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# The REGISTER

LOCAL NEWS | LOCAL STORIES | LOCAL ADVERTISERS

## LHS classes compete for the Turkey Bowl

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – On Nov. 21, the Ludlow High School classes competed in a friendly game of flag football in the second annual Turkey Bowl Championship. Beginning with competition against the seniors and the sophomores, then the freshmen and the juniors, the night was full of excitement and student pride before the Thanksgiving holiday. The fundraiser directly supported the class of 2026 and in attendance were LHS Principal Lisa Nemeth, referees like Track and Field Coach Brian Walsh, Student Advisors, and student and staff volunteers who helped make the event possible. The Turkey Bowl games began by announcing the players of each team individually and having those players run out onto the field, after running through their teammate's arms celebrating them before the competition. The



At the concessions stand, Lisa Marques, Marissa Marques, and Peyton Cabral served a delicious walking taco, a variety of snacks, and hot cocoa. See more photos on page 3.

night had three games total, with a championship game at the end, but everyone on the field and onlookers experiencing the game looked like they were having a blast

cheering on their fellow classmates. Whether they were bundled up in their blankets or were parents yelling in support of their kids on the field, the Turkey

Bowl flag football event is an event that is here to stay at LHS. For more information on student-led events, visit the Ludlow High School website.



Volunteers Bob Radowski, Executive Director Jodi Zepke, and Kathy Green smile before the feast!

## Senior Center kicks-off Thanksgiving with a feast

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – On Nov. 25, the Ludlow Senior Center hosted a Thanksgiving feast that served up turkey with all the fixings. With entertainment by Memory Lane, volunteers and servers like Town Administrator Marc Strange, and conversations with friends and neighbors, the center

was hopping on Tues. afternoon. The center served over 230 people and the lunch area was packed to the brim. Speaking further with Longtime Volunteer Jim Goodreau, who's been part of the center ever since it opened in Town, said he always comes back for the people.

Please see **SENIOR CENTER**, Page 6



The Ludlow High School Class of 2026 posing for their last LHS Turkey Bowl as students.

## LHS Seniors share insight on competing in second annual Turkey Bowl

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
 amunson@turley.com

LUDLOW – Before everyone sat down for Thanksgiving dinner, Ludlow High School held the second annual Turkey Bowl flag football game on Nov. 21 that included everyone who wanted to participate. This Turkey Bowl was a friendly competition between classes with freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors competing for

the championship cup. Four seniors oversaw setting this rivalry up once again and below are responses from the class president, class secretary, 2024 and 2025 Turkey Bowl announcer, and the class representative who shared a part of their high school experience.

Beginning with the LHS Class President of 2026 Madalyn Marques, who shared the reason behind the flag football game and why it was important to host this popular

event again. Marques began, "It is important for our class to host this event again, not only to raise money for our class, but also because it was such a good time last year. It was just as fun to plan and see the class rivalry to the day event seeing high schoolers have simple fun. A lot of students' time at school is stressful and packed full.

Please see **LHS SENIORS**, Page 6

## Residents surrounding Vanished Valley Brewery upset about entertainment noise

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – In the past year, residents living near Vanished Valley Brewery located at 782 Center St. have been submitting noise complaints to the town about entertainment that allegedly has been disruptive to the neighborhood and received little to no action. Speaking with a neighbor who chose to be anonymous, the Ludlow resident spoke to The Register on how living near the brewery has been over the last couple of months and why they chose to speak up after recent news about the upcoming unreasonable noise bylaw.

Equipped with a petition signed by over 50 residents against the entertainment noise, the residents began by describing the alleged excessive noise of the brewery and their own frustrations on being named the only person complaining by The Town. When asked how Vanished Valley responded to the noise complaints, the



Turley photo by Amanda Munson

**Vanished Valley Brewing located at 782 Center St. allegedly received noise complaints from residents and neighbors surrounding the establishment; the Town awaits clearance on the recently voted noise ordinance from the Attorney General as of The Register press time.**

resident expressed that the brewery allegedly shared the same feeling as The Town being the only resident com-

plaining and having issues about the noise, which the resident disagreed with.

The resident shared that their neighbors have been complaining for years about the entertainment noise and allegedly no action has been done by either the Town or the establishment. The resident shared videos with sound readings of the noise from their house in Ludlow and when the noise would get allegedly unbearable, the resident would call the Ludlow Police Department and were told the officers couldn't do anything since there was no noise ordinance in place.

In recent newspaper articles, The Register covered and explained article 8, which was passed regarding the unreasonable noise bylaw on Oct. 8, 2025, when reviewed at the Special Town Meeting. The Town routinely received complaints of excessive noise related to loud music, trash pickups, construction, yard

Please see **NOISE**, Page 7

## Picard family honors their beloved mini schnauzer through new book

By Amanda Munson  
 Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – In the month of November, the Picard family composed of Gary and Kathy Picard shared the loss of their 15-year-old mini schnauzer. Submitted to The Register by Kathy, "In loving memory of Abby, our sweet 15-year-old mini schnauzer. The Picard family is grieving the loss of their beloved mini schnauzer, Abby, who passed away on Nov. 18 at the age of 15. Abby brought endless joy to her parents, Gary and Kathy Picard, who miss her dearly. Abby wasn't just a family dog, she became locally famous for being featured in her mom's children's book, I Love You

So Much That..., written by Kathy Picard. The book is also available in an interactive bilingual Spanish and English edition, thanks to retired Spanish Teacher Sharen Gendebien. The bright illustrations were created by artist Deborah Nicholson. Kathy has shared Abby's story widely throughout Ludlow schools and community events, at Lupa Zoo, and at venues across Chicopee, Springfield, Granby, South Hadley, and even as far as Serbia. Through her educational work, Kathy has also introduced the book to childcare programs, including Alphabet Soup Daycare Centers, Chicopee Child Development Center, and Playful Minds Learning Center. Books are available through Kathy at Kathy-

childadvocate@gmail.com. In Abby's final days, Ludlow Animal Clinic provided tender care, and Kathy and Gary offered heartfelt thanks to Janelle and Julie at Final Gift Pet Memorial Center. The Picard family hopes Abby's memory continues to shine through the children who read her story."

Speaking with Kathy further about her book and her dog Abby, she shared her favorite memories of her and why she is grateful for the book. Kathy said, "I was never read a children's book as a child, I was always plopped in front of the television, so I always wanted to help make kids safer. Writing a children's book, I wrote lessons in it in the hope of making kids safe.

It's the 'why' lessons of why you should brush your teeth, listen to your teacher, go outside to play, not to listen to strangers and the lessons of whys are throughout the book. When we started the book, I thought it would be fun to include my mini schnauzer and when my illustrator started designing the book, Abby appeared on one or two pages and then she fit in throughout the whole story. Abby's in a lot more pages than we started with! The kids love it because Abby's paw signs the book," said Kathy.

Kathy wrote her memoir titled Life with My Idiot Family, the story of survival, courage, and justice over childhood sexual abuse

Please see **BOOK**, Page 7



The Picard family misses mini schnauzer dog Abby, but Abby's story lives on through Kathy Picard's book titled I Love You So Much That...

# LUDLOW

## Ludlow Elks hosts the third annual craft fair

By Amanda Munson  
Staff Writer  
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LUDLOW – Beginning on the weekend of Nov. 22, the Ludlow Elks hosted their third annual craft fair that was two days, expanding the fair for over 30 crafters, and more time for Christmas shoppers after church or a long day of work. Chairman of the Ludlow Elks Craft Fair Kathleen Krisak, who's been a member of the Elks for 17 years, shared that this year they chose to expand the fair to all weekend; instead of the one day.

On the first day, the Elks had 35 crafters and the following day there were 32 vendors, with a change of crafters for the two days. Krisak said, "We expanded it this year to Saturday and Sunday because we've had so much response on Saturdays, so we added the Sunday for those who work on the weekend and we made it later hours so it's after



Karen Coyne made hand-made aprons, dolls, bags, and gifts and was proud to be at the Ludlow Elks again.

church. Some crafters are switching out, we have a variety, and we also have some food we offer for people to come sit, if they want. We have nice hot tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches, perfectly on a cold day. There are nice crafters

that I've got here, not just in Ludlow; I've got some from Holyoke. My sister is here selling crafters from Denham, Massachusetts. The guy who sells storybooks was a friend growing up," said Krisak.

The banquet hall in the Elks Lodge was packed full of vendors selling home-made aprons, freshly baked sourdough bread, and jewelry to unique wine gifts. When asked what's the biggest difference from the first year of the craft fair to now hosting the third, Krisak stated it's been the money they've raised that will go directly towards the Elks National Foundation, where the funds go directly back into the community.

"We just did one for the food pantry at the Com-

munity Center, so the grant money that we donate to the foundation then they go give it back to the lodges to use for the communities around the surrounding areas. We help the veterans, we help the kids, we help the food pantries; we try to spread it around, and this is the money I raised from the vendor space. That's one of the reasons why I joined the Elks, I wanted to get involved with community projects," stated Krisak.

Krisak continued sharing that for next year, there is already a waiting list and will begin the planning process again in the beginning of the summertime. When asked what she looks for when attending craft fairs on her own, Krisak shared it was the people that made her



Beth created necklaces, bracelets, and homemade jewelry for the Ludlow community.



