

# Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

## Alianza DV Services hosts Chicopee Appreciation Day



(From Left) Abbigale Dearing, Lori Parzych, Carrie Chevalier-Vickers, Dinithi, Maria and Jennifer Bellville celebrated Chicopee Appreciation Day on Sept. 14 at Alianza. Blanchard was recognized for her collaboration with the organization.

Chicopee Public Schools Director of Career and Workforce Development Kara Blanchard was recognized during an afternoon ceremony at Alianza Sept. 14.

*Kara Blanchard, of Chicopee Public Schools, recognized for collaboration with Alianza*

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

HOLYOKE -- The atmosphere was vibrant Sept. 14 at Alianza DV Services' head-

quarters on Race Street, as the domestic violence shelter held a special open house to celebrate Chicopee Appreciation Day.

The event recognized the contributions made by Chicopee-based community agencies, residents and city offices in support of Alianza's work to assist survivors of domestic violence. In 2022, Alianza assisted more than 230 Chicopee residents by providing temporary emergen-

cy housing, assistance with restraining orders and other critical services.

"We are here to support survivors of intimate partner violence. We do that through public awareness events, and we do that through direct services," Alianza Executive Director Carmen Nieves said.

Chicopee Public Schools Director of Career and Workforce Development Kara Blanchard

was recognized during an afternoon ceremony that was attended by colleagues, students and family. Blanchard was honored for her ongoing collaboration with Alianza to bring awareness of the organization and knowledge of its resources to Chicopee schools.

Blanchard, a former Chicopee Register reporter, has been employed by CPS for approximately 15 years, where

she has always been tasked with instructing and directing workforce development.

Blanchard met Nieves during her early days with the school district at an event where she spoke about different programs she's involved in that help connect students with the community and potentially their future careers. Then, Alianza was

See ALIANZA page 6

COMMUNITY

## Irish Minister Patrick O'Donovan visits Elms College

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Elms College welcomed Patrick O'Donovan, Irish Minister of State for the Office of Public Works and the Gaeltacht, on Sept. 18 for a visit to meet with college administrators, faculty and students.

The visit took place at the Gaylord Mansion.

Additionally, a reception with O'Donovan, Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay, Ph.D., MBA, Annie Jowett, the college's Irish Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, Joyce Hampton, associate vice president of Strategic Initiatives & Dean, School of Arts, Sciences and Professional Programs, and History Professors Damien Murray, Ph.D. and Laura McNeil, Ph.D. emphasized the importance of Irish Studies, the Fulbright program, the college working with and collaborating with the Irish Cultural Center and more.

O'Donovan explained how generations of families have come and settled in Western Massachusetts and the linkages "are very clear and they're very well established for over many,



Patrick O'Donovan, Irish Minister of State for the Office of Public Works and the Gaeltacht, and Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay, Ph.D., MBA, shake hands at the Gaylord Mansion during the Irish Minister's visit to Elms College on Sept. 18.

many years."

"It's no different to many of the current institutions in Ireland and having a School of Irish Studies is a really profound statement of linkage between this college and the island of Ireland," O'Donovan said. "The heritage, the written language, our literature, our poetry but as well as the people that came here and for whom many of them the Irish language was their first lan-

guage and English would have been their second language."

O'Donovan added how, in political circles -- though not intended in Ireland -- there's a temptation to think of the Irish in Massachusetts as out of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts.

"As we know, there's a far bigger and probably more rooted

See IRISH PRIME MINISTER page 6

COMMUNITY



The Chicopee Fire Department has received the Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

## CFD receives \$40,977 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

*The grant will help purchase equipment for newly hired firefighters*

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- The fire department was recently awarded a \$40,977 Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA and

the Department of Homeland Security.

The federal grant program, around since 2001, helps firefighters and other first responders receive critically needed resources to help them protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

See FIRE DEPARTMENT page 9

# Chicopee raises the flag for Hydrocephalus Awareness Month



Joseph Sacharczyk, Isabella Sacharczyk, Massachusetts state chapter director of the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation, and Mayor John Vieau pose for a photo with the proclamation declaring September Hydrocephalus Awareness Month during the Hydrocephalus Awareness Month Flag-Raising Ceremony in Chicopee.



Joseph Sacharczyk and Isabella Sacharczyk, Massachusetts state chapter director of the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation, crank the lever to raise the flag for Hydrocephalus Awareness Month as Ward 9 City Councilor Mary Beth Costello, Facilities Director David Rice and Mayor John Vieau watch during the Hydrocephalus Awareness Month Flag-Raising Ceremony in Chicopee.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

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

CHICOPEE -- Community members gathered at City Hall Plaza on Sept. 14 to raise the flag for Hydrocephalus Awareness Month.

Mayor John Vieau presided over the ceremony alongside city employees, local

officials and members of the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation, the flag-raising a first for the city.

Hydrocephalus is an incurable brain condition where the cerebral spinal fluid does not drain from the brain, with brain surgery as the only treatment.

Vieau shared he knew someone who was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, having a shunt put in to release pressure from

their brain, and how learning more about the condition serves as a reminder of “the strength of human spirit and the importance of community support.”

“Every condition, every challenge our community members face is an opportunity for us to come together, learn and uplift one another. It’s a call to awareness, understanding and empathy,” Vieau said.

Vieau said the medical community “is making strides in understanding and treating” hydrocephalus from surgeries to ongoing research, but also “there is a role for all of us to support, educate ourselves and to extend a hand of friendship.”

“This Hydrocephalus Awareness Month let’s pledge to be there for our neighbors, our friends and

anyone impacted because when one of us faces a challenge, it’s an opportunity for all of us to come together,” Vieau said.

Isabella Sacharczyk, the Massachusetts state chapter director for the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation, has hydrocephalus and has had 23 brain surgeries along with a stroke and meningitis.

Sacharczyk, who turns 25 years old this month, shared discovering the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation in 2014 and attending a conference through the foundation in Washington D.C. made her feel less alone and changed her life.

“It was at that point that I came to the realization that I wanted to not only raise money for research with the foundation but also help fund a cure for hydrocephalus through my efforts becoming a medical researcher myself,” Sacharczyk said.

Sacharczyk hopes, one day, there is a treatment that won’t need brain surgery and that people with hydrocephalus “won’t have to suffer the way I have suffered in the last 25 years.”

“That is why I do what I do,” Sacharczyk said.

Vieau presented the proclamation to Sacharczyk, thanking her for bringing more attention to hydrocephalus.

“Thank you for your efforts in raising awareness and fighting every single day for a cure, even getting involved in the medical field and helping to make a difference every single day for those who struggle, so thank you for what you do,”

Vieau said.

Sacharczyk was moved by Chicopee not only recognizing her efforts at the ceremony but also raising awareness for the condition.

“I’m in awe of today’s event and tremendously grateful for this opportunity,” Sacharczyk said.

Sacharczyk, who will be graduating from Westfield State University in spring 2024 with a bachelor’s degree in biology, elaborated on how the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation inspired her career path.

“I didn’t always know I wanted to pursue a career in research. It wasn’t until I met the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation that I really came to this realization that we need research, that we need to not only fundraise but also educate and advocate and get more awareness out there for the condition,” Sacharczyk said.

