



The REGISTER

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A series of misfortunate events



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Lions beat Colts in quarterfinals, fall in semis



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DATEBOOK

Upcoming events

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.

SEE PAGE 12

Community comes together for Brianna Allen

Fundraiser helps pay for cancer treatments

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer

LUDLOW – Through collaboration with local organizations like the Lucitano Club and the Elks Lodge, Mike Borecki has been organizing fundraiser events for the cancer treatments of his niece, Brianna Allen.

“She’s a resilient little girl,” Borecki said. Allen is a fourth-grade student who has been undergoing chemotherapy to fight her leukemia.

Borecki, with help from his best friend and “guiding light” Alan Fettes, has been working with Jimmy Fund programs that benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for over



Submitted photo

Ludlow’s Brianna Allen accepts a special shirt following a game at the Lucitano Club, which was a fundraiser to help pay for her cancer treatments.

Please see **BRIANNA**, Page 8

Selfless commitment to public service

State Police Academy’s 88th Recruit Training Troop graduates

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

SPRINGFIELD – Earlier this month, the State Police Academy graduated its 88th Recruit Training Troop, which featured 165 men and women from cities and towns across the commonwealth.

The State Police Pipes & Drums Band ushered dignitaries into the Mass Mutual Center on Aug. 3, where Sgt. Mike Goonan, Director of Training at the State Police Academy acted as master of ceremonies.

The 88th RTT began training at the State Police Academy in New Braintree earlier this year, passing through an intensive 16-hour day pro-

gram, five days a week.

Following a moment of silence for police and military personnel who have given their lives defending the nation and a prayer by State Police Chaplain Rev. Dr. Johnny Wilson, the 88th RTT demonstrated Troop drill under the command of Senior Drill Instructor Trooper Alicia Amaral.

“Since 1921, your uniformed State Troopers have been subject to demands of strict discipline that only paramilitary training can provide,” Goonan said. “Troop drill helps develop the core qualities of pride, professionalism, respect, attention to detail and esprit de corps. Troop drill inspires the common spirit necessary to become a Massachusetts State Trooper.”

Captain Jon Provost, Commandant of the State Police Academy, thanked all for attending the ceremony in

Please see **STATE POLICE GRADUATES**, Page 8

Baystate Wing hosts first Community Benefit Forum

By Ryan Drago
Correspondent

PALMER – Members of the medical community joined each other at the Palmer Public Library recently to hear about the Community Health Needs Assessment conducted by Baystate Wing Hospital.

The presentation was organized and hosted by leaders of Baystate Wing Hospital and Health New England. The goal of their presentation is to advance community health through their assessment and collective action.

It has always been Baystate Health’s mission to improve the health of the people in their communities and it’s through these assessments, which happen every three years, officials identify and improve the health needs of community members.

The first to speak and give the introductions was Baystate Health Senior Community Benefits Specialist Brittney Rosario. Rosario, who addressed the

at-a-glance report included in the presentation, which would be fleshed out by a myriad of speakers of Baystate Health and Health New England.

CHNA pamphlets were provided to all in attendance. Rosario also noted after the presentation that tables and poster presentations were available to learn about various programs and grants currently funded by both hosting parties in response to the community’s needs.

The first speaker was Baystate Health Regional Hospitals President Ron Bryant, who said he was proud to share his thoughts on the success Baystate has had in their efforts to provide the best support and care for their communities.

He acknowledged the hospitals’ physicians in his remark noting that they are dedicated to the patients and to each other.

“Every day, they want to come in as a team,” said Bryant.

Please see **BAYSTATE FORUM**, Page 11

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LUDLOW

Ludlow 250th Celebration Committee lists upcoming events

LUDLOW - The Ludlow 250th Celebration Committee is planning several fundraising activities in 2023 so that it can fund the many events planned for the town's 250th year in 2024. With your continued support, we can reach our fundraising goal to create amazing and memorable events for all to enjoy now and in 2024.

Watch our fundraising thermometer rise in front of Town Hall on Chapin St., or the Hubbard Memorial Library on Center St.

Events planned for 2023 so far include: August 16 - Dine Out (or in) for a Cause at the Villa Rose Restaurant, 1428 Center St. 20% of proceeds donated back to the Ludlow 250th.

Sep. 9 - The 250th Golf Tournament, get a foursome together and come out to "Par-Tee" with us at Westover Golf Course. Great fun, prizes, dinner, raffles and more. Contact Paul Chrzan for more information at 413-636-1527. Register soon, as space is limited. Deadline for registration is Sep. 5.

Sep. 10 - A Evening of Irish Music featuring Billy Eagan. Concert starts at 5 p.m. at the Mack Donnelly Gazebo. Bring your own chairs. This event is in partnership with the Ludlow Cultural Council.

Sep. 30 & Oct. 1 - Ludlow Cultural Council Marketplace at the Veteran's Memorial Park Gazebo.

Oct. 14 - Celebrate Ludlow, lots of fun autumn activities. Come celebrate Ludlow with us.

October - Home Halloween Decorating Contest, go all out and dec-

orate your home for Halloween, and for more fun, get your neighbors involved too! Prizes awarded.

December - Home Holiday Decorating Contest. Decorate your home, your business, and your neighborhood too. Prizes and bragging rights awarded until the next contest in 2024.

Dec. 3 - Town Tree Lighting, Town Hall, 488 Chapin St. Fun Christmas holiday parade, fun activities for all, ornaments to decorate our town tree or bring your own ornament, treats, and so much more, like a special visit from Santa and his Mrs. This event is also a partnership with Ludlow Rotary, Ludlow Cares, Ludlow Police and Fire departments, Ludlow Veteran's, and the Ludlow Boys and Girls Club, to collect unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots.

Mark your calendars now for the many events planned for our celebratory year in 2024!

Feb. 24, 2024 - First Night. Join us for a great afternoon of winter fun as we kick off our 250th year anniversary. You'll have a chance to see a presentation of our town's history featuring Ludlow historians, pictures we know you've never seen before, and learn about how we started our town, two-hundred and fifty years ago to present. We'll have food from local restaurants, food trucks, local breweries, fire pits to gather around with friends and family to make s'mores and sip hot cocoa, an ice carving demonstration, snowman/snow sculpture contests, lots of fun activities and amusements for all ages, a special visit from Elsa and Anna,

and to end the evening, a beautiful fireworks display will light up the sky for all to enjoy!

June 15, 2024 - Parade and Block Party Picnic! - This is a BIG day for our town as we celebrate with a parade in the morning, followed by a huge picnic in the parks. Here are the details thus far - our amazing parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Sportsman's Road/Chapin Street, turn right onto East Street and end at the Veteran's Memorial Park (Gazebo park area). We've got a great line up of marchers, The Polish American String Band aka The Mummies!, the Shriners, to name a few. We're hoping for more bands to be hired and will announce as sponsorship to pay for them comes available. We're still planning this parade. If your group, company, or organization would like to be a part of this wonderful event, please contact our parade Chairman, Bruce Durand, at durand8998@aol.com and register as applications are being accepted now. More details are listed on our website at www.ludlowma250.org.

Immediately after the parade we will host our Block Party Picnic in Memorial Park and Veteran's Memorial Park. That's right, the whole block between East Street, Chestnut Street, Winsor and Sewall Streets will be closed off so we can celebrate all day and well into the night!

We've got great bands coming out to play ("Trailer Trash" for one), Manuel Amusements will set up a midway of wonderful rides, bounce houses and games. A great array of food will be

available from local restaurants, and a beer garden featuring our local breweries. Shop at our wonderful craft vendors. We are looking for craft vendors, civic groups, business partners, food trucks and restaurants to participate. If you are interested in being a craft or food vendor or want to participate or volunteer, please contact picnic committee chairwoman Kathy Ouimette at kathleenouimette1977@gmail.com or Denise Zrakas at denisejzrakas@gmail.com

Sep. 2024- Golf Tournament -held at Westover Golf Course Saturday, May 18, 2024

Oct. 12, 2024 - Fall into Fun at Celebrate Ludlow! Lots of wonderful fall themed events, pumpkin decorating contest, food and craft vendors, amusements, a Ludlow Cemetery tour featuring Exit 7 Players, and much more!

Oct. 2024 - Halloween decorating contest 2024

Dec. 2024 - Holiday decorating contest 2024

Dec. 1, 2024 - Annual Town of Ludlow Tree Lighting and Toys for Tots donation event.

More events are planned and will be announced in The Register and online on Facebook and Instagram, so please like and follow today. Please share our events with friends and family, near and far.

Like and follow the 250th Committee on social media for more information, pictures from the past, events happening now, sponsorship, and more, on the web at www.ludlowma250.org or by email at ludlowma250@gmail.com.

