

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

RiverMills hosts Lupa Zoo animal showcase



TURLEY PHOTO BY ELISE LYONS

Stan Lupa holds a Russian tortoise and explains how, while the one in his hands is very small, other species of tortoise can grow incredibly large and live for well over a hundred years.

By Elise Lyons
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On the afternoon of July 11, the Lupa Zoo held an animal showcase at the senior center, featuring a variety of exotic creatures.

From a Jackson chameleon and Madagascar hissing cockroaches—not pictured for the sake of squeamish readers—to prairie dogs and a three-banded armadillo—there were animals of all sorts for attendees to enjoy. Led by caretaker and Director of Facilities and Educational Programs Stan Lupa, the event was a fun and educational experience for community members of all ages.

“My folks started it way back in the day. Started out just as a little farm, actually, and then we got some exotic birds. Then somebody

brought us a little deer and people started coming to see the deer, and then it kind of blossomed from there. We did some work with Forest Park, slowly started getting more animals and boom! Here we are,” Lupa explained, recounting the beginnings of his and his family’s career. “It’s always been my family thing. I never went to school for it; it’s all hands-on for what I do. Just learning from my folks and from other people. I got thrust into it.”

Lupa explained how this event came together.

“We do events— mostly schools and seniors centers. I was here last year and they asked us to come back. I’ve done special needs places

See **LUPA ZOO**
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COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Rep. Angelo Puppolo, Jr. (D-Springfield) pose for a photo with the team from WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch, the Massachusetts State 911 Department and staff from Monson Savings Bank.

WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch officially opens in Chicopee

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch, located on Shawinigan Drive, officially opened its doors on July 14 and will serve the communities of Chicopee, Monson, Ware, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow and the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office.

Currently, WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch has been operating out of the Public Safety Complex on Church Street and will move to its new space soon.

For the grand opening, members of the fire and police departments for all five

towns, local and state elected officials, staff from WESTCOMM and many more gathered in front of the facility for a ribbon-cutting and remarks from WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch Interim Executive Director Penny Ryan, Frank Pozniak, the executive director of the Massachusetts State 911 Department, Mayor John Vieau, State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), John Beaulieu, vice chair for the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch Board of Directors, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), State Rep. Angelo Puppolo, Jr. (D-Spring-

See **WESTCOMM**
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An exterior shot of the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch.

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, City Clerk Keith Rattell, Jacob Boutin, Tyler Moreau, Jimmy Tran, Austin Gower, Mayor John Vieau, Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski and Deputy Chief Executive Officer Douglas Sanford in a group photo after the four newest members of the Chicopee Fire Department were sworn in on July 10.

Four new firefighters sworn into CFD

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Four new firefighters were sworn into the fire department in a ceremony at City Hall Auditorium on July 10.

The firefighters—who will next head to the academy for training—are Jimmy Tran, Austin Gower, Tyler Moreau and Jacob Boutin.

In opening remarks, Mayor John Vieau told the new firefighters he was excited for them and that they’re joining “a wonderful team.”

“Know this that—as mayor—there’s commitment and the firefighters are here in support of that commitment is that they want to make sure that you have the tools you need to keep yourself safe and to protect this community,” Vieau said. “So, I’m hopeful that you’ll understand that as you embark on this wonderful, new opportunity.”

Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski said how “This is a big moment” for these four new firefighters and thanked the city and City Council for their continued support of the fire department.

“As the mayor said, look at the crew behind you,” Stamborski said. “There’s a support team in this city and you guys will learn that very fast. You’re going to be working hard starting out of the ambulance and you’ll start your training at the academy in October and we’re thrilled to have you.”

After Stamborski’s remarks, City Clerk Keith Rattell then swore in Tran, Gower, Moreau and Boutin as they took the oath.

See **FIREFIIGHTERS**
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COMMUNITY

Chicopee Galaxy Youth Association hosting skills camp

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Throughout the month of July, the Chicopee Galaxy Youth Association will be running and conducting a free to all summer football skills camp open to kids of all ages and genders spanning from second grade to high school.

The camp serves as an extension to offer vital insight

into not only how the game of football continues to evolve, but as a viable option of helping parents steer children away from the daily routine of electronics, while the freedom of summer vacation remains in the open.

The free-to-all practices take place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. behind the field at Bellamy Middle School, and it’s no cost to attend or join, as no registration is required; all

that’s asked is to bring cleats and water.

Despite being on a sunny weekday evening, all participants were engaged and had a blast, and the core message was heard and received.

Leading the charge was Galaxy Head Coach Demetrius Wilson, who not only called out and instructed all the various drills and activities, but went a step further by exemplifying a sense of parental care as he instructed his roster of coaches to ensure that no one felt out of place as he would slow down and survey the progression of everything, making it truly accessible to all.

Wilson caught up also with the Chicopee Register in the center of a mini-workout session as he reflected on the growth of the program, while acknowledging this only the beginning and the ceiling continues to be broken time and time again due to the unwavering support from everyone involved.

He added how this is a year long cycle of opportunities, as this camp was the next step on the ladder as June saw the conclusion of their flag football program come to an end.

“This is our skills camp as you can see, we just fin-



TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Players practicing at the football skills camp through the Chicopee Galaxy Youth Association.

See **YOUTH CAMP**
page 6

IN THE CITY

City Council approves TIFF agreement for economic development

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE - The City Council unanimously approved on July 1 a TIFF agreement to support economic development in the city.

The certified project application will next head to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council for approval and endorsement in order to become certified.

The TIFF agreement pertains to the reuse of property identified as Parcel 0109-00001 on Robbins Road, with Robbins Rd Property, LLC planning to invest \$9,500,000 in property acquisition and the construction of a 50,000-square-foot building.

The mayor's order also explained that Robbins Rd Property, LLC and Trafa Phar-

maceutical, Inc. have committed "to create a minimum of 15 permanent full-time jobs with preference in hiring residents of the ETA and the City of Chicopee."

The ETA represents the Holyoke Regional Economic Target Area, an intermunicipal agreement between the cities of Chicopee, Holyoke and Westfield to support increased economic development and provide additional jobs for residents of the three cities along with "expanded commercial and industrial activity within those cities in order to promote and develop a healthy economy and a strong tax base."

This agreement came together through the General Court enacting M.G.L. Ch. 23A, Section 3A-3H to form the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive

Program--or EDIP for short--which is "designed to stimulate job creation, attract new business, encourage growth of existing businesses, and to increase overall economic development readiness."

After reading the mayor's order, Mayor John Vieau explained how this is a TIFF agreement and thanked Vice President/Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits, Councilor-at-Large Jerry Roy, Treasurer Marie Laflamme, City Planner Lee Pouliot, Assessor Laura McCarthy and Community Development Director Kathleen Lingenberg for their work.

Krampits, Roy, Laflamme, Pouliot, McCarthy and Lingenberg were part of the TIFF Committee for this.

"We're excited for this pharmaceutical entity which is going to be creating a sup-

plement business at the end of Robbins Road and developing a parcel that's been sitting dormant for many, many years," Vieau said.

Pouliot added the TIFF "is a pretty standard agreement that is recommended out of the committee."

"What's before you this evening is a recommendation for a 10-year agreement, and just for the full body's advice as we haven't done one of these in a little bit of time, the city in our analysis with the Assessor's Office always ensures that we have a baseline for tax revenue," Pouliot said. "In the case of this property, it's the purchase price of the land, so no tax revenue is lost and as the increment reduces over the 10-year period, the increase in tax revenue is realized by the city. This is the first phase of what is proposed

to be a two-phase project and this agreement only applies to the first phase of the project."

There were no questions from the councilors on the mayor's order.

Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky later thanked Krampits and Roy "for their hard work on this."

"I know that whole committee," Shumsky said. "I want to thank them as well."

Krampits shared how a meeting was held on this and the assessors provided information.

"They're still going to have to pay real estate tax on the purchase of the property. So, we are going to be getting income from that and the assessors ran the numbers and said, 'Well, if we give them this TIFF and based on the sliding schedule, starting at 90% and then all the way

down to 10 at the 10th year, we would still be making money off the property. We wouldn't be losing anything,'" Krampits said.

Krampits noted the TIFF covers phase one, as Pouliot stated earlier.

"This is for the construction of the warehouse that they want to get done first and then phase two will be the actual manufacturing facility that they plan on adding. So, if they ask for a TIFF on that, that will be a separate TIFF that will be asked for," Krampits said. "So, this is strictly just for the warehouse and based on the discussions that we had at that meeting, it made sense to grant the TIFF. That it's not something we're going to be losing money on."

The order was then approved 11 yes, with one out of chair.

Chicopee introduces new and improved Bill Payment and Document Drop-Off convenience

Secure Drive-Through Drop Boxes to open soon at City Hall for payments, documents and ballots

CHICOPEE - Paying bills and submitting important documents just got easier in the City of Chicopee. Starting Monday, July 21, 2025, residents can use brand new drive-through drop-off boxes conveniently located in the Chicopee City Hall parking lot.

Designed with busy residents in mind, the new drop boxes offer a quick and hassle-free way to submit payments to the Collector's Office, deliver documents, and return mailed ballots to the City Clerk's Office. Whether you're juggling errands, have children in the car, face mobility challenges, or simply want to avoid stepping out in less-than-ideal weather, this option makes life a little simpler.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Strategically placed within the City Hall parking lot on the driver's side, the drop-off boxes are easy to access. Just drive in, follow the arrows, and you'll spot them at the end of the center island. To help ensure they're easy to find, the

boxes proudly feature freshly printed City Seals, beautifully produced by local business Sign Dynamics.

Payments and documents deposited in the drop boxes will be collected daily during business hours, ensuring timely processing and peace of mind for those

who rely on prompt bill payments.

The City of Chicopee encourages all residents to take advantage of this secure, convenient service that simplifies bill payments, document drop-offs, and more.

Learn more about volunteering at Harmony House

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee.

The beautiful new facility reopened in the spring of 2024 and has been a safe and loving home for people with limited support who cannot live on their own. Potential volunteers are invited to explore the

opportunity to help care for individuals who are in the final stage of their lives. Harmony House is currently in need of caregivers and support people. Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

A Meet-and-Greet event is scheduled for Tues-

day, July 29, at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Library, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, in their Common Room. Please come and meet members of the Board of Directors and current volunteers to learn more and have your questions answered by those who are directly involved in resident care.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization

whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhousewma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at admin@harmonyhousewma.org.

CPL Adult Programming for July

CHICOPEE - It's time for Summer Reading at the Library.

Here are some of things that will be happening at the library over the summer. All ages are welcome to join Summer Reading.

