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COMMUNITY

Chicopee Boys & Girls Club End of Summer Bash

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Families stopped by the Boys & Girls Club from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Aug. 19 for an End of Summer Fun Day event.

The event celebrated the end of summer and the start of back of school period, with attendees meeting members of the police and fire departments, the library's bookmobile and Five Star Bus and enjoying bounce houses, a dunk tank, a splash pad and more.

Additionally, attendees received free ice cream from the police department's ice cream truck, sandwiches donated by J Polep Distribution Services and school supplies.

Jason Reed, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club, explained the organization partnered with the fire and police departments to sponsor a backto-school event to bring the community together.

Reed was happy about the turnout and the opportunity to connect with families.

"It's great. It provides the kids in the community an opportunity to interact with our public safety, both police and fire. We hope that maybe they'll opt for careers when they get older in either of those departments," Reed said. "So, it really gives them a chance to meet them, understand that they're people behind the badges, and they put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe, and this is a way



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

These little firefighters had a blast at the End of Summer Fun Day event at the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club. Photos courtesy of the Chicopee Fire Department.

for us to get together and thank them and appreciate them too."

Public Information Officer Travis Odiorne shared he reached out to Reed for the opportunity to connect with residents within walking distance of the organization.

Members of the department, the Willimansett C3 Unit and Chicopee Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware also took part in the dunk tank.

"We're always trying to bridge the gap between us and the community and show the kids and the families that we're approachable. We're trying to do more of these events to get out into the community, let them know that we're here for them and we appreciate the support they give us throughout the year too, so it's just our way of kind of giving back to them," Odiorne said.

See SUMMER BASH page 6

Christine Perez heard about

The Y Barbershop:



Courtesy photo by Ally Montemagni Bob Foisy

A hometown Foisy tradition

By Kevin Montemagni

CHICOPEE -- Mark Twain once wrote that all things change except the barbershop, the ways of barbers and the surrounding of barbers. The waiting room of a barbershop, filled with scattered back dated magazine issues and people eagerly waiting to hear the word "next" can make the largest of towns feel like Mayberry. That hometown heartbeat lasted for over 70 years in a quaint three-chair shop on Chicopee Street. The Foisy father and son tandem stood behind those iconic chairs at the Y Barbershop for all of them.

The son, Bob was born in 1932, when America was not the land of milk and honey. A quarter of the workforce was without jobs and families struggled to keep food on their

See FOISY page 9

Friends of Chicopee Public Library hold meet and greet with residents

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The event was held at Goodworks Coffee House

> By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Residents stopped by Goodworks Coffee House from noon - 2 p.m. on Aug. 12 for a meet and greet with the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library.

During the event, residents spoke with the organization to learn about membership, how they support the library, upcoming events and more.

Attendees also got a free drink from Goodworks, popcorn and the opportunity to check out books from the library's bookmobile.

The event was sponsored by Polish National Credit Union.

Lisa Pasternak, president of

the Friends, credits Victor Narvaez, the owner of Goodworks Coffee House and a board member, for the event.

"He has a lot of people who come and do pop-up events at the store and, so, he suggested that maybe the Friends do a popup here, just to kind of us get out into the community a little bit versus one of our events," Pasternak said. "We've had a lot of people come by, stop by, say hi, learn a little bit more about the events and check out the bookmobile."

Pasternak said residents were also interested in learning more about the Friends. including the history and how to participate in the organization.

"I think it just shows that you know, there's a lot of people who are interested in things that are going on in Chicopee and

See MEET AND GREET page 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Lisa Pasternak, president of the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, Michael Fitzgerald, vice president of the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, Victor Narvaez, owner of Goodworks Coffee House and member of the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, Nancy Fenton and Carrie McDonough, members of the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, pose for a group photo in front of the BookMobile during the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library Meet and Greet event at Goodworks Coffee House on Aug. 12.

School Committee votes to reopen collective bargaining for teachers, staff

Teachers, staff explain why they must be paid competitive salaries

By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Chicopee Public Schools could enter the academic year with more than 93 vacancies after this summer's exodus of personnel, which has been largely attributed to uncompetitive salaries and benefits.

As a result, the School Committee voted without opposition on Aug. 16 to reopen contract negotiations for teachers, administrators and staff members one year early, an uncommon step that the circumstances made necessary.

Last week's conversation began as district staff took to the podium during the meeting's public speaking segment. They explained why the district must offer its employees higher salaries and better insurance if it is to attract new personnel.

District teachers, staff members speak

Chicopee Education Association President Laura Demakis spoke last during the public speaking segment on Aug. 16 but shared a powerful message.

"We're filling positions with unqualified, uncertified or emergency certified people because we're going to have to. And we're still not filling all the positions," Demakis said.

Special Education Coordinator Neva Frumkin coordinates the services of 49 occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists and school phycologists in the district's 15 schools. However, there are two open school phycology positions, one speech pathology position and an unfilled position for a vision teacher.

"I have never had these openings before," Frumkin said, noting that she has nearly two decades of experience in the district.

As Frumkin conducts interviews with applicants who express a desire to work in Chicopee, they often select positions in neighboring districts that offer much higher salary rates, a sign on bonus, differential pay and better health insurance coverage.

"Excellent applicants are telling me as much as they would prefer to work in Chicopee, they have student loans to pay back, college tuitions to pay and young families that need affordable health insurance, so they can't justify taking Chicopee's significantly lesser benefits," she said.

Frumkin said word of richer opportunities elsewhere has infiltrated the district causing staff to leave. While she shared stories pertaining to applicants for therapy positions, Frumkin said the same process is occurring for all positions.

"Chicopee schools used to be competitive with surrounding school districts and could attract and retain the full complement of necessary teachers, staff and therapists to take care of our students and families with Chicopee pride," Frumkin said. "On behalf of the therapists and other exceptional teachers and staff out there who would prefer to work in Chicopee but are taking jobs elsewhere, please seriously consider bringing us back up to par and competitive with surrounding districts."

Frumkin asked that the district reward the professionals who have stayed in Chicopee with a loyalty bonus, competitive salaries, reconfigured health insurance policies and longevity pay.

Gina Potorksi-Dahl, an English teacher at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, has 27 years of experience as an educator and is the CEA union member liaison. She offered insight into what is occurring at Comp, where about 20 positions remain open and there is a great need for career tech education teachers.

"We're a comprehensive high school, but we are a career tech high school. It might be a little difficult to teach carpentry or welding or any of the other shops that are in fact missing teachers if you don't have a teacher. We are missing a myriad of special education teachers. We are missing English teachers, history teachers, science teachers," Potorksi-Dahl said.

She said that the salaries aren't the primary problem; the insurance package is scaring candidates off. That said, Potorksi-Dahl acknowledged that most people can't afford the \$5,000 to \$10,000 difference in salary when comparing what Chicopee offers to neighboring districts.

Potorksi-Dahl said she has watched her colleagues leave for jobs that offer a pay increase, a signing bonus and better insurance benefits. She said the School Committee has said it wants to see quality candidates hired and urged the board to back up the message.

"How do you get quality candidates? You pay them a quality wage. You give them that rate, you give them that money. Exactly what we're looking for here," she said. "We're looking for quality. We don't just want to hire someone. We want to hire someone well-qualified, special, who understands what our students need. We don't want to hire a body. We want to hire somebody special."

Demakis said district principals have asked her to forgo the 10-day contractual hiring process because they know if they don't accept an applicant right then and there, they'll lose them.

"There are even people who are agreeing to come and being hired to Chicopee and then get an offer somewhere else and go there. It's putting everyone in dire straits," she said.

Demakis noted that the cost-of-living adjustment for 2023 was 8.7%, the highest since 1981, and that insurance last year went up 9% depending on the plan one has. Yet, salaries went up only 2-3%, leaving staff members at a deficit between 12-14% before the school year starts.

