Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

Police department adds C3 Unit substation in Willimansett

The substation opened in March

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The police department expanded its C3 Unit with a substation in Willimansett.

The substation, which opened in March, is overseen by Sgt. Alan Blankenship, Officer Johnny Jusino and Officer Flordemaris Delarosa.

It is open from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

Blankenship explained the substation was discussed to address many issues in the area, with the C3 model inspired by a military training model developed by Massachusetts State Police Trooper Mike Catone, who served in the Army's Special Forces.

"We're kind of using a model like that down here to develop relationships, partnerships with the community, with service providers, with business owners. Gather information, intelligence to solve complex problems down here in Willimansett," Blankenship said. "It's a lot of issues.



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Sgt. Alan Blankenship, Officer Flordemaris Delarosa and Officer Johnny Jusino pose for a group photo inside the C3 Williamnsett Unit substation. Blankenship serves as supervisor for the unit with Jusino and Delarosa as the patrol officers.

Some are traffic related, there's gang issues, drug issues, other violent crimes that we're going to work together with the community, with other agencies in order to help make the community safer overall."

Delarosa does domestic violence outreach.

"I'll be working with the YWCA Women's Program out

of Springfield and I'll be partnered with a victims advocate and I'll go through all the calls, the domestic calls," Delarosa said. "We'll just go out, offer the resources that they have to

Jusino said the community has been "very welcoming to

"I think it's very positive.

We walk around a lot, people wave to us. We talk to the kids a lot. We spend a lot of time in our focus area, which is essentially between the areas of Sarah Jane Park where Stefanik Elementary School is and Empire Street," Jusino said. "It's very accepting."

Blankenship explained the C3 Unit is focused on a small

area "to make a bigger difference."

"They're going to get to know us. They're going to get to feel more comfortable, trust us on a personal level, and we build that trust in order to get information, to get intelligence to make the neighborhood better. It's a really great thing I think we're doing," Blankenship said.

Blankenship added it is "a different type of patrol" to help connect with residents and businesses.

"We're building these relationships with people. They're seeing police in a different way. It's a different type of policing, but it's extremely important. In order to be successful in this, what we're doing down here, we need to be engaging with the community," Blankenship said.

Delarosa agreed.

"Patrol does such a great job going to these calls for service, but it gives us an opportunity to show another side of us so that they view us how we are, like we're here to help you," Delaro-

Jusino said they're still police officers but through their work, they can help residents

See C3 UNIT page 6

COMMUNITY

Deputy Chief Dupre retires from fire department after 33 years

By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE – The mood at the fire department was festive on June 16, as Deputy Chief Daniel Dupre was surrounded by family and friends celebrating his retirement.

Dupre, 61, was employed by the department for 33 years and served as its executive officer before retiring last week. When asked what he'll miss most, Dupre provided a quick answer.

"It's 100% the people. They're fantastic," he said. "That's the hardest part for me; the people. In that much time, I've made a lot of real good friends, very dedicated coworkers here, and I work for the state hazmat team. I'm going to miss them on a daily basis."

Dupre, originally from Springfield, was inspired to join the profession by his father-in-law, who was a deputy chief in the Holyoke Fire Department. Dupre took the civil service test and was first employed by the Springfield Fire Department.

Unfortunately, he was laid off as soon as he graduated the drill school. Dupre joined the Chicopee Fire Department alongside five other firefighters who were laid off by Spring-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

field; none of the six ever left Chicopee, Dupre said.

Over the course of more than three decades, Dupre said technology in the industry has changed immensely. He also said the department has improved its techniques and strategies.

"I think we run the department a whole lot safer these days. We send more people right away to calls. We used to wait back in the day," he said.

Dupre has fond memories of his time spent on one of the state's six hazmat teams. He noted that he is called the "hazmat deputy" because he spent 27 years on the team.

He also recalled that Sept. 11, 2011 amplified the importance of the hazmat team.

"A lot of people weren't on the job for 9/11, and there was a big change in our job; both

See **DUPRE** page 6

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Elaine Scott got to enjoy face painting and a balloon souvenir during the Summer Carnival at RiverMills Senior Center.

RiverMills kicks off summer with a Carnival

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – The second annual Summer Carnival drew residents to the senior center from 3 - 6 p.m. on June 15.

The carnival was held in the parking lot with vendors, food, face painting, a balloon twister and more, with music and entertainment provided by DJ Luis on the back patio.

Additionally, seniors partook in carnival-themed games and activities including a ring toss, a duck pond game, target games, a bean bag toss, balloon pop games and more.

Staff from the senior center and police and fire departments participated in a dunk tank.

The vendors included Louis and Clark Medical Supplies, the fire and police departments, Valley Opportunity Council, Armbrook Village, the Chicopee Public Library Bookmobile, The Arbors, RiverMills Assisted Living, the Hampden County Sheriff's Department and more.

Program Coordinator Casey Conroy was excited to hold the carnival, explaining the event will become "an annual thing."

"It's just a lot of fun. Everyone comes. Everyone's smiling,

See **RIVERMILLS** page 9

Chicopee marks Pride Month by raising the Pride Flag

The flag-raising took place *outside the library*

> **By Kristin Rivers** Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Residents gathered outside the library on June 9 to raise the Pride Flag for Pride Month.

Mayor John Vieau was joined by City Council and School Committee members, state legislators, city and library employees and more for the ceremony.

The proclamation was presented to Emarie Leatherwood, chairman of the Chicopee Cultural Council's Organizing Committee for Pride Fest, held on June

Laura Bovee, the library's director, opened the ceremony.

"One of the things that I really love about the City of Chicopee is its diversity, and the LGBTQ community is a part of that and a really beautiful part of it, so thank you for being here," Bovee said.

