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City Council approves bond authorizations

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE – The City Council approved several bond authorizations for the Water Pollution Control Department on April 21.

The bonds are the following.

\$700,000 appropriation for a Water Pollution Control Department Equipment Purchase of a Vector Truck for use by the city

\$550,000 appropriation to finance the construction of a Combined Sewer Overflow Flow Monitoring Project at various locations in Chicopee

\$12,700,000 appropriation to finance the construction for phase one of the Nitrogen Reduction Improvements Project at the Water Pollution Control Facility at 80 Medina St.

\$2,000,000 to finance the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Replacement Project for District Number Three

For the first bond, Mayor John Vieau explained how the treasurer was waiting to bond “to get the best rate.”

“We’re going out with

a whole bunch of what you’ll see, one-time capital purchases. We’re going for a big bond that you’ll see coming up, also, for wastewater nitrogen removal in addition to some grant money or federal earmarks that we’ve received and you’ll see other things coming up as we assemble them together,” Vieau said. “The Vac, it’s actually out of service and we’re renting one right now, but to be in compliance, we’d like to have two operating ones and the one that is in repair is getting closer to the end of its useful life.”

DPW Superintendent Elizabette Batista added the vector “is a piece of equipment that’s required for us to maintain our sewer system and our stormwater system.”

“We’re required to clean our mains as well as clean out our catch basins and just keep things free of debris so that we can minimize backups. We’re required to, actually, have two vectors in-house, but due to financial constraints and equipment failure, we

See **CITY COUNCIL** page 5



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A group photo of all the community members who helped U.S. Army Veteran Brian Dett get his new motorized scooter.

Veteran receives new motorized scooter

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE – U.S. Army Veteran Brian Dett received a new motorized scooter on April 21 after several community members rallied together to get him the support he needed.

Dett was gifted his new motorized scooter outside the Soldier On Veterans Housing on Meadow Street last Tuesday, where Paul Rogers, Jerry Loubier, John Baker, U.S. Marine Veteran Bob Costello, Christian DiLuzio, the Office of the Veteran Advocate Western Regional Liaison, and Bob “The Bike Man”

Charland gathered to present the donation.

Dett served from 1978 to 1982 and faces serious challenges, including limited mobility, limited income and unstable housing. His motorized scooter had been broken down for almost five years and he was unable to afford a replacement.

Due to this, Dett had to, occasionally, use his feet to glide backwards in the regular wheelchair he had.

After Rogers witnessed Dett during the wintertime using his feet to try and move backwards in his wheelchair, he wanted to do something

See **VETERAN** page 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF C. J. DUNLAP

Jacob Martinez, as lead Seymour Krelborn, about to feed Audrey II, as MJ Burnett, who played a live rendition of the hungry plant, watches on.

CCHS Drama Club performs 'Little Shop of Horrors'

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Drama Club put on a live performance of “Little Shop of Horrors” on April 9, drawing in a packed crowd

for the opening night showcase, and it was worth every penny.

The production featured fabulous vocals, standout acting, vibrant chemistry from the cast and seamless transitions, solidifying a night like no other.

After the final song of the production drew to a close, the cast all assembled on stage and took a final bow, which warranted a standing ovation, encapsulating the

See **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** page 6

Fundraiser supports Harmony House

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE – The community gathered at the View Street Tavern on April 23 for the Second Annual All-You-Can-Eat Pizza Fundraiser to support Harmony House of Western Massachusetts.

In addition to the pizza, attendees also enjoyed raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle and a cash bar. The celebrity bar-

tenders were RiverMills Senior Center Executive Director Sherry Manyak, Friends of RiverMills President Mike Wilk, City Council Vice President/Ward 6 City Councilor Sam Shumsky, Mayor John Vieau, Melissa Breor, executive director of the Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, and Brion Robert, part of the Cash Management Team at Westfield Bank.

The event’s proceeds

directly supported Harmony House.

The event sponsors were View Street Tavern—who donated the pizza and space for the event—Cedar Falls Construction, Lynn Harlow and Family, The Moran Family in memory of Dan Moran Sr. and the Putnam Academy Culinary Program, who provided dessert.

See **HARMONY HOUSE** page 8



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A group photo of some of the faces behind Harmony House of Western Massachusetts. The All-You-Can-Eat Pizza Fundraiser on April 23 supported the nonprofit organization.



Group consisting of the ACT, Chicopee Planning Department, along with Mayor John Vieau in the center.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

ACT Coalition hosts inaugural Chicopee Food & Wellness Fair

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The ACT–Advancing Chicopee Together–coalition, in tandem with the City of Chicopee, came together to host the inaugural ‘Chicopee Food & Wellness Fair’ from inside the Hub at Market Square on April 22.

The free event drew in more than a couple of hundred people, where many were greeted with a variety of local resources, such as tips and hands-on conversation on how to access local food pan-

tries, develop nutritional education and further the conversation on how to gain support for WIC and SNAP programs.

Reflecting on how the event came together was Liv Anna Homstead, Senior Manager of Coalition Building from the Public Health Institute of Western Mass.

“I feel this is a fabulous collaboration between the ACT and the work that is being put forth in the city to promote health equity, along

See **ACT COALITION** page 9

IN THE CITY

Councilor proposes banning out-of-state travel for conferences

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – During the April 21 meeting of City Council, one representative proposed an interesting ban.

While her motion was discussed, it was ultimately withdrawn and not adopted.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello motioned for the council to consider banning its members from attending out of state conferences due to the cost of the trips. She said the School Committee previously adopted the policy and has found success with it saving money.

“It was done on the School Committee and was very effective,” Costello said. “We have to look at tightening the belt.”

Costello said Mike Pise,

chief of staff for Mayor John Vieau, told her that the School Committee adopted the measure during difficult financial times.

“Because I have the experience of having this on the School Committee, I thought I would bring it up to us tonight because we do have to look at the budget and where we can go from here,” Costello said. “The chief of staff said to me that what’s happened in the School Committee, and it was very effective. Out-of-state travel was stopped for several years because of the budget.”

However, Costello acknowledged that Pise said this might not be possible to adopt for the City Council at this time, and President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme voiced this.

“I kind of agree with

Councilor Costello that we have to watch the money. That’s our job; I get that, but I did have a conversation with Councilor Costello regarding the time to probably look at and ask these questions is when we do our budgets,” Laflamme said. “Once we set our budgets, this money is already [allocated]. They schedule months and months ahead; six months ahead sometimes for courses.”

Despite this, Laflamme said the Mayor’s Office is looking at ways that travel expenses can be cut when it comes to out-of-state conferences.

“I agree, sometimes we send six or seven people to the same one. Why? Why aren’t we just sending a couple to verify certain things for us who are able to do that? So, I

agree with saving the money wherever we can, but I think this is not the time to do it,” Laflamme said.

Based on that, Costello made a motion to withdraw the item, which the board approved. Still, she emphasized the need to act moving forward.

“Regardless of what we do or do not do in regard to out-of-state travel, we have to be very serious about the budgets that are coming up. And, we have to do belt-tightening,” Costello said.

Councilor-at-Large Joel McAuliffe said he understood Costello’s intent but expressed that even if the original proposal was approved, the council would have “no ability to do anything.”

He said an ordinance would need to be created ban-

ning board members from participating in out-of-state travel.

“If that’s something she wants to pursue in the future, I would encourage an ordinance similar to the language that we have on the School Committee,” McAuliffe said.

Ward 7 Councilor Bill Courchesne said he understood the theory behind Costello’s original motion but noted that the School Committee and City Council “are a lot different.”

“You can’t live in a box and expect to grow your business acumen in the city to bigger and better things if we don’t learn from our peers and professionals,” Courchesne said. “Obviously, some people may think it’s a vacation for these people, but it’s truly not. Even when we go to MMA meeting, all 10 years I’ve

brought something back and had something on the agenda for 10 years in a row because there’s something to learn.”

Courchesne recalled important trainings he attended in the past, including ones on cybersecurity and sexual predators.

“You’re not learning that in the training room in the bottom of the police station. You have to go to these national trainings. You learn from the professionals, you learn what you need to do policy and procedure wise, and then you do bring it back to your peers,” Courchesne said. “So, these trainings, as much as they do cost the city a bit of money, what they bring back is ten-fold with what they teach their peers and the knowledge they have to do their jobs and grow the city.”

Keddy Boulevard needs review, councilors say

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Members of the City Council agree that Keddy Boulevard is in need of a review due to the increased amounts of truck traffic it is experiencing lately.

They just had different ideas of how to accomplish that goal entering last Tuesday’s City Council meeting. Fortunately, the approach appears to have been ironed out.

On April 21, Councilor-at-Large representative Joel McAuliffe proposed ordering the Department of Public Works and its engineering team to do a comprehensive study of truck traffic on Keddy Boulevard and its surrounding side streets, including New Ludlow Road and James Street.

He asked for this to occur within 60 days and include potential truck restrictions

and signage.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello was pleased to see the item appear on the agenda. She voiced support for McAuliffe’s idea.

“I support this motion. Keddy Boulevard, with trucks and traffic, has been a street that we’ve been reviewing for many years,” Costello said. “I’m happy that Councilor McAuliffe is following through with this, updating the traffic flow off of James Street. That goes right into Keddy Boulevard.”

While he saw the value in the motion, City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme explained why he would have to vote against it last Tuesday.

“I’m going to be voting no on this tonight because it’s very, very vague,” Laflamme said. “If it was Keddy Boulevard, I would have voted for it. We’ve been working on this and we had discussions

on this.”

Laflamme added that the motion should be asking the department heads to meet immediately regarding this potential review. He was not a fan of McAuliffe’s proposition to require a 60-day notice.

The board president also pointed out that it is unclear which side streets McAuliffe was referring to.

