares and transit-on-demand are all plentiful. You can have groceries, meals and prescriptions delivered.
We all love the independence of going anywhere we want when we want. Just be aware that freedom comes with the responsibility to make sure you're fit to drive.
Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, R.N., a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. A Monson, MA resident, she is the author of "How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones" and her new book, "Advocating Well: Strategies for Finding Strength and Understanding in Health Care," available at Amazon.com. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com to set up a free phone consultation.

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Julia Komatsu, M.D.
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PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1
Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2
Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3
Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

HUBBARD from Page 5

Insect Scavenger Hunt, Monday, August 17, all day. Find them all; win a prize! Drop-in.

Minute to Win It! Monday, August 17, 10:30 a.m. For ages 10-17. Get your bragging rights! Please register.

Ed Popielarczyk Magic Show, Tuesday, August 18, 11:30 a.m. For youth of all ages. Youth Summer Reading raffles drawn at the end. (You don't need to be present to win.) Drop-in.

Nintendo Switch Night, Tuesday, August 18, 6 p.m. For high school aged youth. Switch and pizza sponsored by the Friends of the Li-

brary. Please register.

End of Summer Reading Roller Skating Party! Thursday, August 20, 6 p.m. For participants in the Youth Summer Reading Program. At Interskate in Wilbraham. Stop by the Youth Room desk to get your ticket!

Movie - Land Before Time (G), Friday, August 21, 11 a.m. For youth of all ages and families. Drop-in.

Back to School Storytime, Monday, August 24, 10 a.m. For ages 0-5. Read a story and make a craft. Please register.

Tween Graphic Novel Club, Thursday, August 27, 5 p.m. For ages 10-14. Book

available in the Youth Room. Please register.

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

Pokemon Club, Wednesdays (weekly), 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. For gr. 3-8. Please register.

Lego Build Challenge, every Wednesday, noon to 5 p.m. Drop-in.

Online Gaming/Minecraft Club for YAs, Every Thursday, 3:30 - 5 p.m. For ages 10-15. Drop-in, first come first served.

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

GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club to host Free Kids Bingo Night Aug. 19

WILBRAHAM – Not sure what to do with the kids on a summer weeknight? Come Join the Fun.

The GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club invites local families to a free Kids Bingo Night on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Brooks Room at the Wilbraham Public Library.

Designed for children of all ages, the event offers an evening of fun, laughter, and friendly competition. Kids will participate in five games of Bingo and Prizes will

be awarded to the lucky winners.

All supplies will be provided as well as freshly popped popcorn and water. All children will receive a small "lucky charm" for participating.

While the event is free, pre-registration is required due to limited space and may be completed at www.WilbrahamJuniorWomens.org/kids-bingo.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult but one adult may supervise multiple children.

"Our goal is to bring families together for a fun summer evening while creating lasting memories in our community," said Brenda Willard, GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club President. "We hope families will join us for a night filled with excitement, prizes, and a chance to yell 'BINGO!'"

The Wilbraham Junior Women's Club is committed to serving the Wilbraham community through volunteerism, and charitable projects that enrich the lives of local residents.

PET PAGE

PET OF THE MONTH Meet Scarlett!

She is a 2-year-old West Asian village dog from Azerbaijan. She was rescued from the city streets of Baku by Baku Street Dog Rescue. Scarlett loves hiking and playing fetch. She lives in Hampden with Ralph and Tina DeLullo.



ATTENTION READERS!

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

WILBRAHAM Animal Hospital
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William D. Anderson, DVM
Hannah Belcher-Timme, DVM
Nicholas Schipper, DVM
Madison Harris, DVM
Lynn Dgetluck, DVM
Leah Guidry, DVM
Denise Chiminiello, DVM
Caitlin Vaughn, DVM



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PACK WALKS
– Every Saturday in Post Office Park Wilbraham at Noon.
– Every Sunday in Belchertown behind the Police Dept. at 10 a.m.
All Ages And Breeds Welcome
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Every Wednesday Night at 5:30 p.m.
Non-Committal Obedience Socialization Group.
Find us at Belchertown State School in front of Christopher Heights and Belchertown Day School.

NEW CLASSES!

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The Real Reasons Why Your Dog Follows You All the Time

Have you ever felt like your dog is your personal shadow? No matter where you go—the kitchen, the bathroom, or even just across the couch—they're always right behind you. There are reasons for their constant companionship. Dogs don't just follow their humans for food or fun; it's rooted in instinct, emotion, and even their well-being.

