

# Chicopee Register

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**COMMUNITY**

## Abbey Brook Restoration Project completes phase one



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF CHICOPEE MAYOR'S OFFICE

The red ribbon is cut to celebrate the completion of phase one of the Abbey Brook Restoration and Revitalization Project at Szot Park.

**By Kristin Rivers**  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – Phase One of the Abbey Brook Restoration and Revitalization Project at Szot Park has been completed, with a ceremony and ribbon-cutting marking the occasion on Aug. 14.

The announcement included remarks from Mayor John Vieau, Parks & Rec Superintendent Benjamin Strepka, Planning Director Lee Pouliot, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Chris Kirsch of the MA Division of Ecological Restoration, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), City Council Vice President/Ward 5 City Councilor Frederick Krampits

and Ward 4 City Councilor George Balakier.

Phase one involved the removal of the Lower Bemis Pond Dam, the addition of amphitheater space through an outdoor classroom, development of passive recreation trails, boardwalks and seating areas within the former Bemis Pond area.

For phase two, two culverts under Front Street and the parking lot of Chicopee Electric Light will be addressed by streaming daylighting downstream of Front Street for the creation of new stream crossings there and downstream of Chicopee Electric Light, along with replacing the undersize Front Street culvert with a compliant stream crossing structure.



The outdoor classroom in the amphitheater area that is now part of Szot Park thanks to phase one of the Abbey Brook Restoration and Revitalization Project.

Phase Three will remove the Upper Bemis Pond Dam and the restoration of Abbey Brook extending from that upper dam footprint upstream by 1,000 feet.

Phase One for the Ab-

bey Brook Restoration and Revitalization Project came through the receipt of a Dam Safety Order from the Mas-

See **ABBEY BROOK** page 5

**COMMUNITY**



TURLEY PHOTO BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Attendees at Chicopee's flag raising ceremony in celebration of India's Independence Day on Aug. 15.

## Chicopee celebrates India's Independence Day

**By Christina Gioscia**  
Correspondent

recognize the contributions made by the Indian American community.

CHICOPEE – On Aug. 15 outside city hall, Mayor John Vieau, community members and City Council members gathered to raise the flag of India in recognition of India's Independence Day.

“First I want to welcome everyone to City Hall Plaza. We're here to recognize Indian Independence Day. The 79th Indian Independence Day. I'm here today with the Indian American community,

Vieau gave a speech to honor the culture of India and

See **INDIA FLAG RAISING** page 6

**COMMUNITY**



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The official groundbreaking for the Pilot Travel Center has begun.

## Officials break ground on Pilot Travel Center

**By Kristin Rivers**  
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CHICOPEE - Community members, local and state elected officials and many more gathered at 357 Burnett Rd. on Aug. 12 for a groundbreaking ceremony for the Pilot Travel Center.

The groundbreaking included remarks from Rishi Patel, Vidhi Patel, Dinesh Patel, Evan Smith, the real estate development leader for Pilot, Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll, Mayor John Vieau and Attorney Tom Murphy.

The Pilot Travel Center representatives, Driscoll and the Patel Family also received friendship baskets from the city with local staples from local businesses.

The 7.9 acre truck stop and travel center will be next to the Massachusetts Turn-

pike entrance. It will have an 11,421-square-foot building with a 16-pump gas station and a seven-position refueling area for tractor-trailer trucks.

The site will also feature a Wendy's restaurant and a convenience store. Showers for truckers will not be available at this location.

The project is expected to be completed in December and open to travelers by the end of the year and will generate 70 full-time and 20 part-time jobs.

As readers may recall, the project was first approved by the Planning Board in May 2022. But in September 2022, the City Council rejected permits for fuel storage and gas station licenses.

This led to a court case that requested the council's decision be vacated and the

licenses granted. Lawyers for Pilot Travel Center argued the council's decision was unlawful.

The City Council's decision was then upheld by Hampden Superior Court in June 2024.

The project returned after Patel reapplied for the licenses, having withdrawn them earlier.

In December 2024, the City Council approved the project in two 10-3 votes: one for an amended fuel storage license from Chicopee Inn, Inc., and another for a service station license from Pilot Travel Centers LLC.

Also, an 8-5 vote to not send the items back to the License Committee for another public hearing. The night before, the License

See **PILOT TRAVEL** page 6

**COMMUNITY**

## Memorial Drive Revitalization Plan announced

**By Brendan Rooney**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — Ward 6 City Councilor Samuel Shumsky is looking to bring an idea from the past into reality, as the plan to revitalize and transform Memorial Drive into a 'goldmine of potential' is now being proposed.

This proposal passed by a motion of 10-1 during the Aug. 5 City Council meeting and now heads to the subcommittee for further discussion and review.

Earlier this month, in an exclusive with the Chicopee Register, Shumsky provided a deeper dive into what drives the young councilor, along with his aspirations to greenlight the proposal as a way to put Chicopee on the map



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAM SHUMSKY VIA FORMER MAYOR RICHARD KOS

Ward 6 City Councilor Samuel Shumsky recently announced a Revitalization Plan for Memorial Drive, which was originally proposed by former Mayor Richard Kos.

by creating unity throughout the Pioneer Valley—or in his terms—the 'Crossroads of New England', by utilizing the foundation left behind from former Mayor Richard Kos.

“I think it would be won-

derful to have this implemented because not only is there a huge economic value present, which would drive local business, but it's also great for ev-

See **MEMORIAL DRIVE** page 10

**COMMUNITY**

## Meet the City Collector Candidates: Frederick Krampits

**By Kristin Rivers**  
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CHICOPEE - As we get closer to the Sept. 16 primary for the role of city collector, the Chicopee Register will be highlighting the candidates.

The three candidates on the primary ballot are Raj Sanghvi, Sandra Peret and Frederick Krampits.

This week, let's meet Frederick Krampits.

Krampits explained after serving 22 years on the City Council, representing Ward 5, he made the decision not to seek reelection. However, he

“still wanted to be involved with public service.”

“City Collector, Stanley Iwanicki, had announced he

was not seeking re-election. I was interested in the position and wanted to find out more about it, so I had a lengthy discussion with Stanley about the responsibilities and duties of the position.”

Krampits said. “It seemed like a good fit with the experience I had gained on the City Council

and working as a customer service engineer for Comark Communications, a manufacturer of television broadcasting equipment for TV stations.

With the encouragement of family, friends, and colleagues on the City Council, I decided to run for City Collector.”

Krampits shared his experience and background in local government goes back many years.

“In 2002, I was appointed by the Board of Aldermen—

See **KRAMPITS** page 6



Frederick Krampits

# IN THE CITY

## Portuguese American Club's Golf Tournament supports scholarships

By **Brendan Rooney**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On Aug. 9, the Chicopee Country Club hosted the 30th Annual Chicopee Portuguese American Club's Golf Tournament, with all benefits going towards four lucky recipients of scholarships from recently graduated seniors off to college.

The event saw more than 180 golfers take to the range and tee off for a good cause, for those who attended were treated to lunch of standard BBQ food of hamburgers and hot dogs with chips and water. Also, the festivities were an all-day event that capped off later that night at the club hall, with the scholarship recipients taking center stage to receive their awards along with a specialty assortment of appetizers and various entrees, and bundles of raffles.

Speaking about the event was Brian Mendes, Chicopee Country Club Golf Committee Vice Chairperson, who also provided a preview of the late-night portion.

"It's a scramble format, and our goal of the tournament is to raise money for scholarships for members and honorary members of the Portuguese American Club, and we have raised and issued to date more than \$106k dollars," Mendes said. "It's gotten bigger and bigger every year. We had 9 groups this morning, and 36 groups are about to tee off in a few minutes."

Mendes also touched upon the importance of Mayor John Vieau and the inclusion of his constituents from the City Council, as Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky and Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks also participated,



From the left, Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks, Mayor John Vieau, Brian Mendes, Chicopee Country Club Golf Committee Vice Chairperson and owner of the Portuguese American Club and Ward 6 City Councilor Samuel Shumsky in a group photo on the course.

which Mendes offered an ode of gratitude towards City Hall for their time and investment all in the purpose of a great cause.

"It truly means a lot for us and also Chicopee as a whole that they came out to support, as we know this is a great event, and we cap off our night with four winners being presented in front of their family, friends, and the community as a whole," Mendes said.

After the Golf Tournament, the Portuguese American Club hosted a scholarship dinner that capped off the entire day-wide event.

A presentation kicked off these festivities, which was led by Mayor John Vieau, who started off his signature opening, "It's a beautiful night in Chicopee," hyping up the crowd before the four recipients were announced this year,

which were Cristian Ribeiro, Isaac Ribeiro, Adam Stetson and Ethan Sousa.

### Meet Your Winners

First off, Cristian Ribeiro is a recent graduate and now a forever alumnus from the Chicopee High Class of 2025, where he ranked 21st in his class, and left an iron-clad legacy among the Pacers.

He will also be attending and furthering his pursuit in higher education, as he plans to attend Framingham State to pursue a major in Business Management.

Reflecting on the moment while taking a reprieve to capture the adrenaline rush was Ribeiro, who shared an ode of love and gratitude for his community of Chicopee, while noting he will never forget his time growing up in the city, and the opportunities he pursued along the way.

"This is truly an honor,"

Ribeiro said. "I've grown up in Chicopee all my life, and I've hung around the Portuguese Club, and I'm really honored to receive this award, and I understand this is a huge achievement, but I want to just stay humble and extend an ode of support to my family and friends who have helped me during my academic journey."

He added this. "I think Chicopee is a very tight community, and it's great to know that everyone knows everybody, but it's nice to have this honor, and lastly, just follow your dreams, and do what gives you purpose," Ribeiro said.

Next up was Isaac Ribeiro, who was a recent graduate from Westfield Technical Academy. He ranked 17th in his class and will be attending Western New England University this fall to major in computer science.

Adam Stetson, who is the son of local hospitality icon and owner of Rumbleseat Bar & Grille, Bill Stetson, is a recent graduate of Northfield Mount Hermon and was awarded a scholarship in recognition of his exceptional academic record.

Stetson finished his high school career with a GPA of 4.46 and he is also part of the Cum Laude Society. He will continue his academic journey as he pursues a degree in business and entrepreneurship at Babson College this upcoming fall.

Stetson also offered a reflection as the festivities carried on.

"It feels very special



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

This fun group photo showed how intense it got on the golf course.

knowing that you have such a strong community here in Chicopee, who backs the younger generation like myself, and they just give such great support to help us achieve our dreams," Stetson said.

Stetson also spotlighted and recognized the integral role his father plays in the community, as well as highlighting a point of unity among all in Chicopee.