From crochet gifts to handmade ornaments, there was something for everyone at the Ludlow Elks Craft Fair.

craft3 want to come back. "My sister actually started Grandma's Buttons. She took all our grandmother's buttons, and she designed all this stuff, so I basically started the craft fair so that she'd have a place to sell, and then it grew into the two days we are doing this year. I have good volunteers helping in the kitchen; they helped set up the tables and chairs. Everybody in the whole lodge helped in their own way," said Krisak.



Chairman of the Ludlow Elks Craft Fair Kathleen Krisak with the volunteers who made the craft fair happen.

### Heritage "Pops" Orchestra Christmas Concert

LUDLOW—Celebrate the Christmas season with the big band sounds of the 20-piece heritage "pops" orchestra at Ludlow Senior Center located at 228 State Street in Ludlow, on Monday, December 15, 2025 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Heritage "Pops" Orchestra Christmas Party Dinner & Dance

the Christmas Season with the Big Band Sounds of the 20-piece Heritage "Pops" Orchestra with hors d'oeuvres, dinner & dessert. Polish American Citizens Club located at 355 East Street, Ludlow on Friday, December 19, 2025. Advance Tickets are \$27.50 per person There will be a giant

wood dance floor, 50/50 raffle and cash bar. Hors d'oeuvres will be served from 6 to 7 p.m. and the grand buffet dinner by John Diotalevi at 7 p.m. with music and dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets Available at the PACC bar or call Bob at 413-636-7588 or call Paul at 413-800-4164.

### Nomination papers available for 2026 election

LUDLOW – Nomination papers for the March 23, 2026, Annual Town Election are available in the Town Clerk's office. Assessor, 1 seat; 3-year term Board of Health, 1 seat; 3-year term Housing Authority, 1 seat; 5-year term Library Trustee, 1 seat; 3-year term Planning Board, 1 seat; 5-year term Planning Board, 1 seat;

4-year unexpired term Recreation Commission, 1 seat; 3-year term Select Board, 1 seat; 3-year terms Town Clerk, 1 seat; 3-year term Town Moderator, 1 seat; 3-year term Town-wide office nomination papers must be signed by at least 50 registered voters in Ludlow. Candidates are advised to collect more than 50 signatures to ensure the requisite number of certi-

fied signatures. Town meeting member nomination papers must be signed by at least ten registered voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides. Voters in each precinct will elect five town meeting members for three years and elect other members as necessary to fill existing vacancies. Please call the Town Clerk's office with any questions (413) 583-5600 Ext. 1.

### Evangel Assembly hosts Open Door Open Mic Night

WILBRAHAM—Evangel Assembly is delighted to open its doors and hearts this Christmas, inviting the Wilbraham-Hampden community and neighboring towns to a complimentary Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2025. The free dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Evangel Assembly, located at 348 Stony Hill Road,

Wilbraham, MA. Everyone is welcome-no registration required. Whether you're spending the holiday alone, looking to share a meal with loved ones, or simply wanting to celebrate with new friends, you'll find a warm welcome, delicious food, and the joy of the season. "This Christmas Dinner is our way of sharing the love

and hope of Christmas with our neighbors," said Outreach Pastor Lori Phillips. "No one should spend Christmas Day without a hot meal and the company of others. We can't wait to celebrate together." The event is open to all ages and backgrounds. Volunteers from Evangel Assembly will serve a traditional holiday meal in a festive, family-friendly atmosphere.



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**EVANGEL**  
*Christmas Community Dinner*

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*Christmas Day 11 a.m. - 1p.m.*

EVANGEL ASSEMBLY – 348 Stony Hill Rd., Wilbraham  
No cost - No registration required.



LHS Teacher Joanne Santos-Pontes with Principal Lisa Nemeth spectating the Turkey Bowl game.



Helping in the announcer's booth was LHS students' Juliana Bartaucci, Aneysha Danais, Madalyn Marques, Gabrielle Gauvin, Catarina Mazza, with Announcer of the Turkey Bowl Daniel Pires.

## LHS classes compete for the Turkey Bowl



The freshmen team, also known as the class of 2029 and the purple team, were proud to represent LHS.



The sophomore team, also known as the green team and class of 2027, completed numerous successful passes on the field.



The junior team, also known as the class of 2028 and the red team, had fast runners on the team that impressed the crowd.



The senior team, also known as the class of 2026 and the blue team, were proud to be at their fundraising event and seeing the crowd that supported them at the game.



Senior Class Advisors Diana Sands and Kerry Valentine support the LHS community.



The LHS Turkey Bowl Championship Cup.

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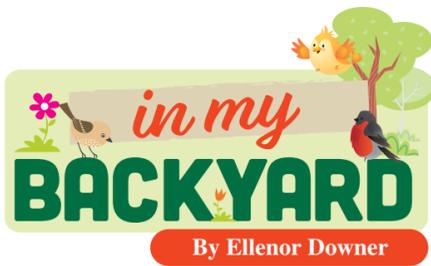
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# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN



This month the Brimfield resident saw a Carolina wren flipping over leaves in his garden. He said, “We joined the ‘leave the leaves’ movement and don’t do a major fall cleanup to bene-

### Golden-crowned kinglet

A Brimfield resident sent an email to report seeing a golden-crowned kinglet on Nov. 17 in a dwarf Alberta spruce tree in front of his house.

He said, “[It was] very active, but I got to see the bright yellow crown patch.”

Golden-crowned kinglets are a small bird, not much larger than a hummingbird. The male is boldly marked with a black eyebrow stripe and flashy lemon-yellow crest.

They spend much of their time high up in dense spruce or fir foliage and that is the place to find them.

Their high, thin call notes and song is often heard before catching sight of them.

The Brimfield resident called them “very active.” They can survive 40 degrees below Fahrenheit nights. Sometimes huddling together for warmth.

They breed in the far north and montane west and visit most of North America during winter. Although it used to nest almost exclusively in boreal spruce-fir forests, the golden-crowned kinglet has expanded its breeding range southward into conifer stands of the Midwest and Appalachians.

They usually raises two large broods of young, despite the short nesting season of the northern boreal forest. The female feeds her first brood only up until the day after they leave the nest. She then starts laying the second set of eggs while the male takes care of the first brood. The male manages to feed eight or nine nestlings himself and he occasionally feeds the incubating female too.

An interesting fact about golden-crowned kinglet’s is each nostril is covered by a single, tiny feather.

The oldest golden-crowned kinglet on record was a male and at least 6 years, 4 months old when it was recaptured and re-released by a Minnesota bird bander in 1976.

### Other Brimfield birds

fit the critters that survive the winter under the leave and in the other material left in the garden.”

He also noticed robins and cedar waxwings in the crab apple tree in his yard. He said, “We don’t usually see these species eating the crab apples until later in the winter. Fortunately there is a bumper crop of fruit on the trees this year. A couple of robins were also on the ground searching for food and I saw one robin at some pokeberry aka, pokeweed, eating the fruit. He has not seen any water fowl at the local ponds he visits regularly.

### Lots of bluebirds

I received an email from a reader, who said his wife saw approximately 40 bluebirds on the causeway stonewall at Quabbin Reservoir.

### Bald eagles

My daughter, Paula, took photos of a bald eagle in a field along the Ware River, on Church Street in Ware recently.

I saw a bald eagle perched in a tree on the shore of the Ware River not far from the Gilbertville line. It may have been the same eagle.

### Migrating geese

I saw a large flock of Canada geese in a small, pond along Route 32 in Ware on Nov. 15. They covered over half the pond.

### Helping birds

When it is time to take the Christmas tree down, place it outside to offer shelter to birds and other critters. Some people hang peanut butter filled pine cones rolled in birdseed or pieces of suet to provide some high energy food. Planting evergreen trees especially spruce and firs are away to attract the golden-crowned kinglets and offer a living shelter year round.

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



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## GUEST COLUMN

### Not all mountains we climb are the same



By Julie Midura

With wind chills in the negative single digits, it was a blustery and viewless day on Mt. Pierce in the White Mountains of New Hampshire last Saturday. But our hike wasn’t about the views.

It was about rising to meet the mountain. Feeling our legs burn and our hearts race. Experiencing a rush of adrenaline as we fought the intense wind above tree line. Finding our way to the very top in a cloud so dense that the snowy ground and white sky seemed as one.

Last weekend was about allowing ourselves a distraction in the face of unimaginable pain. Accepting the peace and strength that the mountains impart. Granting ourselves permission to feel joy... and not feel guilty for doing so.

It was a weekend of letting go. Allowing the mountain peaks to captivate us. Inspire us. Humble us.

After Saturday’s adrenaline-racing adventure on Mt. Pierce, I was excited to see snow in the forecast for our hike on Sunday. For someone who will never stop believing that snow is magical, I felt like an excited 6-year old.

Which is why I was dis-



appointed when we awoke on Sunday morning, looked out the window of the motel room, and saw rain rather than snow. “Maybe it will stop raining by the time we get to the trailhead,” I said hopefully.

There was a heavy overcast when we arrived at the trailhead, but at least it had stopped raining. With no illusions that we’d get a view from the summit of Mt. Cube, upward we went. And as expected, the summit was encased in a cloud. No matter. At least it wasn’t raining.

We had just started making our way down from the summit when Tom said, “Well it looks like you’re getting your wish!”

I was so focused on foot placement as I carefully navigated the steep, ice-covered ledges, that I didn’t notice it had started snowing! I stopped, looked up to the heavens, and felt the soft cold kisses of dozens of snowflakes landing on my upturned face. Intent on lingering, Tom and I found a relatively flat ledge and laid out our sit pad.

