

Chicopee Register

Photography Club *hosts exhibition*

By Benny Padilla
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The RiverMills Senior Center’s Photography Club hosted their Fifth Annual Photo Exhibition on Sept. 15 that immediately welcomed plenty of guests that came by the Chicopee Public Library’s Bazan Community Room to view and celebrate their photo club members’ photographic portfolio.

The event offered free entry, snacks and refreshments, and live music that filled the exhibition. Musicians Jeff Schuman played the keys while Liz Schuman sang and played the flute throughout the event. The exhibit included over 120 photos of 20 different club members who all spoke on their work and what inspired them for this year’s work.

Joel Rodowicz took a moment to deliver the welcoming speech for guests:

“Some people keep



TURLEY PHOTO BY BENNY PADILLA
Diane Morisi shows off her nature photos consisting of animals, flowers and outdoor shots.

See **PHOTO EXHIBIT** page 5

School Committee intervenes on traffic concerns

Principal Endelos recently presented to School Committee

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Administrators at one of Chicopee’s most historic school buildings are concerned that its proud track record could be marred by a traffic incident, if preventative measures aren’t taken.

By all accounts, the pick-up and drop-off hours at 1st Sgt. Kevin A. Dupont Middle School on Front Street are pure chaos.

The mayhem primarily exists around Academy Street, where a designated area exists to drop students off in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon.

However, due to the congestion, people are taking matters into their own hands and dropping students off all

along the road. To make matters worse, drivers regularly pull three-point turns or enter a stranger’s driveway to reverse course.

The issue has gotten bad enough that the School Committee unanimously endorsed a letter on Sept. 16 to be sent to the City Council. It proposes changing the direction of traffic on Academy Street to one-way from 7 to 8 a.m. and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Mayor John Vieau said the action would expedite the process, as the proposed ordinance will eventually go before a subcommittee for a public hearing.

Vieau pointed out that Dupont Middle School, which was Chicopee High School for generations, was built more than 100 years ago at a time when most people nearby walked to school.

See **SCHOOL COMMITTEE** page 6

\$50K earmarked for vet organizations

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - A \$50,000 state earmark was presented to the American Legion 452 and veterans services throughout Chicopee and Western Massachusetts on Sept. 23.

State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) announced the earmark during his visit last Wednesday, when he toured its facilities and held a discussion with members of the Western Massachusetts Veteran Service Officer Association (WMVSOA) and Veteran Outreach Into Community Engagement (VOICE). He was also joined by Mayor John Vieau, State



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The Chicopee delegation with the \$50,000 earmark. Here we have Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks, Mayor John Vieau, State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), Adam Anischik, commander/manager of American Legion Post 452, Lamari Jackson, aide to State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and Stephanie Shaw, director of Director Services in the city of Chicopee, WMVSOA Member, and VOICE Secretary.

See **AMERICAN LEGION** page 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The Hub at Market Square was host to the Falling for Chicopee Center event on Sept. 23.

‘Falling for Chicopee Center’ brings community to downtown businesses and organizations

By Kristin Rivers and Brendan Rooney

CHICOPEE – The community gathered at The Hub at Market Square on Sept. 23 for the ‘Falling for Chicopee Center’ event highlighting local businesses and organizations in the downtown area.

It was hosted in partnership with the City of Chicopee Mayor’s Office and the Valley Opportunity Council, with the Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce as a key organizing partner.

The open-house style event invited attendees to check out local businesses, meet the owners and learn more about the offerings in downtown Chicopee. A business showcase at The Hub also provided an opportunity

to meet other organizations including the Chicopee Public Schools, Lorraine’s Soup Kitchen & Pantry for their new mobile pantry location at The Hub, Westfield Bank, Elms College, Advancing Chicopee Together/Adelantando Chicopee Juntos (ACT) Coalition and more.

See **FALLING FOR CHICOPEE** page 5

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IN THE CITY



The new members of the Chicopee Fire Department are Vitaliy Bukhantsov, Aidan Lambert, Jason Paulo and Dylan Rooney, pictured here in this group photo with officials from the city and Chicopee Fire Department.

CFD welcomes four new firefighter recruits

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – The fire department welcomed four new firefighter recruits to their ranks in a ceremony at City Hall Auditorium on Sept. 21.