"I know my dad (Bill) does a lot for the city, so to see the city give back to students like me is a reflection of the character and outpour of con-

nection, that in the end solidifies why Chicopee is such a special place to live in due to the type of community that we have, and it truly means a lot," Stetson said.

And lastly, Ethan Sousa was a recent graduate from Chicopee Comp, who ranked 67th in his class, and will begin his career as a first responder, as Sousa has been accepted into the Fire Protection and Safety Technology Associate Program.

Sousa also completed both his EMT and CTE electrical classes.



From Left to Right, David Fernandes, Kristy Destapado, Adam Stetson, Isaac Ribeiro, Cristian Ribeiro, Brian Mendes, John Fernandes.

### Volunteer Drivers needed at Rivermills

CHICOPEE - RiverMills Center is looking for volunteer drivers at the senior center. Volunteer drivers transport older adults to doctor's appointments, the bank, shop-

ping to the senior center and back to their homes.

Those interested in becoming a volunteer driver must have a good driving record and fill out a volunteer application,

which includes a CORI check. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Rivermills Volunteer and Activities Coordinator Brandon Dumas at 534-3698, ext. 130.

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BlazeXpress "Big E Blaze to Win" Sweepstakes, PO Box 6403, Holyoke, MA 01041. Mail-in entries must be postmarked by Sept. 9, 2025, and received by September 10th, 2025. Limit one mail-in entry per person.

## IN THE CITY

# Chicopee man builds career foundations through MassDOT internship

SPRINGFIELD - This summer, Springfield Technical Community College student Junior Mwakangata, a Chicopee resident, is playing a role in improving the way people travel across Massachusetts.

As an intern with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), Mwakangata is working alongside professional engineers to ensure road and bridge construction projects are built safely and according to plan.

"My role is as an inspector," Mwakangata explained. "We work with a residential engineer and make sure the contractor is following the plans and not taking shortcuts. We take measurements, collect samples and oversee the site."

Mwakangata, 21, has already contributed to two major projects - one involving bridge construction near a waterfall in Monson and another road reconstruction project in the same town.

A civil engineering technology student at STCC, Mwakangata is applying the classroom knowledge he's

gained directly in the field. "At STCC, I took classes like surveying and physics that gave me the basics. Now I get to apply what I learned in the real world," he said. "It's exciting to see that what I study is actually useful on the job."

Mwakangata also credits a recent Career Fair at STCC, and faculty who encouraged student participation, for helping him land the internship. "My professor from surveying took us to the fair. That's where I first met MassDOT. They offered good pay, good opportunities and exposure to real fieldwork. That's what got me interested," he said.

MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver said, "I'm always grateful for feedback that indicates people like Springfield Technical Community College's Junior Mwakangata is getting the best value from his experience with us interning with the Highway Division. "In fact, Junior's super-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

visors have told me directly that he is a high performer," Gulliver added. "The Highway Division plays a major role in training the next generation of employees, and students like Junior who make the most of their time with us gain valuable experience and also inspire others to pursue careers in state service."

Melishia Santiago, Assistant Dean of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), said she was thrilled to see Mwakangata take full advantage of the opportunity.

"Junior is a wonderful example of what's possible when talent meets opportunity," Santiago said. "Our students are prepared to step into professional roles with confidence, and internships like this one with MassDOT give them the platform to shine. We're proud to see a civil engineering technology student represent STCC on such a big stage."

Nathan Andary, director of Career Services at STCC, praised the internship as a

high-impact learning opportunity.

"An internship with MassDOT offers more than just a glimpse into the transportation industry - it's a powerful opportunity for students to apply what they've learned in the classroom to real-world challenges," Andary said.

Andary said internships are a great way to make connections, learn how industry really works and show what you bring to the table.

"The best internships are mutually beneficial: students gain hands-on experience, while employers identify emerging talent who are ready to contribute and grow," Andary said.

In May 2025, Mwakangata received the Joseph J. Deliso, Sr. Scholarship and the Title V Scholarship, which helped him cut down on hours at his job as a personal care assistant to focus more on school. "The scholarship meant a lot. I used it for school supplies and to help relieve the burden on my mom," he said. "She's a single mother and a nurse practitioner. She came to the

U.S. before me and really worked hard so I could have a better life."

Originally from Tanzania, Mwakangata immigrated to the U.S. in 2021 and began his education at Chicopee Comprehensive High School. His desire to become a civil engineer grew from witnessing firsthand the impact of poor infrastructure in his home country.

"When I was older, my mom worked as a driver for a civil engineering company, and I saw how roads could transform a village."

While his long-term goal is to open his own civil engineering firm, Mwakangata hopes to begin his career at MassDOT after transferring to UMass to complete his bachelor's degree. "In five years, I see myself working full-time at MassDOT, and in ten years, hopefully I'll be a Civil Engineer III or even running my own firm," he said.

For now, he's relishing every moment of his internship. "It feels really good to pass by a project and say, 'I worked on that.' Roads don't always get appreciated, but

they're such a big part of society," he said. "We get to travel safely and on time because of good infrastructure."

He encourages fellow STCC students to seek out internships. "An internship opens your eyes. It helps you see how your classroom work applies in the real world. You learn technical skills, but also life lessons," he said. "One of my mentors told me to start investing early and think about the future. That's something you don't learn in class."

Mwakangata says STCC has been one of the best parts of his journey. "The professors are helpful, and the support is amazing. I use the STEM Center to study, connect with people and even relax. I feel at home here. And the gym's great too," he added with a smile.

For students considering engineering or public service, he offers this message: "You made a smart choice coming to community college. Stick with it - it gets better. You can build a career and make a difference."

## Chicopee Public Library announces Adult Programming for August

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.

As always, the computer lab is available to work on genealogy on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to Noon and 6 to 8 p.m. 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](mailto:cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org) or 413-594-1800 x3.

## Chicopee Parade Committee to hold Designer Purse Bingo on September 6

CHICOPEE - For the second year in a row, the St. Patrick's Parade Committee of Chicopee will host a fun filled night of Bingo on Saturday Sept. 6 at the Portuguese American Club, 149 Exchange St. All guests must be 18 years of age or older.

Doors will open at 4 p.m. Games will start promptly at 5 p.m. Prizes for the lucky winners will be designer handbags. Tickets for donated baskets will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$35...this will include 10 bingo card games and a door prize entry ticket. Dabbers will be available for purchase. Additional bingo card games can be purchased during the event.

Tables of eight can be reserved for \$240. The reservation must be paid no later than Aug. 30.

Proceeds from this event will support the Chicopee contingent's participation in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The St. Patrick's Parade Committee of Chicopee strives to promote Irish pride and culture through its many events.

For over 70 years, the committee has organized the annual Colleen Contest and Coronation Ball, constructed the Colleen's award-winning float, and awarded scholarships to young women who plan to further their education at a college or university.

Other upcoming events and fundraisers to which the public is invited will be posted on the group's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/chicopeespc/>.

## Chicopee Public Library September programs for kids and families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children, teens and families. The Youth Services Department seeks to provide opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for September 2025.

Terrific Twos will be held on Tuesdays, Sept. 2, 16 and 30 at 10:30 a.m. Terrific Twos is for two year olds and their caregivers. This program features about 25 minutes of structured circle time, followed by about half an hour of semi-structured playtime. During circle time we will sing songs, do rhymes, do some big movements and read 1 book. The book choice rotates between either a read aloud picture book or a group read of a board book. Playtime involves a choice of craft, activity or play.

Storytime will be held on Thursdays, Sept. 4 and 18 at 10:30 a.m. Storytime is for children ages 3-5. This program features about 30 minutes of structured circle time, followed by 15-30 minutes of a craft or activity. Circle time will include 2-3 read aloud books, rhymes, songs, and felt boards. Children will be encouraged to ask and answer simple questions and recognize things like shapes, colors, letters and numbers.

Sensory Play Saturday will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6. Come let your babies socialize and explore sensory play! We will have our play area set up with some sensory activities and other play opportunities. For babies 0-24 months and

their caregivers.

Saturday Playgroup will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturdays in September. We'll put out some extra toys in the playspace. It's a great time for families to meet up and play!

Little Kid Dance Party will be on Wednesdays, Sept. 10 and 24 at 10:30 a.m. Moving and grooving for kids and their caregivers. Geared toward ages 0-5, but all are welcome! 45 minutes to one hour of energetic activity including singing and dancing, action rhymes and playing with props like scarves and shakers.

Build with LEGO on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 4 p.m. Unstructured building time for kids ages 6 and up.

Create Art with Crayons on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 1:30 p.m. Join Marie Manley Tucker for a monthly drawing lesson this fall. Each month will have a different theme. September's theme is Adorable Animals. Draw cute things like axolotls, capybaras, hedgehogs and more! Recommended for ages 5-12.

The library will host a Simple Plushie Sewing Workshop on Wednesday, Sept. 17 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Learn some basic sewing skills and make a cute stuffed friend. Recommended for ages eight and up, teens and caregivers welcome. We will use felt, cool glue guns, and regular sewing needles. Kids who want to participate, but may need help with some of these tools should attend with an adult. Registration is required. Contact the Children's Room to sign up.

The library hosts a Meet-up for Homeschooling Families once a month during the school year. The first meeting of the year will be on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 11 a.m. We'll talk about what kinds of things we would like to do this year, including holiday celebrations, book club ideas and ideas for presentations from students and families.

The Children's Room is a great place to hang out. Coloring pages and board games are always available. There are also some new things you can play with while you visit. Ask us about food toys for the play kitchen, art supplies, or building blocks.

Teens! Visit the library after school and enjoy the Teen Space with friends! We've got board games, puzzles, the library's Switch, and coloring to enjoy. We're excited to see everyone this school year and hear about your interests so we can plan some exciting activities!

September is Library Card Sign Up Month! We're celebrating with prizes. When kids use their library card to check out physical items at any CPL branch (Main, Fairview or Bookmobile) in the month of September they can enter a raffle for a bookish squishmallow. One entry per visit, but you can visit more than once!

When teens check out a physical item with their library card, they can enter the squishmallow raffle OR the adult prize raffle for a Kindle Fire HD8.

Visit the library website for more info about all of the library's events! [www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org](http://www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org).

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<p><b>#10 One Large 1 Topping Pizza, 20 Wings &amp; FREE 2 Liter Soda</b> <b>\$39.99 +Tax</b></p>	<p><b>#14 One Medium 1 Topping Pizza, 10 Wings &amp; FREE 2 Liter Soda</b> <b>\$29.99 +Tax</b></p>

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## IN THE CITY

# in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

## Rust is no joke

This time of year I always get a few questions from gardeners who wonder what type of disease is afflicting their treasured hollyhocks.

Sadly, it's affecting mine too. Read on for more information on this malady.

