

# Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

## CPD to implement FUSUS Real Time Crime Center

Chicopee will be first city in state to use FUSUS

By Kristin Rivers  
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CHICOPEE - The police department is planning the implementation of the FUSUS Real Time Crime Center.

The technology, approved by the City Council on Nov. 9, 2023, operates as a cloud-based real-time crime center. It enhances law enforcement agencies by utilizing license plate recognition cameras, surveillance videos, floor plans and other informational databases to help officers respond to emergencies in a more rapid and efficient manner.

Chicopee is the first city in the state set to use FUSUS.

Deputy Chief Eric Watson explained that the beginning phases include plans for training and figuring out the location of the real-time crime center.

"Once we have the space and we can staff it, it will be up and running without trying to figure it all out. So that is our end-goal is to start that," Watson said.

Watson said they are referring to it as a next-generation neighborhood watch program called Connect Chicopee, building upon the National Crime Prevention Council with McGruff and the Neighborhood Watch programs.

"It's essentially a technologically advanced neighborhood watch program, so businesses and residents will be able to register their cameras," Watson said. "We'd like to partner with the community for that, so we'll be



TURLEY PHOTO BY TEDY MAKUCH, A CHS SENIOR

Chicopee is on pace to be the first city in the state to implement the FUSUS Real Time Crime Center.

reaching out to the community and asking for their partnership basically with that."

Watson said people would be able to curate their cameras, with options including sharing only during an emergency and

choosing what cameras they want to share.

Registering the cameras would be voluntary, with set policies in place.

See **FUSUS** page 8

COMMUNITY



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JOEL RODOWICZ

2023 Colleen Kailyn Poniatowski and her court, pictured following the 2023 Coronation Ball.

## Colleen tradition offers memories for a lifetime

Applications for Feb. 24 contest due by Feb. 1

By Dalton Zbierski  
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CHICOPEE - Once a year, on a magical night in Chicopee, a new Colleen and her court are chosen to represent the city's St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

The tradition dates back six decades, and several generations of young women have competed in the yearly pageant, or Coronation Ball. This year's Colleen, and her court, will be determined on Feb. 24 at the Chicopee Portuguese American Club on Exchange Street.

The five girls chosen will serve as role models and appear at a range of public events such as the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Big E Chicopee Day Parade. All throughout the year, they will volunteer and be present at functions throughout the city.

"It helps you to grow as a person, especially if you're

kind of shy. It helps you to open up a little bit because you're going to be exposed to a lot of new people, new ideas and new events. You get a lot of experience from talking to people, which gets you ready for college or your job," said Hailey Prive, a member of the 2023 Colleen Court.

To participate on Feb. 24, females between the ages of 17 and 20 on Feb. 1 are required to submit a resume with their application. The application form can be found at <https://chicopeespc.com/colleen-contest/application/>.

In addition to basic information and a picture, the application will ask contestants what school they attend or graduated from, their future plans, if they are employed, what sports they've participated in, their academic and athletic achievements and their extracurricular activities.

All participants in the contest become eligible to apply for scholarships awarded annually by the parade committee. Scholarship applications are

See **COLLEENS** page 9

COMMUNITY

## American Legion hosts Game Night for vets, military families

By Dalton Zbierski  
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CHICOPEE - Military members, veterans and their families gathered at American Legion Post 452 on Dec. 28 for the third edition of Game Night.

Games ranged from PlayStation to Xbox to Dungeons & Dragons and Pokémon, as gamers with military ties from multiple communities made their way to the hall on Exchange Street for an evening of fun from 5 - 9 p.m.

Approximately 130 people participated in the third edition of Game Night, an initiative that has grown each time. Chicopee Director of Veterans Services Stephanie Shaw, who helped organize each event, de-

scribed an exciting atmosphere.

"It went fantastic," Shaw said. "We thought that was a pretty great turnout. We had some repeat attendees and some new faces, which was really fun. The word's still getting out there, and we're still reaching new audiences."

Shaw said Game Night would not have been possible without extensive collaboration. The idea for the initiative was developed by The Western Massachusetts Veterans' Service Officers Association, of which Shaw is the president.

The Veteran Outreach & Increased Community Engagement program, which Shaw also chairs, lent its resources as well. Other groups and ini-



PHOTO BY DALTON DZBIERSKI

See **GAME NIGHT** page 10

The gamers were in abundance at American Legion Post 452 on Dec. 28.

# School Committee salutes retiring teacher, coach

Student Advisory Council requests community service seal

By Dalton Zbierski  
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CHICOPEE – The School Community congratulated retiring Chicopee High School physical education teacher Melvin Sasser during the Jan. 3 meeting.

Sasser is a 1984 graduate of Chicopee High School and has been teaching physical education for 34 years. He also spent over three decades as a coach for multiple athletics teams.

“He started coaching baseball and football before he even started teaching in 1990. Mr. Sasser has coached baseball, softball, as well as football at Chicopee High for his entire teaching career,” Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware said.

Ware described Sasser as an excellent teacher who has dedicated his entire profession to the children of Chicopee and said he has been an excellent role model for students in the classroom and on the field.

“His passion for teaching and dedication to our students will be missed. (CHS Principal David Lemke) specifically states, ‘I am glad Mr. Sasser has decided

to continue to coach softball in the spring. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.’ Thank you, Mr. Sasser, for your service,” Ware said.

Ward 8 School Committee Representative Doug Girouard said he’s known Sasser for many years and praised the impact that he made as a teacher and coach.

“He is a true example of a Chicopee guy that just does so much for the community and the kids in the classroom and on the field. He is well deserved of this retirement, and I wish him many, many years of happiness in his retirement,” Girouard said.

Mayor John Vieau, the School Committee chair, grew up with Sasser, noting they both were Boys & Girls Club kids. Vieau wished Sasser the best in his retirement.

“You were always involved with kids, mentoring, coaching and really making a difference in our community. Thank you for your commitment to not just the City of Chicopee or the school district but for what you’ve done for so many. I know you’ve touched many lives,” Vieau said.

On Jan. 3, the Student Advisory Council also presented before the School Committee. The council consists of Chicopee High School students.

The students proposed the establishment of a Chicopee Seal of Community Service for graduating seniors to attain,

an initiative that they said, “not only enriches the lives of our students but also strengthens the bond between our school and the community we serve.”

The concept was compared to the seal of biliteracy Chicopee students can currently earn. The honor would be bestowed upon graduating seniors who not only meet a minimum community service requirement but also actively seek and earn the recognition through their dedication to service.

The students said the seal would instill in students a sense of civic responsibility, empathy, pride and accomplishment. A minimum service requirement for eligibility would be set to encourage students to actively engage with the community and grow as responsible, compassionate citizens.

Earning the seal would be voluntary and would be presented as an academic and personal achievement that students can receive in the fall of their senior year, providing them with a competitive edge on college applications and in future endeavors.

The students hope that the seal will create a ripple effect of good will that will impact the city as a whole.

“Serving options might include tutoring programs, assisting local nonprofits like Lorraine’s Soup Kitchen and the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club, participating in

neighborhood cleanup events or engaging in other programs that address specific community needs. This diversity allows students to find a cause they can connect with personally,” one female student said.

The students would like to work with advisors to draft the list of requirements necessary to earn the seal.

Ward 7 School Committee Representative Donald Lamothe asked if the students evaluated the guidelines for National Honor Society to make sure the seal would be different. One male student said the council has looked at the NHS guidelines and the seal would be different, although NHS students could still use their community service time toward their seal.

Several members of the School Committee were impressed, and Vieau called it a “fantastic idea.”

Ward 3 School Committee Representative Jason Dout thanked the students for coming to the meeting and speaking eloquently. He said there is a need to stress community service now more than ever.

“When we think about our society and where things are heading, I think to have some of the youth from our city come in and talk so passionately about this, certainly we need the details and guidelines of it, but personally I can’t think of a better idea,” Dout said.

# Zoning Committee reports approved by City Council

Also, a friendly ordinance amendment vote on signage

By Kristin Rivers  
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CHICOPEE – City Council approved favorable Zoning Committee reports on Jan. 2 for zone change and special permit applications.

First, the Boys & Girls Club’s zone change application was a change from split zone Business A/Residential B to Residential B for 9,000 square feet, eliminating a small portion of zoning overlapping leading to a split zone.

Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier explained the committee “had this kicking around for a couple of meetings because there was a snafu with the application.”

“The application referenced a split zone Business A/Business B to Residence A instead of Business B, so this had to be corrected,” Balakier said.

Balakier added after the application was corrected and refiled, it needed approval from the Zoning Committee and

to go before the Planning Board.

“It was more of a technical error but again, ultimately to eliminate the split zone, this was rectified, and the paperwork is in order,” Balakier said.

Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne thanked the organization and Club Executive Director Jason Reed for its investment of time and resources.

“This is not something they needed. They were doing this as a favor to the city. He had to come to multiple meetings and pay for the expense of the newspaper advertisements, so I just want to recognize them for helping out the city and incurring the expense at our favor,” Courchesne said.

The report was approved 13-0.

Next, a special permit application from Dance Dynamics for a property becoming a mixed property with one residential unit in a business building was voted on.

Balakier said the issues included paying taxes, issues about personal property, department head items including the design of the proposed property and codes and whether a handwritten plan would be acceptable as opposed to

going before a professional engineer.

“So, we’ve tried working with the applicant and what was kind of interesting was the applicant wasn’t aware of what some of the issues that were outstanding,” Balakier said.

Another issue was setting a specific date and time for the proposed postponement, with the committee having consulted with their attorney and fellow councilors for insight as the last Zoning Committee meeting took place on Dec. 20, 2023.

“We felt that if the applicant does their due diligence, pays their bills, works in compliance with the city regulations that we could go forth with this proposed project,” Balakier said.

The motion to postpone the application to on or before the Jan. 31 Zoning Committee meeting passed 13-0.

Finally, an ordinance amendment about the duration of placement of temporary signs was discussed.

“(The Planning Board) did not know the full purpose of the proposed ordinance change, so therefore my recommendation was to postpone to the call of the chair,” Balakier said.

Courchesne explained he’s been working on changing the language for many years and “the law is actually unenforceable.”

“It violates the Supreme Court Justices’ decision on political signage and signage in general. I included for the Planning Department a three-page letter from the Massachusetts ACLU citing multiple case laws from across the country including Holyoke and Ludlow,” Courchesne said. “We basically have an unenforceable law on the books, and we just need to get rid of it.”

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner provided additional context.

“While it doesn’t explicitly say it, it’s mostly targeted towards political lawn signs, so we don’t have them up, you know, for as soon as nomination papers come out for the better part of nine months while the elections are going on,” Wagner said. “Just for clarification that was the intended purpose of the ordinance.”

A friendly motion to pass the report and the proposed change be accepted and go to the Ordinance Committee was approved 13-0.

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# Library is holding food drive to benefit Lorraine's

Donations to soup kitchen, pantry accepted until Jan. 18

By Kristin Rivers  
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CHICOPEE - The library's food drive to benefit Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry will continue through Jan. 18.

The food drive, which kicked off Jan. 4, is collecting food donations, including peanut butter, instant potatoes, all types of beans, one-pound packages of rice, canned meats, spaghetti sauce, soup, canned fruits, stuffing mix and more to help fill the pantry's shelves.

Residents can drop off their donations in a bin set up in the lobby any time the library is open.

Lorraine's Soup Kitchen is located on Pendexter Avenue in Chicopee and is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for pantry hours, followed by 4 to 6 p.m. for dinner.

Library Director Laura Bovee said the food drive is a way for the library and its patrons to give back to the community.

She explained the library has done the food drive annually to support Lorraine's for several years and she spoke again with Executive Director Kim Casse in late 2023 about how they could help.

"(Casse) had said that often there is need right after the holidays," Bovee said. "In these times, there is need always, but she had indicated that it might be nice to have an influx of donations right after the holidays, so we timed it

according to that."