Vieau discussed the LGBTQIA community's history, including the 52nd anniversary of the first Pride March, Activist Henry Gerber founding the first group to campaign for gay rights and Brenda Howard, "The Mother of Pride" and bisexual rights advocate.



Laura Bovee, director of Chicopee Public Library, welcomes attendees in her opening remarks during the Pride Flag Raising ceremony outside Chicopee Public Library.



(L to R) Mayor John Vieau, Emarie Leatherwood, chairman of the Chicopee Cultural Council's Organizing Committee for Pride Fest and Ward 3 City Councilor Delmarina López listen as State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) gives remarks during the Pride Flag Raising ceremony outside Chicopee Public Library.

"As we proudly raise our rainbow flag today, a powerful symbol of commitment to diversity and inclusion, let us remember its creator, Gilbert Baker, and his vision for a symbol of pride for the LGBTQ+ community," Vieau said.

Vieau added, "Our work is far from

"While we have made great strides in advancing the rights of the LGBTQ community, we must continue to fight against prejudice and discrimination in all of its forms. To ensure every individual has the right to live freely and authentically,"

Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López stressed the importance of authenticity and representation.

"It is so necessary for us to show up, show out in all our authenticity. So we celebrate LGBTQIA+ folks today, but we also celebrate all of the allies who have stood next to LGBTQIA folks through this fight. We especially celebrate LGBTQIA folks of color who have had to fight twice the battle and, oftentimes, have even been marginalized in these conversations," López said.

Ward 1 School Committee member Tim Wagner, the only open member of the LGBTQIA community to serve the city, shared this message.

"Whether you are out or whether you're keeping this to yourself for whatever reason, know that your city loves you and accepts you for who you are and that you don't need to be afraid simply of existing. You have your support network in us," Wagner said.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) highlighted progress and accomplishments for the LGBTQIA community, including Massachusetts being the first state to recognize same-sex marriage and the first union.

'Love, acceptance, dignity and respect doesn't cost a thing. Let's be better to one another. Let's learn to embrace and accept everyone for the way they simply are," Arriaga said.

The ceremony concluded with Ashton Malloy, the city's facilities maintenance clerk, raising the flag, followed by a panel discussion on trans education in

Reflecting on the flag-raising and panel, Leatherwood expressed hope.

"When the flag was being raised, for me that was the hope and the expression of freedom and acceptance that we in the LGBTQ community rarely get," Leatherwood said. "To have the city honor that and have good presence there, to have the library willing not only to have the flag raising there but to host the trans educational panel is essential because education

Leatherwood had this message.

"Don't be afraid to use a web search or to pick up a book. Don't be afraid to approach someone and say, 'I don't understand this. I don't know what this is. Can you tell me?' Have an open mind and an open heart and that is the best way you can be an ally," Leatherwood said.



Ashton Malloy, facilities maintenance clerk for the City of Chicopee, smiles for the camera while raising the Pride Flag at the Pride Flag Raising ceremony outside Chicopee Public Library. Malloy was also a panelist on the trans education panel after the ceremony.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Mayor John Vieau presents the proclamation to Emarie Leatherwood, chairman of the Chicopee Cultural Council's Organizing Committee for Pride Fest, during the Pride Flag Raising ceremony.

Chicopee Country Club will host American **Junior Golf Association Tournament**

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Country Club will host the American Junior Golf Association Tournament from July 3-7. The Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the overall growth and development of young men and women who aspire to earn college compete in the week long competition at Country Club.

Chicopee Country Club.

Some of the current top professional golfers such as Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Scottie Scheffler, Annika Sorenstam and many others got their first introduction to golf through the A.J.G.A. The event is free and open to golf scholarships through competitive the public. Come see golf's next genjunior golf. Youths ages 12 to 18 will eration of talent on display at Chicopee





Beyond Walls hopes to bring large-scale street art to Chicopee

By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Al Wilson, founder and executive director of Beyond Walls, spoke to City Council on Tuesday to make the board aware of his intention to bring large-scale street art to the city.

Beyond Walls is a nonprofit based in Lynn that is working with the city and Chicopee Public Schools to create art in Chicopee beginning in July.

"My background is in both bringing in large-scale street art, doing urban design work like lighting of three MBTA bridges and a variety of other work throughout the Commonwealth. We exclusively focus on Gateway Cities. I'm honored to be here in Chicopee," Wilson

According to its website, Beyond Walls introduces public art and curated experiences into the fabric of communities by partnering with local organizations, municipalities, community members and experts to design, produce and manage products and programs.

Beyond Walls believes that "all communities deserve safe, active and vibrant spaces, partnerships and a collaborative community engagement approach produce impactful projects, (that) thriving public spaces help create stronger neighborhoods and increase the sense of place in our cities and art-filled, well-lit, walkable urban environments help promote economic and lifestyle vitality.

Wilson stressed that Beyond Walls works with Gateway Cities. Gateway Cities in Massachusetts have a popula-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BEYOND WALLS

Beyond Walls hopes to create similar works of large-scale public art in Chicopee.

tion between 35,000 and 250,000 with an average household income below the state average and an average educational attainment rate (bachelor's degree or above) below the state average.

"We take a creative lens to observing urban challenges in the Gateway Cities," Wilson said. "Our focus is on street art installations so we dovetail to an educational resource. We've been working with public school teachers here in Chicopee as well as with afterschool programs and we do designed response.'

Currently, Beyond Walls is working in Holyoke for its second consecutive year, installing large-scale pieces of public art. Wilson described what he hopes

will occur in Chicopee next month.

"We're very interested in bringing in two artists, an artist from Lisbon, Portugal and an artist from Poland," he said. "I wanted to bring that to the attention of the council. I appreciate you all and am looking forward to maybe presenting at the next meeting."