Two years ago I planted Hollyhock seeds indoors. The plants grew wonderfully that first year with nice deep green basal foliage.

Being biennial in nature, year two is when they came into their glory with incredibly beautiful pink flowers on towering six to seven foot spikes. Now it's year three – a gift when biennials are concerned.



The plants started out fine and then I noticed a few raised orange-brown spots on the leaves. By season's end, the plants are pale in color and covered with the rusty orange spots.

Most of the lower foliage has been destroyed and has dropped to the ground.

My hollyhocks are suffering from a fungal problem by the name of rust. It first appears as waxy orange blisters, known as "pustules" on the undersides of the lower most foliage. On the surface of the leaves small, orange-yellow spots form.

Hollyhock rust rarely kills its host, but it can make plants look quite unsightly. In a severe infestation like mine, premature leaf drop occurs.

Next spring, if I dare to grow hollyhocks again, I'll have to do it in a different part of my landscape and escape any spores that the soil is harboring.

The best way to control hollyhock rust is to remove infected leaves and discard them in the trash. The quicker you act, the better.

Other members of the

hollyhock family (Malvaceae) are prone to this disease as well, so scour your perennial bed for spotted leaves on Lavatera and Malva (Tall Mallow and Musk Mallow) and dispose of them.

A common weed that goes by the name "cheese weed" or "cheeses" is also a Malva and likewise is susceptible. Cut down on the chance of infestation next year by removing all foliage and debris from these plants prior to winter. Even go as far as to remove the bark mulch beneath them to further reduce the spore population. Proper cultural practices also make a difference in combating hollyhock rust and most plant diseases. First, give perennials adequate space from one another to allow for good air flow.

In the case of hollyhocks, I'd recommend about 18 inches. We can't control when and how often it rains, but when we supply the moisture timing and application count. Water around the base of the plants, without it touching the foliage, and do so early in the morning so that leaves have a chance to dry before nightfall.

Apply new bark mulch each spring to cover spores that may be waiting in the soil. And lastly, when planting new seedlings, locate them as far away as possible from previously grown plants even if they didn't have a serious infestation.

Although I've never tried this myself, I have read a few testimonials from gardeners who had luck applying corn meal to their soil in an effort to control soil borne fungal diseases such as rust. Reportedly it stimulates beneficial organisms that feed on pathogens. Two pounds per one hundred square feet is recommended.

Even if it doesn't work, it probably won't hurt!

*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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

## The Terrifying Tripyramid Slide



By Julie Midura  
Guest Columnist

When you're attempting to hike EVERY trail in all six of the Federally Designated Wilderness areas in the White Mountains, you can't just skip a trail just because it takes you out of your comfort zone.

At 1,200 vertical feet in just half a mile, North Tripyramid Slide is known as one of the steepest trails in New England and is also on the NH Terrifying 25 hiking list. The granite slide requires hand-over-hand climbing using 3 points of contact on steep, exposed rock slabs and is not recommended for the descent.

There are actually three potential routes up the slide; left, middle, and right.

The far left route is not the actual slide, but appears to be very popular based on how well-worn the steep dirt path has become over the years. I'm guessing that anyone with an ounce of self-preservation and a strong desire to hug trees chooses this route.

The far right route is clearly the least used-covered in slick moss, with no trees to grab onto and providing little in the way of traction. I would say this is the route you take when your brain hasn't fully developed yet. Which, 'scientifically' speaking, is anyone under the age of 28.

And the space in between the left and the right? Well, that's the route for those who want to experience the thrill of rock scrambling without



Tom and Julie celebrated the completion of every trail of the Sandwich Wilderness

the benefit of rope, while still feeling like Spider-Man on the way up.

When Tom and I reached the base of the slide, I told him I wanted to take the dirt path on the left. My 68-year-old husband replied, "I came here to climb a rockslide, so I'm going to stay to the right."

Now, at 60 years old, I fall somewhere in between the age at which brain cells become fully developed and the age at which they start to decline, so I was completely against taking the moss-covered route on the right. I suggested we compromise and stay on the middle section, which is still part of the slide, but with far less moss, meaning far less chance of plunging to our death. However, Tom—who is usually the more rational one—was intent on taking the hardest route to the top. Unwilling to stray far from my safety net, I reluctantly followed behind.

Until, that is, my feet began slipping on the wet moss, at which point, I found a small crevice in the granite and slowly worked my way left until I was on the middle section. Tom, however, remained

undeterred, and continued up the mountain a couple dozen feet to the right of me.

Although I was relieved to be on dry rock, the middle part of the slope was no less steep. I managed to scramble upward on all fours for about 25 feet, until the angle of the slope became so perilously steep that it was impossible to continue upward. I scanned the smooth granite to the left and right of me, looking for something, anything, to grab onto. I saw nothing. With my toes balancing on a mere half-inch lip in the rock, I didn't have enough momentum to hurl myself upwards. And there was no possibility of down-climbing. I clung to the rock, unable to move in any direction, paralyzed with fear.

The sound of my racing heart assaulted my ears and my arms began shaking. My entire body became drenched in perspiration. Sweat dripped down my face, stinging my eyes, but I dared not pull one hand away from the rock to wipe it away. All rational thought evaporated and panic surged within me with every ragged breath.

Tom attempted to encourage me from his own precarious position. "There's a slight projection on your left," he said. "Trust your trail runners. You got this!"

It was fight or flight, and there was no way to flee. I extended my left hand as far as I could to feel for the slight protrusion Tom was referring to. Once my fingers found it, I took a deep breath, then used every ounce of strength I had in my quaking arms to haul myself up onto a slight depression in the rock above me. I grabbed onto the trunk of a nearby shrub and clung to it in a death-grip while waiting for my heart rate to settle back into a normal rhythm.

Tom, in the meantime, was facing his own set of challenges just twenty feet to my right. He was unable to move upward himself due to

See **HIKING** page x

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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](mailto: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 [journals@turley.com](mailto:journals@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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Tom tackled the granite slide.

IN THE CITY

# Senator Oliveira announces Historic Chapter 90 Funding increases for Western Massachusetts, prioritizing regional equity

BOSTON - Senator Jake Oliveira announced today that communities across his district will see unprecedented increases in state transportation funding with the passage of this year's Chapter 90 bond bill.

The legislation, approved by both the Senate and House, represents an important step forward in prioritizing not only municipal infrastructure across the State, but especially in rural regions, by ensuring that Western Massachusetts receives its fair share of infrastructure investment.

This year's bill authorizes \$300 million for the Chap-

ter 90 Program, a 50 percent increase over past funding levels, which provides direct state aid for cities and towns to maintain and improve local roads and bridges. In addition, for the first time, \$100 million of the total will be distributed using a formula that more accurately reflects the road mileage maintained by rural communities, addressing inequities in the funding process.

"These are not just numbers in a budget. They represent safer school bus routes, rebuilt bridges, and smoother roads for our communities," said Senator Oliveira.

In addition to the Chapter

90 funding, the bill includes \$885 million in additional statewide infrastructure investments:

\$200 million for culvert and small bridge replacement and modernization.

\$500 million for MassDOT's lifecycle asset management program to enable proactive repairs and maintenance.

\$185 million for congestion reduction and street safety improvements, benefiting communities of all sizes.

Senator Oliveira went on to reiterate how this year's bill represents a stronger commitment to equity in state infrastructure investment. "This

approach recognizes that each community faces its own unique challenges, and meeting those needs requires targeted solutions," said Oliveira.

"I'm proud to have advocated for a funding formula that ensures places like Belchertown, Granby, Ludlow, Wilbraham, Longmeadow, and all twelve communities I represent get the resources they need to thrive. This year's Chapter 90 bill shows that when we say we're building a stronger Massachusetts, we truly mean all of Massachusetts, including Western Mass."

Having passed through

**Communities in Senator Oliveira's district will receive the following allocations for FY26:**

- Belchertown - \$1,373,752.85
- Chicopee - \$2,470,648.27
- East Longmeadow - \$1,147,885.68
- Granby - \$595,589.12
- Hampden - \$550,461.64
- Longmeadow - \$1,025,164.97
- Ludlow - \$1,394,952.36
- Palmer - \$957,407.76
- South Hadley - \$986,521.67
- Springfield - \$6,337,499.15
- Warren - \$632,644.52
- Wilbraham - \$1,144,776.84

both chambers of the Legislature, the legislation now heads to the Governor's desk for signature.



A shot of posterboard showing the proposed changes for phase two of the Abbey Brook Restoration and Revitalization Project.



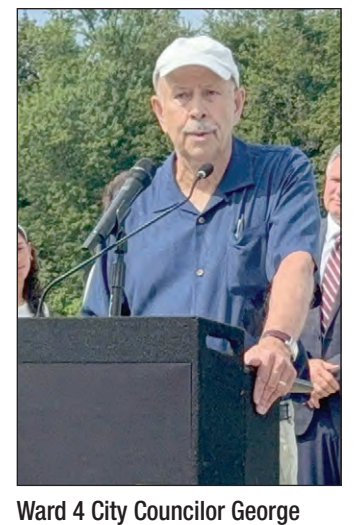
Mayor John Vieau provides remarks.



Parks & Rec Superintendent Benjamin Strepka reflects on phase one.



Planning Director Lee Pouliot provides the history of the legacy infrastructures.



Ward 4 City Councillor George Balakier noted the funding that came together for the project.

**ABBEY BROOK from page 1**

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Dam Safety in April 2017. From there, a three-phase project was formed after the evaluation of the two dams and two culverts channeling Abbey Brook's flow to the Chicopee River.

Abbey Brook flows approximately 1.5 miles through Springfield and Chicopee and drains into the Chicopee River.

Vieau explained the project "is more than just restoring a stream," but also strengthening infrastructure, protecting the environment "and creating better public spaces for everyone to enjoy."

"For the first time in generations, Chicopee residents can experience the Abbey Brook in its more natural state while the city realizes the ecological benefits of the project that it provides by including and improving water quality resulting from the removal of all the E coli and that contamination here," Vieau said. "I hope each of you take time to enjoy this beautiful, new space, take that opportunity to reflect as you walk through the trails here at Szot and take pride in this investment as we look towards making Chicopee just a little bit better every single day and continue to invest in our future."

Strepka said the Abbey Brook "once again flows through its original footprint just as it did over 150 years ago."

"This amazing landscape would not be possible without the collaboration between the Parks and Planning Departments, but our two departments are only as strong as the

teams behind them. So, thank you to Lee and Shelley and the rest of Planning staff for all of your tremendous work in making today a reality. Thank you to the DPW Park staff for all of their hard work now and in the future in maintaining this beautiful park. Their efforts do not go unmissed," Strepka said. "But also, we would like to thank the Park Commission and Conservation Commission for all of their support along the way. Their endorsement of this project is a testament to their unwavering commitment towards parks and open spaces and to our community."