“Also, surrounding streets? Which streets do you want? Which are important and which are not? So, I’d rather get a list of the streets you want,” Laflamme said. “The Keddy one, I agree with that one because I’ve spoken with Councilor McAuliffe many times on this one. It’s been an ongoing issue, as Councilor Costello says. And that’s one that I would like to see.”

Laflamme made it clear that he would have supported the item if it simply asked for

a review of Keddy Boulevard, but he said the order should be more specific.

“Everyone’s going to start putting in general streets and do 10 streets,” Laflamme said. “So, I don’t think it’s fair to the DPW to do this and call and say, ‘Which streets do you want, Joel? What streets do you want, Councilor Costello or Laflamme?’ So, I’m going to be voting no on this.”

McAuliffe said he understood where Laflamme was coming from.

“Thank you, Mr. President. I agree with you, which is why I offered to withdraw this order in our prior conversation. So, I will now make a motion to withdraw. If we think it’s too vague, happy to withdraw,” McAuliffe said.

It is expected that the item will reappear at a future date, when McAuliffe modifies the order to reflect the necessary changes Laflamme pointed out.

Rotary Club of Chicopee Celebrity Bartender Event

CHICOPEE – The Rotary Club of Chicopee will be presenting a Celebrity Bartender Event on Wednesday, May 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the View Street Tavern.

Support your local celebrities!

5:30 p.m. John Arthur (Personnel Recruiter), Lou Arasate (Entertainment Director), Joe Peters (Plastics Manufacturing, Retired), Gene LaPierre (Entrepreneur, Retired)

6:15 p.m. Kirk Burnham, Sr. (Vice President, Polish National Credit Union), Jason Ouellette (Chicopee Concrete Service, Inc), Fred Borys (Real Estate Appraiser, Retired), Mike Vogel (VP Sales Manager, Westfield Bank)

7 p.m. Kat Lockridge (Entrepreneur, Retired), Scott Channell (General Manager, National Vinyl LLC), Karen Kirby (Broker/

Owner, HB Real Estate), Robert McNamara (McNamara Services LLC)

7:45 p.m. Mayor John Vieau (City of Chicopee), Jeffrey Sattler (Senior Relationship Manager, Liberty Bank), Kate Riley (Vice President/Realtor, Riley Home Realty), Chelsea Parker (Director of Chicopee Outpatient Services, River Valley Counseling Services)

DJ Services provided by Cote Entertainment and Raffle Prizes

This is a great opportunity to network with fellow business leaders in the community. Many are either current Rotarians, past Rotarians or prospective new Rotarians! Thank you for your support!

To support your celebrity bartender ahead of the event, visit chicopeerotary.org/donations.

Mother’s Day Weekend plan moms actually want

CHICOPEE – Skip the crowded brunch spots and the same predictable plans. This Mother’s Day weekend, Jess Miller Comedy is offering something entirely different: a night out where nobody needs you for anything. That’s exactly the point.

No brunch. No reservations. No pretending to enjoy it.

Just a high-energy comedy show for \$35, one night only in Chicopee.

For all the parents and empty nesters alike, Unsupervised Comedy (formerly Moms’ Night Out) comes to the Knights of Columbus in Chicopee on Saturday, May 9 for one night only. The show features a powerhouse ensemble of nationally touring comedians, too. Hosted by Jess Miller, featuring Peaches

Rodriguez, Kim DeShields, and headlined by Linda Belt, this night will deliver a fast-paced, high-energy night designed for adults who are long overdue for a break.

Unlike traditional event nights, Unsupervised Comedy keeps things simple - and a little more fun. Guests are encouraged to BYOS (Bring Your Own Snacks), making it easy to skip overpriced food options and create their own perfect night out.

“We started Moms’ Night Out in 2017 at the Hu Ke Lau,” said Jess Miller, the show’s producer. “We’re keeping the tradition going because moms deserve to laugh, and have a good time.”

“This is the kind of show that works for anyone who has ever been born,” Miller said. “If you have a mother,

are a mother, survived childhood, or just need a reason to get out of the house and laugh, this is your night.”

The show is rated R and is for audiences 21 and over. Doors open at 6:30 PM, and the show begins at 8:00 PM.

Event details

What: Unsupervised Comedy - Mother’s Day Weekend Comedy Show

Lineup: Peaches Rodriguez, Linda Belt, Kim DeShields, hosted by Jess Miller
When: Saturday, May 9, 2026 - Doors 6:30 PM | Show 8:00 PM

Where: Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Rd, Chicopee, MA

Price: \$35 - General admission (available online and at the door)

Extras: BYOS (Bring

Your Own Snacks)

Rating: Rated R - Ages 21+. Tickets: jessmillercomedy.com

About the performers

Peaches Rodriguez

Peaches Rodriguez is a nationally touring comic and regular in Atlantic City and Las Vegas who has appeared on CBS’s The Paula Abdul Show and performed by invitation at the world-famous Apollo Comedy Club. She has also been featured as a speaker at Yale University’s “Women in Comedy” panel.

Linda Belt

Linda Belt is a seasoned comic known for her sharp takes on marriage, parenting, and the absurdities of modern life. A regular performer

across the U.S. and Canada, Belt has appeared at major festivals including the Boston Comedy Festival and Women in Comedy Festival, and has performed at venues ranging from The Laugh Factory (NYC) to Mohegan Sun and Yuk Yuk’s International.

Kim DeShields

Kim DeShields is a dynamic performer with decades of experience who has appeared on Last Comic Standing, Nick at Nite’s Funniest Mom, and The Wendy Williams Show. A co-founder of Comedy As A Weapon, DeShields has opened for comedy heavyweights including Tracy Morgan, Mike Epps, and Leslie Jones, and is known for blending personal storytelling with sharp, relatable humor.

Scholarships for Class of 2026 graduates

CHICOPEE - St. Stanislaus School has two scholarships available for High School Seniors that will be attending college. One scholarship is for students that graduated from and attended, St. Stanislaus School for at least six years. The other scholarship is for students that belonged to the Junior Youth Ministry for a minimum of one year.

Applications are available at the School Office (Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) and at the Parish Office (Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Applications can also be emailed out by contacting: cconklin@saintstansschool.org.

Dream Designers

CHICOPEE – Join us for exciting and interactive STEM activities designed to ignite curiosity, creativity and critical thinking in children 2.9 to five years old and their families.

Explore, experiment and discover the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through hands-on experiences. Location: Szetela School, 66 Macek Drive, Chicopee. Time: 4 to 5 p.m. Dates: Wednesdays, April 29 through June 3,

Children must attend with an adult. The programs are offered by the Holyoke Chicopee Family and Community Program. Funded by the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. To register, contact Shane at 413-310-1632.

Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee to hold Designer Bingo Event

CHICOPEE - The Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee will hold their Designer Bingo event, presented by PeoplesBank, on Saturday, May 9 at the Chicopee Elks Lodge #1849 431 Granby Rd, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Doors will open at Noon and games begin at 1:30 p.m. Admission is a donation of \$30 pp or \$25 pp if you have a table of eight and includes 10 games for a chance to win a designer bag.

Attendees can enjoy lunch for a fee from Noon

to 1:30 p.m., cash bar, raffle prizes and a special raffle featuring a Louis Vuitton, which you must be present at the event to win.

For more information and to join in the fun, check out www.bgccchicopee.org.

About the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee

Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



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IN THE CITY

CPL hosts Mini Circus, 'Small But Mighty'

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The library hosted a Mini Circus “Small But Mighty” event on April 25.

This circus duo consists of Little L and Circus Celia.

There was a large turnout for the Mini Circus event with kids of all ages attending with friends and family to enjoy an hour of aerial and hula-hoop tricks, circus jeopardy and time to try some ticks out for themselves.

CPL Youth Services Coordinator Erin Daly shared how this new event came to be at the library.

“It just sounded like a wicked cool thing to do in our backyard. We love to hire like the wildest things we can, but we also love to mix them up. I’m happy that we are doing it during school vacation week, because this is a great time for big crowds in the library,” Daly said.

The show kicked off with the duo thanking the library as well as the Chicopee Cultural Council for making their show on Saturday possible. Then, hula-hoop tricks were performed by one of the members, Little L.