Bovee said the library has a strong partnership with Lorraine's, as it is a host site for Lorraine's mobile food pantry on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 4 - 6 p.m. in the parking lot. Residents need to bring a photo ID to register and, if already registered, they can just come.

"That's been really terrific. I know that Lorraine's is happy to come here and happy to give the food out to folks who come. We're delighted to have them here," Bovee said.

Bovee said holding a food drive post-holiday season helps remind people there's still a need that they can support.

"I think it is nice just to remind folks that people are still in need and that you can do something about it, even if it's in a small way," Bovee said.

Bovee said giving back to the community and supporting local organizations is part of the library's mission and is also important to her.

"Our mission is to provide access to information for people, and I think the staff does a wonderful job of that, but of course we're limited. We may see people in need, but it's not our mission to provide food for them. That's Lorraine's mission," Bovee said. "So, it feels good as people who are used to helping people to be able to do just a little bit to help people in that way even though it's not directly what our workdays entail. It allows us to just give back to the community in multiple ways, which is a nice feeling."

Bovee had high praise for Lorraine's and for everything they do to



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A full shot of the bin in the Chicopee Public Library's lobby for residents to drop off their donations to support Lorraine's Soup Kitchen.

support the community at large.

"There's nothing more basic than feeding people who are hungry," Bovee said. "So, it's very important, the work they do, and we're really appreciative of the work they do in the community."

Bovee encourages residents to donate whatever they can for the food drive.

"I think it's a wonderful thing to do if you're able and it can be at any level. You could bring in an entire bag of food donations or you could bring in an extra can or two. It doesn't need to be a large amount. It can be just what you're able to do," Bovee said.



A close-up shot of the donations the library's asking residents to drop off to support Lorraine's Soup Kitchen during their food drive.

# Don Lamothe is new School Committee Vice Chair

New committee members introduce themselves

By Dalton Zbierski  
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CHICOPEE - Ward 7 School Committee Representative Donald Lamothe was named as the new vice chair during the year's first School Committee meeting on Jan. 3.

Lamothe has served on the committee for 22 years and is the father of Chicopee Comprehensive High School Principal Andrew Lamothe. He is now responsible for running the meeting if Committee Chair John Vieau, the mayor, is absent.

Lamothe has served in the position

twice before, but it will be his first time in nearly a decade. The vote to establish him as vice chair was unanimous.

On Jan. 3, Ward 4 School Committee Representative Sandra Peret was unanimously re-elected as the liaison between the School Committee and City Council. She's held the position for several years.

Two new members of the School Committee introduced themselves to the public that evening, including Ward 1 Representative Deanna Rousseau and Ward 6 Representative Sonny Brooks.

"I would just like to thank the voters of Ward 6 for their trust in me and to all the students and staff, remember we can't change yesterday and can't predict tomorrow so let's have a great day today," Brooks said.

Rousseau took longer to formal-

ly introduce herself as a proud product of Chicopee Public Schools, which she said has allowed her to have great professional success.

"I'm both a certified public accountant and fraud examiner, and I'm ready to bring those skills to this board now here. I'm very excited to partner with everyone here on the School Committee and keep the school system and city moving forward," Rousseau said.

As she moves forward, Rousseau hopes to grow personally and professionally as a committee member. She is committed to collaborating with the committee and helping navigate the opportunities and challenges it encounters during the term.

Ward 9 School Committee Representative Ron Bernard also spoke during the meeting's introductory segment, as

he described a dangerous situation on New Ludlow Road that has been rectified.

After a gentleman spoke before the City Council and School Committee, he met with Bernard and Ward 9 City Councilor Mary Beth Costello, showing them a bus stop on New Ludlow Road that is difficult to access.

As a result, two new bus stops were added to the north side of the road.

"Therefore, the students don't have to cross New Ludlow Road anymore to get to the bus stop. They can get picked up right there," Bernard said. "That's an increasingly busy and very dangerous area right there on New Ludlow Road and, as we know, the students' safety should always be our ultimate concern and priority."

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## New questions for the New Year!

Jim, who gardens in Bridgewater, sent this question in to the Garden Lady.

"I liked your article on experimenting with holly seeds. I do some of my own propagating with trees and perennials, so the holly seeds thing was good. My question concerns being dioecious and at what point can one determine male or female? Is there some way to determine sex at an early stage or must I grow a dozen plants for years before I can wean out the males and keep the females? I have read that a single male will successfully pollinate all the females within a half mile radius so finding the females is my goal at the earliest possible stage of growth."

Sadly, the only way to figure out whether you have a male or female holly is by examining the flowers, so yes, that will require growing them on for some time; my research indicates about four to seven years.

The male flowers will have four petals and four stamens where you will see the pollen at the end. Female flowers look very similar except there is a green "bump" in the center of the petals – the ovary, where the berries will form from.

Garden centers usually propagate vegetatively from either male or female plants, so they are not playing the waiting game. Starting hollies from seed is still a fun experiment, time consuming nonetheless.

Dawn was worried that her amaryllis plant was dead. "My amaryllis was originally a Christmas gift. I've enjoyed it for a few years now, but its leaves yellowed, then they withered and died. I'm worried that I killed it!"

As soon as I heard from Dawn, my thoughts went to my own amaryllis, still in my bedroom window despite the fact that its leaves are brown and have fallen around the outside of its pot. I haven't watered it since it started to "decline."

It has sat there in this sorry state for a few weeks now. Never fear, it's likely our bulbs have gone dormant.

This timing is a little off if you think about all of those boxed sets of amaryllis bulbs sitting on store shelves just in time for Christmas giving and planting. Bulb companies can "time" growth stages a little more reliably than we can.

After a month or two of dormancy watering can resume and with good fortune, blooms should reappear in 6-8 weeks. Some experts recommend putting the dormant bulbs in a cool, dark room to rest.

I often move dormant pots of bulbs to my mudroom where temperatures are in the 50s this time of year and when I see green tips on the bulb I bring it back into the living area of my house. Usually regrowth comes, but a flower sometimes doesn't.

In this case, the bulb is likely depleted of nutrients and without enough reserves left for re-bloom. I would recommend watering with an all-purpose plant fertilizer during active growth.

Seed production also diminishes the plant's reserves, so be sure to deadhead the individual flowers as they go by, leaving the stem intact until it yellows. Hopefully these tips will give your amaryllis a few more good years of flowering.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



## Will my friend's fiancée be entitled to a survivor benefit?

Dear Rusty

I have a very good friend who has cancer and will begin chemotherapy this week. He is 71 years old and is currently receiving Social Security benefits. He has been living with his fiancée for a little more than 2 years, but they have been a couple for about 15 years and will be married in the next few weeks. She is 60 years old.

I am naturally concerned about his and her, future so my questions are:

What, if anything, should he and his wife do to ensure that she gets his Social Security benefits?

What benefits will she be entitled to and how soon will she be able to begin receiving them after his death?

Signed: A Friend with Questions

Dear Friend

You are kind to be concerned about your friend and his fiancée. Here's what you need to know:

Social Security goes by state rules when it comes to what is often referred to as "common law marriage." That means that whether your friend's fiancée will receive any benefits as a surviving spouse in a "common law" relationship depends on whether they live in a state, which recognizes common law marriage.

Most states do not, but state laws have changed over the years and many states which once recognized such unions as "marriage" no longer do. Although they may have "been a couple" for 15 years, if your friend and his fiancée have been living together for only two it is likely only the last two years will count for Social Security benefit purposes. So, whether your friend's fiancée will get anything when your friend dies depends on where they live, unless they get married, in which case the rules are different.

In order for a married widow(er) to receive surviving spouse benefits, the couple must have been married for at least nine

months. If they marry and your friend lives longer than nine months thereafter, then his wife will be entitled to a surviving spouse benefit from her husband. The amount of his wife's benefit will be based upon the amount your friend is receiving at his death, adjusted for her age when she claims her surviving spouse benefit.

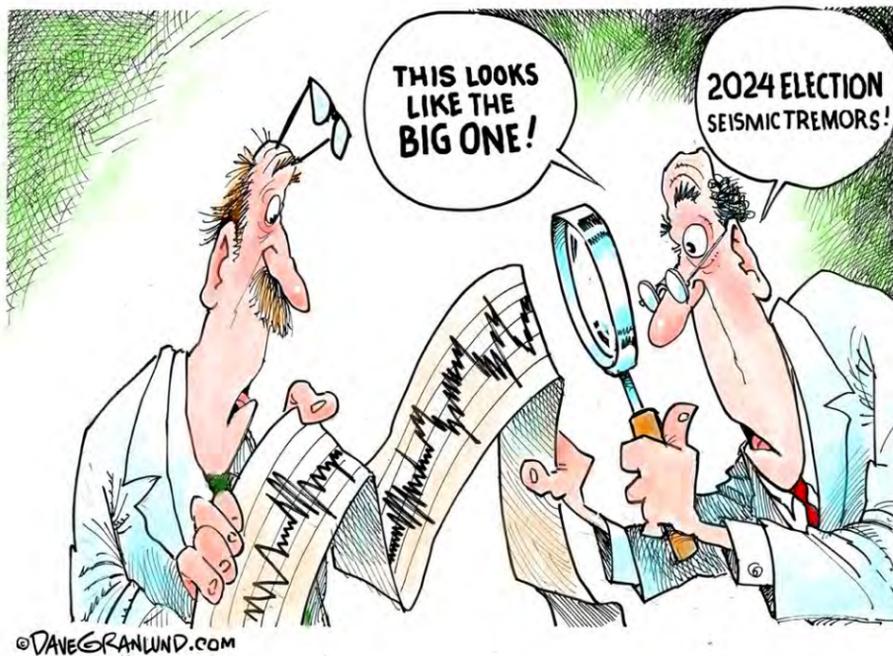
A surviving spouse can claim benefits from the deceased as early as age 60, but those benefits will be reduced for claiming before full retirement age (FRA). Taken at age 60, the wife's benefit would be 71.5% of your friend's SS benefit at his death. The wife need not claim the survivor benefit immediately; she could opt to delay claiming in order to get a higher percentage of the husband's amount. Survivor benefits reach maximum, 100% of the deceased's benefit amount, at the recipient's FRA.

So, if your friend and his fiancée now live in a state which currently recognizes common law marriage (Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Rhode Island or in the District of Columbia), then your friend's partner will be considered his "wife" and entitled to survivor benefits as normal (the fiancée would need to prove they cohabitate in a marriage-like relationship to claim benefits).

If they do not live in one of those states, but they get married and the marriage lasts for at least 9 months, then the wife will be entitled to normal benefits as a surviving spouse as described above.

But if the couple do not live in one of the above states which recognize "common law" relationships or if their soon-to-occur marriage doesn't last at least 9 months or if they do not get married, I'm afraid your friend's partner will not be entitled to any survivor benefits from your friend.

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



## 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 Chicopee Register**,  
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).  
The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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# IN THE CITY



Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala leads her students in the star pose during her weekly yoga class at the Chicopee Public Library.



Yoga class attendees close their eyes and meditate as they begin their weekly yoga class with Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala.

## Library's weekly yoga class sparks motivation for new year

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – Residents visited the library's Bazan Community Room on Jan. 5 to begin their day with a weekly yoga class.

The class is sponsored, in part, by the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library and takes place every Friday from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

The class, led by Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala, is free with no sign-up required, but attendees must bring a yoga mat, blanket, strap or scarf.

Ruzala has taught yoga for 17 years, explaining she taught at the library years ago and then started up the classes again during COVID after moving back to the area from California. "So, it started off on Zoom on Friday mornings, and we had a lovely following and, now that we can get it back in person, we've been here for years now," Ruzala said. "In the summertime, we have classes outside, at night so there's a 5:30 or 6 p.m. class for an hour and then also the Friday morning classes."