We will be having an English Language Conversation Circle for English Language Learners every Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. from July 2 - August 27. Emma, an ESOL teacher will lead the class. This is for all levels of learners to practice conversing.

Thursday Night Concerts: All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Concerts are outside, weather permitting unless otherwise indicated. Bring your own seating. Snacks and water are encouraged. Our concerts are supported by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

7/24-Dan Kane Youth Singers (indoors)-a wide variety of musical styles

7/31-Lonesome Brothers-American Roots Rock

8/7-Carrie Ferguson and the Grumpytime Club Band-Family Music

8/14-Sarah the Fiddler-a blend of Classical, Bluegrass and Celtic Music

For Tuesday Talks: 7/22 at 6:30 p.m. Elemental Forces within the Minor Arcana of Tarot with Winifred from Awentree. Registration

is required. Register through the Chicopee Library Calendar or call 413-594-1800x3. Bring your tarot deck if you have one.

7/29 at 6 p.m. Catholic Churches of Chicopee with Bob Comeau, a popular local historian and tour guide

This talk is supported by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

8/5 at 6:30 p.m. Speed Puzzling Competition (10+) Register through the Chicopee Library Calendar or call 413-594-1800x3. Puzzlers will complete in teams of four.

8/12 at 6 p.m. Coloring for Adults: Van Gogh's Sunflowers with Marie Manley Tucker. Register through the Chicopee Library calendar or call 413-594-1800x3.

As always, the computer lab is available to work on genealogy on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am - noon and 6pm - 8pm. We are a FamilySearch Affiliate Library and have helpful databases such as Ancestry, American Ancestors and HeritageQuest to help you in your search.

If you need technology help, we offer one-on-one computer help on Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m. or by appointment.

For more information, email or call the Reference Desk at cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org or 413- 594-1800 x3.

Summer Kids' Church Program in Chicopee

CHICOPEE - Every Wednesday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. through Aug. 27, First Central Bible Church at 50 Broadway Street in Chicopee is offering a children's program for ages three to grade six.

There is no charge and no need to register. Bring a friend and join us!

Each evening includes thoughtful Bible lessons, high-energy games, creative

crafts and a tasty snack. Children will learn about Jesus while meeting new friends and having plenty of fun.

To learn more about First Central, including worship times and all programs available to both children and adults, visit the church at www.firstcentral.church.

For more information on the program, contact Lisa Nawrocki, at lisanawrocki@firstcentral.church.

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IN THE CITY

Events & announcements schedule

The Friends of the Chicopee Public Library launches Shoe Drive Fundraiser to raise money to support the Chicopee Public Library

CHICOPEE - The Friends of the Chicopee Public Library is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser beginning July 7 and running through Sept. 8 to raise funds for the library.

The Friends will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit The Chicopee Public Library's special programs.

Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at the following collections sites:

- Chicopee Public Library 449 Front St Chicopee

- The Boys & Girls Club 580 Meadow St Chicopee

- The Council on Aging Riverfront Senior Center 5 W. Main St. Chicopee

- Goodworks Coffee House 46 Center St Chicopee

All donated shoes will then be redistributed through the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Lisa

Pasternak, President of the Friends of the Library. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for library special programs, and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone."

By donating gently worn, used and new shoes to the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in people's lives around the world.

About THE FRIENDS OF THE CHICOPEE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Friends are a non-profit group that raises monies through donations and fundraisers (Concerts, Shoe Drive, Golf Tournament, Concession Sales, Raffles just

to name a few) to help support the library's special programming and projects that would go unfunded.

Holyoke Chicopee Head Start holding Raising A Reader Family Shared Reading Program

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Chicopee Family & Community Program is currently hosting a "Raising A Reader" Family Shared reading program.

The program is for families with children from infant to five years old.

Let's get together for fun activities that develop reading readiness and social emotional skills! Take home a red bag each week with books to borrow.

The program takes place on Wednesdays, 4 to 5 p.m. at HCS Head Start the first and third Wednesday of

the month at 41 Commercial St., Holyoke.

Please call or email Shane at ShaneW@head-start.org or 413-310-1632.

This program is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant awarded to HCS Head Start by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Chicopee Senior Travel Club is seeking another Travel Planner

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Senior Travel Club is looking for another travel planner to join its team.

The Travel Club is a volunteer-operated group that works out of the Chicopee Council on Aging at RiverMills Center, located at 5 West Main St. in Chicopee.

The travel planner

works a weekly three-hour shift at the travel desk inside the center and helps people register for trips, provides information on upcoming trips, and accepts and documents payments for trips. Several hours are required at home for planning purposes, including planning trips and working with vendors. Planners attend monthly planners' meetings and monthly Travel Club open meetings.

The Travel Club is looking for someone with strong computer and organizational skills to prepare flyers and reports, who enjoys working with people, has an open schedule, is comfortable with public speaking, and who loves to travel. Cover letters and resumes may be submitted to Chicopee Senior Travel Club, RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St., Chicopee, MA, 01020.

LUPA ZOO from page 1

and, if people have physical disabilities and can't get out, we go visit them. We try to do as much as possible," Lupa said. "Today was just a little intro to take out the animals. Some people here might have never heard of Lupa Zoo before and hopefully now they'll come visit on their own to see more. I can't bring a bear here, y'know? It's just to get out to the community, to help out, and to try to do our part."

When asked on what his favorite animal that he tends to bring was, Lupa said this.

"I get that question a lot and hands down it's my dog. But other than that, all animals are different; monkeys are different from reptiles and reptiles are different from birds, and everybody's got their pluses and minuses," Lupa said. "Some I do get more attached to than others, but even if they're stinkers, that's what they do; some animals aren't meant to be cuddled or held, so they all have a special place."

Attendee Meghan Shaheen, when asked about her and her son's experience at



TURLEY PHOTOS BY ELISE LYONS

Stan Lupa holds a Jackson chameleon as he begins the animal showcase. When asked what the chameleon was named, it was comically dubbed, "Carl." The remainder of the creatures, aside from his dog Buddy, were unnamed.

the presentation, said she enjoyed it.

"Getting to interact with the animals was fun. Getting to pet them and touch them and learn about them and everything. My favorite was the prairie dogs. I think Noah's were the prairie dogs, too, since he kept talking about them," Shaheen said.

As a final message for the community before departing, Stan Lupa encouraged others to visit the Lupa Zoo themselves when they have the time.

"We're open until Thanksgiving. It's a non-profit zoo, it's good for the fami-

ly. Come visit us; we're open seven days a week, weather pending," Lupa said. "But yeah, get the kids outside, get them off the phone. Or bring the phone with them and take some pictures, or see an animal and Google it—learn some knowledge!"

This sentiment was echoed by Shaheen, who said this.

"Check out Lupa Zoo. Bring the kids, get them out. They also have a little splash park there, too—you can cool down. It's nice there," Shaheen said.

Lupa Zoo is located at 62 Nash Hill Road in Ludlow, with readers encouraged to visit lupazoo.org, called 413-583-8370 or email info@lupazoo.org to learn more.

To learn more about upcoming events at the senior center, check out the senior center newsletter or call 413-534-3698.



Mr. Lupa presents a shy three-banded armadillo, who has curled up into a ball to protect itself as it is being handled.



Lupa carries a ferret and explains that, while the one in his arms is a domesticated ferret, they have many wild relatives such as black-footed ferrets and European polecats.

Chicopee Public Library hosts Summer Events 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 seeks to provide opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for July 2025, including information about the annual Summer Reading Challenge!

Recurring Events

Outside Musical Storytime will be held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in July. A little bit of storytime, a little bit of a dance party. Join us outside on the back patio under the new shade structure for stories and movement. Geared towards kids ages 2-5, older kids welcome.

Toddler Time will be held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in July. An open ended playtime for Toddlers to socialize and play! For ages 0-2, no registration required. In the event of bad weather, this program will move into the Children's Room.

Outside Playgroup will be held on Fridays at 10:30 a.m., July 18 & 25. Play outside at the library! Families are invited to hang out under our new shade structure. Library staff will bring toys and sidewalk chalk. In the event of bad weather, this program will move into the Children's Room Playspace.

Game On! Games and activities for kids ages 6 and up, different themes each week. Thursdays at 2:30 in July. Teens welcome.

- July 17 - Video Games
- July 24 - Playground Games

July 31 - Best of the Summer! Another round of the favorite activities from each of the previous weeks.

Wednesday Event Series Learn to Hula Hoop with Wildkat Hoops on Wednesday, July 16 at Noon! This all-ages program is guaranteed to get you up and mov-

ing.

Kids 5 and up are invited to a Puppet Workshop with Caravan Puppets on Wednesday, July 23 at 2 p.m. Participants will make a puppet and then everyone will show off their work together in a short skit.

The library will hold a Mess-tival on Wednesday July 30 at 2 p.m. Dress for mess and enjoy a variety of messy outdoor activities.

Teen Programs

All teen programs are for ages 11 and up. Registration is required. Contact the Children's Room or sign up online.

Teens are invited to try Splatter Painting on Tuesday, July 15 at 4 p.m. Create your own unique piece of gaming themed art! We'll be using negative space to create awesome, colorful splatter paintings. You'll be able to choose from a variety of silhouettes from the fantasy genre, board games, video games, and more! While all effort will be made to minimize mess and washable paint will be used, please make sure to wear clothing you are alright potentially getting a little paint on.

Teens, Make Your Own Plushie on Tuesday, July 29 at 4 p.m. Ever wanted to make a little plushie but not sure how to sew? No problem! This special workshop for teens will go over some basic stitches and then walk everyone through the process of making a simple, yet adorable, plushie! All materials

will be provided and you keep your plushie buddy!

Dungeons & Dragons: Mini Adventure Hey, got time for a mini-adventure? Join your fellow party members for a short campaign and help save a trapped wizard! This campaign is beginner friendly and we will be using pre-made characters, so there is no need to bring your own. Dice and character sheets will be provided. Each group will meet twice on Thursday afternoons at 4pm.

Group 1 will meet on July 10 and 17, so please make sure you can attend BOTH days.

Group 2 will meet on July 24 and 31, so please make sure you can attend BOTH days.

Summer Reading Challenge

"Chicopee, Did you read today?" is the question of the season. The Library is challenging everybody to read every day from June 23 - August 15. You can read books or comics, listen to audiobooks, read to someone, or listen to someone read to you. You can read as much or as little as you want. The goal is to spread the joy of reading and learning throughout the community. Sign up for our reading challenge online with Beanstack (look for the link on the library homepage) or visit the library to get started!