The four recruits are Aidan Lambert, Vitaliy Bukhantsov, Dylan Rooney and Jason Paulo.

Mayor John Vieau said what he expects from the four—as shared during the interview process—was “to hold yourself to a very high standard.”

“That’s something more than just a job like I had mentioned, it’s a career, but it’s also someone that people look up to every single day. So, in and out of uniform I expect that from you. You are joining an amazing family and I can assure you as long as I’m mayor, we’re going to make sure you have the tools not only to protect yourself, but to protect this community and keep people safe. That’s a commitment to public safety I made since day one,” Vieau said. “So, I want to say welcome aboard.”

Fire Chief Matt Cross congratulated the recruits on the beginning of their new journey as firefighters.

“Congratulations on this new appointment. Today marks the beginning of a career that will challenge you, teach you and give you an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. I also want to con-

gratulate family, friends and loved ones of our new firefighters. Today’s a special day for you as well. A career in the fire service is demanding and the support you provide will make a meaningful difference and important role in the lives of these firefighters,” Cross said. “There will be difficult days, long shifts, missed holidays and important family occasions. Your patience, understanding and support will help you guide them through those days.”

Cross said people will call on them “during the worst moments of their lives.”

“They look to us for help, for guidance and for solutions when they don’t know where else to turn. We are problem solvers, caregivers and professionals and the community places trust in us, a trust we need to earn every day,” Cross said. “This career will present many challenges. There will be days where you are tired, days where things that don’t go as planned and calls that may stay with you long after your shift is over. But the work you do is rewarding and it will matter greatly. As you begin your careers, remember that you’re joining a proud tradition of courage, integrity and service. Wear the uniform with pride and carry the responsibility that comes with it. We are honored to welcome you to the Chicopee Fire Department, congratulations and welcome to our team.”

After City Clerk Keith Rattell swore them in, Lambert, Bukhantsov, Rooney and



Fire Chief Matt Cross congratulates the new recruits.

Paulo shared what inspired them to become firefighters.

“I had an apartment fire a long time ago. Just seeing how they helped me and my family unconditionally, I wanted to do the same,” Lambert said.

“I just wanted to do a job I feel like I’m making a difference and serving my community,” Bukhantsov said.

“My uncle was a firefighter for 23 years in Holyoke, so I grew up around the fire trucks a lot, I grew up around the station with him, so he was a big impact on me,” Rooney said. “And I just want to serve the city that I grew up in, be the best firefighter that I can be for the city.”

“I grew up across the street from the Chicopee firemen when I was a kid. We would drive by with the truck and bring me to his house and show me, tell me stories. My son was also a fireman, so that inspired me and I worked as an EMT for a long time and I decided to make a change,” Paulo said.

The men also reflected on the swearing-in.

“It means a lot to me. I’m very grateful for this opportunity,” Lambert said.

“It’s a big honor. I’m very excited,” Bukhantsov said.

“I’m very excited. I’m happy to finally be in the city. Really looking forward to working with everyone. It’s an honor to be here,” Rooney said.

“Exciting and an honor in the city I grew up in,” Paulo said.

When asked what they look forward to, the four said heading to the fire academy, getting on the fire truck, learning everything and getting better at what they do, being on the ambulance and working to become a better firefighter and EMT and getting to work and meeting new people.

They also expressed gratitude for the support from family, friends and their new colleagues.

The message was this. “Thank you guys for choosing me. Can’t wait to see you guys out there and to serve your community,” Lambert said.

“Thank you for having us and I hope I can do the best job I can to serve you all,” Bukhantsov said.

“Happy to serve the community and be the best I can be for the whole community, the whole city itself,” Rooney said.

“Thank you for supporting us and supporting Chicopee. Happy for us to be here to serve you,” Paulo said.

CPL’s programs for fall and winter

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Chicopee Public Library has plenty of fun and educational events planned for the upcoming fall and winter seasons.

CPL Director Laura Bovee shared some ongoing events coming up.

“This fall we’ll be continuing or resuming many of our regular events. Events for adults like One-On-One Computer Help, Genealogy Open Lab, Needlecraft Group, English Conversation Circle, several different Book Groups, Writer’s Group, Yoga, and Scrabble as well as events for kids like Little Kid Dance Party, Baby Time, Story Time, Build with Lego, and Saturday Playgroup are recurring events that will be continuing in the fall,” Bovee said.