Ruzala got into yoga when she was experiencing back pain due to stress while pursuing a 10-month master's program in Education. After getting her master's and an Advanced Graduate Study Certificate in Socioemotional Learning, she did her yoga teaching training in Easthampton and California.

She's also taught yoga classes for children.

"I knew I needed to do something for my body, so I started doing yoga and it was on VHS when I started back in 2002," Ruzala said. "So, I started doing yoga for health reasons but now I see the spiritual aspect of it and mindfulness."

Ruzala appreciates the community that's formed through the classes and hopes



A Sun Salutation pose was one of many yoga poses attendees did during their weekly class with Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala.



Yoga class attendees in child pose during the weekly yoga class with Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala.

she can spread light and kindness to others through them. She dedicates every month to a specific theme and set of poses; January focuses on how a yoga practice benefits you.

"If we can be the light and it's this ripple effect, what I share, folks share with themselves and with their families, we're going to make the world a kinder, more compassionate, just place," Ruzala said.

Ruzala's yoga tips include "you don't need to roll out your mat to do yoga" and making time to pause and be peaceful.

"Yoga can be just taking some breaths while you're washing your hands, like being conscious of washing your hands when you're in the bathroom or being conscious of washing your dishes. It's the mindfulness practice and not just the physical aspect," Ruzala said.

Ruzala emphasized how one doesn't need to utilize their yoga mat when

she encouraged her students to use chairs for the poses.

"It doesn't have to be like what you see in Yoga Journal or on Instagram. 'Oh, this is a yoga person.' If you can breathe, you can do yoga," Ruzala said. "You can do yoga in a chair, you can do it lying down and like I said, washing the dishes."

Ruzala wants the community to know her yoga classes are open to everyone and encourag-

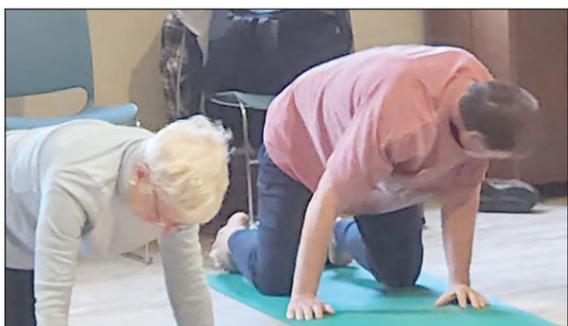
es residents to take advantage of the library's many program offerings.

"I think people need to see what the offerings are. Even if you've never been before, try something out. There's people who've never been to yoga and they were willing to come today and try it out, so it's having courage. I think the hardest thing is showing up sometimes," Ruzala said.

Ruzala expressed her gratitude to the Friends and library for supporting the class, along with her students who attend.

"I'm just really grateful that people are joining us," Ruzala said. "I want to make it welcoming and accommodate everyone's needs."

To learn more, contact the Reference Desk at 413-594-1800, extension x3 or at [cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org](mailto:cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org).



Yoga class attendees work on their cat and cow pose during the weekly class with Yoga Instructor Carolyn Ruzala at the Chicopee Public Library.

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**Thu., Jan. 25, 8 - 9 a.m.**

**RSVP: [www.wma.us/TitanTalks](http://www.wma.us/TitanTalks)**

# Public supports ChicopeeTV during cable license renewal hearing

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Residents voiced their support for ChicopeeTV on Jan. 9 during a public cable license renewal hearing.

The public hearing, taking place in City Hall Auditorium, is part of the city's license renewal process with Spectrum (Charter Communications) and gave residents the opportunity to share their input on the future of public access television and Charter cable-related topics.

Mayor John Vieau opened the meeting explaining how ChicopeeTV provides invaluable community television channels and a community television studio.

"These local channels and the local studio provide important municipal meeting coverage, coverage of our school sports and community events as well as unique Chicopee-specific information about public affairs that inform our citizenry and that promote more meaningful local engagement," Vieau said.

Capt. Holly Cote spoke on behalf of Chief Patrick Major and the police department, sharing how ChicopeeTV is instrumental in helping them get out safety information and enhance community policing efforts.

"ChicopeeTV has especially assisted with our National Night Out, our Youth Police Academy and the C3 initiative. Their expertise in videography and public presentations has helped tremendously to help get public information out in a professional and timely fashion," Cote said. "ChicopeeTV is always willing to help with press conferences, safety instruction videos and public relation videos for the Chicopee Police Department."

A resident, who did not identify himself, shared his concerns about Spectrum (Charter Communications), calling them a monopoly.

"Spectrum offers no senior discount, offers packages that provide us with hundreds, literally hundreds of stations we don't watch but are locked into



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEETV

A public cable license renewal hearing on Jan. 9 focused on ChicopeeTV.

and are able to raise their costs at will with no explanation," he said.

The resident said the bottom line is "there are some issues that Spectrum could do better in Chicopee" and that probably Spectrum probably isn't losing money, citing how there are a lot of Spectrum trucks in New York City.

"So, if they're that prevalent in New York, I'm sure they're doing well and they could do something in Chicopee with the rates," he said.

Bill August, the city's legal counsel helping with license renewal, was empathetic towards the resident, clarifying the cable license is non-exclusive and "there's never any acquiescence to any monopoly."

"The speaker is (in) very good company being concerned because despite the non-exclusivity there is only one operator. But it's not because of the contract. It's because no one wants to compete in most of the cities and towns in Massachusetts. So, it's called a lack of initiative or interest by the competitors, not the granting of any monopoly status," August said.

Vieau read into the record several written comments he had received ahead of the hearing.

Stephanie Shaw, director of Veterans Services, said ChicopeeTV helps homebound veterans and their families virtually attend annual observances and share information.

"We hope to revitalize two of our pre-pandemic programs. It's called 'The Vet Talk' and ChicopeeTV's 'Thank You for Your Service.' These programs were a great way to reach those hard to reach and reach with comradery and information about benefits and programs," Vieau read. "Not only on the cable access channel but also with how accessible their program is to share on their website and social media."

Natalia Borowiec, choir director at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, reflected on ChicopeeTV serving "a unique and important role of providing its residents with news that focuses on our community," highlighting its 25 years of supporting the high school's Music Department.

"They are diligent in recording the students' concerts, musicals, plays, graduations and competitions. Wade Wofford and Jason Buckley are always available to help promote



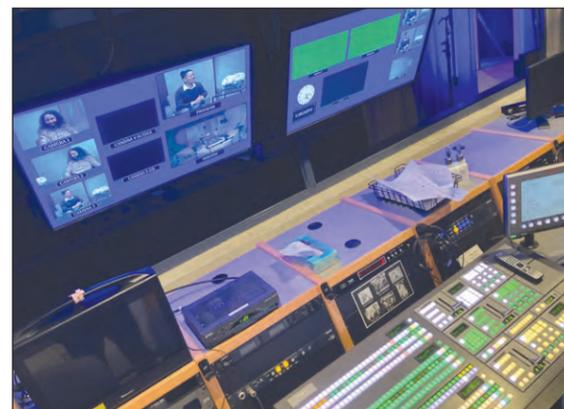
ChicopeeTV has a widespread presence in the schools, broadcasting events and games.

and broadcast the student accomplishments to our community," Vieau read from Borowiec. "I hope you will continue to support our local ChicopeeTV Charter that is critically important for our Chicopee community to stay united and informed."

Former Ward 1 City Councilor Joel McAuliffe has used ChicopeeTV as a host and served as a former cable commissioner, advocating for how it provides diverse content, encourages civic engagement and enhances the local media landscape.

"Public access television is a cornerstone of community engagement and democracy. It ensures that local voices are heard and local stories are told, which is more important than ever in today's media environment," Vieau read from McAuliffe. "ChicopeeTV's continued operation is not just beneficial but crucial for maintaining the vibrant, informed and connected community that we cherish in Chicopee."

Residents can continue submitting their comments to the following address: Cable Advisory Committee Chair Andrew Vernon, Chief Information Officer, Chicopee City Hall, 17 Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA, 01013.



With its state-of-the-art equipment, ChicopeeTV has a presence throughout the city, broadcasting a variety of events and meetings.

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## Chicopee Events and Announcements

### Harmony House schedules Open House for new volunteers

CHICOPEE – Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is continuing to invite potential volunteers to stop in at a Volunteer Recruitment event to learn more about who we are and to tour the new home at 66 View St. in Chicopee.

Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a home for the terminally ill. After closing our original home in 2019 and purchasing a house in the Aldenville section of Chicopee for renovation, COVID-19 struck, and the plans were on hold for a time. After a massive reconstruction, Harmony House is planning on reopening in the near future in the beautiful new home.

Opportunities exist for direct health care professionals, home health aides, people who enjoy visiting with others, cooking, cleaning, yard work, administrative help, fundraising and more. Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

There are two Open Houses scheduled. The first is Saturday, Jan. 13 from 10 a.m. to Noon; the second will be on Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

Current volunteers and members of the Board of Directors will be available to answer questions. Please stop by either day at your convenience; it is not necessary to confirm your attendance. Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home providing compassionate care for the terminally ill who have limited or no resources for special care in their final stages of life. Harmony House is primarily staffed by trained volunteers including licensed nurses, caregivers, companions, and others.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please contact Harmony House at 413-315-9784 or by email at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

### Chicopee Community Band seeks members for the 2024 Spring Concert Season

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Community Band is seeking members for the 2024 Spring Concert Season. There are no auditions to join the group, but prospective members should be able to read music and own a concert band instrument. There are no fees to join.

The band is an all-volunteer, all age, ensemble that rehearses in a friendly setting and performs a variety of music. The members represent many communities in the greater Chicopee area.

The band meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the band room of Chicopee Comprehensive High School at 617 Montgomery St., Chicopee. The schedule coincides with the Chicopee Public Schools calendar.

Please consider joining the band. For more information, email Sally Dupuis at ChicopeeAreaBand@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ChicopeeAreaBand>.

### Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for kids and families

CHICOPEE – Each month, the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of programs for children and families. The Youth Services Department seeks to provide opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that explore literacy and promote creativity. Here is the slate of events for the remainder of January.

Storytime will be held in the children's program room on Wednesday, Jan. 17 and 31 at 10:30 a.m. Storytime is based loosely around the early childhood literacy skills: sing, talk, read, write and play. It is a great way for preschool aged kids to practice skills they will need for school. Library staff lead a circle time where they read picture books and lead the children in song and movement, afterwards they do a craft or activity.

Kids ages six to nine are invited to come to the Maker Zone for projects, crafts and experiments focused on Science Technology Engineering and Math. Maker Zone will be held on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 4 p.m. in the children's program room.

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Friday, Jan. 19 at 11 a.m. Babies crawling to 24 months and their caregivers are invited to join us for free play followed by circle time exploring songs, fingerplays and movement!

On Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Room, the library will have a Little Kid Dance Party geared for kids ages five and under and their caregivers. Older kids are welcome, as well. There will be songs, dancing and big movement.

The library will be beginning a new program called Story Arts. This program is for kids ages five and up to explore picture books. Story Arts will meet on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. for four weeks, Jan. 23 – Feb. 13. Each week will focus on a different artist – Eric Carle, Oge Mora, Dan Santat and Phoebe Wahl. The group will read books and look closely at the artwork, then make a project inspired by that artist's work.

The Anime Club, for middle and high school students, will meet on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 3 p.m. They will be discussing the Crunchyroll Anime Awards.

There are Games every day in the Teen Space after school. Hang out in the Teen Space after school and enjoy one of our many games. We have all different kinds to play and even some challenging puzzles.

For more information about the Chicopee Public Library, go to [www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org](http://www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org).

## Foundation for TJO Animals surpasses Goal on Giving Tuesday

SPRINGFIELD -- The Foundation for TJO Animals participated in Giving Tuesday this year with a hefty goal to raise \$25,000 for the purchase of a special therapeutic laser for the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control & Adoption Center vet clinic.