"Chicopee pays thousands less than most surrounding districts," Demakis said. "Insurance contribution by this city is one of the lowest. We have Student Opportunity (Act) money that other districts haven't received. You can spend it on salaries. They do it in other districts."

Before stepping down from the podium, Demakis offered the following to the School Committee.

"You need to make a decision to make Chicopee the place to be," she said.

School Committee, Superintendent respond

Before voting to reopen collective bargaining, the School Committee weighed in on the issue. Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware spoke first.

"I would like to echo a lot of the statements that you heard tonight," he said.

Ware said he spoke to his team, including his director of finance, director of human resources and assistant superintendents.

"It became very clear this is the direction we should move in," he said.

Ware said the district is "working feverishly" to fill open positions and that outgoing staff have expressed opinions about low pay or lack of benefits during exit issues. He said the district is working out how new salaries can be supported.

Ward 4 School Committee member Sandra Peret said that reopening collective bargaining early has never been done. She added that the district "has never been in a situation of this severity before."

She said the district certainly wants to provide its children with a sound education, and "in order to do that we need qualified personnel in our buildings and classroom."

Ward 7 School Committee member Don Lamothe noted that he doesn't know if the district can make up a \$10,000 difference in salary but he said the city must make a "good faith effort" to try to stop losing its teachers.

Lamothe noted that each unit affiliated with the CEA should be negotiated differently.

"My only emphasis would be that we individually negotiate these contracts because I think there's things we need to do in each contract. They're different; it shouldn't be 'give it one, give it all' because we need to look harder at certain positions than others, but I am for it," he said.

Ron Bernard, the Ward 9 School Committee member, began teaching in the district in 1995 before retiring in recent years. During his final years as a teacher, he said that other districts were approaching him with job offers.

Bernard didn't take the offers seriously, as he lived and worked in Chicopee for his whole life. However, he said he would have given them thought if he had 10 years left in his career.

Bernard delivered a deliberate message.

"We can't continue on this path. Our motto here in Chicopee is 'students first.' We're not thinking of our students first when we're not hiring the best possible people to help teach them. That's our responsibility. The kids are losing out, and they've been losing out for a while," he said.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CPD

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Police Department would like to thank Rick Maggio from 1st Responders Matter for stopping by last week and dropping off a beautiful handmade flag.

Page 2 | August 25, 2023

Ice Cream with the Mayor celebrates end of summer reading





Families enjoy ice cream fun and coloring ice-cream themed pictures to wrap up summer reading during the Ice Cream with the Mayor event at Chicopee Public Library.

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Families stopped by the library from 2 - 3 p.m. on Aug. 16 to celebrate the end of summer reading by participating in "Ice Cream with the Mayor".

The event took place in the Bazan Community Room with ice cream served by library staff. The activities included coloring ice cream-themed pictures and a chance to meet and talk with Mayor John Vieau.

Library Director Laura Bovee explained 637 kids and teens participated in this year's summer reading program, with 48 of them spending over 40 hours reading.

The total came out to 7,100 reading hours.

"It's wonderful. It also has real academic benefits. They say that kids that read more than one book over the summer do better when they go back to school. So, that's terrific to know that we're a little bit a part of that and helping kids keep their academic gains throughout the year," Bovee said.

Bovee was happy to see many families come out for the event.

"Honestly, it's why the library is here. It's to be a place where families and individuals can come, hang out, see other people in the community, get their research and whatever else done. But mostly just to be together in a nice, safe space and get to talk with one another and have fun," Bovee said.

Derrick Ramos came with his daughter, Dorothy, and Mya and Joel, his niece and nephew, when they saw a sign for the event after visiting the ChicopeeFRESH food truck outside for free lunch.

"We read pretty much every night. We come here regularly to the library, and we live right around the corner," Ramos said. "It's been good!"

Ramos stressed the importance of reading to kids at a young age, adding how

Dorothy will start kindergarten this year.

"She loves reading. I bring her here, let her pick a few books all the time. She's very into it and wants to learn a lot," Ramos said.

Ramos encouraged residents to bring their families to the library, saying their events this summer have been great.

"It's one of the better libraries around. There's so much to do here and so much access, especially in the kid's area. It's definitely important," Ramos said. "It's one of the best places for information for anybody, actually, you know, and everybody."

Vieau said "it is a very special event" for residents to meet each other while highlighting what the library has to offer.

"I think that having an ice cream social is a creative way to hopefully get the community engaged and understand what, actually, the library really does for those who don't typically come here," Vieau said.

Vieau also enjoyed meeting with residents, including a minister from a church established over 40 years ago.

Mayor John Vieau and Ava Mushongerd take a photo together during the Ice Cream with the Mayor event at

Chicopee Public Library.reading

"I think that's what it's all about. Building the relationships, the rapport with the people who live here, the stakeholders," Vieau said. "Just getting to know the community."

Vieau said the library "has a plethora of things to do," and wanted residents to know the library is theirs, here for them, is kid-friendly and welcomes everyone.

"It's public space, it's yours and the staff is amazing. You walk in and you feel like you're a part of something special. You're welcomed and that's what it's all about," Vieau said.

Bovee had this message for the kids and teens.

"I hope they had a terrific summer and I hope that their school year coming up is great, and I want them to know that we're here for whatever they might need, whether it's homework help or computer usage or just a place to hang out or chill out after school with their friends," Bovee said.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

First Congregational Church to have Tag Sale Aug. 26

CHICOPEE – The First Congregational Church is having a Tag Sale on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 306 Chicopee St., Chicopee. Table rentals are available for tag sale items or crafts by leaving a message at (413) 592-0396.

Chicanaa Comm. Class of 1002 40th Va

40th reunion will occur on Saturday, Sept. 23 under the Pavilion at the Moose Lodge 1849, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee.

All you can eat BBQ Menu. 4-10 p.m. Cost is \$26 / person.

Check Facebook page for full announcement: "Chicopee Comprehensive-Class of 1983" or contact Christine (Pouliot) Amo at 413-530-6113. Tickets must be purchased by Monday, Aug. 14. Next Committee Meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 15. Organizers are hoping that many classmates can attend!

RiverMills Center Transportation Services

CHICOPEE -- The Chicopee Council on Aging's Transportation Department provides rides to the senior center, doctor's offices, supermarkets, pharmacies, etc. for Chicopee older adults.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations must be made at Eldercare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings. Shopping Trips are funded in part by a Title III/Older Americans Act grant from WestMass ElderCare, with support from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Federal Administration for Community Living. There is no charge for this service, but partici-

Chicopee Comp – Class of 1983, 40th Year Class Reunion to occur Sept. 23

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Class of 1983's least five business days in advance by calling 413-536-5733.

A \$15,750 grant from WestMass

pants are welcome to make a voluntary, confidential donation for a shopping ride.

This Saturday: Willimansett Heights Improvement League to host Yard Sale

CHICOPEE -- The Willimansett Heights Improvement League will host a neighborhood Yard Sale on Saturday, Aug. 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participating residents in the Willimansett Heights section of Chicopee (adjacent to Dale Street) will display signs on their front lawns for easy identification. The public is invited.

The Willimansett Heights Improvement League is a nonprofit organization that has served the area since 1949. It has organized social events for adults and children, hosted the mayor's neighborhood meetings, joined in the Chicopee "clean sweep" days, and advocated for quality-of-life issues for neighborhood residents. Recently, it awarded a scholarship to resident Blaize Mack, a graduate of Chicopee High school who plans to attend Lasell University. The club's hall is available for rent for weddings, parties, meetings and other functions.

Information on the Yard Sale can be obtained by viewing the club's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Willimansettheightshall or by calling 413-206-9574.