Pouliot shared the legacy infrastructures of the dams were built for ice production in the 1800s and by the mid-9150s, the dams created

a swimming hole for public swimming. Also, an original footprint for the foundation of a former bathhouse was discovered during excavation for the project along with old chlorination lines.

"So, when I say legacy infrastructure, these are very complicated, challenging projects when we look at today's standards, today's needs and even looking at the potential for these original dams to function as stormwater systems, which they could not do. Which, ultimately, informed the decision to remove the lower dam," Pouliot said.

Pouliot emphasized this only completes phase one of the project and work on design for phase two is currently underway, thanking Parks & Rec,

city departments, the Division of Ecological Restoration, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the federal government through ARPA Funds providing support for the project.

"We look forward to continuing that partnership so that we can be proactive in addressing the infrastructure challenges that phases two and three pose," Pouliot said.

Kirsch said the restoration work will also reduce flood risk and eliminate public safety risks posed by deteriorating infrastructure.

"Through projects like this, the city of Chicopee is answering that call to make their

communities healthier, safer and more resilient. The completion of phase one means one more dam gone and major park improvements completed and restoration is already underway. Soon enough, we will be celebrating the completions of phase two and three and we will be watching Abbey Brook come back to life," Kirsch said.

Balakier, who represents the ward where Szot Park is, said a number of funding sources supported phase one including over \$5 million in grants, a \$2.4 million ARPA appropriation and, to his understanding, "only about \$500,000 of city money was

needed to complete this project."

"So, kudos to everybody involved with the finances and with the funding, and in collaboration with the state, federal monies and city monies and grants, we were able to come through with this and not have a big burden on the taxpayers," Balakier said.

Vieau encouraged the community to visit Abbey Brook.

"It's really a beautiful day for Chicopee moving forward and it just shows progress and a collaboration with federal, state and local partners to make this come to fruition," Vieau said.



These steps along the new passive recreation trails at Abbey Brook came from the former Uniroyal property.

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INDIA FLAG RAISING from page 1

and I'm really excited to celebrate with you," Vieau said. "We're here to recognize not just the holiday but the Indian American contributions to this amazing country. So, thank you for that. So, I'm going to start by saying that Indian Independence Day is a time to celebrate the rich culture, traditions and diversity of India; From the music and dance to the language, and of course, my favorite part, the cuisine. It's also a great reminder of how much we can learn from one another when we share and celebrate cultures together."

Vieau added learning from one another is "something that Chicopee takes a lot of pride in."

"We do this very often, whenever there's an entity interested in getting either their message out or that holiday or event or culture, it requires either a proclamation from the mayor's office or a resolution from the City Council. So today, I have this wonderful proclamation that I'll read shortly but before we get to that, I just also want to share that today is also a perfect opportunity to



President of the Indian Association of Greater Springfield Saritha Rakasi, Raj Sanghvi and attendees singing India's National Anthem, "Jana Gana Mana."

embrace the spirit and join in this celebration as we open our hearts in our curiosity, because it's also about that as well," Vieau said. "When we learn about each other's cultures, that's something I think is very special here too. So, Indian Independence Day isn't just celebrated in India. It's also marked with pride with people all around

the world. In cities like Chicopee, this day is a chance for people of all backgrounds to come together, appreciate Indian heritage and build stronger community connections, whether you're Indian American or not, everyone's welcome here tonight."

After his speech, Vieau presented Raj Sanghvi with the proclamation and then



Mayor John Vieau giving his speech in celebration of India's Independence Day.

the National Anthem of India, "Jana Gana Mana," was sung.

After the ceremony, Sanghvi shared what it means to him to celebrate India's Independence Day in Chicopee and receive the proclamation.

"It's nice. I think that Chicopee is a unique place. I think not many cities, especially even countries around the world celebrate the Independence Day for all the different countries and cultures. We need these kinds of events to show unity amongst all cultures. You are from anywhere in the world but once you come to America, and you're a citi-



Mayor John Vieau presents Raj Sanghvi with the proclamation.

zen you should respect it no matter what. This shows that Chicopee cares about all the communities and the cultures present in the city," Sanghvi said.

His message was this. "The message is just keep strong and be united and do best for the country which has given us so much," Sanghvi said. "So, all my loyalties and my heart is with this country. Unless you meet somebody and come in contact with different cultures you can never judge anybody. The message I want to say is don't judge anybody by how they look or their skin color. Just see

how they behave, what kind of character they have and what they are contributing to the economy and the city and country."

President of the Indian Association of Greater Springfield Saritha Rakasi also shared what it meant to her to raise the flag.

"I feel so happy to be raising the flag in Chicopee. I feel so proud that, Indians are recognized in the community. We appreciate the Chicopee community, giving opportunity for the Indian community to come and celebrate here, very proud moment," Rakasi said.

PILOT TRAVEL from page 1

Committee had voted 2-2, with one abstention, creating an unfavorable report.

Residents against the project had expressed concerns about traffic impact and cited accidents in the area, while those for it emphasized bringing business to Chicopee, including tax revenue.

Rishi Patel said the property is the family's first in Western Massachusetts.

"It's a truly transformative project for not just the city of Chicopee but also for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It's just a big, big day, big milestone and it is a result of a very big collaborative effort," Patel said.

Dinesh Patel, Rishi's father, thanked friends, family, business partners, local and state officials and the residents for their support.

"This Chicopee location—the first time I came to it in 2000 in February with my father, my father came from India at that time, my father has been here 25 years now, we had a big sign up there. My father was standing up there and my father said, 'This is a good location because one car come this way, one car come this way,'" Patel said.

After meeting with the hotel owners to purchase the property, the property was later sold to him.

"Multi-decade—our journey—to get to this point today where we are. Despite all the hurdles, pain, sweat, it took us there to make this a reality," Patel said.

Smith emphasized how "this investment for us is more than just a travel center. It's a commitment to Chicopee and the future of this community," and there will be an emphasis on hiring Chicopee residents.

"We want to be a stop



Mayor John Vieau and the Patel Family in a group photo after the official groundbreaking.

for everyone and be welcoming to all. This travel center will serve as a pass-through and a call and we will call this community home and we're looking forward to continuing the partnership with you guys, we're looking forward to being a member of the Chicopee community. Thank you guys for being so welcoming," Smith said.

Driscoll said the project "really is an American dream come true."

"A family that moves here, is welcomed by the community of Chicopee and then it gives back by investing and continuing to find ways to ensure that the work that they're doing is benefiting community members and this site, in particular, it's been a tough one," Driscoll said. "It was a high hurdle to get all the permits in place and move forward, but I think it's really worth it to be able to have a large national corporate partner like Pilot investing in Massachusetts, producing jobs, tax revenue, benefiting not just folks locally but as was said earlier, travelers who might be coming into Massachusetts or enter through



Boomer from the Springfield Thunderbirds with Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll.

Massachusetts to be able to have a wonderful stop where you can refuel your body or vehicle in a place that's friendly and welcoming. That means something. It says something about your community."

Vieau thanked MassDOT, the governor's office and the delegation for their help to "not just realign and mitigate the traffic flow off the exit, but the actual entrance into this parcel."

"That made this a more viable opportunity for the actual stakeholder and owner to market it more openly to all the opportunities and the one that chose it is Pilot/Flying J," Vieau said.

He noted it's also a significant investment for the city.

"So, it's with enthusiasm that we welcome Pilot/Flying J to not just Chicopee, but right here to this neighborhood and we look forward to working with them for decades and helping others on their journeys and adventures as they come through the Crossroads of New England, which is arguably right here in Chicopee," Vieau said. "We're excited to have you as a partner and thank you for all you do and your commitment to this parcel for over 20 years and we're excited about what it's going to be in the near future."

KRAMPITS from page 1

now known as the City Council—to fill out the remainder of the term of my late father, Frederick R. Krampits, Alderman – Ward 5. While my father was sick, I would take him to the meetings. As I sat in the audience, I began to pay more attention to the operation of city government," Krampits said. "After I was appointed, I began to learn the different processes and procedures for reviewing budgets, filing orders and dealing with constituent issues, while always trying my best. Though it can be challenging, I found I enjoy public service. This year, after the passing of my colleague and friend, Councilor at Large, Robert J. Zygarowski, I was elected as Vice President of the City Council. With that, came additional responsibilities that I have been learning."

Two pieces of experience Krampits also emphasized were working with municipal finance along with various city departments.

"As a City Councilor, I am familiar with municipal finance and work with various departments throughout the city. I review city budgets and financial orders, and I vote on them. I also review licenses, ordinances, zone changes and other issues that come before the City Council. I work with department heads on constituent issues in Ward 5," Krampits said. "As a customer service engineer for 31 years at Comark Communications, one of my responsibilities was to contact customers to collect outstanding invoices. Some of those customers were national broadcasting companies. To avoid issues with future business that could be worth millions of dollars, I had to strike a balance to make sure we were paid, but also that the customer felt they were being treated fairly. My experience on the City Council and as a customer service engineer gives me the experience necessary for being the next City Collector."

Reflecting on Stanley Iwanicki as he retires from his role as City Collector later this year, Krampits said he did a great job during his tenure.

"I thank him for his years of service, not only as City Collector, but as a City Assessor and an Alderman. I wish him well in his retirement. As with other departments, he has had to operate with a level-funded budget. He has operated his office with a common sense

approach, which I would continue," Krampits said.

On improvements he'd bring to the role, Krampits noted several goals.

"As City Collector, the improvements I would focus on are: expanding customer service by having a live, real time online payment process, viewing online past and present tax payments applied to your account, paying by phone to make the payment process customer friendly and researching with the Assessor's office the possibility of quarterly tax billing," Krampits said. "My experience on the City Council and having worked in customer service provide me the qualities and skills needed for the role of City Collector. If elected, I pledge to start working immediately after the election with Stanley Iwanicki for a smooth transition. Like I did as a councilor, I will do my best for the residents of Chicopee."

Krampits also hopes to give residents a better understanding of the City Collector and its responsibilities to the city.

"As I have met with residents, sometimes clarification of what the City Collector's responsibilities are is necessary. Much of what the City Collector does is governed by Massachusetts General Law. There is not a lot of latitude and the Collector has to follow the process for such requirements as liens for non-payment of taxes," Krampits said.

Krampits added he's also received support from Iwanicki and hopes to pick up where he left off.

"I am honored that Collector Iwanicki has chosen to endorse me. I will continue the progress and the excellent customer service he currently has in the Collector's office," Krampits said.

If he moves forward after the primary next month, Krampits plans to continue meeting with residents.

