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RiverMills hosts Annual Lobster Fest

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — The senior center hosted their Fourth Annual Lobster Fest event on Aug. 25.

This event cost \$25 per attendee, and registration was required. The event included food, drinks, music and, of course, lobster.

The RiverMills Lobster Fest has become an iconic tradition at the senior center and was created by RiverMills Executive Director Sherry Manyak, who shared

why she started the Lobster Fest and a little bit about how the senior center organizes it each year.

“I just thought it was a neat way to end the summer. So, we organize with a lobster company in Maine. We work with them throughout the whole year, you know, keep in touch, talk about dates, times, and things that are gonna work for us. And so, they’ve been very very good to us. They give us a

See **LOBSTER FEST** page 5



TURLEY PHOTO BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

President of the Friends of RiverMills Senior Center Mike Wilk and Executive Director of RiverMills Sherry Manyak with the lobsters.



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Monica Torres, community and special projects liaison for the City of Chicopee, Ofc. Elly Rodriguez and Ricardo Diaz, owner of the Faded Barber Lounge, enjoy a round of dominoes.

Community celebrates *Hispanic Heritage*

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE — The community gathered at Wisniewski Park on Aug. 29 for the Fourth Annual Dominoes Tournament.

The tournament drew new and experienced players throughout the community

and beyond to compete, forging positive relationships between the police department and residents.

The vendors included Curry Honda, the Gándara Center, MetroCare of Springfield, Lolalina Payasita with face painting, the police department’s ice cream truck, varying food trucks, a bounce house and musical perfor-

mances.

This year’s prize of two custom-made dominoes tables was donated by MetroCare of Springfield, with the runner-ups receiving a trophy.

Ofc. Elly Rodriguez shared that attendees showed up earlier than in past years for the fun. He was thrilled and proud to see the event continuing to grow since its

inception, noting the opportunity to give back and the feedback he’s received.

“Every year, they’re expecting it again, which tells me it’s something that is needed with the community,” Rodriguez said. “Like I said in the past, not always it has

See **HISPANIC HERITAGE** page 6

Chicopee Public Schools teacher arrested on child pornography charges

Cash bail set at \$75,000 after arraignment

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE — A Chicopee Public Schools teacher was arrested on Sept. 8 on possession of child pornography charges and has since been put on paid administrative leave by the district.

According to Julia Sabourin, spokesperson for the Berkshire County District Attorney’s Office, the Berkshire State Police Detective Unit conducted a residential search warrant of 46-year-old Keith Harrison’s home in Lenox on Tuesday morning.

“The search was conducted after the SPDU received a tip from a partner law enforcement agency regarding the defendant’s communications in

which he attempted to entice an undercover agent, whom he believed to be under the age of 14, to engage in sexual acts. When the SPDU executed the warrant, they recovered evidence of child sexual assault material (CSAM),” Sabourin said.

Following this, Harrison was arrested and charged.

“More charges could be brought forward after the investigation is completed,” Sabourin said.

Sabourin added that Harrison was being held on \$25,000 cash bail.

The Arraignment

Harrison was arraigned on Sept. 9 in Central Berkshire District Court, where it was revealed he was a teacher at Chicopee High School and also volunteered at a summer camp for children. Previously, he taught in the Pittsfield Public Schools and the Holyoke Public Schools.

The four counts he was charged with are two counts of Possession of Child Pornography; one count of Attempting to Commit a Crime, to wit, Indecent Assault and Battery on a Child Under 14; and one count of Dissemination of Child Pornography.

Harrison entered a plea of not guilty.

Prosecutors explained the joint investigation began with the FBI and was then moved to the State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Berkshire County District Attorney’s Office and the Berkshire County Law Enforcement Task Force, with the execution of multiple search warrants.

On Aug. 23, the FBI’s National Threat Operations Center received an online tip from a Florida-based nonprofit called The Decoy Project that conducts child exploita-

See **CHICOPEE TEACHER** page 9

Back to School event – a cut above the rest

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

One of the barbers hard at work creating a new look and style for this kid.

CHICOPEE — The Faded Barber Lounge celebrated a historic milestone by hosting its Fifth Annual Back-to-School celebration on Aug. 24 with the Mayor’s Office, bringing the Chicopee community together for an afternoon of family fun and giving at Rivers Park.

The event distributed more than 1,000 backpacks, each filled with school supplies, to help local families prepare for the upcoming school year, which is well underway, and provided over 300 services to all attendees, including free haircuts, braiding, nails, and countless other activities.

The event’s top sponsors were McKinstry Farms and FRC (First Resource Companies) Development and

See **BACK TO SCHOOL** page 8

City recognizes International Overdose Awareness Day

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — Residents, community members, local dignitaries, elected officials and others gathered outside City Hall on Aug. 31 to recognize International Overdose Awareness Day by raising the flag in remembrance of those lost to overdose.

The observance also aimed to reduce the stigma surrounding drug-related deaths, raise awareness about overdose prevention, and encourage discussion about evidence-based drug policies.

Leading the ceremony was City Council Vice President and Ward 6 Councilor Sam Shumsky.

See **OVERDOSE AWARENESS** page 9



Group photo of all in attendance to bear witness to the flag raising.

TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

IN THE CITY

Vote tabled as PROTECT Act meets resistance from School Committee

Governor’s directive didn’t sit well with several board members

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The School Committee balked at a directive from Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey to adopt the recently launched PROTECT Act districtwide during its meeting last week.

Healey signed the law on Aug. 5 to limit state and local cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, according to a release from the state.

On Sept. 2, Chicopee Public Schools Assistant Superintendent of Student Supports Dr. April Rist gave a comprehensive presentation on the PROTECT Act and what it entails.

Essentially, the law bans school staff from assisting in civil arrests on school property during school hours.

“This policy will require us to establish procedures for school and district staff if any law enforcement, including local law enforcement, state law enforcement or immigration, come try to come into our building and complete a civil arrest,” Rist said.

She pointed out that guidance from the state regarding how the law should be implemented was not delivered to the district until Aug. 21. Still, Healey is mandating that the law be immediately put in effect.

“This is the policy we’re looking at, which directs us to implement procedures. So, we don’t have those procedures yet. That’s the next step after the policy is implemented,” Rist said. “The policy basically says... you need to identify a bunch of procedures for how to handle this if it happens in your schools.”

After a contested vote, the School Committee approved waiving the district’s standard policy adoption procedure due to the urgency of the item.

However, any momentum that existed quickly stalled.

When it came to actually adopting the PROTECT Act and giving Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware the ability to craft the procedures, the board had cold feet for a variety of reasons.

Ultimately, this led to the item being tabled and sent before the Policy Subcommittee, where it will be discussed at a public meeting.

That vote followed a long conversation in which several concerns regarding the PROTECT Act were voiced by School Committee members.

Ward 9 Representative Ron Benard expressed his hesitation, noting that he had multiple reasons to vote in favor of tabling the item.

He said that the state wants the committee to vote without any having time to review the information and added there is ongoing speculation statewide that Healey’s law doesn’t comply with federal statutes.

“And I’m not a lawyer, I don’t know enough about it, but that’s my concern, and I’d like to check into that before I really vote yes or no,” Benard said.

Ward 2 Representative David Barsalou was most vehemently opposed to adopting the law and moving on to the procedural phase. He said the issue has been getting attention in the Boston media for weeks.

“The governor’s proposal, which supposedly is a law, is technically unenforceable, okay? The feds have the final word,” Barsalou said. “We want to protect the kids and make sure nobody’s being dragged out of school for any reason unless it’s completely above board, but the law that was passed is unenforceable.”

He emphasized that there was no reason for the item to come across the School Committee because it is a federal matter. He pleaded to no avail with board chair and Mayor John Vieau to forgo the vote.

“I can’t vote on this. It’s too arbitrary. It’s all over the place, okay? I just can’t. It’s meaningless to me. It’s like damned if you do, damned if you don’t. That’s why I’ll vote no or abstain. It’s just illogical,” Barsalou said.

The longtime board member made it clear he won’t be the state’s “rubber stamp.”

He said the bottom line is that the state law won’t supersede federal law.

When it comes to the PROTECT Act, Barsalou noted Healey “cramped this down our throats” and that this was entirely her decision.

“She’s been fighting against ICE and embracing illegals. This is her thing; fine, okay? But don’t put us in the middle of it, okay, because we all have our personal opinions about the whole matter, alright? I don’t want to be caught in the middle. So, please, don’t ask me to vote on it,” Barsalou said.

Ward 3 Representative and board Vice Chair Jason

Dout voted in favor of tabling the item, as he would like to hear what the district’s legal compliance officer has to say.

Nevertheless, Dout stressed that there should be no doubt regarding Ware’s ability to put in place procedures that will keep Chicopee students safe. He said that was not the reason the PROTECT Act vote was tabled.