Velis Veterans' Bonus Eligibility Bill passed in final budget

HOLYOKE— As part of their ongoing commitment to LGBTQ+ rights and supporting veterans, Sen. John Velis (Westfield), Rep. Jack Patrick Lewis (Framingham), and State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg filed H.3518/S.2358, "An Act promoting equality in veterans' bonus eligibility" earlier this legislative session.

After advocating throughout the

Legislature's fiscal 2024 budget process, the same language was included in the final budget that the Legislature passed and sent to Gov. Maura Healey's desk last week.

This legislation would ensure that veterans who were dishonorably discharged from service due to their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or HIV status, would be eligible

for bonuses from the Veterans' Bonus Division in the Office of the Treasurer.

Veterans living in Massachusetts who are covered by the bill would still be granted the same benefits and bonuses that they are entitled to on a federal level.

"For far too long, thousands of courageous individuals have

been told that they are not worthy of the same benefits that their comrades and counterparts earned. That their service, and their sacrifice is not worth the same. All because of who they are and who they love," said Velis, who is Chair of the Veterans & Federal Affairs Committee. "The years of trauma, abuse and harassment caused by Don't Ask, Don't Tell

cannot be undone. But we must do everything in our power to ensure that LGBTQ Veterans across the Commonwealth have the same access to benefits and services that other Veterans have." With the language included in the final fiscal 2024 budget from the Legislature, it will now go to Healey's desk for her consideration.

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PET OF THE WEEK



ZARA

Zara is four years old. She's a sheepadoodle, which her friend Michelle Pereira describes as a "sheep dog/ poodle mix."

Join the fun – at the Bushels of Fun Fest on Aug. 27

WILBRAHAM -- Are you feeling FESTive? The Friends of Wilbraham Seniors are excited to be bringing "Bushels of Fun Fest" to the surrounding communities on Aug. 27 at Fern Valley Farms, 758 Main St., Wilbraham across from Rice Fruit Farm. This one-day event is sure to be a fantastic celebration of music by "One Was Johnny" and "DRB" Bands.

Over 20 crafters from around the region and local farms will be selling their fresh picked produce. Food Trucks will offer sweet and savory delights, and Fieldcrest Brewing Company will be serving their "Made in Wilbraham" Craft Beer! Batch Ice Cream will also be on hand!

Fest goers can browse and buy many handmade products including unique carvings, art, jewelry and more! There will be three opportunities to test your skills at the Cornhole Tournaments- and maybe take home a trophy. Take your shot at the Disc Golf contest or learn all about the many Community Partners...maybe even get a relaxing chair massage or partake in the standing yoga session! A raffle will offer chances to win a \$500 Lotto Scratch Ticket Basket and a Sports themed Raffle with prizes from a signed Boston Bruins puck to a one-year family membership to Scantic Valley YMCA, to Swag basket from Springfield Thunder-

birds, and two- hour long Massage!

There's also a contest to guess the number of apples in our bushels of apples.

To service Veterans, our local Veterans agent Jered Sasen will be present with the Mobile Veterans Center to provide Veterans with immediate on-site services. If you know a Veteran, pass along the info!

Children can enjoy lawn games, crafts, face painting, temporary tattoos, sit for storytime, get a free book to take home, take a ride on the farm tractor or hop on the 1930 Firetruck for a picture! Also, look around for the Springfield Thunderbirds BOOMER, or the Fest mascot "Appletonia", they'll be ready for photo ops!

This event runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., on the over 80 Acre Fern Valley Farms. The fest is held rain or shine, and you can bring your lawn chairs or blankets. Coolers or backpacks are not allowed. There will be a \$5 parking donation. Proceeds from this event will help fund programs, services & support the new Senior Center.

Bushels of Fun Fest is a community event with Fun for everyone. For more information check out their website BushelsOfFunFest.com or call either Maria Cacula 413-250-1928 or Chuck Pelouze 413-596 5089.

Ludlow Lions hold food and back to school drive Aug. 26

LUDLOW— Ludlow Lions Club will be holding its annual Food and Back-to-school Drive, to benefit the Community Survival Center, on Saturday, Aug. 26, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Some requested items are peanut butter and jelly, Mac and cheese, canned goods, baby foods, fruit juice, cereal, soup and high protein items. The CSC can now accept fresh produce.

Drop off locations are the Polish American Citizens Club and Burger King across from Big Y. The Ludlow Lions Club would like to thank the Community for their continued support.

Destruction of Special Education Records

LUDLOW - Temporary school records for members of the Ludlow High School Class of 2016 will be destroyed on or about Dec. 31 unless claimed by individual former students, the district announced.

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

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

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

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Volunteers clean Whitney Park



Submitted photo

Volunteers (from left) Kate McGraw, Kelly and Jeffrey Laing, Alex Montagna, Kelly De Gobbi, Joe Lupa, and Jessie Milanes (crouched) spent their Saturday morning picking up trash at Whitney Park.

LUDLOW - This Saturday, volunteers turned out to clean up Whitney Park as part of the Friends of Ludlow Parks group.

The volunteer effort to clean up the town's parks is being coordinated through the Friends of Ludlow Parks Facebook page. They arrived on the morning of August 12 to pick up litter and clean up graffiti.

"It was my first time cleaning up with them," said one of the volunteers, Kate McGraw, "they are all wonderful people and a lot of them are also

involved in the upcoming event Color Ludlow with Love."

McGraw described Color Ludlow With Love as an inclusive event that the group hopes to hold at the Memorial Park gazebo on Sep. 3, pending approval from the Board of Selectmen.

A clean-up of the River Walk was scheduled for Sunday, but cancelled due to inclement weather. The Friends of Ludlow Parks are planning another clean-up event to be held on August 26 and 27.

Rescheduled Date of Oct. 14 for Dragon Boat Festival

SPRINGFIELD— A new date for the ninth annual Dragon Boat Festival has been set for Saturday, Oct. 14, on the Connecticut River. The event will feature Dragon Boat races, food trucks, and Asian-themed entertainment from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North Riverfront Park, 121 West St.

The festival was originally scheduled for July 29 but postponed due to unsafe water conditions resulting from recent flooding. Admission to the festival is free for spectators.

Twenty-four teams from throughout New England are registered to participate in this year's Dragon Boat races. Community teams include Behavioral Health Network, CRRM-MA (the rail car manufacturer), as well as the defending champions, Springfield Pharmacy First Responders. With the new date set, registration will be reopened at www.pvriverrfront.org for additional teams to sign up to race on Oct. 14.

The Springfield Dragon Boat Festival, which has been hosted by the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club since 2013, attracts hundreds of participants and spectators to the banks of the Connecticut River for a day of competition, festivity, and community support. The Festival is an important fundraiser in support of Breast Cancer survivors and Community Programming at the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club.

According to Ben Quick, executive director of PVRC, "We are happy to have

found an alternative date for the Dragon Boat Festival, which has become a staple of our offerings on the Riverfront. With the additional time, we are opening registration for teams and a fall dragon boat experience on the Connecticut with colleagues and friends can be spectacular. We look forward to welcoming Dragon Boaters and fans of this fun and exciting event."

Hundreds of paddlers from New England participate in the festival races. A dragon boat festival team is comprised of up to 20 paddlers who race against other teams in 200-meter races on the Connecticut River. Each race lasts about one minute, and each team races at least three times on the day of the festival. Dragon Boating originated in China 2,000 years ago and today is one of the world's fastest growing team water sports. The festival makes it easy for anyone to participate and spectate.

There is free parking available nearby at 77 West St. or along Avocado Street and on property abutting and behind the new Starbucks store adjacent to the Riverfront Club. The festival can also be reached by the Connecticut Riverwalk Bikeway. More information can be found at www.pvriverrfront.org or by calling 413-736-1322.

The Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club has both adult and youth programming throughout the fall and winter months. For more information, visit www.pvriverrfront.org.

Passage of PACT Act expands benefits for veterans

SPRINGFIELD - Rep. Richard E. Neal joined U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs officials, local veterans' service officers, and members of the western Massachusetts veteran community to highlight the PACT Act that was signed into law by President Joseph Biden on Aug. 10, 2022.

The PACT Act marks the largest expansion of veteran health care and benefits in generations, extending health coverage to more than 5 million veterans exposed to harmful chemicals from burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic sources.

In addition, the PACT Act adds more than 20 new conditions presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures and requires the VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every veteran enrolled in VA health care. The PACT Act also provides resources to the VA to help improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

"When our service members return home, many of them are confronted with

a new set of challenges stemming from a service-connected disability or disease. For those struggling with complications resulting from toxic exposure, it has been difficult to treat not only due to the lack of coverage, but because unlike a physical disability, it is not something others can see. Now, with the PACT Act, we have finally delivered the care and treatment that these men and women deserve," said Neal in a press release.

With more than 27,000 new hires in the first six months of the fiscal year, the highest hiring level in the history of the VA, coupled with additional funding and resources authorized by the PACT Act, veterans are promptly receiving treatment.