For half an hour, we sat with our legs stretched out on the wet granite, sipping steaming hot cider from

our old green Stanley thermos. Staring at the snow and ice-covered trees against the backdrop of a ghostly sky. Watching the snow swirl and dance with each gust of wind. Feeling cold flakes lick our eyelashes. Hearing the faint whisper of flakes landing on snow-laden branches.

This moment was in stark contrast to the adrenaline rush we had experienced on Mt. Pierce the previous day... when the wind raged angrily in ragged gusts and the cold was so harsh it stung.

This was softer. Calmer. It was a reminder that, in life, we are handed both. The smooth and the rough. The quiet and the loud. The raging and the calm. And each one can hold sadness and joy at exactly the same time.

If I’m being honest, it feels wrong to find joy in these mountains when our 2-year-old granddaughter is in the fight of her life against the single deadliest form of pediatric brain cancer. But sometimes we need time to exhale. To physically distance ourselves from the pain... while still holding it in our hearts.

We’re living in a season of extremes. Of conflicting emotions that are confusing to process. From the highest of highs to the lowest of lows. And it’s hard to validate one, at what seems like the expense of the other.

But if this cancer journey is teaching me anything, it’s that a heart can hold deep despair-and equally-deep joy at precisely the same moment.

I can be crippled by sadness one minute and smiling with joy the next. I can be consumed with fear one minute and filled with hope the next. And I’m learning that that’s okay.

I’m learning to accept that peace CAN exist in the middle of chaos. We just need to open our eyes wide enough to find it.

For those who have asked about Charlotte, thank you. The monthly immunotherapy treatments are keeping her tumor stable. She is fighting like a warrior, and we are grateful for every precious moment that we get to be with her.

Onward.

## The REGISTER

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

### SUBMISSIONS POLICY

Readers, local merchants, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send The Register your hometown news and photos. News items and press releases should be sent via email to mharrison@turley.com as an attachment AND pasted directly into the email message screen.

Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right.

We need first and last name, hometown, title if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo. Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution directly off your camera to mharrison@turley.com.

Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before the event.

If you are having difficulty with a press release or need help, please call (413) 283-8393.

To send submissions by regular post, mail to: The Register, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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### ELECTION LETTERS POLICY

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

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

### Campaign news

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

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



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# What's Happening at Hubbard Memorial Library

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

Library Hours: M, W, F 9-5, TU, TH, 9-8, S 10-2. Closed Saturdays during the summer, Sundays and holidays.

The library will be resuming regular operating hours on September 1. Please note a change in Saturday operating hours of 10-2 rather than 9-1.

### FOR ALL AGES

Friends of the Hubbard Memorial Library, third Thursday of the month, 6:00 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

Mass Center for the Book Monthly Reading Challenge Each month, you'll be challenged to read a book based on a chosen theme. Those who participate will

be entered to win a free book! For more information and to sign up, please visit [massbook.org/readingchallenge](http://massbook.org/readingchallenge).

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

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

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

### FOR TEENS

Nintendo Switch Night for YAs, Tuesday, December 9th, 6:00-8:00 pm. For middle and high schoolers. Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros, or other Switch games. Meets once a month. Limited to 16 peo-

ple. Free pizza sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Please register.

Online Gaming Club for YAs, every Thursday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm. For ages 10-15. Play Roblox, Minecraft, & more. Roblox players must have their own accounts; Minecraft players can bring their own devices or use one of the library's 8 computers and/or Minecraft accounts. Please register.

### FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

Ugly Sweater Scavenger Hunt, December 5, all day. All ages. Search the Youth Room for the ugliest sweaters of the Ugly Sweater Coloring Contest and win a prize! Drop-in.

Wooden Ornament Painting, Saturday, December 6th, 11:00 am - noon. All ages. Choose from a variety of shapes and colors. Please register.

Holiday Jewelry Making, Thursday, December 11th, 4:30-5:30 pm. For tweens and teens (9 and up). Join Sandy Merrill to make unique and super cute holiday-themed beaded jewelry! Please register.

Youth Chess Club, Monday, December 15 (repeats biweekly), 3:30-4:30 pm. Ages 9-17. All experience levels are welcome for an hour of chess, some instruction provided. No matter what level you start at, you'll be better after playing with the club! Please register.

Anime Club, Tuesday, December 16 (biweekly), 3:30-5:00 pm. For middle and high schoolers. The group chooses what to watch each week. Join us to geek out on Anime, try out your cosplay, and eat yummy snacks. Registration recommended.

Youth Crochet Club, Tuesday, December 16 (biweekly), 5:30-6:30 pm. For ages 10-17. For beginners through experienced crocheters, supplies provided or bring your own. Please register.

Easy Gifts for Grandparents, Saturday, December 20, 11:00 am - 1:45 pm. All ages. Make keychains, glass bead sun-catchers, and book lover votive jars, plus a personalized gift bag and tag. Drop-in.

Please see **HAPPENINGS**, Page 10

## LFD reminds residents to register for Ambulance Subscription Program

LUDLOW - Chief Ryan Pease and the Ludlow Fire Department would like to remind residents of the ambulance subscription program for 2026.

Ludlow Fire will be mailing the 2026 Ambulance Subscription form to all households in Ludlow by the start of November. The annual ambulance subscription fee is \$50 per residence. All residents living in the same residence will be covered under one subscription payment.

The subscription fees will cover any remaining balances for emergency ambulance services provided by Ludlow Fire that insurance does not cover.

Residents should be

aware that 2025 subscriptions expire on Wednesday, Dec. 31. To ensure continued coverage for 2026, current subscribers should pay online or in person before Dec. 31.

The fee may be used as a tax deduction to the extent of the law. All donations from this program are used to help purchase the necessary supplies and equipment for the Ludlow Ambulance Service.

The department also offers online sign-up here on our town website. Residents who do not receive a form by mail can print one online or call the Ludlow Fire Department to request one. New members are also welcome to participate.

Those who wish to drop off payment at the station should deposit it in one of the secure drop boxes located outside the Fire Dispatch Area on the Center Street side or inside the main vestibule of the Public Safety Complex on the Chapin Street side. Cash and checks will be accepted.

For more information about the ambulance subscription program click here.

For questions or assistance, please call the Ludlow Fire Department at 413-583-8332, ext. 2309, Monday thru Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m.

## Santa is coming to town Dec. 7

LUDLOW—Come meet Santa at the Ludlow Fire Department on Sunday, Dec. 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Enjoy free hot chocolate and cookies with Santa.

Hosted by the Ludlow Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary.

Bring a non-perishable food item to support the Community Survival Center services in Ludlow.

Santa will also be helping sell Christmas trees — come pick out your tree while you visit. Trees will be \$60 this year

## PAV vote to be held Dec. 21

THREE RIVERS—The PAV of Wilbraham will be holding a vote on a recent bylaw change recommendation

at their members meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Dec. 21 2025 at the AmVets Post 74 hall in Three Rivers.

All members are asked to attend this very important meeting.

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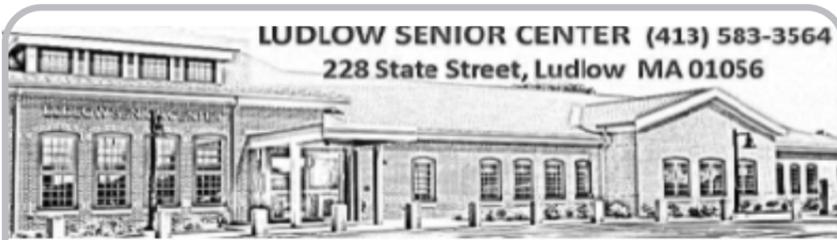
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**LUDLOW SENIOR CENTER (413) 583-3564**  
228 State Street, Ludlow MA 01056

## Welcome to the Ludlow Senior Center

Holiday cheer and excitement is in the air as well as entertainment, activities, new programs and a chance to meet and mingle. Gather with friends in the Center's beautiful dining room and enjoy a delicious lunch complete with coffee, tea, and dessert. To join us, just call 413-583-3564 a day in advance to reserve your spot (Call Friday for Monday lunch).

Don't miss out on what's happening. Pick up our monthly Newsletter at the Center or share your email with us to have it delivered straight to your inbox. You can also explore programs, find important forms, and learn more about what a Senior Center has to offer at [ludlow.ma.us/coa/](http://ludlow.ma.us/coa/). And for the latest news and photos, be sure to "like" the Ludlow Senior Center on Facebook!

As the days grow cooler and the season turns cozy, we look forward to sharing warm meals, great programs, and good company with you at the Center. Please note that if the Ludlow schools are closed or have a delay due to inclement weather, the Center will be closed or have a delayed opening.