"If I am successful in the primary election, I will continue meeting with residents and stay focused on promoting my city government experience and background in customer service. If you have any questions or would like to reach me, please email fkrampits@verizon.net or call 413-592-1950," Krampits said. "Primary elections usually have very low voter turnout, so encouraging supporters to vote is a priority. As the primary election approaches on Tuesday, Sept. 16, I humbly ask for your vote. Thank you."

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TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM  
Abrian Esmurria eyes the hoop.

## Pacers Elite falls in Spec finals

CHICOPEE – On Sunday, Aug. 10, the Pacers Elite 5-6 Boys summer basketball team was defeated narrowly by Hampshire in the championship game after an outstanding summer season. The Pacers would lose 56-55 after and finished an overall 12-4 campaign. They defeated Belchertown and TFP (of Wilbraham) in the playoffs.



Knox Flores heads down the court.



Eliyus Jamchez starts a play.



Austen Riether enters arc, looking to make a basket.



Macen Arroyo eyes a shot.

## Blue Sox season ends with big win, no playoffs

HOLYOKE – Although Valley will not return to the playoffs after appearing a season ago, the Blue Sox culminated their 2025 campaign on a high note.

On a humid July 30 evening in which they hosted the Upper Valley Nighthawks, the Blue Sox played one of their most important games yet with major playoff implications - although their fate was ultimately out of their hands.

Movement in the out of town standings mathematically eliminated Valley from postseason contention late Wednesday night, but that did not stop the Sox from ending the season with one last offensive explosion.

“It definitely was the elephant in the room,” said Blue Sox manager Endy Morales on the playoff implications of tonight’s game. “But at the end of the day it’s still the same game. You go into it with the same expectation to go out and compete, and today our goal was to put up a lot of runs, and that is exactly what we did.”

Valley outpaced the Nighthawks early, scoring 11 runs over the first three innings. Nicholas Spaventa opened the scoring in the bottom of the first with a two run double, and was brought

See **BLUE SOX** page 8

## Short-handed Villa FC captures PVSSL Men’s Championship

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - After being forced to play the final 20 minutes of regulation with only ten players, the chances of winning the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League men’s championship title for the second consecutive year didn’t look very promising for third-seeded Villa FC.

The defending champions, who were trailing 1-0, managed to tie the match against top-seeded Cap & Hitch of New England with less than a minute remaining in the second half.

The score remained tied during the two 10-minute overtime periods.

During the ninth round of the penalty shootout, Villa goalie Lucas Morales-Fernandez made an outstanding



Mike Willis, of Ludlow, heads the ball for Villa.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Villa FC captured the PVSSL Men’s Championship earlier this month.

diving save giving his team an exciting 1-1 (9-8 PK’s) win over Cap & Hitch at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow earlier this month.

“This is our second championship in a year, and it feels excellent,” said Villa player/coach Mike Lima following the match, which lasted more than two hours. “We’re one of the better teams in this league, so everybody always wants to be beat us. We were trailing late in second half, but we were able to battle back.”

Lima, who shared the coaching duties with Ruben Sousa, is one of the Villa FC players who graduated from Ludlow High School.

The other former Ludlow High School soccer players listed on the Villa FC roster are Kyle Tomas, who received a red card during the



Kamer Nuhiu, of Agawam, possesses the ball for Cap & Hitch.

60<sup>th</sup> minute, Brandon McCarthy and Enzo Botta.

A year ago, Villa FC, who plays their home matches at Minnechaug Regional, defeated Lusitano White in the men’s finals. They also took home the championship

trophy in 2017 with a 3-2 win over Pros Malaca.

Anthony Basile was selected as this year’s MVP award winner. He was also the M.V.P. of the 2017 championship match.

“This is a very special trophy in 2017 with a 3-2 win over Pros Malaca.

“This was just an unbelievable match by both teams. It’s tough that someone had to lose,” said Cap & Hitch head coach Bennett Walsh.

See **PVSSL** page 8

## HoopHall releases enshrinement schedule

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced additional details, including start times for key events, regarding the Class of 2025 Enshrinement Weekend.

The Class of 2025 celebration will culminate with the Enshrinement Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield – the Birthplace of Basketball.

Revealed in April, the Class of 2025 includes nine honorees, WNBA legends Sue Bird, Sylvia Fowles, and Maya Moore; and NBA stars Carmelo Anthony and Dwight Howard. Other inductees include two-time NCAA championship coach Billy Donovan; legendary

NBA referee Danny Crawford; Miami Heat owner Micky Arison; and the 2008 USA Basketball Men’s National Team.

Enshrinement Weekend will tip off at Mohegan Sun on Friday, September 5, starting with the always-popular autograph session, followed by a re-formatted Media Availability, and concluding with the headlining Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The evening will also include special recognition for the 2025 Curt Gowdy Media Award recipients, George Blaha, Clark Kellogg, Michelle Smith, and Adrian Wojnarowski, as well as longtime Boston Celtics executive Jeff Twiss,

the recipient of the John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Class of 2025 and over 40 returning Hall of Famers will then journey to Springfield, Mass., for the annual celebratory events taking place at the acclaimed Marriott Springfield Downtown as well as Springfield’s Symphony Hall. Fans and guests are also encouraged to tour and visit the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame on Enshrinement Weekend, where special events such as the Ice Cube Impact Award and SuperFan presentations will take place.

Details of the schedule of events for Enshrinement 2025 are as follows:

Friday, Sept. 5  
Class of 2025 Autograph Session at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.)  
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Meet the Class of 2025 at their first public Enshrinement Weekend event! Each ticket to this event grants you the opportunity to receive one autograph per class member.

Enshrinement 2025 Media Availability at Mohegan Sun  
2 to 4 p.m.

The Hall of Fame will implement a new media availability format, offering structured interview stations and podium access to the in-

See **HOOP HALL** page 8

## More teams wanted for Quabbin fall league

Headline: Following up on the resounding success of its inaugural campaign, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 adult baseball league will hold its second Fall League this September and October.

Seeking to create a similar competition environment to its spring/summer league, Quabbin Valley, with contributions from the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, created a four-team fall league last year featuring the Braves, Dodgers, Cardinals, and Twins.

Those same four teams

are set to return and each team tends to have openings on them. Additionally, the league is open to welcoming more teams in to the league if it finds enough interest.

The league is looking for at least one full team to join the league. If you play in an adult league in the region and have most of your team comprising of players over the age of 28 and would like to enter the league, please get in touch as soon as possible. The league is looking to finalize its schedule by Aug. 25.

See **QUABBIN** page 8

## SPORTS

## Emerling takes Thompson 150 win

THOMPSON, CT — An incredible flood of fans entered Thompson Speedway on Wednesday night for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour's annual midweek Thompson 150 with plenty of magic in the air. Along with a much anticipated visit from Geoff Bodine and the original Big Red Machine #1 from his stellar 1978 campaign, the NASCAR touring teams battled in the Tour's 750th event back where it all began in 1985.

Ron Silk got the capaci-

ty crowd on their feet during Hoosier Racing Tire qualifying as he earned the pole position by just breaking the nineteen-second mark with an 18.999-second run. Silk launched on the start of the 750th NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event with a rearview mirror full of Thompson arch-rival Justin Bonsignore. The first caution flag flew on lap 14 as Eric Berndt moved up across the front bumper of Luke Baldwin at the start/finish line sending Berndt into the wall and Baldwin pitside for dam-

age control.

Silk maintained control at the front of the field until the hard turn one wreck for Baldwin around lap 70 as the leaders jumped pitside for fresh Hoosier rubber. Jon McKennedy led the pack under the return to green and pulled away from Stephen Kopicik, Jake Johnson and point leader Austin Beers as Silk and Bonsignore began the long march from deep in the field. A turn-two-tap between Kopicik and McKennedy rapidly took both out of the top five with Johnson

stealing the show out front.

As laps wound down, Patrick Emerling made his case known as he grew ever closer to Johnson's rear bumper. Emerling pulled up on lap 124 to lead lap 125 and fortunately never had to deal with another caution period.

Unspoiled, Patrick Emerling took down the Thompson 150 win in the Big Red Machine look-a-like #1 complete with Geoff Bodine in the 750th NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory lane celebration.

## HIKING from page 4

how steep the slide had become. However, unlike me, he has no fear of steep, open rock slabs. He felt the rock below his hands until he found a small split and used the very tips of his fingers to work his way over to me.

Thankfully, the trail soon turned from large, open slabs to loose boulders and gravel. No less physically challenging, but somewhat less mentally demanding. I find that taking a step upward and feeling the mountain slide down below my feet is far less terrifying than scrambling on all fours on a smooth slab of granite.

When we finally reached the top of the slide, Tom and I heaved a sigh of relief. I was filled with jubilation, not only for having completed EVERY trail in the Sandwich Wilderness, but also for making it up the single most terrifying trail we had ever attempted. I did not feel brave, rather, empowered.

I had not overcome my fears, rather I had charged into them with shaking arms and quaking legs. In doing so, I learned that sometimes the fear does not go away, so you just need to do it afraid. And perhaps, just perhaps, that is where courage begins.

See you in the wild places, my friends!

## BLUE SOX from page 7

home later in the inning on a Wyatt Hunt single.

A pair of singles from Isaac Wachsmann and Michael Elko scored two of the three Valley runs the following inning, with the third resulting from an Upper Valley error.

The outpouring of scoring didn't end there for Valley, as five runs came across in the third inning. Spaventa, Elko, Chris Carson and Kai Cunningham all brought in runs. The fifth run scored on another Nighthawk error.

These scores provided more than enough insurance for Valley, but the Blue Sox kept the bats going. They scored an additional 12 runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings en route to a 23-1 win.

The Blue Sox amassed 18 hits over the course of Wednesday's matchup. Kozar, an Amherstburg, Ontario native, enjoyed five hits and five RBI in six plate

appearances. Carson added three hits and five RBI. Elko, Wachsmann, Spaventa and Hunt all had two hit performances, bringing in nine total runs. Andrew Ciaglo, a typical pitching option for the Blue Sox, picked up a hit and RBI in just his second at bat of the season.

The Nighthawks bats stayed relatively quiet over the course of the evening. A total of four hits were highlighted by an Anthony Brotz double in the top of the fifth that scored Upper Valley's lone run.

Andrew Basel started for the Blue Sox, and threw three no hit innings before allowing a run in the fourth. Jake Andrews, Beau Elson and Andrew Wertz closed the game out, shutting down the Nighthawks.

For Upper Valley, Jack Ruditzky started and struggled. He gave up nine earned runs and 11 hits across 2.1 innings of work. The Nighthawks bullpen suffered a similar fate, allowing 12

more earned runs to close the game out.

Valley's postseason hopes end tonight, but the memories from the season will carry on. Making the transition from player to coach, Morales looks back fondly on his inaugural season managing the Blue Sox.