Sacharczyk summed up her future goals like this.

“To continue my work with the foundation, continue to hold fundraisers and speak with my community about hydrocephalus and help keep hydrocephalus at the forefront of everybody’s mind and make hydrocephalus a household name,” Sacharczyk said.

The ceremony concluded with Joseph Sacharczyk and Isabella Sacharczyk raising the Hydrocephalus Awareness Month flag.

To learn more, visit hydrocephaluskids.org or contact Sacharczyk at bella@hydrocephaluskids.org.

## Rotary Club of Chicopee Dinner and a Show!

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# Chicopee receives \$431,500 grant from MassDEP

City Council approves pump station repairs

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- On Tuesday, City Council unanimously accepted a \$431,500 Connecticut River CSO Abatement Project Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection through the Pioneer Planning Commission for fiscal year 2024.

The grant will fund a portion of the South Fairview Sewer Separation Project as well as the procurement and initiation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Flow Monitoring System. A total of \$953,000 was split unevenly between three communities.

"This is a grant from DEP," Elizabette Batista, superintendent of the Department of Public Works, said. "In the

past, it's been a little bit larger, but we still got a significant portion of it, and we hope that this is something that continues to be offered to these communities with all the requirements for sewer separation."

Mayor John Vieau was grateful that Chicopee got its "fair share," as he noted the money will be put to good use.

"We are in the midst of doing some pretty significant projects, supplementing them with some ARPA money, and this grant will certainly help," Vieau said. "It's a pretty significant amount for the city of Chicopee, and we're thankful for that."

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello was pleased to learn that a portion of the grant will be used on the South Fairview Sewer Separation Project. She thanked Batista and the Mayor's Office for doing their due diligence and spoke further about the progression of the sewer separation project.

"There was a meeting last Thursday. It was well-attended," she said. "And the DPW as well as the Water Department explained to the residents how this project is going to unfold. I appreciate their work and efforts in modernizing our sewers and our water mains as well."

On Sept. 19, City Council also unanimously appropriated \$125,000 for DPW pump station repairs.

A total of \$50,000 will be put towards syphon cleaning, \$50,000 will be spent on West End Mills Sewer Improvements and another \$25,000 will be put towards WW South Fairview CSO Design.

"This is the large Jones Ferry Pump Station project that's been ongoing with Tighe & Bond and R.H. White. It has gone significantly beyond what was anticipated for the substantial completion date," Batista said. "A letter assessing liquidated damages was submitted I believe in April, and the project is making

headway; should be done next month. But this amendment is to cover the additional cost incurred by our consultant for construction oversight and construction admin services."

Batista said that even though the budget didn't cover it, the consultant continued to provide construction oversight until after the fiscal year, when the city knew what it had for funds.

"So, this is us making good on their amendment and covering the rest of the anticipated construction of this project," Batista said.

Mayor John Vieau directed kind words toward Batista, thanking her for completing a difficult job.

"I want to thank the superintendent for holding the contractor accountable. Assessing liquidated damages is not something we like to do, but when they don't meet deadlines and don't follow the scope of the project, it's a necessity," Vieau said.

## City Council debates if Ernie Laflamme is too old for COA board

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- Conversation erupted during a normally quiet segment of City Council on Tuesday, as councilors went back and forth discussing if one can be too old to serve on a city committee.

After the council quickly voted to reappoint Sheryl Gelinis, Karen Rousseau and Steve Michalik to the COA board, Ernie Laflamme, 92, was next up.

It would be a challenge to adequately list all Laflamme's contributions to the city in a single article.

While Laflamme was reappointed to the COA board, it was not unanimously. Ward 6 Councilor Derek Dobosz acknowledged Laflamme's history but explained why he couldn't cast a favorable vote.

"I just believe that after a certain age, it's time for some new people and some new ideas to come in. He's in his 90s. I appreciate him serving the city through his whole life, but I believe at a certain point it's time to pass the torch," Dobosz said.

Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks fired back, questioning the relevancy of Laflamme's age and noting that his mental acuity and level of engagement in the community remain high.

"That is one of the most blatant examples of ageism that I've ever heard, to publicly state a discriminatory comment with respect to 'you're too old to serve.' I've known Mr. L, as I refer to him, for over 50 years, and Mr. L has always been quick-witted, sharp and continues to go with an energy I can only hope to have at half his age," Brooks said.

Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski was unhappy with Dobosz's reasoning. He asked the councilors to vote unanimously for Laflamme; he said that some members of the council could soon reach that age and asked Dobosz if he would put them "out to pasture."

"Listen, I'm tired of hearing about age. I was with Mr. Laflamme this past weekend. He is very capable. He's probably one of the most dignified cit-

izens in the city of Chicopee... I'm really appalled by you mentioning age," Zygarowski said.

Ward 1 Councilor Joel McAuliffe said Laflamme has served with dignity his entire career and pointed out that he was a leader in the process of making the state-of-the-art RiverMills Center a reality in Chicopee.

"This is quite literally the COA that serves our seniors, and both of our councilors who have expressed their interest in not voting for Mr. Laflamme this evening did not raise those concerns when we had other individuals in their 90s serve for reappointment. It's quite honestly astonishing, it's disrespectful and it's unbecoming of someone in a position of public trust," McAuliffe said.

The second councilor McAuliffe referred to was Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López; she said Laflamme has done a great job but questioned the chain of command that oversaw the appointment, noting there were "compromising ethics."

"I want to make it clear that the reason I'm not supporting has nothing to do with Mr. Laflamme's age... This is not political. It's what I think the integral thing is to do," López said.

As the conversation continued, McAuliffe questioned López's motivation to vote against Laflamme.

"I just want to say it's unfortunate that one of our members is not familiar with the state's ethics law and what constitutes a conflict, denying Mr. Laflamme a vote. We can claim it's not about him or his family or politics in general, but it couldn't be more transparent and that's the case," McAuliffe said.

Ultimately, Laflamme was voted back in by a vote of eight yes and two no and while multiple councilors abstained.

Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie was proud to cast a vote in favor of Laflamme.

"Ernie Laflamme is just in my opinion a pillar of the community if not the pillar of the community right now. No matter how old he is, he can keep serving as long as he wants in my opinion," he said.

## Sunshine Village experiments with 'exploding seeds'



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUNSHINE VILLAGE

CHICOPEE -- For Mad Science Monday, Sunshine Village experimented with "exploding seeds" on Sept. 18. The Davis and Knights program used a balloon, pom-poms and some rice crispy cereal by placing them in a balloon and inflating it with air. Next, participants went outside and popped the balloon, causing all the items in the balloon to be carried by the wind and spread out on the ground. This was a neat experiment to see how "seeds" can naturally travel through wind and randomly grow. Caption courtesy of Sunshine Village.

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## GUEST COLUMN



### American white pelican



The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a rare sighting of an American white pelican at Big Pond in Otis.

The white pelican winters along the Florida and Gulf Coast. It breeds in the western part of Canada and the United States. It is 62 inches long, white with a large orange-yellow bill and throat pouch. In flight, the trailing half of the wings are black.