Beyond Walls serves communities where there are changes due to the loss of industry, shifts in population or underutilized infrastructure.

"We serve people, civic leaders and business owners who want to work together to manifest the power of art, design and urban/city planning to tie the heritage of the past to the potential of the future,"

Chicopee's HR **Department** responds to paid insurance premium report

The statement was received on June 16

CHICOPEE - The city's Human Resources Department provided the following statement on June 16 regarding the recent report of paid insurance premiums to employees who have died or have resigned.

"The processes involved with managing all the aspects of the many insurances that the City of Chicopee offers are very complicated. Because of these complexities, and antiquated procedures, there are multiple opportunities for human error to affect the intended result. The Human Resources Department is only one of the several entities that are involved in the entire process. The others include the employees or retirees involved, the specific department, the insurance carriers, the City Treasurer's Office, the City Auditor's Office, the Retirement Board, and the Massachusetts Teachers Retirement System (MTRS). At any point in the process, an individual within any of these entities could make an error that would result in a variance. Those variances would result in either erroneous deductions or erroneous enrollment and billing with the specific vendor.

The budget for the monthly vendor bills does come from the Human Resources budget. However, the Human Resources department does not receive the bills. We do not review the bills. We do not authorize payment of the bills. We have not been responsible for reconciling the bills on a monthly basis in order to determine and correct the unintended charges. That is where every entity's errors would be detected and able to be corrected."

Upcoming summer events at the Chicopee Public Library

CHICOPEE – The following events will occur this summer at the Chicopee Public Library at 449 Front St.

Summer Reading

Summer Reading (for all ages) starts June 26 and runs through Aug. 18, 2023. Check the library website at www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org for more details (including information on programs for youth and families) or stop by the library for a flyer.

Chicopee library is FamilySearch Affiliate

The Chicopee library is a FamilySearch Affiliate which means that we are a great resource for those working on Genealogy. The Computer Lab on the lower level is set aside for those working on genealogy on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Stop by and check out our resources.

Low Vision Computer Lab

If you or someone you know is blind, or has low vision, join us in the computer lab for our Assistive Technology class. Our Bring your lawn chairs or blankets for

Text) software or you can learn how to use accessibility features on your personal devices. This class is taught by Chicopee resident Robert Baran, M.Ed. Classes are Tuesday, July 11 and Aug. 1 from 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday evening events July 11 • 6 p.m. Beginner Tarot with Winnifred Tanetta

July 18 • 7 p.m. (Signup begins at 6:30p.m.) Poetry and the Spoken Word (this night is Teen Focused)

July 25 • 6 p.m. Zentangle with Laura

August 1 • 6:30 p.m. Dealing with Anxiety with Personal Life Coach Chris

August 8 • 6:30 p.m. Catholic Cemeteries in Chicopee with historian Robert

August 15 • 7 p.m. (Signup begins at 6:30p.m.) Poetry and the Spoken Word **Thursday Night Concerts**

Thursday night concerts are outside behind the library, weather permitting. computers have Fusion (JAWS & Zoom seating. In the case of bad weather, we'll move inside. ChicopeeTV will be recording concerts this summer. We also appreciate the support of the Chicopee Cultural Council in making these concerts possible. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m.

July 13 – Hungrytown – folk duo July 20 – The Nields – folk-rock band

July 27 - New Inca Son - Andean Music ensemble

Aug. 3 – Acousticca with Paul Sticca rock, country, and original music

Aug. 10 – Jumpin' Juba – blues-based rocke, folk and classic rock

Aug. 17 - May Garncarz - jazz, country and pop vocals

Concerts are supported by a grant from the Chicopee Cultural Council which is supported by the MASS Cultural Coun-

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Chicopee Register June 23, 2023 | Page 3 **EDITORIAL**



Will work earnings affect my Social Security at age 80?

Dear Rusty: I am 80 years old, and I receive monthly Social Security benefits, but I'm thinking about returning to work. At this age, am I limited in how much income I generate without affecting my benefit? If so, how much can I earn without affecting it? Signed: Spry Octogenarian.

Dear Spry Octogenarian: Since you have already reached your Full Retirement Age for Social Security's purposes, you can earn as much income from working as you like without your monthly Social Security payment being affected. Social Security's earnings test applies only to those who collect benefits before reaching their full retirement age, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on year of birth.

However, although the earnings test will not apply to you, it's important to know that Social Security benefits are subject to income tax if the annual combined income from all sources, also known as your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" exceeds certain thresholds. The income tax filing status is an influencing factor - if filing as a single and the MAGI is more than \$25,000 or filing as "married/jointly" and the MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of the overall taxable income. And if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 or, as a married filer more than \$44,000, then up to 85% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your standard IRS income tax rate. Thus, returning to work may result in Social Security benefits unexpectedly becoming taxable income.

For complete clarity, the "MAGI" is regular Adjusted Gross Income on income tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits a person received during the tax year, plus any other non-taxable income (except Roth IRA withdrawals) they may have had.

So, while earnings from working at age 80 and beyond will not affect the monthly Social Security benefit payment, you may - depending on the total income or "MAGI" - find that your Social Security benefits will become taxable if the combined income from all sources exceeds the above thresholds. And if your benefits will become taxable, you may wish to consider having income taxes withheld from your monthly Social Security payments, which you can do by submitting IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security field office.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature American Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. 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.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births. weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Chicopee Register, please email chicopeeregister@turley.com.

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GUEST COLUMN



It's all about the pie

In our family we get the privilege of requesting a special dessert to celebrate birthdays or other special occasions.

My husband asked for a strawberry pie for Father's Day. My oldest daughter made the crust while my youngest and I picked the strawberries.

After making a sauce with half the berries we mixed it with the other half of chopped fruit and poured it into the crust. Now to wait two hours while it chills.