As of May 21, nearly 600,000 PACT Act claims have been filed with the VA and more than 3.5 million veterans have received the VA's new toxic exposure screenings since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law.

Veterans can apply or learn more about the PACT Act by visiting VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800-MYVA411.

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If you are interested in being considered for appointment please contact:

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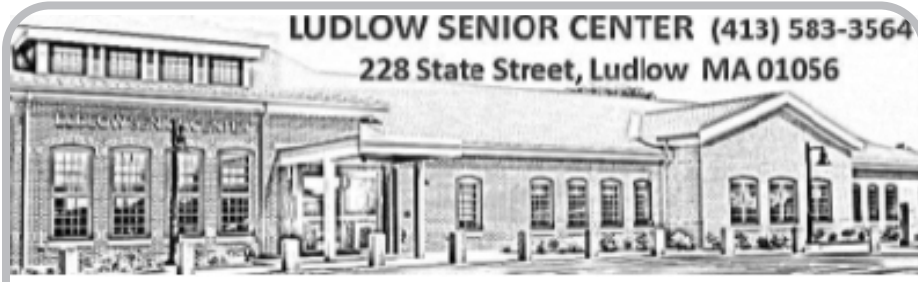
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Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

LUDLOW— The calendar is packed with many events, activities, programs, and entertainment. Seniors are invited to have lunch in the Center’s beautiful dining room for a hearty meal with coffee, tea, and dessert. Just call a day in advance at 413-583-3564 (call Friday for lunch on Monday).

This summer will have cornhole outside on the patio and have added three more fitness classes; two during the day and one during Tuesday evening hours.

For full program descriptions and upcoming activities, view the newsletter, *The Senior Scene*, at Ludlow.ma.us and ‘like’ the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook. A paper copy of *The Senior Scene* is available at the Center.

Activities Calendar:

Please register in advance for items with*

Thursday, August 17
 8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 9:30 a.m. Dominos
 10 a.m. Crafts with Sunshine Village*
 10 a.m. National Bagel Day Celebration
 12:30 p.m. Billiards Round Robin
 1 p.m. Mahjong
 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

Friday, August 18
 8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
 10 a.m. Outdoor Cornhole
 10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
 10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks
 1 p.m. Ceramics
 1 p.m. Magic Class
 1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*

Monday, August 21
 9 a.m. Knitting
 9:30 a.m. Yankee Candle Trip*
 10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp*
 10 a.m. Computer Help*
 10:30 a.m. Sen. Saunders Office Hour
 12:30 p.m. Billiards Travel League
 1 p.m. Scrabble
 1:15 p.m. Pitch
 2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

Tuesday, August 22
 9 a.m. Quilting
 9 a.m. Line Dancing
 10 a.m. Cribbage
 10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga
 12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Check
 1 p.m. Western Dance Lessons
 1:30 p.m. Bingo
 5 p.m. Movie: Caine Mutiny 1954

5:30 p.m. Power Pump Fitness Class

Wednesday, August 23
 8 a.m. Facials*
 8 a.m. Gardening Club
 9 a.m. Ceramics
 9 a.m. Zumba Gold
 10 a.m. National Popsicle Day Celebration
 10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance Class*
 1 p.m. Movie: Caine Mutiny 1954
 1 p.m. TED Talk Discussion

Thursday, August 24
 8:30 a.m. Foot Care*
 9 a.m. Tai Chi
 9:30 a.m. Dominos
 10 a.m. Sunshine Craft*
 12:30 p.m. Billiards Round Robin
 1 p.m. Mahjong
 2 p.m. Book Club: Lincoln Highway
 2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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 Billiards Room: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
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 Tuesday, August 22: Ranch Chicken/Scalloped Pot/Veggie
 Wednesday, August 23: Steak & Cheese Grinder/Onions & Peppers/Sweet Pot. Fries Potato/Veggies
 Thursday, August 24: Birthday Lunch Baked Ham/Roasted Pot/Veggie

Reserve a delicious \$2 lunch by calling a day ahead. Call Friday to reserve lunch on Monday.
 For allergy concerns, call the Senior Center to ask about ingredients at 413-583-3564.

STCC, MassHire partner to offer free CNC training in September

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield Technical Community College and the MassHire Workforce System have partnered to offer no-cost training that can open the door to a career in advanced manufacturing.

Funded by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, the training begins Sept. 11 at STCC. Participants will learn to operate CNC machinery in the state-of-the-art lab at Springfield Technology Park.

The training, which runs through Dec. 19, is open to those who are unemployed or underemployed (working part-time or making less than \$17 per hour). Classes are scheduled Mondays through Thursdays, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Participants must be 18 or older, have a high school diploma, GED or HiSET completion, among other requirements. Two-week prerequisite training is required before starting the program. For more information, including full applicant training requirements, visit stcc.io/cnc.

“This no-cost training program provides an excellent opportunity to learn the fundamentals to begin a career pathway that can lead to becoming a CNC machinist or tool maker,” said Larry Martin, Director of Labor Market Research and Business Services for the Hampden County Workforce Board.

Gladys Franco, Assistant Vice President for Workforce Development at STCC, said, “We are excited to partner with MassHire to help people get trained for in-demand jobs with competitive wages and benefits. The CNC training will help people get a foot in the door. Springfield-area advanced manufacturing businesses have positions available, but they often tell us they need us to

help candidates learn the skills required to get hired.”

Participants will train on CNC machines used in manufacturing and also in STCC academic programs. STCC offers a two-year associate degree program in Mechanical Engineering Technology and a one-year certificate in CNC operations.

STCC faculty will teach the classes offered at no cost this fall. Trainees will learn blueprint reading, shop math, precision measuring tools and how to operate CNC machinery.

“This is a terrific opportunity for people who are unemployed or underemployed, because the labor pool is dry right now,” said Thomas Minor, a professor and coordinator of the MET program. “The MET program has more job opportunities than we are able to fill with our day and night students. These aren’t just jobs, they are high-paying careers with benefits and upward mobility.”

Upon completion of the 15-week training, participants must actively seek full-time employment. Participants might consider enrolling in an STCC program while working, Minor said.

“Some of our students work full-time while pursuing a degree or certificate,” Minor said. “We offer flexibility in our programs to help them succeed.”

For more information about free CNC operator training, visit stcc.io/cnc or contact Larry Martin at (413) 755-1361 or lmartin@masshirehcbw.com.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Soil test this fall and beat the rush

A daear friend of mine sent me a picture of her pepper; her one pepper.

Granted, the fruit was picked a wee-bit prematurely by her 3-year-old granddaughter Genevieve, but still, one single fruit measuring 2 inches by 2 inches for all of her many pepper plants is nothing to brag about.

If I'm not mistaken, she used the word "pathetic" to describe said plants. Along with "stunted" and "pale."

Alas, what is a friend to do, but recommend a soil test?

I finally got the soil in two of my gardens tested last fall and I am so very happy that I did. With the necessary amendments added to bring up sub-par soil, I am enjoying bush beans and happy flowers in those areas.

Many of us garden for years before we have our soil tested. It is likely that we get fixed on our own routine of liming and fertilizing.

Perhaps too, we live with the same insect and disease problems each season and think that little can be done to remedy our situation. Maybe with a better understanding of our soil through testing, we will be able to create and maintain a fertile soil that supports healthy, optimal plant growth.

Rather than waiting until spring, beat the rush and send your sample off this fall. Here is a refresher on the nuts and bolts of soil testing.

We test the soil for many reasons. Perhaps the most important reason is to learn its pH.

Here in New England soil tends to be on the acidic side. Vital soil nutrients are unavailable to plants in an overly acid soil, even if they are in great supply.

Optimum pH for most plants is close to neutral, in the range of 6.2-6.8. Before you head for the garage to dust off the spreader, be forewarned that all limes are not the same!

Test results will indicate whether calcitic lime, hi mag lime, or dolomitic lime is best for your soil, and at what rates.

The test will also give you recommendations for boosting necessary soil nutrients, the most common of which are phosphorous, and potassium, magnesium, calcium and more. Let the soil testing laboratory know what crops you grow and what kind of gardener you are, that way their advice can be specific to your needs.

Organic gardeners will want to use natural fertilizer sources such as blood meal, bone meal, bone char, wood ash, rock phosphate and greensand among others to feed the soil.

The standard soil test will also give you the levels of lead in your soil. As we all know, lead poisoning is a particular concern to children under the age of 6.