The immature is similar to the adult, but the bill and throat pouch are gray and the wing markings are brown not black. The immature plumage is kept for three to four years.

These pelicans feed while swimming, dipping the bill into the water to catch fish in its pouch. They often feed in small groups where they herd fish toward shallow water to make facilitate catching the fish.

The female lays one to three white eggs in a nest that is a slight depression on bare ground or on a mound of earth, brush stems and debris. They often nest colonially on large inland lakes.

The American white pelican is one of the largest birds in North America. It can soar for long distance and often flies in line or V formation. During breeding season, they may do flights involving soaring and diving. They are generally quiet away from their breeding grounds. The young in the nest can give loud whines or grunts.

### Bald eagle

An Oakham couple camped with family members at Lake Dennison over the Labor Day weekend. They spotted a bald eagle while kayaking. Upon returning to shore, their son was looking at a bird perched in a tree and said it was a bald eagle. They took turns watching the eagle through the binoculars.

### Lots of wild turkeys

Seeing wild turkeys along the side of the road or even having to stop while they cross the road is a common occurrence in my travels around the area. This Monday, I stopped and watched a flock of six or so Tom turkeys. The three largest ones displayed their tail feathers in what looked like a competition between them.

Although wild turkeys are a common sighting now, I enjoy watching them. I also see flocks of several hens with their poults in various stages of growth.

### Hummingbirds

The ruby throated hummingbirds are now migrating. Many people keep their nectar feeders out until later this month for a food source for the stragglers. Soon, it will be time to take in the nectar feeders, clean them and put them away until next May when the ruby throated hummingbirds return.

### Audubon society sightings

In addition to the American white pelican in Otis, the Massachusetts Audubon Society reported another rare sighting a masked booby at the edge of the continental shelf near Hydrographer Canyon. The booby was one of only three or four sightings ever recorded in Massachusetts.

Other sightings included red crossbills

## GUEST COLUMN



### Friends in the garden

For the last couple of weeks, I have been eagerly observing a garden spider in one of my flower beds.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This garden spider, an Agriope, is a helpful friend to gardeners.

It is so beautiful.

Spider foes might balk at that particular choice of words. But if the shoe fits, wear it!

This spider is indeed a beauty. Over an inch long, yellow and black in color and attached to an intricately woven web, the spider on guard, waiting for unsuspecting prey.

Many years ago, when I grew flowers that were members of the Celosia genus in a big cut flower garden, it seemed this particular spider was a frequent visitor. I haven't seen one like it in a few years.

Lo and behold, she's attached to some plumed celosia, doing her thing. Read on to learn more about a real hero, garden style!

This particular garden spider goes by the name of Argiope (rhymes with calliope). Besides its brilliant color, other distinguishing characteristics include a large, egg-shaped abdomen, three claws on each foot, and a foot wide (or larger) web that has a zig zag band of silk called "stabilimenta" running through its center.

The argiope makes its home in most of the lower 48 states, Mexico and Central America as far south as Costa Rica. It prefers sunny areas among flowers, shrubs and other tall plants to construct its web.

If weather permits, the female spider will construct and repair her web both day and night and will remain there unless food is scarce, or disturbances are frequent. Males generally roam in search of a mate, and when they find one will sometimes build a small web nearby to begin courtship.

Although their vision is rather poor, males get their intentions across by plucking and vibrating the females' web.

Once mating is complete, it is presumed that males die. Females produce up to three brown egg sacks, each one containing 300-1,400 eggs.

The sacks are positioned close to mom, nearby her resting position in the center of the web.

Unfortunately, she will die prior to or as a result of the first hard frost, and although her eggs will hatch within the sack they do not emerge until spring. In warmer climates the female argiope may live for several years.

As with all spiders, the black and yellow garden spider is carnivorous. Its orb-shaped web will capture all sorts of flying insects, including aphids, flies, grasshoppers, and even wasps and bees.

Amazingly, she can bring down prey nearly twice her size thanks to a venomous bite that immobilizes its victims. We need not worry about this spider.

Although it is large, it bites only when harassed, and reportedly, its venom poses no threat to humans. In fact, the argiope is a valued predator of grasshoppers in American rangelands.

The spider will be fun to watch as the season progresses.

I have to admit I am a little sad that she won't survive the winter. I will have to be on the look out for her egg sacks.

Nature is just amazing. Be sure to stop and admire the spiders every now and then and smell the roses, too!

*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.*



at Montague Plains Wildlife Management area, eight red crossbills at the Birch Hill Wildlife Management Area in Winchendon, four sandhill cranes Meadows Conservation Area near Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Northampton, and upland sandpiper, a whimbrel, a Baird's sandpiper, a short-billed dowitcher, a dickcissel and two lark sparrows in Northampton. Also reported were a Bonaparte's gull and a common tern at the Quabbin

Reservoir Visitor Center in Belchertown and three black vultures over Mount Wachusett in Princeton.

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

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

## Chicopee Register TEAM



**EDITOR**  
Dalton Zbierski  
[dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)



**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)



**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)



**STAFF WRITER**  
Kristin Rivers  
[krivers@turley.com](mailto:krivers@turley.com)

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Editor  
Dalton Zbierski  
[dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)

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# South Fairview Neighborhood Meeting provides information on upcoming projects



A poster showing past sewer separation and water replacement project work to residents during the South Fairview Neighborhood Meeting on Sept. 14.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Fred DaCruz, project manager at Ludlow Construction Company, Jennifer Gilbert, P.E., project manager at Tighe and Bond, David Partridge, P.E.- vice president at Tighe & Bond, Colin Powers, project Manager at Tighe and Bond and Quinn Lonczak, project supervisor at Chicopee Water Pollution Control, discuss the upcoming Sewer Separation and Water Replacement Project during the South Fairview Neighborhood Meeting on Sept. 14.

*The project will involve sewer separation and water replacement*

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

CHICOPEE -- Residents visited the Fairview Elementary School cafeteria on Sept. 14 for a neighborhood meeting on an upcoming sewer separation and water replacement project.

The two-and-a-half-year, \$19,066,932 project will replace sewer, water and drain for the South Fairview neighborhood.

The work begins in about three weeks, with pipe installed from Fall 2023 to Summer 2025 and the roads paved and completed by the end of Fall 2025.

During the meeting, residents asked questions and discussed their concerns with Fred DaCruz, project manager at Ludlow Construction Company, Jennifer Gilbert, P.E., project manager at Tighe & Bond, David Partridge, P.E., vice president at Tighe & Bond, Colin Powers, project manager at Tighe & Bond and Quinn Lonczak, project supervisor at Chicopee Water Pollution Control.

Some of the questions concerned the process for the project, timelines for completion and what residents should expect and prepare for during the project's duration.

Lonczak broke down what the project itself would entail.

"We're taking what is one sewer in the road and we're going to put in a sewer and a drain, so for dedicated rain and for dedicated sewage," Lonczak

said. "While we're there, we also replace the water mains because we're digging everything else up, and the water mains are aged as well."

Lonczak appreciated the questions residents asked during the meeting, including letting them know when the project ends and what comes up during the project.

"I'm excited just to see that people care. They're coming out, they care about their neighborhood, and this means they're happy that we're coming in and doing the work. That means it's needed, so that's money well spent," Lonczak said.

