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The Arbors hosts author talk

By **Brendan Rooney**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Arbors Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility hosted the ‘AlzFiredUp! Living well with Alzheimer’s seminar’ on April 28, which was a free event and Q&A that featured Sean Terwilliger, a former technology leader and teacher.

Terwilliger shared his own inspiring story of how, despite being diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, he has led a breakthrough in terms of writing, advocacy and developing a sense of purpose.

In 2018, Terwilliger suffered a mini-stroke, which led to brain fog issues, and was later diagnosed with younger-onset Alzheimer’s

disease back in July 2024, and following his diagnosis, he began participating in several clinical trials and writing about his experience through blogs and an upcoming book.

After the presentation, Terwilliger received a unanimous round of applause and took a moment to discuss the importance of the seminar.

“I think it went really well, and I feel we had a captive audience, and the questions were great, and I’m just really happy to have this opportunity to do this,” Terwilliger said.

He also shared that he has been traveling the country and speaking at various events for the Alzheimer’s

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Sean Terwilliger, host, talking and answering questions with a viewer after the seminar.



Children pose for a group photo while having some fun.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTEN COELHO

CPS hosts Spring Spectacular

By **Brendan Rooney**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Public Schools hosted the first ever “Spring Spectacular” on the grounds of Szot Park, and it was deemed a critical success on May 16.

Those in attendance were treated to a variety of activities, such as live music, an Ammaya African Drum-

ming Circle, Salsa Lessons & Dancing, along with a K9 Demonstration, run by the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office(HCSO), along with free walking tacos and ice cream, which culminated in an afternoon like no other.

The event was greenlit via grant funding courtesy of the Massachusetts Cultural Council and was built upon the value of highlighting the

rich diversity within Chicopee Public Schools, according to comments from Kristen Coelho, Family and Community Engagement Facilitator for Chicopee Public Schools.

“The vision for the Chicopee Spring Spectacular came from a listening tour with families over the past year,” Coelho said. “Families enjoyed wonderful live entertainment representing

different cultures, as well as a wall filled with student artwork from across Chicopee Public Schools that celebrated the many cultures and backgrounds represented in our district.”

Bestowing ample praise to the School Department and Coelho was Mayor John

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Meet Economic Development Director Michael Daniels

By **Kristin Rivers**
Editor
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CHICOPEE - The city of Chicopee has recently hired a new economic development director.

Michael Daniels began his role on April 13 and is currently getting acquainted with everyone in City Hall and the community, enjoying the experience so far. He has a master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Connecticut and was always interested in working with government, serving the public and how planning makes

the decisions they do whether it’d be roads, public transportation and more.

Daniels was previously in East Hartford, Connecticut, as an economic development coordinator for 10 and a half years, serving under that city’s mayor and director at the time. After finding the position online, he decided to apply.

“So, it’s a role to coordinate, to incentivize business growth of the things that the people of Chicopee need and deserve like hous-



Michael Daniels

ing, be involved with some of the transportation planning, planning of community development projects, working with Kathleen,” Daniels said. “So, it really pulls together all sorts of parties, so the different city departments. So based as part of the mayor’s staff, but my physical location is up in the Planning Department coordinating among the mayor’s of-

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Schools implementing strategic plan improvements

By **Dalton Zbierski**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee school district has made significant progress this academic year with implementing its strategic plan improvement priorities at numerous schools.

During the May 6 meeting of the School Committee, Dr. Rebecca Mazur – of the Collaborative for Educational Services in Northampton – led an in-depth presentation examining the work that has been accomplished and what still must be done.

Mazur, director of the Collaborative’s Center of

Emerging Educational Practices, has been working with the district for several years.

“Two years ago, Chicopee Public Schools did not have a strategic plan,” Mazur said. “A year ago, I stood in front of this committee to help present the strategic plan that is now in existence and that our students are aligning their work to. It’s amazing.”

Mazur explained that the community identified several high-level priorities that the strategic plan has been designed around. This past year has been largely spent translating those priorities into practices.

“As you can see, we have

five priorities,” Mazur said. “Our students articulated them very, very well, and this year, the work has been to try to move from the page into coordinated actions across the district.”

Those priorities include establishing caring and respectful places to learn; empowering and valuing students, educators and staff; teaching academics that inspire; making family and community connections; and conducting effective and equitable operations.

Last June, the district

See **CHICOPEE SCHOOLS**
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Community meeting reveals latest on Barry School project

By **Brendan Rooney**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Anna Barry School Building Commission met at the Szetela Early Childhood School on May 18 to provide a variety of updates on the ‘legacy project,’ drawing a massive crowd, resulting in the space being standing room only.

As close to 75 Chicopee residents voiced their frustrations and opposition to the project, with many citing concerns that the project and location aren’t a ‘proper fit’ due to the outlier of existing conditions, such as the maturity and age demographic of the neighborhood which has faced an influx of unwarranted traffic as of late, while being stricken with challenges stemming from the lack of

sidewalk installation, leading to many now fearing the proposal to construct a new roundabout to assist with rolling drop off during hours of operation at the new school, could lead to traffic jams,

While officials said it could also help alleviate traffic on a 24/7 basis, to the point that many felt it could diminish the neighborhood’s quality of life, not only in the long run, but in the short term as well, due to significant safety concerns that could manifest.

Residents offer Concerns

One of those who spoke out on behalf of the Granby Road neighborhood was Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks, who said he was being vocally adamant about the proposed installation of the new Barry School.

“I got some real concerns about pedestrian safety on Granby Road, and I’ve heard this project being referred to as a legacy project. Well, operationally, we can define legacy as something that’s amazing, and this is where we ask ourselves, ‘Do we want the legacy of this project to be solidified as a pedestrian or a student that is struck and killed by a car that’s not paying attention?’” Brooks said. “Because, regardless of the amount of speed calming efforts we put on Granby Road, we have to understand it’s not a road. It’s a race-way, due to factors such as distracted driving being at an all-time high, people have their smartphones. People are picking up their speed; there are not enough sidewalks, there are not enough crosswalks, and

there is only one crosswalk, one very small crosswalk that starts at the convenience store, and connects to the other side of Champagne Drive.”

Brooks added that many among his ward are concerned about the possibility of having to raise taxes to help pay for the new school bond.

“This is another concern that many feel: ‘Are we going to displace seniors who are on fixed incomes?’ These are all questions that I haven’t heard addressed yet, and these are some things that cause me to pause even thinking about supporting this project,” Brooks said.

Public Safety Above All

Responding to the con-

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Project Architect Bert Gardner, Caolo & Bieniek Architects, speaks to the audience.

IN THE CITY

Agilent Technologies opens in Chicopee

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE - Agilent Technologies officially opened its new manufacturing facility at 711 East Main Street on May 14.

The facility was originally located at 300 Griffith Road.

Agilent Technologies specializes in providing laboratory technologies and services to scientists, covering over 285,000 jobs in 110 countries around the world and they also work on keeping the public safe with instruments to test drinking water, food, biopharmaceutical drugs and more.

After the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony took place, attendees had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the facility.

After Agilent Technologies Site Director Seema Bhati shared the team had been "waiting for this moment for months," crediting the executive team for bringing the new location to reality, Chief Operations and Quality Officer Joydeep Ganguly offered his reflections.

"I want to start off by just

congratulating everyone that was behind this project and congratulations for the site right now. It's very easy for me to come and spend some time with the facility and the city officials right now talking about the importance of the groundbreaking," Ganguly said. "There's a resurgence in the importance of manufacturing and the overall calculus of supply chain resurgence. It's definitely more important. It proved itself in the pandemic that people have to get access to very critical products..."

He added it's critical now due to "the unprecedented amount of supply chain complexity."

"The ability for us to have a site like Chicopee that is able to deliver so consistently, that is able to have multiplatform consistency and it's a place where our investments are not just in technology, but also in people can pay for itself is a blessing right now," Ganguly said.

For him and Global Manufacturing Vice President Chow Woai Sheng, the most critical thing for the new site was the people and culture it would bring.

"I would view this day as a celebration of the peo-



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Agilent Technologies also received a citation from the Massachusetts State Senate on May 14 to celebrate their grand opening at their new location.

ple and the culture and the local community, actually," Ganguly said. "Agilent prides itself not just being a company that creates phenomenal engineering and phenomenal science, but is one as being a very, very good local citizen of the community and the fact that we can encounter an ecosystem like the one we have in Chicopee is an honor for us."

He also emphasized an investment in the future as opposed to the here and now, calling Chicopee's record "exceptional."

"While I'm thrilled to be here for the ribbon cutting and

the grand opening, I hope to be here many more times to see the different evolutions of the chapter of the site," Ganguly said.

Sheng praised the team and noted his belief in them, with automation improvements having enhanced productivity and the team's livelihoods.

"We have a site, a site that has state-of-the-art technology," Sheng said. "We put all these things together not because that we can buy too many, but because you guys made it happen. It's the engineering work, it's the ingenuity, it's the hard labor that actually made this happen."

After acknowledging the team members who worked together during the two-year transition, Sheng said the facility measures 80,000 square feet, almost three times what the prior facility was.

Assistant Vice President of Manufacturing Brian Hom said he was honored to be part of the team, being new to his role.

"It is just an amazing opportunity to be a part of this and moving forward, and Chow mentioned our intention is to make this a lighthouse factory and a beacon to American manufacturing and that is our goal moving forward. Continuing to invest in the facility, but more

importantly, in our people, in the culture. I look forward to the many years of continued success here at the Chicopee site," Hom said.

City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, who spoke on behalf of Mayor John Vieau, said "today is a proud moment for our city."

Also, "thank you for investing here and we're willing to work with you."

"Agilent's decision to invest here in Chicopee reflects the strength of our community, our work and our future. We are honored to welcome a global leader in science and technology to our city. This facility represents more than advanced manufacturing and innovation. It represents opportunity, growth and partnership," Laflamme said. "The work being done here will have an impact far beyond these walls helping support scientific discovery and improving lives around the world. We are grateful to the Agilent team for choosing Chicopee and for your commitment to being part of our community. We look forward to building a strong relationship together for many years to come. Congratulations to everyone who helped make today possible and thanks to all for being here to celebrate this important milestone."



Global Manufacturing Vice President Chow Woai Sheng talked about investment and the people and culture at Agilent Technologies



Assistant Vice President of Manufacturing Brian Hom provides remarks.



The blue ribbon is cut for the grand opening of Agilent Technologies.

City Council tackles Abbey Brook and sludge disposal items

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - The second phase of the Abbey Brook Revitalization Project has received another significant boost.

On Tuesday, City Council

unanimously accepted a \$20,000 grant from the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration's Department of Fish and Game.

The money will be spent on design and engineering scope work.

Abbey Brook is a small

stream that flows through Szot Park before emptying into the Chicopee River. Work has been ongoing for several years to eliminate several obstacles that hindered the flow of the water.

Phase I involved the removal of the Lower Bemis

Pond Dam and the restoration of lower Abbey Brook. Now, attention is turning to the second phase.

Phase II will entail the replacement of the Front Street culvert and "daylighting" the underground section of the brook.

The money the city has received from the Department of Fish and Game will be pivotal in the process of completing this key phase.

Ultimately, the third phase of the project will involve the removal of the Upper Bemis Pond Dam and the further restoration of Abbey Brook.

Also on Tuesday, City Council voted unanimously to approve a mayor's appropriation of \$275,000 to the Wastewater Special Account for Sludge Disposal.