“To sit here and debate whether or not our superintendent would put in place procedures to keep our kids the safest is kind of ridiculous,” Dout said. “For what it’s worth as a committee, I would hope that the superintendent has our utmost trust that he’s going to make a decision that keeps our kids the safest. To have any thought other than that’s what our superintendent would do I think is unfortunate.”

When it came to tabling the item and sending it to a meeting with the Policy Subcommittee, 11 School Committee members voted in favor, while one voted against.

Chicopee Historical Society to give talk on Chicopee in the Revolutionary War

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Historical Society will present a talk on Chicopee’s experience during the Revolutionary War. The soldiers from Chicopee Street, the settlement of Skipmuck (future Chicopee Falls) and the area of what is now Chicopee Center were all the northernmost part of Springfield. Several men and boys marched to Boston when news of the Battle of Lexington and Concord was brought by a post rider the next day. Their enlistments, their battles, and their stories will be told by Society vice president Jacqueline T. Lynch on Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bazan Community Room of the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee. The event is free and open to the public.

Learn about volunteering at Harmony House

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, located in Chicopee, is a home offering compassionate hospice care to individuals in the final stages of their lives. If you might be interested in providing care and companionship to our residents, organizing special projects to engage our residents, or supporting our fundraising efforts, we invite you to meet with our staff and current volunteers to find out more about how you can help.

Volunteers are a vital part of the mission of Harmony House, providing a loving home and considerate care and companionship for hospice patients in need. With your support, we can help our neighbors face life’s end with peace and dignity and allow their loved ones to step out of the caregiver role and focus on cherishing their remaining time together.

On Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10:30 a.m. to Noon, at the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, come and meet members of the Board of Directors and current volunteers to learn more and have your questions answered by those who are directly involved in resident care.

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



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IN THE CITY

Chicopee receives \$87.5K grant from Mass Gaming Commission

Funding will benefit multiple city projects

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – After almost no discussion, City Council unanimously accepted a \$87,500 grant from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission during last Thursday’s meeting.

According to the Gaming Commission’s website, the grant that Chicopee received was established to support communities and governmental entities in off-setting impact costs related to the construction and operation of gaming facilities.

The gaming facility that impacts Chicopee most is the nearby MGM Casino Springfield, which is located only several miles outside of the city’s limits.

Since 2015, the Gaming Commission has provided nearly \$80 million to surrounding municipalities to make advancements in transportation, community planning, workforce development and public safety.

Last year, Chicopee received a \$341,100 municipal block grant from the Gaming Commission.

This money went toward the Center Streetscapes Phase 2 design, the expansion of ValleyBike Bikeshare operations and a virtual reality training system for the city’s police department.

This year, the \$87,500 that the city is being provided will again help support Center Streetscapes Phase 2.

A total of \$65,900, more than two-thirds of the grant, will go toward this specific project that is geared toward downtown.

The effort to make Chicopee Center safer for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists has been ongoing for nearly 15 years.

City officials have repeatedly stated that their goal is to enhance access to safe transportation for people of all abilities in Chicopee Center.

Since 2012, concerns

have been consistently raised surrounding the one-way traffic loop in the heart of the city.

Now, planners are attempting to convert the one-way traffic to two-way, while creating more space for pedestrians and bicyclists.

A proposed roundabout at the intersection of Hampden and Center Street could make a major difference for traffic circulation in the area.

Late last year, the city secured the funding needed to advance Phase 2 into an active engineering and design stage.

While neither Mayor John Vieau nor any of the board members shared comments regarding the grant

funding last Thursday, it could play a pivotal role in the city’s effort to make more progress on its Street-scapes project.

The rest of the Gaming Commission’s grant will go toward ValleyBike Bikeshare’s new installation station, with the funding amounting to \$21,600.

ValleyBike is an electric, pedal-assist bike share network that serves community members across Chicopee and Western Massachusetts.

The bikes include a small electric motor that adds momentum as a rider pedals, allowing them to travel up to 16 miles per hour and maneuver steep slopes.

In Chicopee, ValleyBike’s base is slowly expanding. In March, the operation debuted its newest station on Springfield Street in the vicinity of Elms College.

This station complements others in located in the city at Front Street outside of City Hall, the Grove Street and Front Street intersection and Rivers Park in the Williamsett neighborhood.

While it is unclear if the funding will benefit one of the existing stations in the city or help launch a new one, Chicopee’s mission to make its streets accessible to cyclists has taken a big step forward with the arrival of the Gaming Commission’s grant funding.

Library hosts programs for kids and families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children, teens, and families. The Youth Services Department provides opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. At the start of a new school year, the library often makes changes to schedules and program offerings, so even if you are a frequent visitor, some things here might look a little different. Here is the slate of events for September 2026.

Little Kid Dance Parties will happen on Tuesdays, Sept. 15 and 29 at 10:30 a.m. Little ones ages 0-5 are invited to move and groove with their caregivers. If the weather’s nice we’ll be outside on the library’s back patio.

Babies 0-12 months and their caregivers are invited to Baby Time on Tuesdays Sept. 8 and 22 at 10:30 a.m. Baby Time will include rhymes, songs, lap bounces and a short story, as well as some unstructured play time.

Storytime will be on Thursdays, Sept. 24 at 10:30 a.m. Join us for 30 minutes of circle time with read-aloud books, songs and rhymes, followed by a craft or activity. For ages 2-5.

Saturday Playgroup will be held on Saturdays, September 12, 19 and 26 at 1 p.m. We’ll put out some extra toys in the playspace. It’s a great time for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play.

On Saturday, Sept. 12 from 2 to 3 p.m. the creators of the DinoMap podcast will be tabling in the Children’s Room. Learn about the geology and fossils of the Connecticut River Valley and where you can go to visit them! Listen to the DinoMap podcast at: www.nepm.org/dinomap

Build with LEGO on Wednesday, Sept.

16 at 6 p.m. Bring your creativity and hang out with our big pile of bricks. Best for ages 6 and up.

The library will host an Afternoon Craft for kids on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 3 to 4 p.m.

The library’s meetup for homeschooling families is going to be a Homeschool Book Club this fall, which will meet once a month to discuss a book and do an activity based on that book. At this first meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 11 a.m., we will choose books for future meetings.

Sewing Club returns on Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 3:30 p.m. Learn and practice basic sewing skills by making fun projects. Great for ages 6 and up. Teens welcome! If you are not familiar with using a needle and thread, bring an adult to help. September’s project will be a beaded embroidery hoop.

Teens

Teens in middle and high school can participate in our new Craft Club, hosted twice per month after school at 3 p.m.! Each meeting will feature a different, exciting craft! For the month of September, we’ll be making custom buttons and bookmarks from recycled materials on Wednesday the 23rd!

Fans of comics and manga are encouraged to stop by on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. for our new Bring Your Own Comic (B.Y.O.C.) Club! It’s like a book club, except you get to read whatever you want! Share your thoughts about whatever comic you’re currently reading, discover new stories from fellow fans, get to hear about new additions to the library’s collection, and more!

Visit our website for more info about all of the library’s events! www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

City Council approves union contracts, sends city salaries discussion to FinComm

Payments for city workers from Local 1459 will go retro back to July

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - The City Council examined more than a dozen mayor’s orders pertaining to the wages and salaries of both union and non-union municipal workers on Sept. 3.

“For consideration this evening, the first six mayor’s orders [entail] the settlement agreement with U.F.C.W. Local 1459 in the City of Chicopee. If you’re not familiar, that’s our labor union. And, after many years it feels like, or over a year of negotiation, we have come to an agreement that was ratified,” Mayor John Vieau said.

Vieau announced that the U.F.C.W. Local 1459 payments will be retro back to July 1, 2026. He commended all those involved in

the negotiations who contributed to the positive outcome.

“I want to thank the labor union, I want to thank our hardworking employees, who come to work every single day and know that we’ve come up with a fair agreement and ask for your consideration,” Vieau said.

By approving the first mayoral order, the council appropriated \$49,357 to the Water Salary Accounts in accordance with the settlement with the union.

The second mayor’s order passed; it involved a \$62,019 appropriation to the Sewer Salary Accounts.

The council’s approval of the third mayoral order appropriated \$384,928 to the General Fund Salary Accounts, while its approval of the fourth order resulted in an appropriation of \$38,161 to the Water Salary Accounts.

Then, by approving Mayor’s Order 5, the council appropriated \$38,140 to the Sewer Salary Accounts, and, by passing Mayor’s Or-

der 6, it appropriated another \$262,833 to the General Fund Salary Accounts.

Mayor’s Orders 7-15 also had major monetary implications. Vieau explained further.