"You start day one, and then you see the guys that stay here all summer and are really taking in the full experience. Doing an overnight trip in Newport and Cooperstown, just kind of seeing that come together, and then how quick the guys who joined us a little bit later get acclimated to the team," said Morales.

"That's always one of my favorite things, you know, there's that saying boys will be boys. There's never any hesitation to them accepting each other. I just think seeing the togetherness of these guys this summer was pretty cool," he continued.

small fee for insurance as well.

An interest/registration form, will be forthcoming soon, but until then, to express interest in the league, you can email the coordinators of the league at either GScibelli22@yahoo.com or ikhandfield@gmail.com.

Schedule and team placement for unaffiliated players will be finalized in mid-to-late August. Please join in the fun this fall.

## PVSSL from page 7

"I've never been involved in a match where they were 18 shots in the penalty shootout. I'm very proud of my guys."

Both teams had chances to take the lead during the first half, which was 40 minutes long.

Cap & Hitch had the first opportunity during the 26th minute.

Ethan Czaporowski, who played soccer at Belchertown High School, weaved around a couple of defenders inside the box before firing a shot that deflected off the crossbar.

Another former Belchertown player listed on the Cap & Hitch roster is Shay O'Neill, who's father, Devin, is the longtime men's soccer coach at Western New England University.

A minute later, Gabriel Ganzer, who plays for Villa, had a breakaway opportunity, but his shot attempt bounced off the left post.

Ganzer, who's a former member of the Western Mass. Pioneers, recorded a hat-trick in last year's finals. He was also selected as the 2024 MVP winner.

This year's championship match was still scoreless at the half.

Cap & Hitch was given a penalty shot by referee Fabio Cardoso following a foul in the box twenty minutes into the second half.

Kamer Nuhui, who graduated from Agawam High School, stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the net past Morales-Fernandez.



Anthony Basile, an Agawam High School graduate, poses with the trophy and league co-president Dianna Kolodziej.

During that sequence, Cardoso gave Tomas a red card leaving Villa with only ten players on the field.

Cardoso continued to issue yellow cards like they were parking tickets, which kept the match from getting out of control.

Basile tied the score at 1-1 after putting a shot into the net past goalie Alberto Truoiolo with only a couple seconds remaining in regulation.

"I just saw an opportunity," he said. "I just swung my foot and watched the ball roll to the back of the net. It just felt great."

At the end of the second overtime period, Bryant Keeney had a chance to be the hero for Villa, but his line-

drive shot hooked wide.

The nine Villa players that made PK's during the shootout were Andre Morrison, Joao Miranda, Shane Sewell, Andrew Ortiz, Quin Serafino, Mason Perham, Mike Willis, McCarthy, and Ganzer.

The eight PK's made by the Cap & Hitch players were Simba Pelletier, Bennett Walsh Jr., John Senn-McNally, Dominic Cirelli, Connor Weslocki, Czaporowski, O'Neill, and Nuhui.

Morales-Fernandez finally ended the match by making a save on a shot attempt by Nathan Sanchez.

It was another memorable summer for the members of Villa FC.

## QUABBIN from page 7

While the fall league schedule is still under construction, it will mostly feature Sunday morning games played with wood-bat only, which is customary for fall baseball. There could be some Saturday games added to the schedule depending on the completion of the spring/summer season as well as to makeup rain-outs, potentially. Games are

nine-innings long and there is a small playoff and championship held at the end of the season. Last year's fall season was eight games and that is the goal for this year. Free and low-cost fields are used as well as just one umpire in an effort to keep the costs lower for players. The cost to play will likely range from \$40 to \$60 for the eight-game schedule. Players from outside the Quabbin League may also pay a

small fee for insurance as well.

An interest/registration form, will be forthcoming soon, but until then, to express interest in the league, you can email the coordinators of the league at either GScibelli22@yahoo.com or ikhandfield@gmail.com.

Schedule and team placement for unaffiliated players will be finalized in mid-to-late August. Please join in the fun this fall.

## HOOP HALL from page 7

ductees to facilitate in-depth coverage.

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala at Mohegan Sun

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Reception

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Red Carpet

8-10 p.m.: Gala Program

The Class of 2025 and the Hall's prestigious annual award recipients will be celebrated at this televised Enshrinement event at Mohegan Sun. This event will feature the unveiling of the Class of 2025 rings, presented by Baron Championship Rings, and the awarding of the Class of 2025 Hall of

Fame jackets, provided by Reveal Suits. The program will also include the presentation of the Hall's annual John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award and the Curt Gowdy Media Awards, and recognition for the National Wheelchair Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2025.

Saturday, Sept. 6  
Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Museum Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Jr. NBA Clinic at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.) 9 to 11 a.m.

Young athletes will take part in a high-energy Jr. NBA basketball clinic that focuses on fun, skill development, and teamwork. Participants will work with trained

coaches on fundamentals such as dribbling, shooting, passing, and defense, while also learning the core values of the game, sportsmanship, respect, and effort.

Coaches Circle Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)

1 to 2 p.m.

Join us in celebrating the exceptional coaches who will be honored with benches in the Naismith Coaching Circle. Established in 2015, the Naismith Coaches Circle program was created to pay tribute to basketball's first coach, Dr. James Naismith, and to uphold the core values he instilled in his players: teamwork, determination, self-respect, leadership, ini-

tiative, and perseverance.

Ice Cube Impact Award Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.)

2 to 2:30 p.m.

Jalen Rose, former player, TV analyst, and philanthropist, will be honored in a ceremony on the Jerry Colangelo Court of Dreams. This award recognizes individuals making substantial contributions to their communities through basketball.

Note: Ice Cube is scheduled to present the award in person

SuperFan Presentation at Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame (Springfield, Mass.) 2:30 to 3 p.m.

Several NBA SuperFans will be honored in the James

F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery. This special space is dedicated to celebrating the most iconic and passionate fans of the game.

NOTE: The 2025 SuperFan Class will be announced at a later date

Enshrinement Ceremony Reception at the Marriott Springfield Downtown (Springfield, Mass.)

4 to 5:45 p.m.

Toast the incoming Hall of Fame Class of 2025 at the Marriott's rooftop prior to the sport's ultimate recognition. The party is limited to select ticket holders for the Enshrinement Ceremony.

Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall (Springfield, Mass.)

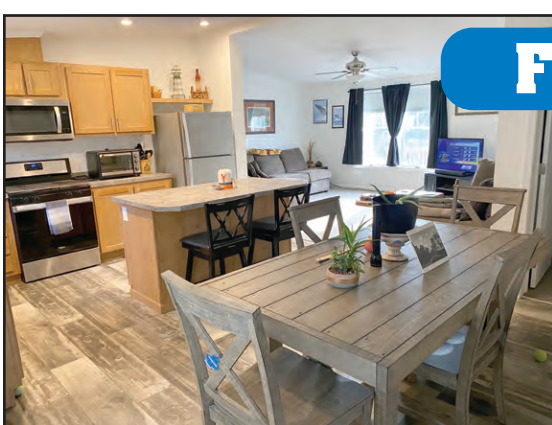
6 to 7 p.m.

The Class of 2025, returning Hall of Famers, and many of the sport's icons walk the red carpet in a live NBA TV broadcast from outside Symphony Hall and down East Columbus Avenue.

Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

7 to 9 p.m.

One of the most elite events on the basketball calendar, the Hall of Fame Class of 2025 will be formally enshrined into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in a nationally televised ceremony on NBA TV. The stars of basketball will gather to celebrate the newest group of the sport's iconic figures.



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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No.  
HD25P1666EA  
Estate of:  
Origene Archambault  
Also known as:  
Gene Archambault  
Date of Death: 04/28/1992  
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 **Mary Paier Powers of West Springfield, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Mary Paier Powers of West Springfield, 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 09/09/2025. 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: August 12, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Matthew Beaudoin, a/k/a Matthew R. Beaudoin to Chicopee Savings Bank, now held by Westfield Bank, Successor by Merger to Chicopee Savings Bank, dated August 24, 2010 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 18432, Page 327, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 a.m. on the 16th day of September, 2025, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 6 Parkwood Drive, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in said Chicopee, being known and designated as Lot #70 (seventy) on plan of lots entitled "section D owner; Hamar Construction Co., Inc., Janik Construction, Inc., location Chicopee, Mass., dated Jan. 1955, Dobb, Beesley & Miles, Engineers, Springfield, Massachusetts", recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 46, Page 129; said lot is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

EASTERLY by Parkwood Drive, as shown on said plan ninety (90) feet;

SOUTHERLY by Mayflower

Avenue, as shown on said plan, one hundred five and 02/100 (105.02) feet;

WESTERLY by Lot #55 (fifty-five) and a portion of Lot #56 (fifty-six) as shown on said plain, ninety-two and 29/100 (92.29) feet; and

NORTHERLY by Lot #69 (sixty-nine) as shown on said plan, one hundred five (105) feet.

Subject to restrictions set forth in deed to Rene L. Cote, recorded in said Registry of Deeds, June 13, 1956 as Document #15409."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith. A buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the successful bid will be paid by the successful bidder and incorporated within the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Westfield Bank,  
Present Holder of said Mortgage

By:  
/s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein

Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN,  
P.C.  
1500 Main Street, Suite 2504  
P.O. Box 15408  
Springfield, MA 01115-5408  
(413) 827-7500  
Its Attorneys

Date: August 5, 2025  
08/08, 08/15, 08/22/2025

**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 22nd 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.

2006 Toyota Sienna  
VIN: 5TDDBA23C76S058586  
Brayan Ramirez Estrada  
22 Harwood St., Apt. 3  
Lynn, MA 01902  
08/15, 08/22, 08/29/2025

1998 Honda VT1100C3  
VIN: 1HFSC3902WA000322  
Scott Mosher  
120 Providence St.  
Mendon, MA 01756

Moped  
LLPTGLHE4R1100014  
Unknown Owner  
2017 Toyota Camry  
VIN: 4T1BF1FK2HU651085  
Manuel Jesus Romero Sacancela  
11 Taylor St., Apt. 2  
Milford, MA 01757

2008 Honda Accord EX - L  
VIN: 1HGCP2684A031955  
Ivonne Cedeno Ortiz  
34 Mazarin St., Apt. 2  
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2006 Lexus GS 300  
VIN: JTHCH96S860020359  
Enrique Baerga  
248 Union St., Apt. 2C  
Springfield, MA 01105  
08/08, 08/15, 08/22/2025

**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 September 5th 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.