Summer is a busy time at the library for all ages. Visit the library website for more info about library events, including programs for adults and Thursday night Concerts. www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org

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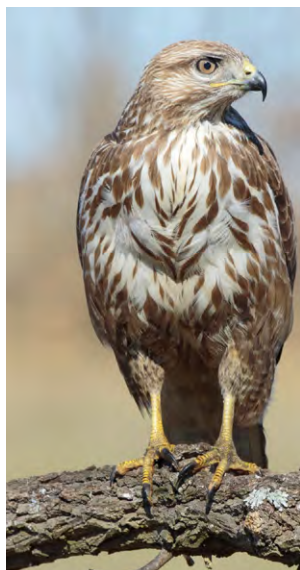
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OPINION



Cooper's hawk



My neighbor has a Cooper's hawk in his yard. Cooper's hawks are common woodland hawks and skilled fliers.

They will fly at high speed through cluttered tree canopies in pursuit of other birds. They may be seen at the forest edge or a field taking a few wingbeats followed by a glide.

Males are smaller than the females. They build the nest and supply nearly all the food to females and young during the nesting period.

During migration, ridge tops in both the East and West are great places to spot Cooper's hawks in large numbers. Coopers hawks perch upright and have a long, rounded tail with dark banding. The band at the end of the tail is white. They have a small, hooked beak.

Adults have a gray back, reddish barred chest and red eyes. They also have a black cap. Cooper's hawks are similar to sharp-shinned hawks, but are larger. They inhabit deep forest to backyards.

Grape jelly warning

I received a link about the dangers of feeding grape jelly to hummingbirds from a Granby resident. The link said, "Bird experts are raising the alarm that a common practice done to attract some birds is actually killing hummingbirds. Raptor Education Group, Inc. said just this week they had three adult ruby-throated hummingbirds brought in covered in grape jelly. One had already died. The others are alive, but struggling."

The central Wisconsin nonprofit shared photos to raise awareness that grape jelly is a sticky danger for the delicate birds. They said, "It has become common practice for people to put out jelly for orioles. However, when it is

this warm, the jelly melts and sticks in other bird's feathers and feet." The group recommends buying bird-safer jelly from a specialty store or feeding orange halves.

Brimfield bird report

I received an email recently from a Brimfield resident. He said, "It's been a different spring/summer in the yard this year. I didn't see the first Baltimore oriole until June when a male showed up at the bird

bath and a few days later a female showed at the birdbath. In previous years we have had a couple of pairs in the yard. I offer jelly and oranges during migration and then just oranges later in the year. I've only seen catbirds at the oranges, no orioles."

He saw a juvenile red-bellied woodpecker following an adult male around and begging for food recently. The catbirds are seen frequently and use the birdbath regularly. He has a couple pairs of rose-breasted grosbeaks as well. Several years ago, he saw 11 rose-breasted grosbeaks in the yard at the same time. He has not seen an indigo bunting this year. Although he saw great crested flycatchers and house wren earlier in the spring, they did not stay and use the nest boxes in his yard as they did last year.

Nesting osprey

He also said in his email, "In Warren last week I saw one osprey nesting in the nest on South

Street, but on a visit today there was no sighting of the chick, but an adult was perched on the nest."

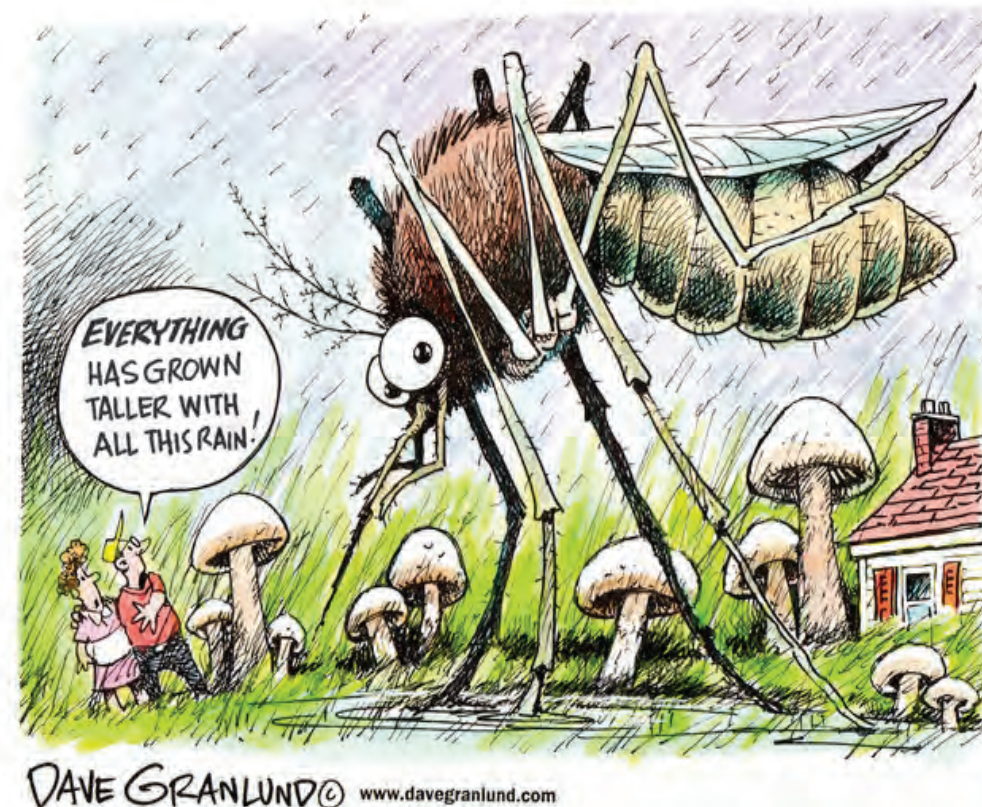
Alarming statistic

He also said, "Unfortunately the reports that there are billions of fewer birds in the country now than there were in the 1970s is very evident to anyone who has watched birds since then. Very sad what we humans have done to the planet." He said, "On another depressing note, there are way fewer butterflies in the yard this year."

Phoebes

Every year Eastern phoebes return to nest in my yard. Recently, I saw a fledgling following an adult around begging for food.

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



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

IN THE EYE (OR NOSE) OF THE BEHOLDER

So many things in life are a matter of preference, and there is no exception when it comes to likes and dislikes in the garden.

Take, for example, the hydrangea in my front yard that is truly a kaleidoscope of blues, purples and magenta. My husband prefers all blue hydrangea flowers, and would love if I would give the bush a watering of "Miracid" so that it will conform more to his liking.

But alas, I tend to enjoy the circusy feel, and will probably continue to let it do its thing without any help from me. Likewise, if you prefer the pink shades instead, you can use lime to make the soil more alkaline.

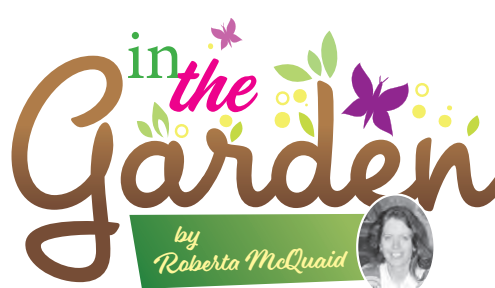
Do you ever wonder how this process works? It's a matter of making aluminum ions more readily available or not, and that process is pH dependent.

Another area where he and I tend to disagree is whether or not Bugbane, *Actaea* (formerly *Cimifuga*) *racemosa*, deserves a place in our perennial border. The plant is really unique, in that it sends up loads of four-five foot tall white flower spikes, even in the shade.

It's a beefy plant once full grown. I consider it a "specimen" like the Peony or Baptisia, where one will do the trick.

The flowers are blooming now and will continue to put on a show for a good few weeks.

So, you ask, what is the problem? Simply put, it's the smell. The plant reeks. It's all for good, though, since the



acrid smell lures flies to pollinate it!

My husband loathes the smell and has given it the not so nice nickname of "stinky flesh plant." I am not sure how he came up with that, but each year he is always pretty vocal about the stench when it is in bloom.

As a sidebar, the flies are doing their job, in turn making viable seeds. I know this for certain, since a few of them have sprouted over the years. Welcome volunteers, at least as far as I am concerned!

What is the consensus on Hosta flowers? Should they stay or go? I used to be of the "go" camp until earlier this morning, in fact, when I saw a hummingbird frequenting the blossoms! That changed my mind in a hurry.

While it's true that Hostas are better known for their foliage which is often beautifully variegated, the light lilac flowers are pretty in their own right. A handful of pendulous bells hang from the tips of the stems that seem to float above the foliage.

Hostas are not very demanding and are best known for their use in a shady border. Most will burn if planted in the sun, although golden leaved varieties seem to fair better in sunnier locales. In general, most varieties look

great paired with Astilbe and Ferns.

I've mentioned the "take it or leave it" attitude in prior columns towards the smell of Marigolds. I am definitely a "take it" girl on this one.

In fact, the fragrance, in and of itself, transports me back to the Grange Hall of my youth and their annual summer fair where I would, and still do enter the flowers in the "Cut Flower" category.

Both the larger doubled petal African and the smaller French types are represented. Besides looking good in the vase, Marigolds are said to repel aphids and other insects



from neighboring plants, and supposedly even able to keep underground nematodes at bay.

Maybe they are worth the odor. Or maybe the fragrance? You be the judge.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

WHY CAN'T I GET MY SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENT PLUS MY RAILROAD PENSION FROM MY EX-SPOUSE?



Dear Rusty:
I have a question. I now get a Railroad Pension from my ex-husband. I did not know it was from the Social Security Administration. I want to collect my SS benefits and my Railroad pension. Can I do that? I do not understand why I cannot collect both. Please advise.
Thank you. Signed: Railroad Ex-spouse

Dear Railroad Ex-spouse:

Railroad pension benefits and Social Security benefits are fully coordinated – that is, your Railroad pension payment from your ex-spouse already includes your earned Social Security retirement benefit. That's because the two government agencies, Railroad Retirement Board and Social Security Administration work together and pay your benefits in one sin-

gle payment, usually managed by the RRB if some of your benefit includes a railroad pension component. The RRB and SSA are two separate government agencies, but they fully coordinate benefits for beneficiaries.

This is exactly the same as if you were collecting regular SS ex-spouse benefits instead of RR benefits from your ex-husband; your personal SS retirement benefit is always paid first, and you receive an additional amount (a spousal boost) from your ex-husband. In your case, your "spousal boost" is the difference between your personally earned SS retirement benefit at your Full Retirement Age and half of your ex-husband's Tier I Railroad retirement benefit amount at

his full retirement age. A railroad pension usually consists of two pieces – a Tier I benefit and a Tier II benefit, with Tier I benefits being the equivalent of the pensioner's Social Security.