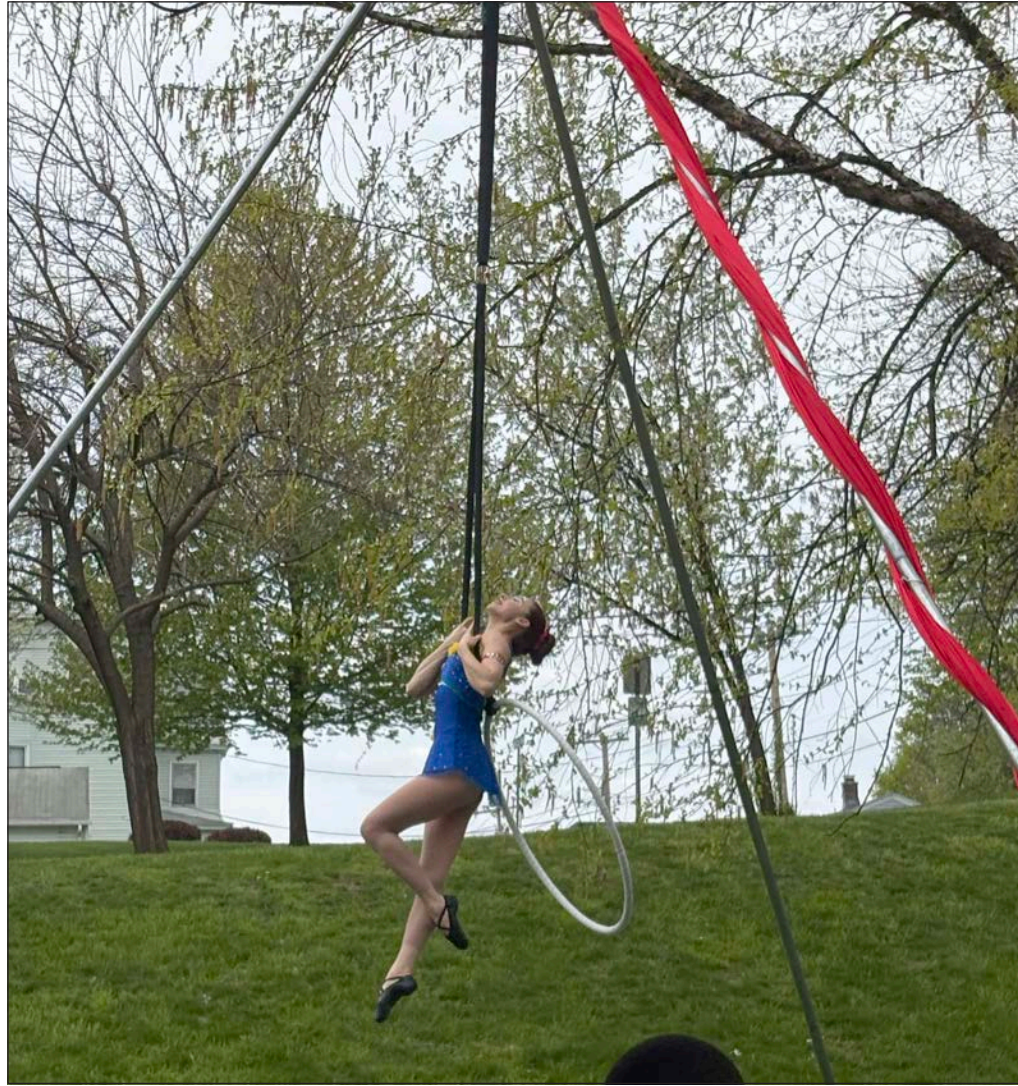
She got the crowd of kids involved by asking for suggestions on how she should attempt to hula-hoop. She didn’t disappoint.

She was able to balance whilst hula-hooping on her arms, neck, nose, and even finger. Then her counterpart, Circus Celia, took the stage. She performed a remarkable lyra hoop routine as well as a beautiful aerial silks routine.

After the show, the duo showed the kids how to do some of the hula-hoop balancing tricks.

The duo explained how they got started and what they enjoy about performing.

“This is our second year as an official duo, but we’ve been doing shows together for about 15 years,” Little L said. “We were collaborating as friends and performers for a really long time, and this kind of gelled. Because there was an opportunity for us to do it at some state fairs, and then when we know about the council grants, we thought, let’s bring this to as many libraries as we can.”



Circus Celia performing her lyra hoop routine.

“Circus is such a fun way to get kids to be active, and the library is a really important focal point of community. So, we’re really excited to be here and be part of all the cool offerings that they have,” Circus Celia said. “Reading inspires real life adventures. Kids are really receptive and open to being inspired, and so, to be able to put on the show for them, and then actually hand out some circus props and say, ‘You can do this too. This is your starting point.’ That’s a really great feeling.”

Little L shared what she loves about the circus.

“Circus is a version of a real-life adventure. I specifically love how kids have such active imaginations that when they see something, they almost aren’t sure if it’s real or if it’s magic, but what we are doing actually is real, even though it is also magical. And then they get to actually try some of those things with the workshop part of our show,” Little L said.

“I remember, when I was a kid, anytime that my family went to see something at our library or even like guest performers that would come to our school, like, I remember them now. And I think that really keeps me inspired to keep doing stuff like this, to be the person that they might remember.”

Thanks to the generosity of the Chicopee Cultural Council and the Chicopee Public Library, “Small But Mighty” was able to deliver a fun, inspiring show to community members. The event was free to attend, with no registration required.

It’s clear this duo has real passion for the tricks they perform and skills they have mastered over the years.

For more information about upcoming events at CPL visit, www.chicopee-publiclibrary.org.

For more information on “Small But Mighty,” you can find them on Instagram at [smallbutmighty_circus](https://www.instagram.com/smallbutmighty_circus).



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Little L performing a hula-hoop balancing trick.



The mini circus duo, Small But Mighty, consisting of Circus Celia and Little L.

Metro CDJR hosts 46th Annual Mopar Expo Car Show & Swap Meet to benefit local charities

CHICOPEE - Metro Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram is proud to host the 46th Annual Mopar Expo Car Show & Swap Meet on Sunday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at its location, 650C Memorial Drive in Chicopee, MA.

This long-standing community event will bring together car enthusiasts, families, and local vendors for a day filled with classic

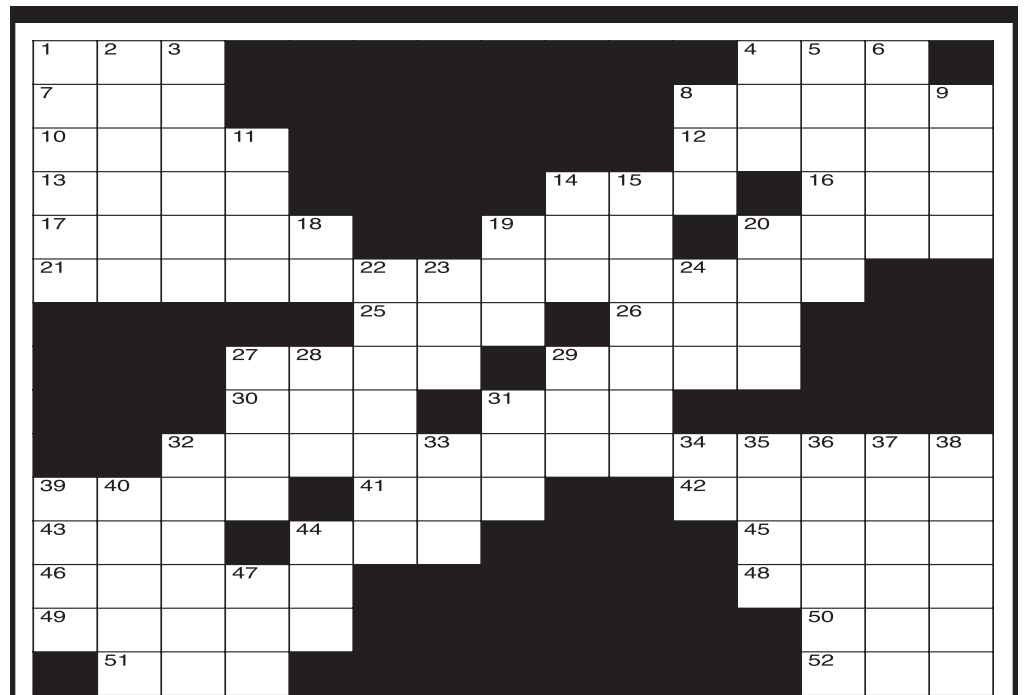
muscle cars, modern Mopar vehicles, and family-friendly entertainment. All vehicles are welcome, and attendees can enjoy a variety of activities including a swap meet, food truck, raffle prizes, and car show awards and trophies.

Beyond the cars, the event is centered on giving back. Proceeds will benefit Unbroken Wings and the

Children’s Miracle Network, supporting important causes within the local community.

The event is free to attend and open to the public. Vendor setup begins at 7 a.m., and day-of registration closes at Noon.

For more information, visit MoparInMotion.com or contact Ralph at 860-416-1228.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Purchase
4. British news organization
7. Midway between northeast and east
8. Language specialist group
10. Fancy automobile
12. Small loop or series of loops
13. Exploiter
14. Don’t know when yet
16. Group of languages
17. One who’s finished
19. After B
20. Angled
21. A place to adopt pets
25. Swiss river
26. Young boy
27. Unexciting
29. American comedian Vidale
30. Peyton’s little brother
31. Corporate higher-up
32. “All in the Family” star
39. Strike something forcefully
41. Up in the air (abbr.)
42. Clay earth pigments
43. Means to record brain activity
44. Small constellation
45. Embraces
46. Brief description
48. Exclude
49. White (French)
50. Insect
51. A major division of geological time

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of whale
2. In tune
3. A citizen of Yemen
4. Actress Ling
5. One who supports
6. Circus performer
8. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
9. Quantitative fact
11. Utah city
14. Where a golfer begins
15. Attendant
18. The ancient Egyptian sun god
19. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
20. Benedictine monk
22. Not turbulent
23. Car mechanics group
24. Buffer used in chemistry
27. Fall heavily
28. Pie ___ mode
29. The Brits love it
31. Children’s TV channel (abbr.)
32. Jacksonville footballer
33. Helps little firms
34. ___ and behold
35. A way to resemble
36. Fingers
37. Excessive indulgences
38. You might be an “empty” one
39. “How the West Was Won” writer
40. European river
44. They begin the alphabet
47. The body’s messenger

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OPINION

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



“Beets,” me

I was so happy to finally get into the vegetable garden this past week.

My peas seeds are sown! Yippee!

Next on my list is beets. I have to admit that I am no beet aficionado. In fact, I began eating beets only a few years ago.

Who knows what turned me off in my younger years. Maybe it was the fact that I only knew beets by way of a can – we never grew them in our home garden. They honestly didn't look or taste all that yummy, especially to a kid who ate a total of two other vegetables; that is, of course, if corn counts.

Anyway, I think what finally convinced me to include beets in my garden was the fact that the plants are multipurpose (you can eat both the greens and the roots) and beets themselves are wonderful “keepers.” Lately, there is a lot of talk about the benefits of eating them in relation to heart health.