“Those are the non-union employees here in the City of Chicopee. Mayor’s Orders 7 through 15 are the ordinances in Chapter 7 that need to be addressed for non-union employees as of July 1, with their raises that follow the union contract. The appropriation is in Mayor’s Order 15,” Vieau said.

The report Vieau provided the council and media before the meeting went into detail outlining the salaries of workers in a variety of city departments.

Salaries were listed for roles in the Law Department, the Office of the City Council, the Office of the Treasurer, the Auditing Department, the Office of the Mayor and the Human Resources Department.

A total of 31 city positions had their salaries listed in the report.

Ultimately, the council decided to send the items to the Finance Committee for further review.

The idea was proposed by Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks and embraced by other members of the board.

“If we approve the money tonight, which I’m not opposed to, then it just eliminates the whole cadence of let’s refer things to ordinance for a first reading in a public hearing,” Brooks said. “I think the public is entitled to a public hearing, so by sending it to Finance, that allows the previous seven mayor’s orders to be heard in a proper format.”

Most importantly, Brooks stressed that this avenue provides “complete transparency.”

The board voted unanimously to send Mayor’s Orders 7 through 15 to the Finance Committee for a future public meeting.

The Chicopee Register will provide further coverage when the council delves back into this discussion in the coming weeks.

Chicopee Cultural Council Grants for FY27

CHICOPEE – Chicopee Cultural Council grants for FY2027 are now open.

The local Cultural Council grants aim to support projects, programs and events that promote arts, culture, music and creativity in our community, fostering a vibrant cultural scene that benefits residents and visitors alike.

Also join the Grant Writing Clinic on Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. at The Hub at Market Square.

The application deadline is Oct. 16.

Apply at massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/chicopee.

Contact us at culture@chicopeema.gov.

Knights of Columbus Car Show

CHICOPEE - Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road, Chicopee holds a car show every Wednesday evening from 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine. All makes, models and projects. Food trucks on site. Entry is free.

Church Tag Sale Sept. 26

CHICOPEE - Holy Mother of the Rosary National Catholic Church will hold a tag sale on Friday, Sept. 25 and Saturday, Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Church Hall, 20 Bell Street.

There will be clothing, jewelry, toys, books, puzzles, kitchen and dining products, collectibles and more. Lunch, baked goods and snacks will bar available for purchase to eat in or take out.

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in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

Rooting cuttings is a great way to overwinter your favorite plants

Late summer is a great time to take cuttings of summer plants such as geranium, fuchsia, and coleus.

Oftentimes planters containing these beauties are too big to overwinter. Likewise, these plants may be growing in your yard and maybe you are fearful of trying to dig them up and move them inside before frost hits.

It's also fun to root herb plants like rosemary or mint, so that you can enjoy them as seasoning in your favorite dishes over the winter months.

Getting a piece of stem to form roots is relatively easy. Here are a few tips that will guarantee your success.

First, make sure that the plant you are taking the cuttings from, called the "stock plant," is insect and disease-free and well hydrated. Plan to take cuttings in the morning before the heat of the day has a chance to cause any wilting.

A clean, sharp pair of scissors or hand pruners is the best tool for the job. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season.

Spring is also a great time to take cuttings of plants that you've overwintered provided they are growing well.

Begin by examining your stock plant. Those stems with the closest placed nodes are the best choice for cutting material.

Nodes are the point on the stem from which the leaves grow. There is a strong accumulation of hormones in this area; for that reason stem cuttings are taken just after a node.

Terminal cuttings, (those from the growth tip) three-four inches long are desirable. It is tempting to take longer pieces, figuring that the end result will be a larger plant.

These are likely to wilt before they root or take a very long time to root because the stems are woodier the further down you go.

Play it safe with stout cuttings.

There are all kinds of potting mediums in which to place the cutting while it grows roots. Ideally it should be able to hold enough moisture to keep the cutting turgid yet not hold so much that it rots the stem.

Sand, perlite, and soil-less potting mixes have all been used with success.

Water is not recommended as "watery roots" will have a harder time adapting to potting soil later on. I have had good luck rooting cuttings in peat-based potting mixes that are formulated for seed starting. Moistening the material well and fill your clean container of choice up to the top and tamp it down.

Cut only a few cuttings at a time so that wilting doesn't occur while you prepare the stems for insertion into the growing medium. Strip off the bottom one-third of leaves from the cutting.

If you wish to shorten the amount of time it takes for rooting to occur a commercial rooting hormone can be used. These come in powder or liquid forms. Follow the directions on the container.

I have found that "less is more" when using these products. When you are ready to "stick" the cutting make an indentation into the growing medium with a pencil or dibble first- do not push in with the stem!

After the cutting is inserted firm around it well so that it stays in place. Put the container, cuttings and all in a clear plastic bag and place in a shady location.

The humidity within the bag ought to prevent the stems from wilting.

Water well, only about once weekly. After a month or so roots will begin to form on the scented geraniums; rosemary may take six weeks or more.

Transplanting into individual pots can be done once the roots equal or surpass the size of the cutting. I like to start out with a small pot and transplant up a size or two at a time as the plant grows.

The Ware Grange will be hosting workshop on this timely topic on Friday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at the hall on Route 9 in Ware. Bring a potted plant to share cutting material or use a selection of plants that I will bring to try your luck at this skill.

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

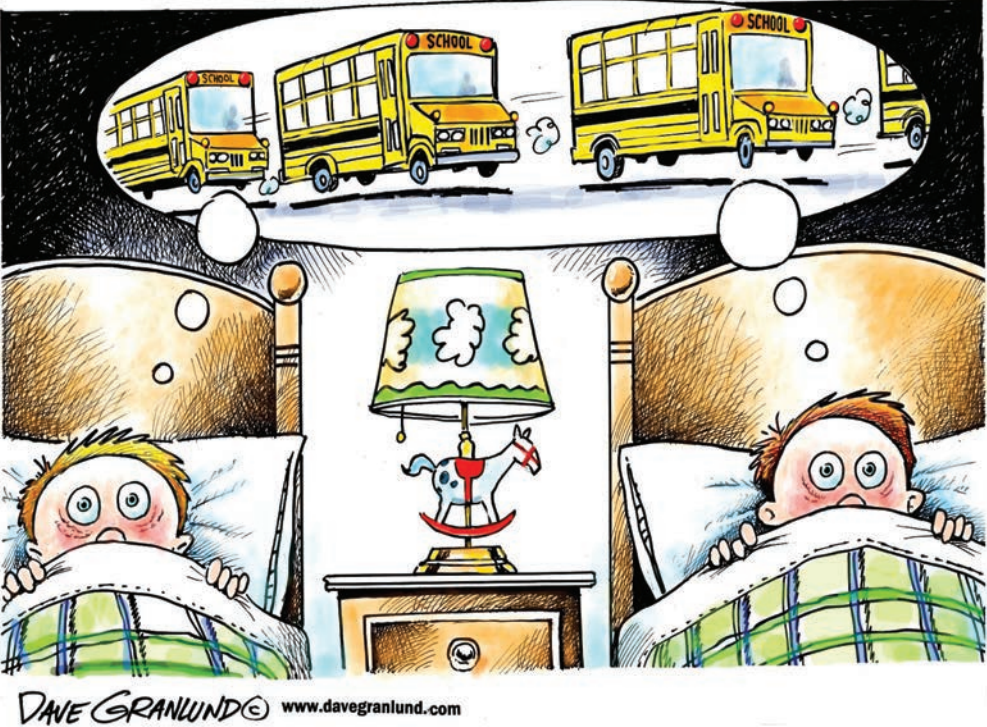
NEWS & FEATURES

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

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

OPINION

While visions of school buses danced in their heads...



in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

Doug Moore of Belchertown took this photo of an osprey protecting its young from a red winged blackbird at Lake Wallace on July 17.



PHOTO BY DOUG MOORE

Osprey at nest.

The osprey, also known as the fish hawk has the ability to dive into water to catch fish. It also has the ability to hover.

Ospreys are unusual among hawks in possessing a reversible outer toe that allows them to grasp with two toes in front and two behind. Barbed pads on the soles of the birds' feet help them grip slippery fish. When flying with prey, an osprey lines up its catch head first for less wind resistance.

These hawks are excellent anglers. Over several studies, ospreys caught fish on at least one in every four dives with success rates sometimes as high as 70%. The average time they spent hunting before making a catch was about 12 minutes.

The osprey readily builds its stick nest on manmade structures such as telephone poles, channel markers, duck blinds and nest platforms designed especially for it. Such platforms have become an important tool in reestablishing ospreys in areas where they had disappeared. In some areas nests are placed almost exclusively on artificial structures.

Osprey eggs do not hatch all at once. Rather, the first chick emerges up to five days before the last one. The older hatchling dominates its younger siblings and can monopolize the food brought by the parents.