This vital piece of equipment promotes healing, helps with cell regeneration, reduces inflammation and much more. More importantly, it decreases recovery time and discomfort for the animals in the care of the adoption center. The laser is not limited to surgical patients; animals with chronic conditions including skin and ear infections, allergies, arthritis and wounds will benefit as well.

The Foundation for TJO Animals,

the nonprofit organization that provides fundraising and granting support for animals in the care of the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center, proudly surpassed its goal. With the support of generous donations from the community, more than \$25,000 was raised to make that effort a reality. Hundreds of animals will benefit each year from laser therapy via the therapeutic laser.

Lori Swanson, executive director of the animal control and adoption center said, "This year, the Foundation for TJO Animals' goals was quite lofty. With a goal of \$25,000, the community once again rose to the occasion to improve the lives of animals. We are grateful for each, and every donation made to the Foundation on Giving Tuesday."

## Winter Weather Advisory: Check CO alarms and keep vents clear of snow

*Blocked vents can cause fatal buildup of colorless, odorless, deadly gas*

STOW – With the season's first significant snow on the way in parts of Massachusetts, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine is reminding residents to test their carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and keep dryer, furnace and other exhaust vents clear of snow.

"Carbon monoxide is a leading cause of fatal poisoning, and home heating equipment is the primary source of carbon monoxide in the home," Davine said. "As part of your storm planning, check your CO alarms to be sure they're working properly, and if an alarm is past the manufacturer's recommended lifespan, replace it."

Residents should also be sure to keep outside vents clear of falling, drifting, or shoveled snow. In January 2005, seven-year-old Nicole Garofalo died when a heating vent was blocked by snow drifts outside, allowing carbon monoxide to accumulate inside her Plymouth home. This tragedy led to Nicole's Law, which requires CO alarms on every habitable level of a

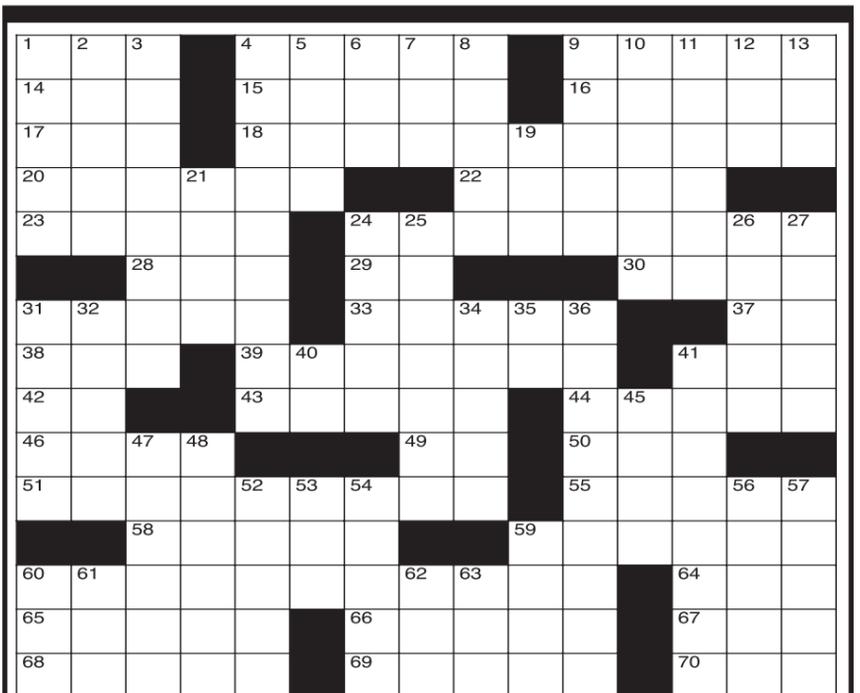
Massachusetts residence.

"Fuel-fired heating appliances like dryers, furnaces, boilers, and fireplaces are all sources of carbon monoxide," Davine said. "If the vent or flue is blocked, this poisonous gas can reach deadly levels inside the home. Know where the vents on your home are, be sure to clear them when shoveling, and be careful not to blow snow onto them if using a snowblower."

Massachusetts fire departments detected nearly CO at nearly 5,000 incidents in 2022, officials said, and 90% of these calls were at residential settings. The poison gas can cause headache, fatigue, dizziness, and/or nausea at lower concentrations and death at higher concentrations. Exposure while asleep is particularly dangerous. Children, older adults, and people with lung or heart disease are especially vulnerable.

"We can't see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide, but we can detect it with working CO alarms," Davine said. "If your alarm sounds, get outside and call 9-1-1."

For more information on carbon monoxide and CO alarms, visit the DFS website.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Defensive nuclear weapon
4. Moved back and forth
9. One-time coach of the Cowboys
14. Last letter
15. Cause to become less intense
16. Genus of tree bugs
17. Body art
18. Romance novelist
20. Be filled with love for
22. City
23. Make vivid
24. Horses
28. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano
29. Atomic #18
30. Shortly
31. A type of prejudice
33. Whirls
37. Six
38. Old world, new
39. \_\_ Hess, oil company
41. Talk
42. Not off
43. Begets
44. Cars need them
46. Computing architecture (abbr.)
49. Of I
50. Journalist, activist
51. Takes apart
55. Lists
58. Positively charged electrode
59. Hard, colorless compound
60. Inflammation of the peritoneum
64. Trent Reznor's band
65. Simply dry fruit
66. "Ivanhoe" author
67. Google certification
68. French commune
69. Medieval circuit courts
70. Soviet Socialist Republic

### CLUES DOWN

1. Indigenous people of Mexico
2. Dietary supplement
3. Having a particular sheen or luster
4. Views
5. Academic Bill of Rights
6. Automobile
7. When you anticipate arriving
8. Beef or chicken intestine
9. Conspiracy
10. Blood disorder
11. Long-time NBAer Shawn
12. Time zone
13. US, Latin America, Canada belong to
19. Upton Sinclair novel
21. What a cow does
24. Cavalry-sword
25. Ancient Greek war galley
26. Stars
27. Rebukes
31. Billion year periods
32. Some are in a bottle
34. Tears down
35. Lethal dose
36. Humorists
40. Midwestern US state (abbr.)
41. Frameworks
45. Rocker Billy
47. More thin
48. Dog
52. Habitual repetitions
53. State of fuss
54. Uneasy
56. Chemical compounds
57. More cognizant of reality
59. A place to build
60. Exclamation that denotes disgust
61. Supplement with difficulty
62. Very slick
63. Hill or rocky peak

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

# Goodworks Coffee HOUSE deliver gifts to children, teens in need

Goodworks partners with Hampden County Sheriff's Office, Rozki Rides

CHICOPEE – Another successful year where Goodworks Coffee HOUSE in Chicopee put in its efforts and collaborated with the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

For the holiday season, Goodworks asked the Department of Children and Families to give them a total of 200 names of kids from 0-18 that need Christmas gifts, and all received what they wanted because of the community's kindness.

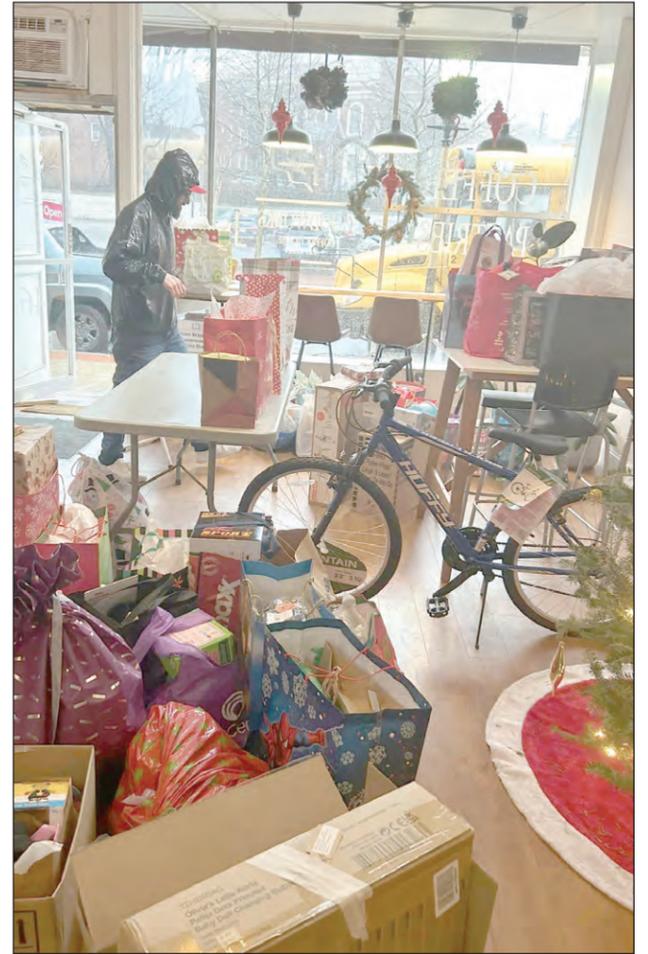
A huge shout to the Hampden County Sheriff's Office, who took on the task of getting 125 of the gifts.

All gifts, including Goodworks', were labeled to ensure that the kids received them.

Also, because there were so many gifts, Goodworks needed some assistance with getting them to DCF on the morning of Dec. 18. After a post was made, Rozki Rides checked in and offered her school bus. Her bus driver Ana brought the bus, and Goodworks was able to deliver all the gifts and a bike.

Jessica, you saved the day! Thank you!

Benny Beans, thank you for coming out and loading and unloading the gifts in the pouring rain. You are appreciated. Photos and caption courtesy of Goodworks Coffee HOUSE.



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### FUSUS from page 1

"So, they don't have to worry about people looking at their cameras," Watson said. "But they can feel comfortable knowing that they're only sharing when there's an emergency."

Other features of FUSUS, Watson shared, include sharing multimedia tips anonymously with FUSUSTips, FUSUS-Notify to receive notifications from the police department when there's an emergency, a map called FUSUSOps and the ability to receive links from dispatch to share live videos or live streams when a crime is occurring.

"Basically, it's taking the community, technology and law enforcement and combining them together for a holistic-type sense of public safety," Watson said.

For example, Watson shared how an elderly woman went missing in Atlanta, Ga. The responding officer was able to use FUSUS to access cameras in the area to track down the bus she got on and off.

The woman was found safe.

"They did it right off their phone, so that was just an officer showing up to a missing person basically and they were able to figure it all right just sitting there, all right on their phones," Watson said.

Watson thanked Mayor John Vieau and the City Council for their support, adding the community has already expressed interest in participating.

"They're already reaching out to us and asking us how they can partner with us, and we're getting there. We'll make that very known when we're ready to really get out there, but it's interesting that they're already reaching out and asking how they can help," Watson said.

Watson stressed reaching out to the community is part of the implementation process.

"We'll certainly make it very known when we're ready to reach out to the public and start soliciting help and camera registrations," Watson said. "There'll be a website, and we'll be able to point them right to that."

Watson wants the community to know "connected communities are safe communities" and law enforcement appreciates their support.

"We absolutely cannot do our jobs as well as we would like without the community's help, and it's just all about partnerships," Watson said. "This is just giving them another opportunity to help out."

To learn more, visit [FUSUS.com](http://FUSUS.com).

# IN THE CITY

## COLLEENS from page 1

available at ChicopeeSPC.com. Participants must attend several events leading up to the Coronation Ball.

On Feb. 11 at 1 p.m., the "Get Acquainted Social" will be held at the Portuguese American Club, and on Feb. 18 there will be a personality judging and rehearsal at the same location.

A second rehearsal will be held there on Feb. 19 before the pageant and contest on Feb. 24.

The history of the contest is considerable, said Parade Committee Member Mary Rodowicz, who will be honored with the Woods Award on Feb. 24 for her exemplary service to the committee and community.

Rodowicz joined the committee many years back when her daughter participated in the pageant. She described the history of the contest, noting that the public used to vote to decide the Colleen and her court.