We'll whip up some cream and, voila! The taste of summer in my opinion!

I love having a small patch of strawberries in my garden. I think I am in year four or five with this particular planting.

I've thinned and replanted but I am starting to worry that having them in close to the same spot for this length of time has lured a strawberry-specific bug to the garden. Let's learn about this bug and maybe figure out a game plan as to how to combat it.

Many of my riper strawberries have damage consisting of circular holes, some of which go deep into the fruit. Occasionally there will be a beetle inside the strawberry, caught in the act.

Upon closer examination, I've determined them to be the strawberry sap beetle.

It's tiny, measuring less than one eighth of an inch long, brown, and oval shaped. They are drawn to ripe fruit and because of this, we can come up with creative ways as to how to

Pesticides are shown not to work - nor would we want to use them on fruit we are ready to eat!

Folks have had good luck with traps of stale beer, vinegar, fermenting juice, or a mixture of water, molasses and yeast.

Add a few inches of the liquid of your choice into a bucket or other deep contain-

OHIM

DAVE GRANLUND @

er placed outside, but near the strawberry patch. Typically the insect will get lured in and drown.

This type of trap, albeit shallower, will also catch slugs.

Slug holes on strawberries are irregularly shaped, not circular, and most often they extend into the fruit as if the critter is eating its

A basin or saucer, even a pie plate buried to soil surface level will catch slugs when they come out of hiding to feed. Empty these types of traps every few days, replacing the

I'm a bit nostalgic today. Thinking of my own dad, of course!

If he were still alive his pie of choice would have been apple, not a la mode, but topped with a piece of cheese!

One thing I am experiencing in my mini orchard right now is "June drop." While my apple orchard is still too young to bear many apples, there are tiny apples at the base of my best bearing tree.

Some say that June drop is due to pollination problems; others surmise that it is caused by a competition for carbohydrates. Roots and shoots are competing with the newly formed apples and sometimes there isn't enough to go around.

I had always thought that insects were to blame. Regardless, June drop isn't necessarily a bad thing.

We are taught to thin clusters of fruit so that individual fruits get to a respectable size. This is Mother Nature taking care of that for

Therefore, if you do plan on thinning, it is best to wait and see what happens between now and the first week of July before you thin down to one or two fruits per cluster.

Well, the strawberry pie was a big hit. I'm already thinking about the leftovers for tomorrow's dessert and what pie I'll have for my next big day.

Blueberry, anyone?

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@ turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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THROUGH A

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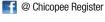
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24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069or email chicopeeregister@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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Ashley Terron to compete for title of Miss Massachusetts 2023

Terron is among 24 candidates competing for over \$30,000 in Scholarships

WORCESTER - The 2023 Miss Massachusetts Scholarship Competition will be held at the Hanover Theatre in Worcester on Friday, June 23 with finals on Saturday, June 24 at 7 p.m. each night. Among the 24 contestants vying to be the 83rd Miss Massachusetts is Ashley Terron, 21.

Terron is Miss Hampden County and resides in Chicopee. She will be singing "Listen" by Beyonce for the talent portion of competition. Terron is the daughter of Pablo and Sandra Terron and her Community Service Initiative is "From the Heart, For the Heart: Advocating for Congenital Heart Disease Awareness.'

Last year, Terron was named the Chicopee Colleen by the Chicopee St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee at the Coronation Ball in February.

Miss Massachusetts 2022 Katrina Kincaid has spent her year balancing her job as an Emmy Nominated reporter working for WBZ-TV in Boston along with her duties



Ashley Terron, right, pictured at the Chicopee Colleen Coronation Ball in 2022.

as the state titleholder. Kincaid, a graduate of American University in Washington, D.C. is the state's first Miss Massachusetts of Muslim descent and earned over \$20,000 in scholarships during her time competing in the Miss America Organization.

"Being Miss Massachusetts was the most fulfilling year of my life," said Kincaid. I'm grateful to have been able to volunteer at so many non-profits, schools and speak about the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion around the state. Additionally, a weight was lifted off my shoulders by the amount of student debt I was able to eliminate because of the scholarships provided by the Miss Massachusetts organization."

The field of 24 candidates will be narrowed to a Top 10 plus the People's Choice candidate. Supporters help select the People's Choice position by voting online. Each vote is \$1.00 and counts as one vote. Online voting is live now and will end at 10 p.m. on Friday, June 23. For more details visit www.missmass.org and click on the online voting link.

"We have some of the best and brightest young women from across the Bay State competing to be our next Miss Massachusetts this year," said Dolores Rabuffo, executive director of the Miss Massachusetts Scholarship Organization. "With the rising cost of a college education, we are proud to be able to assist our contestants financially as they continue their education."

The next Miss Massachusetts will earn a \$15,000 scholarship and will compete at the 102nd Annual Miss America competition in January.

Panel discussion shines light on trans education and LGBTQIA community

Highlights include support, education and debunking misconceptions

By Kristin Rivers

Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - After the Pride Flag raising ceremony on June 9, residents attended a panel discussion on trans education and the LGBTQIA community.

The two-hour-long discussion was held in the library's Bazan Community Room and moderated by Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López, who presented questions on coming out, allyship, tackling misconceptions about transgender people and many more.

The panelists were Jake Trottier, a recent graduate of Chicopee High School, Sam Franciosa, band director at Chicopee High School, Chloe Soto, communications and special projects manager for the City of Chicopee, and Ashton Malloy, facilities maintenance clerk for the City of Chicopee and Chicopee Cultural Council Treasurer.

Franciosa shared being queer has made her "a better teacher."