If food is abundant, chicks share meals in relative harmony; in times of scarcity, younger ones may starve to death.

These birds may log more than 160,000 migration miles during its 15 to 20-year lifetime. Scientists track ospreys by strapping lightweight satellite transmitters

to the birds' backs.

The devices pinpoint an osprey's location to within a few hundred yards and last for two or three years. During 13 days in 2008, one osprey flew 2,700 miles from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts to French Guiana, South America.

The oldest known osprey was at least 25 years, two months old and lived in Virginia. It was banded in 1973 and found in 1998.

Glossy ibis

On July 13 Doug Moore saw a glossy ibis at Lake Wallace. They expanded their range over the past century from the southeastern United States to include much of eastern North America.

At a distance the glossy ibis looks uniformly dark, but a closer look in sunlight reveals deep maroon, emerald, bronze and violet feathers.

Large flock of grackles

I saw a large flock of grackles in late August. I did not count them, but there were at least 50, probably more.

They flew from one side of the road to the other. I stopped the car and waited for them to safely pass. There were stragglers and some flew behind the car as well as in front of it. Seeing them reminded me that the fall migrations are happening or at least the birds are gathering in flocks to make their journeys south.

Some species of birds travel long distances to their winter habitat. Ospreys are just one of many that travel thousands of miles.

People may report a bird sighting by emailing edowne@turley.com or calling or texting 774-262-5882.

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Why change Social Security now? It's a working 'Ponzi Scam.'

Dear Rusty:

Maybe everybody has the same reaction that I do to Social Security insolvency.

I do not understand a system that has been basically run like a Ponzi Scam since its inception; why have you decided (in 2026-2027) that now is the time to change a perfectly good Ponzi Scam.

In all reality, this began with Babylon. I'm sure that if you searched the meaning of the words "Babylonian money magic," you would understand what I'm talking about.

If this is as good as the Earth has, why would you mess with a perfectly rotten thing. Why would you decide to change currencies to some sort of fragile digital currency?

Signed: Skeptical Senior

Dear Skeptical Senior:

You touch on an item that the Association of Mature American Citizens Foundation has dealt with many times over the years, specifically the notion that Social Security has the characteristics of a Ponzi Scheme.

Our position in response to that notion is that Social Security was created and operated with full transparency with its financial status, formulas and long-term deficits completely and publicly documented and reported to the President and Congress annually.

Unlike the infamous Charles Ponzi, the government has a permanent pool of contributors through mandatory FICA and SECA

(self-employment) payroll taxes and is designed to remain in operation infinitely as long as there's a taxpaying workforce.

Moreover, the Social Security system is overseen by Congress, specifically the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Government Accountability Office. The Social Security Administration is subject to routine hearings by these congressional overseers and maintains an independent Office of the Inspector General to ensure the integrity of its financial operations.

Contrary to Ponzi victims, all participants retiring from the workforce and their dependents recover their Social Security contributions via benefit payments, some more than others based on their level of participation in the system. Also, contrary to Ponzi Schemes, Social Security was designed as a social insurance system and has operated successfully in that mode for over nine decades.

What raises the notion of a Ponzi Scheme comparison

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 8

Chicopee Register

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Send letters to:
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or email
chicopeeregister@turley.com.
The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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

Election letters to the editor

The Chicopee Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Chicopee Register care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalsregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Chicopee Register.

IN THE CITY

Chicopee library hosts Bingo for Books



Some of the Bingo prizes at the event.

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The library hosted a Bingo for Books event on Aug. 5 for children and their families.

The event was free to attend.

Kids and their families had the opportunity to play bingo to win different books and movies as prizes. This event also provided an environment in which kids and their families could come hang out and make new friends.

Youth Services Associate Beth Oliveira, who facilitated this event, explained that Bingo for Books is somewhat of a library tradition.

“Bingo for Books has been an occasional event at this library since 2014 but has become a more regular program in the past year. I’ve been hosting Bingo as a monthly event since March of this year, but we paused it for summer reading. We definitely are going to bring it back as

a reoccurring event after the summer ends,” Oliveira said.

Oliveira then shared what the process was of working with other staff members to make this event come to life and what she hopes attendees get out of the event.

“I love being able to pull in staff members from other departments, circulation, reference, admin, that I don’t normally work with on a daily basis, because anyone can assist with this event. It’s a pretty easy event to prep for, so all we really do is set it up and play a bunch of Bingo,” Oliveira said. “I hope that people of all ages enjoy playing Bingo, whether they’re playing it for the first time or are a seasoned pro. It’s fun to watch families and friends’ group together to help each other fill out their cards. Bingo is a very basic game, but does incorporate letter and number recognition, so there’s that aspect of it as well.”

Oliveira added why Bingo for Books is such a great



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

From the left, Beth Oliveira, Ashley Lahey and Angelique Rivera at CPL’s Bingo for Books event.

event that continues to make an appearance each year at the library.

“The library is for everyone, and everyone should be able to have access to fun and free events like Bingo for Books. Simply playing a friendly game in the Community Room can bring people closer together, and watching folks collaborate with each other, helping each other if a number got missed, cheer-

ing each other on when they get Bingo; it’s all fantastic to see the community come together for a fun time. And having free books as the prize is a great incentive, but I believe simply playing a few rounds of Bingo is more than enough,” Oliveira said.

This event had a great

See **BINGO FOR BOOKS** page 9



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

RiverMills Nurse Angela Karmar working at Lobster Fest 2026.



Here are Volunteers Mary Awsten, Joan Welch, Susan Authis, and Lousie Ingham in a group photo.

LOBSTER FEST from page 1

tremendous deal on the lobsters,” Manyak said.

Manyak then shared why she believes this event is so important to the senior center.

“Just when you walk around and you see their faces and how happy they are, it just makes everything worthwhile. A lot of people are really, really appreciative. Every year we try to go up a notch from what we did the year before. This year, like, we added him, and we have a character of a lobster that goes around,” Manyak said.

Manyak added there are upcoming events RiverMills has planned for the fall.

“Well, we have our Halloween Carnival, so we’ve always done a Halloween party, we’ve done a fall carnival. This time, we’re combining them. So, it’s gonna be bigger than ever. We’re probably going to go all in on that too. That’s just kind of the way I am as a director,” Manyak said. “Nothing but the best for these people, they’ve lived their whole life waiting for this moment, so let’s make it special for them.”

Mayor John Vieau explained why this event is so important for the community.

“It’s about bringing the community together, in this case, the older adults and giving them this wonderful sea-

food fest,” Vieau said.

Mike Wilk, President of the Friends at RiverMills Senior Center, shared the Friends’ group’s role in Lobster Fest.

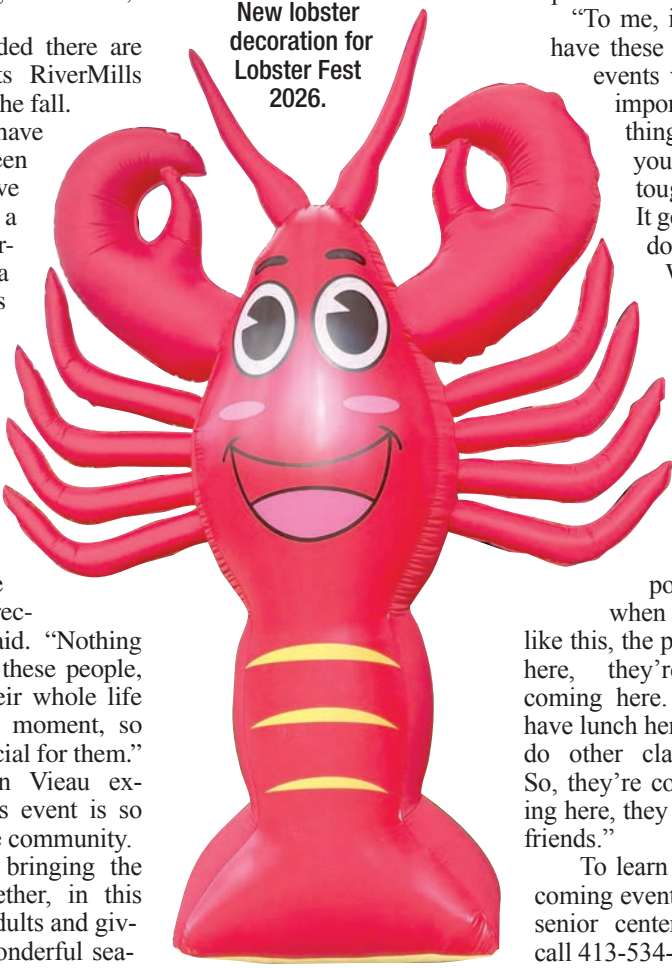
“So, the Friends group is basically like a fundraising arm for the senior center. We sponsor these events; we put on these events to make money. And all the money that we take in, we distribute back to the senior center or a nonprofit. We distribute it back to the senior center to do events such as this. This event is probably the biggest one we do, because

we’re indoors and outdoors,” Wilk said. “And at this event, I (understand) because it’s expensive and, you know, tough to get around for some people. So, I would much rather people have a great time and a great meal and just come out and enjoy the music, enjoy their neighbors, their friends and have lobster. So, for this event, I’m never worried about how much money we make. I just want people to have fun and enjoy.”