Let me give you a brief run down on how to grow beets.

Beet seeds are unique in appearance. I can only describe them as multi-faceted “orbs.”

The orb is a grouping of seeds. You can go through the trouble of trying to separate them by way of wax paper and a rolling pin, but most folks don't bother.

Because the orb is thick, however, and moisture must penetrate it in order for it to germinate, a good soaking is beneficial. Although you can try starting beets nearly as soon as the soil can be worked in spring, it is probably best to wait until two weeks before the last expected frost.

In our location that translates into the first or second week of May. This timeframe will give them the most desirable soil temperature (sixty degrees plus) for germination.

Be sure that you keep the seed bed moist until the seeds pop up, and continue to provide at least one inch of water throughout the growing season if Mother Nature does not. Steady moisture will keep your beets sweet and crack-free.

I should also mention that beets prefer a soil that is slightly alkaline, and well-drained but fertile. In other words, sprinkle some lime and work a couple inches of compost into the soil!

Beet seeds should be sown an inch or so apart- my theory is to sow once and sow heavy. Because multiple plants may come from one “orb” it is critical that you thin your plants: first to

one and a half inch spacing and then, when beets are the size of a marble, to a final spacing of three inches apart.

Don't feel badly when you are thinning – you are honestly doing your plants a favor. Beets that are grown too close together will never develop to their full potential.

Instead of letting the thinnings go to waste, make a salad and be grateful for some early season greens. Even when beets are at their final spacing I will rob the patch of some leaves every now and then for the very same reason. As long as I am prudent, no harm will be done to the developing roots.

Some beet varieties are grown especially for their greens. Try “Bull's Blood,” an heirloom variety known for its large and sweet reddish-purple leaves. “Early Wonder Tall Top” is another oldie – prized as much for its early beet greens as it for its beets.

Looking for less leaf and more beet? Try “Detroit Dark Red Short Top.” Well over one hundred years old, this late variety is great for canning.

Beets also come in a wide array of colors. For a dependable and tasty yellow beet try “Touchtone Gold.” Another interesting heirloom beet is “Chiogga” (aka “Bassano”).

Cercospora Leaf Spot of Swiss Chard, Beets, and Spinach is a common fungus that appears as circular rings on the leaves, making them unsightly and barely edible.

There are a number of tactics that claim to help if this is a problem for you. Water at the base of the plant, and do it early in the day so it dries out by evening, especially in the summer months when humidity heightens the spread.

Likewise, if you make successive sowings, space them a distance apart from one another. There are organic and chemical means of control that are worth investigating.

If that's not for you, give growing these plants a break for two-three years and likely you'll be in the clear to attempt trying again. Some companies offer disease free seed, too.

It's worth looking into.

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

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Habitat for Humanity

By Brandice J. O'Brien
Marketing and Communications
Manager, Greater Springfield
Habitat for Humanity

WEST SPRINGFIELD - We believe in the power of a good laugh – especially when it helps support those who have served our country. In honor of May's Military Appreciation Month, Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) will host its first-ever Comedy Night on Friday, May 15. The event features local comedians Steve Nagle and Marty Caproni of Rock 102FM, who will bring an evening of high-energy entertainment to support a meaningful cause.

Doors open at 6pm and the show begins at 7, at AMVETS Post 12 in Chicopee. Tickets are \$25 each and will benefit Greater Springfield Habitat's Home Preservation Veterans Build program, which provides critical home repairs for low-income veterans who, due to age, disability, or family circumstances, struggle to maintain safe and functional homes.

“I've heard them on the radio talking about other shows they've done, and it felt like the perfect fit for our community,” said Aimee Giroux, GSHFH executive director. “At Habitat, we believe in creating events that bring people together and make an impact—while still having fun.”

Between them, Steve and Marty bring nearly 40 years of experience performing on stages across the United States and Canada.

Steve said he got his start 23 years ago when he took the stage at an open mic night at The Clubhouse Lounge in Holyoke.

“I bombed it,” he said, “and I haven't stopped since.”

In the past three years, Steve said he's really dedicated himself more fully to the craft. When Aimee approached him about partici-

pating in Habitat's Comedy Night, he immediately saw it as a “perfect fit.”

“I love doing comedy, and I love helping the community,” he said.

Marty, who said he began his comedy career nearly 20 years ago as a dare from a gym buddy, said he really enjoys watching Steve perform.

“Steve has worked really hard over the last few years and has gotten so sharp on-stage that I actually enjoy the nights when I'm done and can relax and watch him work,” Marty said.

At the Habitat Comedy Night, Marty and Steve are expected to each perform full headline-length sets.

“People are so divided nowadays,” Marty said. “Steve and I always talk about what a gift it really is that we can do things like this show to bring folks together, have them laugh and escape for a bit, while raising critical

funds for a great cause.”

Numerous veterans have benefitted from GSHFH's Home Preservation Veterans Build program, including Tom and his wife Dolores of Indian Orchard. Tom is an Army veteran who served in the 1960s. These days, Tom suffers from several heart-related conditions and balance issues.

Greater Springfield Habitat replaced the downstairs bathtub with a walk-in tub with grab bars, the ceramic tiles in the kitchen and hallway with laminate flooring; and rebuilt the exterior entryway and stairs.

“Greater Springfield Habitat is an absolutely phenomenal agency that helps the little guy, with low income,” said Tom.

Dolores agreed. “Knowing that there are people out there to help us is a blessing,” she said. “It's remarkable; it's like winning the lottery, but in a different way.”

Whether you're a long-time supporter or just looking for a fun night out, buy your tickets today at habitatspringfield.org/comedy.

An evening of laughter, a mission that matters
Habitat hosts comedy night to support local veterans

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Should I collect SS now or wait two years until age 70?

Dear Rusty:

I am 67 and 9 months old, collecting a modest SS survivor benefit with plans to collect my own much larger benefit at age 70.

I was confident this plan was a good one, but recent turbulent events make me nervous that cuts could come to

Social Security at any time without warning. Would it be prudent to file for my own Social Security as soon as possible so that my benefit might be “grandfathered” in before any sudden and drastic cuts occur? I do not generally panic, but these are unprecedented times. I would be quite

comfortable with the benefit listed on my 2024 statement for my current age; I was just hoping to maximize the benefit by waiting.

When I go to the Social Security website to view my 2025 annual statement to see the personalized monthly retirement benefit estimates for ages 68, 69 and 70 that section no longer shows. This omission makes me uncomfortable. Can I find out what my current benefit estimate would be for ages 68, 69 and 70? Or should I just rely on the 2024 statement?

Signed: Nervous in Portland

Dear Nervous:

Please do not be nervous that recent “turbulent

events” pose a threat to your future Social Security benefits. Those events do not, in any way, jeopardize your future Social Security benefits, because Social Security is completely separate from all other federal political issues and finances. The primary problem with Social Security became an issue long before the current administration took office.

The Trustees of Social Security have been warning Congress for decades that Social Security's finances require Congressional attention. The fact is that Social Security revenue (as predicted decades ago) became insufficient to pay all benefit obligations in about 2021. Since that time,

money from Social Security's reserved funds (Trust Funds) has been used to pay full benefits to all.

In 2020, there was nearly \$3 trillion in SS reserved funds, but that has now dwindled to about \$2.5 trillion as reserves are used to supplement SS payments. And that problem continues. The Trustees of SS now predict that the reserves will be fully depleted in about 2032, at which time, lacking program reform by Congress, Social Security will be forced to pay out only what it receives in revenue. And that would mean an estimated cut of about 23% to everyone's

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 9

Chicopee Register

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The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to chicopeeregister@turley.com or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Election letters to the editor

The Chicopee Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Chicopee Register care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalsregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

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

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

IN THE CITY



From the left, Bob "The Bike Man" Charland, U.S. Army Veteran Brian Dett and U.S. Marine Veteran Bob Costello.

U.S. Army Veteran Brian Dett sits in his new motorized scooter as Bob "The Bike Man" Charland and U.S. Marine Veteran Bob Costello show him how to use it.

VETERAN from page 1

and connected with Loubier and Baker for assistance on how they could help Dett. He also thanked the RiverMills Senior Center for its help on this.

The donation itself came through Costello, who wanted to donate the motorized scooter to a local veteran after the loss of his wife.

As the motorized scooter was presented, Charland and Costello spoke with Dett on how to use it.

"It even has a horn," Costello said, demonstrating the horn.

Dett expressed his gratitude to everyone.

"I want to say thank you to everybody here, especially Paul. He's the one who started the whole thing," Dett said.

"No problem," Rogers said, shaking hands with Dett.

After Dett shared how the new motorized scooter would help him, Costello said this.

"This is going to change your life," Costello said.

Charland, who has



U.S. Army Veteran Brian Dett shakes hands with U.S. Marine Veteran Bob Costello.

worked with the Hampden County Sheriff's Office TRIAD program and attends monthly VOICE meetings on ways to support the needs of Veterans, explained he got a

call about Costello showing up at the jail office in Ludlow in full dress uniform after his wife's funeral to donate this motorized scooter.

On the same day he

picked up the motorized scooter, DiLuzio reached out to Charland about a local Veteran who was in need of one.

"It was amazing timing

for that to happen, so Christian and I coordinated and then with the Veterans Service Officer here to get this out, but we wanted to go a step further. So, I called the sergeant back up and I said, 'Look, we would like you to come when we deliver this,'" Charland said. "He really wanted this chair to go to another Veteran, so it was just a collaboration of less than 24 hours to make this happen for him and for this Marine to show up and do what we do best, help people. It's quite an emotional moment to be able to do this for somebody in this kind of turnaround time and, now, he's helping a fellow Veteran in time of need."

Charland was honored to help, noting that with the recent budget cuts to many programs at the Hampden County Sheriff's Office, he is always finding ways to continue serving others in need.