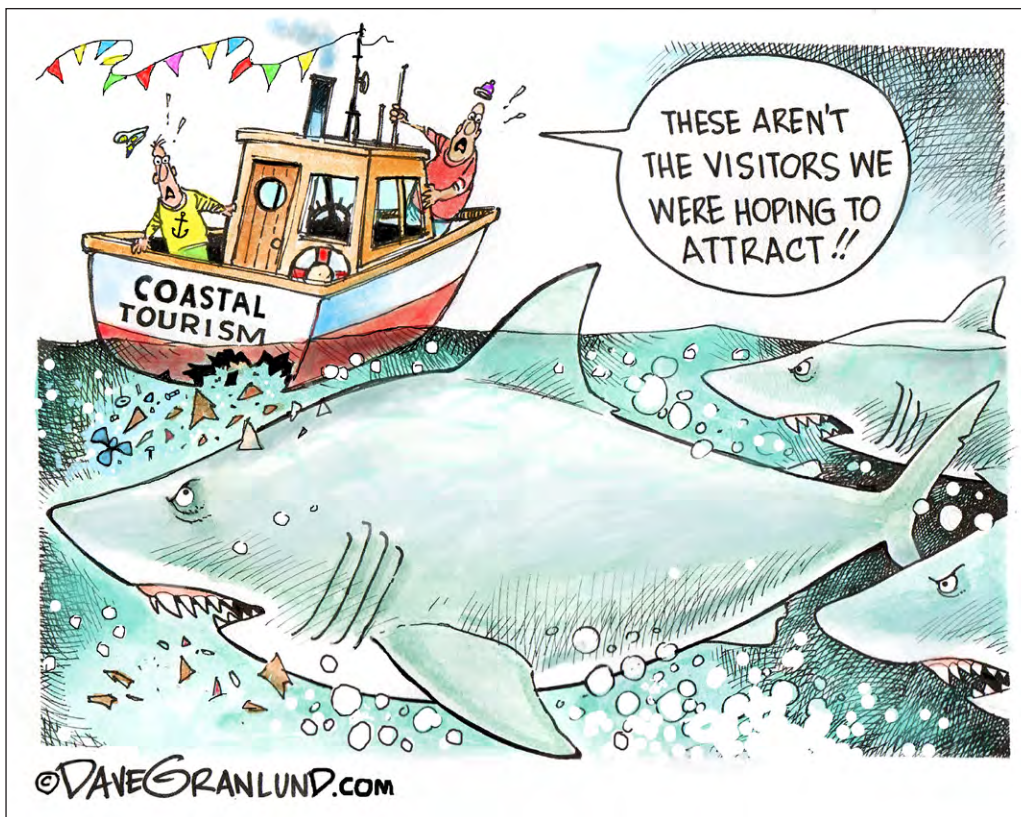
Produce grown in soils high in lead can accumulate enough lead in their tissue to be hazardous when eaten. The most likely cause of soil contamination is from particles of lead based paint that have been removed from nearby structures.

To reduce the risk of contamination, locate gardens away from old painted structures and keep pH and organic matter contents at optimal ranges.

For just a few dollars more, the percentage of organic matter in the soil can be determined. Organic matter is very important because it encourages a healthy population of soil microbes that solubilize stored nutrients, making them more available for plant uptake.

As organic material decomposes, humus results. Humus binds sandy soils and im-

Please see **GARDEN**, Page 10



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GUEST COLUMN

A series of misfortunate events

By Julie Midura
Staff Writer

When Tom and I began planning a five-day backpacking trip in the Sandwich Wilderness of New Hampshire, we envisioned lovely days of easy hiking followed by peaceful evenings sitting beside a campfire before crawling into our tent for a restful night's sleep. But this time, things didn't turn out quite like we planned.

Misfortunate event #1:

The three and a half hour drive to New Hampshire became a five and a half hour drive due to an accident, which forced us to start our five and a half mile hike at 4:30pm. Now if you think that we'd be well rested after sitting in a car for over five hours while battling heavy traffic, you'd be wrong. We were thoroughly exhausted. And we hadn't even started hiking yet.

Misfortunate event #2:

When we reached the swollen Whiteface River, it was too high to cross over on rocks, so we changed into our Crocs and forded instead. With two more crossings ahead of us in the next 1.3 miles, we decided that instead of taking the time to dry our feet and pull on our socks and shoes after each crossing, we'd just hike in our Crocs until the final crossing. Which lead to...

Misfortunate event #3:

In spite of the fact that we were wearing Crocs, we raced along the trail in a vain attempt to arrive at the tentsite ahead of the darkness. Which caused Tom's Croc-wearing feet to sink into calf deep mud, whereby he crashed to the ground



Submitted photos



like the proverbial tree falling in the forest. (And yes, there WAS indeed a sound when he fell!)

Misfortunate event #4:

We slowed our pace after misfortunate event #3, arriving at Flat Mountain Pond tentsite at dusk- which is the time we'd normally already have the tent set up, camp clothes on & dinner eaten. With no time to waste before darkness set in, we located a level patch of dirt to set up our tent. I dropped my backpack, unclipped the straps, flipped the top open... and didn't see the single most IMPORTANT item that is usually right on top.

Panic set in while I yanked one item after another out of my pack and tossed it in a heap on the ground in a desperate attempt to find the missing item. When my hand finally reached the bottom of my now empty pack, I knew that we were about to endure the greatest misfortunate event in the life of a backpacker.

"Tom? Did you by any chance pack the tent?"

I already knew the answer before I even asked. After all, Tom always packs the fly and ground cloth while I always pack the tent body itself. Well... ALMOST always. But the process of asking allowed me to hold on to a split second of hope before hearing Tom's response. "No. Didn't you?"

Tom and I looked at each other, both of us realizing that there would be no tent to protect us from the hoards of mosquitoes that had plagued us for the past 5+ miles in spite of the gallons of bug spray we had liberally applied back at the car. With a pond nearby, we knew that this could be an in-

Please see **HIKING**, Page 11

The REGISTER

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

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BRIANNA from Page 1

35 years. One day, he was on Facebook and read a post from someone named Alvarez.

"My brother Billy is married to Gloria Alvarez, who is an aunt," Borecki said, to Brianna Allen. "I didn't even have to go any farther, and I decided I wanted to do something, which was the soccer game with Mutiny at the Lucitano."

A game was held at the Lucitano Club in July to raise funds for Allen's cancer treatment. "That was a pretty good crowd," Borecki said. "It poured, and everybody stayed, and it was festive and nice."

Borecki said that he wanted to invite Allen's whole class to the show, but couldn't because, as school was out, they couldn't send out permission slips. He designed a shirt for Allen with her name on it, which was presented to her at halftime at the show.

"She didn't know I was her uncle until we were on the field," Borecki said. "Then all



Submitted photo

Players pose with Brianna Allen, of Ludlow, who is holding a special shirt she received after a game at the Lucitano Club. The game was a fundraiser to help pay for her cancer treatments.

my brother's relatives introduced me, and it was special."

Borecki was able to report that Brianna is taking to her treatments well, having just seen her for a birthday party prior to his interview. "It's a good week," he said. "It's been a good two weeks."

In order to set up the fundraisers for Brianna, Borecki worked closely with Allen's nurse Patricia Maggart, and with Lucitano Club owner Joe Ferreira, who he described as a personal friend.

"I can't say enough about my friends at Ludlow's Luci-

tano Club," Borecki said. "I've been playing there probably 60 years. They're great people, and they're caring and kind, and they've been exceptional to me."

Borecki also mentioned staff member Joao Bernardo, saying that he is "better than any staff member."

"He's just a 'do everything' guy," Borecki said.

Borecki regularly participates in the walks and events held by the Jimmy Fund, having previously walked to the Lucitano Club from Belchertown, or from Lucitano to East Springfield. He said that as he also runs a fund for the Jimmy Fund's Boston Marathon, he had to be careful to make sure to allocate the funds to the two causes separately.

"I've had a lot of cancer in my family," Borecki said, "My older sister died, hence, I started Our Sisters," which he described as a benefit toward the Jimmy Fund that has existed for 35 years.

"I've had gold tournaments for 10 years, all kinds of

things. I won't stop," Borecki said.

Borecki recalled walking up Berkshire Avenue and stopping at the cemetery where another of his nieces is buried.

"My sister's daughter is in that cemetery," Borecki said. "I don't go to that cemetery that often, but I know my niece is in there. I said, 'Kathy, get me home, because I'm an old man.'" Borecki thanked his niece, Kathy Brown, for helping him get as far as St. Mary's Church and then the walk's final destination, where Fettes picked him up.

"I try to be as honest as I can," Borecki said. "I had some friends say, 'Mike, we don't want to donate to the Jimmy Fund thing, we want to donate to Brianna,' so I would just send up their link."

Allen's family still has a GoFundMe page under the "Hope for Brianna Allen Benefit," as well as having other fundraising events scheduled at the Ludlow Elks Club for later this month.

STATE POLICE GRADUATES from Page 1

Springfield, which he described as a "resilient city of firsts."

"Today, they add another first to that list, as they for the first time, host the Massachusetts State Police in our graduation ceremony," Provost said. "Our friends in Springfield selflessly rolled out the red carpet in support of our 88th Recruit Training Troop and your Massachusetts State Police."

Provost said the 88th RTT is full of strong men and women who, "selflessly and humbly persevered to reach this proud moment."