2008 Utility Trailer Base  
VIN: 1UYVS25338M470804  
3C Transport LLC  
5334 Florida Dr.  
Deltona, FL 32738

1988 Ford Mustang Gt  
VIN: 1FABP42E4JF245652  
Ernie E Blocker  
15 Overvale Rd.  
Wolcott, CT 06716

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

2020 Toyota Tundra  
VIN: 5TFCY5F14LX026924  
Ben Ndjock Construction LLC  
435 Washington St.  
Haverhill, MA, 01832  
08/22, 08/29, 09/05/2025

**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 29th 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.

2018 Mack 600 CXU  
VIN: 1M1AW02Y6JM087645  
Bulkmatic Transport Company  
Inc.

2001 N. Cline Ave.  
Griffith, ID 46319

2007 Toyota Tacoma  
VIN: 5TEUU42N37Z356071  
Roger Caron  
P.O. Box 762  
West Brookfield, MA 01585

2015 Mercedes Sprinter 2500  
VIN: WD3PE7DC2F5963517  
Premier Value Express  
900 River St., Ste. F  
Windsor, CT 06095

2009 Toyota Highlander  
VIN: JTEES41A592145031  
Francisco Rivera  
61 Sargent St.  
Cherry Valley, MA 01611

2004 Toyota Sienna  
VIN: 5TDZA23C44S119100  
Javier Hernandez Umana  
262 S Common St., Apt 3  
Lynn, MA 01905

2007 Subaru Impreza  
VIN: JF1GD61687H514544  
Expedito Delgado Medina  
64 Grosvenor St., Apt. 4r  
Springfield, MA 01107

2008 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCP26838A053283  
Tania Figueroa  
33 Lester St. #1  
Springfield, MA 01108

2015 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL3AP6FC482379  
Erica Strong  
4 Allen Rd.  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

2016 Honda Pilot  
VIN: 5FNYP6H33GB075483  
Dayanara Negron  
205 Country Club Blvd., Apt. 480  
Worcester, MA 01605

2006 Toyota Sienna  
VIN: 5TDDBA23C76S058586  
Brayan Ramirez Estrada  
22 Harwood St., Apt. 3  
Lynn, MA 01902  
08/15, 08/22, 08/29/2025

**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.  
HD25P1680EA  
Estate of:  
Alberta Eleanor Jordan  
Date of Death: 06/21/2025  
CITATION ON PETITION**

**FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Cheryl Rivers of Springfield, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Cheryl Rivers of Springfield, 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 09/10/2025 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: August 13, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025

**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.  
HD19P1222EA  
Estate of:  
Sara A Maldonado  
Date of Death: 05/08/2019  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Moises Maldonado of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

**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 09/19/2025.**

**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.**

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

Date: August 15, 2025  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025

**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.  
HD25P1644EA  
Estate of:  
Michael F Peters  
Also known as:  
Michael Francis Peters  
Date of Death: 02/08/2025  
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 **William E Peters of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2025. 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: August 08, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
Docket No.  
HD25P1505EA  
Estate of:  
MARK ALAN PROVOST  
Also Known As:  
MARK A. PROVOST  
Date of Death:  
September 20, 2024  
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Deborah A Provost of Chicopee, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Deborah A Provost of Chicopee, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative

under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No.  
HD25P1423GD  
In the matter of:  
Thomas G Sears  
Of: Chicopee, MA  
RESPONDENT  
Alleged Incapacitated Person  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Chicopee Rehab and Nursing of Chicopee, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Thomas G Sears** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Lisa Judkins of Auburn, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

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

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **09/16/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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

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

Date: August 19, 2025  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025

More Legals on Page 10

**EARLY DEADLINES**

In observance of LABOR DAY,  
**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
EARLY AD DEADLINE  
Place your public notice  
no later than NOON

**Thursday, August 28**

- Thank you!

# PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No.  
HD17P0819GD  
In the interests of  
Leona Sheldon  
Of: Leeds, MA  
RESPONDENT  
Incapacitated Person/  
Protected Person  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE  
OF PETITION FOR  
RESIGNATION OF A  
GUARDIAN OF AN  
INCAPACITATED  
PERSON**

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

Accept the Resignation of the Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator

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

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **09/03/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named**

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

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

Date: August 06, 2025

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/22/2025



## First Central Bible Church of Chicopee launches Awana Program

CHICOPEE - First Central Bible Church today announced the kickoff of Awana, a global, Bible-based discipleship program that helps churches and families raise children and youth to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

The program is open to the community and will be held at the church located at 50 Broadway Street, Chicopee.

Weekly sessions run

on Wednesdays from September 10, 2025 to May 20, 2026 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and are for children ages two through fifth grade. Registration is required on the church website at [www.firstcentral.church](http://www.firstcentral.church).

The cost is \$20 per child for all nine months.

All families looking for a positive activity for their kids are welcome.

Awana combines Scripture memorization, Bible

teaching, fun activities, and mentorship to help young people build a lasting foundation of faith. The program provides a safe, structured environment where kids can make new friends, build confidence, grow spiritually, and explore how God's Word applies to their everyday lives.

If you have questions, please call the church office at 413-592-5353.

## Friends of Chicopee Public Library holding 23rd Annual Golf Tournament Sept. 28

CHICOPEE - Get ready to tee off at our Annual Golf Tournament!

Join us for a day of food, fun and friendly competition on the greens. Get your foursome together and register early for discounts.

The tournament takes place on Sunday, Sept. 28, at the Chicopee Country Club with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Registration is \$140 and includes golf, cart, swag bag, lunch and dinner.

For an early registration

discount of \$130, register by Aug. 15

To learn more, call 413-594-1800 X116, email [friendsofcpl@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsofcpl@hotmail.com) or visit <https://friends-of-the-chicopee-public-library.square.site/>.

### MEMORIAL DRIVE from page 1

everybody who uses Memorial Drive every day, who use it as a cut-through, or those who live on the road," Shumsky said. "And it's evident when people think of Chicopee, the first thing they think of is Memorial Drive, and how it is the main artery for travel to get to South Hadley, Ludlow, Granby, Belchertown and vice versa when people come from those areas to Chicopee to get to the Mass Pike, and we have tons of stores, Walmart, BJ's, Home Depot."

He also touched upon the concept and value of instilling some 'beauty' to attract new and fresh business partners, bringing a sense of fresh identity to the highway by adding green space, working on zoning overlays, which, in his hope, will make Chicopee and Memorial Drive a destination.

"Right now, we don't have anything to make us a destination, or a place to stop and visit. In my opinion, we only really have the Chicopee Country Club," Shumsky said. "We're looking at a goldmine of future potential."

Shumsky then took a moment to reveal that the idea fell into his focus when he was talking to friend and mentor Mary Moge—who was Kos's former Chief of Staff—while in the middle of the Home Depot parking lot, and he discussed and humored the idea of injecting 'a shot of adrenaline' into Memorial Drive.

Moge passed to Shumsky that Kos had this idea, and in turn, Shumsky looked into the proposal, did his research and came to the conclusion that he felt this needed to be pursued.

"It took me about three hours to read, as there are tons of designs and diagrams, and I thought this was incredible," Shumsky said.

The next step Shumsky made was reaching out to Planning Director Lee Pouliot, and the phone call was a simple pitch to set up a meeting.

Shumsky noted that Pouliot loved the idea while offering a history lesson on

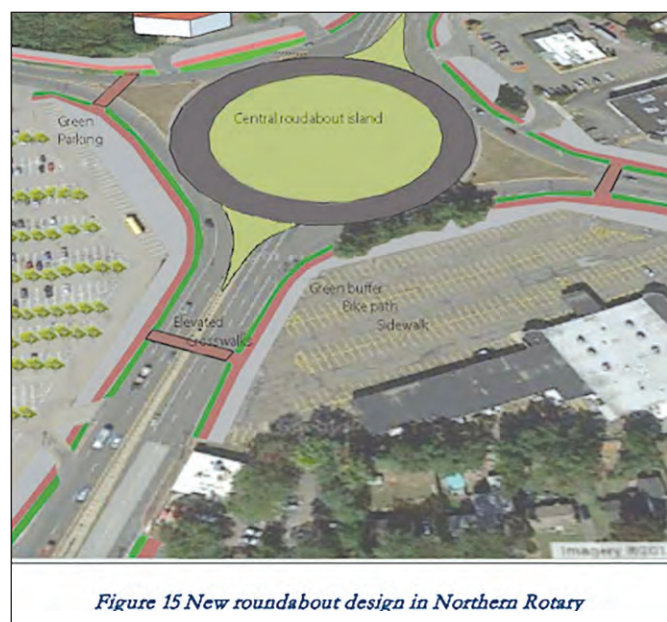


Figure 15 New roundabout design in Northern Rotary

A photo of a proposed Price-Rite Roundabout.

everything from day one to now.

"Lee (Pouliot) seemed very excited that this was introduced to me, and I brought it up," Shumsky said.

Shumsky added he pitched the idea to Mayor John Vieau, and once given approval, he filed the motion, where the idea was brought forth in front of his constituents.

Before the motion passed, Shumsky made it clear to his peers that he didn't want to take any credit away from Kos.

"I want to explicitly state this is all Mayor Kos's idea, and I don't want to take any credit, but I want to add the foresight that he had UMass come in and do a wonderful study that was very comprehensive," Shumsky said.

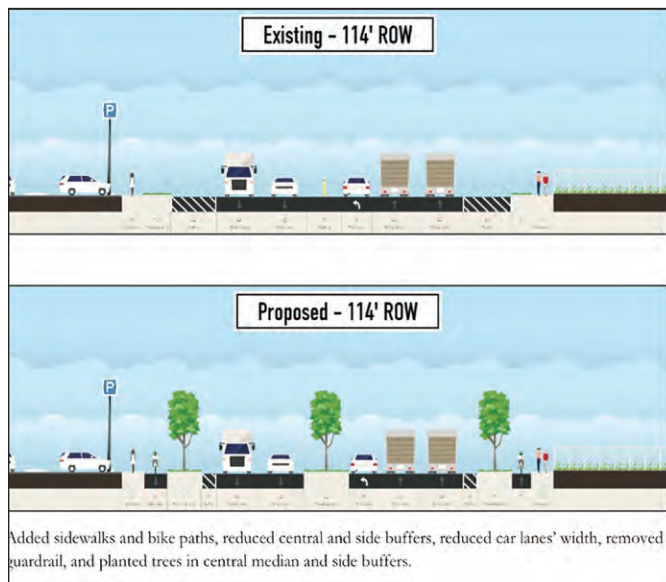
However, despite the motion passing by a vote of 10-1, it did come with a mixed reaction as many—including Ward 1 Councilor Abigail Arriaga and Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello—cited that the study needed to be updated, as the consensus it was deemed to be a bit outdated and called for a newly updated study to match all present day parameters, since the one Shumsky explained it was done throughout a five-year span from 2014 to 2019.