"To able to be out in my school and be proud in who I am and be able to be in the position that I'm in where I can tackle these issues that my students are facing with their peers means the world to me to be able to give them what I so desperately needed when I was their age," Franciosa said

Soto discussed the misconceptions of being trans, including trans people recruit-

"Out of 300 million people, the percentage of this community is 0.7%," Soto said. "We are not a community that is here to take the jobs and lives of women, we are not here to indoctrinate children. We just want to exist in a fair playing field and just live our lives."

Trottier reflected on a Gay-Straight Alliance meeting impacting his coming out journey.

'Nobody called me they except for the teacher. One single time, and the second that I got out of club that day I started bawling," Trottier said. "It took me until my sophomore year to come out as a fully-fledged trans man."

Soto stressed education for allies within the community.

"Educate yourself, ask questions," Soto said. "I think people need to ask questions. I think the most important part is being a part of the community is being

willing to answer those questions without offense.'

Trottier also reflected on support after

"High school was a very turbulent ride because I am trans and because of my identity, and being able to find community, first, within the band and then with the teacher that teaches the band. Having that support has given me the strength to push through," Trottier said.

Malloy said how "society is moving forward where we can be seen" through the community holding the flag-raising and panel discussion.

We don't have to fear being ourselves, showing who we are and we know that our city, the people that we work with and see every day are here to support us," Malloy said.

Malloy explained, "a lot of people don't know that love is love."

'We're not trying to turn anyone any sort of way other than to show them that they can be who they are, they can love who they love and they can be happy showing who they are and not having to hide who they are," Malloy said.

Malloy also reflected on how many young people attended the panel discus-

"They feel comfortable enough that they don't have to hide for years who they are and they can be who they are in school, which is so important," Malloy said. "They can focus on

they are." Malloy hopes people in the LGBTQIA community, especially young people, see they belong in

learning and

not

hiding

and have a place to live and work. "There is a future and that they belong here. They have people who them love

and accept

them here,"

Malloy said.

Chicopee



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López serves as moderator for panelists Jake Trottier, a recent graduate of Chicopee High School, Sam Franciosa, band director at Chicopee High School, Chloe Soto, communications and special projects manager for the City of Chicopee, and Ashton Malloy, facilities maintenance clerk for the City of Chicopee and Chicopee Cultural Council Treasurer, during the trans education panel discussion.

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Colleges announce 2023 Dean's Lists

STCC students named to spring dean's list

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield Technical Community College celebrates the accomplishment of the 764 students who were named to the spring 2023 Dean's List. The following are from Chicopee: Tabarek Al Bakri, Roberto Amedzro, Dawn Andino ,Kaltrina Bajrami, Tyler Beach, Barbara Begley, Olivia Blais, Cameron Boisvere, Elizabeth Bousquet, Dennis Brantley, Emma Brault, Naomi Briganti, Carter Brunelle, Aidan Butler, Judy Chan, Olivia Clapp, Tatyana Collado, Isaiah Colon, Akasha Cruz, Chase Davis, Allison Dejordy, Layna Delgado, Lee Dunn, Daireen Galindrez, Paula Garcia, Jacob Girouard, Anthony Gonzalez, Sofiya Gura, Natasha Hart, Deandra Haye, Carlene Henriquez, Anyia Hillman, Vanessa James, Teja Johnson, Philip Kaczor, Alexis Karpolyuk, Allyssa Kemp, Lauren Kovalski, Taylor Labonte, Ashley Lafond, Michael Lavallee, Kristin Lavalley, Diana Martinez, Alis Masic, Din Masic, Amber Maslak, Anna Maziarz, Briana McCollum, Tyler Midura, Joanna Mienkowski, Rafael Miranda, Gina Mitchell, Selena Mokan, Lizbeth Morales, Avantae Padilla, Bing Pan, David Panchenko, Aimee Paradis, David Perevala, Kayla Picard, Brent Pieczarka, Sara Pirog, Alecia Polastri, Damien Rawana, Kelly Reid, Kavya Rejikumar, Adrien Rescia, Lexus Rivera, Jaymien

Rodriguez, Rebecca Russo, Justina Saez, Stephanie Sherman, Brandon Shlaferman, Joshua Shumskiy, Patrick Small, David Sroka, Haylie Sypek, Michael Tardy, Sarah Taylor, Tryston Tolliver, Joushua Vazquez Ramirez, Kristin Williams, Dawna Wood and Gregory Yager.

Chicopee students named to URI **Spring Dean's List**

KINGSTON, RI - The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Spring 2023 Dean's List. The following Dean's List students are from Chicopee:

Nathan Conde, Madi Hartling, Taryn Langlois, Nyah Martineau and Max Morgado

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point av-

Klaus earns Dean's List Honors at **Roger Williams University**

BRISTOL, RI - Tabitha Klaus, of Chicopee, has been named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, RI. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

C3 UNIT from page 1

solve problems.

"It's more personal. These people know us by name. We know them by name," Jusino said.

The substation also has volunteers, including Al Kendall, a veteran.

Jusino explained Kendall works for the Commission on Disability.

"He helps veterans and any other disabled parties needing assistance with either Veterans Affairs issues and disability issues such as handicapped parking issues," Jusino said.

"Anything to do with any disability assistance, anybody who needs assistance or has complaints can go through him and he can help resolve them," Blankenship added.

"He also helps with the veterans who live at 40 Meadow St.," Delarosa said. "He's a great guy."

Blankenship wants the community to know the C3 Unit has their backs.

"That's our job is to make the neigh-



TURI FY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A close-up of a sign outside the Willimansett C3 Unit in Chicopee. The substation will help address many issues in the area, including crime and safety.

borhood a safer place and meaningful relationships with the community. Developing these bonds with the community, we're going to make it safer and just solve these problems that are in the neighborhood," Blankenship said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALAN BLANKENSHIP

(L to R) Officers Johnny Jusino and Flordemaris Delarosa, Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni, Willimansett C3 Unit Volunteer Al Kendall and Sgt. Alan Blankenship at a recent community outreach meeting at the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club.