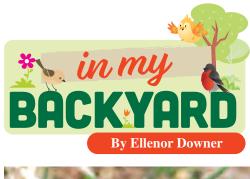


Chicopee Register

August 25, 2023 | Page 3

OPINION

EDITORIAL





Orange-crowned warbler

I received an email this week from an Oakham resident, who saw a couple of warblers at Muddy Pond in Oakham. He said they were very vocal and "chirping." He said at first he thought they were Tennessee warblers, but then he noticed more gray on their head and neck. They may have been orange-crowned warblers.

The orange-crowned warbler is about five inches long and looks similar to the Tennessee warbler. A distinguishing feature is the orange-crowned has yellow under tail coverts and the Tennessee, white.

Drab is a term used to describe the orange-crowned warbler and is best identified by its lack of field marks. The orange crown patch is seldom visible as these warblers flitter about in the trees. It has dull olive-green upper parts and pale olive-yellow underneath. In addition to the yellow under tail coverts it has faint streaking on the sides of the breast.

The female lays three to six cream colored eggs in a nest of bark strips and grasses, placed either on the ground or in a shrub. They eat insects and berries and inhabit dense thickets, forest edges and brushy fields. Their song is a high-pitched chipping trill, which trails off at the end. The call is a metallic "chet."

Wild turkeys and poults

I had to stop to let a flock of three adult hens and over 12 poults cross a road recently. As they made their way across the road, I tried to get an accurate count. However, the young turkeys moved quickly and often went behind another poult or a hen. This was the second time I saw the flock in the same general area.

Loon census

On July 15, the Loon Preservation Committee of New Hampshire held their annual loon census. In their newsletter they said, "During the Loon Census, a total of 440 volunteers took to 121 lakes across New Hampshire to count loons. In total, they documented 431 adult loons, 56 loon chicks, and 2 immature loons. This census coverage represents roughly 1/3 of the lakes that LPC biologists monitor annually, and as such, our

GUEST COLUMN

A tiniest of Becket mysteries resolved

By Adrienne Metcalf

You may remember the last nearly three foot snowstorm of 2023.

It came all of a sudden, dumped a ton of wet snow and by very dent of sheer volume took weeks to fade away. Between the three foot mark and bare ground it melted first in pockets around darker stones and trees that warmed in the increasing sun.

It was just such a morning of warm sun and the almost audible sound of snowmelt that I ventured to our greenhouse to check on the plants that overwintered. I felt good, enjoying the pattern of snow dappled with dark patches and the sun's inevitable win.

I was lost in the reverie when I noticed, just as I was about to open the greenhouse door, a large chunk of metal lying on the ground. What the hell? Squarish, 12" or so, machined, curved, part of something mechanical, it sat on a patch of bare ground, propped against a small standing stone at the corner of the garden.

It was completely surrounded by fields of snow covering the gardens. I was stunned, looked around, as if someone had snuck in and placed it there and were still lurking at the edge of the forest, enjoying my dilemma.

No tracks. I looked around again, but this time my head tipped up and I searched the sky, as if the offender was circling above. Ha, finally my mind kicked in. It had to, by all of Nature's immutable laws, had to have dropped from the heavens.

We humans rarely look up, known fact. The sky is boundless, unknowable, and when something drops out of it, all manner of possibilities arise. The sky is falling.

I picked it up. It was heavy. It had a broken protuberance and a bit of a metal spring on it. This was definitely not a piece of our farm equipment. I looked up the hill toward Quarry Road, easily 100 feet away, no tracks and too far to have come from the road.

Back to the sky. Airplane? Satellite? I looked up one more time as if the countenance of some mischievous god was going to show itself. "Joe!" I called out to my husband in my best farmhouse yell.

He traipsed over and we both handled it, turning it over and over, glancing from the road to the sky to the woods. Joe, who is reliably logical, said not a satellite; no burns on it signifying re-entry. Ok, good, we're narrowing the unknowable down by one click.

Farming has taught me to be logical and pragmatic in the way of seasons, growing, equipment, how to care for things and life and that there is always an answer. Things dropping from the sky was beyond my pay grade.

We brought it in the house, I went back to tending plants in the greenhouse uneasy with being reminded there is so much beyond my control. Upon return to the house, Joe piped up, someone might need to know about this. Oh yes, there is a world outside our farm.

So, I called Bradley International airport:



SUBMITTED PHOTO

we are under one of their flight paths. Bradley sent me to the Connecticut State Police covering Bradley. They sent me to the FAA, Aviation Safety Inspector, Bradley Flight Standards District Office where I talked with Tom. Tom was friendly, professional and above all, curious.

I sent him a picture. We made an appointment for Tom and a co-worker to make an early spring jaunt to come see the piece. Cool, maybe we'd be part of solving some problem that would save lives as the missing airplane part was essential...to something, somewhere.

The day arrived; the sunny spring morn was wakening with life as the snow was diminished to small patches in shaded corners. A small white car arrived, official license plates and all. Now we were cautiously curious, having spent the last several years with misgivings and confusion about government and people alike.

Two middle aged men stepped out, clipboards in hand. Warm handshakes and we revealed the piece. They studied it, one to another. "Too heavy" was Tom's first comment. They seemed puzzled and asked to see the landing spot.

We crossed the yard to the spot with chickens clucking in support. They took photos and notes and we all looked at the woods, the road and the sky as we explained Bradley flight paths. Joe and Tom chatted about C130's and their flight paths over our house using the nearby quarry as a test for bombing runs. We stood a good long while, mutually befuddled as the piece brought us all to a standstill of unknowing.

Clearly, they puzzled over the weight, explaining that airplane aluminum is much lighter. Perhaps it came out of a cargo plane, as we learned several fly with their hatches open. Comforting!... but plausible.

The shared mystery opened the human connection and soon we were talking about Tom's dream to have a farm and chickens and that their job often requires being first on scene of crashes. How silly our mystery metal object seemed in light of the weight they bore regularly. Answers absent, Tom took the piece after giving us an official receipt of custody. He was determined to solve the mystery.

Several weeks passed when I got a call from Tom. He reluctantly admitted they had

See **BECKET MYSTERY** page 9

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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



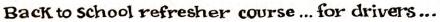
final population numbers for the season will likely be higher."

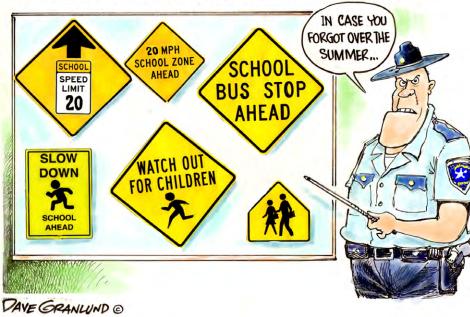
Loon fact

After the hatch of their first chick, adult loons often remove the membrane from the first hatched egg and any attached large pieces of eggshell from their nest. This behavior has been widely documented here in New Hampshire, both on LPC's Live Loon Cams and by wildlife photographers, as well as by biologists in the field.

In a recent newsletter from LPC an article said, "The removal of eggshell fragments from loon nests may occur in part due to the asynchronous hatch of the two chicks. Until the second chick hatches, the loons brood their first chick on and around the nest. While they may take it into the water for brief swims or to feed it, the first chick ends up spending a lot of time on the nest while the family waits for the hatch of the second chick."

See **BACKYARD** page 9





Editor Dalton Zbierski dzbierski@turley.com

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Chicopee Register

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Page 4 | August 25, 2023

Chicopee High athletes must wait to practice under the lights

By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- While Chicopee Comprehensive High School athletes can practice under the lights, the luxury is not afforded to athletes from Chicopee High School.

"If one high school can practice at night, then the other should be able to practice at night," Ward 8 School Committee member Doug Girouard said. "I think what's fair for one high school should be fair for another high school, and all kids should be able to practice at night if we're going to allow any to do it."

During the Aug. 16 meeting of the School Committee, Girouard initially proposed that mobile lighting be installed on the CHS football field after receiving the request from several coaches. Girouard said he spoke to Facilities Director Scott Chapdelaine, who said the mobile lights are available at no cost, as the city owns them for emergencies.