Wilk then shared why he believes bringing this event to RiverMills each year is so important.

“To me, it’s important to have these types of all the events we do. And it’s important to do these things, because, as you get older, it gets tougher to get out. It gets tougher to go to other things,” Wilk said. “A lot of our seniors, they can’t drive when it’s dark. They don’t want to drive long distances. They don’t want to put themselves in positions, and when we do things like this, the people that come here, they’re comfortable coming here. A lot of them have lunch here and come and do other classes, activities. So, they’re comfortable coming here, they come with their friends.”

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



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IN THE CITY



A dominoes match underway. The competition is fierce.

TURKEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

HISPANIC HERITAGE
from page 1

to be something negative with the police department. This is something that brings people together to have a great time, seeing a lot of laughs, a lot of smiles, people enjoying themselves, which is something I believe helps the community itself and ties in the police department with the community in a better aspect. It's a better relationship with the community."

Rodriguez also reflected on Hispanic Heritage Month, which occurs in September, and how this event is a kickoff to those celebrations.

"Not only for Puerto Ricans, not only for Dominicans, Salvadoreans, whatever. It's for the whole Hispanic heritage," Rodriguez said. "Also, you don't have to be in the Hispanic heritage to come and celebrate with us. I have seen not just here—today's events—but in my prior events, other nationalities coming through and having a great time celebrating with us, enjoying themselves."

The secret, he added, to

winning at dominoes is the math and watching how their opponent strategizes.

Eric Matos, outreach coordinator at MetroCare of Springfield, explained the organization has collaborated with the police department's C3 Unit meetings.

"It's important to collaborate with the police department because, yes, they're in the community and they're servicing the community. They do more than just enforce the law. They're out here showing that they really care about the community," Matos said. "It is not just about enforcing the law and I'm excited that they're able to do it through a domino tournament as you can see—the turnout—it's amazing. It's just for the community and hopefully every year it gets bigger and bigger."

Matos enjoyed seeing everyone mingling together, the music and having a good time. He emphasized the event helps not only bring awareness to their organization and services, but also the C3 Units.

“We’re all collaborating

as different agencies coming together to be able to reach out to the community so they can be informed about the services that are out there and available to them,” Matos said.

Monica Torres, the city's community and special projects liaison, said she takes "great pride in building events such as these for the community" and to let the Latino community know "we are present here in the city."

"What a better way to showcase our police department, our community policing, that they're here, they're friends. Don't be afraid of the police. Reaching out to the community to be able to have a safe space in Chicopee. Know what's here. That we are inclusive as a diverse city and we are all-inclusive here and it's a great way to come and connect all the cultures and everybody into a nice community event," Torres said.

Torres added the city is "always striving to have bigger and better community events."

“Given this fourth year,



PHOTO COURTESY OF FELY RODRIGUEZ

Here are the winners and runners-up. This year's winners are Wilfredo Negrón and Orlando Ramónd and the runners-up are Thomson Díaz and Lesbia Díaz.

it's amazing how big it's gotten," Torres said. "On behalf of the mayor's office, we like to have new, fresh things happen in the city. Evolving and everybody coming together. That's what we look for. We're thankful for the administration of Mayor Vieau, that he's given us a platform to express our culture here in Chicopee and what better way to do it in a fun, cultural game and community coming together. Sister cities coming together, connecting bridges inner city-wide, that's another factor. We're excited about this, partnered up with the police department and bringing

something to the community.”

Rodriguez had this message.

"I just want to thank everybody for coming out, enjoying this beautiful weather here. Thank you for the support," Rodriguez said. "Even

though the event is for the community, they're here supporting us as well having the event. It's good seeing people come out to this event, showing support for each other, for the police department and for the community."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLY RODRIGUEZ

The first place winners are Wilfredo Negron and Orlando Ramod, pictured here with one of the custom-made dominoes tables.



TLIRLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Monica Torres, community and special projects liaison for the City of Chicopee, and Lt. Melissa Lyman in a photo.



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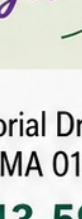
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SPORTS

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Comp girls fall in opener

CHICOPEE – With Chicopee Comprehensive High School’s turf not yet playable, the Colts girls soccer team found themselves hosting Agawam in their season opener at Szot Park. Unfortunately, the different venue

did not prove fruitful for the Colts as they fell 2-0 against the Brownies. The Colts hosted South Hadley Thursday and are back in action next all on the road with matchups at Wahconah, West Springfield, and Ludlow.



Audrey Mosko tries to change directions with the ball.



Kelsey Morrisette hustles up the field.



Annie Dulong goes for the jumping save.



Kendall Knotts sends the ball deep.



Lillian Picard attempts to settle the bouncing ball.

Pacers complete preparation for regular season



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM
Sarina Garcia advances up the field.



Ella Gendreau tries to power out of trouble.



Cayla Ribeiro looks to keep the play moving upfield.



Melanie Sobeiraj looks for a teammate to pass to.

MONSON – Last Friday, Chicopee High School girls soccer had its final scrimmage of the preseason against Monson. The Pacers were set to open the season earlier this week against Hopkins Academy. The Pacers head to Palmer to take on the Panthers on Monday, Sept. 14 at 4 p.m. Their next home game is on Thursday, Sept. 17 against Greenfield at 6 p.m.



Sydney Germain socks a free kick away.



Brianna Gregoire turns play around.



Andres Conde delivers a pitch for the Knights.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Tom Burzynski leads off first base.

Dirt Dogs take Pioneer Valley championship

SOUTH HADLEY – On Aug. 22 at Beachgrounds Park, after trailing earlier in the game, the Dirt Dogs came back to defeat the Knights 7-5 to sweep a best-of-three game championship series to win the Pioneer Valley Baseball League’s title for 2026. This was the first year of Pioneer’s merger with the Quabbin Valley Baseball League. The merger

included the addition of the Blue Jays to bring the league to six teams. The Dirt Dogs had Pioneer’s best record of 19-2 in the regular season and the Dirt Dogs went on to win five consecutive games in the double elimination playoffs. The Knights went 16-4 in the regular season and were defeated in winner’s bracket of the playoffs by the

Dirt Dogs. They would go on to beat the Wolves 2-1 in 11 innings in the elimination final to make it to the championship series for a rematch with the Dirt Dogs. The Dirt Dogs won the championship opener 18-4 at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke on Aug. 18. Pioneer will have a four-team fall league for the first time, which begins on Sept. 12.



Pete Moulin sends a pitch away for the Dirt Dogs.



Tory Buck takes a swing and fouls off a pitch.

SPORTS

BACK TO SCHOOL
from page 1

Management. Other sponsors included Frontera Grill Chicopee, Ohana Daycare, Cradles to Crayons, Westover Trash Removal, Jenrose, Breaking Oppression, Inc., Westfield Bank, Holyoke Community College, Florence Bank, BusPatrol, and Jumpin Jax Rentals, among others.

Reflecting on the achievement was Ricardo Diaz, owner of Faded Barber Lounge.

“From day one, my goal and vision I always carried was to have the ability to give back and help any way I could, and here we are, five years later, and I’m not looking back,” Diaz said. “Because look around, this is truly what community is about; it’s about providing resources, creating smiles, and instilling memories to all, while offering avenues of inspiration that these kids and families will never forget, no matter how old they get, and I feel that’s a beautiful thing to bear witness to.”

Diaz shared that he has high hopes for the future, emphasizing the importance of building upon the community connections established through the event.

“The next step I want to take is finding a way to incorporate and gather additional resources, because I feel the value of community connections and foundational resources can help make a difference, and we’re here to help and inspire above all,” Diaz said. “So I’m truly not sure what the future holds, but I can confirm I’m extremely excited.”

Echoing those sentiments was Mayor John Vieau, who emphasized the sense of pride and accomplishment the event provides for local children as they prepare to return to the classroom.