DUPRE from page 1

hazmat and fire department since then so I'm glad to see everybody has met the challenge, and we've become a great department in hazmat," Dupre said.

Dupre also noted that Station 1 on Church Street is more "ascetically pleasing," after recent renovations improved the work out room and eating area among other spaces.

"They've done a nice job here," he

Dupre said he loves coming to work and retirement will be strange to change a routine that he developed over 33 years. He anticipates spending more time with his family, specifically with his wife who also recently retired.

"I've got a little vacation place in Maine that we spend a lot of time at," he said. "I've got grandkids that I'll spend a lot more time going to watch their little games, soccer and softball and all that.'

Last Friday was a day that Dupre called "emotional and bittersweet."

He thanked the department for celebrating his retirement, his wife for organizing the celebration and Fire Chief Dan Stamborski for his longstanding support.

'Chief Stamborski and the rest of the staff here; I can't say enough. They've



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT Deputy Chief Daniel Dupre celebrated his last day of work on June 16.

been fantastic. He's one of my best friends on the job, and I've really enjoyed working for him, especially the past two years in this office," Dupre said.



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Sports

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Dom Garcia tries to intercept the ball.

Chicopee gets summer win over Ludlow

LUDLOW - Last Thursday evening, Ludlow Ideal B fell against visiting Chicopee 2-1. Ludlow B is out to an 0-2 start for the summer.

> PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Jason Brown sends a free kick away.



Nazarii Kravchenko advances past an opposing player.



Brandon Langevin guides the ball up the field.



Henry Ryczek tries to keep possession of the ball.



Dave Clark makes a catch in right.

Bankers roll into first place

HOLYOKE - After a slow start, the reigning, defending playoff champion PeoplesBank are now in first place thanks to wins over the Chicopee Falls Tigers, DiFranco Realty, and St. Joe's during the past week. PeoplesBank is now 6-1 this season, with 12 points to lead all teams. The Bankers season continues on Friday night against DiFranco Realty at 7 p.m. at Mackenzie Stadium.



James Flahive pitches in relief.



Ryan Franczek makes a throw to first.



Pitcher Danny Gaines starts for PeoplesBank.

Mutiny 'rush' past Albany



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

By Tim Peterson

Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - The June 11 United Women's Soccer match between the Albany Rush and the New England Mutiny featured several outstanding soccer players from Western Massachusetts.

There was also a talented soccer player from Eastern Massachusetts, who put on the home jersey for the final time during the regular season.

Before heading back to the University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season, Catherine Berry scored a second half goal leading the Mutiny to a 2-0 shutout victory over the Rush before a large crowd at historic Lusitano

Stadium.

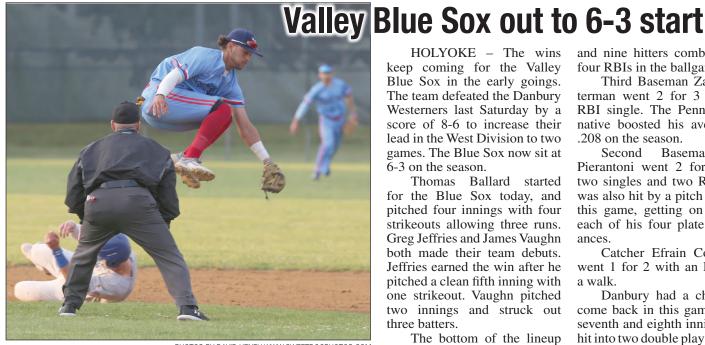
"It's a bittersweet night for me," said Berry, who's from Hingham. "I do have a commitment at my school, and I'm required to be there next week. I'm very grateful for every game that I do get to play for the Mutiny. I have two more years of eligibility remaining at South Carolina and I'm hoping to play for the Mutiny again next summer."

Joe Ferrara, who's the Mutiny's owner/general manager, is hoping Berry will be returning to Lusitano Stadium in the middle of July if the Mutiny qualify for the U.W.S. playoffs.

Berry, who's entering her senior season, has scored 24 goals and has 14 assists for a to-

See MUTINY page 8

Chicopee Register June 23, 2023 | Page 7



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Matthew Garcia hops over the runner as he makes a relay to first.

HOLYOKE - The wins keep coming for the Valley Blue Sox in the early goings. The team defeated the Danbury Westerners last Saturday by a score of 8-6 to increase their lead in the West Division to two games. The Blue Sox now sit at

6-3 on the season. Thomas Ballard started for the Blue Sox today, and pitched four innings with four strikeouts allowing three runs. Greg Jeffries and James Vaughn both made their team debuts. Jeffries earned the win after he pitched a clean fifth inning with one strikeout. Vaughn pitched two innings and struck out three batters.

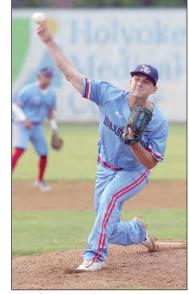
The bottom of the lineup was the story of the game for the Blue Sox. The seven, eight, and nine hitters combined for four RBIs in the ballgame.

Third Baseman Zach Ketterman went 2 for 3 with an RBI single. The Pennsylvania native boosted his average to .208 on the season.

Second Baseman Jeff Pierantoni went 2 for 2 with two singles and two RBIs. He was also hit by a pitch twice in this game, getting on base in each of his four plate appear-

Catcher Efrain Correa Jr. went 1 for 2 with an RBI and a walk.

Danbury had a chance to come back in this game in the seventh and eighth innings, but hit into two double plays to minimize the damage. The defense was on full display tonight as



Nick Callano delivers a pitch.