Lonczak explained the project has several goals, including eliminating basement backups and preventing overflow from storms from going into the nearby rivers.

He explained how the neighborhood has "a lot of basement backups," and the project will eliminate the issue.

"My chief concern is people having basement backups. That is something no one wants to go through," Lonczak said. "So that's our goal. Nobody has a backup going forward."

On holding neighborhood meetings for projects like this, Lonczak said, "The more people know, the better we

can all do."

"So, if they're informed, they can inform us. They live here, we're not here every day. We know the city well, but they live here, they know it the best, so we want to hear from them so we can do our jobs efficiently," Lonczak said. "It's their money, we're spending their money. So, we need to spend it as efficiently as possible and if we're informed, we can do that."

Lonczak said more neighborhood meetings can be held for residents regarding the proj-

ect if they want them.

"If there's demand for one, we absolutely will," Lonczak said. "If folks want to have one, we will do it."

Lonczak wants the community to know they are "very careful" with the city's sewer dollars for projects and they "are being spent wisely."

"We have responsibilities to our permit writers, to the environment, to our residents. We have to balance all of those, and we try to do our best," Lonczak said. "We have a lot of things we have to weigh, and

we try to go to the neighborhoods that are most impacted by these combined sewers, so it's usually the backups in the basements."

Lonczak also stressed the project involved years of planning and will help better the neighborhood.

"We're really trying to make this a good place to live," Lonczak said.

To learn more, contact Lonczak at 413-594-3585, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., or by email at qlonczak@chicopeema.gov.

## Wilbraham & Monson Academy OPEN HOUSE Sunday, October 1, 10 a.m.

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## Rotary Club of Chicopee presents Dinner and a show on Oct. 3

CHICOPEE -- On Thursday, Oct. 5, the Rotary Club of Chicopee will present Dinner and a Show! at Munich Haus Banquet Hall, located at 13 Center St.

The event will feature cocktails and a buffet dinner from 5:30-7 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

The show features Emcee Ashley Kohl, Robert Black as Elvis and Nicole

Fuller as Lady Gaga and Rick Larrimore as Rod Stewart.

Tickets cost \$50 and include buffet and live entertainment.

Corporate sponsorship costs \$250 and includes four tickets with appropriate advertising recognition.

To buy tickets for the event, go to Chicopeerotary.org.



The team at Alianza celebrated Kara Blanchard of Chicopee Public Schools on Sept. 14.

### ALIANZA from page 1

known as Companeras.

"From there, we talked about ways that we might be able to appropriately connect students with being aware of the services (at Alianza) and maybe helping advocate for some of them or giving a little bit of training," Blanchard said.

Over the years, the district's curriculum expanded and developed, giving students an opportunity to work with Alianza, where they receive training and help domestic violence survivors find a sense of normalcy by assisting with homework or celebrating holidays.

"It really depends on the student's interests, and (Alianza is) so flexible and so involved in mentoring that they've really crafted something for really anyone," Blanchard said. "So, if someone's interested in psychology, they could come here and start to become aware of some of these community issues as well as the resources."

From advocacy to marketing to education to psychology, numerous learning opportunities are available for Chicopee students who spend time at Alianza.

Abbigale Dearing has worked for Alianza for about four years. Prior to that, she became familiar with the operation during her senior year at Chicopee Comprehensive High School in 2017-2018.

Dearing was interested in psychology and approached Blanchard, who connected her with Nieves through the district's career center, which gives students

the opportunity to get early experience with the careers they want to pursue.

"It was really eye-opening. I remember one of my first days here we came in, and they were having walk-ins, and there was a young mother and daughter, and the daughter was covered in bruises," Dearing said. "Seeing those kinds of things is very heartbreaking, but as time went on, after shadowing other advocates and seeing the work and the mission and the heart and the endless effort put into this, it was very moving."

Dearing fell in love with advocacy because it allows her to help survivors rediscover their voice, regain their strength and reestablish their foundation.

"At the shelter, we empower the survivors, and we build with them and let them know they're not alone and we're here to help them through anything," Dearing said. "My favorite thing is seeing them regain their strength back. Everything's stripped away from them, and they don't feel like they have control or their voice anymore, so to see them kind of believe in themselves again and regain that confidence, then they know they're going to be okay, and that abuser doesn't have control over them."

Since its founding, Alianza has sheltered more than 10,000 women and children and assisted 35,000 others through its community-based domestic violence programs.

If you are in urgent need of domestic violence services, call Alianza's hotline at 877-536-1628.

## Elms College receives work-based learning grant from Council of Independent Colleges

CHICOPEE -- The Council of Independent Colleges has selected the College of Our Lady of the Elms to participate in the inaugural cohort of the CIC's Work-Based Learning Consortium.

Elms College is one of 25 member colleges from across the country to participate in the first-ever WBL Consortium. For its participation, Elms has been awarded a three-year grant of approximately \$65,000 from CIC, which will be effective starting spring 2024.

The WBL Consortium will provide a national community of practice to support WBL Consortium institutions in easing student barriers to internship access and job market preparation, particularly for students from under-represented groups. This experiential learning platform, in partnership with Riipen, will integrate real-world, employer-designed projects

into existing courses to equip students with skills, real-world experiences, and professional connections to support their future careers.

"Elms is honored to be a part of CIC's WBL Consortium which will provide our students an enhanced learning experience since the internships will be integrated within their course curricula," said Jennifer Granger L. Sullivan, Ed.D., director of Experiential Learning at Elms.

CIC and Riipen will work with a team of seven faculty and staff members at Elms to update curricula and integrate experiential learning into course materials starting with the spring 2024 semester.

This CIC initiative is made possible thanks to funding from Ascendium Education Group and Strada Education Foundation.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Elms College students Cassidy Ryan and Denise Mahoney, Patrick O'Donovan, Irish Minister of State for the Office of Public Works and the Gaeltacht; Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay, Ph.D., MBA, Elms College student Julia Daley and Annie Jowett, Irish Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant at Elms College, take a group photo during the Irish Minister's visit to Elms College on Sept. 18.

### IRISH PRIME MINISTER from page 1

diaspora in Western Massachusetts that has continued to build their cultural links between here and Ireland," O'Donovan said.

During the reception, Jowett shared her story of being a Fulbright and her hopes to inspire students to learn the Irish language and culture.

"Students here are motivated to learn Irish for a variety of reasons. For example, some are Irish heritage and are eager to explore these connections. Others are keen to learn and explore a new language," Jowett said.

She also reflected on her Fulbright being "two-fold."

"While teaching and sharing Irish culture and language to students at the college is one key part of it, as a Fulbrighter like the many before me, I also act as a cultural ambassador to the wider Elms community and beyond through my time with the Irish Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts," Jowett said.

McNeil reflected on the power of the Irish language impacting the college's history program and courses.

"I cannot emphasize enough how much language is a central feature of our

program. Essentially, Irish history and Irish language. That's the foundation that we build everything upon," McNeil said.

She and Murray also thanked O'Donovan for the opportunities the country of Ireland provides Elms College students.