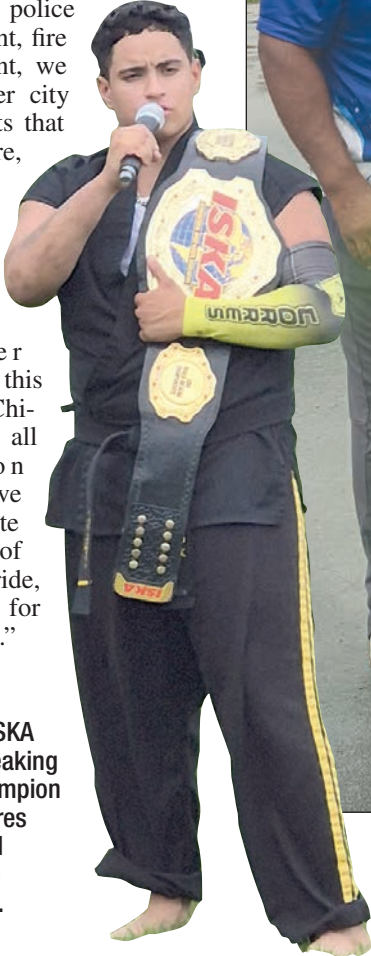
“I do want to add that it’s clear to recognize around this time of year that many get a little anxious as the new school year arrives, especially when times are tough, and you’re having trouble making ends meet while trying to get supplies and haircuts,” Vieau said. “But again, I feel this event is an incredible opportunity to help relieve some

of the pressure off of families here in Chicopee who may be in that scenario, and for that, I’m forever grateful to Ricardo and his staff from the Faded Barber Lounge, because they are getting these kids ready while instilling a sense of pride that they can carry when they return to the classroom, allowing them to not only look good, but feel confident as well, while being excited to learn. It’s truly remarkable to see how far this event has come from day one to now; it’s really something special.”

Ward 7 School Committee Representative Ray Nazario highlighted the importance of community support in ensuring local students feel prepared for the school year ahead.

“I think it’s super important to remember that we’re here together to show that we’re giving support to all the children, and the families, and the parents. Because the truth about Chicopee is that it’s a community of love. We’re resilient as a city, and we’re a community that’s going to bring higher expectations to better our future with our children,” Nazario said. “You see all the love, you see the connections and the networking that’s happening, which is wonderful. We have our police department, fire department, we have other city non-profits that are here, and we’re bringing those connections together because this is the Chicopee we all envision and strive to create — one of unity, pride, and hope for the future.”

Chicopee native & ISKA power-breaking world champion Jaden Torres performed during the showcase.

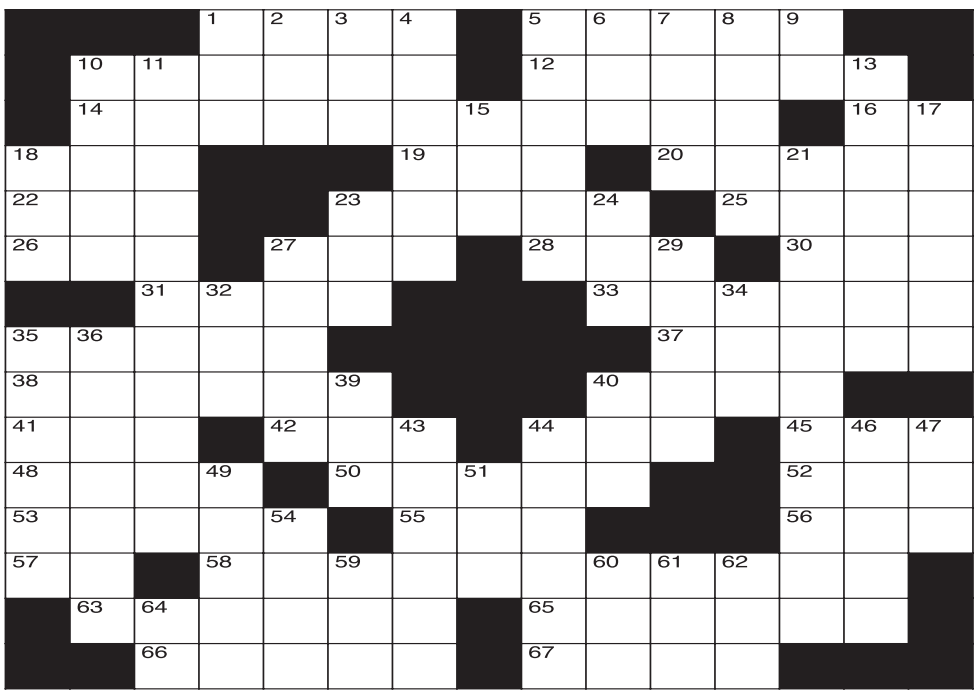


An inside look at the barbers applying haircuts.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY



Basketball team group photo during the 3-on-3 tournament with the Springfield Trailblazers' Coach Mark Murry, along with Ricardo Diaz, owner of The Faded Barber Lounge.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Longtime Vogue editor
- 5. A Spanish title of respect
- 10. A way of looking
- 12. Properly
- 14. Rolled steel
- 16. Not down
- 18. Law degree
- 19. Consume food
- 20. Intermediate ecological stage
- 22. Old world, new
- 23. Dispense justice
- 25. Stiff hair-like structure
- 26. Ethiopia
- 27. Cool!
- 28. Father
- 30. An enthusiastic devotee of sports
- 31. Holm oak
- 33. Be united
- 35. Rattling breaths

- 37. Supermarket chain
- 38. Provided with a quality
- 40. Samoan monetary unit
- 41. Swiss river
- 42. Hill (Celtic)
- 44. Have already done
- 45. ATM company
- 48. Syngman __, Korean president
- 50. Very willing
- 52. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- 53. Food listings
- 55. Bachelor's place to crash
- 56. Big Blue
- 57. Sports magazine
- 58. Relating to a place north of south of the equator
- 63. Female follower of Bacchus
- 65. A type of laugh
- 66. Slovenly women
- 67. Large jug

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Boxing's GOAT
- 2. Zero
- 3. Midway between north and northeast
- 4. Concurred
- 5. Added flavor
- 6. Amount of time
- 7. Eggs of parasitic insects
- 8. S-shaped moldings
- 9. Atomic #45
- 10. __ d'art: small artistic item
- 11. A godparent's "kids"
- 13. Nocturnal burrowing lizard
- 15. Hit lightly
- 17. Aircrafts
- 18. Witness
- 21. Alluding to something
- 23. Take to the limit
- 24. Baglike structure in a plant or animal

- 27. Start over
- 29. Administered
- 32. Romanian monetary unit
- 34. Unit of liquid capacity
- 35. Equips with weapons again
- 36. Disney town
- 39. Female deer
- 40. Title of respect
- 43. A place to go rafting
- 44. A way to conclude
- 46. Type of television
- 47. Georgia rockers
- 49. Leonhard __, Swiss mathematician
- 51. Slang for gun
- 54. River in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 59. Bar bill
- 60. Small, gray-headed crow
- 61. Frozen water
- 62. Norwegian krone
- 64. Commercial



Kristen Cohelo, Family & Community Engagement Facilitator for Chicopee Public Schools, Mayor John Vieau, and Ricardo Diaz, owner of The Faded Barber Lounge, near the backpack tent.



The Chicopee Fire Department, proud to represent at the event.

IN THE CITY

BINGO FOR BOOKS from page 5

turnout of community members ready to play some bingo and get some new books and movies, which Oliveira shared she was happy to see.

“There is a sense of joy and pride when there’s a big turnout for an event, because you know you’ve tapped into something the community is responding to, and something that people ask for, and want to keep coming back to on a regular basis. We want our community to discover and enjoy the love of reading, and combining free books with a fun game of Bingo is a great way to get more folks in our doors leaving with books in their hands,” Oliveira said.

Finally, Oliveira shared some of the library’s plans for fall that the community can look forward to.

“We are still putting together our final fall schedule, but Bingo for Books will definitely be returning! Some of our other fun recurring events are Sewing Club and LEGO building, and each of these events will be once a month. We are also going to be throwing a Halloween party later this year, with some fun games and prizes. We’ll update our website and social media as we finalize everything, so stay tuned,” Oliveira said.

For more information about upcoming events at Chicopee Public Library visit, chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

RiverMills Photography Club Gallery holds exhibition

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging invites you to the fifth annual photo exhibition by the RiverMills Photo Club.

This event will take place in the Community Room at the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, MA. The exhibition will feature over 100 photographs taken by members of the RiverMills Photo Club.

The reception will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Jeff Schuman and Liz Carter will play live music. Beverages and finger food will be on site. All ages are welcome to join us. An adult must accompany minors.

The gallery will be featured in the CPL Community Room from September 1st – 29th.

After that, the gallery will be moved to RiverMills Center, 5 W Main Street, Chicopee, MA, where many of the photographs can be purchased for holiday gifts.

The photos will remain on display at the senior center until Dec. 4.

HCC Dean’s list for Summer 2026 term announced

HOLYOKE - Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean’s List. A student is placed on the Dean’s List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean’s List honors for the summer 2026 term.