**Activities Calendar:**  
Please register in advance for items with\*

### Thursday, December 4

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation\*  
12:45 p.m. Mahjong  
2 p.m. Writers Block  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

### Friday, November December 5

8:45 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp  
9 a.m. Reiki by Appointment  
9:30 a.m. Craft Fair Trip\*  
10 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
10 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
1 p.m. Decorating Committee Meeting  
1 p.m. Ceramics  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*

### Monday, December 8

9 a.m. Knitting  
9:30 a.m. Boomer Bootcamp\*  
10 a.m. Computer Help  
10:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch Red Lion\*  
1 p.m. Scrabble  
1 p.m. Painting Trees Workshop with Trish\*  
1:15 p.m. Pitch  
2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold

### Tuesday, December 9

9 a.m. Quilting  
9 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Cribbage  
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga

12:30 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks  
1 p.m. Western Dance Class  
1:30 p.m. Bingo  
4 p.m. Bright Nights Trip\*  
4:30 p.m. Power Pump Exercise Class  
5 p.m. 5:45 p.m. Guidance by Li Comfort & Grief Support\*

### Wednesday, December 10

8:45 a.m. Zumba Gold  
9 a.m. Ceramics  
9 a.m. Dental Hygiene Appointments\*  
10:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*  
12 p.m. Lunch & Learn\*  
1 p.m. Dominos  
1 p.m. Healthy Bones & Balance\*  
1 p.m. Movie: *Meet Me in St. Louis* (1944)

### Thursday, December 11

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m. Dominos  
10:15 a.m. Mindful Meditation\*  
10:30 a.m. Friends of the Center Meeting  
10:30 a.m. Sen. Oliveira Office Hour  
12:45 p.m. Mahjong  
1:30 p.m. Intro to Making Soup & Spices Class\*  
2:30 p.m. Active Yoga

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

### Daily Events:

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

### Menu:

Thursday, December 4: Vegetable Lasagna/Bread Stick  
Friday, December 5: Kielbasa Boil/Kraut & Potatoes  
Monday, December 8: Sloppy Joe/Sweet Potato Fries/Cole Slaw  
Tuesday, December 9: Cheese Tortellini Pepperoni Bake/Garlic Knot  
Wednesday, December 10: Shepherd's Pie/Side Salad  
Thursday, December 11: Cold Cut Grinder/Chips/Pickle

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

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



Turley photos by Amanda Munson

Town Administrator Marc Strange smiles before handing out delicious turkey.

## SENIOR CENTER

from Page 1

"It's not just the group, it's the people that you work with, the staff, they're all very friendly. This is my form of relaxation. I spend my Thanksgiving going over to my son's, it's just me and my wife now, and we always go there for the day. I enjoy being with the grandkids. For the center, we are serving turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberries, butternut squash, and pumpkin pie for dessert...only for \$2. You can't beat it!" ended Goodreau.

Along with Strange in attendance, Executive Director Jodi Zepke, Assistant Director Heather Jolicoeur, and Activities Director Maria Ardolino, with multiple center staff were seen cooking, serving, and sharing Thanksgiving memories with everyone before the actual holiday.

Entertainment by Memory Lane filled the room with Thanksgiving cheer.



Gene and Regina Gruska have been together for 52 years and counting.



## LHS SENIORS

from Page 1

If we as a class can provide something for students to bond, get involved, and enjoy, then it would be something we would host again. The class of 2025 won the championship last year, so they may not be able to withhold the title, but last year the class of 2026 made it to the championship game, and we are ready to fight for the cup. My favorite part about flag football is the safe contact. Many people don't play football because they are afraid of injuries but with flag football it's good fun that is safe. More people from the town should come support, not only to help the senior class but to enjoy intense rivalry from class to class. Not only this but football is a staple for Thanksgiving. This can create a similar substitute for the annual Thanksgiving game," said Marques.

Marques commented

about the significance of having an outlet for students to enjoy their time in high school and ended up sharing her most memorable Thanksgiving. "My most memorable Thanksgiving was last year. Not only was it our first time hosting the turkey bowl and getting to see our ideas come to life, but also a home Thanksgiving game. The football and cheer team enjoyed a tailgate breakfast together in the morning, and then we went out to cheer on the players and ended up winning. What was truly memorable was the terrible weather. It was freezing and downpouring which may not have been the best condition to cheer in, but it created great memories that I wouldn't have gotten in the sun," said Marques.

Following was Senior Class Secretary Abigail Odiome who shared who she was rooting for and was excited to experience the engagement from the classes, especially the seniors. Odiome said, "I am rooting for the seniors from the side lines as I oversee getting all players and coaches checked in before their game and doing entrance tickets. Last year was the kickoff to our incredible event. Hosting something for all the classes to be eager to be a part of is such a rewarding feeling that we just couldn't let go. Bringing it back this year, we hope to get an even bigger audience as our roster sheet for each grade is looking great with a lot of excited players. We are extremely excited to host this event again and can't wait to see all of our hard work put into action. Last year the seniors won and I am hoping that legacy carries on so that us seniors this year will win! My favorite part about flag football is seeing everyone so engaged in the game, practicing leading up to the day and then seeing everyone really attack all the plays on the field. Most Ludlow residents are former LHS students, so I think it is great for them to attend an event like this where the classes are excited and engaged in an event raising money for the senior class. It also speaks wonders on the community that Lud-

low High is and the effort that all the staff and administration put into attending these events," said Odiome.

Next up was Senior and Announcer of the Turkey Bowl Daniel Pires, who shared that every LHS Turkey Bowl participant from the previous year expressed how much fun they had and asked him if it was happening this year, whilst also sharing how great of a fundraiser it is for the class of 2026.

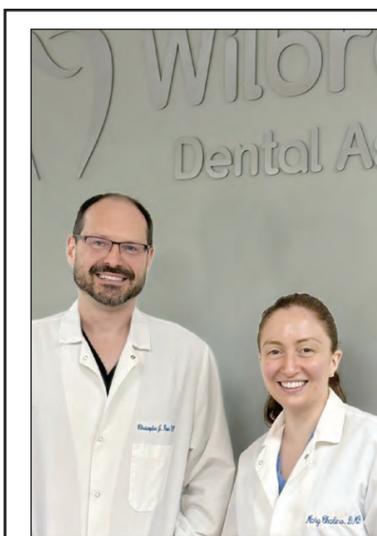
Pires said, "I think my favorite part of flag football is the fun competition that can get everyone involved. Even if the students don't want to play, this event provides many ways to get involved such as coaching and cheering on your team. I think the students put in so much effort and work to make this event run smoothly so the community should come watch a show. My most memorable Thanksgivings for me is going to support the Ludlow Lions football team. I hope this provides many students and even staff some fun and memorable Thanksgiving for years to come," said Pires.

Class Representative of 2026 Samuel Pontes, who was competing for the seniors, spoke about the first year and the overwhelming support they received. "Last year was a lot of fun. It took a significant amount of planning to orchestrate the event, but the overwhelming support and spirit that we saw from the school was amazing. Resulting in our class wanting to continue this event this year. Hopefully, to start a tradition for generations at LHS. The Class of 2025 won, and I believe that the Class of 2026 will win this year. After a tough loss in last year's final, the team has rallied and is craving a chance at redemption, but with a vacant title anything can happen. Residents in our Ludlow community should support students at LHS to develop a town culture that reflects the wonderful, spirited culture that we have at LHS. Quite honestly, who wouldn't want to be a part of the wonderful community culture that we have developed at LHS," said Pontes.

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## Lions fall to Palmer on Turkey Day

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The three opponents listed on the Palmer High School football schedule that the Panthers players always look forward to facing every year are Pathfinder Tech, Ware, and Ludlow.

Palmer squeaked out a 7-6 win against the Pathfinder Tech Pioneers in the 2025 season opening game at historic Legion Field.

On the first Saturday of November, the Panthers made the short trip to Veterans' Field in Ware and defeated the Indians, 21-6, for the first time in a decade.

With only 15 players in uniform, the Panthers completed the trifecta with a 20-6 home win versus the Ludlow Lions on a chilly Thanksgiving morning at Legion Field.

"This is the first time that we've defeated both Ware and Ludlow in the same season since I've been a member of the football team," said Panthers senior quarterback Matt Santos. "It feels great to end my high school career with a victory. It's also the first time that we've had a winning record."

The Panthers, who finished the season with a 6-5 overall record, celebrated a victory against the Lions for the first time since they posted a 34-0 shutout win at Legion Field in 2021.



Lucas Quiterio makes the block.

Andrew Ray makes the tackle for the Lions.

The other Panthers seniors, who walked off Legion Field for the final time, are Dylan Doherty, Hunter White, Kodah Laviolette, Kaleb Hayes, Landon Couture, Gavin Smola, and Jared Perry.

"I can't say enough great things about the eight seniors," said Palmer head coach Matt Marciniac. "I'm going to remember those guys for a very long time."

White was an eighth grader on the 2021 squad, which

Please see **FOOTBALL**,  
Page 8



Victor Segarra returns the ball for Ludlow.



Drayden Keirse and Julian Paine go after the Palmer ball carrier.

## MIAA sets deadlines for finalized schedules

FRANKLIN – The 2025 Schedule Commitment Deadline and Process Reminder that the MIAA winter schedule commitment deadline is Friday, Dec. 19 for basketball and ice hockey. After that point, no changes can be made to your opponents or the number of games/matches that can be played.

After the Dec. 19 commitment deadline, all schedules will be considered final.

Three days before the Schedule Commitment deadline, MIAA staff will produce and publish schedules for each sport based on the

available data for review and verification by member schools. Below is the breakdown for 2025-26 school year:

- WINTER 2025-2026
  - o First contest date: Thursday, Dec. 11
  - o Schedule data published for review: Tuesday, Dec. 16
  - o Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday, Dec. 19
- SPRING 2026
  - o First contest date: Thursday, Mar. 26 (Monday, March 23 for Spring Golf)
  - o Schedule data published for review: Tuesday, Mar. 31
  - o Schedule Commitment deadline: Friday, Apr. 3

## T-Birds fall in shootout against Islanders

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (5-10-2-2) caught an unfortunate break on a late game-tying goal in regulation before falling, 3-2, in a shootout to the Bridgeport Islanders (7-10-1-1) before a sellout crowd inside the MassMutual Center on Saturday night.