"We hope that we can continue to offer Elms College students an opportunity to learn about Irish culture and to study the Irish language either here in Chicopee or in Ireland," Murray said.

Dumay appreciated O'Donovan taking the time to visit Elms, sharing it "really underscores the importance of the deep Irish connections and the Irish ties of Elms College with Ireland" from the college's founding to today.

Dumay reiterated this point in what he wants the community to know about O'Donovan's visit, including how it strengthens the importance of keeping the Irish language alive at the college.

"We're doing our share here with the Irish Fulbright Language Teacher to make sure that that happens here at Elms College. So, synergy's all around. We'd like the Chicopee community and the Greater Springfield community at large to be aware of that important connection between Elms College and Ireland," Dumay said.



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# Sports

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## Orioles bust Colts win streak

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—With 10 minutes remaining in the second half, the members of the Belchertown boys' varsity soccer team were getting ready to celebrate their first victory of the regular season.

While Belchertown did post a 3-0 shutout victory over Chicopee Comp in last Thursday's home opener, the Orioles players didn't do very much celebrating following the match.

Belchertown junior Joey Borelli, who netted the first two goals of the non-league match, suffered a left knee injury during the 71<sup>st</sup> minute. He was transported by ambulance to a local hospital to be checked out.

"We were playing very well before Joey was injured," said Belchertown senior captain Trevor Weiss, who assisted on Borelli's first goal. "Joey has been a member of the varsity soccer team since he was a freshman and he's a very important player to us. We're hoping that it's not a very serious injury."

Tanner Lockwood, who's also a senior captain, along with C.J. Rivers, has known Borelli for the past ten years.

"I first met Joey at a soccer camp in Belchertown when I was eight years old," Lockwood said. "He's probably one of my best friends. It was very emotional when I saw him go down. He



Caleb Germain looks to make a move up the field.

suffered the same injury a couple of months ago. We'll be praying that he gets back on the field again real soon."

Borelli, who was wearing a brace, injured his left knee for the first time while playing a match for his club team.

"It's always difficult to lose any player to an injury, but losing a quality soccer player like Joe Borelli is going to hurt us a lot," said Belchertown head coach Zach Siano. "There is no other player on this team who loves playing soccer as much as he

does. I know he's going to push himself to get back on the field again. He's a great kid."

It was the first meeting between the two boys' soccer teams in the past seven years.

Belchertown defeated Comp five times between 2011-2016.

The Orioles (1-1), who were shutout in their season opener at West Springfield, had nine days off between matches due to a couple of postponements.

"This was actually the first

See COLTS page 8

## Pacers edge Rams for third win



Dominic Garcia makes a quick pass.

CHICOPEE – Last Saturday morning, Chicopee boys soccer edged visiting Granby with a goal in each half for a 2-1 win, their third of the season. Griffen Wisley had both goals for the Pacers while goalie Adam Brunelle did not see a lot of action, making just one save for the win. Chicopee is 3-2.



Yousif Hamid advances up the field.



Henry Ryczek passes to his left.



Jason Brown chases down a loose ball.



Isaiah Vargas follows through on his tee-off swing.

## Chicopee golf looks for first win

CHICOPEE – Last week, Chicopee golf suffered a pair of losses against Ware and inner city rival Chicopee Comprehensive to drop to 0-4 for the season. The Pacers have also faced Palmer and Northampton so far this year. Due to rain, there have also been a lot of rainouts in the first three weeks of the season. The Pacers look for their first win on Sept. 26 against South Hadley at 3 p.m.



Josh Tomlinson sends his first ball away.



Keaton DoSantos tries to chip in a putt.



Lauren Cross follows through on her swing.

## T-Birds start season Oct. 14

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud AHL affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, today announced their slate of promotions and theme nights for the 2023-24 season, presented by MGM Springfield. The T-Birds will host 36 home games from October to April inside the MassMutual Center.

The Calder Cup quest begins on Saturday, Oct. 14 for Opening Night presented by MGM Springfield. In the team's annual tradition, fans will be treated to a pregame Block Party on the property of MGM Springfield from 4:00 - 6:00 PM presented by Community Bank N.A. with the support of the Springfield Business Improvement District (BID). The outdoor bash will feature live music, food, and drink. Thunderbirds fans will have the opportunity to get their hands on a plethora of giveaway souvenir items this season, beginning on Opening Night with jersey-shaped rally towels on each and every seat at the MassMutual Center.

"On the heels of a record 15 sell-outs last season, we are continuing to aim higher to ensure the Thunderdome remains a definitive home-ice advantage for our team," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "Our fans will always remain our number one priority, and this year's promotions and theme nights reflect that, as there truly is something in it for everybody. We cannot wait to get another unforgettable season underway."

Fans interested in attending Opening Night can take advantage of a value offer with the purchase of a Dunkin' Opening Night Pack, which starts at \$100 in the Defense Zone, \$115 in the Attack Zone sections and \$130 in the Center Value Zone sections. Fans who purchase a pack will receive: two (2) tickets to Opening Night on Oct. 14; four (4) vouchers redeemable at any regular season game in 2023-24 (subject to availability); one (1) T-Birds hat; a Dunkin' gift card; and one (1) Single Day Big E admission\*.

## Bonsignore adds 11th Riverhead Raceway win at crucial time

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. – Saturday night's NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race at Riverhead Raceway came down to the final five laps, with the two championship contenders battling it out to the finish.

At the checkered flag, Justin Bonsignore scored his 11th career Riverhead Raceway victory, tying Mike Ewanitkso for the most all-time at the New York bullring. The win was also his 40th career in NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour competition and fifth of the 2023 season.

Bonsignore is one of just four drivers in the history of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour to win 40 events. He is currently just two wins behind tying Ted Christopher for third on the all-time list.

With the win, Bonsignore took over the points lead over Ron Silk with just three races remaining in the season. Silk finished third on Saturday after the two battled down the stretch.

"Tying Mike Ewanitkso has been a goal of mine since I was fortunate enough to start winning races here on the Whelen Modified Tour," Bonsignore said. "I wish he was here tonight, but I'm sure I will get something funny in texts later tonight. It was a heavyweight fight for sure tonight. This is an awesome event that everyone here puts together to keep racing going on Long Island and honor Ed Partridge. The momentum has been on our side lately - onto North Wilkesboro in two weeks."

The next event on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour schedule is set for Saturday, Sept. 30, as the series heads to North Wilkesboro Speedway, one of the most historic tracks in NASCAR history. For more information on three-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Justin Bonsignore, visit JustinBonsignore.com and follow his Athlete page on Facebook for the latest news and updates from the track.

**COLT** from page 7

time that we've been on this field," Siano said. "We normally practice over at the Jabish Brook Middle School. We played a couple of friendlies against our j.v. team during the layoff."

Belchertown, who finished the 2022 campaign with a 17-2-4 overall record, defeated South Hadley in the Western Mass. Class B finals. The Orioles only home loss a year ago was to Smith Division rival Ludlow. Their other setback was to Dedham High School in the Divi-

sion 3 state semifinals.

Chicopee Comp, who finished last season with a 15-3-2 record, lost to South Hadley in the Class B semifinals. They also lost to Melrose in the first round of the Division 2 state tournament.