AJ Guerrero made an excellent over-the-shoulder catch on the run to end the game in the top of the ninth inning.

MUTINY from page 7

tal of 62 points in her first three years playing college soccer.

Berry scored four goals in the Mutiny season and home opener against the Worcester Fuel, which was a 7-1 victory.

The Mutiny (2-0-1), who also played a 1-1 tie at the Maine Footy on May 21, had a couple of weeks off before hosting the Rush (2-1-1).

"The support that we receive from our fans at this stadium is something that's very special. I wouldn't trade being a part of this for the world," Berry said. "Joe Ferrara is also an awesome person. He has become a close friend to my family during the past few years. The players on this team are also very special."

Berry is following in the footsteps of her mother, Lauren, who played soccer at Middlebury

College. Her father, Chris, played college basketball at Middlebury. Her parents attended last Saturday's home match.

The local players that played in last Saturday's home match for the Mutiny are Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown) Chandler Pedolzsky (Westfield), Emma Pedolzsky (Westfield), and Catherine Bean (Westfield).

Klingensmith, who started in five games as a freshman on the American University women's soccer team last fall, has enjoyed being teammates with Berry.

"Cat is a great soccer player," said Klingensmith, who's a midfielder. "We can always count on her to score goals for us. Playing for this soccer team is very similar to my college team."

Kopec, who was Mutiny starting goalie against Albany, didn't have to make any saves in recording her first shutout of the

The Mutiny defense, which was led by Laci Lewis, Meghan Cunningham, Rachel Marchini, Sofia Weber, Anna Carson, and Bean shutdown Albany forward Katelyn Krohn. She had scored a team leading seven goals in her team's first three regular season matches.

"We do have a very strong defensive unit this year," said Mutiny first-year head coach Maurico "Toto" Coimbra said. "Their chemistry has been getting better and better in every match. It's always nice to post a shutout."

Berry had several shots on goal during the first 45 minutes of the contest, but Albany goalie Emma Anderson (10 saves) was able to make the saves on them.

The contest was still scoreless at halftime.

Following a breakaway shot attempt by Santaniello that deflected off the right post, Berry gave her team a 1-0 lead in the 56th minute. She fired a linedrive shot from the top of the box into the left corner of the net.

"We did put a lot of pressure on them in the first half," Berry said. "I had a scoring opportunity early in the second half and I didn't want to miss it. It's always special whenever you score a goal, especially in this stadium."

With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Chandler Pedolzsky knocked home a rebound shot giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Berry was scheduled to play in her final regular season match



Rachel Marchini settles the ball. for the Mutiny against the Scorpions SC on Monday night in a make-up game at Medway High

PVIAC ALL-STARS



BOYS BASKETBALL

Jamil Rodriguez **GIRLS**

BASKETBALL Blaize Mack Alana Smith Jai-Lyn Garvin-Martin Ella Florence

ICE HOCKEY

Anthony Bartolo Tyler Bielecki

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

Joel Forson Jacob Lozado **Dante Rivera-Mackin**

Athena Cusson Maria Fareti **Evanie Reyes**

BOYS SWIMMING

Christopher Sears

GIRLS SWIMMING

Emma Johnson Jenna Madru

WRESTLING JEREMY BEACH Western Mass. D1 runner-up



GIRLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Brody Fay Tineus McCluster

GIRLS BASKETBALL

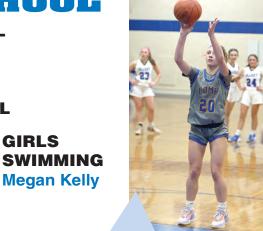
Kaitlyn Gilhooly

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

Marcos Henriquez Antonio Sleeper

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

Ava Lapa **Paola Quinones Ramos** Alexandra Sawicki Alexandria Sullivan



SWIMMING MEGAN KELLY 500 freestyle MIAA champion, Central/West champion, 200 individual medley Central/West runner-up

Page 8 | June 23, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICES

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 July 29, 2023, 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.

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Attleboro, MA 02703 06/23, 06/30, 07/07/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court** Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1203EA **Estate of:**

Rosalie Carole Duval Date of Death: March 25. 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Lisa C Lacosse of Chicopee, MA.

Lisa C Lacosse of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested

parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 06/23/2023

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. HD23A0074AD In the matter of: Aryana Rachele Nunez **CITATION** G.L. c. 210, §6

TO: Wendi Rachele Young **Edwin Javier Nunez**

any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by:

Glorimar Rodriguez of Springfield, MA Rafael Rodriguez-Ortega of Springfield, MA

requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed

Aryana Rachele Rodriguez If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent

person. An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Springfield ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 06/30/2023

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 25, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 06/09, 06/16, 06/23/2023

> See more legals on page 11



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

DJ Luis gets seniors dancing to the music during the Summer Carnival at RiverMills Senior Center.

RIVERMILLS from page 1

everyone's happy, everyone's enjoying themselves and everyone's company, and we just love to be able to do this for seniors," Conroy said.

Alex Martin, director of community relations for RiverMills Assisted Living, was one of the vendors, providing bean bag toss and air hockey games with information on the assisted living facility.

'We thought it would be a fun event to meet other elders in the area and try to connect them into our building and see if they wanted to come by, take a look at it and different things like that," Martin said.

Martin said events like the carnival help the facility be involved in seniors' lives and support the community.

'Being around the Chicopee natives is always fun, so we're excited to be part of it and in the area," Martin said.

Martin added he enjoys meeting the

'For me, it's connecting with new people. So every day I just meet new people. I get to figure out what needs they have, how we can help those needs and really just connecting with the community as well to try and make sure that we have the right community and atmosphere for people," Martin said.