He addressed the family and friends of the Recruits in the audience, thanking them for their sacrifices as their loved ones dedicated themselves to the training program.

"At orientation, a true lifetime ago, we promised you we'd eventually give them back," he said. "Today, we make good on that promise."

Provost spoke about the training the Recruits received since they started at the State

Police Academy on Feb. 27 in a class that started with 249 eager members. The only "easy day" at the State Police Academy, he said, was a day that had already gone by.

He addressed the Recruits, "88th RTT, together we embarked on an incredibly challenging and humbling journey. Together, we have persevered. It has been one of the great honors of my career to share in this accomplishment with all of you. We are the 88th RTT."

Provost welcomed the new Troopers to the State Police family, saying it opened up a "world of opportunity" to do justice, to show kindness, to walk humbly, to selflessly serve their communities and to persevere.

"Persevere 88th...be safe, and congratulations," Provost said.

The newly graduated Troopers received a shield-shaped badge, which was pinned on their uniforms.

"It represents allegiance to justice, service, sacrifice, and an honor to all those who wear it," Goonan said. The badge is considered the most recogniz-

able symbol of policing around the world, he said.

"The badge is not a gift; it's not awarded lightly...it must be earned," he said, which the 88th RTT has done.

Following the pinning, the 88th RTT received its final inspection by Gov. Maura Healey before being officially sworn in. Healey administered the oath of office to the 88th RTT, having them swear allegiance to the commonwealth and its constitution.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be with you here today, for what is a most joyful and meaningful occasion," she said. This was Healey's first graduation ceremony in her role as governor.

"Public safety remains the most important function of government," she said. "We can't do anything without a safe and secure commonwealth."

Public safety takes investment and collaboration, she said, as well as community engagement, focus, commitment and dedication at "every level."

"Ultimately, it rests on the ability, the character, the courage and the professionalism of our law enforcement officers...the men and women on the front lines. In other words, it depends on all of you," Healey said. "Your training...has prepared you so well."

State Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (D-Springfield), chair of the Committee of Public Safety and Homeland Security, addressed the new Troopers.

"You have chosen a noble path, to serve the residents of Massachusetts," he said. "Policing is a profession that demands courage, compassion, and unwavering dedication."

Gonzalez urged Troopers to remember the importance of community.

"Policing is not merely a job; it is a calling to serve and protect the people who rely on you for safety and security," he said.

State Police Superintendent Col. John E. Mawn Jr. said this was an important day for the department.

"We welcome to our ranks, and to our mission, a large group of highly skilled, deeply motivated and expertly trained new members. I stand here today...and look out over the future of the Massachusetts State Police," Mawn said.

Mawn said it took many to make this day possible, including State Police Academy staff, drill staff, civilian work force, legislators and many more. He also thanked former Governor Charlie Baker, who attended the graduation ceremony.

"You are among the best trained recruit classes in the

nation," Mawn said. "Congratulations 88th Recruit Training Troop; you earned it."

"Earned" Mawn said, is an important distinction the Troopers should remember.

"Your achievement was not given to you; you had to earn it...you'll have to continue to earn your way forward," he said.

Several members of the 88th RTT, hail from communities covered by Turley Publications' newspapers, including Charles P. Oberg, of Barre, Jonah C. Vaclavicek, of Granby, Stephen M. Houle, of Ware, Matthew R. Pingitore, of Rutland, John M. Sarnacki, of Chicopee, Jacob F. Crevier, of Ware, Nicholas R. Brooks, of Oakham, Brandon M. Aviles, of Rutland, Ryan E. Monteiro, of Wilbraham, Matthew S. Peppin, of Sturbridge, David Soto, of Holyoke and Zuzu Y. Demetrius, of Warren.

Representing the 88th RTT was Trooper Ryan L. Ruef, of Lee, who said it was "truly an honor" to stand before everyone at the graduation ceremony.

"Our once dream has now become a reality," Ruef said. "On behalf of the 88th to all friends and family who helped us get to this point in our journeys, a thank you is simply not enough."

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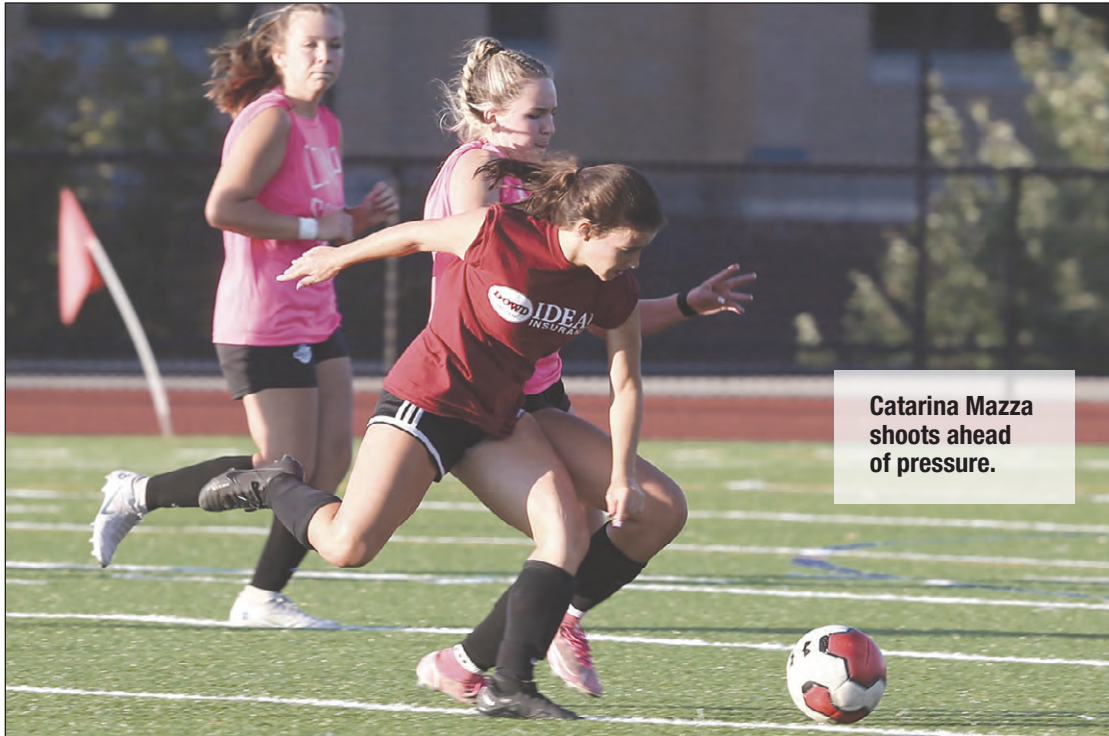
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Lions beat Colts in quarterfinals, fall in semis



Catarina Mazza shoots ahead of pressure.



Maeve Carter fights to keep possession of the ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Ludlow falls in semifinals

LUDLOW – The Ludlow B girls summer soccer team made it as far as the semifinals in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League playoffs held earlier this month. Ludlow, the No. 2 seed, defeated Granby 4-1 in the quarterfinals, then lost at home against Somers in the semifinals 3-0. Many of Ludlow’s B team players will held for junior varsity this fall.



Adriana Serra sends a pass away.



Valentina Molinari dribbles up the field



Brianna Saraiva stutter-steps with the ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—The coin toss that takes place prior to the start of every soccer match isn’t very important most of the time. It did make a big difference in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League Girls A-Division quarterfinal match between the fifth-seeded Ludlow Lions and fourth-seeded Chicopee Comp.

Because of the bright setting sun, Ludlow co-captains Emma Ellis and Elizabeth Braz decided to take the side of the field with the shade after winning the coin toss.

The Lions, who scored two goals in the opening half, advanced into the semifinals following a 3-0 shutout victory at Mitchell Kuzdzal Field in Chicopee on Aug. 1.

“Winning the coin toss was really important for us because we were able to set the tone early,” said Ludlow goalkeeper

Kacie Klimek. “If I was looking into the sun during the first half, I might’ve made a costly mistake. I’m very glad that we won a playoff game.”

Klimek, who only made a couple of saves in the quarterfinal match, was also the starting goalie for the Lady Lions girls’ varsity soccer team last fall as a freshman.

It was the first time that the Ludlow players had played a soccer match on the Comp’s turf field.

“We played Comp at our field during the summer league regular season. We also played them when I was a freshman, but that game was also played in Ludlow,” said Braz, who’s going to be a senior in the fall. “During our pregame warm-ups, we decided to take the shaded side of the field if we won the coin toss.”

When the 2023 high school

Please see **LIONS**, Page 10

Westside Sports Shop takes women’s summer soccer title

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—While the Monson girls and the Ludlow boys soccer teams captured the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League A-Division titles for the third consecutive year, Westside Sports Shop also took home the women’s championship trophy for the third year in a row.