For a second straight night, the Islanders' first period excellence came to the forefront, and the visitors picked up the lone goal in the first on a weird and painful sequence. Forward Eetu Liukas was in the wrong place at the wrong time when a Sean Day point shot struck him under the visor, forcing him down to the ice injured. As Liukas lay near the crease, Liam Foudy arrived at the loose puck and fired it off the post behind Georgi Romanov. However, Liukas turned out to be in the right place as the puck glanced off the iron, then off his leg, before finding its way across the line at

13:16 for the first goal of the game.

Henrik Tikkanen made his season debut in the Bridgeport goal crease and proved to be tough to beat through the first half of the game, but Springfield's shorthanded group finally solved the tall Finn at 9:49 of the second as Hugh McGing moved down the left wing and fired a sneaky, short-side shot past the netminder, tying the game, 1-1, on the T-Birds' second shorthanded goal in as many days.

Romanov kept his game elevated throughout a busy second period, as he successfully turned away all 14 Bridgeport shot attempts to keep his team deadlocked heading into the final period. The tight checking continued in the final period, with Springfield's forecheck continuing to work over the Islander defense. Eventually,

Please see **T-BIRDS**, Page 8

## Senior All-Star Games

SPRINGFIELD – Last Monday and Tuesday, the boys and girls soccer Senior All-Star games took place at Pope Francis High School. The postseason event has become a Thanksgiving week tradition following the state championship games. Ludlow soccer sent five individuals to the games.



Ethan Love makes a pass during action last Monday night.



Aneysha Donais, Kacie Klimek, and Ava Friese represented Ludlow in the Senior All-Star Game held last Tuesday evening



Gabe DiRosa and Ethan Love were the boys soccer all-stars.

## Worcester Railers take two from Thunder

GLENS FALLS, NY — The Worcester Railers (8-8-1-1) closed out their three-in-three weekend with a 2-0-1 record against the Adirondack Thunder (7-6-2-1) on Sunday, Nov. 30, with a final score of 4-1 at Harding Mazzotti Arena in front of a crowd of 3,692. The Railers are back on the road in Reading to take on the Royals on Friday, Dec. 5. Puck drops at 7 p.m.

Adirondack struck first on Sunday, as Grant Loven (1-0-1) grabbed a rebound off a shot from Brannon

McManus (0-1-1) at 17:29 in the first to make it 1-0. Anthony Repaci (1-1-2) tied the game with a tally at 3:58 in the second, assisted by brothers Anthony Callin (0-1-1) and Drew Callin (0-2-2). The Railers broadened the point gap with another power-play goal, this time from Gleb Vereyev (1-0-1), assisted by Anthony Repaci and Drew Callin at 9:15 in the second to give Worcester the lead for good. Lincoln Hatten (2-0-2) closed out the second period with a third goal from the Railers at 16:58, assist-

ed by Matt Demelis (0-1-1). Worcester opened the third period with a second goal from Lincoln Hatten, this time assisted by Ryan Miotto (0-1-1) and Michael Suda (0-1-1). Hatten's goal brought the game's final score to 4-1.

It was a heated first period for the Railers to open the final matchup of their three-in-three weekend against the Thunder. Worcester successfully completed two penalty kills, one for a tripping minor on Ryan Miotto at 10:31 and the second a 4-on-3 turned 5-on-4

power play for Adirondack at 11:29. Adirondack's Chase McLane and Cole Donhauser came to blows and culminated in a game misconduct for Donhauser. Adirondack scored the first goal of the game off the heels of the power play at 17:29, on a rebound chance from Grant Loven (2nd). The goal would be reviewed for potential goaltender interference as Loven was tied up with Railers goaltender Parker Gahagen, but the goal stood as a good goal to close

Please see **RAILERS**, Page 8

## Students chosen for sports ambassador program

WOBURN - The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation Bay State Games is proud to announce the 80 selected high school student-athletes who have been chosen to serve as Ambassadors for the 2025-2026 academic year. These student leaders were selected from schools and communities across Massachusetts based on their involvement in athletics, commitment to leadership, and desire to inspire future participation in the Bay State Games and statewide community sport initiatives. The Ambassador Program provides leadership development, event experience, and networking opportunities while ambassadors serve as representatives of Bay State Games in their schools, on their teams, and in their communities. Ambassadors play a key role in growing awareness, supporting recruitment efforts, and connecting their peers to the opportunities and events offered through Bay State Games including the Summer & Winter Games, scholarships, internships, and other year-round programs. "The Ambassador Program helps expand statewide awareness and impact of Bay State Games programs while mentoring high school

students on the career and education opportunities available in the world of sports" said Kevin Cummings, Bay State Games Executive Director.

"This class of ambassadors represents the next generation of leaders in sport from across Massachusetts. We are excited to support them as they help inspire participation in the Bay State Games and lay the foundation for their future careers." The 2025-2026 Ambassador program kicked off on November 2 with a statewide Ambassador Summit at the Natick Armory, hosted by the Massachusetts Army National Guard. Ambassadors from across the state participated in the program that included a fitness warm up and team building exercises, a panel discussion on the college athletic recruiting process and an address from motivational speaker, philanthropist, athlete and race director Dave McGillivray.

The Ambassador term began in October 2025 and runs through July 2026.

Among local student-athletes selected, Makenzie Casey of Quabbin Regional, Kendall Placzek and Richard Hale of Minnechaug Regional, Logan Millet of Ware, and Madelyn Moreau of Monson.

## FOOTBALL from Page 7

qualified for the Division 8 state playoffs for the first time. He's the only remaining player from that team.

Despite the setback, the Lions (3-8) have a 42-32-3 overall lead in the rivalry series, which began in 1947.

"I'm disappointed with our execution in today's game," said Ludlow head coach Ray Saloio. "The final outcome wasn't what we were looking for." While it was their 77th meeting on Thanksgiving morning, Ludlow and Palmer have faced each other 78 times overall.

The two squads didn't play on Thanksgiving Day in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

They did meet on April 23, 2021, at Ludlow High School with the Lions pulling out a 21-14 win.

This year's Lions seniors are Lucas Quiterio, Drayden Keirse, Mason Morace, Connor Walsh, Liam DiVenuto, Andrew Ray, and Victor Segarra.

"This is a very difficult loss, especially for our seniors," Saloio said. "They did a great job all season leading the underclassmen."

The Panthers defense set the tone on the opening series of the game.

"Our defense has been outstanding all season long," Santos said. "A lot of the credit has to go to coach (Ja-



Mason Morace attempts a pass.

son) Talbot."

The Lions opening drive began at their own 21 yard line. They lost 20 yards following sacks by Smola and Perry, along with a holding penalty.

"I thought the defense played great in today's game," Marciniak said. "We pretty much shutdown their passing game."

The Panthers coach also praised the defensive performance of Laviolette, White, and T.J. Smola, who's only an eighth grader.

After Morace, who's the Lions punter and starting quarterback, was forced to punt the ball out of his own endzone, the Panthers offense needed just seven plays to reach the endzone for the first time.

The home team kept their

opening series alive when Santos completed a 26-yard pass to junior Hunter Baird on fourth down. Baird, who was tackled at the three yard line, then made an outstanding diving catch in the end zone for a touchdown.

There was a fumble snap on the two-point conversion play, and the Panthers had a 6-0 lead with 6:32 left in the opening quarter.

Just when it looked like the Lions were going to score a touchdown in the middle of the second quarter, Doherty intercepted a pass.

The visitors did get on the scoreboard when Morace completed a 5-yard TD pass to Segarra with 31 seconds remaining in the first half. The extra point attempt was blocked.

Doherty returned the en-

suing kickoff 70 yards for a touchdown. It was his first kickoff return of the season.

"Whenever I'm running full speed on a kickoff, it's very hard for the other team to catch me," Doherty said. "That touchdown also gave us the momentum going into halftime."

White also scored a touchdown on the conversion play, which gave the home team a 14-6 halftime advantage.

Neither team was able to score during the third quarter.

Less than two minutes into the fourth quarter, Perry, who's the Panthers 2025 Bailey Award winner, blocked a punt. He then scooped up the ball and rumbled down to the two yard line.

White carried the ball into the endzone on first down giving the Panthers a 20-6 lead.

## T-BIRDS from Page 7

they broke through at 9:55 of the third with Juraj Pekarcik finding his way to the low slot and firing a shot upstairs past Tikkanen, giving Springfield the 2-1 advantage.

The T-Birds' power play missed a chance to add insurance, and the one-goal margin carried into the final two minutes. With Tikkanen on his way to the bench for an extra attacker, Luke Rowe uncorked a blistering slapper from the left point that

glanced off the underside of the crossbar, beating Romanov to tie the game, 2-2, at 18:11. For the second time this month, the division rivals went to overtime.

Springfield carried much of the play in overtime, but Tikkanen answered with five stops, and the T-Birds failed to strike on a 4-on-3 advantage in the last 1:31 of overtime after Rowe committed a tripping infraction.

With the game coming down to a shootout, Matt Luff got Springfield off on the right foot, beating Tikkanen

to begin the festivities, but Chris Terry and Matt Maggio both connected against Romanov, while Matthew Peca and Nikita Alexandrov could not solve Tikkanen. Springfield, despite the bitter defeat, extended its point streak to five straight games, going 3-0-1-1 over that stretch.

The T-Birds are back in action next Friday in Hartford for another meeting with the Wolf Pack inside Peoples-Bank Arena. Puck drop is set for 7 p.m. to begin the three-game weekend.