Now more than a decade later, new variables including

traffic safety, zoning, and design details would need to be retooled.

"The data that we have from 2014 in regards to traffic safety does need to be updated, especially when we need to reflect current volume, so I don't really know how much it has increased by, but I do know that engineering and traffic patterns evolve and change over certain areas," Shumsky said.

One of the ideas the study brought forth was putting additional trees in the Price-Rite



Here, we have Proposed revisions/ROW.

Roundabout and in the section near Knights of Columbus, along with the inclusion of solar panels, all elements Shumsky touched upon while citing the data.

"We could install clean energy via solar panels, which could add to the grid and hypothetically help cut electrical costs, and offer an appeal to attract new residents to the city as a whole," Shumsky said. "We could have trees, bike lanes and sidewalks as well; it's truly just a beautiful plan."

Shumsky cited that the models presented could be

meshed and gel well with the current climate of the city, while offering to put a new perspective and identity, bringing the community into the present and future beyond. He then expressed an ode of gratitude to Chicopee, which has been his home all throughout his life.

"I think that Chicopee, for the most part, is a wonderful city, and I wouldn't have wanted to grow up anywhere else," Shumsky said. "I understand the position I'm currently in, as I am an advocate of the 21st century, and also I'm the youngest member on the City Council, and I want to make clear I have a lot to offer, and I want to continue to make Chicopee the best it can be."

Shumsky continued to express that the plan left by Kos is "a wonderful idea, that I would love to see come to fruition."

Shumsky then explained the next steps as the proposal now heads to the subcommittee, where local state dignitaries will be present.

"All of us as councilors will meet with state representatives, senators, Mayor Vieau and the planning director and I do hope the public will come as well," Shumsky said. "It should be known that part of the study will involve a ton of moving parts, and all input is necessary and welcome."

Shumsky then tossed the idea that the study could find value in the present, as he touted the idea that many in the public may feel that, why not kick the tires and ponder the prospect of what if, and admit "why not Chicopee."

He next shared the entire project had an estimated overall value of \$20 million, and could be broken down into various phases, noting the tools are available.

Shumsky added that the reason the Kos administration never went forward was due to funding resources at the time, according to comments from Pouliot.

"I understand this has to be done in phases, whether it's four or five years, and it's a big

undertaking," Shumsky said.

Shumsky's comments do offer validity, especially if the project were greenlit and put into motion. The state would have an additional say due to the requirement of state-requested funds, and Memorial Drive would fall under the state's sanction, as it is a state-regulated highway.

However, recent city-wide improvements put forth by the leadership of Vieau's administration, providing foundational guidance, and the City Council following suit, has not only assisted the public's perception of their civil leaders, in turn helped grow the city of Chicopee, to a point of a perfect blueprint something Shumsky wants to continue to add, while admitting,

"It boils down to a will and a wanting to do more for not everyone who calls Chicopee home, but also everyone who comes here, and there is a lot of energy to push Chicopee beyond what it can be," Shumsky said.

When asked about other potential renovations that could be born from this proposal, Shumsky cited that he feels Burnett Road could be given a bit of a polish and touch-up and he has a plan for that as well if given the chance.

"So, I, Lee and the City Engineer Doug (Ellis), worked on a plan with an independent body to revitalize and have a concept study to redesign Burnett Road," Shumsky said. "Because Burnett Road was designed to be used for industrial purposes, it wasn't designed to have all of these residential homes; it was more suited to be a manufacturing hub, but as time went on, houses got built, and now we have a road that doesn't fit the needs of the community."

The plan does sound a bit similar to how Shumsky looks to modernize Memorial Drive, as he cited and noted sister communities such as Granby and Ludlow using Burnett Road as a thoroughway to get to the Mass Pike, and Fuller Road, which has been a high volume area as of late, which Shumsky added having a traffic study conducted wouldn't be a bad thing.

"I think it would be extremely beneficial to have an independent body come in here to do all civil engineering elements, and make it safer for all parties involved," Shumsky said.

He also cited safety for all.

"We have a school up here, two parks, and as businesses get developed up here, we are going to be faced with a big traffic issue that needs to be mitigated, or solved, and I'm hoping that we can get it done," Shumsky said.

More on this as it develops.

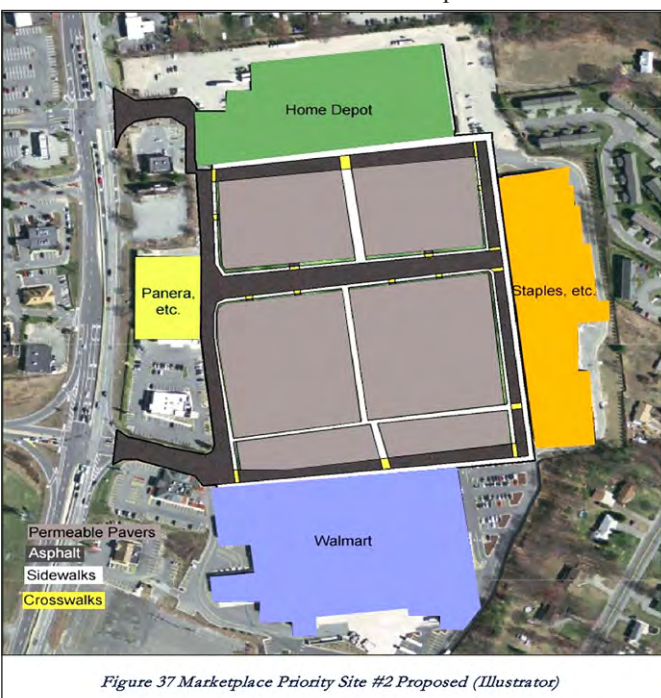


Figure 37 Marketplace Priority Site #2 Proposed (Illustrator)

Here, we have a proposed design for Marketplace Schematics.

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

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

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frenchyn@gmail.com**

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**Town of Blandford**  
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Duties include administrative support for daily operations of the Assessors' office. Pay: \$18-\$20/hr, based on experience. Communication, customer service, organizational, and tech skills required. Send cover letter and resume to: **dhopson@townofblandford.com.**

**Town of Blandford**  
is seeking a fulltime **ASSISTANT TREASURER/COLLECTOR.**  
Pay range \$29.50-\$37.50/hour.  
Please visit our website for full job description.  
Submit resume to **Administrator@townofblandford.com**

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**SQUIER & CO.** is looking to hire an oil truck driver. \$40,000-\$60,000 full time. Squier will provide CDL school for the right candidate! **Email: squieroil@verizon.net. Call 413-267-3184** or visit us at 5 Squier Ave., Monson, MA. Monday-Friday.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILBRAHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Wilbraham Housing Authority seeks highly qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director. Responsibilities include the administration of 69 Chapter 667 Elderly housing units and 9 Chapter 705 Family housing units. The Executive Director reports to a five-member Board of Commissioners. Work schedule shall be a minimum of 22 hours per week during normal business hours, flexible as needed. The estimated salary range \$46,177.00 To \$54,326.00 is based on the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities' Executive Director Salary Schedule. The ideal candidate must have 2 years' experience in a housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances and maintenance systems in public or private housing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required. Willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from an approved organization desired, and may be substituted as a property manager or similar classification by a nationally recognized housing or real estate organization such as an EOHLCA-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program or HUD. Two-year full time post-secondary education in a related field may substitute for up to one year of experience. Applications will be accepted until 12pm, August 29, 2025. Please submit cover letter, resume and contact information for 3 references to: **Mr. Peter Manolakis, Chairman Executive Director Search Committee, Wilbraham Housing Authority, 88 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095. Contact: Peter Manolakis (413) 519-8195**  
*Wilbraham Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

**The Town of Huntington** is seeking a **part-time Town Hall Floater/Select-board Administrative Assistant/Assistant Town Clerk.** \$20-\$22 per hour based on experience. 15 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Position is open until filled.  
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**FOR RENT**

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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

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17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
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25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
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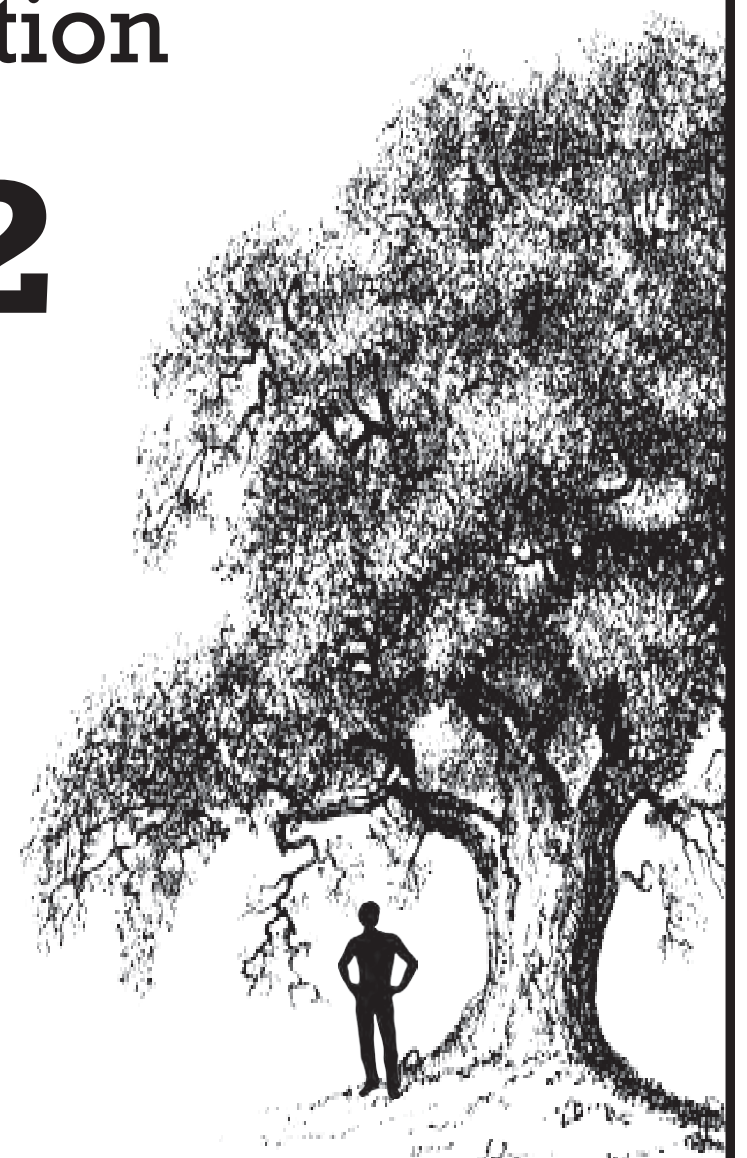
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# DL&G TREE



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