"There were little applications and a list of candidates in the local newspaper, and they could send it in and vote for whoever they thought should be the Colleen," Rodowicz said. "A few years after that, that process was changed to one that more resembles the way we do it today, where we have a committee that selects some judges, and the judges are the ones that actually determine who should be the Colleen and the court based on a number of criteria."

Rodowicz noted that the contest "transcends generations," as the mothers of several recent participants participated in the contest 20 or 30 years ago.

Rodowicz also said the parade committee is unique in that



Kailyn Poniatowski was crowned as Colleen in 2023.

participants don't have to be Irish, a requirement in most of the surrounding communities.

"We're a very diverse community and a very diverse committee, but we can all come together and celebrate Irish heritage in anticipation of the parade on March 17. That just makes it very special," Rodowicz said.

Nicole Simard-Mendes is this year's contest coordinator. Her daughter Alivia was a member of the 2022 Colleen Court.

Simard-Mendes encourages potential participants to venture beyond their comfort zones. While it can be difficult to put yourself out there, the process will be rewarding in the end.

"It will definitely help you in the future with interviews

for college, when you do presentations at school, putting yourself out in that setting to be vulnerable enough to just go ahead and grasp it and go. It will also build your character and build your strength," Simard-Mendes said.

Simard-Mendes said it is a special opportunity to represent your city and be a helping hand or inspiration to others. On the night



Colleen Kailyn Poniatowski and her court pictured at Irish Night in 2023

of the Coronation Ball, she hopes that each contestant's poise and confidence break through.

"I hope for these girls to come out of this contest knowing that they can conquer anything they put their mind to," Simard-Mendes said.

For Prive, who is studying biology at Holyoke Community College, it is bittersweet that her

time on the court is nearing its end. Prive competed twice before being named to the court, and she encourages other girls not to give up on their dreams of making it big.

"You never know until you try it. You might even surprise yourself with what you can do," Prive said.



Members of the 2023 Colleen Court, pictured with Santa Claus during the holiday season.



The crown worn by the Colleen.



Members of the Colleen Court participate in a number of activities in the community throughout the year.



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- **Technology Competent:** Familiar with Microsoft Office Suite, company software programs, email, social media, text, online portals, live webinars, and updating the funeral home website as needed.
- **Clear Communicator:** Strong communication and grammatical skills, with the ability to proof work.
- **Meticulous Attention:** Monitor accounts and financials related to receipt books, deposit policies, and receivables. Close accounts when appropriate and complete product inventory.
- **Follow-through:** Ensure all funeral service delivery items, such as cremation permitting, death certificate filing, and other documentation, are carried out professionally and promptly.
- **Preparation Excellence:** Maintain neat and presentable office area and office equipment as necessary, take responsibility for inventory, and reorder office supplies as needed.
- **Active Team Member:** Participate in weekly updates with supervisors to share and exchange resources and ideas to meet goals; complete monthly and quarterly financial and administrative processes.

### What We Require:

- High school diploma or the equivalent
- Minimum three years of work experience in a small business office environment – funeral industry experience a plus
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Able to use and learn multiple computer software, systems, and other office equipment
- High attention to detail and accuracy, with excellent follow-up skills
- Able to establish and maintain effective internal and external work processes

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## IN THE CITY

# Girl Scouts kick off 2024 Girl Scout Cookie Season

WESTERN MASS. – Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts kicks off the 2024 Girl Scout Cookie season this weekend, the annual event in which Girl Scouts unbox their futures as young female entrepreneurs through the world's largest entrepreneurial program for girls.

During this highly anticipated time of the year, girls flex their entrepreneurial muscles and acquire important life skills like money management, team building, public speaking and decision making. All proceeds from cookie sales stay with the local council and troops to power Girl Scouts' amazing experiences year-round.

This year's theme, Unbox the Future, aims to remove social barriers that often keep girls boxed in. When bold, goal-getting Girl Scouts sell a package of cookies, they're doing much more than what's seen at face value. Girl Scouts do more than sell delicious treats—they're entrepreneurial powerhouses creating a more equitable future for themselves and the world. Every box of cookies sold provides invaluable experiences for Girl Scouts such as service projects, troop travel and summer camp.

This season, cookie lovers can enjoy the full assortment of Girl Scout Cookies, including fan favorites such as Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs and Do-si-dos as well as Trefoils, Lemon Ups, Adventurifuls, S'mores, and the gluten-free Toffie-tastic.

Nearly 4,000 girls in central and western Massachusetts participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, which provides vital girl-led entrepreneurial skills that build courage, confidence and character. As a result, girls obtain limitless barrier-breaking futures outside the box with transferable life skills. Girl Scouts can earn a variety of badges and awards to

develop valuable business skills including Cookie Business badges, Financial Literacy badges, Cookie Entrepreneur Family pins and Entrepreneur badges.

### How to Purchase Girl Scout Cookies This Year

If you know a registered Girl Scout, reach out to her to find out how she's selling cookies. If you don't know a Girl Scout, check out your local council's Girl Scout Cookie Finder to find a booth and purchase cookies.

Beginning Feb. 16, customers who do not already know a Girl Scout will also be able to purchase cookies to be shipped directly to their homes by entering their zip code into the Girl Scout Cookie Finder. This link can also be used to find a local booth, purchase cookies and/or to donate cookies for local community causes.

You can also text COOKIES to 59618 to stay informed about how to purchase Girl Scout Cookies and other exciting Girl Scout news. Learn more about the Terms and Conditions and the SMS Privacy Policy.

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts and their enthusiastic supporters have helped ensure the success of the iconic annual cookie program—and they've had fun, developed valuable life skills and made their communities a better place every step of the way. Girl Scout Cookie season in central and western Mass runs mid-January to mid-March.

Girl Scouts in grades K-12 can start their journey to fun, friendship and new experiences by joining the world's largest entrepreneurial organization for girls at any point in the year. Girls can join and adults can become a volunteer at [www.girlscouts.org/join](http://www.girlscouts.org/join).

## IN THE CLASSROOM

### COLLEGE NEWS

#### SNHU announces Fall 2023 President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2023 President's List. The fall terms run from September to December. The following President's List students are from Chicopee:

Mohamad Kariem Allam, Jennifer Rodriguez, Meghan Norton, Kevin Rowley, Brandon Loyd, Jeremy Oliveras, Laurie Darr and Paris Beaudette.

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## BUSINESS

# Freedom Credit Union 'Month of Giving' campaign

Cash donations accepted through Jan. 31

SPRINGFIELD – Throughout the month of January, Freedom Credit Union is collecting cash donations at all its branches throughout western Massachusetts to benefit the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless and its essential work.

"In the cold New England winter, individuals and families experiencing or facing homelessness are at peak risk," said Freedom Credit Union President Glenn Welch. "The Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless has been working on their behalf since 1981, providing programs to identify and address the accelerating challenges of poverty and

homelessness. We are proud to play a role in supporting their efforts."

The coalition is making a meaningful impact. In 2023 alone, it:

Assisted 3,683 households in 298 Massachusetts communities.

Provided 1,598 children living in poverty a bed of their own.

Helped 7,924 individuals representing 1,981 households avoid homelessness and displacement.

In 2024, the coalition aims to escalate its efforts to continue enhancing its mission, which is "to create lasting solutions to housing, income, health, education, and racial inequalities in all parts of the Commonwealth."

Freedom Credit Union is located in Chicopee at 1976 Memorial Drive.



Approximately 130 people attended Game Night at American Legion Post 452.



Groups formed as games were played at American Legion.

### GAME NIGHT from page 1

tatives such as the Friends of Springfield Vet Center, the South Hadley Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Massachusetts Vet-

erans' Association Inc., VET CENTER, Frost Call, the Granby American Legion, the Wounded Warrior Project and the Chicopee Rotary Club all contributed and were present on Dec. 28.

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# Sports

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Caleb Lundgren heads toward the goal.



Mason Peters wrists a pass away.



Connor McDonell sails the puck into the offensive zone.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

## Chicopee suffers shutout against Ludlow

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE—Longtime Ludlow hockey coach Paul Rivest probably wishes that his squad could score two goals in each period of every game.

The Lions accomplished that feat in a 6-0 shutout victory over Fay Division rival Chicopee at the Fitzpatrick Skating Rink in Holyoke, last Wednesday afternoon. The six goals was a season high for the Lions.

“We had trouble scoring goals early in the season,” Rivest

said. “We were able to score six goals on about 50 shots in today’s game. Everyone also had an opportunity to play in today’s game, which is a good thing.”

The Lions (3-3-1) had a 0-3-1 record after their first four matches. They then defeated East Longmeadow, and Oakmont Regional before reaching the .500 mark for the first time this winter against the Pacers (0-7), who co-op with four high schools.

“Our main goal coming was to reach the .500 mark,” Rivest said. “We dug ourselves a hole

before winning our first game of the season against East Longmeadow. That was a very big game for us.”

The Pacers base school is Chicopee High School, but none of the players listed on their hockey roster attend that school. The Pacers head coach is Chad McGillicuddy.

The players from Chicopee Comp are freshman Brennan Corcoran, freshman Bryson Labonte, senior Stephen Samson, freshman Oliver Nardacci, and sophomore Nathan Robitaille.

The players from South

Hadley High School are freshman Mason Peters, freshman Ryan O’Donnell, junior Brayden Grochowalski, junior Tyler Denison, junior Chris Walczak, senior Mike Beaulieu, and senior Devin Carleton.

The players from Granby High School are senior Connor McDonell, sophomore Max Kennedy, and sophomore Braydon LaDuke.

The Pacers also have four players from the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School, which is in Hadley.

Ludlow freshman netminder

Peter LeBorgne only had to make a couple of saves. He shared the shutout with sophomore Ethan Steigmeyer, who played the final six minutes of the game.

“I really didn’t want to take Peter out of the game because it would’ve been his first shutout in a varsity hockey game, but I wanted to give Ethan some playing time. He always works very hard at practice,” Rivest said. “Peter is only a freshman and he’ll eventually get his first shutout. They do get along with each

See **HOCKEY** page 8



Ashley Galica does a leg of the medley relay.



Dmitry Novikov swims the 200 freestyle.

## Pacers swept by West Springfield

CHICOPEE – Last Tuesday, Chicopee swimming opened the new year by suffering a sweep against West Springfield. The girls swim team lost 73-51 while the boys had a tough meet, falling 140-5. Both teams have yet to win a meet this season. They next face Holyoke on Jan. 12.



Mohammad Sayeed makes his way across the pool.



Joynixon Garcia does his part of a relay.



Natalie Irish goes for a win in the medley relay event.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

## Comp falls against Putnam

CHICOPEE – Last Wednesday evening, Chicopee Comp boys basketball suffered an 82-38 loss against Putnam Vocational.

The Colts saw their offense shut down for just the

second time this season. Four players were limited to just six points each, though the Colts did get scoring from eight different players in the game. Chicopee Comp is 6-2 so far this season.

## HoopHall Classic to be broadcast nationwide

The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced today the broadcast schedule for the 2024 Spalding HoopHall Classic, an annual basketball showcase now in its 22nd year. Games will be played at Blake Arena from January 11-15 at Springfield College, the Birthplace of Basketball.

ESPN is returning as a broadcast partner, with 10 matchups broadcast nationally across Sunday and Monday’s schedules. Coverage starts on Sunday with LaLumiere School, KY, vs. Prolific Prep, CA, at 1:30 p.m. Two matchups will be broadcast on ESPN2, five on ESPNU, and three on ESPN+.

Saturday’s slate of eight games, which will tip off with Bishop Hendricken High School (RI) vs. Gulliver Prep (FL) at 9 a.m. and conclude with Grayson High School

(GA) vs. Perry High School (AZ) at 9 p.m. will stream on the NBA App, with the first four games and last four games simulcast to NBA TV and NBA YouTube, respectively. Additionally, content and highlights from Saturday’s games will be featured on NBA Future Starts Now. This marks the first time that HoopHall Classic games and content will be featured on NBA platforms.