Your ex-spouse benefits under the RRB are handled the same way. The two agencies fully coordinate with each other, evaluate your SS entitlement, and then reduce the amount of your RRB Tier I ex-spouse benefit by your SS retirement amount and pay both amounts together. In this way, you only get one payment, consisting of both your earned SSA component and the RRB component. And whenever there is a railroad component, the RRB is usually responsible for making pension payments.

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 8

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Send letters to:
The Chicopee Register,
24 Water Street,
Palmer, MA 01069
or email
chicopeeregister@turley.com.
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.

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IN THE CITY

WESTCOMM from page 1

field) and Erin Hastings, the former executive director of WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch.

After the ribbon was cut, attendees stepped inside for a tour viewing administrative space, training rooms and the dispatchers' space on the top floor.

Ryan explained how it took "several villages, towns, departments, agencies and a whole lot of foresight, trust and collaboration" to bring WESTCOMM to where it is today.

"We could not be here without the unwavering support of chiefs, mayors, town managers, City Councilors, senators, legislators and the Massachusetts State 911 Department," Ryan said. "Today is the culmination of vision, partnership and hard work."

She also recognized Retired Chicopee Police Chief William Jebb and former Mayor Richard Kos for their support.

"Their vision and leadership helped to get these important conversations started. We cannot thank you enough," Ryan said.

Pozniak said the facility "embodies a shared commitment to public safety, regional collaboration and innovation in the world of emergency communications."

"At the State 911 Department, we believe that every second counts and this new complex will help ensure that every call is met with swift, professional and coordinated



The ribbon is cut for the grand opening of WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch in Chicopee on July 14.

TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS



Mayor John Vieau encouraged potential regional partners to consider joining the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch.



John Beaulieu, vice chair for the WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch Board of Directors, reflects on the decade-long journey to grand opening day.



Frank Pozniak, the executive director of the Massachusetts State 911 Department, was also amongst the speakers for the grand opening.

response. It is a shining example of what we can accomplish when cities and towns come together for the greater good," Pozniak said. "WESTCOMM reflects the very best of what public service is all

about, putting people first, investing in technology and building resilient systems that protect our communities."

Vieau encouraged potential regional partners to visit the facility.

"I know that a lot of our neighbors are concerned about giving up control, but what you end up with is state-of-the-art, professional dispatching. Something that is very special in keeping your community safe," Vieau said. "As mayor of Chicopee, I believe that's paramount. It's paramount to the success of any community. You want to make sure that people who live in your city feel safe or your town feels safe and that's really what this is all about."

Oliveira shared WEST-

COMM's reach also serves his colleagues including State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), who also represents Chicopee, State Sen. Ryan Fattman (D-Sutton), who represents Monson and State Sen. Peter Durant (D-Spencer), who represents Ware.

He stressed, also, the importance of reliability for emergency management systems, citing the tragic floods in Texas earlier this month.

"Having access to a dispatch center that can put you in touch with the life-saving people that each one of these folks behind me represents is essential to ensure that our public is served by this facility," Oliveira said.

Velis emphasized having

more people working in public safety.

"The most sacred role of all elected officials is public service, is the well-being of the people they represent. The physical safety of the people they represent, and this building right here goes a long way incrementally to increasing and protecting the public safety of the people we represent," Velis said.

Beaulieu shared the timeline, with the journey having started in 2015, the Massachusetts State Police joining the ranks in December 2016, Kos, Jebb and Secretary of Public Safety Dan Bennett coming together in 2017 to kick things off and seven communities being part of the regional dispatch until it was narrowed down to three, but "we all still had the same vision"

He also noted prior Board of Directors Chair Stephen Crane for keeping things moving, hiring Hastings as the first executive director, the rest of the team and the dispatchers.

"From the board of directors to everybody that works in this building to all our state senators and representatives, thank you for letting us get to fruition with this building," Beaulieu said.

Arriaga said the facility "is built to facilitate the folks that save lives" and how "every single phone call requires that right person, that right

technique and it makes all the difference in the world."

"It is time of the essence and they deserve a place they can sit comfortably and do their job. They are courageous folks and this facility's only going to help amplify the help that they're giving our region. Public safety is of utmost importance and this facility stands as a symbol of that," Arriaga said.

Puppolo said that this opening was "a great collaborative."

"When you look at what's been able to happen here over the last several years and over what we've been able to bring today to the table, it really is not only a regional effect, but a state-wide sort of effect," Puppolo said. "It's certainly more should be done across this Commonwealth in the likes of this to make sure that we're able to regionalize to save money, be more efficient and be faster with the services that we need to get out there to rescue and save lives."

Hastings said that "standing here today is more meaningful than I can express" and how the facility "isn't just bricks and steel," but "a physical manifestation of an idea that was sparked years ago when a small group of leaders believed there was a better way to serve our communities, to regionalize 911."

She also thanked the dispatchers who stepped up to serve.

"You are the reason this place exists. It was built for you, it was built because of you, it was built to honor the critical life-saving work you do every single day and while the leadership may change over time, the legacy is in the foundation. You don't need a name on a plaque to know where the roots of something strong lie. You just need to look around and remember who showed up with a blueprint and a vision," Hastings said. "Congratulations on this next chapter. May these walls serve as both protection and promise for the public, the responders and the professionals within them."



A shot of a large training room space inside WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch.

FIREFIIGHTERS from page 1

Boutin, Tran, Gower and Moreau were humbled by the opportunity to become firefighters.

"Just very happy. It's always what I wanted to do, so I just got to start the rest of my life," Boutin said.

"It's definitely an exciting thing. It's definitely surreal. Starting the process early in August of last year and going through a whole process. It wasn't until March, April, where things started picking up and the ball started rolling," Tran said. "I can't believe we're here now, so grateful for the opportunity and looking forward to serving our community."

"It's definitely a while in the making. Just happy that 90% of it's over with and it's just the academy ahead," Gower said.

"Very excited. It was a long time wait, but it's definitely worth it. I can't wait to keep going and serve the city and on to the academy," Moreau said.

The guys shared what inspired each of them to become firefighters.

"My whole family, I'm a third-generation firefighter on both sides of my family, third-generation Chicopee firefighter specifically on my dad's side. Just kind of grew up with it, it's just always what I've been used to, so it's always what I wanted to do," Boutin said.

"I always had an inkling towards working with people and when I heard about the opportunity to become a firefighter, it made sense for me," Tran said. "I get some more hands-on skills and I get to make a difference in



Chicopee Fire Department and the newest members of the Chicopee Fire Department, Jimmy Tran, Austin Gower, Tyler Moreau and Jacob Boutin.

URLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

other people's lives, so it's definitely a scratch moment that itches for me."

"I always had an interest in the medical field and I started working as an EMT. Loved it and I was recruited to be a firefighter, one of the two careers you could either go: medic or firefighter," Gower said.

"I love to help people and it's great to be able to serve the city of Chicopee where I grew up," Moreau said.

After sharing they look forward to training at the academy later this year from the camaraderie to learning the equipment and hands-on experiences, the foursome expressed their gratitude to the community for their support on this big day.

"It's awesome, means a lot to know that people got our backs because soon we'll be having their backs as well. So, it's just kind of a symbiotic relationship," Boutin said.

"It's definitely a warm and fuzzy feeling. It kind

of shows how much support we've received and what's to come and I think that's probably one of the things that makes being a firefighter such a great thing is the support that we have for each other," Tran said.

"It's great. Can't wait to help the city, for showing support for me," Gower said.

"It was great to see all the firefighters here," Moreau



Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski offers advice to the newest firefighters joining the Chicopee Fire Department.

said. "You hear about the camaraderie, but seeing it was a special moment for me."

Boutin, Tran, Gower and Moreau also offered this advice to future firefighters.

"Be honest with yourself," Boutin said.

"Preparation. Make sure that you utilize the resources, prepare yourself mentally, physically and take that first step. You're never too old or



Mayor John Vieau provides opening remarks.

young," Tran said.

"Definitely go for it. It's definitely the most interesting job, I feel," Gower said.

"If you're thinking



Three generations of Chicopee firefighters in one shot as Jacob Boutin becomes the next firefighter for the Boutin family. Boutin follows in the footsteps of his father and grandfather who also served in the Chicopee Fire Department.

IN THE CITY

YOUTH CAMP from page 1

ished flag football, and now we have a month to help get the kids ready for the fall, and this is just keeping the kids engaged and not keeping them idle, and the skills they are getting along with the exercise will be vital in helping them in any sport they participate in," Wilson said. "For me, the (Galaxy) means everything because one thing that kept me off the streets as a young kid was sports, and it was instrumental in helping create friendships, but also having the ability to work with mentors, to pass on what we know to the next generation it's a rewarding and humbling opportunity as a Coach, a full circle moment."

Wilson shared it's the little moments—such as familiar faces who once donned the neon green and charcoal black colors—from a time before returning and assisting in one way or the other.

"We have kids who make it to high school, and colleges, who still retain and



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Players line up for practice.

remember what was instilled and taught here, who come back to lend a hand by offering to help referee our games, and some who take it a step beyond by coaching as well, and as we continue to grow, we add onto the program, and include more sports where we are flag and tackle football, baseball, basketball, we all go year round," Wilson said.

Wilson then noted that one of the main draws that pulls many out of the house is the Galaxy's Tackle Football program, which usually starts

with about and close to 150 kids on the roster, but passed along that he understands that the summer can be a busy time for all involved.

"This is just a portion," Wilson said about those in attendance during the practice. "We want all of our kids to come out, and we commend the kids who do come out, and as coaches, we find different ways to break up the monotony of the daily routine, as tonight we're going to play dodgeball, which gives the component and value to the perspective of keeping the

engagement level high, and offering something new and fresh to the identity of each practice."

Wilson also noted each drill and procedure acting as a sense of foundation being built, which will continue to grow and the benefits of the hard work and conditioning will manifest as not only time goes on, but the friendship of those who participated will essentially last as well.

"I hope they will realize the benefits will reflect during their performance in the upcoming season, which

is formed from coming out and just working hard, exemplifying the age-old saying of instilling into his team that 'you practice how you play,'" Wilson said.

He then concluded his thoughts by offering and extending the open hand to any volunteers among the choice of coaches and players, all in service of creating a proverbial pipeline of youth organized sports, as a main focal point to put the city of Chicopee on the map, so that the hope is for families will feel proud to be a part of as the Galaxy

head into the future.