Students from Chicopee

Joshua Jason Afonso, Lisa M. Belisle, Yesenia Cancel, Jesus Emmanuel Cardona-Vazquez, Wileynis Marie Coll, Megan Fanos, Taurean Febus, Hannah Hurler, Danieliz Alize Jiminian, Mariam Kabbout, Michael Cody Lee, Cristoforo Luciano, Carmen Marrero, Olivia McClure, Brendan Ahmad Nkwe, Keira Grace O’Driscoll, Joel David Ortiz, Destiny M. Ortiz, Nichole Pelletier, Cherie Perusse, Cristall Polo, Liam James Reed, Cristall L. Rodriguez, Lea Jeanne St. Pierre, Anzhela Sydorak, Yanitza Lee Torres.

CHICOPEE TEACHER from page 1

tion stings with trained individuals, with information captured and turned over to law enforcement.

The allegations explained that Harrison communicated with an undercover agent he believed was a 13-year-old girl through online platforms including Chat Avenue and Discord and the purported victim was encouraged to engage in sexual activity during conversations.

Harrison was matched to the accounts through a phone number—which led to two CyberTips from the National

Center for Missing and Exploited Children. There were also email accounts and other identifying information, including home address.

Authorities later obtained multiple search warrants on Harrison, his vehicle, home and email, including a Google account. Harrison was pulled over by law enforcement on Sept. 8 and cooperated with authorities on the warrants.

More than 20 electronic devices were then recovered, including multiple SD cards, USBs, iPads, iPhones, external hard drives, external disc drives, tablets, DVDs and a gaming console.

In a later release from

Sabourin on Wednesday evening, it was noted the recovery of the multiple items “included hundreds of Child Sexual Assault Material (CSAM).”

The prosecutors had also argued for a higher bail amount—later noted as \$100,000 by Sabourin—due to the evidence, nature of the allegations and possibility of additional charges.

Defense attorneys asked for Harrison to be released on personal recognizance with conditions, noting lack of criminal record, lifelong ties to Berkshire County, cooperation with investigators and stable residence in the community.

Cash bail was ultimately set at \$75,000 with several conditions should he be released, including no contact directly or indirectly with anyone under 18, GPS monitoring, home confinement with zero curfew, possess no devices with Internet access and allow probation to search all electronic devices.

The investigation is ongoing.

Harrison is set to return to court for a pretrial date on Oct. 8.

City of Chicopee Statement

The City of Chicopee sent the Chicopee Register the following statement on Harri-

son’s arrest on the evening of Sept. 8.

“Chicopee Public Schools has been made aware of the recent arrest of a district teacher by the Massachusetts State Police at their home in Berkshire County. Upon learning of these serious allegations, the district took immediate action to place the individual on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation,” they said. “We want to emphasize that there are no allegations that the conduct under investigation occurred on school grounds, involved school resources or connected with any Chicopee students or staff.”

The city added that “the safety and well-being of our students and staff remain our highest priority.”

“The Police Department, School Department and Mayor’s Office will continue to actively monitor the situation and fully cooperate with and assist law enforcement officials throughout this ongoing investigation,” they said. “We also recognize that an arrest is not a determination of guilt, and the individual is entitled to due process under the law. We ask that everyone allow the legal process to proceed while respecting the privacy and well-being of those potentially affected.”

OVERDOSE AWARENESS from page 1

“Today is about remembrance. It is about hope, and above all, it is about people,” Shumsky said. “We are here to remember the lives that have been taken from us far too soon, and we are here to stand with those who are still fighting, and we are here for the families who know the pain of losing someone they love to addiction and overdose.”

Shumsky then emphasized the importance of community support, offering a message of strength to those affected by addiction and overdose.

“You are not alone, and we are all here to help,” Shumsky said. “And that’s why this year’s ‘Every Piece Matters & Every Connection Saves Lives’ is so important, and that’s why it’s our responsibility as a community to come together and offer any and all support. Because yes, it is clear that addiction can make people feel isolated, but remember, you are never alone. And saving a life does not begin in a hospital or a treatment center. Sometimes it begins with a conversation, a phone call, or a person willing to listen without judgment. And so, to the families who have lost someone, I want you to know that Chicopee remembers with you. And even though we cannot bring your loved ones back, we can remember their names.”

Echoing those sentiments was State Rep. Shirley Arriaga-



City Council Vice President and Ward 6 City Councilor Sam Shumsky opens the ceremony.



State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) delivers remarks from the podium.



State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) delivers remarks.



Lamari Jackson, an aide to State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), takes the podium.

ga (D-Chicopee).

“Overdose Awareness impacts so many of us. It impacts our friends, our family members, and sometimes even ourselves. It’s time we have a conversation and discuss committing our full support toward solving this issue and creating a solution,” Arriaga said. “And so, we’re here because we care, and we want to stand by the message of letting everyone know you’re not alone. As your state representative, we are here. If you need to talk or need resources or information, please feel free to reach out to any of us after this event and anytime. But once again, let’s just remember that this is important to so many and so dear to us, and we should use support and empathy moving forward.”

Following Arriaga’s remarks, Lamari Jackson, an aide to State Sen. Adam Go-

mez (D-Springfield), addressed those gathered, tackling the stigma surrounding addiction and overdose.

“When it comes to overdose awareness, when it comes to addiction, conversations surrounding that, those kinds of conversations are typically avoided because they’re uncomfortable. And when it comes to mental health, because addiction falls under that category, it is imperative that we forego initial discomfort and how uncomfortable that conversation can be, because we as a society need to be comfortable with what is uncomfortable,” Jackson said. “And as the rep said, I’m delighted to be here despite the circumstances which bring us together, but the fact that our delegation is here shows that we care, whether it’s bringing awareness to resources, bringing awareness to the

subject itself, or whether or not we ourselves have families, friends, people that we hold dear who have struggled with the same thing, because the truth is, we are all human. We all make mistakes, and I can’t even call this a mistake necessarily. It’s just life. Life gets in the way; life happens. And it is all about not really having a hand that is reaching out, but a hand that is reaching up, and that is what matters at the end of the day.”

State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) then took the podium, delivering an impassioned call for action in addressing addiction and overdose.

“First, I see folks from Tapestry here, and I have the utmost respect and love and admiration for what Tapestry does. And so, that brings me to my next point, because we talk a lot about the different kinds of modalities that

are out there, which include prevention, treatment and harm reduction. But the truth, however, we all know is that everybody’s recovery is different,” Velis said. “And so, I want to add that numbers are getting better in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but they’re still not where they need to be. For those that are out there still, as I’d like to say, runnin’ and gunnin’, what I would say is that the drug supply right now, as you all know, has never been more contaminated. Every time you go out and every time you take that risk, there is that chance. We have no idea what is in our supply right now. It’s no longer just fentanyl, and we need to change that.”

Velis continued his remarks by urging those struggling with addiction to reach out before it’s too late.

“So, to everybody that’s out there that has lost some-

one, please, please, please, say their name over and over again, and know you are not alone, and we are here to help. Don’t ever forget that, because you matter and always will,” Velis said.

As the ceremony ended, Shumsky read an official proclamation, and the message remained clear: those affected by addiction and overdose should not have to face it alone. Through remembrance, awareness, and continued community support, Chicopee officials and residents emphasized the importance of keeping the conversation going and ensuring that resources remain available to those who need them.

With the flag raised in honor of those lost, the observance served as both a tribute to their lives and a reminder that every conversation, connection, and act of compassion can make a difference.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

these days is the looming insolvency facing Social Security just six years from now. This financial problem, however, has nothing to do with fraud.

Rather, it is a function of workforce demographics and the fact that Congress has long deferred corrective action on a problem that has been known for the past four decades.

We sometimes hear well intended, but sometimes uninformed comments from some Washington politicians invoking the Ponzi Scheme reference, but we believe that Congress is finally waking up

to the urgency.

And we also believe Congress is now starting to move seriously to set a course for correction in time to ward off the impact of insolvency. AMAC is proud to be a part of the collective thinking currently surfacing, and our Social Security Guarantee is in play as a plan to be considered.

We invite you to review our SS reform plan (at <https://amac.us/social-security-guarantee>) and likewise to stay tuned to our Social Security Report website (<https://socialsecurityreport.org/>) where we post regular updates on a variety of matters pertaining to Social Security and retirement.