"We primarily through the TRIAD program at the Sheriff's Department, we primarily deal with seniors, people with special needs and Veterans Groups and there's

a lot of red tape at times with getting stuff from the VA," Charland said. "With us, if we have it in stock, there's no red tape. If you need it and you can prove that you're a Veteran with your DV-214 discharge papers, we're going to make it happen."

Charland added that for presenting the donation, a nice truck was also brought in to pick up Costello as well.

"This is helping this Army Veteran from a Marine, and it's also, fulfilling something for this Marine. That wheelchair belonged to his wife before she passed away and it's going to be closure for him, but he also knows it's going to serve somebody else," Charland said.

His message was this.

"Look out for your seniors. Look out for your Veterans," Charland said. "Veterans shouldn't be waiting. They shouldn't be waiting. So, when I got the call, we made it happen. This is what we do."

After photos were taken, Dett put his motorized scooter into gear and sped away to enjoy the day.

CITY COUNCIL from page 1

only have one and that one recently went out of service, so we are currently renting one," Batista said. "So, this bond is to purchase a new Vector to supplement the one that we have that's currently being repaired as well."

For bond number two, Vieau said this is for combined sewer overflow monitoring.

Batista explained the CSO flow monitoring "is part of our current, more recent iteration of our NIPDES permit."

"The EPA and DEP want more automated notifications going out to the public, so any time it rains and it activates our sewer overflows and our

combined areas it discharges to the river, they want the public to be notified immediately," Batista said. "Right now, it's kind of like a manual notification. They want it automated. So this equipment is going to be able to, in real-time, determine when it's activated. We'll also be able to know how much flow is being discharged and so this is for perfect compliance."

On bond number three, Vieau said the city was fortunate to receive \$9.8 million in federal funding and other grants "to get us to the total, which is for phase one."

"If you look at your background information, you'll see that the total for the project is \$22,450,000, and we've been very fortunate, like I said, to receive closer to \$10

million for the project. This is to get us back in compliance," Vieau said. "Right now, the nitrogen levels that are being discharged in the effluent from the wastewater treatment plant are not meeting EPA standards, so we need to move forward with this phase. We are mandated under consent decree to do so."

Batista said this first phase will "get us started."

"We're in a 10-year compliance schedule. This is the first phase it's been a little bit delayed. But, this bond will get us going. This will include nitrogen, but as well as upgrading our aerators and some of our primary tanks, which are all part of the treatment process," Batista said.

Vieau added that the rate increases "that were imple-

mented in the recent past will include the debt service for these bonds," which Batista said was correct.

"The new sewer rate increase that will go into effect July 1 includes this debt," Batista said.

For the final bond, Vieau shared this is "the first start of modern meters we want to implement in the city of Chicopee."

"The good news is the Water Department has a surplus in their account of close to a million. This is over a \$3 million project, but we want to move the first phase—and that's District Three—of installing the new state-of-the-art water meters," Vieau said.

Batista said the \$2 million would be borrowed, while the other \$1.1 million

would be funded through the fund balance account.

"We have approximately \$3.7 million in our fund balance account, so I didn't want to deplete it. I wanted to balance it," Batista said. "This will be for District Three, which is our biggest district. It's about 6,000 meters that will be converted over to AMI. It'll also give us a good introduction to monthly billing once that's done."

There will also be a contractor hired to do the installation.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello asked about the old meters.

"In regards to the old meters that we had purchased—I believe their name was Honeywell—what's the status with that?" Costello said.

Batista replied she's "been actively trying to find another community" to purchase them, but was unsuccessful.

"Because of procurement laws, it would be easier for us if we found another community or government entity that was utilizing Honeywell meters to have them purchase them from us directly. Unfortunately, I have not been successful in that. So, the next step would be to, essentially, put them out to bid for anybody. Whether it's another entity who wants the meters or a scrapper who wants to purchase them. Unfortunately, it's hard to get rid of them," Batista said.

Messages Edit

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IN THE CITY

Community beautifies Chicopee during Annual Clean Sweep

By **Brendan Rooney**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — The Sixth Annual Chicopee Clean Sweep transpired on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to Noon, and it was an overwhelming success, as a total of over 700 pounds of trash was discovered and removed over the course of the event, which was then later brought to the base of operations at the FG Clean Wipes Plant, to be picked up and disposed of by the DPW.

Angel Swanson, FG Clean Wipes Quality Assurance & Compliance Manager explained that this year was a full team effort across the board, after a slew of challenges arose, including this time of year being tethered to the loss of her mother that came days before last year's clean up.

"Last year was exceptionally hard for me, as I just lost my mother just before the cleanup, and I threw my heart and soul into it, and this year brought back a lot of those emotional feelings, with it being this time of year, so to push through, I called, texted, and emailed everyone I could think of," Swanson said.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

From left to right: Allison Perreault (HR Business Partner) and her children, Sarah Stout, FG Clean Wipes Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager, Angel Swanson, Chicopee Resident, Keith Czerwiec, Paul "Swan" Swanson, and Xander Graziano.

Swanson explained that she understood some being on vacation, to the swift last-minute cancellation that transpired, was to be expected, but it was clear that the signal was answered as a brigade of local city officials, state delegates, business owners, non-profits and a handful of volunteers all stepped up to assist in the cleanup. And as part of the event coverage, the Chicopee Register embarked

on a trek across the city to catch up with a few of those volunteers.

On the Road

Chicopee Boys & Girls Club Team Site Manager Stephen Osgood shared that one of the primary reasons he participated was to create a clean and safe environment for all, along with responding to the overarching concerns of many members, citing ma-

terials they have encountered contributing to the litter crisis. "Many passed along that some elements, such as broken glass, cigarettes, and vapes, have become frequent, and so here we are doing our part to create a clean and safe environment," Osgood said.

"But another reason I'm out here is that if we come across anybody, to just pass along and provide a small sample of what we do at the Boys & Girls Club, because we are currently accepting members, and we have a lot of cool stuff coming up in the summer, so I just wanted to provide that conversation to network."

Additional locations that saw cleanup were Dale and Montgomery streets, captained by Chicopee City Councilor Ward I Abigail Arriaga, with State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee); Deb Sutherland led a team near Fairview Elementary, and Paul Zielinski helped over at Pendleton Ave. near Bellamy Middle School, and Alicia Heath led a team right on Sheridan Street near Walmart, with the consensus being shared among all sites was, "It's important to do your part and make the city one you're

proud of to live in."

Back to Base

Once the clock hit Noon, the parties dispersed, and some went home; others returned to FG Clean Wipes to catch up, socialize, and reflect on the achievement and efforts put forth. To also add, Gnows' Place contributed and donated a plethora of food to the Westover group of volunteers, who were stationed at the plant on Saturday, consisting of chicken fingers, lo-mein, veggie fried rice, and spring rolls.

"I was really impressed with the group that came together today, and it just means the world to me that my friends and co-workers all came out in support of this great cause," Swanson said. "It's just heartwarming to see the upward scale in growth and interest that continues to manifest and take shape every year, because I am very passionate about the environment, and I always have been, and always will be."

When asked about what the future holds, many expressed that they cannot wait for next year to arrive, as the goal is to now reach over 800 pounds.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS from page 1

prime moment, before tears of joy flushed the face of many among the cast, most particularly the seniors, who among consensus shared that point of closure was felt and quietly took over after manifesting behind the scenes, throughout the night, utterly knowing that the once-illustrious dream of performing had come to a bittersweet finale.

Senior Mya Scirocco was one of the main leads as Audrey I.

"This has been a surreal experience, from going through practice, and learning each song one by one, and it just gradually gets better throughout the year, then it hits you, and then you're standing on the stage, and you see the heads of everyone from your community, and then this full circle realization of everything you worked for has come true," Scirocco said. "I have been in this Drama Club since my freshman year,

when I was 14 years old, and I remember being so scared to get up on stage and audition, but knowing where I am now, having gained all of this confidence, I just feel extremely proud of the performance we put forth, and it was truly a special night, one I won't ever forget."

Echoing Scirocco was fellow senior Isabel Rodriguez, who was Ronette.

"I feel it went pretty well for it being opening night, we have worked extremely hard, and everyone in the cast did a great job," Rodriguez said. "I do admit that with this being my final performance, I do feel I will be sad saying goodbye to everyone, but these four years have been really fun, and I couldn't be happier with how things turned out."

Providing thoughts about moving on, while holding onto this small chapter, was senior Nari Antunes, who played Martin.

"It's a bittersweet moment, but just grateful for everything," Antunes said. "It's

really emotional with this being my last show, because I have been in this club for so many years, made so many friends, it makes me want to cry thinking about it, and I'm just so happy to have joined this club, and I'm so sad to see it go, after I graduate, but I'm going to always support my friends, and but know I'm ready to explore this next chapter and move on."

Sophomore MJ Burnett, who, to many, was a scene stealer as a live rendition of Audrey II, kicked off their thoughts with a sense of fervent joy.

"This is honestly one of the most magical nights, and one of the most important roles in my life," Burnett said. "I remember watching the film, and feeling that if they ever do this at school, I would love to be Audrey II, and here I am, and the best part is that I was originally set to a voice off stage, but I guess with my ability, and performance, I was offered the chance to play the role on stage, and it



MJ Burnett takes center stage as Audrey II, as the cast watches on.

PHOTO COURTESY OF C.J. DUNLAP

has just been incredible, and I had so much fun with this production, and my cast has been incredible across the board, I feel we truly created magic."

Reflecting on the performance and maturity of the actors was Cassie Duchesne, ELA Teacher and head of the Drama Club, who served as stage manager and even had a small cameo in the show.