"I've been coaching for 16 years, and a lot of kids know me, and many come back just to watch, but we do joint practices with the high schools, as last year we practiced with Chicopee (Comp) and we had kids from the program who essentially graduate from here, and we go to their games as we support them as a team, and we pass the feeling for our kids to know this is the next step, as for some the high school level is the next level, and it gives a sense of desire to be the best they can be, as the allure of playing under the lights is a huge driving factor, that invites many to join the process," Wilson said.

Also, the camp is still available with the next dates to run from the 22nd to the 24th, and finally, the final week will be on Monday, July 28, spanning till Wednesday, July 30.

For more information about the Chicopee Galaxy Youth Association, feel free to check out their various social media pages across all platforms.



Players out on the field at Bellamy Middle School during a practice run.



Players get in formation for another practice run.

Learn about a proposed natural gas system upgrade in your area.

The **Western Mass Reliability Project Informational & Listening Session (in-person and virtual)** will provide more information on efforts to improve system reliability to existing natural gas customers in the Greater Springfield area. This project includes constructing a new point-of-delivery (POD) station in Longmeadow and installing, upgrading, and operating a steel main between this new POD station and the company's Bliss Street Regulator Station in Springfield.

Please join us in person or virtually at our Informational & Listening Session on Thursday, August 7th, where you'll learn what this project will mean for the Greater Springfield area. Project team members will be available to provide information and answer your questions.

Location:

UMass Center at Tower Square, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA

Event Date/Time: Thursday, August 7th

6:00 PM—Open

6:30 PM—8:00 PM—Informational & Listening Session

Guest Services to be Provided:

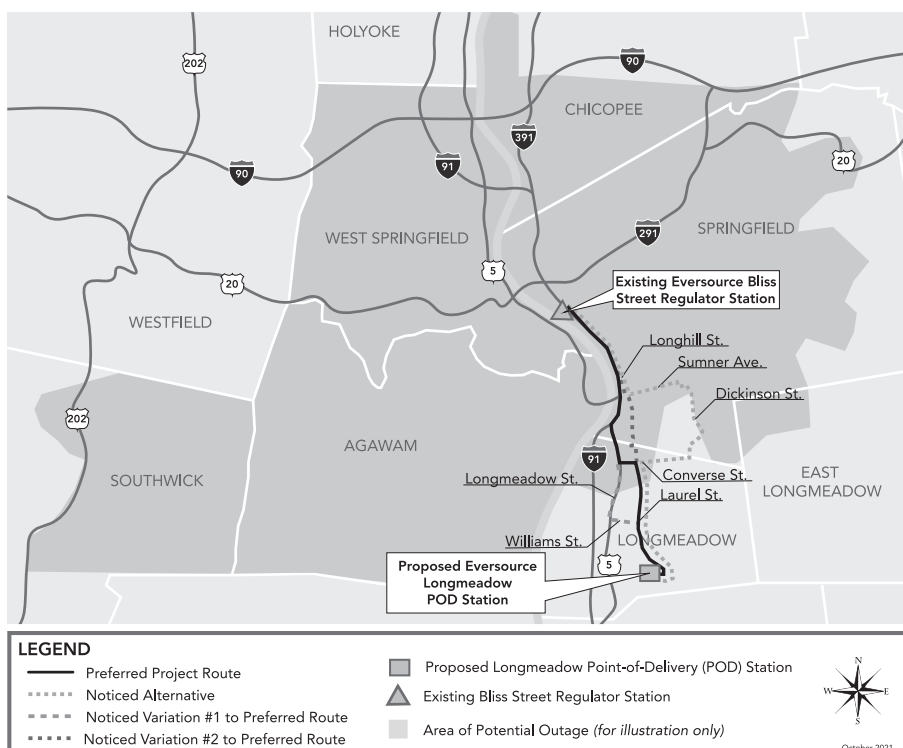
- Tower Square parking vouchers
- Childcare available
- Refreshments throughout the duration of the event
- Spanish and Russian translation available

Visit eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability to learn more about the proposed project and see details about the Informational & Listening Session, and to access the event virtually if you are unable to attend in person.

Questions?

For more information, please email Eversource at projectinfoma@eversource.com or call **833-836-0302**.

You can also keep up to date on the project by visiting our website at eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability, or by scanning the QR code below with your smart device.



EVERSOURCE

Si necesita que le traduzcan esta notificación, envíenos un correo electrónico a Projectinfoma@eversource.com y escriba "Gas Reliability Project" en el asunto.

Если вам нужен перевод данного уведомления, отправьте электронное письмо по адресу Projectinfoma@eversource.com, указав в строке темы «Проект по обеспечению надежности газа».

SPORTS

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Chicopee scores convincing win over Palmer

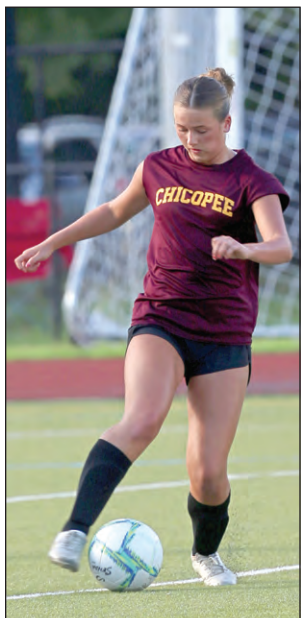


TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Cayla Riberio vies for the ball with an opponent.

CHICOPEE – Last Wednesday evening, Palmer girls summer soccer fell 4-1 to Chicopee in B Division action. Teams returned to the field in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League following the holiday week. Palmer is now 0-7 this summer with a few games remaining in the regular season.



Cassidy Pytel tries to emerge with the ball.



Louisa Stefanelli sends a quick touch up the field.



Sophia Moreira heads up the field.



Melanie Sobieraj makes a throw-in.

Here for Beer hands Mustangs first loss



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Joanna Mull, of Belchertown, sends a free kick away.

SOUTH HADLEY – Last Thursday evening in the Women's Division of the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League, Here for Beer edged the Monson Mustangs 3-2 on the turf of South Hadley High School. Both teams are now 7-1 on the season with Monson suffering its first loss. They are both tied for first place in the division. The game was a possible preview of the PVSSL finals.



Liz Maggi is pressured.



Cassie Ashwell heads up the field.



Taryn Carriveau, a recent Chicopee Comp graduate, makes a stop on the ball.



Katie Gilhooly, a 2025 Comp graduate, fights for the ball.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Devin Slattery, of Ware, makes the stop.



Mason Barcomb slings a throw to first.

Saints keep first place in Tri-County

PALMER – Following the Fourth of July, Tri-County Baseball League action resumed with a full week of action. Teddy Bear Pools and St. Joseph's were among the several games that took place. Both teams had a few games during the week. With a couple of weeks remaining in the season, St. Joseph's holds first place with 20 points and a 10-6 record. PeoplesBank is second with 16 points and an 8-2 record and several games to make up. BankESB is third with 11 points, and Teddy Bear Pools holds fourth with nine points and a 4-7-1 record.



Colby Harrington delivers a pitch for St. Joe's.



Breddan Fournier cuts across the diamond and gets the out.



Brandon Magni fields a grounder to third.

Extra time goals hurt Pioneers in draw

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The task wasn't a very difficult one for the Western Mass. Pioneers entering the regular season finale against rival Vermont Green FC.

The Pioneers needed a victory to clinch the top spot in the USL League Two Northeast Division table for the first time since 2021.

The home team held a 2-0 lead in the 90th minute before referee Stephanie MacFarland decided to add 10 minutes of stoppage time. That's when everything fell apart for the Pioneers like a house of cards.

The Green managed to score two goals during extra time and last Friday night's match, which was played in front of the largest crowd of the regular season at historic Lusitano Stadium, ended in a 2-2 draw.

"I've never been involved in a soccer game before where the referee added ten minutes of stoppage time," said Pioneers captain Aidan Kelly. "We just crumpled under the pressure, but it's something that we're going to learn from. It's very disappointing, but we're looking forward to the playoffs now."

Longtime Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari was upset with how the home match ended.

"I have no words to describe tonight's game," Molinari said. "We played very well until extra time. There isn't anything we can do about it now."



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Juan Hermoso chases after a loose ball.

The scoreboard clock was stopped when the match reached the 90th minute. MacFarland kept the rest of the time. Soccer is the only sport that uses a clock where the players and fans have no idea when the match is going to end.

While it was a heartbreaking way to end the regular season, the Pioneers (10-1-3), who lost, 2-0, to the Green on June 17, were scheduled to host the Long Island Rough Riders in an Eastern Conference play-in match on Tuesday night.

"We've qualified for the playoffs again," Molinari said. "We just have to prepare for Tuesday's playoff match now."

The Pioneers qualified for the playoffs for the sixth time since 2019. They've also finished in second place in the Northeast Conference standings in each of the past four seasons.

Vermont (12-0-2) captured the League title for the first time since joining USL

Blue Sox suffer loss to Ocean State

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were the away team for the first game in the doubleheader at Mackenzie Stadium against the Ocean State Waves last Friday. Valley's third baseman Wyatt Hunt had himself an incredible day at the plate. Hunt went four for four with three singles, a double, two runs scored and one RBI. Blue Sox's Bryan Matuschat relief pitcher led the team in strikeouts with three in two innings pitched.

This game did not disappoint as scoring started early on for the Waves (14-15) in the top of the second. Waves' Gavin Greger hit a single and stole second. Coen Niclai's single advanced Greger to third. Niclai seized his opportunity and stole second base quickly. Kayle Pisano ripped a sac-fly to center field, scoring Greger and advancing Niclai to third. Ocean State's second baseman, Jack LaRose knocked a single to score Niclai to make it 2-0 after two innings.

Valley found their footing in the top of the third. Hunt doubled into left field off of the diving catch attempt by left fielder Kolton Reynolds. Hunt stole third on a wild pickoff



Robert Lyons eyes an opponent up the field.

League Two in 2022.

When the Green made their annual visit to Lusitano Stadium a year ago, they clinched a playoff berth with a 3-1 victory over the Pioneers. The first meeting of the 2024 regular season ended in a scoreless draw.