## RAILERS from Page 7

the first with Adirondack leading 1-0. Shots for the period were 19-1 in favor of Adirondack. The final penalty count in the period was three for Worcester and one for Adirondack.

Worcester opened the second with a 5-on-3 power play chance. Adirondack's penalty box saw Jacob Graves and Pierson Brandon each go to the box for roughing and delay of game penalties respectively. With the Railers' extra strength on the ice, they scored the first of three unanswered goals across the middle 20 minutes. Anthony Repaci (5th) sank the puck for the Railers' first power play goal after receiving a cor-

ner pass from Drew Callin at 3:58 to tie the game. Gleb Veremyev (1st) put up his first Railers goal and second power play goal of the night for Worcester off a kick save rebound from Adirondack goaltender Jeremy Brodeur just over five minutes after Repaci's tally. Lincoln Hatten (6th) closed the second with a shorthanded goal at 16:58, Worcester's first of the season off an assist from Matt DeMelis. DeMelis stole the puck from Adirondack's Tag Bertuzzi in the defensive zone and brought the puck down the boards before he fed it in front for Hatten. Worcester outshot Adirondack 15-7 for the period. Total penalties for the second were one for Worcester and five for Ad-

irondack. Worcester capitalized early in the third period, adding another power-play goal to the board after Adirondack's Justin Taylor was called for tripping. At 2:02, Lincoln Hatten (7th), assisted by Ryan Miotto and Michael Suda, extended the Railers' scoring run to four unanswered goals. Adirondack remained shut out for the remainder of the afternoon as Parker Gahagen made 36 saves on the day to guide Worcester to their second victory of the weekend with a final score of 4-1. Final shots for the third were 7-11 in favor of Adirondack. There was one penalty in the period for Adirondack and none for Worcester.

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# EARLY DEADLINE

In observance of **CHRISTMAS** for Dec. 22-26 newspapers there will be an **EARLY CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE!**

Place your advertisement no later than **Thurs., Dec. 17 at 3 p.m.**

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**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Dough made from corn flour
5. Rise
11. Gratitude
14. A low wall
15. Kidnap
18. A cup golfers want to win
19. Outgoing
21. "Partner" to flow
23. Former Michigan coach Brady
24. Proverb
28. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
29. Helps a body recover
30. Baseball Cy Young winner
32. Very fast airplane
33. Offensive baseball stat
35. Body of water

36. Record of one's heartbeat
39. Signs a contract
41. Atomic #24
42. Bind securely
44. French Jesuit theologian
46. Fragrant brown balsam
47. Post office box
49. Sells tickets at inflated prices
52. Places to hang coats
56. Jewish salutation
58. Yellow fruits
60. Poorly educated
62. Microorganism
63. Talk show host Barrymore

- armadillo
3. Mobile
4. Romanian city
5. Making sour
6. Take a seat
7. "The Golden State"
8. When you hope to arrive
9. Pointed ends of pens
10. Extinct flightless bird
12. Sharp-pointed dueling sword
13. Nape of neck
16. Problems (Spanish slang)
17. Narrow carpet
20. To avoid the risk of
22. Spiritual academic degree (abbr.)
25. Equally
26. Traditional cars still need it
27. Eligible voters
29. Greek alphabet letter

31. Body part
34. Referee-declared outcome
36. Means to moving money
37. Popular footwear brand
38. Cockatoo
40. NFL's big game
43. Botswana currencies
45. News-reporting organization
48. Batman villain
50. Urgent request
51. Not all
53. Hallmark's specialty
54. Knot in a tree
55. Satisfy
57. Notable space station
58. Baby's dining accessory
59. Stitch clothing
61. \_\_\_ and behold

## Lions thank Villa Rose staff for donation



Submitted photo

**LUDLOW**—The Ludlow Lions Club would like to thank Tony and the wonderful staff at Villa Rose for the generous check for our recent Dine Out for A Cause fundraiser. Pictured are Lion Maureen Donnelly Beaugard, Villa Rose owner Tony Tavares and Lion Diane Shea Walton.

## Upcoming toy, clothing and food drives to support this Holiday Season

**Route 20 Bar and Grille**  
Saturday, Dec. 6  
11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
2341 Boston Road #20, Wilbraham  
Donate NEW winter coats, hats, gloves etc.  
Donate NEW unwrapped toys for kids ages 5 -15.  
Donate and Receive a FREE pasta dinner.  
Call 279-2020 to learn more.

**Wilbraham Police Relief Association Staff a Cruiser**  
Saturday, Dec. 6  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Big Y World Class Market, 2035 Boston Road, Wilbraham

**Hampden Police Department Staff a Cruiser**  
Saturday, Dec. 13 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Hampden Police Department, 100 Allen Street, Hampden**  
New and unwrapped gifts for kids ages birth to 16 years old to be collected and given to families in need

**Richard Green Insurance 21st Annual Collection of Toys for Children and Supplies for Local Senior Veterans Stockings**  
Toys will benefit the I Found Light Foundation located in Springfield, MA. The gifts for veterans will be donated locally.

For our veterans, the wish list includes individually wrapped snacks, granola bars, individually wrapped hard candy, individually wrapped chocolate, mini hand sanitizers, hot chocolate packets, and puzzle or

word search type books.  
New unwrapped toys and veterans gifts are being collected through Dec. 10.  
Hampden Office at 32 Somers Road and Monson Office located at 128 Main Street. This year we are upping the match to first \$1,500 in collected items **FOR BOTH THE CHILDREN AND THE VETS.**  
Call 566-0028 for more information.

**Spartan Auto Care**  
Collecting toys through Dec. 10 for I Found Light Against All Odds  
New, unwrapped toys in lobby.

Open Monday through Friday a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## IOCC in collaboration with HCSD holds toy drive

**INDIAN ORCHARD**—Donations of new unwrapped toys are being accepted now through December 20th. The toy collection will benefit the Indian Orchard children at the holiday party.

Toys can be dropped off at IOCC, 117 Main Street, Indian Orchard, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Checks can be made payable to the IOCC, and mailed to 117 Main Street, Indian Orchard, MA 01151

The Community Christmas/holiday party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at IOCC 117 Main Street, Indian Orchard. Santa Claus will be available to distribute toys to the children.

### NOISE from Page 1

work, etc., but the Town does not currently have any bylaw that regulates unreasonably loud noise. The LPD relies on state laws to enforce these types of infractions, and this bylaw would create standards for the purpose of protecting the quiet enjoyment of Ludlow residents.

Town Administrator Marc Strange provided a comment on the recent noise complaints.

“The Town responded to noise complaints over the past year from multiple different residents regarding multiple different sources of noise by creating an unreasonable noise bylaw, with the goal of providing the Town’s enforcement agencies with authority to curb nuisance noise that impacts resident’s quality of life. The new bylaw is currently being reviewed by the Attorney General’s Office, as they do for all bylaw changes from towns in Massachusetts. It will go into effect shortly after it’s approved by the Attorney General,” ended Strange.

The resident shared insight on how living near the brewery has been and said the music starts as early as there is no snow on the ground and when the owner of Vanished Valley introduced himself to the abutters about opening a brewery back in 2016, there was no mention of adding entertainment. The entertainment that the resident has complaints

about is outside and occurs beginning in Mar. through Nov. The Register reached out to Vanished Valley for comment and as of press time, we have not received a response. The Register will continue to follow updates regarding the unreasonable noise bylaw while awaiting the approval by the Attorney General’s office.

### BOOK from Page 1

and shared she was SA’d from the age of 7 to 17. “I was SA’d for 10 years and people say that 10 years is too much, but I say, once is enough. I went out as an author, advocate, educator, and law-changer because I helped to change the law in Massachusetts. A survivor for a civil case has until the age of 53 to go forward

and have their justice in the courtroom, and when the law changed in 2014, I was the first in Massachusetts to go forward in federal court. In 2015, I won my case, and I am glad I did it, not only for me but for other survivors,” said Kathy.  
Kathy said Abby was in charge and was a very loveable dog, and Abby chose the Picard family and now lives through Kathy’s book.

# OBITUARIES

## Rudolph “Rudy” H. Cira

Rudolph “Rudy” H. Cira, 80, died in Ludlow on Nov. 20, 2025. Born in Ludlow on October 31, 1945, he was the son of the late Rudolph and Rose (Skowron) Cira.

A lifelong resident of Ludlow, he was a faithful communicant of Christ the King Church. He was an avid fisherman and loved Auto-car trucks. He was also a member of the Model A Club and was active in restoring and showing antique cars and trucks. He will be remembered as having “rough hands, but a soft heart”, for giving more than he took, and always thinking of others. Rudy worked hard his whole life until the day he died. He started Leo Concrete with his brother Freddie. He was also the owner of Cira Enterprises, Inc., where he worked alongside his brother, John.

Rudy is survived by his brother, John Cira of Ludlow, his brother-in-law, Raymond

Parylak, his sister-in-law, Diane Cira, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends. He was the brother of the late Frederick Cira, Henrietta Brigada and Rosalie Parylak, and the brother-in-law of the late Thomas Brigada.

Calling Hours for Rudy were held on Monday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Nowak Funeral & Cremation Services, 15 Ludlow Ave., Springfield followed by a Funeral Mass in Christ the King Church, Ludlow at 11:30 a.m. Burial followed in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Indian Orchard. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Rudy’s memory may be made to the Adoration Chapel at Christ the King Church, 41 Warsaw Ave., Ludlow, MA, 01056. To leave Rudy’s family an online condolence, please visit [www.nowakfuneral.com](http://www.nowakfuneral.com).