"Scott thought that we could bring over these four light towers to CHS to enable our athletic programs to have evening practices," Girouard said. "Obviously, this lighting would not be game lighting; just to be able to use the turf field for practicing. This would be very, very helpful to allow some of our coaches and our athletes to practice in the evening."

Girouard changed his motion, proposing that the lights instead be installed on the Szot Park softball field, to be mindful of neighbors. He did so after Ward 6 School Committee member Susan Szetela-Lopes voiced her hesitation.

"Everyone on Theodore Street is concerned about the amount of lighting and how it will affect them in their homes," she said.

It was clarified that the mobile lights are not the LED lights that currently sit in the CHS parking lot, uninstalled after an issue with the contractor. Szetela-Lopes said a neighbor was unhappy with the idea of installing the lights two years ago when they were initially approved.

"I did work closely with the neighbor who abuts the property. They were very concerned about the lights being installed a couple years ago so I'm not comfortable with (this) because I would have liked to hear directly from Mr. Chapdelaine that we're going to be okay," she said.

Girouard fired back.

"With all due respect Ms. Lopes, you were completely for this project two years ago. As a matter a fact, I remember you saying, and we can look back at the minutes, but you were very, very 100% certain that those lights were going to go up immediately, so for you to change what you said two years ago really kind of blows my mind," Girouard said.

Szetela-Lopes was unphased. She responded directly to Girouard.

"I apologize to Mr. Girouard for blowing your mind but just want to remind you that I'm only one vote," she said.

Ward 1 School Committee member Tim Wagner supported the idea. He agreed the two schools should have equal access to night practice.

"Chicopee Comprehensive has it; Chicopee High should be able to as well. The neighbors there also live right next to a field, elevated, looking over it. They get the bright lights happening all the time," Wagner said. "If you're living right next to a high school sporting field, there's going to be some expectations that there might be some light around there. That's just a given."

Ultimately, it was Mayor John Vieau who shut down the conversation. He explained that he would rather discuss the topic during the first committee meeting of next month, giving him more time to prepare.

"I would personally like to do more homework in setting up temporary lights and using the interior of Szot Park for practice without discussing this with the parks department, the commissioners and many other factors," Vieau said.

To be continued Sept. 6.

Please remember to recycle this newspaper

License Committee approves three license applications for Best Car Best Deal

The licenses include fire department inspections

By Kristin Rivers

Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- The License Committee approved three license applications on Aug. 14 for Best Car Best Deal on East Main Street.

The applications requested Class II, auto repair and auto detailing licenses.

Reviewing the committee reports, Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits noted a report from the fire department, reading the comments into the record.

"The applicant should reach out to the fire department to schedule a fire safety inspection. Will the applicant be doing any hot work or welding? If so, he will need a hot work permit," Krampits said.

When asked if he would be doing hot work or welding, the applicant, Mohammad Kadhim, said no.

Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier then consulted Attorney Tim Riley about a document.

"It's a notice of decision regarding affidavit of exemption of certain corporate officers or directors. There was a denial of this, so I'm not sure how relevant this is with the corporate structure potentially," Balakier said.

Kadhim provided clarification when Balakier wondered "if the corporate structure was a board of directors, a bunch of people or by yourself."

'Just by myself," Kadhim said.

Riley explained after reviewing the document, he was not familiar with the affidavit.

"It just states that as a member of a registered LLC in Mass, they're not eligible to fill out on the staff affidavit. Mass law does not require an LLC to carry a workers' compensation policy unless they have employees other than the members and then they would need a workers' compensation policy for those employees only," Riley said.

Kadhim shared he filed the affidavit to make sure he didn't have to file, and the document was what he got back from the state.

"They're saying that I'm not eligible

for it since I'm the only one that's going to be there," Kadhim said.

After Riley gave the okay, Balakier was satisfied with the answer.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello asked Riley if everything was in order "with all the issues and the conditions" that could lead to approval.

When Riley said he didn't review the file, Costello elaborated.

"The reason I'm asking that is because Councilor Balakier raised that question. I just want to make sure that all the I's are dotted and the T's are crossed, because it doesn't seem that it's going to be overly complicated as long as we've got those special conditions addressed," Costello said.

Krampits confirmed Costello's thoughts.

"It sounds like with the LLC issue that that's resolved because he's the sole employee," Krampits said. "As long as they've run it like the past businesses that have been in there and go through the approvals."

Kadhim will have 20 vehicles per business, with two inside, 18 outside and four customer spots, with the operating hours Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme asked about the restrictions and suggested the fire department inspection as an additional condition.

"I think we need to put that to get approved with the fire department's approval first because you read that into the record," Laflamme said. "So that has to be done."

Krampits agreed to include that as a requirement for approval, with Kadhim agreeing to do the inspection the following day.

The other restrictions include good housekeeping, no outside storage, no junk cars, no outside repairs and the license holder must secure a certificate of occupancy to exercise the rights granted under the license.

The Class II license, with restrictions, passed 4-0, the auto repair license, with restrictions, passed 4-0, and the auto detailing license, with restrictions, passed 4-0, with all three planning to go before the City Council on Sept. 5 for a final vote.



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Chicopee Register

August 25, 2023 | Page 5

Comp debuts new gym floor





PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF COMP CHICOPEE -- The finishing touches were put on Chicopee Comprehensive High School's refinished gym floor last weekend. New athletics season with a fresh look.





(L to R) Police Captain Doug Lambert, Jason Reed, executive director of the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club and Fire Captain Katie Collins-Kalbaugh pose for a group photo during the End of Summer Fun Day event at the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club.

SUMMER BASH from page 1

the event through the police department's website.

Perez said, "that it was really great" for the Boys & Girls Club "to be able to do this for the community," adding her children enjoyed the bounce houses and food.

"It's great to be able to come out and spend time as a community together, and the kids got to see a couple friends from the neighborhood," Perez said.

For David Wagner, training specialist at Five Star Bus, having a school bus at the event helps introduce bus safety and the back-to-school routine.

'There's organizations like this that you can actually put a bus in a parking lot like we have here, and it puts along more of a personal level with the parents and the families. They're used to every day,

'You picked up my son and daughter, bring them to school and back.' We can have conversations, we can talk, and we can show them a lot on the more personal level," Wagner said.

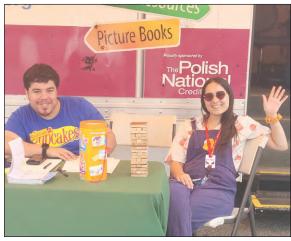
Reed encouraged the community to get involved and support organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club.

"There's so many great organizations in Chicopee that serve the residents and I think if folks are looking to get involved, to give back in some way, check out all that Chicopee has to offer," Reed said. "There's so many great things here and we're able to do our work because of the support of the community and that's the same with all the other great organizations in the city."

To learn more, visit bgcchicopee.org or check out their Facebook page.



Ryan Labrecque Jr., Mary Hyde and Evan Voisine were all smiles during the End of Summer Fun Day event.



Carlos Henriquez and Rachel Beaulieu smile and wave with the Chicopee Public Library Bookmobile during the End of Summer Fun Day event.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS (PHOOTS 1-5)

Kids line up to throw a ball at the dunk tank with Sgt. Alan Blankenship of the Willimansett C3 Unit during the End of Summer Fun Day event at the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club.

MEET AND GREET from page 1

ways that we're trying to grow the community," Pasternak said.

Michael Fitzgerald is the vice president of the Friends and has been part of the organization for four years. He got involved through Pasternak who he's known for many years.

Fitzgerald was also thrilled to meet with residents. "It's wonderful just because we want to get sort of the word out in terms of the library, you know, it's a wonderful part of the city and stuff like that. Our job as the Friends is to do everything that we can to meet the public, become a Friends member so that it actually helps and our whole job is to bring donations and everything into the library to keep it going, keep it modern and update equipment, things of

that nature," Fitzgerald said. Fitzgerald enjoys giving

back through his work with the Friends.