They see you as their pack leader-

Dogs are natural pack animals; in their eyes, you are the pack's leader. In the wild, sticking close to the leader ensures safety, guidance, and resource access.

They have separation anxiety- If your dog panics when you leave the house or even just leaves the room, they might have separation anxiety. Dogs with this condition feel intense distress when they're away from their human, leading them to

follow you everywhere just to make sure you don't disappear.

They're hoping for food or a treat- Let's be honest, dogs are opportunists. If you've ever handed them a treat while standing at the counter or given them a snack just because they looked cute, they've learned that following you can sometimes lead to rewards.

They want to protect you- Some dogs

take their job as your bodyguard very seriously. Whether you realize it or not, your dog might follow you to ensure you're safe.

They are imprinted on you- Puppies and young rescues will imprint on their humans. If you've raised your dog since they were young, they likely see you as their primary source of comfort and security. Imprinted dogs feel an intense attachment and naturally want to stay

close to the person they trust most.

They love you- One of the biggest reasons your dog follows you is simply because they love you. Dogs form strong emotional bonds with their humans, and staying close is their way of showing affection.

They are aging- Older dogs sometimes follow their humans more. Vision and hearing loss or cognitive issues can make them feel more

vulnerable, so they rely on your presence for guidance and comfort.

We are entertaining and they don't want to miss out- FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) isn't just a human problem—dogs get it too! If your dog thinks there's even the slightest chance something exciting might happen, they'll stick to you like glue, just in case. We are also pretty entertaining to watch as well!

OBITUARIES

DEATH NOTICES

Magiera, Elizabeth A. (Bator)
 Died April 16, 2017
 Graveside Service
 May 5, 2017
 St. Aloysius Cemetery

Wilson, Edna I. (Crosier)
 Died April 21, 2017
 Funeral Services
 April 27, 2017
 Kapinos-Mazur Funeral Home

The Ludlow Register
 OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

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

Antonio Sousa, 98

LUDLOW – Antonio Sousa, 98, of Ludlow, MA, passed away at his home, surrounded by his loving family on Jul 29, 2026.
 Born on April 15, 1928, the son of Maria (Rebello) and Albert Monteiro Sousa, Tony grew up on Duke Street, later graduating from Ludlow HS in 1947. After graduation, he worked as an autobody technician at Leader Chevrolet.
 In 1952, Tony was drafted into the U.S. Army, proudly serving the country he loved during the Korean Conflict. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Korean Service Medal with Bronze Star, United Nations Service Medal, and National Defense Medal in recognition for his service.

After returning home, Antonio earned his Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from Western New England College in 1963. For thirty years, he worked as an Application Engineer, assisting manufacturing companies with lubrication systems. He later completed his career working for the US Postal Service.
 Tony loved being a citizen of Ludlow, where he was elected to the Board of Selectman & Board of Health. He was appointed as Graves Registration Officer by the Selectmen and took great pride in being named Honorary Marshall for the Memorial Day Parade in 1990.
 Tony fulfilled a lifelong dream when he earned his private pilot's license. He took joy in owning his Piper Cherokee and was always happy up in the sky. He loved his summer home at Hampton Beach, sharing golden moments with loved ones and family as much as he possibly could. In his latter years, Tony became a bit



of a Renaissance man when he began researching recipes and experimenting in the kitchen. His specialty was eagerly tested by all the family when he began baking Portuguese breads.
 In 1950, Tony married Norma Falconer, the love of his life, beginning a 75 year journey together. They raised their 3 daughters with warmth, love, and affection. He always stated to those around him that his family was his entire universe, and was truly proud of all his girls.
 Tony is survived by his wife Norma and daughters Sharon Cenedella (Edward), Pamela Lane (Bryan), Nancy Sousa Giza (Mark), his grandchildren, Katie, Benjamin, Matthew, Allison, Harrison & Chandler, along with his great grandchildren, Brooke, Genevieve, Grayson, Sadie, Lucas and Emerson; and his beloved sisters, Lucilia Nunes and Odette Sousa.