The Colts arrived at Belchertown High School with a perfect 3-0 record. They began the regular season with victories against Northampton (2-1), Holyoke (9-2), and S.C.I.S. (6-1).

Comp head coach Jij Mercer didn't attend last Thursday's match. He was dealing with a personal matter and assistant coach Edson Souza took over the head coaching duties.

The junior duo of Jack Mandeville and Kamden Houle combined to post the Orioles' first shutout of the season.

"Jack and Kam are both very good goalies. It was nice to see them get a clean sheet," Siano said. "I normally like to let the goalie play the whole game. But because of our postponements, I thought this would be a good way to give them some reps."

Mandeville, who was the Orioles starting goalie against Comp, didn't have to make any saves during the first 40 minutes. Houle, who took over in goal at the start of the second half, was credited with three saves.

The home team took a 1-0 lead following a free kick during the sixth minute of the opening half.

Weiss took the kick from just outside the box and Borelli deflected the ball into the net past Comp senior goalie Frankie Cabrera-Cavette (9 saves).

"It was nice to see us capitalize on a spot kick," Siano said. "We had a few more scoring chances, but Comp is a very good team."

Comp's first shot on goal was by junior Derek Lonczak in the middle of the first half, but his shot attempt sailed wide.

Belchertown held a slim 1-0 lead at halftime.

Borelli scored the Orioles second goal during the 53<sup>rd</sup> minute following a throw-in from Lockwood.

Comp also had a scoring chance ten minutes later.

A free kick taken by senior Ethan Sousa was punched away by Houle. Sousa's rebound shot was deflected wide resulting in a corner kick.

In the middle of the second half, Belchertown sophomore Austin Raymer netted his first varsity goal, which was assisted by junior Ian McDonald.

The Orioles played a scoreless tie at Longmeadow the following afternoon.



Frankie Cabrera-Cavette socks the ball away.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



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Tineus McCluster runs down a loose ball.



Nicholas Byrnes heads the ball over his opponent.





## Chicopee marks International Overdose Awareness Day

CHICOPEE – The City of Chicopee marked International Overdose Awareness Day with a flag-raising ceremony at City Hall Plaza on Aug. 31. Mayor John Vieau was joined by community members, Tapestry Health and more for the ceremony.

International Overdose Awareness Day is an annual campaign to remember loved ones lost to overdoses, shine a light on the issues of addiction and overdoses and raise awareness for resources available to help those who are struggling.

COURTESY PHOTOS CHICOPEE MAYOR'S OFFICE



## Springfield Technical High School – Every Class Reunion Sept. 23



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY MATT VILLAMAINO

Standing in front of Tech High on Elliot Street, committee members for the September 23 Every Class Tech Reunion (L to R) Mike Borecki '72, Dawn Duncan '71, Matt Villamaino '67, Paul Montefusco '69, Joan Learned '56, Walter LaBroad '47, and Margaret McCormick '74.

SPRINGFIELD -- The spirit and comradery of Springfield's Tech High School is alive and well, as they gear up for another exciting reunion on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Elks Lodge #61 at 440 Tiffany St. from 3-8 p.m. The reunion is open to ALL TECH CLASSES.

An outside barbecue will be held rain or shine under the lodge's pavilion and will include hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, salads, vegan options, dessert and more. Cash bar. Free parking and handicap accessible.

A fun-filled afternoon will include DJ and dancing, cornhole and bocce games, raffles and time to reminisce with friends over the years and make new friends as well.

According to committee chair Mike Borecki, "Tech High was a great school, and many lifelong friendships were forged back then. It's our dream for everyone to have fun and to keep the Tech Spirit tradition alive for many years to come.

Seating is limited and tickets are \$25 each. All are on a first come, first served basis. Open seating. For tickets call Mike Borecki '72 at 413-351-6572, Margaret McCormick '74 at 413-531-4763, Dawn Duncan '71 413-896-3930, or Matt Villamaino '67 at 413-896-2206

Located on Elliot Street in Springfield, MA Technical High School was founded in 1906 and closed in 1986.

## The Civil War Ballroom to be performed on Sept. 24



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSEPHINE SARNELLI, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, OF THE SMALL PLANET DANCERS

WEST SPRINGFIELD -- On Sunday, Sept. 24 "The Civil War Ballroom" will be performed on the Storrowton Green at The Big E. The 90-minute program will begin at 1:30 p.m. Small Planet Dancers, a community-based educational performance troupe from Westfield, will transport visitors back in time to experience the challenges and opportunities facing post-Civil War America. Through dancing, readings and sing-alongs, learn about the rebuilding of our country ... one community at a time.

Artistic Director Josephine Sarnelli explains that this program is an interactive play within a dance performance. The audience members are guests at an event to discuss the community's recovery after the Civil War. With the loss of so many men, women must take on more responsibilities of running their farms. The tem-

perance and suffrage movements, along with the development of Granges are all discussed. Popular during the Victorian era, a variety of waltzes, polkas, and reels are performed to traditional music. The men perform in tails and ladies in reproduction gowns of the early Victorian period with hoops.

The audience will participate in sing-alongs of popular Civil War songs with musician Albert Rosati on guitar. They will also be invited to participate in dancing a final march with the troupe.

This free program, hosted by the New England Grange, is sponsored by a grant from the West Springfield Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

For more information, call (413) 746-9067 or visit [www.SmallPlanetDancers.com](http://www.SmallPlanetDancers.com).

### FIRE DEPARTMENT from page 1

Chief Daniel Stamborski explained the grant award "was really good timing," as the modern equipment for each firefighter "is very expensive," and includes helmets, boots, turnout coats, turnout pants, face masks and fire protective hoods and gloves.

"We just hired nine new firefighters, so that will pay for the equipment for all nine of them, so we're really thrilled to be getting that," Stamborski said.

Stamborski praised the fire department's Grant Writing Committee for their support and work in obtaining grants to support the department.

"They come in on their own personal time because they care about the City of Chicopee, and they care about the department and they work really hard to try and put these things together," Stamborski said.

Stamborski shared what receiving this grant means for the fire department and what the protective equipment does for firefighters.

"Number one, the equipment is very expensive, and it's hard for some cities and towns to afford this equipment and, number two, it's vitally important to protect them when they're going into fire conditions or when they're extricating somebody from a car accident or some-

thing," Stamborski said. "It's protective equipment to protect them from cancer-causing stuff that's airborne during a fire. In the event of a car accident or something, it protects them from getting injured; as they're extricating somebody, there's jagged metal around and so forth. The respiratory equipment to protect them from carcinogens is vitally important as well."

On finding the grants, Stamborski said the fire department typically hears or finds out about them through meetings, emails and the state fire academy.

"They have classes at the state fire academy that we attend, and they teach you some tips on what items are smart to go after in a particular year, so the fire academy is great on educating us about the grants as well," Stamborski said.

Stamborski added the grants help alleviate the taxes on residents.

"It's also a great tax-saving measure to the citizens of the city, you know, to take that burden off of them for needed equipment," Stamborski said.

On the nine new firefighters, Stamborski explained how "staffing is critically important to maintain the staffing requirements that we have on a daily basis."