"So being part of something that actually helps the community give back, whether it's the golf tournaments or the spaghetti suppers, all of that there. It's just wonderful to actually be a part of that to say 'Hey, you know, this is what we represent," Fitzgerald said.

Pasternak shared upcoming fundrais ing events include the Dessert Sale at the Castle of Knights on Sept. 13, the annual Golf Tournament on Sept. 24 at the Chicopee Country Club, the Annual Membership Drive at the end of November and the Basket Raffle Sale in December.

they have yoga and concerts and other events that pull in the community. It's a resource for the community and not just about books," Pasternak said.

Additionally, consider volunteering or joining the Friends.

'We look for volunteers. We look for people to become members of the Friends and annual membership is \$15; \$15 a year gets you discounted things throughout the year so sometimes if you're looking to buy Chicopee merchandise, we'll have a discounted event for people who are Friends. If you're going to the Golf Tournament there's a \$10 off the registration fee," Pasternak said. "So, your membership gets you a little something, but it's really there to support the Friends and support the library."



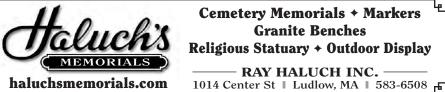
She also encourages the community to support and visit the library.

'It's not just about books. They have movies and DVDs, and they have games,

To learn more, visit friendsofchicopeepubliclibrary.com.

Signs on the Chicopee Public Library bookmobile advertise upcoming events for residents to check out to support the Friends during the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library Meet and Greet event at Goodworks Coffee House.

TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS



Page 6 | August 25, 2023





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St. John's captures men's title

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Aiden Casinghino was a senior captain of the Tantasqua Regional boys varsity soccer team in 2018. Braylon Casinghino was a senior captain of the Warriors soccer team a year ago.

The brothers had never been teammates on the same soccer team until this summer.

The duo helped the top-seeded St. John Heating & Cooling celebrate an exciting 2-1 victory over the second-seeded Villa FC in the men's championship match of the prestigious Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League held at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Saturday night.

"Because I'm a few years older than my brother, we never played on the same soccer team in high school," said Aiden Casinghino, who also played soccer at Springfield College. "Winning the men's championship title is fantastic, especially having the opportunity to play on the same soccer team with Braylon. We fought very hard for the entire 80 minutes."

St. John Heating & Cooling (10-1 regular season record), who was previously known as Griffin's Café, lost to the Lusitano Red, 1-0, in last year's finals. They also captured the men's title in 2016 and 2019.

"We've been able to win the summer league title every three years. There wasn't a summer league season in 2020 because of COVID," said St. John Heating & Cooling co-coach Jon Remillard, who's from Palmer. "We have some younger guys on this year's team who worked very hard. It feels great to win another title."

Remillard shared the coach-



St. John's took home the PVSSL Men's Championship this year.

ing duties with Jaime Prickett, who lives in South Hadley.

Following this year's championship match, Aiden Casinghino received the MVP award.

"Winning the championship game means a little bit more to me than receiving the MVP award," he said. "The MVP award should go to the entire team because everyone has worked very hard this summer. The championship cup trophy is the only one that matters."

While Aiden Casinghino is a midfielder, his younger brother was the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Braylon Casinghino will be a goalie for the Western New England University men's soccer team in the fall. He was in the spotlight throughout the entire second half of the championship match.

"It has been a lot of fun playing on the same soccer team with Aiden," Braylon Casinghino said. "Watching him receive the M.V.P. award was awesome. He just put us on our backs and got the job done. We came out firing on all cylinders in tonight's game."

The Western New England University men's soccer coach is Devin O'Neill. His two sons, Sean and Shay are listed on the St. John Heating & Cooling roster, but they didn't play in the championship match. The O'Neill's were outstanding soccer players at Belchertown High School.

Aiden and Braylon Casinghino, who live in Brimfield, are really looking forward to being teammates with their younger brother, Cole, next summer.

Cole Casinghino is entering his senior season as a member of the Tantasqua boys' varsity soccer team, which is coached by Matt Guertin.

"We're hoping Cole will be joining our summer league soccer team next year." said Aiden Casinghino, who has been play-

See MENS SOCCER page 8



Jed Theilman settles a ball.

Fall leagues get update by PVIAC

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

The fall preseason has started this week, and with it, alignments for fall leagues have been updated. Full realignment typically takes place every four years, but has happened more frequently due to the pandemic and the introduction of the new state tournament.

In Western Massachusetts, due the geographic diversity throughout the region, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association makes leagues based on the competitiveness of a school in a given sport, sometimes regardless of what division they play in at the state level for tournament.

For example, in the updated Kurty-Fielding Division for girls soccer, South Hadley, a Division 4 and smaller school, is in a crowded league with larger schools like Agawam, Wahconah, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Pittsfield.

The Central League features one of the top teams in Western Mass. once again. Monson is a part of the league, along now with Palmer, which has had a couple of very successful leagues. Chicopee, Southwick, and Granby are also a part of the league, along with larger schools in Amherst and Northampton. Northampton was defeated by Monson in an independent game last year.

Ware joins the Pioneer North League and will now meet twice this year with Easthampton, St. Mary's, Frontier, Mahar, and even Holyoke.

Holyoke was dropped from the Central League after a couple of disappointing years.

The top league in the region is the Coombs League, and features Minnechaug, Belchertown,

Bonsignore rolls to 13th career Thompson win

Chicopee Register

THOMPSON – Justin Bonsignore hadn't won at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park since 2019, but Wednesday night, he reminded everyone on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour why he leads all active drivers with wins at the oval. Bonsignore's Kenneth Massa Motorsports team sent

Bonsignore's Kenneth Massa Motorsports team sent him off pit road first after a pit stop around halfway, then Bonsignore held off the charges of Doug Coby, then Ron Silk through multiple restarts to score his 13th career Thompson win. The victory tied Bonsignore for second all-time in Thompson wins with Ted Christopher, only trailing Mike Stefanik, with 15.

The victory was also Bonsignore's third of the 2023 sea-

son (Riverhead, Loudon) and his 10th top-five finish in 11 races this season.

"After we won seven out of eight here, then the runs we started having were a bit frustrating for us," Bonsignore said of Thompson. "The car was really good. We missed it a little bit, too tight on the first set of tires, but on the second set, it fired off so well. This is a really big confidence booster. This is my favorite track – and to bounce back like this and to lead half the race... it was a total team effort to win this one."

Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team will be heading to Langley Speedway in Virginia for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race on Saturday, Aug. 26.



Justin Bonsignore picked up his first Thompson Speedway in four years last week.

East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, West Springfield, and Westfield.

In boys soccer, there are not a lot of big changes, though the Churchill League, which features Agawam, Westfield, and Pope Francis, and Pittsfield, will add Hampshire Regional and Mt. Greylock of Williamstown.

Dropped the Holley League is Chicopee Comprehensive. Chicopee, Holyoke, and Monson are also a part of that league along with SICS and Northampton. South Hadley will be part of the Moriarty League, and will once again matchup with Frontier, Easthampton, and Mahar. Southwick and Lenox will also be in the league this year. Granby is part of the Schmid

See FALL LEAGUES page 8

SPORTS

Blue Sox season ends in opening round

HOLYOKE - Earlier this month, the Valley Blue Sox won their division and went after the New England Collegiate Baseball League championship. The Blue Sox won back-to-back titles in 2017 and 2018, but have not gotten back there since.

Unfortunately, history would repeat as the Blue Sox were defeated by the Bristol Blues two games to one in a bestof-three series.