The funds will be taken from multiple sewer accounts, including \$60,000 from the Chief Operator account, \$35,000 from the Asst. Chief Operator account, \$30,000 from the Head Mechanic account and \$150,000 from the Sewer Surplus account.

"The price of sludge disposal has increased. Also, there are some operational reasons [for this order]," Mayor John Vieau said.

Department of Public Works Superintendent Elizabeth Batista also offered in-

sight on why it was necessary to make the appropriation.

"Increased sludge costs and processing challenges during our pump replacement project caused this increase due to dewatering issues," Batista said.

Across the country, sludge disposal costs are spiking because of stringent regulations that have been placed on PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals."

This has shrunk the capacity of landfills, increased the costs of transportation and led to more advanced wastewater treatment requirements.

Chicopee is one of many municipalities in the United States that are feeling the effects of these changes.

While it may be costly, preserving health and safety is the main goal.

The process of making the regulations more strict results in the removal of more pollutants like phosphorus or nitrogen.

This leads to a larger amount of chemical sludge, which needs more specific and expensive handling.

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IN THE CITY

City Council tables contract extension with trash hauler

The deal with USA Hauling & Recycling must wait until next month

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – A promising deal between the city of Chicopee and a prominent local trash and recycling disposal business must wait until at least next month after being tabled by the City Council on May 19.

Mayor John Vieau proposed that the council authorize a five-year contract with F&G Recycling/USA Hauling & Recycling beginning on July 1. The agreement would represent a two-year extension and provide cost savings to the city.

“The contract that we have currently is expiring,” Vieau said. “USA has provided us the best bundle package for tonnage, and it goes by tonnage removal. And, also, using the recycling program that they have now allows for black plastics to be removed and also dirty pizza boxes.”

Vieau emphasized that the deal will allow the city to bundle its transfer station fees for both trash and recycling. He felt that approving the item was a no-brainer. “Four entities put in their bid, and this one is by far the best cost savings of those four. I just want to be very clear about that,” Vieau said. “We have already negotiated to the point where we have gotten

our best deal, and we’re very happy with it. I want to share those terms with you so can be as excited about it as I am.”

Unfortunately, those terms were not readily available during Tuesday’s meeting, which hindered the process of getting the order passed.

Several councilors voiced concerns that they were not presented with exact monetary figures outlining the financial nature of the deal before being asked to vote on it.

“If we’re going to approve something, I want to know what we’re spending money wise. I mean, I don’t know what it is. I don’t happen to know what the current expenditure this year... I can’t vote on something if I

don’t know what the price tag is,” Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks said.

Vieau responded that the council was simply being asked to vote on the extension and that the city could agree to a three-year deal without the board’s approval.

Ward 7 Councilor Bill Courchesne said that the group understood it’s an extension but added that he and his colleagues were hesitant to “approve something sight unseen.”

It was a sentiment felt by most of the council.

“If we had the contract in the backup material, we would have been prepared to answer that with knowledge and not just on faith. I don’t doubt that we got a better rate, but we have to do our dili-

gence,” Courchesne said.

As it became clear that the board would table the item, Vieau acknowledged that the language of the order could be improved upon. He promised to have the exact figures available for the board at its next meeting in several weeks.

“It probably could have been written better as an order, and I apologize for that, but we will get you the actual terms if you’d like to see. You can see in all transparency exactly what each entity was offering the city of Chicopee and why we chose USA,” Vieau said.

Ultimately, Councilor-at-Large Joel McAuliffe motioned for the order to be tabled.

The board approved the

motion 11-2; the two councilors who voted against it wanted to see the discussion sent before the Finance Committee.

McAuliffe expressed confidence that the item will pass when the board meets on June 2. He will be happy to see the extension come to fruition.

“I have worked with USA Recycling. They’re an excellent entity. Everything they do is top notch. It’s great to see it’s going to be a benefit to the taxpayer, and kudos to you guys for being creative and going beyond the traditional pathway of three years and finding a way to find savings, which is hard to do right now, especially when you’re moving anything by vehicle,” McAuliffe said.

AUTHOR
from page 1

Association for more than a year now, but felt a shift starting to manifest, leading to him breaking free and embarking on his own.

“I feel recently I have been starting to branch out and put my own spin on things, and I do want to note that I do love them, but I feel that their sense of delivery and standards are a bit traditional, and I feel my approach is quite loose, attractive and the reception among many is that it continues to thrive and flourish,” Terwilliger said. “I do this because I want to help people, but it also really helps me, and I feel that I have decided a couple of months into my diagnosis that I was not going to take this lying down, and I was going to try to drag as many people as I could as possible.”

Terwilliger then shifted focus to his upcoming book, “ALZ FIRED UP! ON THE UNSTOPPABLE NATURE OF EARLY-ONSET ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND ONE MAN’S QUEST TO OUTPACE IT.”

“The goal of my book is for people to be handed it, and these talks are meant to educate and help offer new

ways of providing clarification, and a proper human approach, that isn’t steeped in sadness, and to understand that this diagnosis can be managed, because I feel there is still a life to be lived, their is joy to be had, love to be dealt with, and a plethora of experiences that are available at our disposal, and we have to keep fighting, and push forward,” Terwilliger said.

Terwilliger also touched upon how he received the invite from Allyson Grammo, Director of Sales and Marketing at the Arbors of Chicopee Assisted Living, when he took a trip to inquire about possible residency for his aunt.

“I remember talking to Allyson, and I passed along, ‘Hey, do you ever want a speaker, feel free to call me back, and that’s how this particular one came together,’ and I’m still looking for my next opportunity,” Terwilliger said.

Grammo offered insight into the overall reaction she gathered from the consensus around the room.

“I felt tonight was amazing,” Grammo said. “I think Sean (Terwilliger) is such an inspiring speaker and author, and I feel his outlook on life is just quite inspirational, and infectious, and I felt a lot

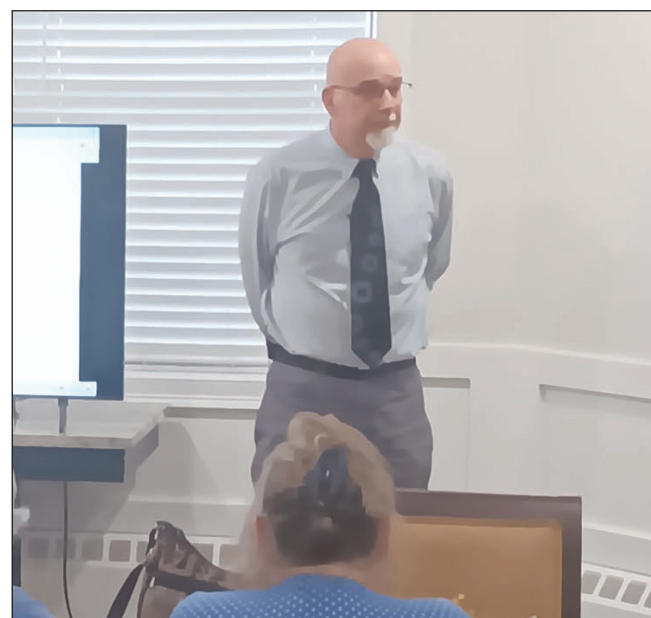


Allyson Grammo, Director of Sales and Marketing at the Arbors of Chicopee Assisted Living, standing with the raffle winner from the event.

of our residents and family members walked away with a newfound understanding and connection to dementia, and how Alzheimer’s truly touches us all.”

Grammo also shared that next up for the Arbors in terms of programming is that they are hosting a new seminar titled “How to Pay for Senior Living: Options and

Insights,” which will cover different senior living options, common ways to pay for care, and helpful guidance for planning ahead, and will feature a presentation and Q&A moderated by Financial Specialist Sondra Jones. This took place on May 20 with two sessions from either 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.



Interest from the room was solely placed on Sean Terwilliger as all eyes were directed towards him, and he kept passing through his slides.

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.

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.

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

Girls Who Code Workshop Series every other Saturday.

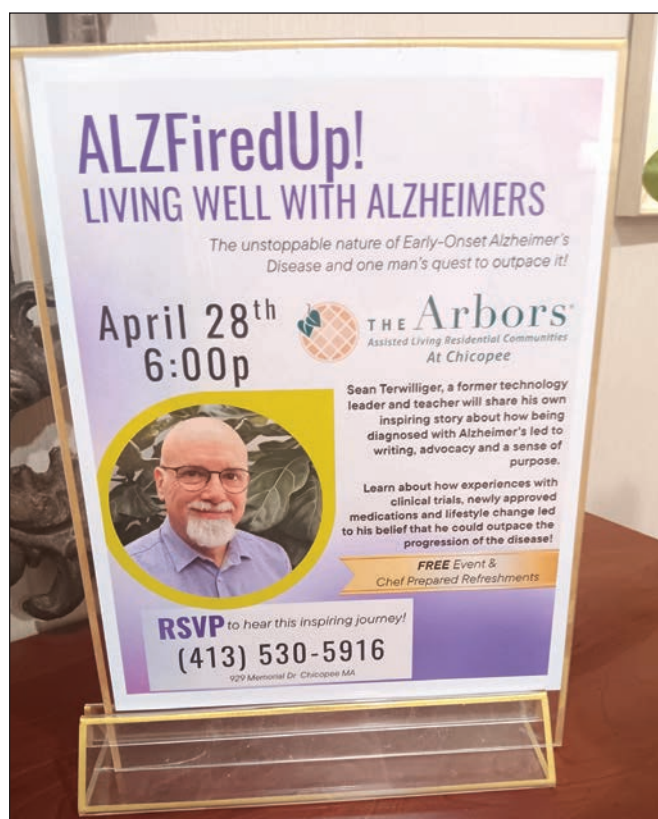
May 9 and 23, June 6 and 20, 1 to 3 p.m. in the Computer Lab.

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



Sign of the seminar from the event ‘AlzFiredUp! Living well with Alzheimer’s seminar’

STEM offers 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.

St. Joan of Arc Open House

CHICOPEE – The Pre-K, Three and Four and Kindergarten St. Joan of Arc School Open House will take place on Wednesday, June 10, by appointment only.

The times are 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

St. Joan of Arc School is located at 587 Grattan Street, Chicopee, MA.

To learn more, call 413-533-1475 or visit sjachicopee.org.

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OPINION

Why do we wait until Memorial Day to plant?

For as long as I can remember, the “safe date” for planting tender crops was always Memorial Day.

This year in particular the holiday is on the early side, the 25th of May, as opposed to the 30th or 31st. Here in New England, five or six days can make all the difference in the world.

Sure, as I write, the mercury is set to rise well into the high eighties for three or four days, then become more seasonable again. It's a wonder the plants know what to do.

Anyhow, read on to learn about some tender plants and how they respond better when soil or air temperatures have warmed.

Although cool loving peas and warmth loving beans are both legumes, bean seeds in particular crave seventy to eighty degree soil in which to germinate. This is particularly evident with white seeded bean varieties, since the white

seeds reflect the heat instead of holding on to it like dark seeds do.

Ofentimes, white seeds will rot before they sprout if planted too soon. If you are in the mood to gamble and desire an early sowing of beans, use a dark seeded variety.

Untreated corn seeds will not germinate in soil below 60 degrees. We are advised to be patient and trust that seed planted in warm soil will make up for lost time, and they typically will, in no time flat.

Those of us who plant only a small plot have luck starting corn seeds indoors then transplanting the seedlings outside. I sowed my corn two seeds per six pack a few days back and have it

on heat along with a sowing of winter squash and melons and all are popping up nicely.

I usually pick the best of the two in the cell of the pack and pinch away the slower one so there is no competition, giving the stronger seedling all of the room to grow nicely. Never pull out when thinning; roots may be disturbed.