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



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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF TIER
CLASSIFICATION
21 VIVIAN STREET
CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS
RELEASE TRACKING
NUMBER (RTN) 1-51016

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. The City of Chicopee filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Mr. Joseph Spencer, Weston & Sampson, Inc. (Weston & Sampson), 55 Walkers Brook Drive, Suite 100, Reading, MA 01867, 978-532-1900. The Tier Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-51016 at <https://eeaoonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/> or at Mass-DEP, Western Regional Office, 436 Dwight Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01103, 413-784-1100. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404. 09/11/2026

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD26P1882EA
Estate of:
Debra Ann Cournoyer
Also known as:
Debra Ann King
Date of Death: 07/27/2026
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 **Raymond H Cournoyer 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 **Raymond H Cournoyer 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 09/30/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE
(MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administra-

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 02, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
09/11/2026

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL
ZONING COMMITTEE
LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at 6:30 PM** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Res A to Res B for 39,872 SF of property located at James St. & Memorial Dr. (Assessors Map 690, Parcels 44D & 44E) for the purpose of building 3 condex buildings (6 units total). Applicant – DCL General Construction, David Labrie, 187 Nelson St., Chicopee, MA 01013.

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

The September 30, 2026 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 09/11, 09/18/2026

**Massachusetts Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD26P1884GD
In the interests of
Zaia'lee Patrice Emanuel
of Chicopee, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **09/02/2026** by **Mary L. Dunham of Chicopee, MA** will be held **10/06/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing**. Located: **Judge Randle- In Person: 50 State St., Springfield, MA 01103 Courtroom 3 - 4th Floor Floor.**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: **1.** File the original with the Court and **2.** Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

4. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf

of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

5. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form (MPC 263). Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice. Date: September 2, 2026

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
09/11/2026

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on September 11th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2023 Jia Juess Moped
VIN: LLPTGKBF9P1120039
Jan Torres
23 Cherry St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2008 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GH61688H814817
Marcialee Ayala
29 Pasco Rd., Apt. 2
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2012 Audi S5
VIN: WAUCVAFR3CA003092
Damita Verdejo
119 Andrew St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2011 Honda Crosstour
VIN: 5J6TF2H50BL001636
Fernando Martinez
215 Allen St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2025 Tank Flywing
VIN: HZ2TCDM43S1009587
Dabriel Aponte
PO Box 5127
Springfield, MA 01101

2016 Kia Rio
VIN: KNADM4A36G6531780
Leo Cloutier
172 Plimpton St.
Southbridge, MA 01550

2013 Volkswagen Tiguan
VIN: WVGBV7AX3DW012818
Peter Alvarez
PO Box 174
Lee, MA 01238
08/28, 09/04, 09/11/2026

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on September 18th 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.

2005 ACURA RL
JH4KB16505C018725
ALEXANDER BURGOS
154 WESTFORD CIR
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01109

2020 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500
1GCRYAEF4LZ335877
MANOLIN FERNANDEZ
PO BOX 6822
HOLYOKE, MA 01040

2007 HYUNDAI TUCSON
KM8JN12D57U614181
BENJAMIN ROBERTS
222 WHEATLAND AVE
CHICOPEE, MA 01020

2015 FORD FIESTA
3FADP4BJ7FM149124
MEGHAN DUVAL
80 Percy St
CHICOPEE, MA 01020

2018 FORD ESCAPE
1FMCU9GD3JUC11150
MARK DAIGNEAULT
58 NASHOBA RD
CHARLTON, MA 01507

2016 LEXUS ES 300
JTHBW1GG4G2101300
JOSE COLLAZO
42 LUMAE ST
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01119
09/04, 09/11, 09/18/2026

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on September 25th at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2017 HONDA ACCORD
1HGCR2F11HA141245
DONOVAN ANDREW MARSH
111 JEFFREY RD
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01119

2011 HONDA CRV
5J6RE4H52BL120958
JAMI MAHON
28 ROSEMONT ST
HARTFORD, CT 06120

2005 HONDA ACCORD
1HGCM56445A104535
1446 DWIGHT ST
HOLYOKE, MA 01040

2007 PACE AMERICAN
TRAILER
4FPFB10167G120660
MICHAEL DAN ABBOTT
1101 POWHATAN AVE
PORTSMOUTH VA 23707

2024 TRANS PRO BSWR
LLPTGIH17R1050061
UNKNOWN OWNER.

2009 BMW 328XI
WBAWC33509P470086
EMMANUEL SMITH-MC-NEILL
8 SIGOURNEY ST APT 1
WORCESTER, MA 01605

2017 TOYOTA CAMRY
4T1BF1FK0HU794861
EDWARD & JACQUELINE
PROULX
112 WILLSON ST APT D
LUDLOW, MA 0105

2015 SUBARU FORESTER
JF2SJADC2FH558492
393 BAY RD
BELCHERTOWN, MA 01007

2024 SUPERMACH MOPED
HODTAEG41RX0805420
UNKOWN OWNER
09/11, 09/18, 09/25/2026

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P1883EA
Estate of:
LEISHA A
O'NEILL-WOLCOTT
Date of Death: 05/23/2026
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **KEANE E O'NEILL of CHICOPEE, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

KEANE E O'NEILL 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. 09/11/2026

MORTGAGEE'S
SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by HUGO F. PONTES, to POLISH NATIONAL CREDIT UNION, dated September 28, 2022 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24751, Page 111, 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 20th day of October, 2026, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 901 Front Street, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

“Property Address: 901 Front Street, Chicopee
The Land in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the westerly side of Front Street Six Hundred Forty-eight and 62/100 (648.62) feet southerly from the point of intersection of the westerly side of Front Street with the southerly side of Grove Street at land of Peter Chlost et ux, and running thence

WESTERLY along last named land One Hundred Seventy-four and 60/100 (174.60) feet to land of Boston & Maine Railroad Company, Lessee of the Connecticut River Railroad Company; thence running

SOUTHERLY along land of the Boston & Maine Railroad Company, Lessee of the Connecticut River Railroad Company, to land of Stanley Siok, et ux; thence running

EASTERLY along last named land One Hundred Forty-six and 50/100 (146.50) feet, more or less, to the westerly side of Front Street; thence running

NORTHERLY along the westerly side of said Front Street Sixty (60) feet to the point of beginning.

BEING the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors herein by deed of Francisco E. Santos, et ux, dated July 2, 2004 and recorded as aforesaid in Book 14331, Page 450.”

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 purchaser'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, said deposit to be increased to an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the purchase price, within five (5) business days of the sale, to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser. 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.

Polish National Credit Union,
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
Tel.: (413) 827-7500
Its Attorneys

Date: August 31, 2026
09/11, 09/18, 09/25/2026

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P1886EA
Estate of:
William Matthew Wiley
Also Known As:
Bill
Date of Death: July 9, 2026
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Shane L Wiley of Johns Island, SC** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Shane L Wiley of Johns Island, SC 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. 09/11/2026

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1

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2

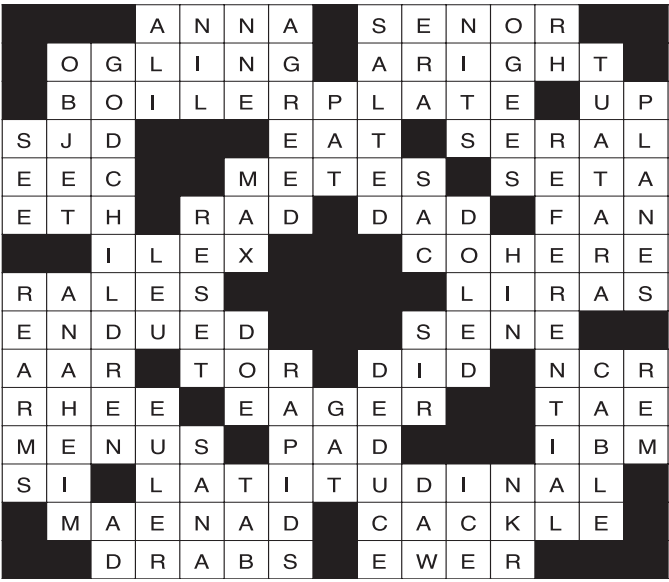
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3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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prior to submis-
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the purpose of the
notice, or as the
law demands.
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SERVERS WANTED
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1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069 or call **413-284-0005.**

The Town of Oakham is seeking a dependable individual to serve as a **PART-TIME CUSTODIAN** for the Oakham Town Hall and Library.
Position Details:
• Approximately 5-7 hours per week
• \$20.35 per hour
• Responsible for general cleaning and custodial duties at the Town Hall and Library
Interested candidates should email **admin@oakham-ma.gov** for further information and town employment application.
The Town of Oakham is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WARE JOB OPENING Part-Time Custodian
The Town of Ware is seeking applicants for the position of custodian. Duties include cleaning restrooms, sweeping, vacuuming, and mopping floors, cleaning windows, taking out trash and restocking supplies. Part-time, non-benefited, \$17.50 per hour, 12 hours per week.
Job applications can be found on the Town of Ware website **https://www.townof-ware.com** under Human Resources, at the Ware Town Hall, or e-mail your application or resume to **resumes@townof-ware.com**. AA/EOE

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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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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