The Valley Blue Sox season has come to an end after falling to the Bristol Blues 10-3 After winning the first game of the quarterfinals series, the Blue Sox were shutout in game two and defeated in game three at home, allowing Bristol to advance to the semifinals.

The Blues piled on the scoring early, putting up six runs in the first three innings. An RBI groundout in the first, a throwing error and RBI single in the second, and a sacrifice fly and RBI single in the third allowed the Blues to take the lead 6-0.

Dillon Ryan started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching three innings allowing six runs and striking out two batters.

Joe Dooley took over for Ryan in the top of the fourth, pitching four innings allowing four runs with one strikeout.

Bristol added a run in the top of fifth following an RBI double, another in the sixth off an RBI double, and two more in the seventh after a sacrifice fly and RBI groundout to go up 10-0.

The Blue Sox put a run on the board in the bottom of the seventh after Jeff Pierantoni hit an RBI single to score Matt Bergevin.

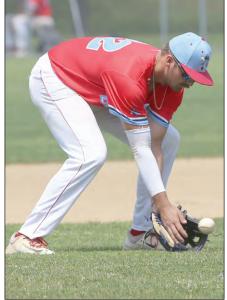
Brendan Yagesh relieved Dooley in the top of the eighth, pitching a scoreless frame with three strikeouts.

Valley added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth following an RBI single from Michael Zarillo to score CJ Willis and Bergevin.

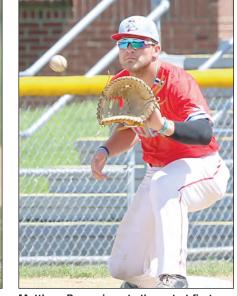
2023 All-Star Michael Weidinger got the ninth for the Blue Sox, striking out two batters during his clean inning.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Michael Zarillo prepares to catch a ball on a steal attempt.



Zach Ketterman fields a grounder.



Matthew Bergevin gets the out at first.

Villa FC cut the deficit in half following a goal by Deandrae Brown, which was assisted by Anthony Basile.

Brown played college soccer at UConn a couple of years ago.

Villa FC had six corner kicks and several other scoring chances during the second half, but Braylon Casinghino managed to hold onto the one goal lead for St. John Heating & Cooling.

"Braylon is a tall goalie," said Jon Remillard, who has been playing in the adult soccer league since 2010. "The players on the opposing team are afraid of him and I'm very glad that he was a member of our team this summer. I hope he has a good year at Western New England. He's a very good goalie. We do have several brothers playing for our team this year, which made it a lot of fun."

Thunderbirds announce signings

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds announced today that they have signed forwards Mitchell Hoelscher and Steven Jandric, as well as defenseman Austin Osmanski, to one-year AHL contracts for the 2023-24 season.

Hoelscher, 23, skated in 57 games with the Thunderbirds in 2022-23, tallying 16 points (9g+7a). The Waterloo, Ont. native earned a call-up to Springfield after beginning the season with nine points (1g+8a) in just six games with the ECHL's Indy Fuel. He was originally a sixth-round pick by the New Jersey Devils in the 2018 NHL Draft. Jandric, 25, began his 2022-23 rookie season with the ECHL's Worcester Railers, where he posted 19 points (8g+11a) in 20 games.

In 31 games with Springfield, he added eight points (2g+6a). A native of Prince George, B.C., Jandric skated collegiately for five seasons, accumulating 114 points (35g+79a) in 161 NCAA games with the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (2017-20), the University of Denver (2020-21), and Merrimack College (2021-22).

Osmanski, 25, saw 30 games of action last season in Springfield, posting six points (1g+5a), 28 penalty minutes, and a +1 rating. A native of Buffalo, N.Y., the 6-foot-4, 215-pound defenseman was selected by his hometown Buffalo Sabres in the seventh round (189th overall) of the 2016 NHL Draft.

NECBL announces all-league selections

SOUTH HADLEY - The New England Collegiate Baseball League (NEC-BL) is proud to announce the 2023 All-NECBL teams. The honors were voted on by all 13 on-field managers of NECBL franchises. Only regular season statistics and performances were taken into consideration during the selection process

The list includes 47 players across three teams: the All-NECBL First Team, the All-NECBL Second Team and the All-NECBL Honorable Mention Team. Each is composed of one player at each non-outfield position (C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B), three outfielders, one designated hitter, three starting pitchers, two relief pitchers and one closer. In the case of ties, some positions may include additional honorees.

Making the second team was Valley Blue Sox DH A.J. Guerrero.

Guerrero led the Blue Sox in hits (42), RBIs (23), finished second in runs (21), third in batting average (.298) and led the league in doubles (11) in 141 atbats. His best performance of the season came on July 26 when he went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored, leading Valley to an 8-3 victory.

MENS SOCCER from page 7

ing in the PVSSL for the past five years. "It has been a lot of fun playing in this soccer league.

At the start of the summer league season, Braylon Casinghino replaced Mark Tiffany, who's also from Belchertown, as the St. John Heating & Cooling starting goalie.

Villa FC (9-0-2 regular season record) posted a 4-0 shutout victory over St. John Heating & Cooling at the beginning of the summer league regular season.

"I only missed two games during the regular season and our loss against Villa was one of them," Braylon Casinghino said. "I think it would've been a little bit different outcome if I had been there."

Troy and Matt Remilard were also key members of the St. John Heating & Cooling soccer team. All three of the Remillard's were outstanding soccer players at Palmer High School.



Cam Rigney, of Wilbraham, dribbles up the

It didn't take St. John Heating & Cooling very long to score a goal in field.

the finals.

During the fifth minute of the opening half, Byron Peabody, who also graduated from Palmer High School, fired a rebound shot into the lower left corner of the net

WE'RE ALL EARS **Questions? Comments**? **Story Ideas?**

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Ten minutes later, they took a 2-0 lead following a goal by Jed Theilman, who's Amherst. from Aiden Casinghino was credited with the assist.



Mike Lima, of Ludlow, sends a free kick across the field.

FALL LEAGUES from page 7

League this year, and Ware is a crowded Bi-County League that features eight teams.

Pathfinder, which now co-ops with Palmer, is in the Tri-County League again this year.

Football leagues did not see any major changes. The AA still features the same six teams, including Minnechaug and Holyoke. Agawam is part of the Suburban South, and South Hadley, Ludlow, and Chicopee are in the Suburban North again this season.

Belchertown will compete in the Intercounty South, and Palmer and Ware are part of the Intercounty North along with Greenfield, Mahar, Athol, and Franklin Tech. Pathfinder remains in the Tri-County.

Page 8 | August 25, 2023

FOISY from page 1

tables. Bob's dad, Roland, managed to keep a faint pulse at his Y Barbershop. He started there in 1928 and proudly owned it for the last two years. The shop was in the Willimansett Y section of Chicopee, where Meadow Street forked to the left creating a pronounced Y shape in the road and in the hearts of all who lived in that close knit neighborhood.

Bob was the only child of Roland and Rejane. Maybe the depression influenced that or as Bob said, "they stopped at perfection."

The Foisy's lived in various apartments within the community. Bob's dad shunned home ownership. Despite being a handyman, he didn't want the maintenance to interfere with his love of fishing and hunting. One move his parents made, according to Bob, was motivated by his repeating expletives that seeped through the floor boards from the Y Tavern below their apartment.

Bob's schooling began at the local Catholic school Mt. Carmel. He also attended Chapin and Kirby Elementary and Chicopee High. In high school he played the sax and clarinet in the marching band and orchestra. He even formed a little combo, called the Silhouettes. They played the Chicoteen Club for \$4 each, cake, soda and the hope of a young girl's wink. Occasionally, the band traveled across the bridge to Holyoke to play at the Circus Club at the popular Valley Arena.