Speaking of seedlings, it's also important not to shock our home grown pepper or tomato seedlings by transplanting them into cold soil or cold air. Night temperatures should be a consistent 50 degrees before planting out peppers.

I typically preheat the soil my peppers are to be

planted in with black plastic, laying it right down in the garden bed for a week prior to planting. I cut holes into it at transplanting time, amending each hole as I go.

For added warmth, some gardeners looking to get a head start often use a row cover to add a few degrees of warmth and protect plants from the wind.

Tomatoes are planted outside after all danger of frost has passed. Typically on Memorial Day! In fact, I think the whole “safe date” theory came to be because of tomatoes! When I was just getting started in horticulture I remember all sorts of contraptions people used to use to try and get the first ripe tomato in the neighborhood.

By planting tomatoes transplants earlier you could get earlier fruiting. Cloches or wall-o-waters were popular before the floating row covers became the rage.

I typically wait to transplant my tomatoes. Mine are huge this year.

Remember, if your plants get big and your are still a few weeks away from getting them from the six pack into the ground, “pot them up.” It's a term for going up a size, say from a cell to a four inch pot, so roots don't get bound before they get the chance to live happily ever after in the garden.

Soon enough, for sure!

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.

In the Garden
by Roberta McQuaid



SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Social Security's 'First Year Rule' and Withdrawing from SS

Dear Rusty:

I am 63 years old, and about to apply for my Social Security benefits.

I am self-employed but only working part time. I know about Social Security's annual earnings limit but recently I learned I must also be concerned about a monthly earnings limit of \$2,040. My questions are:

1) How do I find out if I will be subject to a monthly earning limit of \$2,040 per month? I thought it was only evaluated annually.

2) If I choose to cancel Social Security within the first year or after, what are the penalties? Would I have to pay them back for the whole amount for the whole time that they paid me? Which makes no sense, since I have been paid into SS since I was 13 years old.

Can you help me understand this?

Signed: Claiming Early and Still Working

Dear Claiming Early:

It can get tricky if you are still working after claiming your Social Security before your SS Full Retirement Age, especially during your first year collecting. I'm happy to answer your specific questions:

1. There is a special rule which applies during your first year collecting early Social Security benefits (e.g., before your Full Retirement Age or “FRA,” which for you is age 67). What will happen is this: when the IRS provides SSA with your

2026 earnings (in 2027), SSA will review to see if your total 2026 net earnings from self-employment exceeded the 2026 annual limit of \$24,480.

If not, no further action is necessary. But if you did exceed the full year 2026 earnings limit, SSA will contact you and ask you to provide them with details about your monthly 2026 net earnings. If you have exceeded the monthly limit in any 2026 month after your SS benefit started, you will not be entitled to SS benefits for that month.

Essentially, if you have exceeded the annual limit, you cannot exceed the monthly earnings limit in any remaining month during your first year of collecting. If you exceeded the annual limit and also any monthly limit, SSA will send you an overpayment notice saying you must repay them for the benefits you were not entitled to receive because you exceeded the monthly earnings limit.

2. You can, within 12 months of applying for Social Security, ask SSA to withdraw your application for SS retirement benefits. They will do that for you, but you will also be required to repay them all SS benefits that they have already paid to (or for) you.

This essentially would “wipe the slate clean” and enable your SS benefit to

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 6

in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer



PHOTO BY CONNIE SCHWAIGER
Brown thrasher

A Western Massachusetts resident spotted this brown thrasher in the Berkshire foothills.

Sometimes they visit feeders like the one in the attached photo. Brown thrashers blend in with their surrounding and are tricky to spot.

They are fairly large, slender songbirds with long proportions: the legs are long and sturdy, the bill is long and slightly down curved and the tail is long.

They often cock the tail upward in the manner of wrens. A bright yellow eye, gray brown face and black and white wings bars are other identifying features.

Thrashers are reddish brown on the head, back, tail and wings. They have a white breast and belly with darker speckling.

They are 9.1 to 11.8 inches long or slightly small-

er than a blue jay. The brown thrasher is the only thrasher species found east of Texas.

Thrashers have one of the largest repertoires of any North American songbird over 1,000 different songs. Since they rarely venture far from thick undergrowth, there singing give their location away especially when perched in a treetop or shrubs.

Their songs are a complex string of many musical phrases, many copied from other birds' songs with each phrase typically sung twice. They also make a distinctive, harsh “tsuck” note.

They imitate other birds including Chuck-will's-widows, wood thrushes and northern flickers.

Both males and females incubate the eggs and feed the young. Nestlings sometimes leave the nest fully feathered within nine days of hatching, earlier than either of their smaller relatives, the northern mockingbird and gray catbird.

An aggressive defender of its nest, the Brown Thrasher is known to strike people and dogs hard enough to draw blood.

Shrubby habitats are popular hideouts for nest predators, which may explain why the thrashers fledge so quickly for birds of their size. Brown Thrashers are the largest common host of parasitic brown-headed cowbirds.

The oldest Brown Thrasher on record was at least 10 years, 11 months old. It was found in Florida in 1978 where it was banded in 1967.

Rose-breasted grosbeak

A Worthington resident saw a rose-breasted grosbeak showed up at his feeder earlier than usual on May 1. He said they always arrive the first week of May. Last year it was not until May 7.

Belchertown birds

A Belchertown resident sent an email reporting birds seen and heard on his property. They included Baltimore oriole, gray catbirds, a Blackburnian warbler in the maple tree, and he heard, but not seen, a northern parula. He also has a pair of eastern phoebes nesting under an eave of the house.

At nearby Lake Wallace, he took photos of yellow warblers and a green heron catching fish.

Red-shouldered hawk

A Montgomery resident

saw a red-shouldered hawk recently.

Nesting sparrows

A Belchertown resident said she had sparrows using a nest box in her yard. She found a few of their babies on the ground. At first, I thought something got into the nest, but today a found another one. I think the nestling had died and the parents got them out. She said she may remove the nest box and replace it with a new one in case the sparrows succumbed to disease.

Brimfield birds.

A Brimfield resident said he put up the hummingbird feeders in late April when he learned of a ruby-throated hummingbird in Ware. A couple days later he had an adult male ruby-throated hummingbird and a few days later he saw a female.

He said, “One each gray catbirds, male Baltimore oriole and males rose-breasted grosbeak showed up last week. This week a second male oriole and two more grosbeaks show up, another male and a female. He also has a male eastern towhee in his yard. He said, “A couple of years ago we had two male towhees in the yard and one spent the summer attacking its reflection in the many windows despite best efforts to dissuade it.”

He said elsewhere, in Warren on South Street there are three occupied great blue heron nest and two others he was not sure if they were being used. The osprey pair has been around for awhile. The nest has gotten deeper over the years and on a recent visit he could only see the tail or maybe wing feathers barely showing above the nest. I think incubation has started, but can't be sure.

He also has a male common yellowthroat and house wren in his yard.

He said, “House wrens have nested in nesting boxes in the yard several times and I saw feathers near the entrance hole on a box they have used before. The wrens have a habit of building false nests in a couple of boxes that they never use.”

He also said, “A male yellow-bellied sapsucker spent some time on a native dogwood and today a sapsucker, probably the same one, spent several hours tapping away at the same tree.”

Geese in a pavilion

On May 12, I drove by Camp Putnam in New Braintree and saw four geese under their pavilion near the pond. I see many Canada geese in fields or ponds, but I have never seen them in a pavilion.

Other birds

On May 8 I received an

See **BACKYARD** page 6

Chicopee Register

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Send letters to:

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or email
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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 journalregister@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

Events & announcements schedule

Win a trip to Italy while supporting hospice patients in need

CHICOPEE - Local nonprofit Harmony House of Western Massachusetts invites the community to take a chance on winning a trip to Italy for two while supporting its mission and residents.

The nonprofit is selling tickets for \$100 per chance to win a guided trip for two to Italy, with several destinations, including Rome, Capri, and the Amalfi Coast, from October 10-20, 2026.

Only 250 chances will be sold and the prize package-valued at \$9,900-includes airfare, accommodations, transportation, meals, and a curated travel experience, making it a unique opportunity for community members to help care for their neighbors facing terminal illness. Profits from the raffle will directly

support Harmony House's mission of providing a home with compassionate end-of-life care and companionship to hospice patients in need, regardless of their financial status or any other circumstances.

This is the second year Harmony House has hosted the fundraiser. Last year's winners, Jerry and Marilyn, reflected on their experience, sharing, "You buy something like this and assume that it would just be a donation, but this was the trip of a lifetime! Great trip, brand new buses, guides were very knowledgeable, and the information session at Figaro's Restaurant before the trip was very informative."

Tickets are available for purchase now through Thursday, June 4, and the drawing will take place via Facebook Live on Friday, June 5. Visit HarmonyHouseWMA.org/

ItalyRaffle for purchase options, trip itinerary, and terms and conditions. Tickets are also available for purchase at Figaro's Restaurant in Enfield, Pizza Lino in Chicopee, and the office of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Westfield.

Powerback Rehab To-You

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host Powerback Rehab for Physical Therapy appointment every Monday starting Jan. 5 at 10 a.m. at RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Powerback Rehab To-You is a mobile therapy program that brings care directly to you! Powerback Rehab will be at RiverMills Center for appointments to help your recovery whether dealing with a recent injury chronic pain or seeking performance enhancement. These appointments are free. This program

is open to members 55 and older. There are limited appointments, so you must register in advance at RiverMills or by calling 534-3698.

First Central Bible Church Announces Programs for Children and Youth

CHICOPEE - First Central Bible Church, located at 50 Broadway Street in Chicopee, is now offering five age-suitable programs from infants through grade 12 that are designed to help children and youth come to know the Bible, grow closer to God, and build a Christian community.

Sunday Morning

Before Sunday service, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., the church's Sunday School partners with parents and caregivers in nurturing children's faith through engaging lessons and activities. Classes are held for ages two through

grade 9. Nursery care is provided for children through age two. For adults, a variety of studies are available during this time.

During the service, from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m., First Central offers Junior Church for age five through fifth grade. While adults attend the service, children experience Bible teaching at their level through lessons, songs, games, and projects. The nursery is available for children through age four.

Wednesday Evening

Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. children ages two through fifth grade are invited to participate in Awana, which combines Scripture memorization, Bible teaching, fun activities, and mentorship to help children know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. Please register on the church website at www.firstcentral.church.

www.firstcentral.church.

Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., young people in grades six through twelve can join the church's Youth Group, which combines large- and small-group discussions. Sample topics include how the world's values differ from God's and the nature of sin. Participants explore their viewpoints while learning to apply Christian principles to their lives. No registration is required.

First Central Bible Church, located at 50 Broadway Street, Chicopee, exists to glorify God by making and maturing disciples of Jesus. Sunday service is held at 10:30 a.m. All are invited to join us in worship, prayer, learning from the Word, glorifying God, and feeling the warmth of fellowship. For more information, please visit www.firstcentral.church.



Artwork on display; the event was also possible thanks to the Mass Cultural Council.

SPRING FLING from page 1

Vieau. "I am truly thankful for our Family and Community Engagement Department and the remarkable event they organized," Vieau said. "A heartfelt thank you to Kristen (Coelho) for creating such a wonderful afternoon for our

students and families."

The mayor then continued his thoughts of reflection.

"The day was filled with enjoyable activities, shared cultural experiences, lunch provided by our own Chicopee Fresh, and valuable resources," Vieau said. "I truly couldn't have imagined a more perfect afternoon. It's

always uplifting to witness our community unite on a beautiful day, and I am immensely proud of the dedicated staff in our city who make events like this possible."