He added how the city and Human Resources Department have helped with recruiting events, with a room filled with 30 people at a recent event ahead of the

yearly firefighter test in October.

"We're a big city and to keep all of our stations and ambulances on the road, we need a certain amount of people, minimum per shift every day. "While some communities are losing people to lateral transfers and whatnot, we're trying to do our best to retain who we have and go out and recruit new people," Stamborski said.

Stamborski wants the community to know the fire department is grateful to Mayor John Vieau and City Council

for being "consistently supportive of our staffing and of our equipment needs."

Additionally, the residents have a great department.

"The city is well-protected with regard to any sort of fire or medical emergency, and we're very proud of our department," Stamborski said.

He is also happy the grant award will cover the new, modern equipment.

"These are federal grant dollars and we're happy to be easing the burden on the local residents," Stamborski said.

## WE'RE ALL EARS

### Questions? Comments? Story Ideas?

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# OBITUARY

## Blanchard, Letitia LaBelle

CHICOPEE -- Letitia LaBelle Blanchard passed away peacefully on July 26, 2023. Born and raised in Chicopee, she graduated from Holy Name High School in Chicopee in 1955. She leaves behind two sons, Albert (Rusty) Bassett and William Bassett. A memorial Mass will be held for Letitia Sept. 25, 2023, at St Mary's Church on Somers Road in Hampden at 9 a.m. All are welcome.



# BUSINESS

## Ocean State Job Lot's 'Senior Deal Days' returns Sept. 21-27

NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI -- Ocean State Job Lot, the region's premier discount retail chain with 152 stores across the Northeast, announces the return of "Senior Deal Days" from Thursday, Sept. 21 through Wednesday, Sept. 27, customers ages 62 years and older are eligible to receive a Crazy Deal Gift Card equal to 40% of their purchase when they spend \$20.00 or more at Ocean State Job Lot.

Any senior who would like to take advantage of this promotion can simply sign up to be a Job Lot Insider, present a valid photo ID with proof of age to the cashier and ask the cashier to apply the promotion.

"Each year, we love to give our seniors the opportunity to earn some 'cash back' on their purchases during our 'Senior Deal Days' promotion," said Curtis Corl, chief marketing officer, OSJL. "With our wide variety of merchandise, we hope this offer can benefit as many of our senior customers as possible, whether they are shopping for everyday essentials, seasonal items, or getting a head start on holiday gifts."

Unless otherwise noted, the Senior Deal Days promotion is valid 9/21/2023 - 9/27/2023. Participants receive a Crazy Deal Gift Card equal to 40% of their purchase when they spend \$20.00 or more at all Ocean State Job Lot stores. Participants must be registered as a Job Lot Insider. This promotion does not apply to Ship to Store purchases. The promotion may not be combined with any other discount, offer or promotion, including but not limited to advertised sale items, Crazy Deals®, Insider coupons, and Insider Exclusive Deals. No rainchecks. Merchandise credit and Crazy Deal Gift Cards cannot be used as a form of tender during this promotion. Limited product exclusions apply, including Ocean State Job Lot gift cards, third party gift cards, clearance items, propane tanks and refills, beer and wine, and live plants and flowers. Offer may not be applied to past purchases. All warranty and return rules apply. ID with proof of age required. Acceptable forms of ID include driver's license, military/veteran ID, Medicare ID, and government-issued ID.

## NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

## 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

# PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on October 10/1/2023, 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.

2003 Ford F250 Super Duty  
VIN: 1FTNW21L43EB42738  
Unknown  
Unknown  
Unknown

2011 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCP2F42BA111050  
Destiny Kamroski  
40 Price St.  
Springfield, MA 01104

2007 Chrysler Sebring  
Touring  
VIN: 1C3LC56K97N547151  
Juan River  
67 Park St.  
Chicopee, MA 01020

2005 Infiniti FX35  
VIN: JNRAS08W05X203458  
Justin Illslex  
128 Beech St.  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

2003 Chevrolet Avalanche  
K1500A  
VIN: 3GNEK13T73G307944  
Wayne Doucette  
190 Richmond Rd.  
Coventry, CT 06238

2006 Hyundai Elantra Gls  
VIN: KMHDN46D06U365909  
Rene Sokoll  
76 Entrybrook Drive  
Springfield, MA 01108

2013 Ford Transit  
VIN: NM0LS7CN3DT158986  
Unknown  
Unknown  
Unknown

2007 Chevrolet Malibu  
VIN: 1G1ZT57F37F289784  
Shamyia Washington  
119 Main St. Apt. 11  
South Hadley, MA 01075

2008 Dodge Avenger Se  
VIN: 1B3LC46J28N144158  
Shawn Mcgrath  
129 Moss Rd.  
Springfield, MA 01119

2009 Nissan Altima  
VIN: JF1GPAB60G8259994  
Jose Arismael Hernandez  
12 Beacon St.  
Burlington, MA 01803

2006 Hyundai Elantra  
VIN: KMHDN46D16U336242  
Amanda Atha  
4114 High St.  
Thorndike, MA 01079

2010 Nissan Sentra  
VIN: 3N1AB6AP4AL686077  
Diana Ortiz  
5 Frederick St., Apt. 1  
Westfield, MA 01085

2010 Mazda CX-9

VIN: JM3TB3MV6A0213171  
Werner Kunz  
97 Sawyer Ave.  
Boston, MA 02125

2011 Toyota Camry  
VIN: 4T4BF3EK7BR198978  
Tricia Quarles  
511 Moody St., Unit 6  
Lowell, MA 01854

2010 Dodge Caliber  
VIN: 1B3CB3HA5AD598121  
Takeisha Graham  
55 Brookledge St.  
Boston, MA 02121

2009 Volkswagen Jetta S  
VIN: 3VWJMJ71K49M136978  
Scott Cleaning &  
Construction Llc  
16 Norton St.  
Nashua, NH 03064

2014 Ford Focus  
VIN: 1FADP3K28EL337458  
Zaka Merhni  
11952 Reedy Creek Dr.,  
Apt. 104  
Orlando, FL 32836

2001 Toyota Corolla  
VIN: 2T1BR12E11C408267  
James Odonnell  
9 Cedar St. 3L,  
Taunton, MA 02780

09/15, 09/22, 09/29/2023

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT CHICOPEE, MA 01020 CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project: CEL BID #23-0507 - CHICOPEE FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT STEEL PENSTOCK REPLACEMENT, FERC P-6522 828149

Bids for the construction of the Project must be submitted *in duplicate* form, sealed and marked on the outside "CEL Bid #23-0507 - Penstock Project" and received at the office of **Chicopee Electric Light** located at **725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020**, no later than **Friday, October 20, 2023 at 2:00 pm** local time. At that time, the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Owner intends to issue the Notice of Award on or about November 3, 2023.

The Project includes the following Work: **REPLACE UNIT 1 AND 2 PENSTOCKS AT THE CHICOPEE FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**

Owner anticipates that the Project's total bid price will be approximately \$2,500,000. The Project has an expected duration of approximately 350 days commencing upon contract execution, on or about November 15, 2023. Actual site work is anticipated

between May 1 and October 31, 2024.