After graduating in 1949, he was undecided about his future. He tried college at AIC. He worked as a supervisor for a team of women at a paper mill. Nothing clicked, so in 1951 during the Korean War he decided to serve our country in the US Navy. The handsome Yeoman Foisy did shore duty at the Naval Air Station at Quonset Point Rhode Island. He was honorably discharged as a 2nd class Yeoman in 1955. Bob loved the Navy and serving his country. Leaving was a difficult decision.

After working at the local Hampden Brewery for half a year, Bob knew he had to make a change. Even free beer would not keep him there. So, he decided to follow in his father's footsteps and become a barber. Bob's first stop was barber school, which was not required for his dad. It was trial and error then, yikes! For six months, he traveled to Hartford on the back roads in his 1951 Chevy Coupe. There was no Route 91. The school used the general public as test subjects. For the bargain price of 50 cents a cut, the school recruited some savory men. Oil and bugs occasionally had to be worked around. With a razor and "fly swatter" in hand Bob graduated. His year and a half apprenticeship was in

nearby Amherst. When completed, fate opened a chair at his father's place. So, the Foisy team was born. Roland was in chair 1 and Bob cut in chair 3. That one chair separation was their DMZ. Bob's dad could be a bit demanding and fussy. When Bob felt his heat, he would remind his dad that he couldn't fire him..."Because mom won't let you".

Starting his new career and working with his dad ended up being the second-best thing that happened to Bob Foisy in 1956. With a refocused life, he rekindled his heart's desire with old friend Odell Fredette. Better known as Sis, they had been friends since childhood. In fact, they occasionally shared a crib as infants. Little did Bob know, way back then, it was love at first diaper change. Sis would be Bob's compass and companion for many years.

Bob was in full swing at the barbershop in 1957. Working with his dad was going well. Together, they did many regular cuts. They also had to adjust to the changing men's styles and fads. Perms, mullets and long hair were among the changes. Bob was more open to the different cuts than his dad, to a point. He did perms until one customer's hair just would not take the perm. Bob could take it no more and permanently banned the perms. Everyone's head, hair and demands were different. Bob noted a barber is always adjusting. His favorite cut was the crew cut with a flat top. It required a skillful touch for the perfect finish. A necessary part of cutting hair is children... Often they were accompanied by tears, fears and the flash of a camera.

Days turned to months. Months turned to years. It was time to pass the scissors. So, in the late '70s, Roland Foisy with pride handed the keys to Bob. Bob rejoiced while twisting his habitual toothpick in his mouth. The toothpick started when he quit smoking. Then it became a compulsion. Finally, it morphed as an extension of his body. You would never see him without one, even to this day.

After the swap of ownership Bob's dad continued to cut hair in the shop. Life grew beyond the shop for Bob and Sis. Raising a gracious family was paramount. Nativity church and their spiritual life became transcendent. They were both baptized and married there as were many of his neighbors. They eventually bought a three-family home on Whitman Street. It was a good place to raise the family and an easy place to walk for an occasional lunch. All good things come to an end, and the proposed construction of RT 391 accelerated the doom of many homes, including the Foisy's. With the handwriting on the wall, they accepted the state's offer and pulled up stakes and settled on a quiet street in Fairview, including their sons Jeff and Steve.

Bob's father eventually turned off his razor for good in 1990 after more than 33 remarkable years together. Bob continued to be the loquacious barber on all subjects except the taboo topics of politics and religion. His prowess as a master barber delighted many as they left his shop with a fresh cut, shave and facial. Yes, a facial, Bob's distinctive rubbing creams and a hot towel were a Foisy specialty. All the years of standing hours a day was taking its toll. So, in 1998 he sold the Y Barbershop, and after 70 years, and about 500,000 haircuts, there would not be a Foisy greeting customers as they sat in those perfectly worn Y barber chairs. Other neighbors and shops began shutting down or moving on, such as Lapites, Perrault's, The Willow and Y Cash Market (which became the Big Y) leaving behind a titanic void. The Y was surely in transition.

Like old rock bands and boxers Bob didn't totally retire. Missing the comfort of the barbershop setting he walked in cold to Sally's Little Shop of Haircuts in Chicopee looking for a part-time chair. Sally without hesitation gave the thumbs up. She knew of Bob's following. A Foisy cut was sought out by dignitaries, priests and regular Joes. Sally and Bob made a great team and became close friends. Now, in full retirement, he still pops into Sally's shop from time to time to chat.

Sadly, the sudden passing of his son Jeff, the ultimate heartbreak, battered Bob. They were very close, and Jeff's memories will forever be treasured in Bob's heart. This unspeakable tragedy happened while Bob was a caregiver for his soul mate, Sis, who took ill in 2010. She passed in 2015. During all those hardships, the Foisy's had the Fredette family to lean on.

For over 40 years, Bob worked in one of the most idyllic small-town settings. Bob was an amiable barber treating his customers as family. He loved that for a brief moment they sat in a safe and comfortable environment setting aside their troubles with simple chitchat. What pleased Bob most was when his customers left renewed and happy, which they did just about every time.

The Y neighborhood primarily occupied by French-Canadians was magical in the day. With minimal transportation and no internet, the store owners and their customers were mostly on a first name basis.

With a wistful look Bob reminisced, "you could get just about everything you needed with a simply stroll. There was a bank, groceries, package stores, a park, cafes, restaurants, church, school, toy store, movie theater and, of course, the Y barbershop". "Next".

by predators."

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leav-

OBITUARY

Edward J. Moriarty

Jan. 29, 1946 - Aug. 13, 2023

Edward J. Moriarty, age 77, died peacefully in his home on Aug. 13, 2023, surrounded by

his family. He was born on Jan. 29, 1946, in Holyoke to Edward and Maria (Panopoulos) Moriarty. Ed attended Holyoke High School, class of 1964. He went to Emerson



College in Boston, then enlisted into the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam until his honorable discharge in 1971. Upon his discharge, Ed enrolled and then graduated from the University of Massachusetts. During his time serving his country, he was awarded several medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, which is awarded for extraordinary achievement while in flight, and the Bronze Star, for heroic service in a combat zone.

Edward was an avid reader, especially non-fiction/History books. During his career as a Holyoke firefighter, he was also an educator for schools, teaching fire safety to children. While living in Tennessee, he, along with three to four other volunteers, founded the first Jasper Highlands Fire Department, which has had continued growth. For those who never met Ed, or never got the opportunity to know him well, it was said that his degree of professionalism and devotion to duty brought credit upon himself, his organization, and the military service. Ed met Linda, the light of his life, on Senior People Meet.com and they were married on April 25, 2016. Within those short seven years, they did a lot of living, laughing and loving.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, and her adult children Melissa (Steve) Hughes and Jennifer (Joe) Murray and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, aunts, and uncles and many friends.

Cremation Rites have been accorded. Ed's cremated remains will be interred at the Arlington National Cemetery. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared on our website.

BRIAN MARK FUNERAL & CREMATION CARE, 000 Inman Parkway, Beloit, WI 53511 608-362-2000, www.brianmarkfh.com

Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

e by leav-

Tell Us What

BACKYARD from page 4

The article continued, "Loon eggs and newly-hatched loon

chicks are brown in color, and as such, they blend in with their surroundings on the nest. The egg membrane and the inside of eggshells, in contrast, are a creamy nest predation. Therefore, it is believed that in removing egg membranes and large eggshell pieces from the nest, adult loons may be protecting their chick and the second egg from being easily noticed

white color. That makes them much

more conspicuous and, if left on the

nest, could increase the chance of

ing a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

BECKET MYSTERY from page 4

no idea what it was, where it came from and how it landed in our yard. We chatted that it could have been there for months, arriving before one of the snowstorms and being buried. I could tell he was disappointed, in himself. He took pride in solving mysteries. He had taken it to Bradley, to various military branches and even to the cargo companies who fly with open hatches.