The overall series re-
See **PIONEERS**
page 8

See **BLUE SOX**
page 8

SPORTS

T-Birds reveal schedule for upcoming season

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud American Hockey League affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, released their full schedule for their 2025-26 regular season on Thursday in conjunction with the AHL. The T-Birds will be celebrating their 10th year as an AHL member club during the upcoming campaign, as well as their fifth playing season in affiliation with the Blues. Springfield has qualified for the Calder Cup Playoffs in three of its past four seasons. The Thunderbirds will begin their regular season on home ice for a sixth consecutive season when they play host to the defending Eastern Conference champion Charlotte Checkers on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 6:05 p.m. inside the MassMutual Center for Open-

ing Night. Fans are advised that all Saturday games at the MassMutual Center will now start one hour earlier at 6:05 p.m. for the 2025-26 season. The Thunderbirds will face every Eastern Conference team at least twice during the 2025-26 regular season, except for the Cleveland Monsters. Once again, the AHL season will consist of all 32 clubs playing 72 games (36 home, 36 away). Springfield will play 54 games against Atlantic Division opponents, including 27 at the MassMutual Center. Their most frequent opponents are the Providence Bruins, who will visit the Thunderdome six times, including 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Dec. 6, Saturday, Dec. 27, Saturday, Feb.

21, and Wednesday, March 11. The two teams will also square off on New Year's Eve for a 3:05 p.m. matinee on Wednesday, December 31, as well as a 7:05 p.m. puck drop on Wednesday, March 25. The home-ice portion of the I-91 rivalry series against the Hartford Wolf Pack begins on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 6:05 p.m., and the two foes will square off five times in each building during the 2025-26 season. Other I-91 game dates include Friday, Jan. 9 (7:05 p.m.) and 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Jan. 31, Saturday, April 11, and Saturday, April 18. The Bridgeport Islanders will also make five appearances in Springfield against the T-Birds, starting with a 7:05 p.m. contest on Friday, Nov. 7, followed by meetings on

Saturday, Nov. 29 (6:05 p.m.), Sunday, Dec. 28 (3:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 2 (7:05 p.m.), and Friday, Feb. 20 (7:05 p.m.). The most frequent visitor from Pennsylvania is the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, who visit the Thunderdome on Saturday, Jan. 10 (6:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 30 (7:05 p.m.), and Wednesday, April 15 (7:05 p.m.). Springfield will also host two games each against the Hershey Bears and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins. The Thunderbirds will also play 18 games (9 home, 9 away) against North and Central Division opponents. The Iowa Wild are the lone Western Conference team on the T-Birds' schedule, visiting Springfield on Friday, March 6 (7:05 p.m.) and Saturday, March 7 (6:05 p.m.).

Registration open for 3v3 soccer jamboree

BELCHERTOWN — The Third Annual Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree is scheduled to be held at the State Street Fields in Belchertown on Aug. 16. The annual event is held in memory of 13-year-old Julia Haynes who passed away in March of 2023 following a battle with brain cancer. All of the funds the Jamboree raises benefit the Julia Haynes Scholarship Fund, which is a 501(c)(3) founded by four of Julia's classmates. The first two events hosted more than 60 teams, each year, in grades 3 through high school for the all-day event bracket which also featured food

trucks, raffle and dunk tank. Registration is open until July 20 and is \$100 per team for up to four players and includes an event t shirt. There is also a new bracket for class of 2022 - 2025 participants. There will again be food trucks, a DJ and some fun activities for attendees including a raffle. Those interested in registering a team, becoming a volunteer, sponsor or donating to the raffle can get more details on the @julias3v3jamboree Instagram or Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree Facebook pages or through Runsignup: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Belchertown/Julias3v3SoccerJamboree>

T-Birds bringing back Community Caravan

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds are proud to announce the return of the T-Birds Community Caravan, with support from MassMutual, marking the third annual summer tour designed to bring the excitement of Thunderbirds hockey to communities across the region. This year's Caravan will include three stops throughout the Greater Springfield area during the summer months, continuing the initiative's mission to keep the T-Birds top-of-mind in the offseason while deepening the team's connection to local families and fans. This summer's Caravan dates are as follows:

- Saturday, July 19 - Sonny's Place, Somers, CT - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - Saturday, August 9 - Amelia Park Ice Arena, Westfield - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. *
- *The Westfield Community Caravan will also feature the annual T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament on the outdoor deck hockey court at Amelia Park. The Street Hockey Tournament features

teams of players ages 9-12. To register your team, click here. "After a fantastic continuation of the program last summer, we're thrilled to bring back the Caravan and keep building on its success," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "We're equally excited to welcome back MassMutual as a partner and thank them for embracing our mission of being champions in the community beyond the Thunderdome."

Each free-to-attend event will feature appearances by Thunderbirds mascot Boomer, team staff, and a lively mix of interactive games, street hockey, family-friendly activities, and local vendors. Fans can also enjoy delicious food options, with each Caravan date spotlighting a local nonprofit beneficiary, helping to raise awareness and support for impactful community organizations. "We're delighted to support the Springfield Thunderbirds not only on the ice but also throughout the local community," said Dennis Duquette, head of community respon-

sibility at MassMutual and president of the MassMutual Foundation. "Their caravan provides terrific activities for local kids and families, and we're proud to be a part of it." The Springfield edition of the Caravan will be collecting donations benefiting The Gray House. Among the requested items are baby food, diapers and wipes, school supplies, and non-perishable food items. The Thunderbirds will also be hosting food drives at the July and August Caravan stops. The July Caravan at Sonny's Place will benefit the Enfield Food Shelf in Connecticut, while the August Caravan in Westfield will collect items for the Westfield Food Pantry. Additional information for all Community Caravans will be released in the coming weeks via the Thunderbirds' website and social media channels. For more information on upcoming events, including the Community Caravan, stay tuned to the T-Birds on social media @ThunderbirdsAHL, or visit the Community Tab on www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

PIONEERS from page 7

cord between the two squads is now tied 3-3-2. The Pioneers posted a pair of 1-0 victories against Vermont during the 2023 regular season. Since suffering the shut-out loss at Vermont back in June, the Pioneers had gone 5-0-0 and outscored their opponents, 18-1 during that span. The start of last Friday's contest was delayed about 30 minutes due to a thunderstorm. The Pioneers starting goalie was Trey Sheppard, who started a home match for the first time this season. "We decided to go with him (Sheppard) tonight," Molinari said. "He's been training with us the whole season and he deserved a chance to play."

Sheppard, who'll be a sophomore on the Amherst College men's soccer team in the fall, started his first match of the season for the Pioneers on the road against New England FC, which was a 3-1 victory on July 7. During the third minute, Sheppard made an outstanding save on a shot taken by Arnaud Tattevin resulting in a corner kick. The Western Mass. squad took a 1-0 lead following a free kick goal during the 41st minute. Gustavo Barbosa booted the ball into the box with his left foot from the right sideline near the Pioneers bench. Juan Hermoso, who's a defender, headed the ball into the right corner of the net



Goalie Rees Sheppard punts the ball away.

past Vermont goalie Niklas Herceg. It was Hermoso's third goal of the season. "It was very important for us to score the first goal of the match," Hermoso said. "I saw the ball heading towards me, and I was able to head it into the net. It was a great feeling."

A year ago, Hermoso was a senior on the University of Charleston men's soccer team, which lost to Lynn University, 3-2, in the NCAA Division 2 finals. It was the first time that Vermont, who only needed a tie to finish in first place, had trailed in a match this season. The Pioneers had a couple of other scoring chances early in the second half before Israel Neto blasted a shot into the back of the net in the 64th minute. Barbosa was credited with his second

assist. Twenty minutes later, Neto had another shot on goal, but Herceg was able to make the save. The visitors cut the deficit in half following a goal from Zach Zengue. A couple of minutes later, Owen O'Malley, who had entered the match in the 69th minute, lined a shot from the top of the box over Sheppard that landed in the right corner tying the match. Then the Vermont players raced across the field and celebrated with their many supporters, who made the three hour trek to Ludlow from Burlington. It wasn't the way the Pioneers players wanted the regular season to finish, but they had a clean slate entering Tuesday's home playoff match.

BLUE SOX from page 7

attempt by Ocean State starting pitcher Rhys Bowie. Nicholas Spaventa cracked a single right up the middle, scoring Hunt to cut the lead to one. The Blue Sox found more momentum in top of the fifth thanks to Hunt's single and steal that was followed up by Michael Elko's line drive ball to left field that scored the speedster Hunt to tie the game at two apiece before the inning ended. The Waves punched back in the bottom of the inning. With two outs and no runners on base, Brandon DeGoti demolished a triple into right field to put a runner into scoring position. Ryan Gerety then doubled off the right field wall and scored DeGoti to make it 3-2. Reynolds followed suit with a single into

the outfield to score Gerety to extend the lead even further. Greger doubled into right field, advancing Reynolds to third. Niclai singled to score Reynolds but Gerety got out at home due to an incredible throw by right fielder Rees Kozar for out No.3. The score was now 5-2. Valley's Mike Lucarelli walked to start the top of the sixth. Lucarelli stole second, third and home on a wild throw by Waves' catcher Brandyn Durand. Andrew Loikits singled into left field. Sean Darnell crushed the ball deep into left for a double to advance Loikits to third. Gavin Schrader came into the game to pinch hit for Hayden Perry. He hit a sac-fly to center field, scoring Loikits to make it 5-4. Hunt came back up to the plate and hit a clutch single to score Darnell. The game was now tied 5-5.

In doubleheaders in the New England Collegiate Baseball League, games are only seven innings with the exception of two extra innings. No runs were scored until the bottom of the ninth inning. Ocean State and Valley were on the cusp of having the first tie in the NECBL this season. Justin Hackett started as the ghost runner for the Waves. LaRose hit a sac-bunt to advance Hackett to third. Ocean State was 90 feet away from scoring the game winning run. Greg Pettay has been out since June 26 due to a knee injury and ripped a game winning single to score Hackett to walk it off in style against the Blue Sox. Game two of the doubleheader got canceled due to rain against the Ocean State Waves, but the Blue Sox were up 2-0 before it got canceled.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

You may find the information at this RRB website helpful: https://rrb.gov/RRB-9/Social_Security_Benefits and you can also contact your local RRB field office by accessing this link: <https://www.rrb.gov/Field-Office-Locator>.