The second-seeded Westside Sports Shop outshot the sixth-seeded Celtic Grey for almost the entire match, but goalie Brianna Kubik, who’s from Agawam, managed to keep the contest scoreless until the penalty shootout.

Westside goalie Emily Letendre made a couple of outstanding saves during the shootout and her team celebrated a 0-0 (3-1 PK’s) win at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on Aug. 5.

“I never expected this game to be so close,” said Westside Sports Shop coach Chris Andre. “Their goalie was outstanding. She kept her team in the game during regulation and in overtime. Emily made a couple of saves in PK’s. We were finally able to score a couple of goals during the penalty shootout.”

Westside Sports Shop (9-2),

Please see **WESTSIDE**, Page 13



Nicole Callini makes a throw-in.



Jennifer Galindo sends a free kick away for Celtic Gray.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Coaches honored during Hall of Fame weekend

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced four benches that will be installed in the Naismith Coaches Circle. Sylvia Hatchell, Rollie Massimino, Tom Young, and Kay Yow, will be honored with a bench dedication ceremony on Saturday, August 12 at 2:00 PM EST in the Mass-Mutual Gallery at the Hall of Fame.

The Naismith Coaches Circle program was first launched in 2015 and is the brainchild of Hall of Famers John Calipari, Jerry Colangelo, and Geroge Raveling. The intent of the program is to pay tribute to basketball's first coach, Dr. James Naismith, and the core values Dr. Naismith instilled in his players – teamwork, determination, self-respect, leadership, initiative, and perseverance. He believed these principles to be the foundation by which young men and women should play the game and conduct their lives.

The Coaches Circle features a sculpture created by Master Sculptor Brian Hanlon, dedicated to celebrating Dr. Naismith. Additionally, it showcases granite benches on a recognition platform, paying tribute to coaches who share the same core values of teaching, nurturing, and mentoring their players on the court, while offering perspective off the court.

An interactive Coaches Circle video is exhibited on the second floor of the museum, which allows coaches to share their personal stories and honor those in their lives who inspired them.

Through the Coaches Circle Program Legacy Initiative, coaches are honored posthumously by either one individual or a group of individuals. Honorees include Denny Crum, Bill Fitch, Cotton Fitzsimmons, Dave Gavitt, John MacLeod, Dean Smith, Jim Valvano, and John Wooden, among others.

Foursomes needed for charity golf tournament

AGAWAM – Registration and signups are currently open and underway for the Sixth Annual “Shoot Fore The Stars To Cure Cancer” Golf Tournament to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

In the first FIVE years we have raised over \$15,000 for cancer research. The four-person scramble event will take place on Monday, Sept. 18 at Win-

tonbury Hills Golf Course in Bloomfield, CT. The event will be an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be prizes up for grabs (Closest to Pin/Long Drive) along with a putting contest.

Entry fee covers golf, lunch and dinner. Please contact ShootFOREtheStarstoCureCancer@gmail.com more information. We hope you can join us.

West showcased in boys soccer

BOSTON – In last month's Bay State Games, the Western part of the state featured a boys soccer team showcased. Here is a look at how they fared in some of their matchups held July 6-9: The West would win the gold medal in the showcase.

In the gold medal match, the West won 3-2.

The Gold medal match saw powerhouse West face off against Central in what would be an exhilarating and heated match. West opened the scoring within the first minute of the match with a blast from Cole Bamford (Ludlow, Ludlow HS). West then went up 2-0 with help from a penalty kick, expertly taken by Matteo Balbino (Ludlow, Ludlow HS). Swiftly followed by another goal to give them a commanding 3-0 lead. Central was able to crawl back within one with a strike

from Jovuan Mensah (Worcester, Burncoat HS) and Kingston Mcgee (Sutton, Sutton HS). West ended the showcase with a dominant 5-0 record. Central ended with a 3-1-1 record.

The West started out the showcase with a 5-2 win over the Metro team.

West got on board first with a sensational strike from forward Brayden Marta (Ludlow, Suffield Academy). Followed by a hat trick of goals from Balbino. Down 4-0, Metro was able to get on the board with a tremendous effort from Oscar Martinez (Boston, East Boston HS) who scored both Metro goals to bring them within two. West then scored to make it 5-2 to capitalize on a dominant win in their first match.

The West would go a perfect 6-0 in the showcase.

T-Birds name new operations manager

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Thunderbirds general manager Kevin Maxwell announced today that Jeff Jordan has been promoted to Manager of Hockey Operations.

Previously the Thunderbirds' Video Coach and Team Services Coordinator, Jordan will continue his work with the coaching staff in the video department during the 2023-24 season.

“Jeff has deservedly earned this promotion through hard work, loyalty, and his dedication to the Thunderbirds on both the hockey and business side,” said

Maxwell. “He is a tireless worker with a wonderful personality, making him a terrific conduit between players, management, and the front office.

We look forward to seeing him continue to excel in the future.” Jordan joined the St. Louis Blues' AHL affiliate in 2019 when he was hired by the San Antonio Rampage as the team's video coach.

Before starting his professional career, Jordan served as an assistant coach with the OHL's Ottawa 67's in 2014-15 and 2015-16.

LIONS from Page 9

soccer season starts after Labor Day, Ludlow and Chicopee Comp will have new varsity coaches.

Amanda Nascin, who had previously coached the girls' junior varsity soccer team at Ludlow High School, replaced Nuno Pereira as the varsity coach.

“I think the coaching change is going to be a very good thing for us,” Klimek said. “Coach Nascin was our j.v. coach last year, so everyone already knows her very well.”

Nascin will be the third varsity coach that Braz has played for during her high school soccer career.

“All three of the varsity coaches have different styles,” Braz said. “I'm looking forward to playing for coach Nascin. It's not going to be a very big change for us. I hope we can have a winning season.”

The new Comp varsity soccer coach is Molly Burke, who had been the girls' varsity soccer coach at Holyoke High School, Burke, who graduated from Palmer High School, replaced Matt Mosher. She also coaches the girls' varsity basketball team at Chicopee High School.

Comp finished the PVSSL regular season with a 6-3-2 record, while Ludlow went 6-4-1 during the regular season.

When the two teams faced each other in Ludlow on June 19, Comp squeaked out a 2-1 win.

Less than a minute into the A-Division quarterfinal match, Braz sent a forward pass to Sophia Scyocurka, who put



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

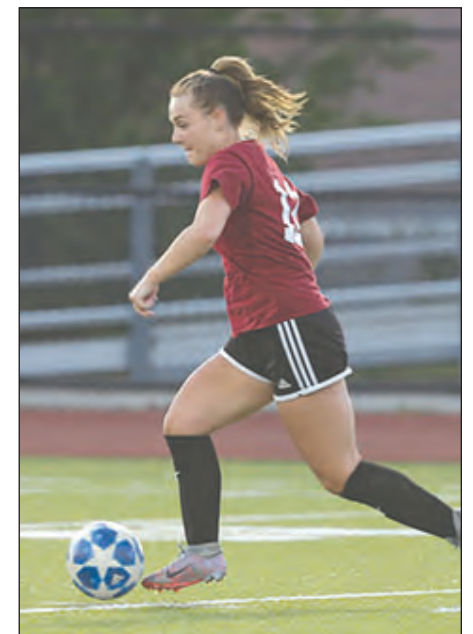
Taylor Colberg sends a kick away.

a shot into the back of the net past Comp goalie Mo Donoghue.

“It's always very important to take an early lead in every game,” Klimek said. “Everyone played very hard throughout the entire game.”

The visitors built a 2-0 lead following a corner kick goal during the 18th minute.

The scoring play began with Braz booting the ball from the left corner into the box where Calleigh Foley headed it into the net.



Elizabeth Braz makes her way up the field.

Ten minutes into the second half, a free kick taken by Gilhooly from about 25 yards out sailed high over the crossbar.

With less than 20 minutes remaining in regulation, Ludlow converted another corner kick.

This time, Scyocurka took the kick from the left corner. Braz controlled the ball in the middle of the box before firing a shot into the back of the net sealing the quarterfinal victory.

The Ludlow Lions summer league season came to an end following a 5-2 loss at top-seeded Monson in the semifinals.

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GARDEN from Page 6

proves their water holding capacity; alternately, it aerates heavy clay soils and promotes better drainage.

If the percentage of organic matter in your garden comes in low, add compost, aged animal manure, or cover crops to bring levels up. Established shrub or perennial borders benefit from an application of bark mulch for the same reason.

It is very easy to gather soil for testing. First, remove a 6-8-inch core of soil from your garden with a stainless steel trowel. Remove surface debris and air dry.

If your garden is large, mix about a dozen cores together to end up with about a cup of soil for testing. The different mi-

croclimates of your landscape should be tested separately.

Official directions and an order form are available at <http://soiltest.umass.edu>. The standard soil test is \$20, add an additional \$6 for the standard test including organic matter.