## DEATH NOTICES

**Rudolph “Rudy” H. Cira**  
Died Nov. 20, 2025  
Services Dec. 1, 2025  
Nowak Funeral Home

**Louis Silveri**  
Died Nov. 25, 2025  
Ludlow 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 and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

## Louis Silveri, 70

Louis “Louie” Silveri, 70, passed away peacefully at the Pioneer Valley Health and Rehab Center in South Hadley, MA on November 25, 2025 after a long fought battle with cancer. He was born on June 21, 1953 to Dolores (Arcobello) Silveri and his late father Louis Silveri. He is survived by his mother Dolores; his sisters Laurie (Don) Burrage and Lynn Ann (James) Dorval; his nieces Katie (Rob) Bernier and Kara (Mark) Williams; and his great-nieces and nephews Andrew, Jacob, and Emma Bernier, and Caroline and Ryan Williams.



Louis was a 1973 graduate of Ludlow High School and retired as a custodian at Baird Middle School in 2011. Louie was an avid sports fan never missing a Pioneer’s soccer game in Ludlow and was a true Red Sox and Patriots fan. He loved spending time with his family, enjoyed his long daily walks, and loved all genres of music, especially the Grateful Dead.

All services for Louie will be held privately with Ludlow Funeral Home. Donations in his memory can be made to D’Amour Center for Cancer Care 3350 Main St. Springfield, MA 01107

## NOTICE

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

*Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?*

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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 [theregister@turley.com](mailto:theregister@turley.com)

## UPCOMING

### Now - Dec. 13

Annual Holiday Coloring Contest - LUSO Federal Credit Union is delighted to sponsor an annual Holiday Coloring Contest. If you would like a chance for your child to win one of our prize-filled holiday gift bags, please have them complete the coloring sheet for their grade level (Pre-K to 8th Grade). Then return the coloring sheet entry to the credit union by Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025. One winner from each of the different grade levels will be selected on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025. Coloring sheets may be picked up at our branch locations in Ludlow or Wilbraham, or online at: [www.lusofederal.com/events](http://www.lusofederal.com/events)

### Now - Dec. 13

Holiday Toy Drive - 'Tis the season of giving. Beginning Monday, Nov. 24, 2025, LUSO Federal Credit Union will be collecting new, unwrapped toy donations for children in need within our community. Drop off your new unwrapped toys at either of our branch locations by Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025. In the spirit of the season, for each toy donated,

you will receive an entry to win a gift card wreath valued at \$150.

## Dec. 13 & 20

**FROZEN POLISH FOOD** will be sold at Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 25 Parker St.

Indian Orchard Ma. on the following Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Dec. 13, 2025, and Dec. 20, 2025

Golabki (3) \$12---Kapus-ta (Large) \$10---Pierogi (12) Cabbage, Potato & Cheese \$14

Sweet Cheese, Blueberries \$15. All are Welcome to come and purchase. Credit cards not accepted.

## ONGOING

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

**FOOD DRIVE BI-MONTHLY** at First Church LUDLOW—On the first Saturday of each EVEN month (February, April, June, August, October, December) First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St, collects non-perishable foods. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., drive through the back parking lot. We will take your donations out of your car & bring them to the Community Survival Center to be distributed to those in need. Bring all food items to drop off at our next Food Drive on June 7, 2025.

**FOOD DRIVE BI-MONTHLY** On the first Saturday of each EVEN month (February, April, June, August, October, December) First Church in

Ludlow, 859 Center St, collects non-perishable foods. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., drive through the back parking lot. We will take your donations out of your car & bring them to the Community Survival Center to be distributed to those in need.

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

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

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

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

a.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For questions, call 413-583-2072, ext. 124.

**SUPPORT FOR 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.

**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.

## Holiday toy drive to be held until Dec. 13

LUDLOW—'Tis the season of giving. Beginning Monday, Nov. 24, 2025, LUSO Federal Credit Union will be collecting new, unwrapped toy donations for children in need within our community.

Drop off your new unwrapped toys at either of our branch locations by Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025.

In the spirit of the season, for each toy donated, you will receive an entry to win a gift card wreath valued at \$150.

## MSB Community Giving Initiative is underway

MONSON—There's still time to make your voice heard! Monson Savings Bank's 2026 Community Giving Initiative is in full swing, and they are inviting YOU to help decide which local non-profit organizations will receive donations in the coming year.

Voting is open now and runs through Dec. 31, 2025 at 3 p.m. Every vote counts, so don't miss your chance to support the organizations that matter most to you and your community.

### How to Vote

Visit [www.monsonsavings.bank/CGI](http://www.monsonsavings.bank/CGI) and submit the name of one non-profit organization you'd like Monson Savings Bank to support in 2026. Organizations must be non-profit and serve with-

in the Bank's geographic area. Each person may vote once.

The top ten organizations with the most votes will receive donations from Monson Savings Bank. Winners will be announced in mid-January 2026.

"By participating in our Community Giving Initiative, you help ensure that the charitable organizations most important to our community receive support," said Dan Moriarty, President and CEO of Monson Savings Bank. "We are grateful for your involvement and look forward to continuing this tradition together."

Voting Ends Dec. 31, 2025 – Don't Wait! Cast your vote today at [www.monson-savings.bank/CGI](http://www.monson-savings.bank/CGI).

## Lotto calendars are available

PALMER—Baystate Wing Gift Shop Annual January Lotto Calendars are now available through Jan. 30, 2026. The drawing will be held Feb. 3, 2026.

The price is \$5 for one calendar with 31 chances to win and \$10 for three calendars with 93 chance to win. The winner need not be

present.

Funds are used for scholarship awards for seven local high school graduates and towards the gift shop's pledge of \$200,000 (in installments) to Baystate Wing to a specific department.

These make great stocking stuffers/gifts or recognition of someone in your daily life.

## Liberty Bank Foundation awards \$10,000 grant to Girls Inc. of the Valley

HOLYOKE—Girls Inc. of the Valley has received a \$10,000 grant from the Liberty Bank Foundation, Inc. to support the organization's Eureka!: STEM & College

Access Program for Girls. Eureka! is a five-year program that immerses middle and high school girls in hands-on STEM learning while also fostering per-

sonal development, career exploration, and college readiness opportunities. Participants attend workshops, take part in summer STEM intensives on college cam-

pus, and gain real-world experience through externships and mentorships. With support from the Liberty Bank Foundation, Girls Inc. of the Valley will contin-

ue expanding access to this transformative program for girls throughout Hampden County and beyond.

"This generous grant from the Liberty Bank Foundation helps us provide young people with the tools and confidence they need to see themselves as future scientists, engineers, and leaders," said Suzanne Parker, Executive Director of Girls Inc. of the Valley. "Through Eureka!, we open doors to new opportunities- college visits, STEM workshops, internships, and mentorship- that help youth discover their full potential."

Since its founding in 1997, the Liberty Bank Foundation has supported nonprofit organizations that empower individuals and strengthen communities across Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. The Foundation's commitment to education, affordable housing, and basic human needs aligns closely with Girls Inc. of the Valley's mission to inspire all youth to be strong, smart, and bold.

"We are happy to support Girls Inc. of the Valley," said Liberty Bank President and CEO David W. Glidden. "This organization helps so many mid-

dle and high school girls learn, grow, and prepare for college and employment. This work is important to our community, and Liberty Bank is glad to be a part of it. These teens are our future!"

Girls Inc. of the Valley is a leading nonprofit committed to inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold by providing them with educational development programs that are research-driven and designed to meet the specific needs of girls. Girls Inc. of the Valley serves youth ages 5-18 from the greater Holyoke, Springfield, and Chicopee, MA areas.

The Liberty Bank Foundation, Inc. established in 1997, is the charitable arm of Liberty Bank, one of the oldest and largest mutual banks in the country. The Foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals and families by investing in organizations that focus on education, affordable housing, and basic human needs. Since its inception, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over \$20 million in grants to nonprofits across Connecticut and Western Massachusetts.

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1st & 3rd Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Women- 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Adult Religious/Marriage and Parenting for Men- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 11-12 noon  
Classes for Single Adults(18-30)  
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month -11- 12 noon  
Classes for Young Men( 11-18)  
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 11-12 noon  
Classes for Young Women ( 11-18)  
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month - 11-12 noon  
Children's classes: Sunday school & singing time every Sunday( 3-10 ) 11- 12 noon  
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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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25 Parker St, Indian Orchard,  
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Very Rev. Piotr Calik  
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CLOSED FRIDAY  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Monday 8:00am  
Tuesday 8:00am  
Wednesday No Mass  
Thursday 6:00pm  
Friday 6:00pm  
Saturday 4:00pm  
Sunday 8:30am (English) 10:15am ( Polish)  
Confessions: Saturday - 3:15-4 p.m.