## Obtaining the Bidding Documents

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:

[www.dubois-king.com/projects-bidding-active/](http://www.dubois-king.com/projects-bidding-active/)

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

**A mandatory pre-bid conference** for the Project will be held on **Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 10:00 am** at Chicopee Electric Light, 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA. Bids will not be accepted from Bidders that do not attend the mandatory pre-bid conference.

All bids for this project are subject to applicable bidding laws of Massachusetts, including M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 44A-H and M.G.L. c. 30, § 39M. Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Department of Labor Standards under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 26-27D.

## Instructions to Bidders.

For all further requirements regarding bid submission, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

## This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: **CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT**  
By: **JAMES LISOWSKI**  
Title: **GENERAL MANAGER**  
09/22/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23C0271CA

In the matter of:  
**Domenic Charles Pirnie**  
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

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

**Harper Mora Pirnie**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/11/2023.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara**

**M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 13, 2023  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
09/22/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P1944EA  
Estate of:  
**Rene V Fagnant**  
Date of Death: 05/13/2023  
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 **Danielle A Scavone of North Haven, CT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Danielle A Scavone of North Haven, CT** 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 10/16/2023.**

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: September 18, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
09/22/2023



## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

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

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Tree length available

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**DOWNSIZING SALE 11 Laurel Lane, Wilbraham.** 8 - 5 Saturday, 9/23 and Sunday 9/24

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**ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising signs, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860)874-8396

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Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.

We load it & take it.

**413-531-1936**

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

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Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.

Call Pete 413-433-0356.

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**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing** - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

**DRYWALL AND CEILINGS,** plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

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## SERVICES

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**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

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CASH PAID AS IS  
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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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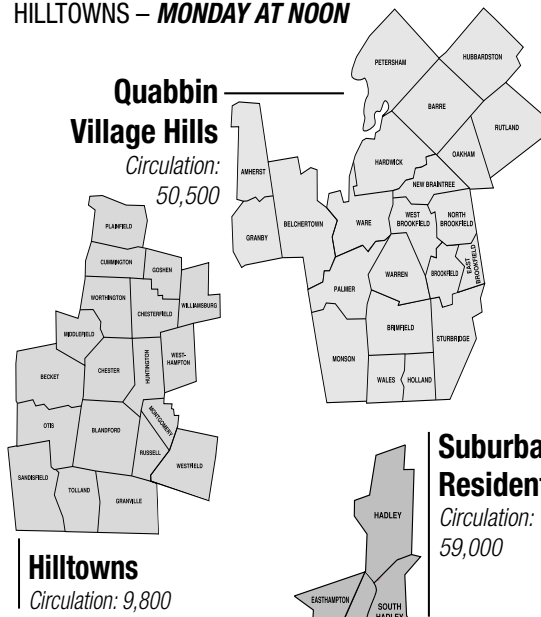
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HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
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39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00



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Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

# Fire department to purchase \$800,000 long pumper

Station 4's current 2010 model is suffering from 'rust jacking'

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- City Council approved an \$800,000 appropriation on Sept. 19 to fund the purchase of a Pierce MFG Long Pumper for Station 4 on Burnett Road.

The city planned to purchase the long pumper next year, but Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski described Station 4's situation as "urgent" in a letter to Mayor John Vieau.

The fire pumper assigned to Station 4 is a 2010 model, and its frame has rotted to the point that it is in poor condition due to "rust jacking" that has occurred, as rust causes the frame to expand outward.

Stamborski said two third-party vendors have evaluated the frame, and both agreed it is unsafe to use as a first line apparatus. He said the problem is not a Chicopee one.

"This is a regional problem as far as that era of truck frame... It's been on our mechanic's radar screen for a while," he said. "Our mechanic spent countless hours looking into refurbishing and repairing the frame."

The purchase will be made from Allegiance Fire & Rescue, based in Walpole. Working with salesman Andrew Hilsman, Stamborski was informed that the vendor has a stock pumper available for delivery much quicker



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The frame on Station 4's pumper is rusting heavily.

than a custom-built pumper.

If the city locks in the long pumper before Oct. 1, the estimated delivery time would be within six months. The city would also be able to purchase the apparatus for \$755,818, avoiding an increase in pricing that would occur on Jan. 1.

The remaining funds would be used to customize the long pumper. Stamborski said some of the equipment on the current pumper can be reused, but the city will have to purchase radios and pay for installation.

Chicopee must also purchase necessary emergency medical equipment such as an automatic defibrillator unit, portable suction and various other pieces of equipment. Stamborski urged City Council to approve the appropriation a year earlier than expected.

"In some ways, it's awful that we have to spend the money earlier. However, they're making some emissions changes that are going to increase the price of this truck up to about \$1 million if we were to wait until next year. This

is a stocked truck. It's not completed, but they believe they'll be able to get it to us by February," Stamborski said.

Regarding Station 4's current pumper, Stamborski said its original vendor, Pierce, doesn't do refurbishments anymore because they take upwards of a year to complete. He said that the third parties that examined the frame said they were "opening up a can of worms," as they found more issues with the apparatus.

Stamborski said it would make little sense to install a new frame underneath a 14-year-old vehicle whose engine hours translate to 400,000 miles traversed.

"The reason for that is these don't run like a normal over-the-road delivery truck on the highway exceeding 55-mph, they make short runs. When the PTO is engaged, and we're doing pumping operations, it's a tremendous strain on the motor, so it's not the average way that you look at it like a regular personal vehicle," Stamborski said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Willimansett C3 Unit goes door to door during community walk through

CHICOPEE -- On Sept. 13, the Willimansett C3 Unit, along with representatives from the city, Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, ROCA Inc. and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America participated in a community walk through event on Elcon Drive. They walked door to door, meeting with residents

in the neighborhood and provided them with bags filled with useful information on many local resources that are available. These community outreach walks will continue every month in different areas of Willimansett. Caption courtesy of the Chicopee Police Department.

## Events and announcements

### PSA: Chicopee Community Pro Shred Event

CHICOPEE -- In partnership with St. Rose de Lima Parish and St. Joan of Arc School, a shredding event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9-11 a.m. at St. Joan of Arc School, 587 Grattan St. in Chicopee. Free Will Donations are appreciated.

### St. Rose de Lima Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser to occur Oct. 13

CHICOPEE -- St. Rose de Lima Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser will be held on

Friday, Oct. 13 in the church hall, 594 Grattan St. in Chicopee. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games start at 6:30 p.m. A \$35 donation includes 10 games (Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Coach, Dooney & Bourke purses) a bingo marker, door prizes and light refreshments. Hot food will be available for purchase. Many raffle baskets, including a lottery tree and a Blackstone grill!

Tickets/Questions contact Chris at 785-477-9536 or the Parish Office at 536-4558. All proceeds benefit St. Joan of Arc School.

**Send Us Your Holiday Event Information**

**Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our Holiday Dazzler Supplement which publishes Nov. 15th.**

**Deadline for submissions is October 16th**

## Community Holiday Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

*Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.*

**CLIP OUT AND MAIL TO:**  
**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069**  
**or email\* them to: jamie@turley.com**  
**\*Be sure to indicate "Holiday" in the subject line of your email.**