BallerTV continues as a broadcast partner for the event and will stream 14 games throughout the weekend.

18 of ESPN’s Top 25 High School basketball programs will be participating in the event: Montverde Academy (#1), Long Island Lutheran High School (#2), Paul VI High School (#3), Link Academy (#4), Christopher Columbus

See **HOOP HALL** page 12

## T-Birds suffer loss against rival Bruins

PROVIDENCE, R.I. -- The Springfield Thunderbirds (16-12-3-2) could not overcome an early blitz by the Providence Bruins (19-12-3-0) in a 6-3 loss on Sunday afternoon at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

It did not take the Bruins long to flex their offensive muscles, as John Farinacci slipped into an open area in front of the net, received a pass from Brett Harrison, and one-touched it past Vadim Zherenko to make it a 1-0 Bruins lead just 2:40 into the game.

Just 1:04 later, Justin Brazeau added to the advantage, taking a Georgii Merkulov pass and deking to the backhand past Zherenko on a point-blank opportunity. Anthony Richard added a third at 6:05, and before the T-Birds knew it, the home side had a 3-0 lead.

After a pair of matching minors

put the game at 4-on-4 for the first time, the Bruins found another seam in the defense, as Frederic Brunet made a perfect diagonal pass to the right post, where Ian Mitchell guided it into the twine, ending a potent first period for the Bruins with the 4-0 goal at 17:05.

Malcolm Subban entered in relief of Zherenko to start the second period, but the Bruins were not done on the attack, as Jayson Megna beat Subban on an odd-man rush from the slot, and the lead ballooned to 5-0 at 6:27 of the frame.

Despite the mountain of a deficit, the T-Birds showed tremendous character as Zach Bolduc and Adam Gaudette each found the back of the net behind Michael DiPietro in just a 2:12 span to bring the margin down to 5-2 at the 13:52 mark of the period. Bolduc's fifth of the

season broke a personal 11-game drought, and Gaudette scored for a third straight game, becoming the first AHL player to reach 20 goals this season.

The third period went 11 minutes with relatively minimal offensive chances for each team. Springfield would get another one as MacKenzie MacEachern roofed a shot from the right of the crease at 11:54 to cut the margin down to 5-3 off a slick set-up from Wyatt Kaly-nuk, but the comeback effort would not get any closer. Richard's second goal of the afternoon, a power play marker into an empty net, ended the scoring at the 17:54 mark of the third.

The T-Birds continued their four-game road swing on Wednesday night when they visited the Bridgeport Islanders.



Tyler Denison tries to work away from the sidewall.

**HOCKEY** from page 11

other very well."

Senior defenseman Brice Pereira, who's also a captain, gave his thoughts on the Lions first shutout of the regular season.

"It feels great to post our first shutout of the season," said Pereira, who was also a key member of the Lions golf team last fall. "Peter is doing a very good job as our first year starting goalie. Ethan also played well at the end of today's game. We just want to keep on winning now."

Ludlow took a 1-0 lead five minutes into the opening period when a shot taken by sophomore Sean Kefalas from the blue line was redirected into the net by his classmate A.J. Stupak. Senior Ryan Kurtz was also given an assist.

"We haven't scored the first goal of the game very often this season," Rivest said. "It was nice to play with the lead for a change."

Two minutes later, senior Luke Martin received a pass from sophomore Nick Staeb before firing a one-timer past Chicopee junior goalie Damian Loinaz.

The Pacers couldn't capitalize on three power-play chances during the final eight minutes of the first period.

Ludlow senior Thomas Deroin scored a power-play goal in the middle of the second period.

The duo of junior Ryan Goodwin and senior Cody Sanderson were credited with the assists.

With 1:43 left in the second period, Sanderson netted a short-handed goal, which gave Ludlow a comfortable 4-0 advantage entering the final 15 minutes of the contest.

The Lions also scored two more power-play goals in the third period.

Freshman Evan Dias, who had an assist in the East Longmeadow game, scored his first varsity goal less than two minutes into the final period.

Sophomore Tanner Severyn and Kefalas were credited with the assists.

Junior Michael Rubin closed out the scoring with his first varsity goal, which was assisted by Kurtz, with 1:46 remaining on the scoreboard clock.

The two hockey teams are scheduled to play a prime-time game at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield on February 8.

## Railers fall to Mariners on the road

PORTLAND, ME – The skate was on the other foot here Sunday afternoon, much to the Railers' dismay.

After spending a lot of the first part of this season crafting miraculous comebacks, Worcester had it happen in reverse, losing to the Maine Mariners, 4-2.

The Railers squandered a 2-1 lead as they allowed two goals by Alex Kile in the game's closing minutes, then an empty-netter by Curtis Hall at 19:59.

Kile's goals were his 19th and 20th of the season. The tying goal came with Maine on a power play at 17:09 of the third period. The winner was a 5 on 5 shot through a screen from about 55 feet at 19:33. It came after a Railers' mistake, an errant pass that led to an icing call and a faceoff in their own end.

Joey Cipollone and Anthony Callin scored the Worcester goals. Owen Pederson had the first Maine goal.

John Muse stopped 25 of 28

Maine shots. Brad Arvanitis was excellent for the Mariners with 34 saves.

Worcester had a chance to put things out of reach earlier in the third period but could not capitalize on more than three straight minutes of power play time, much of it skating 5 on 3.

The first period was a real trip for the Railers, but in the worst way.

Referee Michael Zyla did not call a penalty and missed a blatant trip that took down a Worcester player and it cost the Railers a goal. It happened at 11:12, or just before that, as Riley Piercey controlled the puck along the right wing boards in the Worcester zone.

As Piercey began to move out he was tripped. The puck wound up on Pederson's stick. He carried it into the slot and popped a high backhand past Muse.

Otherwise, Muse and Arvanitis were equal to the task to make 18 combined saves.

It took Worcester a while to tie

the game but Cipollone finally did at 5:02 of the second period. He entered the Maine zone with Piercey on his right and one Maine defender between them. Cipollone took the puck in deep and his wrist shot broke through Arvanitis to make it 1-1.

Worcester made it 2-1 about seven minutes later on Callin's power play goal. He was set up by Blade Jenkins and zipped a 40-foot wrist shot just under the crossbar for the go ahead goal. The goal snapped an 11-game drought without one for Callin, although he had seven assists in that time.

Jenkins continued a very productive run of games with the assist. He is 2-9-11 in the last eight.

The Railers' next game is Friday night at the DCU Center, the first in a three-in-three versus the Norfolk Admirals. Worcester and Norfolk are likely to jockey for play-off position for the rest of the season and the Admirals have been leading the series to date, winning four of the five meetings.



Nathan Robitaille heads up the right side.

**HOOP HALL** from page 7

High School (#5), Prolific Prep (#7), Arizona Compass Prep (#8), Don Bosco Prep (#9), La Lumiere School (#11), Harvard-Westlake High School (#12), Brewster Academy (#13), IMG Academy (#14), Bishop O'Connell High School (#15), Gonzaga College High School (#16), Oak Hill Academy (#17), Archbishop Stepinac High School (#19), Grayson High School (#24), and McEachern High School (#25).

Ten of the last 12 No. 1 overall picks in the NBA Draft have played at the Hoophall Classic. This year, Hoophall Classic will feature 43 players in ESPN's Top 100 from the Class of 2024, 18 from the Class of 2025 Top 60, and five from the Class of 2026 Top 25.

The tournament will feature four women's games this year. Eight of the Class of 2024's HoopGurlz WESPN Top 100 recruits will be featured, five from the Class of 2025's Super 60, and two from the Class of 2026's Terrific 25.

# SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper?

Email your image(s) with description to:

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



# CAREER Education

## HCC announces healthy cooking series for new year

If you've made a New Year's resolution to eat healthier in 2024, Holyoke Community College might have just what you need.

The college is running a series of noncredit cooking classes this spring focused on diabetes but geared toward anyone interested in learning how to prepare healthier, more nutritious meals.

Classes in the "Nutrition for Diabetes" series run either on Tuesday or Wednesday nights beginning Feb. 7. All classes are held at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St., and taught by Marissa Chiapperino, a registered dietician and instructor in HCC's Culinary Arts program.

"Certain foods can lower your risk of heart disease and diabetes or help to manage it," Chiapperino said. "Making healthy adjustments to your daily meal plan does not have to be hard or boring. Oftentimes, adding in sources of healthy fats, whole grains, and high fiber fruits and vegetables can boost flavor and decrease the risk of chronic disease."

Each three-hour, stand-alone class will focus on a different theme. The first

hour will be an education session with Chiapperino, followed by a two-hour hands-on cooking activity after which participants can take home leftovers and recipes that align with the nutritional topic of the evening.

Wed., Feb. 7, 6-9 p.m.: "What is a carbohydrate?" (white bean egg shakshuka, breakfast casserole, overnight oats, vanilla bean pancakes, salmon toast)

Tues., March 5, 6-9 p.m.: "What is a protein?" (grilled skirt steak with chickpea salad, fideo, raspberry chicken, tahini-baked cod)

Wed., March 20, 6-9 p.m.: "What is a fat?" (smoothie bar, zucchini fritters, roasted chickpeas, cheesy egg souffles, Vietnamese spring rolls with peanut sauce)

Wed., April 17, 6-9 pm.: "How to read a food label" (grilled swordfish and pepper salad; chicken, lemon and olive bake; sweet potato berry muffins; easy breakfast salad; cheddar and herb savory overnight oats)

Tues., April 30, 6-9 p.m.: "What is a carbohydrate?" (desserts for diabetes:

chocolate date spread, oatmeal cookies, orange chamomile blondies, homemade popcorn four ways, caramelized spiced pears)

In addition, on Tues., April 2, from 6-9 p.m., Chiapperino will lead a similarly structured class on meal planning, "Building a balanced meal," featuring chilled avocado and cucumber mint soup, eggplant and lentil meatballs, chili-stuffed spaghetti squash, kale and fava bean salad, and grain-free granola.

"Making dietary changes can feel overwhelming," she said. "In this class, we will talk about how meal planning can make or break your ability to lead a more nourishing life with food. The concepts discussed will be suitable for those with many different health concerns and also those who just want to get more comfortable in the kitchen."

Chiapperino holds a bachelor of science degree in dietetics from the State University of New York at Oneonta and a masters of public health from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She specialized in medical nutrition therapy for critical care and oncology at West-



chester Medical Center in New York and was the first bariatric dietician at Holyoke Medical Center, where she helped build their nutrition program.

She is a past president of the Western Massachusetts Dietetic Association and currently serves as executive secretary.

Each session is \$84. For more information, or to register for classes, please go to [hcc.edu/healthy-cooking](http://hcc.edu/healthy-cooking)

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# CAREER Education

## Hampden Charter School of Science marks 14 years of educational excellence

Hampden Charter School of Science (HCSS) is a top-ranking free college-preparatory public school founded in 2009 and serving families with students in grades 6th-12th at two campuses in Western Massachusetts: HCSS-East (Chicopee Campus) and HCSS-West (West Springfield Campus).

HCSS proudly provides seven years of unparalleled college preparatory education for grades 6-12 students, paving the way for college admissions and a wealth of scholarship opportunities. College and Career Readiness at HCSS is a tailored process forging the best possible alignment between each distinctively talented student and the most suitable college or university for them. Students collaborate closely with their counselors to delve into their manifold talents and interests, set aspirations based on these insights, and identify colleges that align with their ambitions.

- College Board AP Capstone Diploma Program: A prestigious program that enhances research, analysis, and presentation skills.
- Focused Attention in Small Classes: With an average class size of fewer than 20 students, each individual receives the attention they deserve.
- University Partnerships and Dual Enrollment: Engage in university outreach programs that offer dual enrollment opportunities, bridging the gap between high school and college.