Test results could initiate some revisions to our fertilization and liming routine this fall, preparing the way for a healthier, more productive garden next spring and summer, and maybe even a few more peppers for Genevieve to enjoy!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

OBITUARIES

Cecilia "Sally" (Polys) Surprenant, 95

LUDLOW - Cecilia "Sally" (Polys) Surprenant, 95, of Ludlow passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Wednesday August 9, 2023.

Born and raised in Ludlow Cecilia was the daughter of the late Jan and Balbina (Furgal) Polys. She was a faithful communicant of St. Elizabeths Parish in Ludlow and belonged to the Ludlow Senior Center, playing cards and having lunch with her friends, she was also a snow bird spending her winters in Florida where she enjoyed playing shuffleboard.

Sally was predeceased by her beloved husband Ernest in 1989. She leaves her loving children; Paul Surprenant and his wife Kate of Ludlow, Joanne Teixeira and her husband Louis of Palmer and Karen Belanger of Granby; 3 adored grandchildren Marie, Luis and Jody; 6 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren and Brenda McClain who was like a daughter to her. Sadly she was also predeceased by her siblings Adam, Stanley, Frank, Casimir and Joseph Polys and Ester Martinelli, Rose Walczak and Ida Bobwiec.

Sally's family would like to give a heartfelt thank you to nurse Carolyn of Beacon Hospice for the outstanding care that she gave to her during their time together.

Funeral services will be held for Sally on Wednesday, August 16th at 10:00am from the Ludlow Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Mass celebrated at 11:00am in St. Elizabeth's Church followed by burial in St. Aloysius Cemetery in Springfield. Visitation will take place on Tuesday evening at the Funeral Home from 4:00-7:00pm.

In lieu of flowers it was the wish of Cecilia's family that donations be made in her memory to: Beacon Hospice, 815 Worcester St, Springfield 01151. Or to: Ludlow Animal Control office at Ludlow Town Hall.



DEATH NOTICES

Surprenant (Polys), Cecilia
Died August 9, 2023
Funeral
August 16, 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.

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



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago

Shown from left is Carol Zins, of Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, Emily Coderre, of Education to Employment, and Lindsay Aucoin, technical assistance coordinator of QVDC.

BAYSTATE FORUM from Page 1

In agreement with Bryant was Vice President & Chief Nursing Officer/Chief Administrative Officer Karli Barret.

Being part of Baystate for 19 years, Barret agreed fully that Baystate's staff has passion and dedication in serving the community.

This staff is, "Passionate about the work that they do for this community," Barret said.

In their assessment, Baystate Wing Hospital serves communities in Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester counties. All these local communities have certain needs that revolve around varying aspects of health.

In partnership with Baystate during this forum was Health New England, and Vice President & General Counsel of HNE Susan Silver O'Connor, who talked about their healthy partnership with Baystate Health.. O'Connor referred to the substantial enrollment in their organizations.

She said both organizations together serve more than 185,000 members in addition to taking care of more than 52,000 Mass Health enrollees.

To elaborate on certain community health needs was Director of Assessment and Capacity Building at the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts, Lisa Ranghelli. With more detailed insight on the CHNA, Ranghelli presented an overview of the communities they serve and what are the most common needs.

"It is such a broad focus," said Ranghelli.

There are different health outcomes and behaviors to look into, and Ranghelli's presentation pointed out all the main health needs.

Some of the key building blocks of health include housing, food and transportation. They continue to be prioritized needs in the rural and urban areas in the communities currently served by Baystate Wing Hospital.

These needs fall in line with financial health and well-being. During the Covid-19 pandemic, many insecurities revolving around food, transportation and housing brought a lot of financial hardships for families throughout central and western Massachusetts.

Violence and trauma were also highlighted as a main health issue, more specifically she said interpersonal and collective violence affect health directly.

The other focus in the assessment included mental health, especially youth mental health.

In the assessment, it was recorded that 45% of youth felt sad almost every day for two weeks or more during the

past 12 months.

During the pandemic, 19% of youth experienced post-traumatic stress disorder reactions. It was suggested by the research at Baystate that the best practice and model to build upon supporting youth and their health needs is to provide support groups and youth centers.

Acting on supporting youth mental health was guest speaker, Randy Gratton of Ware. A lifelong member of the town, Gratton is a recovery coach for the Behavioral Health Network and briefly shared his personal experiences and struggles as a youth.

Going through substance use treat-



Kathy Service represented the Alzheimer's Association.

ment in the past, Gratton dedicates himself to supporting youths and their health.

"Having mentors is our biggest need," said Gratton. "Continue to help, to listen, continue to mentor."

The final speaker to close out the forum was the Prevention and Community Health Director for the town of Ware and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance, Gail Gramarossa. In her closing remark, Gramarossa talked about the growing model Baystate and Health New England has built in accommodating the most essential community needs.

Gramarossa strongly believes that their model will keep progressing. She acknowledged the new recovery center now open in downtown Ware. The center is located at 52 Main St., and can be reached by calling 413-277-6290.

The center is available for those looking to get into recovery, treatment, and other health options. Their website is recoverycenterofhope.org.

To conclude the benefit forum, members of Baystate and Health New England got a final opportunity to tour different booths and learn about current organizations supporting different health needs in the community. The organizations represented include the Alzheimer's Association, the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, the Quaboag Connector and Healthy Quaboag.

HIKING from Page 6

credibly rough night.

Since hiking five miles back to our car in the dark in our exhausted state wasn't an option, we had no choice but to make the best of this latest misfortunate event.

I apologized to Tom as we went about staking out just the fly. He was gracious in his response. "No need to apologize, kiddo. We all forget stuff sometimes." In spite of his understanding, I felt terrible.

When we finished blowing up our air mattresses, zipping our double-wide sleeping bag together and laying out all of our gear, everything looked like it usually does- with the exception of the eight inch gap between the bottom of the fly and the ground. In an effort to find something to be grateful for in the midst of what had been a very trying day, I said brightly, "Well at least there isn't any rain in the forecast tonight."

Ten minutes later, the skies opened up.

Yes folks, God does indeed have a sense of humor.

All was not bad, however. With the exception of slightly wet sleeping bags and over a dozen spider bites, we made it through the night unscathed. And so the adventures continue!

See you in the wild places, my friends!

To read more about our hiking adventures- and misadventures- follow us on Instagram @morethan-themountain

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DATEBOOK

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

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 tdgmagic@gmail.com or call 413-533-7653.

LUDLOW LIONS CLUB will be hosting its annual food and back to school drive on Aug. 26 from 1-9. Drop off locations are the Polish American Citizens Club and the Burger King by the Big Y.

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 JimmyFundWalk.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 Arditino, activities director at activity@ludlow.ma.us or

call 413-583-3564.

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

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

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

observed. Masks required. 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at Fellowship Hall in Faith Community Chapel, 485 East Street in Ludlow. Parking lot behind Chapel. Fellowship Hall entrance at back of Chapel. Seating is limited. To reserve yours, call 413-519-4591.

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

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

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

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 jameslmartin47@gmail.com or 413-583-6339.

Church DIRECTORY

FAITH COMMUNITY CHAPEL
A Church of the Nazarene
485 East St. Ludlow, MA 01056 413-583-7875
Email: faithcommunitychapel8@gmail.com
faith-communitychapel.org
Lead Pastor: Reverend Lisa Morrison
Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs
Sunday Services:
Discipline Groups 9:45 a.m. WorshipService11 a.m. and Facebook Live Stream
OTHER PROGRAMS
MONDAYS at 6:30 p.m. H.O.P.E. Meeting Recovery meetings for those with addictions, anxiety, and grief SMC. Call 413-519-4591
TUESDAYS at 7 p.m. ZOOM Bible Study WEDNESDAYS at 7 p.m. Ludlow Christian Fellowship Meeting Hank Bastos, Leader, 413-348-6487
SMC and Facebook Live Stream ludlowfellowship.org
FRIDAYS Children's After School Club (pre K through teens) 5-6:30 p.m.
Church Fellowship Hall
SATURDAYS at 10 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

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
Nursery provided for ages 18 month- 3 yr

CHRIST THE KING CHURCH
41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow
413-583-2630
Pastor Rev. Raymond A. Soltys
Saturday Vigil Masses - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses - 7:30 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. (Polish); 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Mass - 5:30 p.m.

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413-583-3467
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In Residence - Rev. Norman Bolton
Deacons: Normand Grondin, Thomas Rickson, Keith Davies
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. stelizabethludlow.org
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Check out our Parish App
Wednesday, August 16, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Youth Ministry - 8 a.m. (JR), Holy Mother Choir - 5:15 p.m. (C)
Thursday, August 17, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Youth Ministry - 8 a.m. (JR)
Friday, August 18, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)
Saturday, August 19, - Confessions - 2:30 p.m. (C), Mass - 4 p.m. (C)
Sunday, - August 20, - Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Mass - 9:15 a.m. (C), Mass - 11 a.m. (C), Mass - 5 p.m. (C), Take & Eat - 8 a.m. (FLBH)
Monday, August 21, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C), Bible Study - 6 p.m. (ZR)
Tuesday, August 22, - Daily Mass - 7:30 a.m. (C)

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 DeOliveira
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.