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-advisor or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Resorts
 - One point south of southwest
 - Musical performances
 - Matched
 - Four-footed animal part
 - Express severe disapproval of
 - Type of leaf
 - Preparatory
 - Walk heavily
 - Succulent plants
 - Rectangle of grass
 - Lump in yarn
 - Too
 - Foot (Latin)
 - Afflicts
 - Smoothed
 - Mind (Greek)

- Tampa ballclub
- Semitic language
- Sheltered sides
- Ocean
- Electronic point of sale
- Thrust a knife into
- 12th month (abbr.)
- Ringworm
- Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)
- Fighting back
- Cease to exist
- Insects in adult stage
- Freestanding sculpture
- Caps
- Repents
- Brown and Wallace are two
- Moved quickly

- CLUES DOWN**
- Goes bad
 - Yard structure
 - They ___
 - Marine invertebrate
 - European river
 - Office supplies firm
 - Physically abused
 - Service stations in Australia
 - Kills
 - Liquid body substances
 - Particular to a given individual
 - Brave or noble act
 - Sicilian city
 - Conqueror
 - Elected officials
 - Type of «pig»

- Drop of viscous substance
- Monetary unit of Spain
- Guarantees
- Coloring materials
- Reddish browns
- Square measure
- Will not
- Canned fish
- Appeared
- Six (Spanish)
- Took off
- Negligible amount
- Posts in a Greek temple
- Witnesses
- Phil ___, former CIA
- Places to park
- Guns
- Dance to pop music

IN THE CLASSROOM

The Horace Smith Fund Awards \$310,000 to Area Students

REGION - On Thursday, June 19, at 6 p.m., The Horace Smith Fund will hold its 126th Annual Corporators' Meeting and scholarship awards ceremony at the Carriage House of Storowton Tavern for recipients, their parents, school counselors, and Corporators. This year's Keynote Speaker will be Congressman Richard Neal.

Wayne Webster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, announced that this year 20 Walter S. Barr Scholarship awards will be given to 18 graduating high school seniors and two students currently attending college. One additional student currently attending college will receive the Sidney S. Letter Award, which is named after a recent benefactor. The William R. Rooney Award will be granted to a high school senior who has received special education services, and three Walter S. Barr Fellowships will be given to students pursuing a full-time graduate degree. Providing that students maintain at least a B average, each scholarship provides a total of up to \$12,000 over four years and each fellowship provides up to \$15,000 over two years. Therefore, The Horace Smith Fund is happy to be able to grant a total award of \$310,000 to area students this year.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith. He and Daniel Wesson were the founders of Smith & Wesson, located in Spring-

field. Mr. Smith's will provided that the residual of his estate, after several bequests to relatives and institutions, was to be used for public purposes at the discretion of his executors. They decided that it should be used to help deserving students finance their education.

The Walter S. Barr Scholarships and Fellowships are named for a West Springfield businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950. The William R. Rooney Award is named for a past Executive Director with a desire to assist special needs students. All recipients must be residents of Hampden County.

This year's scholarship recipients who are graduating seniors are from the following high schools:

Agawam High School: Isabella M. Oliveira, Hannah M. Parker

Chicopee Comprehensive High School: Carter R. Janik

Chicopee High School: Jenna P. Madru

East Longmeadow High School: Oluwafunmilayo Y. Coates

Longmeadow High School: Rachel Kim, Kabeer Razzaq

Ludlow High School: Jack E. Favata, Calleigh J. Foley, Caitlyn R. Day

Minnechaug Regional High School: Victoria E. Gonzalez, Bryan A. Beckel

Pope Francis Preparatory High School: Elizabeth Z. Hanechak

Putnam Vocational Technical High School: Andy Li
Springfield Central High School: Charlotte Kocsmiersky

West Springfield High School: Lindsey R. Bergeron, Ainsley E. Kearney, Mary C. Desrosiers, Eibhlinn R. White

This year's scholarship recipients who are currently in college are:

Emerson College: Patrick A. Cowles (Minnechaug Regional High School)

UMass Amherst: Faraz Kabir (Longmeadow High School)

WNEU: Madeline G. Jarvinen (Longmeadow High School)

The three fellowship recipients are graduates from the following colleges and high schools:

Boston College School of Law: Devin Sheehan (Southwick-Tolland Regional High School)

Fordham University School of Law: Leighlani Sanchez (Northfield Mt. Herman School)

Yale University School of Nursing: Anna Gorfinkel (Minnechaug Regional High School)

Students were selected on a variety of criteria, including their test scores, class rank, extra-curricular activities, and a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Applications for next year's awards will be available September 15th online at www.HoraceSmithFund.org or by calling (413) 739-4222.

STCC spring 2025 dean's list

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield Technical Community College announces students who were named to the spring 2025 dean's list.

Published each semester, the STCC dean's list recognizes excellence in academic performance. To be considered, degree-seeking students must earn 12 or more college level credits in the current semester, or a total of 12 or more combined college-level credits earned during the fall and spring semesters, and achieve a 3.3 or above grade point average.

Student names are listed under the towns or cities in which they reside.

Chicopee

Abigail Kelynge Tait, Adelaida Marie Ramos, Alishia Faber-Stowe, Allison Rose Theroux, Amanda Laflamme, Amber J Boron, Angie Campos, Antinese Desiree Hines, Arthur Edward Barnes, Ayah Sameer Aljashaam, Brandon Glenn Porter, Brandon Wiliam Mijal, Briana Haley McCollum, Brianna Michelle Lopez, Brooke Sage Belanger, Carlene L Henriquez, Chelsea Pool, Christina B

Cubi, Cindy L Yu, Cordell Andre Daniels, Cristofer Steven Herman, Crystal P Jimenez, Damien Otero, Darren Leon S Javier, David Gregory Panchenko, David Kida, Delisa Deanna Scarlett-Brumley, Dennis L Brantley, Derek Colby Boutin, Destiny Lianna Pagan, Destiny Whalen, Donna L Bryant, Dukens Louissaint, Emily L Taylor, Erika Wish- es Bergeron, Ethan Charles Boucher, Felony Rivera, Gabriel Esteban Morales Delgado, Gary T Pierce, Godfrey Patrick Ndabigeze, Haley Marie Denette, Hamad Sayeed, Haneen Balsam Gshimawy, Hannah Marie Poulin, Heidi Kirchner, Huda Akab Aljashaami, Isabela Soto, Jan'yce Ney- ena Marsh, Jason Blanken- ship, Jazmin Marie Rivera, Jessalynn L Franceschina, John Victor Boryczka, Jona- than Antonio Rivera, Jordan Duffy, Joseph R Graham, Julianna Maya Giec, Julis- sa Rodriguez, Kaila Marie Melendez, Karar D Khalil, Karyna Gura, Katrina Alo- ra Gay, Khadija Abdullahi Abdi, Kiara Delia Carras- quillo, Lee Dunn, Lukas Daniel Brown, Malaya En-

glish-Johnson, Maria Victo- ria Vasquez Balbuena, Mat- thew David Deni, Megan F Broga, Michael C Lovely, Michelle D Houle, Milana Alekseyvna Vilisova, Natalia J Henry, Natalie Chouinard, Natalie Sciarretta, Natasha Ely Hart, Nathan Todd Freit- ag, Nathaniel Lewis, Nelson J Mendoza, Nia Celina Brad- ley-Zavala, Nolan Daniel Fisher, Omar B Gshimawy, Owen Allard, Pavel Kiri- ukhin, Philip Alonzo-Cromp Willis, Richmond Bobby Wontota, Sabryna J Solock, Saylamb Missick, Selena Moka, Serhii Nesterchuk, Shkurte Bajrami, Soukaina El Atifi, Stephen P Beaura- gard, Summers Melody Cur- tis, Tatecia E Smith, Tatyana Collado, Terrence Santos, Theemary Ayala, Theo- dore Adam Enos, Tiffany N Clayton, Tiudy Charles Ka- mau, Tressa Nicole Grady, Trevor S Seidell-Poirier, Tyler James Kirchner, Va- nessa J James, Veronica Lecko, Victoria Agnieszka Czop, Victoria April Surrei- ra, Wilfredo Torres, William Vincent Wright, Xiong Her, Yamarie Ortiz Rodriguez, Yuliia Nesterchukand Zo- raidera Rivera

More than 6,800 University of Rhode Island students named to Spring 2025 Dean's List

KINGSTON, RI - The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Spring 2025 Dean's List. Among them are:

Romeo Brooks
Nathan Conde-Haney

Madi Hartling
Ava Lapa
Marley Makowski
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 semes- ter and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA appli- cable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

Area residents named to dean's list for the Spring 2025 semester at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Connecticut - The following area students were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2025 semester at Quinnipiac University:

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than

C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester. Names followed by an aster-

isk denotes with honors.

From Chicopee,
Emma Corridan*
Nicholas Farrell*
Madeline Fournier
Gracie Martineau
Shreeya Patel*
Alexander Whitney

Mercy College of Health Sciences Spring 2025 Grads List

DES MOINES, I.A. - Degrees were conferred on the following students by Mercy College of Health Sciences, 928 6th Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, on April 26, 2025.

To learn more about the

health science programs of- fered at Mercy College visit our website at <http://www.mchs.edu>. Mercy College is the only Catholic college in Central Iowa and is accred- ited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North

Central Association of Col- leges and Schools.

Chicopee, Massachu- setts

Christopher Kelleher, a certificate of Medical As- sisting

Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 10, 2025.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is **August 11.**

Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:

**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com**

***Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**

Eagle Scout Court of Honor celebrating two Chicopee Eagle Scouts



CHICOPEE - On Thursday June 19 at the Moose Family Center on Fuller Road in Chicopee, Scouting American Troop 1849 held an Eagle Court of Honor celebrating Daniel Kalafarski and Zachary Trexler.

Dan and Zack have been in Scouting since joining Cub Scout Pack 1849 in 2013 then advanced to Boy Scout Troop 1849 in 2018. Today, we celebrate Dan and Zack on achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout, the highest achievement in Scouting.

Earning the Eagle Scout Rank has many steps over the years which includes earning a minimum of 21 merit badges, showing leadership, community involvement, scout skills, as well as an Eagle Scout project.

Daniel completed his Eagle Scout project with Lupa Zoo. Zachary completed his Eagle Scout project with TJ O'Connor animal shelter.

Both Dan and Zack attended many years of campouts and summer camp, service projects, placing flags in honor of our Veterans, parades, hikes, learning responsible shooting sports, ATV course, water sports, and helping younger scouts.

Dan and Zack also recently graduated from Chicopee Comprehensive High School with scholarships and awards in their trades.

Congratulations Daniel and Zachary!



SUBMITTED PHOTOS MELANIE TREXLER

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 6:30 PM*** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Business A to Residential B for .7775 acres of property located at 11 St. Anthony St for the purpose of allowing for the most appropriate use of the existing structures by aligning with the zoning code's definition of "Hospital." This change will support the provision of essential health and recovery services for the community. Applicant - John Murphy, 16 Bay Rd., Hamilton, MA 01982.

Zone Change application from Business A to Residential B for .284 acres of property located at 0 Chicopee St (Parcel ID 0500-000051) for the purpose of allowing for the most appropriate use of the existing structures by aligning with the zoning code's definition of "Hospital." This change will support the provision of essential health and recovery services for the community. Applicant - John Murphy, 16 Bay Rd., Hamilton, MA 01982.