Lastly, Coelho noted that the School Department is already looking forward to next year's Spring Spectacular, with more to come soon.



Families also enjoyed a bounce house at the event.



Attendees get out on the dance floor to learn some salsa dance moves.



The littlest of visitors enjoy some arts and crafts.



Members of the Chicopee Public Schools with Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware.

IN THE CITY

PV Financial Group welcomes Tony Salemi to the team

CHICOPEE - PV Financial Group is pleased to welcome Tony Salemi to the firm as an Operations Support Specialist, having joined the team in January 2026.



Tony Salemi

His varied experience and industry knowledge provide a well-rounded perspective in supporting both advisors and clients.

After working independently, Salemi is looking forward to contributing within a collaborative and supportive environment while helping clients take meaningful steps toward their financial futures.

Salemi is a graduate of Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, then went on to complete certifications through the Financial Advisor Training Institute, where he earned both his Series 7 and Series 66 licenses.

PV Financial Group remains committed to investing in talented professionals who share the firm's dedication to and vision to the client experience, professional growth, and community impact.

Swing into Spring

CHICOPEE - Groovy Baby Music and Music and Movement! Bring your little one to enjoy a class of music, movement, story time and play time.

Fridays for six weeks, 10 to 11 a.m. on May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 18 and 26.

It is never too early to begin your child's music education. Ages three months to 18 months' Siblings are welcome. No cost to families

Where: OHANA Clubhouse, 43 Sheridan St., Chicopee.

Information with Mrs. Silvia - Cell: 413-505-9053, e-mail: DurandS@headstart.org

Funded by the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

Events at RiverMills Senior Center

Basic Sign Language

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will offer a 4-part Basic American Sign Language Series at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Join staff from the Willie Rose School for the Deaf for this 4-part series to learn basic American Sign Language. You will learn the alphabet, practice fingerspelling and will also build everyday vocabulary. Through games, activities, and lots of practice, you will learn how to introduce yourself ask simple questions and respond in basic con-

versation. This is a class designed to be beginner friendly, so no experience is needed! The classes will take place May 11, May 18, June 1 and June 8 from 4 to 5 p.m. The cost of the series is \$5 and you must register in advance by stopping by RiverMills or calling 534-3698.

Nutrition Counseling at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will now offer one-on-one nutrition counseling the second Tuesday of each month beginning May 11 at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at

5 W. Main Street.

Certified Nutrition Coach Rosemary Santinello will be at RiverMills for 1-on-1 Nutrition Counseling appointments the second Tuesday of every month, beginning May 11. You will go over your dietary goals and will discuss some other health factors such as cholesterol, hypertension and other health related issues to then come up with a nutrition plan that caters to your specific needs.

The cost is \$30 and you must register in advance by stopping by RiverMills or calling 534-3698.

DANIELS from page 1

office, Planning, Building, fire, health, any department that might be involved in development process, so whether it's someone starting a business for the first time or a current business who's doing a renovation or expansion or if it's a business from outside of Chicopee that is considering investing here. Trying to set up a process that would kind of start with me as the first person to introduce them to what that process would look like and then coordinate with all those different departments to help them learn what they are going to do, so it goes smoothly for them and there's no surprise and they get a sense of what it'll take to get started to do business here."

Daniels said what makes his new role different from his previous one is working directly under the mayor and, he thinks, "a little bit more of a role of trying to drive some of the bigger projects and initiatives forward and, really,

making sure that the mayor's priorities and economic development, we get some movement on them."

"I work with some of the major property owners or stakeholders in the community to see that vision go forward in both the things that the city does to invest or incentivize and the things that the private business community are doing, working with all that," Daniels said.

Daniels added how "Chicopee had a lot of appeal for me" when he applied for the role.

"It seemed to fit very nicely with the skillset and experience I had. So, East Hartford, a lot of similarities in that you have this history of the aerospace industry. Here, having Westover, there having Pratt & Whitney and then associated companies and workers and industry. Having a lot of manufacturing locations, working with the workforce development is something I want to focus on of making sure that the employers here can find the right people to fill the roles

that they have," Daniels said. "And then working with education, whether at the Elms or UMass or even Chicopee High and Chicopee Comp try and make sure that there's a fit between the skills that are being taught and what the employers are looking for, so that students who are in the area have the opportunity to stay here and that the employers can still keep those jobs here. Hopefully, we'll be doing some outreach and events and seminars and things around workforce development going forward."

Some of his goals in the next three months include continuing to establish himself with the community and businesses, having a more formal process for follow-ups, and starting work with Planning Director Lee Pouliot and others on big, outstanding projects, such as the Uniroyal development, for example.

"I've already been working on a grant application that, previously, I think the developer, Jay Jeffers, from Wisconsin, had submitted

in a previous round of grant funding and it wasn't awarded and so, we're working to be a partnered application with the city as the lead applicant, but Jay Jeffers as our development partner to reapply to the state for some funding for pre-eval work. Looking at architecture, looking at analysis of the current conditions of the site," Daniels said. "Michelin was over there doing some of the environmental cleanup already because they're responsible for that through the ownership of Uniroyal, but hopefully I can be helping to move that project along and working with the developer, hopefully we get this grant funding and then I can start working with them kind of managing some of the steps of the initial development tasks."

Other goals include working on the downtown Chicopee Center area—having already connected with Steve Huntley from the Valley Opportunity Council and the businesses in that area—building relationships and partnerships with local busi-

nesses and community organizations and office hours at the library.

Daniels shared that making connections and meeting people fulfills his work most, especially when a business finally fulfills a dream of opening.

"In East Hartford, we had a business called Perfect Pound Cakes and it was an African-American couple. African-American woman-owned business and she really kind of scratched and clawed to find any way of making her business happen and she's now got a really successful business. There was another one in East Hartford called Big Star Afro Cuisine, a very similar woman of color who had a dream of taking her family recipes and opening a small restaurant and it's doing great," Daniels said. "I'm excited to meet those people in Chicopee who have those kind of dreams or overcome some of the obstacles that are out there to maybe starting your own business and helping them find the resources they need and get through the

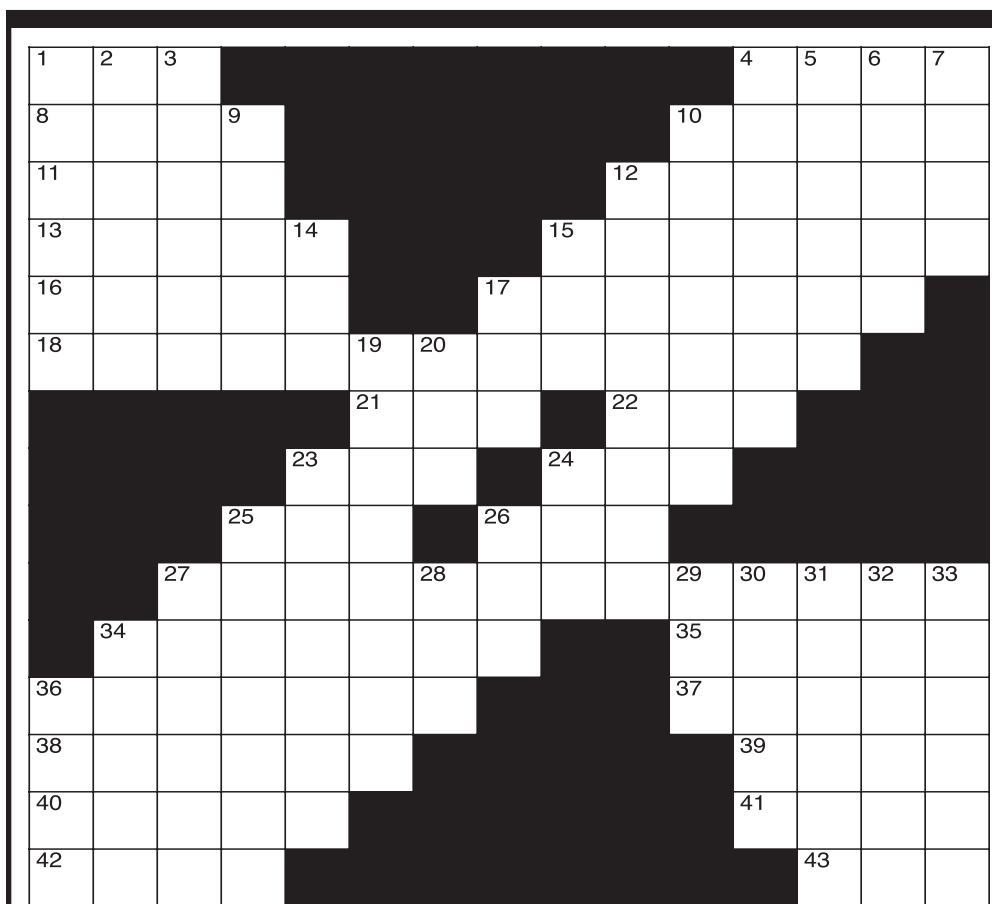
processes that they have to in order to get up and running."

He also emphasized seeing an opportunity to take initiatives "up and running and moving forward" and taking things to the next level and providing resources for business owners about grants and organizations—such as the Small Business Administration, SCORE and the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce with their new Economic Development Committee—that can assist.

Daniels looks forward to working with the community.

"I'm approachable, whether you own a business or whether you're a resident, I'm happy to talk to you, get to know about your experiences, the ideas you have, the things that you've been looking for, hoping for in Chicopee," Daniels said. "We want to be approachable and be a partner with everyone to help you just be a part of this community."

To contact Daniels, email mdaniels@chicopeema.gov or call 413-377-4015.



BACKYARD from page 4

email reporting a scarlet tanager, grosbeaks and hummingbirds.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005. The Palmer office has a new phone system and I will be getting an extension where messages may be left. I will publish the number as soon as it is set up.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

continue growing, allowing you to apply for a larger monthly benefit later. But if you wait longer than 12 months after you first apply for SS benefits, you can no longer withdraw your application for Social Security. Thereafter, you would be subject to the annual earnings limit (the monthly earnings limit would no longer apply).

FYI, after you reach your FRA, there is no limit on your earnings and you could choose to suspend your benefit payments and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) to get a higher monthly benefit. Also at your FRA, if SSA withheld any of your benefits because you exceeded the earnings limit before reaching your FRA, you would get time credit for the number of months your benefits were withheld. Essentially, they would advance your benefit-start month by the number of months your benefits were withheld, yielding a slightly higher monthly amount after your FRA.

Finally, it's important to know that the contributions you made to Social Security from payroll taxes (FICA/SECA) over your lifetime

are not what determines your monthly SS benefit amount. Your monthly SS benefit is based on two main factors: a) your average monthly earnings (indexed for inflation) for the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime as reported to the IRS, and b) the age at which you claim your SS benefits.

Your contributions to Social Security while working only provide you with eligibility to collect SS benefits; the contributions aren't put into a separate account for you and are not used to calculate your monthly SS benefit.

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

NOTICE

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

NEWS & FEATURES

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

For more information on news or community features for The Chicopee Register, please email chicopeeregister@turley.com.