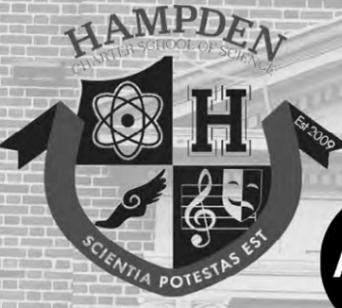
- Enhanced College-Prep Curriculum: HCSS's amplified curriculum prepares students comprehensively for higher education.
- Early SAT and PSAT Preparation: To build a strong foundation, Rigorous SAT and PSAT training starting in 8th grade.
- Comprehensive College and Career Guidance: A thorough guidance program that starts as early as 6th grade, equipping students for future academic and career choices.
- Experiential College Campus Visits: Hands-on learning through college campus tours and informative sessions, providing real-world college experience.

- Community-Driven Guest Speakers and Career Workshops: Gain insights from guest speakers and partake in career workshops led by community professionals.
- Consistently High College Acceptance Rates: An impressive average college acceptance rate of 95% since 2014.
- Substantial Scholarship Achievements: More than \$51M in scholarships raised since 2014.

**HCSS Curriculum Highlights:**  
• Project-Based Instruction and Con-

textual Learning: Engage in real-world problems and hands-on projects that bring learning to life.

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  - Advanced Placement (AP) Opportunities: Access 14 AP courses starting in 9th grade to challenge and elevate academic capabilities.
  - Early Honors Courses: Availability of honors courses beginning in 7th grade for an academically accelerated path.
  - Inquiry-Driven Curriculum: A focus on fostering inquiry, discovery, innovation, and collaboration in learning.
  - Comprehensive Support Services: SPED and ELL services ensure that 100% of at-risk students meet high school MCAS graduation requirements.
  - Extensive Tutoring Programs: Free in-school, after-school, and Saturday Academy tutoring, in addition to 24/7 online support in all subjects.
  - Project Lead The Way (PLTW): A new addition fostering STEM skills through hands-on projects and real-world challenges, preparing students for future innovation and leadership.
- Apply by March 3, 2024, for grades 6th-10th at [www.hampdencharter.org](http://www.hampdencharter.org).



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SCAN



# CAREER Education

## St. Michael's Academy to hold Open House

Are you looking for a school that educates each of its students as an individual? Are you looking for dedicated teachers who want their students to succeed? Are you looking for a school that combines faith with education in order to teach strong moral values, respect and kindness? Are you looking for a school with a structured environment that promotes learning?

Then we have a school for you!

St. Michael's Academy, located at 153 Eddywood Street in the East Forest Park section of Springfield, invites you to an Open House and Curriculum Fair on Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024. There will be a special presentation for prospective students and their families that will begin at noon. The event will include an information session, followed by a panel of students, teachers

and parents for questions and finish with a full school tour. The full school will be open to visitors with teachers in each of the classrooms to accommodate questions.

Attend the Open House and learn what St. Michael's Academy can offer your child. St. Michael's Academy is not just books and papers. The educational process strives to form the entire child academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally. The dedicated teaching faculty truly care about their students and want them to learn, grow and succeed. The final result is a graduate who is well prepared for high school, college and beyond. Each student takes with them a solid foundation for continued growth and achievement, having learned the value of respect, kindness and community service.

Unable to attend the Open House on January 28th? Simply call the Admissions Office at (413) 782-5246, ext. 1208 and schedule an informational session and tour.

St. Michael's Academy is located off of Plumtree Road in Springfield, directly behind Holy Cross Church. The Academy educates students from preschool 3 years old, through grade 8. It is the largest Catholic elementary school in Western Mass and the only Catholic elementary school in Springfield.



## Apex Homecare of Western MA expands programs and staffing to meet growing needs in the elder care arena

Direct Support Professionals at Apex Homecare of Springfield provides home care aides to increase independence for the people with disabilities and seniors, every day.

Caregivers and students pursuing a degree in the healthcare field are encouraged to contact the agency to take advantage of Apex's Direct Support Professional (DSP's) training program. To attract top quality Aide's, the agency provides attractive benefits and a career path.

The direct care worker shortage is a global issue, stretching well beyond Massachusetts. In the U.S., 3 out of every 4 agency providers has a wait list for caregiving services. According to the Global Coalition on Aging Report, 70% of Americans who reach age 65 will need long-term services and support. If nothing changes, the report predicts there will be a national shortage of 151,000 care workers by 2030, and a 355,000-caregiver shortfall by 2040.

Pew Research states that one in four Americans live with a disability that interferes with activities of daily living and a recent national survey reports 90% of Americans age 50 and over want to 'age in place'.

To compound the situation, demand in the family caregiving market is increasing as well. Currently, 53 million Americans serve as family caregivers and the number is growing.

An Executive Order from the White House signed in April 2023 offers new



Direct care workers and students pursuing a degree in healthcare are encouraged to contact Apex.

resources to remedy the caregiver shortage crisis to meet increased need. It is the most sweeping set of executive actions to improve care in the nation's history and takes immediate action to enhance job quality for the direct care workforce. Like many of Apex's services, the Executive Order also provides resources for family caregivers that foster emotional well-being and stems the financial and health strain that caregiving has on a family.

### About Apex Homecare

Apex provides a safe, compassionate and friendly atmosphere to enable the client to enjoy and maximize the excellence of life in the comfort of his or her home. If you or a loved one needs services, contact Cheryl Rumley RN at Apexhealth01@verizon.net. If you are seeking a career in the caregiving, disability or healthcare field, visit the Apex career page.



## St. Michael's Academy

### Attention Elementary School Teachers!

Looking for a rewarding teaching experience?

St. Michael's Academy will be hiring teachers for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Interested? Send your resume to [a.dougal@smaspringfield.org](mailto:a.dougal@smaspringfield.org).



Looking for a new school for your child?

Join us on Sunday, January 28th

at noon for an

### Open House

Learn what St. Michael's Academy can offer YOUR child!

St. Michael's Academy, 153 Eddywood St., Springfield, MA  
Check us out at [smaspringfield.org](http://smaspringfield.org)



## Apex Homecare

Turning your family's challenges into solutions

Deliver Excellent Care in a Safe & Supportive Environment

### Apex Homecare has immediate Openings

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Agawam          | Monson           |
| Amherst         | North Brookfield |
| Belchertown     | Northampton      |
| Bernardston     | Palmer           |
| Brookfield      | Russell          |
| Chicopee        | South Hadley     |
| East Longmeadow | Southwick        |
| Easthampton     | Springfield      |
| Grafton         | Ware             |
| Granby          | Warren           |
| Granville       | West Brookfield  |
| Hadley          | West Springfield |
| Holyoke         | Westfield        |
| Longmeadow      | Wilbraham        |
| Ludlow          |                  |

Hiring experienced CNA's, HHA's and training new staff looking for a career in Home Care.

Also, online training in your own home at your own pace. <https://mahomecaretraining.org>

Hourly rates range \$17.00 to \$22.00.

Work Close to Home! Mother's Hours Available! Great for Retirees Looking to Supplement Their Income.

Apply: [Apexcares.com](http://Apexcares.com)

Call 413-746-4663

or scan the QR code





# CAREER Education

## Come and see what great things are happening at St. Stanislaus

St. Stanislaus School in Chicopee is under the new leadership of Principal Katherine Rorrio, who fully appreciates the Franciscan values and long-standing traditions of the school. Mrs. Rorrio is a graduate of the school, was a teacher at the school for 20 years, and is now Principal.

This year the school's theme is "For it is in giving that we receive", an inspirational quote from St. Francis about the value of giving back. Students are focusing on a different Corporal Work of Mercy each month. Some of the Corporal Works of

Mercy that have been covered are - Feeding the Hungry and Working for Peace. The most recent Work of Mercy was Shelter the Homeless. Students and families collected 100 blankets, 50 hats, coats, and many undergarments that were donated to a local homeless shelter to help those in the community. Service projects are done throughout the year to help teach students the value of giving back.

The school will be holding an Open House on Sunday, Jan. 21 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (no appointment needed).

If you would like to schedule a private tour for another time, please call the school to schedule an appointment at (413) 592-5135.

St. Stanislaus School is a Roman Catholic, Franciscan, co-educational Pre-K through 8th grade school. Students are assisted in developing their potential spiritually, physically, and socially within a safe and diverse community. A foundation of academic excellence is created to prepare students to become contributing members of a global society. The school

has a welcoming Franciscan environment, modern air-conditioned facility, strong core curriculum, enrichment classes, certified faculty, full-day preschool (PreK3 and 4) and Kindergarten, free breakfast and hot lunch, before & after school program, and one to one use and integration of iPads and Chromebooks into curriculum. Financial Aid is available. Interested students are invited to "spend a day with us". To learn more please visit [www.saintstansschool.org](http://www.saintstansschool.org).

We can't wait to meet you!

### ST. STANISLAUS SCHOOL

SERVANT LEADERS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

**OPEN HOUSE**  
SUNDAY, JAN. 21, 2024  
11AM-1PM

- Welcoming Franciscan environment
- Strong core curriculum
- Enrichment classes
- Certified faculty
- Full day Preschool & Kindergarten
- Free breakfast and hot lunch
- Before & After school program
- One to one use and integration of iPads & Chromebooks into curriculum

PREK - 8TH GRADE SCHOOL  
PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Call us for more information and to schedule a tour. We welcome the opportunity for you to experience St. Stanislaus School! Interested students are invited to "spend a day with us."

Accredited

Reader RAVES 2023  
BEST PRIVATE SCHOOL

[www.saintstansschool.org](http://www.saintstansschool.org)  
534 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013  
413-592-5135

## Explore Your Passions. Be a Leader. Choose MacDuffie.

### THE MACDUFFIE SCHOOL

## OPEN HOUSES

Saturday, February 3, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 6, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The MacDuffie School is a special place, and it all begins with our mission:  
*To foster in all students the intellectual habits of mind, high ethical standards, and respect for diversity required for becoming effective individuals in their personal and work lives, and moral and responsible participants in the world beyond.*

*There's no better way to get a feel for The MacDuffie School than spending time with us!*

Please register for our Open House at [www.macduffie.org](http://www.macduffie.org) or contact the Admissions Office at (413) 255-0000 to reserve your spot.

**Come Be A Part Of Our Community!**

66 School Street  
Granby, Massachusetts

[www.MacDuffie.org](http://www.MacDuffie.org)

For Students  
in Grades 6 through 12

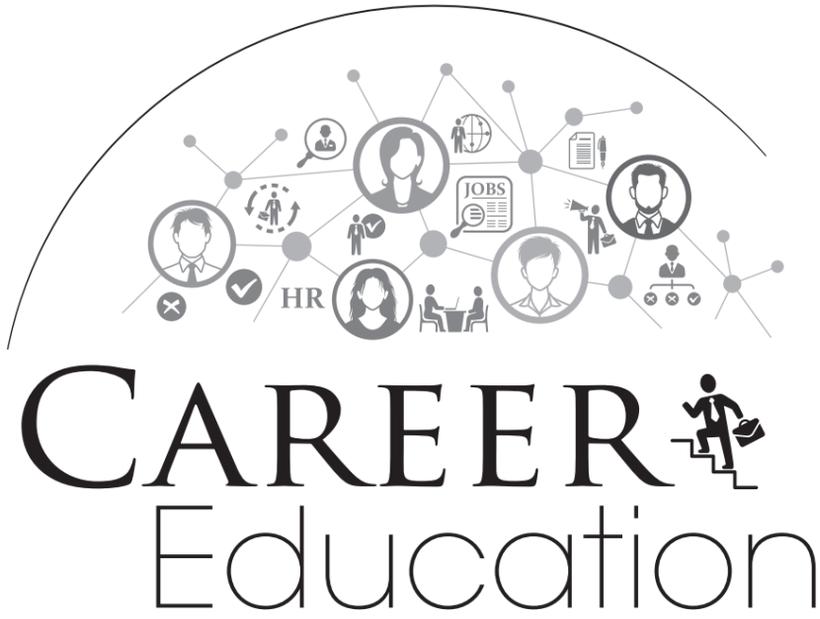
## A NEW YEAR! A NEW CAREER! A NEW ADVENTURE!

### EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS IN 2024

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES AT GÁNDARA, CONTACT THE RECRUITERS DIRECTLY!

**KIRSY SEGARRA -**  
**KSEGARRA@GANDARACENTER.ORG**

**LUIS COLON -**  
**LCOLON@GANDARACENTER.ORG**



# CAREER Education

## Explore the difference at St. Joan of Arc School

Explore the difference at St. Joan of Arc School in Chicopee! Lively Letters and OSMO Tangible Play programs have been added to our PreK and Kindergarten programs. Lexia, a phonics instruction that gives students independent practice in basic reading skills, is now offered to Kindergarten through Grade 8 students. And a Robotics Curriculum is coming soon for our 8th graders.

The school will be holding an Open House on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (no appointment needed). Appointment only tours for families will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 30 and Thursday, Feb. 1 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Please call Chris or Janine in the Business Office at 536-6038 for registration information or to make

an appointment.

St. Joan of Arc is a welcoming, safe and secure school community providing social, physical, spiritual & intellectual wellness for students in Pre-K 3 to Grade 8. SJA has innovative offerings that include affordable tuition and extended care, free breakfast and lunch, extracurricular programs to include Chess, Book and Lego Clubs, as well as a Performing Arts Club. Computer fundamentals with intro to computer science, music, library, and Duolingo language classes are also offered. Located at 587 Grattan St., Chicopee offers easy access to I-391 & I-90. Financial aid and tuition assistance is available. To learn more visit [www.sjachicopee.org](http://www.sjachicopee.org).

We look forward to meeting you!

**St. Joan of Arc School ~ Pre-K to Grade 8**  
587 Grattan Street, Chicopee ~ 533-1475 ~ [sjachicopee.org](http://sjachicopee.org)  
*Learning Rooted in Christian Values*

## OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday, January 27th 9am-12 noon**  
*No Appointment Needed*

**January 30th & February 1st 3pm-7pm**  
*By Appointment Only*



**Affordable Tuition & Extended Care**  
**Free Breakfast & Lunch**  
**Extracurricular Programs**  
**Technology ~ Phys. Ed**  
**Music ~ Library ~ Duolingo**  
**Welcoming, Safe & Secure School Community**  
**Social, Physical, Spiritual & Intellectual Wellness**  
**Easy Access to I-391 & I-90**  
**Tuition Assistance Available**



### Teaching the Next Generation

Are you passionate about making a positive impact on young minds within a dynamic public school environment? Springfield Public Schools is seeking knowledgeable, highly effective, diverse educators, to join our K-12 district!

Be part of a school system that is thriving in *A Culture of Equity and Proficiency* serving over 26,000 students.

**TO APPLY**  
Visit our website  
or scan the  
QR Code!



## Join Our Team!

# WE'RE HIRING!

[springfieldpublicschools.com](http://springfieldpublicschools.com)



springfieldk12

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-59 (C) 6 for the purpose of obtaining a beer and wine license for Aesthetic Beauty Revolution located at 20 Center Street. Roxanne Roman, 76 Elmwood Avenue, Holyoke, MA 01040.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The January 31, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>)

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-58 (C)(5) for the purpose of one residential unit in a business building located at 277 Grattan Street. Applicant - Tan Tan & Associates, LLC, Zhi Tan, 39 Beauregard Terrace, Chicopee, MA 01013.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The January 31, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 01/12, 01/19/2024

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-58 (c)(5) for the purpose of a property becoming a mixed property. The creation of one residential unit in a business building located at 386 Chicopee Street. Applicant - Dance Dynamics/Angela Klusmen, 386 Chicopee Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The January 31, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 01/12, 01/19/2024

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-30 B for the purpose of 15 temporary trailer or seabox container storage October 1 through January 31 to assist with Walmart's needed extra storage for holiday mer-

chandise. Waiver requested - duration of temporary trailers on site, where 14 days is permitted, and 120 days are requested located at 591 (545) Memorial Drive. Applicant - Walmart, Wendy Hubbard, 591 Memorial Drive, Chicopee, MA 01020.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The January 31, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 01/12, 01/19/2024

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103

**Docket No. HD21P0485GD HD21P0486PM**  
In the interests of **James Forhan**  
Of: **Chicopee, MA**  
**RESPONDENT**  
**Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person**  
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR RESIGNATION OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON AND/OR CONSERVATOR**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Karen Griffin of Holyoke, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Accept the Resignation of the Guardian and/or Conservator of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a

written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/06/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expenses.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court  
Date: January 02, 2024

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
01/12/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD24P0029EA**  
Estate of:  
**Stephen M Joseph**  
**Date of Death: 11/19/2023**  
**CITATION FOR PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Frank Kenney Springfield, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Frank Kenney Springfield, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Corporate 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 02/02/2024.**

**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: January 05, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
01/12/2024

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

**Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on January 22, 2024, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2003 BMW 325Xit  
VIN:WBAEP33403PF02679  
Bruce Alvarez  
21 Kenway Dr.  
Springfield, MA 01104

2003 Honda Accord  
VIN:1HGCM66503A080004  
Tania Ortiz  
53 Andrew St. #1  
Springfield, MA 01109

2005 Acura TSX  
VIN:JH4CL96895C003912  
Carmen Martinez  
27 Deerfield Ave., Floor 3  
Hartford, CT 06112

2005 Ford Explorer  
VIN:1FMZU74E15UA44871  
April Cullinan  
77 Hollis St  
Lowell, MA 01852

2005 Ford F150  
VIN:1FTRF12W65NB40383  
Le Grand Bello Trans. & Shipping  
63 Joliette St. #4  
Manchester, NH 03102

2005 Volkswagen Touareg  
VIN:WVG7L75D012042  
Yaritza Batista  
350 Liberty St., Apt. 3L  
Springfield, MA 01104  
2006 Audi A4  
VIN:WAUDF78E56A007079  
Tatyana Rios  
18 Coomes St. Apt. 1R  
Springfield, MA 01108

2007 Honda Pilot  
VIN:2HKYF18456H510614  
Stephen Elijah Jahred  
362 Dixwell Ave.  
New Haven, CT 06511

2006 Lexus RX330  
VIN:2T2HA31U26C106401  
Sean Menard  
PO Box 225  
Haydenville, MA 01039

2006 Nissan Pathfinder  
VIN:5N1AR18W36C610115  
Rachel Mello  
6 Independence Way Apt. 203  
Franklin, MA 02038

2010 Ford Taurus  
VIN:1FAHP2DW7AG136181  
K'ily Ro'land  
1883 Main St. Unit 3633  
Springfield, MA 01101

2010 Nissan Murano  
VIN:JN8AZ1MW4AW125942  
Lisa Roix  
63 Esther St. Apt. 3  
Worcester, MA 01607

2012 Ford Focus  
VIN:1FAHP3H22CL229875  
Connor Howe  
6931 Robert Dr.  
South Easton, MA 02375

2012 Honda Pilot  
VIN:5FN9F4H21CB053911  
Luke Andrews Higgins  
986 Longmeadow St.  
Longmeadow, MA 01106

2013 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter  
VIN:WD3PE7CC1D5737435  
K & River Construction Corp  
25 Jaques Ave.  
Worcester, MA 01610

2018 Ford Transit T-350  
VIN:1FTBW3XG9JKA96115  
Desmond Pesima  
152 Cascade Lake St.  
Las Vegas, NV 89148

2019 Benson Flatbed 524A  
VIN:1TTF483A6K3136043  
Center Transport Inc  
523 Houlton Rd.  
Easton, ME 04740

2019 Hino 258/268  
VIN:5PVDN8J4K4S74874  
Rentex Inc.  
110 Shawmut Rd.  
Canton, MA 02021

2019 Volvo Vn Vnl  
VIN:4V4NC9EHXKN872292  
Big Eagle Express LLC  
14433 Triskett Rd. 301W  
Cleveland, OH 44135

2021 Wabash Trailer  
VIN:1JJV532D0ML253839  
Big Eagle Express LLC  
14433 Triskett Rd. 301W  
Cleveland, OH 44135

01/05, 01/12, 01/19/2024



## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

## Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

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## FOR SALE

**MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY** performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today **413-296-4320**.

## FIREWOOD

**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volume **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178**

## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED **BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

### Buying? Selling?

Our Classifieds Get Results!



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Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.

We load it & take it.

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CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## SERVICES

**A DUMP TRUCK**  
Cleaning out attics, cellars, garages, estate cleanouts, scrap metal removal. **413-569-1611 or 413-374-5377.**

**DRYWALL AND CEILINGS,** plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**

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**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING** Kitchens, baths, Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-2783** Ron.

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## HELP WANTED

The Town of Huntington is seeking an **INTERIM TOWN CLERK.** This is a salaried position for approximately 18 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at [www.huntingtonma.us](http://www.huntingtonma.us) or by emailing [admin@huntingtonma.us](mailto:admin@huntingtonma.us). Applications are due by January 26, 2024. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

#### P/T ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK - ASSESSORS

Looking for a reliable P/T Administrative Clerk for our Assessor's Office. For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). Open until filled. EOE

### TOWN OF PALMER

#### INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS/ BUILDING COMMISSIONER

The Town of Palmer is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time position of Inspector of Buildings/ Building Commissioner. Must have certification as a local inspector by the State Board of Building Regulations and Standards and obtain Certification as an Inspector of Buildings/ Building Commissioner within the time limit allotted in Massachusetts State Building Code 780 CMP Section 110.R7. For a full job description please visit [www.townofpalmer.com/jobs](http://www.townofpalmer.com/jobs). Qualified and interested applicants should submit their cover letter and resume to Robert Reed [rreed@townofpalmer.com](mailto:rreed@townofpalmer.com).

### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

#### POLICE OFFICER

For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). Review of applications begins immediately. Open until filled. EOE

## HELP WANTED

**DATA ENTRY CLERK** and **Quickbooks** for local company. Call for more details **413-519-3321**.

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



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# IN THE CITY



## Air Force JR ROTC recognizes academic achievements of Cadets

CHICOPEE – In late December, the Chicopee High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp instituted a Kitty Hawk Honor Society to recognize the academic achievement of qualified cadets. The inaugural ceremony inducted 25 cadets based upon their leadership and academic achievement. Their accomplishments were displayed to their leaders, Major Kyle Bate, CM Sergeant Thomas Orifice, Mayor John Vieau, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), School Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware, Guidance Counselors Vecchiarelli, Harms, Kinney and Murphy, as well as the Cadets' families and friends.

It is important to recognize these individuals for their achievements, their leadership and their resolve. The new organization will be led by the Cadets in the future, as the new Society is now formed and organized.

Congratulations to all inductees!



Photos and caption courtesy of the City of Chicopee Mayor's Office.



## HEALTHY HEARTS Presentation & Cooking Demonstration

♥ Wednesday, January 24th • 9:30 – 11:30 AM ♥

"Healthy Meal Planning Tips for Older Adults"

With Helga LaCroix, MS, RD, LDN

Start the New Year off right and boost your nutritional knowledge with help from Day Brook Village Senior Living. Learn how to improve your health and wellness in 2024 from Registered and Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist Helga LaCroix, enjoy a cooking demo from Executive Chef Todd Graves, savor heart-healthy refreshments and take home a delicious, home-style lunch!

RSVP by January 17th. Call 413-420-5145, scan the QR code or visit [RSVPDayBrookVillage.org](https://RSVPDayBrookVillage.org).



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