Tony always raised a glass in celebration, enjoying each moment to the fullest. He felt blessed by his family and will be truly missed.
 Funeral services for Tony will be held on Tuesday, August 4th. Visiting hours will be held from 11:30am-1:15pm at the First Church in Ludlow with a church service beginning at 1:30pm followed by burial with military honors in Island Pond Cemetery. Donations may be made in Tony's memory to First Church of Ludlow, 859 Center St., Ludlow, MA 01056 or to Ludlow Veterans Services, 487 Holyoke St., Ludlow, MA 01056.

Yvonne Claire Pindell

A native of Ludlow, and they married in 1967. Massachusetts, Y. Claire They lived for a time in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1976-1978). They divorced in 1991.
 Upon her return to Massachusetts, she became a cook at St. John the Baptist rectory and was a sometime caregiver for her elderly parents. She worked in hospitality and was a home care aide to many in Western Massachusetts.
 Following in her father's footsteps, she became active in local Democratic politics and was often a participant in Massachusetts Democratic Conventions or could



be found stumping for candidates for statewide office. Claire enjoyed travel and good food and reveled in having dozens of cousins.
 Claire is survived by her sister Lorraine Hayes of Ludlow, daughter Danielle Calabrese and grand-daughter Vivienne Plewa, both of West Chester, Pennsylvania, nephews and cousins. A wake and funeral are planned for Wednesday, August 5 at 11:00am, at St. Elizabeth's, with burial immediately following in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Springfield, MA. Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Providence Animal Center (providenceac.org) or to St. Elizabeth Church in Ludlow.

An Evening with Paul Revere at WPL Aug. 10

WILBRAHAM– Michael Lepage, historical interpreter and re-enactor, will portray Paul Revere at the Wilbraham Public Library on Monday, Aug. 10 at 6 p.m. Revere's name evokes images of the famous "Midnight Ride" of

April 18-19, 1775. Hear his story, culminating with that night in April when he spread the alarm "to every Middlesex village and farm" that the regulars were coming out.
 This free program is open to all and is sponsored

by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library. Registration program is appreciated for planning purposes, but seating is available on a first come, first served basis.
 Sign up at wilbrahamlibrary.org, or call 413-596-6141.

Artifacts come out of storage for "Treasures & Trivia"

WILBRAHAM — Join the Old Meeting House Museum on Aug. 9, from 2 to 4 p.m., for Treasures & Trivia, a free afternoon featuring artifacts not normally on display, followed by a round of local history trivia with prizes at 3 p.m.
 Visitors can see pieces the museum has preserved for decades but rarely shows: Victorian bustle skirts and hand-beaded bodices, a Civil War sewing kit carried by a Wilbraham soldier, a 45-star American

flag, and more.
 Guests can also test their local knowledge in three rounds of trivia covering Wilbraham, Western Massachusetts, and New England, with prizes for first, second, and third place winners. Some of the answers are hiding inside the exhibit, so early arrivals have an advantage. "We have way more in our collection than we could ever properly display" said Lindsey Bourcier, OMH Marketing Director. "Most

of it lives in boxes in the storage room, well cared for but out of sight. This event is our chance to bring some of it out. But the trivia is what people really show up for... We give out prizes for the top three, and folks get pretty competitive about it. Wilbraham knows its history and is not shy about proving it."
 Treasures & Trivia is free and open to the public. All ages are welcome. Visit the OMH.org for more information.

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 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
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 Classes for Young Men(11-18) 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon
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 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.

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

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 Like us on Facebook Check out our Parish App
Wed., August 5 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C), - Holy Mother Choir – 4:30 PM (C), - Bible Study – 6:30 PM (JR)
Thurs., August 6 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Fri., August 7 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C)
Sat., August 8, Dust & Pray – 10:00AM (C), Confessions – 2:30PM (C), Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 PM (C)
Sun., August 9 – Sunday Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM (C), Eucharist for the Homebound Meeting – 10:00AM (JR), Youth Ministry High School – 6:00 PM (JR)
Mon., August 10 – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C), Pre-Baptism Class – 6:30 PM (C)
Tues., August 11 – Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C) Youth Ministry Middle School 3:30 PM (JR)

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

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

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 Worship service meets at 11am
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 Tuesdays: Zoom Bible Study 7pm
 Fridays: After School Club for Children 5pm
 AA Group 7pm

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 413-583-3339 office
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 Reverend Darcy Borden, Pastor
 413-285-3069
 Call her at other times to make an appointment
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 Check our Facebook page or website for the schedule of worship and events
<https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow>
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