CLUES ACROSS

- Government lawyers
- The back of a person's neck
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- In a less flashy way
- Living room piece
- Shepherd dog
- A citizen of Iran
- Moved slowly
- Small finch
- Previously
- What a kid does on Halloween
- Monetary unit
- Using dry humor
- Ocean

CLUES DOWN

- Greek goddess of the dawn
- Not close
- NHL legend Bobby
- A ballplayer would love to do this
- Charity
- City in Finland
- Loomed over
- Vaccine developer
- Avoids capture
- We all need it
- Openwork fabrics
- Get away
- Something you might hit
- Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- Abstain from
- Admirer
- Expedition to observe animals
- Act that is legally void
- WW2 combatants
- A tool
- Looked at
- Showing wild excitement
- Banknotes
- Tired
- Printers need it
- Women's patriotic group
- When you anticipate getting somewhere

CLUES DOWN

- Functions
- Breed of sheep
- Mocking pieces
- A major division of geological time
- Andiron
- Many not ands
- Cuban city
- He voiced "Olaf"
- Criticize
- "Thundercats" character
- Markings
- Gets up
- MLB lefty reliever A.J.
- An assembly of witches
- High energy lasers (abbr.)

SPORTS

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Comp grabs walk-off win over Tantasqua

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE-- The first meeting on the baseball diamond between the Tantasqua Warriors and the Chicopee Comp Colts since 2019 saw a dramatic conclusion.

The non-league contest was tied, 2-2, entering the seventh inning before the two squads combined to score nine runs.

The visitors from Fiskdale hit for the cycle in the top half of the final frame leading to four runs, but they wound up leaving the bases loaded.

Comp responded with five runs in the bottom half of the inning and celebrated a thrilling 7-6 walk-off victory at the newly rededicated Coach Dulchinos Field in Chicopee on May 11.

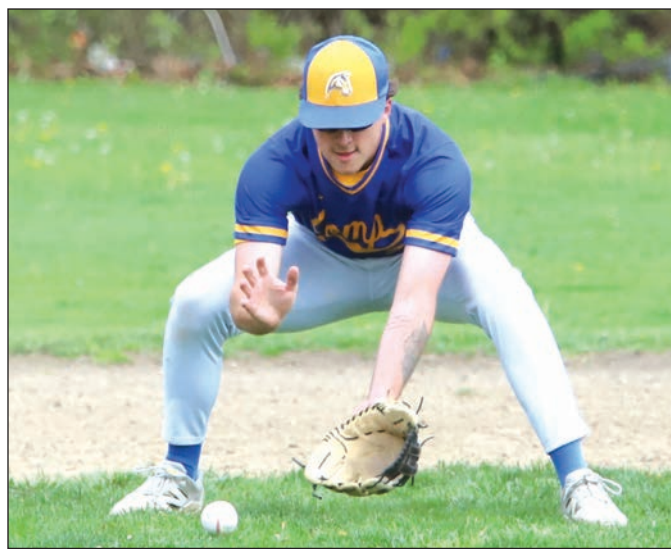
"After the top of the seventh inning, it was as low as you could feel," said Chicopee Comp head coach Justin Franczek. "There isn't a better feeling than the jubilation following a walk-off victory. It's just a great feeling."

The victory kept the Colts dreams of qualifying for the Division 2 state tournament alive.

"We also kept our state tournament chances alive," Franczek added. "We just need to find a way to win our final regular season game and our two non-playoff games next week."

The Colts (7-11) hopes of playing in the state tournament came to an end following a 10-5 home loss to East Longmeadow the following afternoon.

The Warriors (5-11) were in a similar position. They were eliminated for the Division 3 state tournament after being shut out by Millbury at home two days later.



Tanner Martell fields a grounder to third.

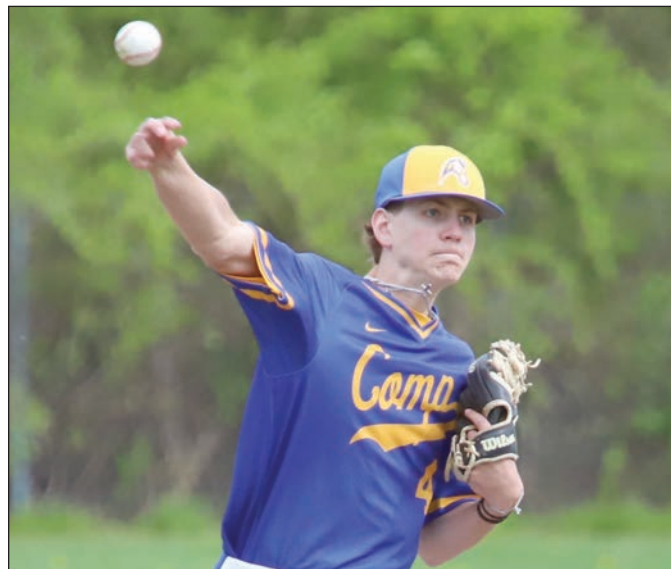
"This loss hurts our post-season chances," said Tantasqua head coach Jon Leroux. "We did a very good job of taking the lead in the top of the seventh inning, but we couldn't hang onto it. We just didn't make any plays in the bottom of the seventh inning. It's a very frustrating loss."

Junior righthander Jacoby Haney, who was Comp's starting pitcher, retired the first two Warriors batters

in the seventh inning on a strikeout and a groundball out. He couldn't record the third out of the frame.

Tantasqua's rally began with sophomore third baseman Paul Savage (2-for-4) hitting a triple to right field. He crossed the plate when sophomore leftfielder Jack Nichols blasted the first pitch that he saw to deep leftfield for an inside-the-park home run. Following a line-drive single by senior centerfielder Brady Willitts, who was a perfect 4-for-4, junior second baseman Mason Boucher (2-for-4) tripled to left, which extended the Warriors lead to 5-2. Senior catcher Ethan LaPlante, who had walked twice, drove

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Matthew Sutton makes a throw to first.



Evan LaFountaine delivers a pitch for the Colts.



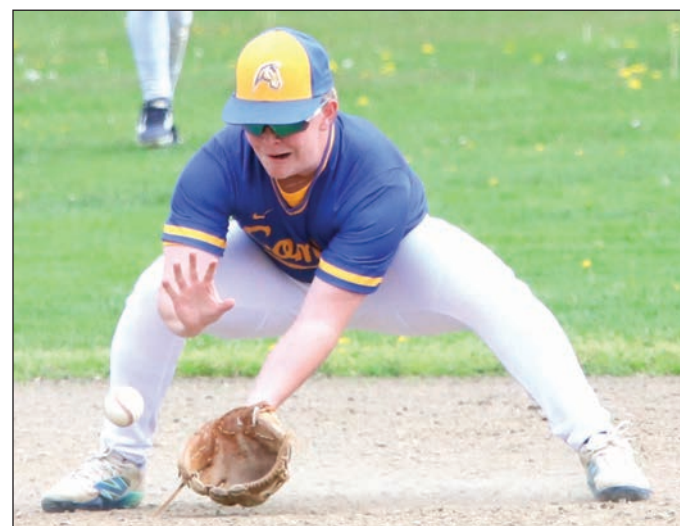
Teagan Martel-Moylan fields a short-hop pitch.

home another run with a double. Sophomore first baseman J.D. Gunagan and senior DH Chase Bond drew back-to-back walks, which loaded the bases.

At that point, Haney was replaced on the mound by senior righty Julian LaFlamme, who began the game behind the plate. LaFlamme, who wound up earning the victory, struck out the only batter that he faced which was the third out of the inning.

Trailing by four runs, senior leftfielder Jack Corriveau drew a walk against Savage, who had replaced Comp senior righthander Evan LaFountain on the mound with no outs in the fifth inning.

Freshman DH Brayden Klett also drew a walk against senior righty relief pitcher Jack Blood. Haney (2-for-4) followed with an infield hit, which loaded the bases. Then junior right fielder John Rentas was hit-by-a-pitch forcing



Zach Bajgier fields the ground ball to second base.

home the Colts' first run of the seventh inning. Senior first baseman Justin Lafontaine continued the Colts comeback with an RBI single to left field, which set the stage for senior third baseman Tanner Martell. He hit a fast-ball into centerfielder scoring a pair of runs. Lafontaine also scored the game winning run on the play following a throwing error giving the Colts their first walk-off win of the season.

"We were down four runs entering the bottom of the seventh and I knew that we could make a comeback," Martell said. "This was my first game winning hit during my varsity baseball career. It just feels amazing."

The Colts took a 1-0 lead in the second inning.

Senior centerfielder

See **BASEBALL**
page 8

Pacers take part in nonplayoff action

CHICOPEE – Last week, the regular season ended for the Chicopee High School baseball team. The Pacers had a 6-12 campaign, with losses to Monson and Holyoke to finish out the regular season. Chicopee was scheduled to SICCS and Lee in their final matchups of the season. Prior to their

last two defeats, Chicopee had won two of three games, defeating Commerce High School and Mahar Regional.

Unfortunately for the Pacers, they will not make the state tournament. The Pacers are in Division 3 and ranked 70 out of 72 teams, and cannot qualify with a record below .500.

T-Birds steal Game 2 over the Penguins

WILKES-BARRE, PA - The Springfield Thunderbirds authored one of the most remarkable comebacks in team history, storming back from three behind to shock the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins in overtime, 4-3, on Thursday night in Game 2 of the Atlantic Division Finals inside Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza. With the win, Springfield evened the series at one win apiece and stole home ice advantage.

The Penguins' newest offensive weapon again proved to be a thorn in the T-Birds' sides at the 8:42 mark of the first. With Wilkes-Barre/Scranton operating on its first power play of Game 2, Bill Zonnon parked himself just outside Georgii Romanov's goal crease and deflected a Mikhail Ilyin

shot behind the Springfield goalie to make it a 1-0 Penguins lead.

Romanov was the far busier netminder in the first 20 minutes, with the Penguins heftily outshooting the T-Birds 14-4 in the frame, but the Springfield goalie continued his stellar work to keep the deficit at just a single goal heading into intermission. Sergei Murashov had little work to do in the first himself, needing to stop just four Springfield attempts.

Springfield's deficit grew almost instantaneously in the middle period, when Ilyin freed up a loose puck in the right circle, allowing Tristan Broz to rip it home just 16 seconds into

See **T-BIRDS**
page 8

Volleyball Hall of Fame announces Class of 2026

Headline: Volley Hall announces Class of 2026

HOLYOKE – The International Volleyball Hall of Fame (IVHF) is proud to announce its 2026 induction class, with the official ceremony scheduled for October 17 in Holyoke, Mass., USA, the Birthplace of Volleyball. This prestigious group of nine legends, representing eight distinct disciplines within the sport, has been selected for their history-making contributions, standard-setting excellence as global icons on the field of play and significant impact off the court. In addition, four special award honorees will also be honored for their contributions to the sport.

The 40th IVHF induction class features transformational leader and former FIVB President Dr. Ary Graça (Brazil, leader); three-time Olympian and FIVB World Champion April Ross (United States, female beach player); two-time Olympic Gold Medalist and legendary libero Fabiana "Fabi" Alvim (Brazil, female indoor player); two-time Olympian and World Cup Gold medalist Yoel "Joël" Despaigne (Cuba, male indoor player); four-time Olympian and two-time World Champion Ekaterina Gamova (Russia, female indoor player); three-time Olympian and two-time World Champion Alison Cerutti (Brazil, male beach player); legendary player who also coached his country's first Olympic Gold Medal-winning team Laurent Tillie (France, coach); the

architect of Paralympic inclusion Denis Le Breuille (England, ParaVolley) and three-time Olympic referee Takashi Shimoyama (Japan, referee).