"Tonight's opening night was one of the calmest opening nights we've ever had. The kids were super excited, the audience was into it, and it made me feel very excited for the kids, having so many

teachers here, and just in general, this was one of the best opening night performances we have had in 15 years," Duchesne said. "My kids are fantastic, they are so professional backstage, they buckle up and get ready when they are ready to go on stage, they are set and locked in, but they still have fun backstage, and the energy backstage was incredible, and they all support each other, and I couldn't ask for better kids."

Duchesne also discussed the conversation of her seniors' understanding that this was their final performance.

"This weekend was their

last performance with the Drama Club, and I am absolutely devastated to lose them because they are all wonderful kids, and some of them I have had all four years, and so it feels like when they leave, they take a little part of me with them, but I'm always happy to see them go, because they are doing better things out in the world," Duchesne said.

The Drama Club also held two additional performances the following Saturday, April 11, one at 2 p.m., and one later that night at 7 p.m. to close out the production.



Emily Fijal as Mr. Mushnik and Jacob Martinez as lead Seymour Krelborn. PHOTO COURTESY OF C.J. DUNLAP



Isabel Rodriguez (Ronette), Alaina Perry (Crystal), and Maggie Gould (Chiffon) on stage during one of the songs. PHOTO COURTESY OF C.J. DUNLAP



Cast is assembled as they take a group bow.

TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

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Comp softball wins wild matchup in Palmer

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER— A softball team that scores at least one run in every inning has a strong chance of coming out on top.

The Chicopee Comp Lady Colts accomplished that feat in their 27-13 road victory over Suburban East rival Palmer, last Friday afternoon.

“We’re a young team and we’ve been struggling a little bit lately. We really needed to win a game,” said Comp head

coach Kelly Walsh. “We took an early lead, but we could never let up because Palmer can make a comeback. I’m very happy with this result.”

At the beginning of April, Comp defeated Palmer, 14-2, in a home game.

In the second meeting of the regular season between the two squads, the Lady Colts (4-7) scored a season-high 27 runs on 16 base hits.

The Lady Colts scored 25 runs in another road win against Pathfinder Tech. Their other victory came at home

against the Springfield International Charter School by the final score of 18-5.

Leading the way offensively for the Lady Colts in last Friday’s game was senior centerfielder Arianna Bird. She contributed with six base hits and four RBIs.

Senior right fielder Millie Fidalgo chipped in with two base hits and she scored four runs.

Junior shortstop Alexis Wojcik also had two hits.

“The middle part of our batting order has been

on fire during the past couple of games,” Walsh said. “They’ve been hitting around .700. We got production from the whole line-up in today’s game, which was nice to see.”

The Lady Panthers (2-6), who had eight base hits, scored two or more runs in four of the seven innings that they batted. Their defense committed 13 errors.

“We did fall behind early, but we just kept battling back,” said Palmer head coach Heather Korzec. “We’re a

young team and we just need to limit our errors.”

The Lady Panthers two victories came against Pathfinder Tech (8-3) and Mahar Regional (22-10).

The Lady Colts held a 7-0 lead before junior righthander Alexis Wojcik threw her first pitch in the bottom of the first inning.

Freshman first baseman Audrey Mosko, junior catcher Olivia Cruz, and Fidalgo had RBI singles. Another run crossed the plate on a groundball out by soph-

omore DP Janyah Jones. Their other three runs scored on two wild pitches and a throwing error.

In the bottom half of the opening frame, Wojcik, who hurled the first five innings, retired the Lady Panthers in order with the help of two strikeouts and a flyball out.

Comp held an 11-0 lead after scoring four more runs in their next at-bats.

The Lady Panthers battled back with three runs in

See **SOFTBALL** page 8



Kiyah Price looks to pass.



Sophia Moreira focuses on picking up the loose ball.

Chicopee girls lacrosse outlasted by B-Town

BELCHERTOWN — There was a lot of scoring last Thursday afternoon, but Belchertown girls lacrosse was able to defeat Chicopee 14-9 with some late scoring to secure the win. Lily Tellier had seven goals for the Orioles while McKenzie LePage scored five goals to lead the way. Chicopee got five goals from Kiyah Price.

The Pacers are 4-3 while Belchertown improved to 6-4 for the season.



Maya Garncarz goes after the loose ball.



Emelyn Hoar sends a pass away.



Giana Morales tries to keep the ball away from an opponent.



Madison Thibault heads into the offensive end.

T-Birds move into next round of playoffs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Springfield Thunderbirds proved to be the comeback kids for the second straight night, defeating the Charlotte Checkers 2-1 in overtime in the deciding Game 3 of the clubs’ First Round Calder Cup Playoff series. For a third straight game, a Checkers blueliner broke the ice within six minutes of game action. With the teams skating 4-on-4, Jack Studnicka skated up the right side before sliding a pass across the slot to Tobias Bjornfot, who flipped a wrist shot past Georgi Romanov’s glove hand at 5:58 to give Charlotte the 1-0 advantage. As he did in Game 2, though, Romanov helped stabilize the defensive zone, turning away a sneaky backhand effort from Noah Gregor and the remaining seven shots that came his way in the opening period. Springfield’s offense only got four shots on the net, but chances began to arrive late in the period, with Otto Stenberg catching the post on a sharp angle chance and Julien Gauthier

forcing Charlotte goalie Cooper Black to hold the fort on two net-crashing efforts. The T-Birds also got a power play opportunity late in the period that came up empty, then carried a second man advantage into the opening 1:38 of period two. The Springfield power play had a difficult time getting offense established, and the T-Birds were limited to just eight shots for the duration of period two, then failed to get on the board with a power play to open the third period as well. Despite the odds, Steve Ott’s club continued to dig deeper, and at 5:45 of the third, a greasy goal changed the T-Birds fortunes when Chris Wagner rolled a puck into the blue paint, where Calle Rosen crashed the net front and tucked it across the line to even the score, 1-1. Black and Romanov kept things locked down for the remainder of the third, forcing the winner-take-all game into sudden death overtime. Springfield managed just two shots in the extra period,

See **T-BIRDS** page 8



Jadian Diaz sets up a spike for the Pacers.



Lyndrei Balingasa gets a set.

Pacers fall to Southwick, Granby

CHICOPEE — Last week, Chicopee High School boys volleyball suffered a pair of losses, falling 3-0 to both Southwick and Granby. The Pacers fell to

just 2-8 on the regular season. They did beat Holyoke High School 3-0 on Friday, Apr. 17. The Pacers are back in action on Friday, May 1 at Fitchburg High School.



Austin Lind lunges to get a hit.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW

Roster spots remain open in the QVBL

SOUTH HADLEY — While the new player draft has come and gone in the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, there are still several open roster spots for players age 28-and-up. The regular season is set to get underway in a little more than a week and the six teams in the are still looking to add more players.

Players can go to the league website and fill out the registration form so they can get placed on a team immediate in front of the season opener.

For the 2026 season, the cost will be \$215 and will include a 16th game added to the regular season schedule. Those who sign up after the season begins will be charged a prorated fee

During the 2025 season, the league experimented with playing on Mother’s Day Saturday as well as a week-night game to allow players an opportunity to play under

See **QVBL** page 8

IN THE CITY

Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for kids and families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children, teens, and families. The Youth Services Department provides opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for May 2026.

Sing With Your Baby with Julie on Friday, May 1 at 11 a.m. Sing and rhyme with your little ones! For kids 0-2, no registration required.

Sensory Play Saturday will be held on Saturday, May 2 at 9:30 a.m. Come let your babies socialize and explore sensory play! We will have our play area set up with some sensory activities and other play opportunities. For babies 0-24 months and their caregivers, no registration required.

Saturday Playgroup will be held on Saturdays at 1 p.m. in May. We'll put out some extra toys in the play-

space. It's a great time for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play, no registration required.

The library will host a visit with author and illustrator Sarah Brannen Tuesday, May 5 at 4 p.m. Sarah will share her new book *Monarch and Mourning Cloak: A Butterfly Journal* and lead kids and families in a nature journaling activity. This event is a part of Massachusetts Center for the Book's Mass Kid Lit Fest, a weeklong celebration of Children's Literature across the state. Learn more at <https://www.makidslitfest.org/>

Little Kid Dance Party will be on Wednesdays, May 6 and 20 at 10:30 a.m. Moving and grooving for kids and their caregivers. Geared toward ages 0-5, but all are welcome! 45 minutes to one hour of energetic activity including singing and dancing, action rhymes, and playing with props like scarves and shakers.

Build with LEGOs on Thursday, May 7 at 4 p.m. We bring the LEGOs, you bring the ideas! Unstructured building time for kids ages 6 and up, no registration required.

The Holyoke Chicopee CFCE will facilitate a School Readiness Playgroup on Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m., April 2 - May 7. Children ages 3-5 are invited to meet new friends and practice school readiness skills with a kit from the Boston Children's Museum.

The Kids Room Sewing Club will meet on Wednesday, May 13, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Learn basic stitches and practice skills by making fun projects. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Kids who are not familiar with using a needle and thread should attend with an adult. Teens are welcome, no registration required.

Storytime will be held on Thursdays, May 14 and 28 at 10:30 a.m. Storytime is for children ages 3-5. This pro-

gram features about 30 minutes of structured circle time, followed by 15-30 minutes of a craft or activity. Circle time will include 2-3 read aloud books, rhymes, songs, and felt boards. Children will be encouraged to ask and answer simple questions and recognize things like shapes, colors, letters, and numbers. No registration required.

Terrific Twos will be held on Tuesdays, May 12 and 26 at 10:30 a.m. Terrific Twos is for two-year-olds and their caregivers. This program features about 25 minutes of structured circle time, followed by about half an hour of semi-structured playtime. During circle time, we will sing songs, do rhymes, do some big movements, and read 1 book. The book choice rotates between either a read aloud picture book or a group read of a board book. Playtime involves a choice of craft, activity, or play. No registration required.