Zone Change application from Business A to Residential B for .9926 acres of property located at 546 Chicopee St. for the purpose of allowing for the most appropriate use of the existing structures by aligning with the zoning code's definition of "Hospital." This change will support the provision of essential health and recovery services for the community. Applicant - John Murphy, 16 Bay Rd., Hamilton, MA 01982.

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

The July 30, 2025 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 6:30 PM*** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-52 (B) (13) for the purpose of a dog kennel license for our nine Yorkies to comply with the MA law of having 4 or more in our home and yard located at 55 Paul Ave. Applicant - Antonieta Wilson Mathieson, 55 Paul Ave., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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

The July 30, 2025 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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

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Zone Change application from Residential A to Residential B for 22,034 SF of property located at 100 Beaumont Ave for the purpose of construction of two single family residence. Applicant - Andrew Crane, 44 Sandtrap Way, Chicopee, MA 01020.

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

The July 30, 2025 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F

8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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

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. HD25C0220CA

In the matter of: **Julianna Katherine Hucul CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Julianna Katherine Hucul of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Julianna Katherine Argenio

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/05/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 08, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/18/2025

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 August 1st at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2007 Infiniti M35
VIN: JNKAY01FX7M462664

Lillian Claudio
497 E. Pleasant St., Apt. 96
Amherst, MA 01002

2008 Ford Explorer
VIN: 1FMEU73E28UA68827
Robert Taylor And Bethel Taylor
123 Hillcrest Dr.
Bernardston, MA 01337

2011 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL5H68BB050492
Brendaliz Cepeda
185 Kerry Dr.
Springfield, Ma 01118

2006 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG11826H566165
Thomas Painting Llc
71 Stuart Ave.
Norwalk, CT 06850
07/18, 07/25, 08/01/2025

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 18th 2025 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.

2015 Mercedes - Benz C300
VIN: 55SWF4KB3FU007385
Wellington Bispo De Franca
22 Campbell St.
Woburn, MA 01801

2014 Kia Forte
VIN: KNAFK4A67E5175951
David Parker
24 Taylor St., C321
Springfield, MA 01103

2016 Lincoln MKZ
VIN: 3LN6L2J94GR616400
Nour Hashem
40 Mcgregory Rd.
Sturbridge, MA 01566

2014 Ford Taurus
Police Interceptor
VIN: 1FAHP2MK1EG120089
Charles Lippert
10 Sawgrass Lane
Southwick, MA 01077

2016 Yamaha YFM700FWB
VIN: 5Y4AM93Y4GA105201
Unknown Owner
07/04, 07/11, 07/18/2025

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 25th 2025 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.

2022 Chevrolet Trax
VIN: KL7CJNSM2NB549876
Mimi Silva
7 Charbonneau Terr., Apt. 26
Chicopee, MA 01013

2014 Dodge Charger
VIN: 2C3CDXHG2EH333853
Jose Augusto De Oliveria Junior
4 Plantation Ter., Apt. 1R
Worcester, MA 01602

2007 Subaru Outback
VIN: 4S4BP61C077337877
Melissa Mitchell
11 Hale Rd.
East Hampton, CT 06424

2016 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL3AP3GN352811
Alvarado Berroteran
559 Main St., Flr 3
West Springfield, MA 01089

2016 Infiniti QX50
VIN: JN1BJ0RR4GM264402
Rosa Pena
3 Harvard St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2002 Lexus ES 300
VIN: JTHBF30G325037098
Elizabeth Brizuella
2015 Marathon Keys Ave.
North La Vegas, NV, 89031

2015 Nissan Pathfinder
VIN: 5N1AR2MM1FC669089
Yahshannah Porter
23 1/2 West St.
Ware, MA 01082

2000 Toyota 4Runner SR5
VIN: JT3HN86R4Y0274603
Esau Perez Gonzalez
121 Thunder Ct.
Myrtle Beach, SC, 29577

2014 Infiniti Q50
VIN: JN1BV7AR2EM680843
Rush Hour Motors LLC
40 South Street
New Britain, CT 06051

2020 Kia Sportage
VIN: KNDPM3AC3L7764918
Jonathn Duval
314 Hill Rd.
Newington, CT 06111
07/11, 07/18, 07/25/2025

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. HD25P1457EA Estate of: Mark William Nevins

Date of Death: 06/06/2025 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 **Paul R Nevins of East Longmeadow, 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: **Paul R Nevins of East Longmeadow, 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 08/15/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 14, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
07/18/2025

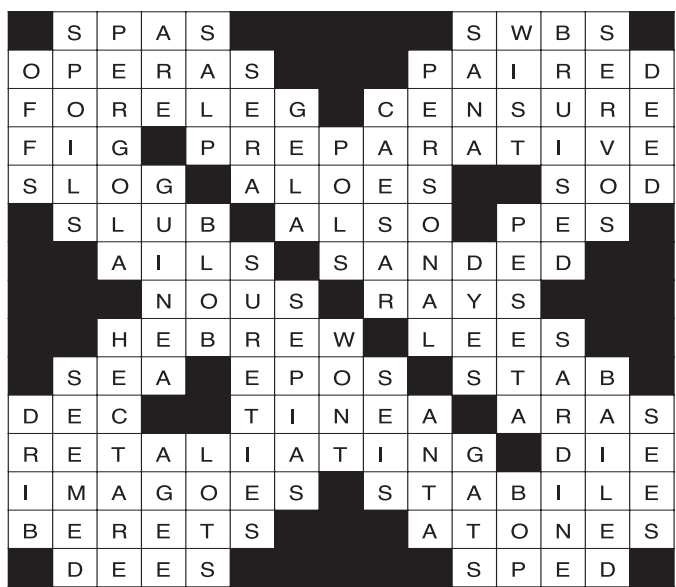
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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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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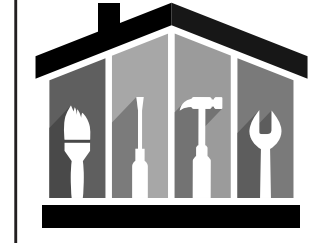
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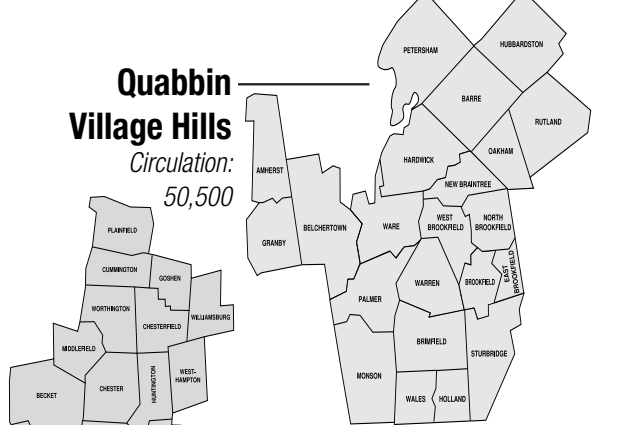
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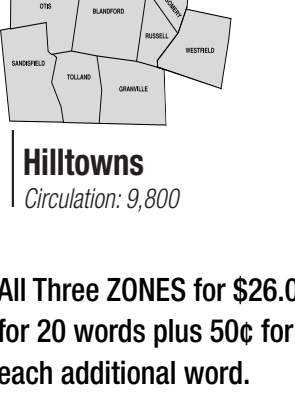
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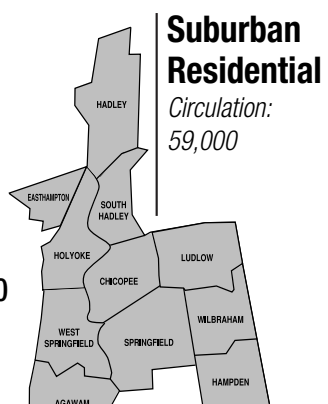
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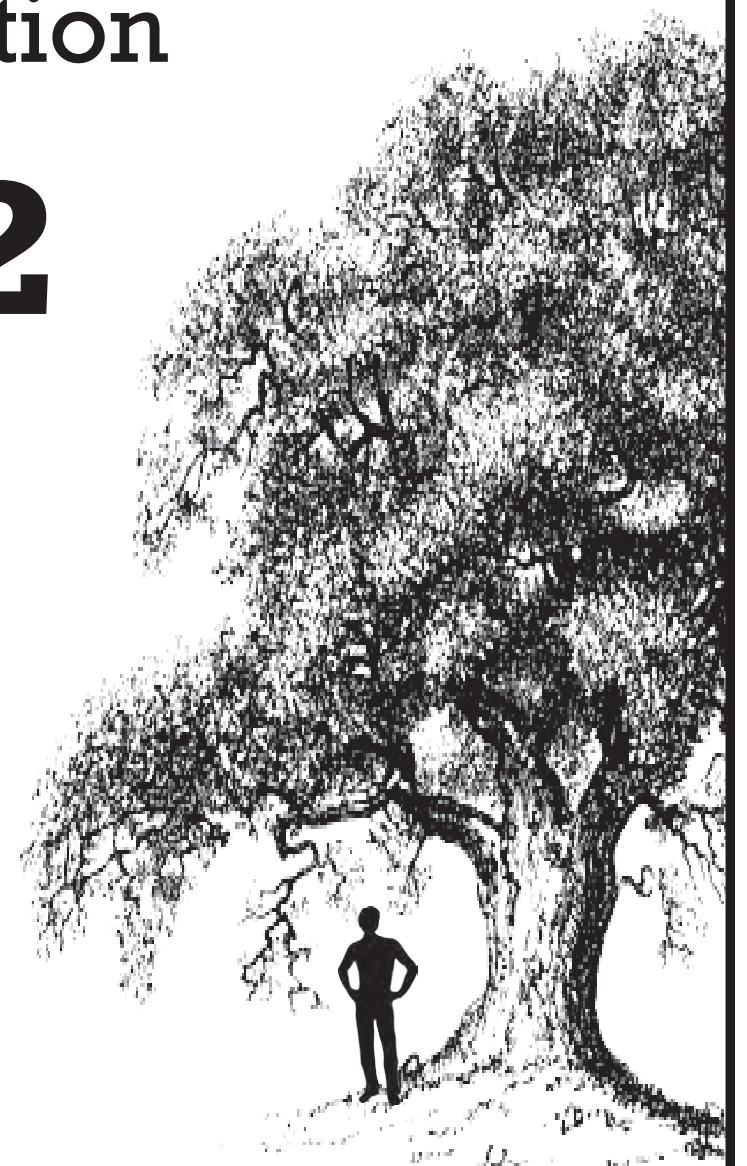
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