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**Wednesday, Dec. 3** – Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C), Holy Mother Choir – 4:30 PM (C), Scouts 6 (FLBH), Cub Scouts 6 (JR), Scripture Enrichment – 6:30 (ER)  
**Thursday, Dec. 4** – Daily Mass -7:30 AM (C), Liturgy Committee 6:30 (JR)  
**Friday, Dec. 5** – Daily Mass– 7:30 AM (C)  
**Saturday, Dec. 6** – Marriage Ministry – 6:30 AM (PCTR), Confessions – 2:30 PM (C), Saturday Mass – 4 PM (C)  
**Sunday, Dec. 7** – Daily Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:00 AM and 5 PM (C), St. Nicks Corner 8 AM (JR), Breakfast w/ St. Nick - 8:00AM (FLBH/F/S/Z), Lifteen – 6 PM (JR)  
**Monday, Dec. 8** - Daily Mass – 7:30 AM (C), Holy Day Mass 8:30 AM (C), Ladies Auxilliary of the K of C - 1 PM (JR), Faith Formation – 6PM (JR), Holy Day Mass 7 PM (C),  
**Tuesday, Dec. 9** – Daily Mass - 7:30 AM (C), Middle School Youth Ministry – 3:30 PM (JR) St. Rita Choir - 4 PM (C), Pasta Supper – 4:30 PM (FLBH/K/F), Faith Formation – 5:30 PM (JR/S), Bereavement Support Group - 6:30 PM (ER)

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Monday and Wednesday Morning Masses – 8:30 a.m. (Portuguese)  
Tuesday and Friday Masses – 5:30 p.m. (Portuguese)  
Saturday Vigil Mass – 4 p.m. (English)  
First Saturday of the Month – 8:30 a.m.  
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Associate Pastor: Gary Coombs  
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Worship service meets at 11am  
OTHER MEETINGS  
Tuesdays: Zoom Bible Study 7pm  
Fridays: After School Club for Children 5pm  
AA Group 7pm

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Ludlow, MA 01056  
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Rosary for Peace in Ukraine on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

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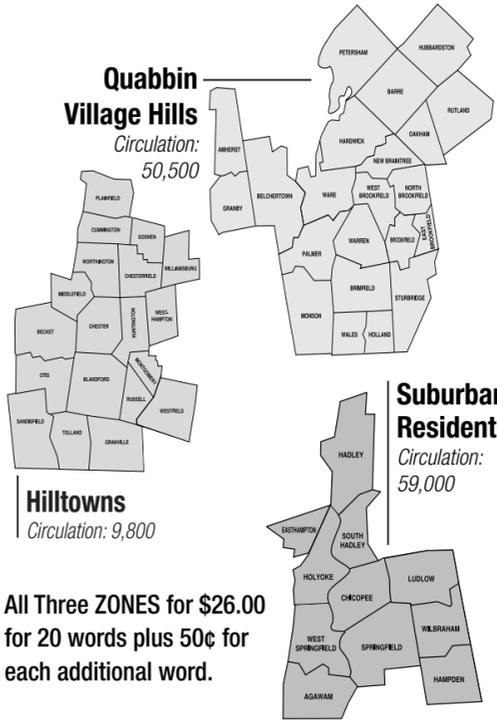
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# St. Cecilia Parish to present annual Festival of Carols on Dec. 14

WILBRAHAM — St. Cecilia Parish, 42 Main St., here, will present its popular Festival of Carols on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. in the church. The snow date is Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m. The concert is free but a free will offering will be accepted to help support the parish's music ministry.

The annual holiday concert, which often fills the 700-seat church, will feature the St. Cecilia Parish Adult and Youth Choirs as well as professional musicians who provide percussion, flute, saxophone, clarinet, and trumpet. Parish music director Todd Rovelli will accompany the choir on piano and organ.

Among those attending the concert will be St. Cecilia

parishioner Moira Fitzgerald, who said, "It's been a family tradition for us for at least the past ten years. The holidays are a busy time, and the festival gives us a beautiful opportunity to take a break and remember the true meaning of the season. I also think the selection of songs is always great and, of course, the singing is excellent!"

This year's program will invite audience members to take a rest from the rush and busyness of the season and spend some time in the musical realms of 17<sup>th</sup>-century liturgical music; traditional and contemporary Christmas carols; and some jazzy, joyous interpretations of familiar songs, including "We Three

Kings" and "Go Tell It on the Mountain."

The youth choir, directed by parishioner Carolee McGrath, will be featured in the performances of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century carol, "O Come Little Children," and "Believe," a song from the soundtrack of the animated film, "The Polar Express."

The concert also includes several congregational carols, allowing audience members to sing along with the choirs.

Rovelli said he strives to create a program that will represent the varied genres of holiday music and uplift the spirits of listeners.

"A successful program should include a variety of different musical styles, so



Submitted photo

St. Cecilia Adult Choir members (left to right) Linda Pabich, Sheila Bolduc, and Elaine Saloio-Szlosek sing during a recent Mass. The parish will present its annual Festival Carols on Dec. 14 at 4 p.m.

there really is something for everyone," he said. "Add to that several beloved Christmas hymns and some unique arrangements, and you have the ingredients for a concert sure to inspire the audience."

Among the new music in the concert this year will be a unique "Ave Maria," that Rovelli describes as "a less well-known version with a hauntingly beautiful melody by Baroque composer Giulio Caccini"; and an ethereal version of "In the Bleak Midwinter," arranged by Dan Forrest.

And returning to the lineup is an audience favorite: Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene's modern carol "Mary Did You Know?" with choral arrangement by Jack Schrader.



# PET PAGE



## PET OF THE MONTH Meet Sadie!



Sadie is a two-year-old golden doodle who lives with her mom and dad in Wilbraham. She loves playing outside, going for walks and car rides. She is such a snuggle bug and gives the best hugs and puppy kisses to all!

### ATTENTION READERS!

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## Four Myths About Dogs

(Excerpted from Katherine Heigl, Badlands Ranch)

Dogs are so sweet, funny, and lovable. But there are a lot of "interesting" beliefs about dogs floating around that are just not true. So, let's set the record straight.

**Myth #1: You can't teach old dogs new tricks.** Honestly, that's completely false. Sure, older dogs may be a little more set in their ways. But just about every dog I've ever met can be won over with patience, positive reinforcement and lots of tasty treats!

So whether you want to teach your senior pup to sit, roll over, or to stop barking at the mailman, I'm here to tell

you: It's 100% possible to train an older dog — it just may take a little extra time.

**Myth #2: All rescue dogs are damaged in some way — there's a reason they're a rescue dog.** What absolute nonsense! It's true that some rescue dogs come from pretty scary backgrounds, and if a dog has been abused, they may need a little extra care, patience, and compassion as they settle into a loving home.

But it's also true that the vast majority of rescue dogs are perfectly normal, healthy dogs who happen to have had a rough start in life. Trust me when I say — rescue dogs are the BEST. My husband and I have only had rescues

and to us they seem so grateful for being given a good home with a loving family. Just remember: When a new dog comes into your home, it's completely normal for them to take some time to get comfortable. After all, they're getting used to a new routine and a new family — and you're getting used to them.

**Myth #3: Dogs only eat grass when they're sick.** Well, this one's KIND OF true. Sometimes, dogs will eat grass if they need to vomit.

And if you see your dog snacking on grass more than usual — it's certainly worth checking in with your vet. But a lot of the time, dogs just eat grass because it tastes nice to them — like

a fresh green salad. Especially in the spring and early summer, when the grass grows nice and fresh. If your dog is a grass-eater, just make sure they're snacking on grass that hasn't been treated with any pesticides.

**Myth #4: Dogs only see in black and white.** Now, it's true dogs don't see a full range of colors the way you or I do but they can see certain colors. For dogs, blues and yellows are the most prominent colors in their vision, where reds and greens may look more grey or brown to them. It's no wonder that blue frisbees and yellow tennis balls are so darn popular with pups, for them, they really are eye catching!

# DL&G TREE

Tree  
Removal



Structural  
Pruning



Crane  
Service



Storm  
Damage



Stump  
Grinding



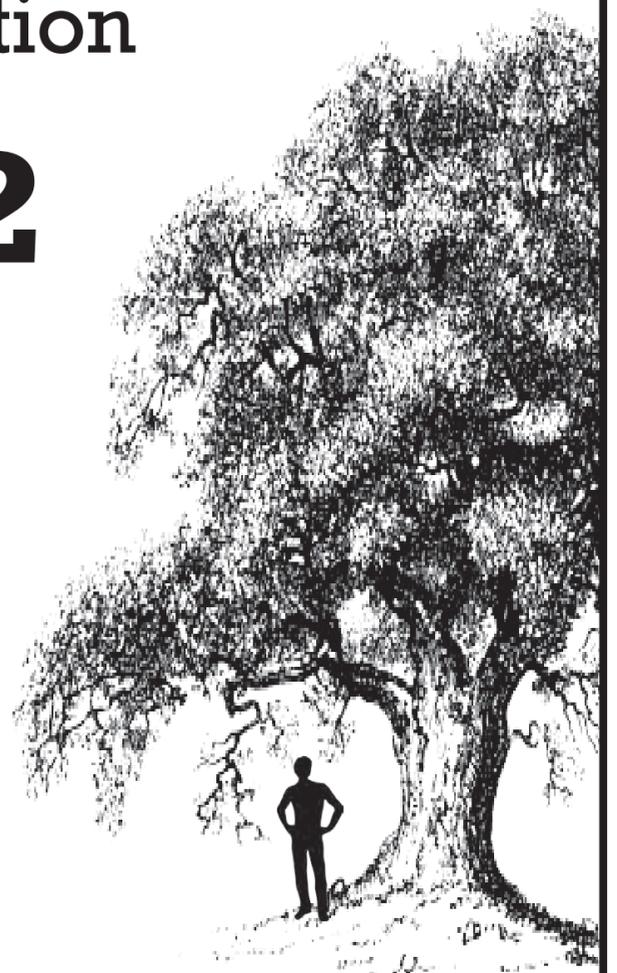
Lot  
Clearing



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