Nothing. "Did I want it back?" he asked, insisting it was a conversation piece. "Sure", more out of respect for the work he had put in. Did I want it shipped or he could bring it up to us. At least an hour away, I remembered the peace he mentioned feeling here and the things he must see that might never leave his mind's eye. "Yes", bring it up to us. In the last moment, not sure of what prompted it, I said he might want to check with the highway garage in Becket if he were coming up any way.

The next day, Tom called. Mystery solved, the piece came off one of the town trucks. How anticlimactic.

It was a spring loaded part and must have let loose and sailed over 100' or maybe 50' and slide across the snow to rest against my standing stone. The Highway Department wanted it back. He would bring it back to the town garage, take pictures of the truck that it came off and the case would be officially closed. He was pleased.

I was amused and shook my head that the dreams of sleuthing and heroic plane disaster averted melted with the last of the snow. Life goes on in Becket, just one tiny mystery solved and a few friends and neighbors moved from the shared delight of unknowing to irony. Yet another episode in Becket's history at this end of town. Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Hampden Division **50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600 Docket No. HD23P1728EA Estate of: Wanda Ann Gomes Also Known As: Wanda A. Gomes Date of Death: May 17, 2023 **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner

Charleen M Osbourne of Springfield, MA a Will has been admitted

to informal probate.

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. 08/25/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and **Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P1710EA Estate of: Janet T Brewster Date of Death: 06/17/2023 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 Alyson Brewster of Chicopee, MA

and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Alyson Brewster of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administra-

requesting that the Court enter

a formal Decree and Order

tion. **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 09/12/2023.

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 14, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate

08/25/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD23P1636GD In the matter of: Michaelee Nelson Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR** INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Michaelee 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 09/07/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 03, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 08/25/2023

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 21, 2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2002 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGES15562H609409 Danny Cruz Acevedo 52 Sprague St. # 2 West Springfield, MA 01089

2002 Honda Odyssey VIN: 2HKRL18692H535458 Nelson is in need of a William Pydych 216 Exchange St. Apt. 31 Chicopee, MA 01013 Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

2004 Acura Tl VIN: 19UUA66224A044254 Rajae Xzavier Bell 44 Murray Hill Ave. Springfield, MA 01104

2004 Toyota Camry VIN: 4T1BE32K74U928070 Ian Hodgdon 48 Freeman Dr. Greenfield, MA 01301

2005 Honda Civic VIN: 1HGES16385L004232 Virgilio Rios 100 Hubbard Street Ludlow, MA 01056

2005 Hyundai Tiburon VIN:

KMHHM65D65U169716 Adam Saleem 147 School St. Apt. 3 Chicopee, MA 01013

2005 Mercury Sable VIN: 1MEFM55S85A621542 Holly Drummond 419 Montcalm Apt. 101 Chicopee, MA 01020

2006 Bmw X3 VIN: WBXPA93476WD32415 Alonzo Clifford 204 Center St. Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2011 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFA1F58BH538851 Jonathon Aponte 50 Oxford St. Cihcopee, MA 01020

2011 Kia Optima VIN: KNAGR4A63B5154171 Richards Carlson 12105 Maple Tree Lane East Lyme, CT 06333

2013 Dodge Dart VIN: 1C3CDFCA2DD334316 Isaac Naylor 14 James St Springfield, MA 01105

2013 Hyundai Elantra VIN:

KMHDH4AE3DU531246 Stephanie Santos 155 Adelaide Ave. Warwick, RI 02886

2014 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFB2F56EH544803 Rodriguez Mejia 2014 Belmont Ave. Bronx, NY 10457

2012 Mercedes-Benz C250 VIN: WDDGF4HB6CR198387 Willie Smith 71 Embassy Rd. Springfield, MA 01119

Polaris ATV VIN: Unknown Unknown Unknown Unknown

2019 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFC4B66KH306484 Elizabeth Schwarzkopf

2003 Lexus Es 300 VIN: JTHBF30G130129390 Steven Roche 25 Ozark St. 2nd Fl Springfield, MA 01108

2005 Acura Tsx VIN: JH4CL96885C032978 Jakwain Murphy Po Box 1014 Springfield, MA 01101

2006 Saturn Ion Level 3 VIN: 1G8AL55F06Z185073 Luis Bianchi Nunes 103 Ward St. Unit 507 Revere, MA 02151

2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee VIN: 1J8GR48K67C616790 Jerfferson Martin 150 Huntington Ave. Apt. SE5 Boston, MA 02115

2008 Nissan Rogue VIN: JN8AS58V38W130105 Elibeth Santana 171 Allen Park Rd. Springfield, MA 01118

2012 Volkswagen Passat S VIN: 1VWAP7A37CC104423 Tanzia King 11 Acushnet Ave .Apt. 102 Springfield, MA 01105

2013 Dodge Avenger Se VIN: 1C3CDZAB6DN690694 Jessica Zaharias 140 Russell Rd. Westfield, MA 01085

2013 Nissan Altima VIN: 1N4AL3AP9DC186558 Shannon Turgeon 198 Osborne Rd. Ware, MA 01082

2013 Volvo Xc60 T6 VIN: YV4902DZ6D2409784 Kris Pressey 1071 Stafford St. Apt. 3 Rochdale, MA 01542

2014 Kawasaki Ex300-B VIN: JKAEXHB16EA004930 Kira-Ann Cominoli 1246 Granby Rd. Trlr 59 Chicopee, MA 01020

2015 Hyundai Elantra VIN: 5NPDH4AE2FH576583 Maria D Pinedo-Villabos 2720 Palermo Ave. Vineland, NJ 08361

2019 Mazda Cx-5 VIN: JM3KFBDM2K0632542 Rogers Dossen Po Box 70265 Worcester, MA 01607

08/25, 09/01, 09/08/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and **Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield MA, 01103 Docket No. HD18P0861GD In the Interests of: Michaelee Nelson Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person **CITATION GIVING** NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardianship 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 AM. on the return date of 09/07/2023.

This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 03, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate

08/25/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1718EA Estate of: PATRICIA A MOOS Date of Death: July 23, 2023 **INFORMAL PROBATE** PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner JUSTINE BABSKI of Holvoke, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

JUSTINE BABSKI of Holyoke, 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. 08/25/2023

Guardian and requesting that Yolanda Rivas of Chicopee, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as

PUBLIC NOTICES **ARE NOW ONLINE**

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- Access archives and digital tear sheets by L newspaper title.
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2020 Yngf VIN: LLOTCAPJ0LG000235 Ken Stan Hope 500 Loomis St. Westfield, MA 01085

2022 Ford F450 Super Duty VIN: 1FDUF4HT4NDA03095 **Buckley Cable Construction** 3601 Ŵ 9th St. Trainer, PA 19061

2003 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCM56473A045848 Cesar Gonzalez Soto 20 Bay Shore Drive, Apt. C West Haven, CT 06516

2003 Honda Civic VIN: 1HGEM22593L009542 Veronica Moreno 59 Wilcox St. 2 Fl Springfield, MA 01105

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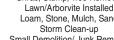
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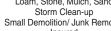
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Hampden County Sheriff's Office welcomes new generation of men and women

SPRINGFIELD -- On Friday, Aug. 4, 41 new people were welcomed into the Hampden County Sheriff's Office family during a special graduation ceremony at Western New England University.

"This generation of young men and women are often unfairly harshly critiqued. What I see in this generation is a group of people who want to make a difference, who want to have an impact, who want to affect people in a positive way," Sheriff Nick Cocchi said to the graduating class. "And will I make this one promise to you all. What you seek in your work you will find here. It is about service above self. It is about commitment to your community. This is what the Hampden County Sheriff's Office stands for and this is what we live by."

The graduates are from a variety of cities and towns across the region and a host of countries. Their ages range widely, as do their backgrounds. But the one thing they all have in common is the drive to make the world a better place.

And for that, we are thankful for their dedication that lasted through 11 difficult weeks of training, and we are excited to see what each person brings to the table.









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Page 12 | August 25, 2023

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