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
Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstchurchludlow/

ORCHARD COVENANT CHURCH
95 Berkshire Street
Indian Orchard, MA 01151
413-543-4204
Revs. Karen and Nick Munn, pastors
Sunday School for all ages, 9:45 a.m.
Worship in person, 11 a.m.
Or watch our livestream.
See our website for more information: orchardcovenant.org.

Workshop13 hosts fifth annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition!

Seeks works of traditional realism by fine artists across the Northeast

WARE - Workshop13 invites artists from throughout the northeastern US to participate in the fifth annual juried Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition. Works of traditional realism are welcomed in the following categories: Oil Painting, Watercolor, Sculpture, Drawing/Graphics, Acrylic (includes casein & egg tempera, Pastel, and Mixed Media. Awards will be granted in multiple categories, with Best in Show receiving \$1,000. The deadline for entry is Aug. 23 by midnight.

This annual exhibition of traditional realism is held in the unique Grand Hall gallery of Workshop13, a non-profit cultural arts and learning center located at 13 Church Street in Ware. The exhibition will be on display from Sept. 23 to Oct. 8 and can be visited on Fridays from 4-7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

The show will open with a reception from 1-4 p.m. on Sept. 23, with awards announced at 3 p.m.

The juror for the 5th annual NEFAE is Julie Beck. Beck is the Assistant Director of the Academy of Realist Art, Boston, as well as an instructor. Julie is currently working out of her personal studio at ARA Boston, where she is developing a body of work that explores the concepts of nostalgia, relationships, and identity. She has a wide range of painting subjects including still life paintings and animal/figurative works. Her work can be found in private collections throughout the US and internationally.

LIONS from Page 9

which is also known as Andres, joined the prestigious summer league in 2021. They posted a 4-0 shutout victory over fifth-seeded Here for Beer in last year's championship match. They defeated the Lusitano Women, 2-1, in the 2021 finals.

For her outstanding performance during the shootout, Letendre received the MVP Award following this year's championship match.

"It just feels amazing to win our third championship title in this summer league," said Letendre, who's from West Springfield. "We did beat Celtic during the regular season, but they wanted it as much as we did in tonight's match."

Six of the Westside Sports Shop players played high school soccer for longtime head coach Nundi Goncalves at Minnechaug Regional. They are Emily Howard, Chapin Jeannotte, Rhianna Ryan, Madison Sanborn, Katie Shea, and Gabby Williams.

Several of the other players are from Ludlow, South Hadley, and Chicopee.

"Most of the players on this team played on the same youth soccer teams," Andre said. "Then they went their separate ways in high school and it's very nice having them back together again. It has been a lot of fun coaching them and I'm already looking forward to next season."

It was a history making day for Celtic Grey (4-6-1). They have been a member of the summer league for the past twenty years, but it was their first appearance in the women's finals.

"We just wanted to keep this game close as long as we could," said Celtic Grey coach Rob Galazka. "We played very well defensively in tonight's game. We're hoping to make it back here again next year."

One of the key defenders for Celtic Grey is Jennifer Galindo, who's from Chicopee.

Galazka has also been the women's soccer coach at Holyoke Community College for the past 19 years.

"I coached most of these players at HCC," Galazka said. "It's awesome coaching them again in this league. It's a lot of fun."

Celtic Grey peaked at the right time of the season.

"We ended the regular season with a shutout," Galazka said. "Then we played the top three seeds in the playoffs, and they were all shutouts. The players just stepped up."

Celtic Grey posted a 1-0 shutout versus the third-seeded Heat in the



Emily Howard, of Wilbraham, takes a shot on goal.

quarterfinals. They also posted a 1-0 win against the top-seeded W. Mass Extremes.

The first shot of the shootout was taken by Westside's Jocelyn Trajkovski, who's from Ludlow. She fired a low shot into the right corner to give her team a 1-0 lead.

Then Letendre made a save on the Celtic Grey's first shot.

After both teams hit the post in the second round, Jeannotte stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the left corner giving her team a 2-1 lead.

Galindo managed to put her team on the scoreboard, which sliced the deficit



Olivia Crespo, of Ludlow, corrals the ball.

in half. It wound up being the only shot made by the Celtic Grey.

Following a goal by Olivia Crespo (Ludlow), Letendre made a diving save giving the Westside Sports Shop another championship title.

The Westside players will be looking to four-peat next summer.

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LHS announces 4th Term Honor Roll

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P1700EA Estate of: Joseph Roland Lavoie Date of Death: 06/09/2016 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons: A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Kyla J. Lavoie

of Bridgton, ME requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: **Kyla J. Lavoie of Bridgton, ME** 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 09/11/2023.
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. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 11, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/16/2023
LUDLOW PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE SITE PLAN
The Ludlow Planning Board will hold a public hearing in Ludlow Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room on **Thursday, August**

24, 2023 at 8:15 p.m. on the application of The Retreat of Boston LLC for the property located at **14 Chestnut Place, 3rd Floor, Ludlow, MA (Assessors' Map 13C, Parcel 54 and Map 14B, Parcel 9)** for the purpose of: **Add short term residential detoxification / medical services to existing medical building.**
If for any reason this hearing is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to Thursday, September 14, 2023.
Raymond Phoenix
Chairman
08/09, 8/16/2023
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OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Classified Advertising

DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN
FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS
MONDAY AT NOON

What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library?

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

LIBRARY HOURS: M, W, F 9-5, TU, TH, 9-8, S 9-1. Closed Sundays and holidays; 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

Soap Making Workshop, Tuesday August 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Make your own soap using a glycerin based soap, color, cosmetic glitter and a variety of scents! You'll learn the process of making soap and go home with your own creation. This is a workshop for adults, children will not be allowed to attend due to the manual dexterity needed to cut the

soap. Sorry, no exceptions will be made. Please register

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 "Here's to Us" by Elin Hildebrandt, Thursday September 7, 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.

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.

3D DoodlePalooza, Wednesday August 16, 1:00-5:00 p.m. We have two Mynt3D pens for older kids & teens that circulate in our collection, and we'll set them up in the Youth Room for an afternoon of doodling. Drop in and make some cool, 3-dimensional art! Drop in, no registration required.

The '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 of which are 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.

The Read Between the Lines YA Book Group discusses "The Inheritance Games" by Jennifer Barnes, Friday September 8, 3-4 p.m. Book chat and snacks for ages 14 & up. Copies of each month's book are available in the Youth Room. Registration preferred.

FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

Sidewalk Chalk Day for All Ages, Tuesday, August 22, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Dip into a pail of chalk on the Library's sidewalks and make some art!

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.

Meet Spiderman In-Person, Thursday August 17, 7:00-7:45 p.m. Come meet Spider-Man, live and in person! We'll also have Spider-Man crafts to do and books to check out. Bring your camera, and then stay for the 7:45pm movie, "Spider-Man Into the Spider-Verse."

Movie: Into the Spider-Verse, Thursday August 17, 7:45 p.m. Free movie night with popcorn, drinks and snacks sold to benefit the Friends of the Library. Due to changes in licensing agreements, this month's movie will be shown indoors.

Watercolor Paint Day: All Ages, Friday August, 18, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Drop into the Youth Room and choose a variety of pictures to paint.

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.

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.

Teddy Bear Picnic, Thursday August 17, 12:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite stuffed friend, a blanket, a picnic lunch, and join us on the library lawn for stories about teddy bears!

Steppin' Out II

60 East St., Ludlow (next to Pizza Corner)

Classes Age 3 to Adult

KINDERDANCE • TINY TUMBLING • BEGINNER COMBO CLASSES
JAZZ • TAP • BALLET • POINTE • HIP HOP • ACRO • CONTEMPORARY

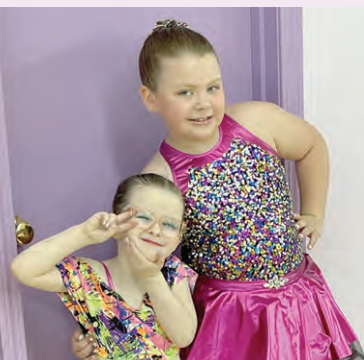
COMPETITION CLASSES BY REQUEST • PARENT-CHILD CLASSES FOR UNDER 3
PLEASE CONTACT THE STUDIO FOR MORE INFORMATION

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, August 19th 11am-1pm

★ Classes start September 11th ★

Register Online at: www.SteppinOut2Ludlow.com



For More Information Call 589-7751 or Text 413-308-0508 or Email Us at SteppinOut2DanceStudio@gmail.com