Also announced are four special award winners, recognized for their contributions to the IVHF or the global sport of volleyball itself. They include the late Gabriel Cherbetiu (Mintonna Medallion of Merit, Romania/Mexico), John Cook (Mayoral Award of Excellence, United States), Starlings USA (Court of Honor, United States) and Alejandro Coccia (Award for Media Excellence, Argentina).

"The IVHF 2026 Induction Class brings together some of the most outstanding figures in our sport. Big congratulations to the inductees and to the IVHF Leadership," said Fabio Azevedo, President of the FIVB. "The entire Global Volleyball Movement thanks and fully supports the excellent work carried out by the IVHF in promoting the values, legacy and heritage of our sport by honoring the athletes, leaders and officials who have made an exceptional contribution to the development of volleyball around the world. Celebrating these legends strongly aligns with the FIVB Strategic Vision 2032, and our continued partnership with the IVHF helps bring this vision to life. Together as One!"

All told, the IVHF has inducted 185 individuals from 27 countries into its historic Hall of Fame - those totals will rise to 194 inductees

from 28 countries after the 2026 event, as this will be England's first inductee. Three of the inductees also earned one of their votes by winning the Fan Vote for their respective category. More detailed information on each inductee can be found below.

"The International Volleyball Hall of Fame continues to serve as a bridge between the sport's remarkable history and its exciting future," said Steve Bishop, President of the IVHF Board of Directors. "The Class of 2026 reflects the worldwide growth, diversity, excellence, and enduring legacy of volleyball across every level and discipline of the game. On behalf of the International Volleyball Hall of Fame Board of Directors, we are proud to honor these extraordinary individuals whose achievements and lifelong contributions have helped inspire generations of athletes, coaches, officials, leaders, and fans while continuing to shape the future of our sport around the world."

The 2026 International Volleyball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place in Holyoke, Massachusetts, USA on Saturday, October 17, 2026. The event is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis, and ticket packages are available online now at VolleyHall.org/Induction-Celebration.

"This is one of the most historically significant classes ever assembled by the International Volleyball Hall of Fame," said George Mulry,

Executive Director of the IVHF. "Collectively, the Class of 2026 and this year's special award recipients have helped shape, elevate and redefine the sport of volleyball across multiple eras, disciplines and continents. From Olympic champions and transformational global leaders to innovators in coaching, officiating, media and ParaVolley, their influence can be seen in nearly every corner of the game today. Together, they represent the evolution of volleyball itself — honoring the sport's rich history while inspiring its future generations."

Volleyball enthusiasts are encouraged to sign up for the IVHF Insider e-newsletter for behind-the-scenes and exclusive content before, during and after Induction Weekend, including the new series "The Road To Holyoke." To sign up for free, please visit ivhf.org

The International Volleyball Hall of Fame is a 501c3 nonprofit based in Holyoke, Mass., and is dedicated to honoring the legends, recognizing the greats and preserving the history of volleyball at all levels - men and women, amateur and professional players, coaches and contributors, around the world. The IVHF was incorporated in 1978 and continues to create a diversely representative institution from a wide range of countries and disciplines.

For more information on the induction events, please visit the Hall's website at www.ivhf.org or email info@ivhf.org

SPORTS

Pioneers get 2026 campaign underway with win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW— Since joining USL League Two in 2019, the Western Mass. Pioneers have qualified for the league playoffs each season. A new group of Pioneers players are hoping to continue the post-season tradition this spring.

In front of a large crowd at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, the Pioneers began the 2026 campaign with a 4-2 victory over the Albany Rush, last Friday night.

“Most of the players on last year’s team graduated from college, so we do have a lot of first-year players this season,” said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. “I thought we played well in tonight’s game. We had a lot of opportunities, especially in the first half.”

The Pioneers posted a 10-1-3 regular season record a year ago. They lost to FC Motown STA, 2-1, in the Eastern Conference quarter-finals.

A couple of the Pioneers players from last year’s squad have signed with professional soccer teams.

“It’s really nice to see your players playing soccer at a high level,” said Molinari, who’s been leading the Pioneers since 2012. “That’s our main goal every year.”

One of the local players listed on the 2026 Pioneers roster is Thomas Wadas, who’s played soccer for the Ludlow Lions and is currently a member of the UMass-Amherst men’s soccer team.

Wadas has been listed on the Pioneers roster for the past several years. He made his first start for the Pioneers in the season opening match.

“I used to watch the Pioneers games from the stands, so I’ve been looking forward to this moment for a long time,” said Wadas, who’s a



Michael Gouvin, of Monson, sends a pass away.

midfielder. “Being a starter in the season opener is a very special thing to me. We played hard for the whole 90 minutes of tonight’s game. When we come together as a cohesive team, we can look forward to another strong season. Anything less than making the playoffs seems like a failure.”

Wadas was a starter in ten of the 15 games that he played in for the Minutemen as a freshman last fall. He finished the 2025 season with two goals and three assists.

“It was a big adjustment going from the high school level to the collegiate level,” Wadas said. “All of the players are bigger and stronger in college. The game is also a lot more physical. I’m just glad that I was able to contribute as a freshman. Playing for the Pioneers is only going to help me prepare for my sophomore season at UMass.”

A first-year player member of the Pioneers is Michael Gouvin, who’s from Monson. His older sister, Laura, played for the New England Mutiny several years ago.



Pearse O'Brien advances the ball.

Gouvin, who comes from a soccer family, attended Avon Old Farms before playing two seasons for the men’s soccer team at the University of New Hampshire. He decided to transfer to Bentley University before the start of last season.

“I used to play youth soccer games on this field. It feels awesome to be back here playing again,” said Gouvin, who’s a starting defender. “I’ve never played a game in this type of environment before. Winning our first game of the season feels incredible.”

The Pioneers have won every match that they’ve played against the Rush since 2022. They outscored them, 11-0, in both matches last season.

Prior to the start of the match, third grader Brooke Lamothe did an outstanding job of performing the National Anthem.

The Rush ended their scoreless spell against the Pioneers when Lucas Horja fired a shot into the back of the net past Western Mass. goalie Ben Alexander for an

unassisted goal during the 11th minute of the opening half.

The Pioneers quickly took over the momentum.

The home side had five corner kicks before scoring the equalizer in the 37th minute.

An Albany player fouled Wadas, which gave the Pioneers a free kick. Pearse O’Brien booted the ball into the box and Matiws Rumley managed to score the tying goal.

Two minutes later, an Albany player fouled O’Brien inside the box resulting in a penalty kick.

O’Brien, who’s from West Hartford Conn., stepped up to the spot and lined a shot into the back of the net giving the Pioneers the lead for the first time.

Horja scored the tying goal nine minutes into the second half.

Five minutes later, Gouvin sent a pass into the box from the right wing where Felipe De Andrade, who had just entered the match as a sub, headed the ball into the net.



Jaiden Williams, of Belchertown, competes with an opponent.



Sam Montalto looks to pass.

“I saw that Felipe was open and I just sent him the ball,” Gouvin said. “It was a perfect play. My main goal in every game is to make an impact.”

The duo of Alfred Baafi and Martin Echarren, who also came off the bench, hooked up on the Pioneers final goal during the 82nd min-



Fernando Delgado dribbles up the field.

ute. Echarren flicked a shot into the net for his first goal as a Pioneers player.

The Pioneers are scheduled to play a road game against the Seacoast United Phantoms on Wednesday night before returning home to face NEFC at 7:30 on Saturday night.

T-BIRDS from page 7

the second, making it 2-0. Springfield’s power play received two chances to try to take a bite out of the two-goal

hole, but Murashov and the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton penalty kill answered the bell with successive dispatchings.

Then it was the Penguins’ turn to return to the power play late in the period, and

Avery Hayes made no mistake, taking a cross-ice setup from Rutger McGroarty and whipping a forehander past Romanov’s blocker at 18:16.

The Penguins began the final period with another

power play and a chance to put the T-Birds away. Instead, Springfield began their comeback for the ages when Hugh McGing rifled home a one-timer, shorthanded, past Murashov just 55 seconds into the period to make it 3-1.

Springfield tilted the ice heavily in their favor for the entirety of the final period, unleashing 20 shots in 20 minutes on Murashov. Still, it would take the T-Birds until the final four minutes to get closer when Dillon Dube deflected an Alek Kaskimaki attempt behind Murashov with 3:24 remaining to cut the

margin to 3-2.

The veteran forward was far from finished, as Dube picked up his second 6-on-5 goal with 1:50 remaining, parking himself off the right post and jabbing a loose puck behind a helpless Murashov following a Calle Rosen slapper to make it a 3-3 tie and force an improbable overtime period.

The T-Birds carried the overtime period as well, as the visitors finished the night with 31 of the game’s final 43 shots on net. Finally, it was Akil Thomas who ended the festivities with a fortuitous

bounce at 13:44 of the overtime. Thomas was spilled on a breakout down the slot area, but still got a shot away that rocketed off the end boards, careened back to the net front, bounced off Murashov’s back, and squeaked across the line to win it for Springfield.

The magical third period and overtime marked Springfield’s largest third period comeback win in their postseason history. Romanov improved to 6-2 in his postseason run, making 39 saves in the win. Murashov finished with 41 stops for the Penguins.

BASEBALL
from page 7

Jaylen Gonzalez hit a leadoff groundball single into centerfield before stealing second base. Martell drove him home with a line-drive single to left

field.

Savage tied the score at 1-1 with two outs in the fifth with an RBI single to center. Then sophomore leftfielder Jack Nichols hit a groundball that glanced off the shortstop’s glove. The ball rolled to senior second baseman Zach Bajgier, who then made a throw to LaFlamme. He tagged out the runner trying to score on the play keeping the score tied.

Bajgier lead off the bottom of the fifth by blasting a

double to left field. He scored the go-ahead run when a groundball hit by Corriveau was mishandled by the shortstop for an error.

Tantasqua junior second baseman Mason Boucher tied the score for the second time by hitting a run single to left field with no outs in the sixth inning.

Haney struck out the next three batters and the Colts weren’t able to score in the bottom of the sixth, which led to the exciting final inning.

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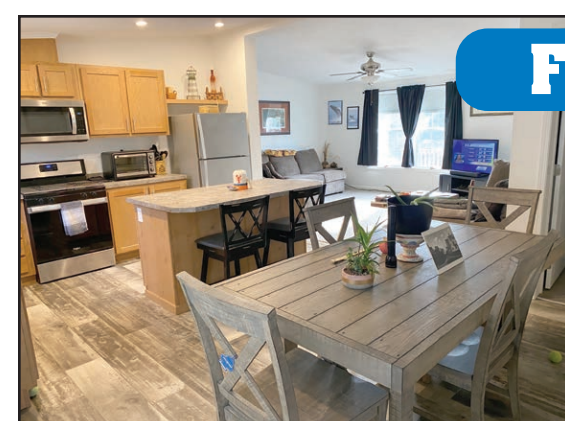
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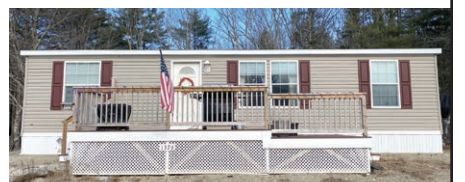


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IN THE CITY

CHICOPEE SCHOOLS from page 1

adopted Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030, which was built from over 100 hours of community conversations, more than 2,000 survey responses and the efforts of a steering committee that met throughout the 2024-2025 school year.

“Through a lot of conversations, particularly with school district and department leaders, we have a little update to some of the thinking around these priorities,” Mazur said on May 6.

Throughout this current school year, the team from the Collaborative has worked closely with principals, vice

principals and instructional leadership personnel to bring the priorities into their respective school improvement plans.