The library will have Bin-

go for Books on Wednesday, May 13 at 6 p.m. Play a few rounds of bingo and win the best prize: books! For kids and families of all ages, no registration required.

Make a Frog Craft in the Kids Room on Tuesday, May 19 at 4 p.m.

The library Homeschool Meetup will be on Friday, May 29 at 11 a.m. This group meets once a month September - June for homeschooling families with kids of all ages to hang out, do activities and learn together. This month we're learning about comics and sequential art.

Teens

Join us for **Anime Club** on Wednesday, May 20 at 3 p.m. Ever wonder what you could do with all those wrappers and bits of trash? We'll be celebrating the series *Gachiakuta* with a fun upcycle craft and a Vital Instrument quiz!

Girls Who Code Workshop Series every other Sat-

urday. May 9 and 23, June 6 and 20, 1 to 3 p.m. in the Computer Lab.

Girls Who Code is dedicated to increasing gender equality in the tech field. In this workshop series taught by local cybersecurity analyst Alexandria Rosado, girls in grades 9-12 will learn about AI, Coding and Cybersecurity in a fun environment with peers.

Sign up by going to clubs-hq.girlswhocode.com/ login or sign up for an account on the Girls Who Code website and then join our club with this code: MA67606

Save the date: The Library's annual Summer Reading Program will be starting June 24! We are asking "Chicopee, did you read today?" Read every day, earn raffle chances, and have fun.

Visit the library website for more info about all of the library's events! www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org

HARMONY HOUSE from page 1

Gina Mazza, executive director at Harmony House and president of its Board of Directors, said the event could also be known as a "Friend"raiser, with everyone working together for the same goal.

"I think it sparks an interest and I hope that people can see the passion of the board and the volunteers here and we always gain new friends by doing it," Mazza said.

Mazza was moved by the turnout and noted the late founder, Ruth Willemain, would be proud of the community support.

"Her work, her vision, has resulted in a five-bedroom home that we own in Chicopee. It's full of residents and we can fill a restaurant with no parking to support her dream and vision. So, it's humbling, actually," Mazza said. "I think it helps all of the board and volunteers—we have staff too—that work so hard that they feel pretty supported."

Mazza said the non-profit organization relies on donations, fundraisers and small local grants, adding this year's budget is "the highest it's ever been because we have more paid staff."

She added there will be four fundraising events this year, including an Oldies Dinner Dance, a Trailer Trash Concert and a raffle to win a trip to Italy, mailings and ap-



Sherry Manyak, executive director of the RiverMills Senior Center, and Mike Wilk, president of Friends of RiverMills, opened the celebrity bartender shift during the All-You-Can-Eat Pizza Fundraiser.

peal letters to support Harmony House.

"Volunteerism, overall, in this country is down, and it's understandable, so we have to rely more and more on our paid staff. We have leaders in the organization that we need to run this organization to give the good care that we do and all that costs money. We own that home, it's a 5,000 square foot home and we have to maintain it," Mazza said. "Events like this really help us with our sustainability, so the financial sustainability is the number one priority of the board and, when we're supported like

this, we know we're on the right track."

Reflecting on her work at Harmony House, Mazza said the residents and their families fulfill her most.

"When I go in the house and meet with the resident and then I get to interact and meet with the family—and sometimes that's even texting, emailing, phone calls—it's very satisfying. I know that we're serving. We're serving a lot of people, not just the residents," Mazza said. "We have really great caregivers. Our care providers are remarkable people. They really are."



City Council Vice President/Ward 6 City Councilor Sam Shumsky works on a drink with one of the View Street Tavern staff looking on to provide support.

Vieau, who's a supporter of Harmony House and its mission, thanked the community for coming out for the fundraiser.

"I just want to say thank you because there's some nonprofits in Chicopee that really mean a lot to me, and the Harmony House is one of them, so thank you for your generosity tonight," Vieau said.

He added, to him, Harmony House is "a house of givers" and "a bunch of angels from heaven."

"That's what they really do. They take care of people who are at their worst and I want to say thank you from

the bottom of my heart for what you do every single day and the generosity of the people in this room is something special because you're all here and you know the impact that they're making on our community," Vieau said. "So, I just want to say thank you to the Harmony House, their staff, the volunteers and everyone for what you do every single day, because there are many people who are in need. Life is hard, things are difficult and the Harmony House is there to take care of you at the end of your life and that's something very special."

Robert got involved in the event through knowing

Mazza.

"It's just a great organization in the city of Chicopee, so as part of our job with the bank, we just want to be out in the community, being present, being involved and Gina reached out and I couldn't say no. It's just a great organization and great event," Robert said.

He also enjoyed working alongside Breor.

"Great turnout, the guests were awesome and the venue did a great job with the food and the setup, so it was an unbelievable night for everybody," Robert said.

For future celebrity bartenders, Robert's advice was to have fun, praising the View Street Tavern staff. His favorite drink to brew was a Bay Breeze.

"The girls that helped out tonight were great. They really helped me, especially with the pouring of the beers," Robert said. "I do have a lot more appreciation for the workers here and the bartending industry."

"Thank you! Thank you so much. We need support in every way. We need people to say positive things about us, help us out financially, pray for us and spread the word," Mazza said. "We're surrounded by people that believe in Ruth's mission and they get things done. Whether they come and participate, whether they work the event, whatever it might be. So, I'm sure Ruth would be rather proud."

QVBL from page 7

the lights. While the night games were very successful, the Mother's Day Saturday games were rained out.

Those elements will return along with a 16th game with an opponent to be determine as the league's board explores possibilities for interleague matchups with another league in the

region.

The season began on Sunday, Apr. 26, but there are still spots open and 15 games to play.

The registration is live at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Players must register and then pay the league dues via Venmo or contact the league leadership if an alternate form of payment is needed.

Aside from the weekend and Mother's Day games, other games take place Sundays at 10 a.m. outside of Mother's Day, Memorial Day and July 4 weekends. Playoffs will be in August.

This is the 30th season for the league and league officials are looking to celebrate the anniversary with a couple of events.

SOFTBALL from page 7

the second inning and two more in the third.

Senior third baseman Avigail Lee capped off Palmer's five run fourth inning by hitting a grand slam over the left field fence. It was Lee's first home run as a varsity softball player.

"Avigail is a powerful hitter," Korzec said. "We've been working with her to hit more line drives."

Lee also had a run scoring double in her pre-

vious at-bat. She finished the game with five RBIs.

Eighth grade catcher Kylee Lukas also had two hits and a pair of RBIs for the Lady Panthers.

The home team scored three more runs in the fifth inning, which closed the gap to 18-13.

While Comp junior relief pitcher Faith Irwin managed to keep the Lady Panthers from scoring anymore runs, the Lady Colts pulled away by scoring nine more runs during the final two innings.

T-BIRDS from page 7

but the second of those two, at 14:54 of the frame, proved to be the dagger as former Checker Julien Gauthier power-drove the right side of the net, flipping a backhander that glanced off the post, then off Black's backside before finding its way home for the series-clinching goal. The T-Birds now move on to face the Providence Bruins in the Atlantic Division Semifinals; Game 1 is slated for Friday, May 1 at 7:05 p.m. at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

Visit us online at chicopeeregister.turley.com

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Love, Mom & Dad

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD26P0245GD
In the interests of
Avah Noguerras
of Chicopee, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**
1. **Hearing Date/Time:**
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **02/04/2026** by **Jacqueline Noguerras** of Chicopee, MA
Jose M Noguerras of Chicopee, MA
will be held **06/03/2026 08:30 AM Review Hearing**. Located: **Hampden Probate & Family Court, 50 State Street, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA, 01103.**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 21, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/01/2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P0880EA
Estate of:
Theresa Ora Bergeron
Also Known As:
Theresa O. Bergeron
Date of Death:
February 28, 2026
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Corey J. Bergeron** of Chicopee, MA.

Corey J. Bergeron of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative

and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
05/01/2026

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
HAMPDEN, Div.
Probate & Family Court Dept.
HD26E0015PP**

To Fernando Goncalves of Chicopee, as individual and as Trustee of Fernando Goncalves Living Trust, Hampden County; Manuel Silva, of Ludlow, as individual and as Co-Trustee of Manuel Silva Living Trust; Sergio Goncalves of Chicopee; Steven Silva of Ludlow; all from Hampden County; Jennifer Patton, of Gastonia, Gaston County; and all other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Deanna R. Albert, of Chicopee, representing that they hold as tenants in common in an undivided part or share of land lying in Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00), and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney, should file a written appearance in said Court at **Springfield** before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the **fifteenth day of June 2026**, the return day of this citation.

Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this 15th day of April
Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register

04/24, 05/01, 05/08

**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 May 1st, 2026 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.