Allison Grammo, community sales manager for Bluebird Estates in East Longmeadow, is a Chicopee native and provided ring toss games at her booth.

"We're out here trying to get involved in the community and give back as much as we can," Grammo said.

Grammo also enjoys working with

"I love working with seniors. They have such rich life histories. It's just wonderful to be able to interact with them every day and give back to them. It's just wonderful," Grammo said.



(L to R) Officer Paul James, Officer Stephanie Paquin, Officer Eric Brice and Chicopee Police Cadet Alina take part in the dunk tank during the Summer Carnival at RiverMills Senior Center.

center for years and used to drive for it too.

Scott enjoyed the Summer Carnival, having visited the fire department tent for a badge, doing face painting and getting

"I love RiverMills because it's in Chicopee and I love Chicopee," Scott said. "The people are great."

Scott encourages residents to support the senior center, explaining she looks forward to more summer programming.

"I think they should come and enjoy Elaine Scott has stopped by the senior the senior center because there's a lot, like the music, for instance. DJ Luis is the best. Luis comes and he gets everybody up to dance," Scott said. "He's a lot of

Conroy encourages residents to check out the newsletters and look online for upcoming events, including the Summer Concert Series beginning July 12.

Tickets went on sale June 20.

"It's a community that we have for 55 and older and it's a great place to meet new friends and just to come socialize and participate," Conroy said.



A senior prepares to fire a Nerf Gun for a target game at the police department's tent during the Summer Carnival at RiverMills Senior Center.



Seniors line up at the Chicopee Fire Department tent to speak with Lt. Katie Collins-Kalbaug.

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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17		18		19		20	Base Price \$26.00
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00	23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00	27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
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Chicopee Register Page 10 | June 23, 2023

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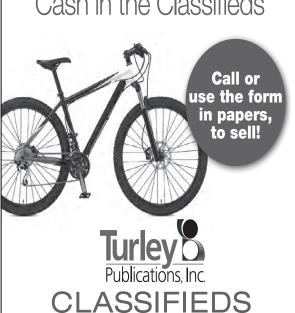
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD23P1214GD In the matter of: Sharon Fober Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED** PERSON PURSUANT TO

G.L. c. 190B, \$5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept Of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Sharon Fober is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Holly Mokrzecki of Manchester, NH (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

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 07/13/2023. 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 abovenamed 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. Barbara
M. Hyland, First Justice of
this Court.
Date: June 08, 2023

Rosemary A. SaccomaniRegister of Probate 06/23/2023

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD06P1032GR1
In the Interests of:

Sharon Fober
Of: CHICOPEE, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR TERMINATION
OF A GUARDIAN OF
AN INCAPACITATED
PERSON

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardianship f the Respondent.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 07/11/2023. 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 abovenamed 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. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: June 13, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 06/23/2023

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

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Thursday, June 29

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

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Veterans Game Night returns June 27 by popular demand

More than 175 veterans, service-members and their family members attended inaugural event

CHICOPEE – Community veteran organizations in Western Massachusetts were joyous after seeing so many veterans and their family members participate in a Game Night in March that they've scheduled another event this month.

The Springfield Vet Center,

local veterans' service officers, and several veteran organizations have teamed up to bring another evening of connection and camaraderie on June 27 from 5-9 p.m., at The Castle of Knights, 1599 Memorial Drive, in Chicopee.

It's a relaxed and family friendly event for veterans and their family members with tables and space galore for video games, board games, and card games. Plus, important information and resources for veterans will again be offered to help any veteran in need of assistance.

There will be giveaways and gift certificates from local businesses and attractions, and pizza, appetizers and beverages will be offered

Game Night is free, but people are asked to RSVP to assist organizers with planning the best event possible.

The first-ever Military, Veterans and Families Game Night was held on March 15 and drew more than 175 participants. Organizers say it was one of the best attended community outreach events for veterans ever staged

in the region, and the feedback was clear: schedule more game nights.

The list of games is extensive and includes everything from chess, checkers, and dominoes to cribbage, Uno, and Battleship to all the popular modern video gaming options.

"It's just an incredibly fun night to bring people together," said Stephanie Shaw, one of the organizers for Game Night and the director of Veterans' Services for the city of Chicopee. "There is something for every interest

from traditional board and card games to sitting down and learning what Dungeons & Dragons is all about to checking out video gaming in the world of Pokemon, Xbox and the like. And during the night, you can walk over and get information on veteran benefits and resources in our region. It's a winning combination. Our last game that we're bringing it all back again."

In addition to the Springfield Vet Center and Chicopee Veterans' Services, other organizers and sponsors include local representation from the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Wounded Warrior Project, and the Warrior's Art Room.

Frost Call, a Boston-based non-profit veterans' organization that hosts several in-person gaming events for veterans, will once again be present to assist with gaming platforms and help organizers with an extensive list of gaming activities throughout the night.

The purpose of the night is to foster a sense of community for veterans and their family members through a common interest in video and tabletop games. It's part of a peer support model that helps reduce isolation by encouraging veterans to get together in-person in an easy-going atmosphere of camaraderie.

Free tickets can be purchased online on the Eventbrite website or by calling 413.594.3470.



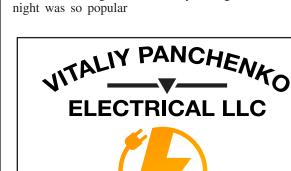
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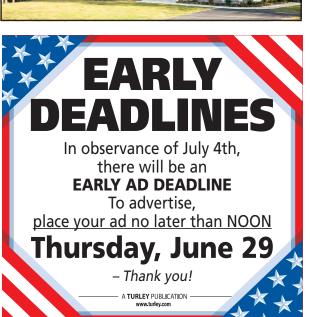




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