Every school has determined actions, all of which are aligned to at least one of the strategic plan priority areas. Leading indicators of success and key performance indicators are being evaluated as well.

“Also, and this is a little bit different for school district improvement plans, but for every action, your principals have articulated theories of action. In other words, they’ve said explicitly, ‘This is how we think this initiative...is supposed to work,’”

Mazur said.

Mazur noted that embedded throughout every action are equity considerations, or “thoughtful articulations of how different subgroups of students or different teachers might need to have actions differentiated or that we might need to track differently.”

Questions about feasibility have also been attended to, as the strategic plan priorities acknowledge that no one staff member or body can accomplish everything on their own.

Currently, eight schools have begun to implement the strategic plan priorities.

They include Barry Elementary, Belcher Elementary, Bowie Elementary, Litwin El-

ementary, Stefanik Elementary, Streiber Elementary, Chicopee Academy and Dupont Middle School.

Mazur said each school has made progress with the priorities.

Moving forward, several developments are expected to occur.

First, students at several elementary schools will experience more structured, welcoming arrival routines, students across the district will benefit from more engaging small- and whole-group instruction in classrooms, students at secondary schools will be given a greater voice and across the district, relationships should strengthen

between students and staff.

Teachers should experience more frequent and focused feedback and support, curriculum implementation supported by coaching and peer support, structured collaboration time anchored in student work and data and a clearer connection between school priorities and daily practices.

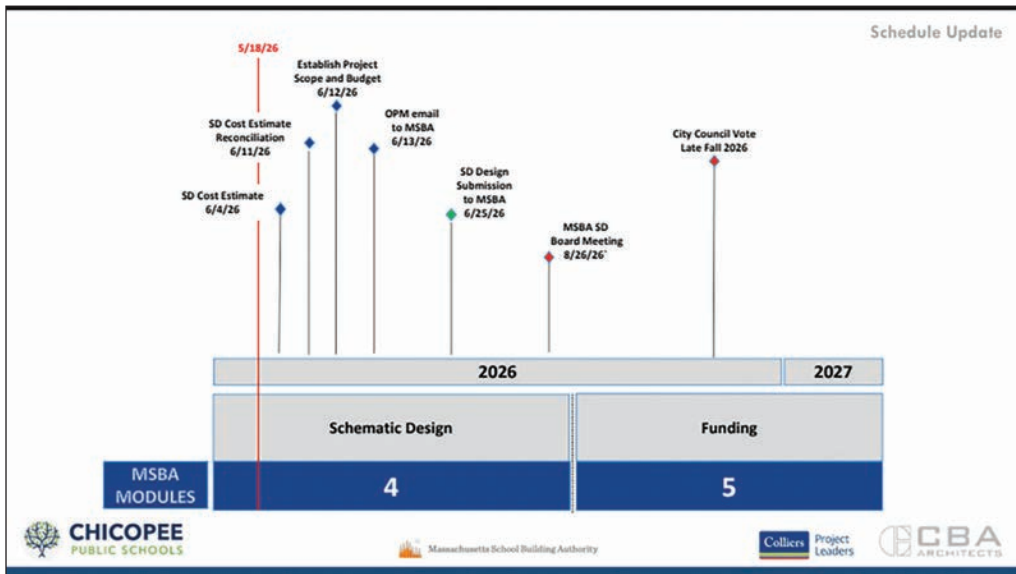
Families are expected to experience regular communication celebrating their child’s growth, more opportunities to engage in school life and a school day their child finds more welcoming and engaging.

“Back when we started this work, and while we’re

still early in the life of this strategic plan, what we’re seeing is evidence of what [district administrators] had already articulated as an overarching goal – shared strategy driving system change,” Mazur said.

As momentum builds, Mazur is confident that the district is united in its vision for the future.

“While we may be 15 schools across a very complex district with different cultures and different needs and different challenges, our efforts are coherent, and we are all heading in the same direction,” Mazur said.



Project Timeline.

BARRY SCHOOL from page 1

cerns addressed was Mayor John Vieau, who explained that public safety is and will always be his number one priority.

“Public safety is paramount to the success of our community,” Vieau said. “I’m committed to it, and number two, we’ve had pedestrian fatalities, and there were people, some that I’ve never known, and it’s very sad that that has happened. And I can assure you that as a person who studied pedestrian safety with the mayor’s innovation project, I’ve been involved in classes over many years, and that our city is looking right now at the Safe Streets for All grant, which is looking at a comprehensive approach to keeping our community safer. And one of the things that works are street diets and street calming projects, signals could be placed on the entranceway into the school, and roundabouts are 24/7.”

He added this.

“Roundabouts make you pay attention, they create natural gaps to allow traffic out. I prefer a roundabout because we want to slow down traffic every minute of the day, and the closing point is that roundabouts are going to make you pay attention, and we need to remember the roundabout hasn’t been designed yet. It’s still at a conceptual point,” Vieau said.

The MSBA Lottery

Vieau then provided a summary of how far the project has come, citing that currently, the project is now residing in the schematic design phase, which is predicated on the commission working in tandem with the MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority) to develop a project scope and budget agreement that will eventually go before the City Council for approval, which is slated for this late Fall.

He shared that the MSBA has confirmed they will offer Chicopee up to 80% reimbursement, which he deemed “hitting the lottery” to assist in the construction of the new Barry School, estimated in total to cost around \$124 million, based on results yielded from the preliminary design schematic report.

What happens if the project fails

Vieau then shifted his focus to providing a comparison in terms of how the

MSBA reimbursement process works, citing that the city has utilized the ‘lottery’ before, which resulted in the construction of Chicopee High and Chicopee Comp, which are close to surpassing the two-decade mark and, at the time of construction, fell into the 90% reimbursement range provided by the MSBA, to which the mayor described as ‘state-of-the-art’ drawing attention to the urgency and grand opportunity the city is being presented with.

“Barry is our worst elementary school. That’s a fact, meaning we need to act now,” Vieau said. “It’s built in tiers, and has many challenges, with the gym being on the fourth floor, the elevator not working, and the whole building filled with asbestos in the ceilings and floors. There are single-pane windows and no air conditioning.”

Vieau also highlighted the importance of the potential domino effect that could manifest in the long run if the project is struck down.

“And the reality is, if this doesn’t go forward, then we are kicked out of the MSBA project. We get red-flagged, and we get moved to the bottom of the list,” Vieau said. “We are then left with the same scenario we are seven years from now, where we have 10 elementary schools that are all going to need to be replaced, once again starting with Barry, and we would be dealing with a 50% net increase, if not more in construction cost, and we would have 0 new elementary schools, mechanically speaking.”

Also detailing what’s at stake currently was Barry School principal Kate Lambert.

“I’m nervous if this project fails, then where do we go from here?” Lambert said. “Because at this moment, there are 330 kids over at Barry, and we’ve already had to move some to other schools because they can’t access our gym. They can’t access a lot of the classrooms or the library, and so we’ve had to send some of those kids over to Fairview. So I’m just nervous about what happens with those kids, because if it doesn’t get approved, then we go to the bottom.”

Following Lambert was Adam Dalessio, Colliers Project Leader (OPM), who laid out a full, detailed explanation in terms of how this rejection would affect the city financially.

“As far as an MSBA standard, if any project that doesn’t pass and it goes back to the queue, the MSBA will not pay for a second feasibility study, so the money that has been spent up to this point, such as the design fees, investigations, and all of those other contributors which reside under the umbrella of the 80% reimbursement rate, however if the city goes back to the MSBA program, that falls 100% back on the city,” Dalessio said.

Offering final comment on the lottery discussion was Project Architect Bert Gardner.

“It’s clear that this process has been beneficial to Chicopee as the city has been able to construct and renovate three schools in 23 years, and you have to understand Barry could be the fourth, and nonetheless, we are looking at a really good opportunity present here,” Gardner shared.

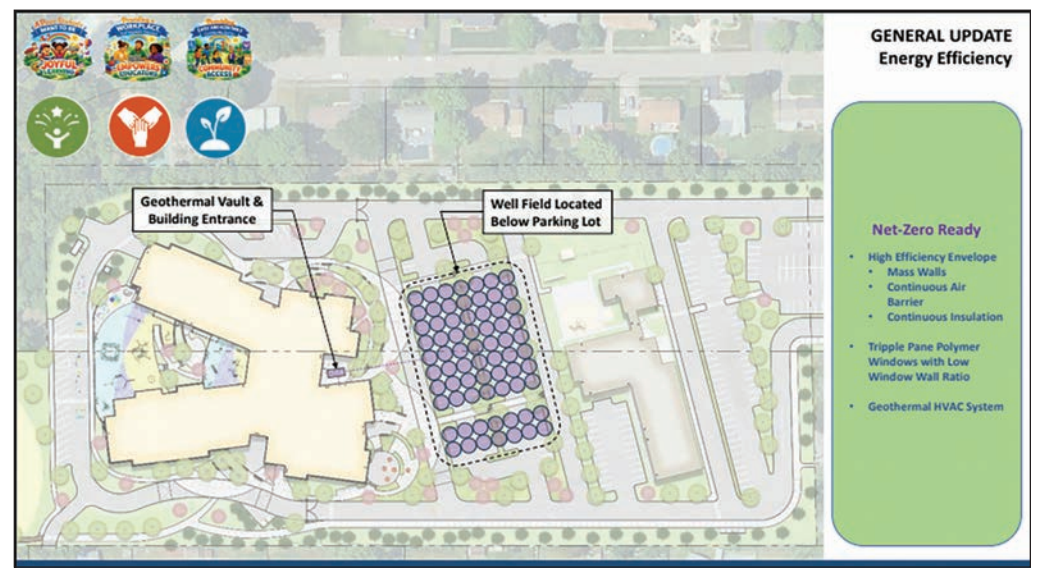
The Future of Barry School

To note, as previously reported, the decision to build the new variation at Barry was deemed by the commission, as they felt it was the best choice given the existing restrictions and challenges of Article 97 concerns at the Garrity Grove site, which led to the Szetela location being chosen. Gardner said that the School Committee has been in constant communication in terms of the overall layout and execution of the building, which they feel should be predicated on the values of being a place where students want to be, a flexible building that can be updated, a workplace that empowers educators, and easy and equitable community access.

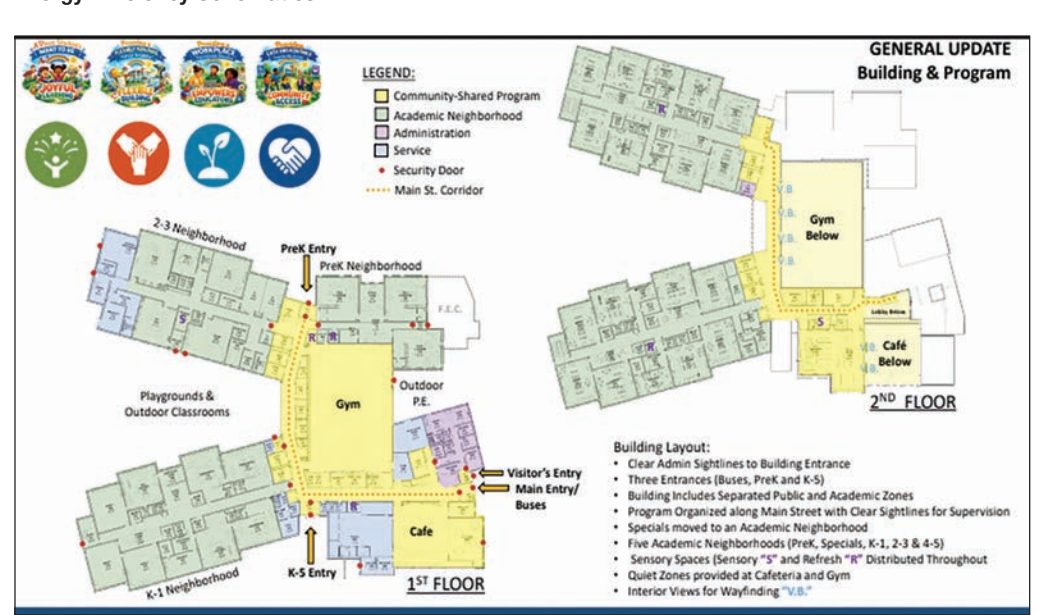
“So, our task then is to design a school where the



Site Development Schematic and Overview .