2007 Chrysler 300
VIN: 2C3KA53G97H601123
Felix Pagan De Jesus
11 Webster St., Unit A
Hartford, CT 06114

2020 Ford Ecosport
VIN: MAJ6S3KL3LC327465
Melvina Jones
80 Manhattan St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2010 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCP2F37AA173968
Jose Carrasquillo Rodriguez
87 Howard Ave.
New Bedford, MA 02745

2015 Subaru XV Crosstrek
VIN: JF2GPAAC7F8246710
Anne Huyler
21 Stefaniak Ave Apt D

Webster, MA 01570

2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer
VIN: 1GNDT13S062280339
Michael Delmonico
434 Church St., Apt. 16
Whitinsville, MA 01588

2013 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BF1FK5DU659434
Lisa Blaszak
434 Church St., Apt. 4
Whitinsville, MA 010588

2015 Dodge Journey
VIN: 3C4PDCBG4FT669169
Ann Simard
7 Elizabeth St.
Chicopee, MA 01020

1996 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGEJ6674TH551561
Jorge Albelo
27 Clinton Ave.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2009 Ford F150
VIN: 1F7PX04596KB61895
Marisol Gomez
34 Dawes St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2008 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDU46D98U507602
Robyn Malloy
15 Girard Ave., Apt. 211
Springfield, MA 01109

2006 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL11D96N326111
Carrie Ann Baer
30 Saint Jerome Ave., Apt. 11
Holyoke, MA 01040

2007 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BK46K77U036074
Lilah Mark
51 Oakwood St.
Enfield, CT 06082

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21EX9N432148
Kayla Allen
230 Fort Pleasant Ave., Apt. 11
Springfield, MA 01108

2008 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 2T1BR32E18C902506
Calvin Flaherty
21 Northampton St.
Easthampton, MA 01027

2008 Ford Escape
VIN: 1FMCU93148KD76464
Venessa Hidenfelter
217 Sturbridge Rd., Unit 11
Charlton, MA 001057

2013 Toyota Sienna
VIN: 5TDKK3DC2DS370250
Yajaira Montano
34 W School St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 Gmc Savanna G3500
VIN: 1GTHG35U951165221
Er Exteriors Contractor Inc.
60 Franklin St., Apt. 3
Stoneham, MA 02180

2009 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCP263X9A006029
Janah Llang
138 Center St.
Ludlow, MA 01056

2010 Mercedes Benz E350
VIN: WDDHF5GB3AA051807
Courtney Scott
PO Box 166
Chicopee, MA 01021

2012 Mazda Mazda 3
VIN: JM1BL1V80C1677519
Ciarra Moquin
333 River Rd.
Agawam, MA 01001

2003 Honda Element
VIN: 5J6YH28523L045185
Rn Burgosdejesus
15 Huntington Hill S #10
Rochester, NY 14622

2013 Honda Pilot
VIN: 5FN9F4H70DB014806
Becca Menard
11 Hartford Ave.
Enfield, CT 06082

2013 Hyundai Sonata
VIN: 5NPEB4AC1DH699471
Brittany Mccarthy
19 Charbonneau Ter. #2
Chicopee, MA 01013

1994 Ford Ranger
VIN: 1FTCR10U8RTA12856
Dwayne Bailey
21 Grape St., Apt. 2
Chicopee, MA 01013

2015 BMW X1
VIN: WBAVM5C52FV94095
Allyssa Levine
90 Walnut St., Apt. 2R
Chicopee, MA 01020

2006 Dodge Charger
VIN: 2B3LA43H76H502495
Meshach J Gerena
103 N 9th St.
Newark, NJ 07107
04/17, 04/24, 05/01/2026

**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 May 15TH, 2026 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.

2000 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCG6578YA073495
Ozzie Rodriguez Rosario
90 Mckinsty Ave., Apt. 118
Chicopee, MA 01013

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E69N465759
Robert Michael Curran
220 Pulaski St.
West Warwick, RI 02893

2009 Audi Q5
VIN: WA1KK78RX9A016528
Eric Ferjuste
82 Fairview Ave., Apt. 2
West Springfield, MA 01089

2010 Honda Insight EX
VIN: JHMZE2H79AS020306
Jean Wilky Senecharles
80 Parker St., Apt. M
Acton, MA 01720

2006 Lexus RX 400
VIN: JTJHW31U560017130
Guzal Usmanova
5 Hummell Ln.
Southwick, MA 01077

2005 Chevrolet Classic
VIN: 1G1ND52F85M197534
Rolando Colon
158 Narragansett Blvd., Apt. 3
Chicopee, MA 01013

2004 Toyota Camry
VIN: JTDDBE32K940281327
Jeannette Echevarria-Dejesus
6 Dale Ct., Apt. 2R
Chicopee, MA 01013

2013 Kia Sorento
VIN: 5XYKTD24DG323555
Karen Scrhggs
18 Andrews Dr.
Jaffrey, NH 03452

2011 Mercedes Benz GLK 350
VIN: WDCGG8HBXBF553828
David Schena And Carol Loeschorn
8 Breezy Point Rd.
Acton, MA 01720

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E69N465759
Robert Michael Curran
220 Pulaski St.
West Warwick, RI 02893
05/01, 05/08, 05/15/2026

**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 May 8TH, 2026 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.

2013 Mini Cooper
VIN: WMWSU3C52DT691507
Joshua Rodriguez
74 Honeysuckle Dr.
Chicopee, MA 01020

2017 Honda Crv
VIN: 2HKRW6H39HH211672
Marcia Brigham-Bull
35 Shaffner St., Apt. 1
Worcester, MA 01605

2005 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGES16595H572178
Madison Nieves
60 Bernard St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2015 Acura TLX
VIN: 19UUB1F37FA014548
Jennifer Kelley And
David Kelley
124 N Main St.
East Longmeadow, MA 01028

2006 Mazda Mazda 3
VIN: JM1BK12G061486282
Kathy Gacek
178 Lucerne Rd.
Springfield, MA 01119

2007 Cadillac Cts
VIN: 1G6DP577770139052
Jose Garcia Mendez
124 Buckingham St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2009 Nissan Murano
VIN: JN8AZ18W99W210913
David Darson
185 Northwest Rd.
Spencer, MA 01562

2007 Saturn Ion Level 3
VIN: 1G8AL58B57Z189842
Alice Doris Ramirez Babilonia
923 Liberty St.
Springfield, MA 01104

2011 Hyundai Sonata
VIN: 5NPEB4AC4BH158623
Rahiza Correa
50 Cameron St.
Springfield, MA 01104

2007 Suzuki SX4
VIN: JS2YB417975102335
Jared Pezzuto
2 Camp Rd.
Northfield, MA 01354

2010 Jeep Liberty

VIN: 1J4PN2GK5AW127581
Lynda Petroski
60 Hillside Vlg.
Ware, MA 01082

04/24, 05/01, 05/08/2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD26P0246GD
In the interests of
Jaelynn Elizabeth Noguerras
of Chicopee, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. **Hearing Date/Time:**
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **02/04/2026** by **Jacqueline Noguerras** of Chicopee, MA
Jose M Noguerras of Chicopee, MA

will be held **06/03/2026 08:30 AM Review Hearing**. Located: **Hampden Probate & Family Court, 50 State Street, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA, 01103.**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 21, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/01/2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD26P0897EA
Estate of:
Susan Jean Santerre
Also known as:
Susan J Santerre
Date of Death: 01/02/2026
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

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

The Petitioner requests that **Lawrence P Santerre of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/26/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 22, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register of Probate
05/01/2026

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 24, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register of Probate
05/01/2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD26P0872EA
Estate of:
David Frank Zajchowski
Date of Death: 03/05/2026
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Gary Galica of Medford, 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 **Gary Galica of Medford, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/27/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 22, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register of Probate
05/01/2026

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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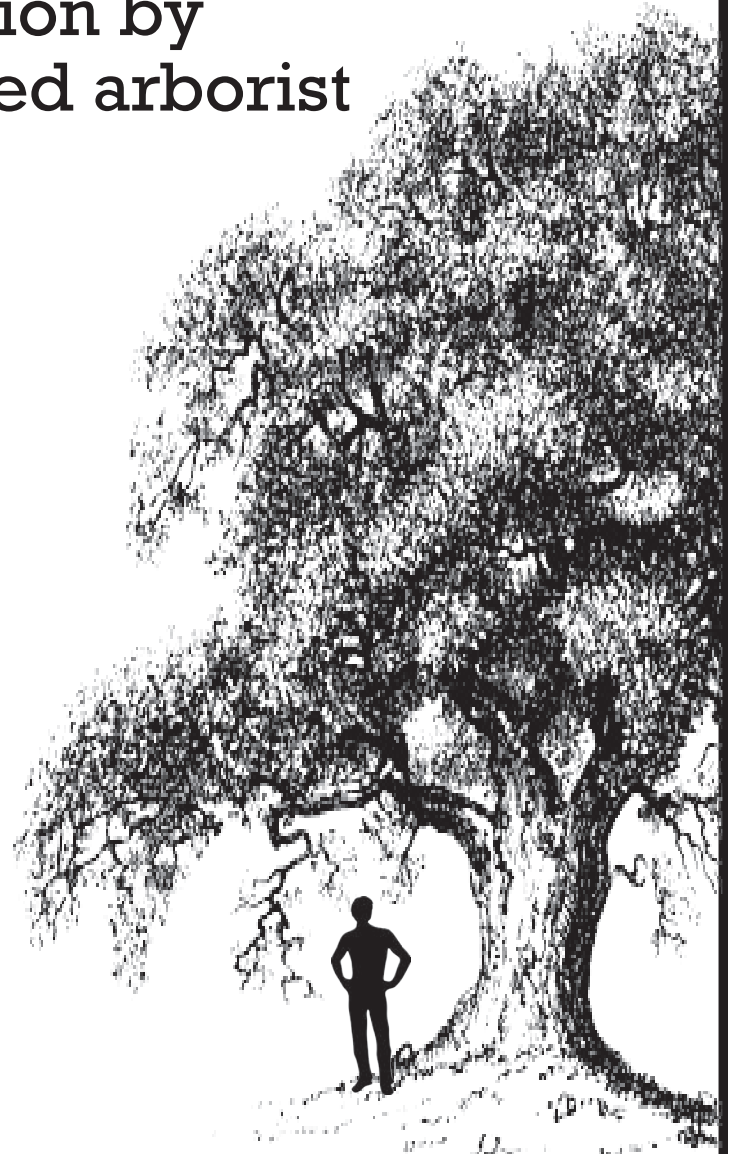


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