Energy Efficiency Schematics.



Building Layout.

architecture supports all of those,” Gardner said. During the presentation, it was also revealed that the new Barry would feature all-new geo-thermal HVAC systems, triple-pane windows, brand new amenities such as a baseball diamond, soccer fields, and would be entirely ADA-compliant.

“Ultimately, the goal is that this is a net-zero build-

ing, and looking at the organization of the school, it has always been a priority of the district to make sure this school can be shared and available to the community,” Gardner said.

Next Steps Ahead

Gardner closed his presentation by sharing key dates, such as the end of this phase, being June 25, which is the submission of the sche-

matic design to the MSBA where they will then hold a meeting on Aug. 26 to help to draft an action plan, and an overall scope of the project which will then be pitched to the City Council in the pursuit of seeking funding for the project, slated to transpire later this Fall.

The expected move-in date for students is tentatively set for Fall 2030.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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. HD21P2140EA Estate of: Domingo Arocho Date of Death: 09/10/2021 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Anna Arocho of Middletown, NY requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Anna Arocho of Middletown, NY 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 06/05/2026. 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: May 07, 2026 Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 05/22/2026

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. HD26P0978PM In the matter of: Jameson Matthew Campion Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor) CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER

PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Megan Campion of Chicopee, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jameson Matthew Campion is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Megan Campion of Chicopee, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 06/15/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

Witness, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 18, 2026 Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 05/22/2026

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. HO26P1066EA Estate of: Josephine Hillios Date of Death: 02/27/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Tara A. Paquette 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 Tara A. Paquette 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 06/12/2026. 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: May 15, 2026 Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 05/22/2026

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 22nd, 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.

2014 Jeep Cherokee VIN: 1C4PJMB50EW156531 Douglas Berton Brown 51 Meadow Brook Rd., Apt. 119 Ellington, CT 06029

2020 Utility Trailer VIN: 1UYVS2538L2606834 Dkp Transport Inc. 136 Diplomat Court Apt. 1 Beech Grove, IN 46107

2019 Volvo VN VNL VIN: 4V4NC9EH7KN208273 Preference Connect Llc 22 Elmwood Drive Fl. 2 Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

2008 Jeep Liberty VIN: 1J8GN28K78W144020 Anel Services LLC 23 S Whitney St., Fl. 2 Hartford, Ct 06106

2008 BMW X5 VIN: 5UXFE43558L008503 Shakira Valentin 24 Hampden St. Westfield, MA 01085

2014 Ford Focus VIN: 1FADP3F27EL257207 Sheryl Rios Cruz 167 Fort Pleasant Ave. Springfield, MA 01108

2006 Kia Sorento VIN: KNDJD733965576088 Diana Guevara 1387 Bay St. Springfield, MA 01109

2004 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCM56304A022209 Lyzander Rodriguez 63 Standish St., Fl. 1 Hartford, CT 016114

2016 Nissan Sentra VIN: 3N1AB7AP4GL677927 Mark Buchanan 60 Charlton St. #403 Southbridge, MA 01550

2001 Mercury Grand Marquis VIN: 2MEFM75W91X658907 Taha Huggins 111 Edmund St. Chicopee, MA 01020

2009 Subaru Legacy VIN: 4S3BL626297216425 Luis Gonzalez Figueroa 350 West St., Lot 8 Ludlow, MA 01056 05/08, 05/15, 05/22/2026

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 29th, 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.

2014 Kia Sorento VIN: 5XYKWDA7XEG537261 Ana Carmo 42 Stadden St. 2 Providence, RI, 02907

2016 Nissan Sentra VIN: 3N1AB7AP8GY270793 Ihor Burlaka 49 Katherine St., Apt. L Westfield, MA 01085

2013 Ram 2500 VIN: 3C6UR55HL0DG546194 Robert Porazzo 50 Atwood Ave. Middleboro, MA 02346

2008 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCP26818A088856 Richard Boss 255 Pearl St. Attleboro, MA 02703

2010 Subaru Legacy VIN: 4S3BMBC65A3234174 Edwin Aganyoh 394 Chicopee St. Chicopee, MA 01013

2017 Subaru Legacy vin: 4s3bnac66h3020795 Marcus Shelton 23 Cleveland St. Feeding Hills, MA 01030

2015 Land Rover Range Rover VIN: SALWR2VF6FA605211 Alvin Carmona 40 Childs St., Apt. 1 Lynn, Ma 01905

1994 International 4000 VIN: 1HTSDPPN7RH564754 Agape Trucking 46 Berrios Hill Rd. Windsor, CT 06095

2001 Gmc Sierra 2500 VIN: 1GTHK29U61E294894 Pionner Valley Handyman And Fence Inc. 17 Stearns Ter. Chicopee, MA 01013

2008 Dodge Caliber vin: 1b3hb28b68d46597 Unknown Owner.

2011 Honda Odyssey VIN: 5FNRL5H67BB077358 Edgar Medina-Rodriguez 47 North Canal St. Holyoke, MA 01040

2000 Gmc Sierra 1500 VIN: 1GTEK14T7YZ107810 Robert Ruiz 245 Fairview Ave. Chicopee, MA 01013

2007 Chrysler Pacifica VIN: 2A8GF68X47R286123 Aluishka Flores Arroyo 1528 Morgan Rd. West Springfield, MA 01089 05/15, 05/22, 05/29/2026

2007 Chevrolet Impala VIN: 2G1WF52E559217032 Justin Foley 54 Garden St. West Springfield, MA 01089

2006 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFG11816H565346 Howard Johnson 29 E Chester St. Kingston, Ny 12401

2011 Chevrolet Malibu VIN: 1G1ZC5E18BF385300 Arielle Miner 110 Lakeshore Dr. Winchendon, MA 01475

2019 Hyundai Translead VIN: 3H3V532L0LR441764 Amazon Logistics Inc. 4255 Anson Blvd. Whitestown, IN 46075

2003 Toyota Corolla VIN: 2T1BR32E13C103270 Sarah Cruz Estrada 25 High Street, Apt. 211 Springfield, MA 01109 05/22, 05/29, 06/05/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD26P0931EA Estate of: Harriet Nathalie Jodoin Also known as: Harriet N Jodoin Date of Death: 11/29/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Pro-

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on June 5th, 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.

2017 Porsche Cayenne VIN: WP1AB2A25HLA53067 Sarpong, Patrick Ankrah 31 Kevin Dr. Vernon Rockville, CT 06066

2009 Pontiac G6 VIN: 1G2ZJ57B494243684 Kathleen Rogers 32 1/2 Oak St., Apt. 8 Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2009 Nissan Rogue VIN: JN8AS58V49W177709 Carmen Sylvia Sanchez 25 Emerald St., Fl 2nd Chicopee, MA 01013

1989 Harley XLH 883 VIN: 1HD4CAM14KY116211 Tracy Prince 100 Heritage Green Dr., Apt. 311 Fiskdale, MA 01518

2001 Chevrolet Prizm VIN: 1Y1SK52841Z404897 Brenda Heap 174 Patricia Circle Springfield, MA 01119

2019 Subaru Crosstrek VIN: JF2GTAAC9KH205620 Tatyana Frid 55 Emerson St. Wakefield, MA 01880

2005 Chrysler Sebring VIN: 1C3EL65R95N568186 Joan Reyes Rivera 42 Waltham Ave., Bldg 415 Springfield, MA 01109

2006 Nissan Murano VIN: JN8AZ08W86W539365 Ashley Wilson 153 Lamplighter Ln. Springfield, MA 01119

2008 Volkswagen Jetta VIN: 3VWRJ71K18M135815 Colby Maynard 3404 Davie Rd., Apt. 403 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314

2005 Chevrolet Impala VIN: 2G1WF52E559217032 Justin Foley 54 Garden St. West Springfield, MA 01089

2006 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFG11816H565346 Howard Johnson 29 E Chester St. Kingston, Ny 12401

2011 Chevrolet Malibu VIN: 1G1ZC5E18BF385300 Arielle Miner 110 Lakeshore Dr. Winchendon, MA 01475

2019 Hyundai Translead VIN: 3H3V532L0LR441764 Amazon Logistics Inc. 4255 Anson Blvd. Whitestown, IN 46075

2003 Toyota Corolla VIN: 2T1BR32E13C103270 Sarah Cruz Estrada 25 High Street, Apt. 211 Springfield, MA 01109 05/22, 05/29, 06/05/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD26P0931EA Estate of: Harriet Nathalie Jodoin Also known as: Harriet N Jodoin Date of Death: 11/29/2025 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Pro-

bate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Monica A Gubala of Wilbraham, 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 Monica A Gubala of Wilbraham, 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 06/01/2026. 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: May 01, 2026 Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 05/22/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD26P0988EA Estate of: George J Tarnowski Date of Death: 12/23/2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Carol Tarnowski of Aurora, OH.

Carol Tarnowski of Aurora, OH 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. 05/22/2026

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Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com. Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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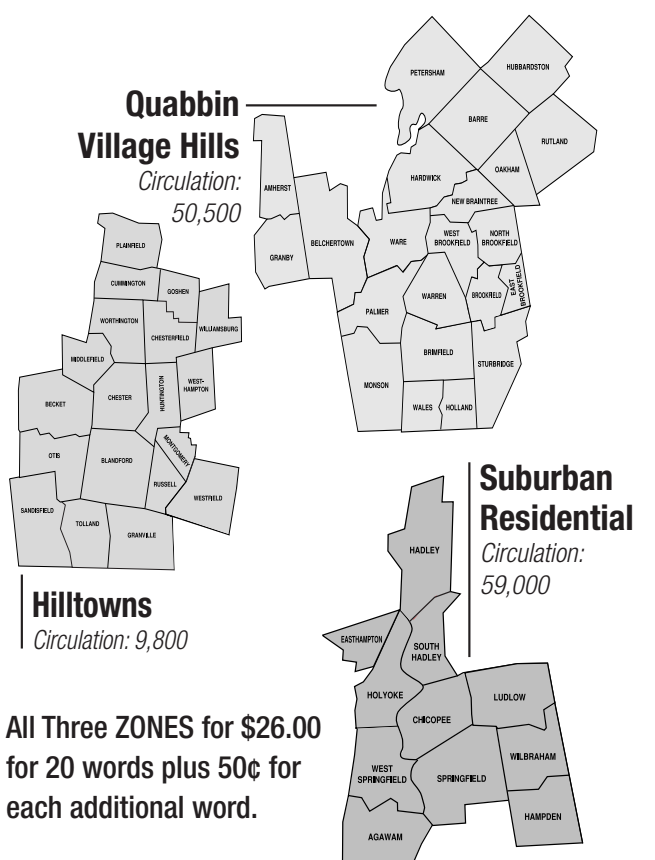
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