Bovee then shared why it’s so important to provide a free space with so many programs available.

“It’s a part of the library’s mission to provide opportunities for leisure, learning, and cultural enrichment. But aside from that, it just feels good to be contributing to the community and to provide information and access that people need. I’ve loved going to libraries my entire life, so it feels good to offer programs and books and other materials to the residents of Chicopee,” Bovee said. “I enjoy working with the staff to come up with new and different programs to offer to people and trying to figure out what needs they have that we can help meet.”

Youth Services Coordinator Erin Daly shared the library’s monthly schedule for fall for the kids.

“We have a lot of our regularly scheduled activities going on during the school year. Storytime and Dance Parties for our little friends. Monthly activities Bingo for Books, LEGO, Crafts, and Sewing Club are returning for our elementary aged friends. We’re open on the weekends again, so we’ll be continuing the Saturday Playgroup. It’s very chill. We just put out some extra toys in the playspace and

families can come play,” Daly said.

Daly then shared some changes families should be aware of.

“A few tweaks to existing offerings. We’ll be having Baby Time on alternating Tuesdays. We want to offer a space for our littlest friends to play and explore and for parents and caregivers to meet up and socialize as well. We’re going into our third year of collaborating with local homeschooling families. Our group has done many different kinds of activities together. This year we are going to focus on building activities around books, so instead of a Homeschool Meet Up, we will call it a Homeschool Book Club. That will meet once a month,” Daly said.

Daly then shared events planned.

“We’ll have a Halloween Party on Oct. 22, and the Cocoa Carnival on Dec. 4, which will coincide with the City’s Tree Lighting,” Daly said.

Daly then shared why providing a welcoming space for children and their families is so important.

“The library is one of the few places people can just go and not be expected to buy anything. We offer lots of programming, but we also want the Kids Room to be a fun, welcoming place to hang out. Kids come to decompress after school. Families can enjoy the children’s room in different ways- playing, reading, doing homework. We always have coloring pages, craft supplies, toys and games folks can use while they are here,” Daly said.

Daly then shared the library will be partnering with ChicopeeFRESH again too.

“We invited them to join us for our Halloween Party on Oct. 22, and they will be collaborating with us on a Teen Program in November,” Daly said.

Chicopee Public Library has exciting programs for all ages to offer this fall and winter.

For more information about upcoming events visit chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

Wiggles and Giggles program

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Funded by the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

Chicopee Comp Class of 1974 plans mini-reunion on Oct. 22

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Class of 1974 will be holding a casual and informal gathering of classmates on Thursday, Oct. 22, at the View Street Tavern in Chicopee.

Starting at 3 p.m., come to enjoy conversation and laughs with classmates and friends. There will be a cash bar available, and pizzas will

be available, compliments of the class treasury, at 5 p.m.

No reservations necessary, but if you think you can make it, it would helpful if you could email either Linda Parlengas at lparlengas@hotmail.com; Mona Marcil Friberg at tinker245@aol.com, or Lynn Provost Larrabee at penrose43@comcast.net.

Come for fun and meet up with old friends.

Cultural Council FY2027 grants accepting applications

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.

The application deadline is Oct. 16.

Apply at massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/chicopee. Contact us at culture@chicopeema.gov.

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IN THE CITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Members of The Massachusetts West Region Self Advocacy Group, Leadership Through Advocacy and representatives from The Disability Law Center at the event on Sept. 8.

Chicopee Public Library hosts Voting Advocacy Event

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – An informational event presented by The Massachusetts West Region Self Advocacy group, Leadership Through Advocacy and representatives from The Disability Law Center took place at the library on Sept. 8.

The Disability Law Center is a nonprofit organization that provides advocacy and legal services to individuals with disabilities; this includes advocacy in terms of voting rights. Throughout the event, attendees and presenters had the opportunity to ask questions about topics such as mail in ballots, methods to avoid misinformation and sources to find correct information regarding candidate information as well as voting locations and methods.

Coordinator Amber Pettell explained the basis of the event.

“As coordinators we help cover logistics. We booked the space. But really self-advocacy runs on the model, nothing about us, without us,” Pettell said.

Advocate with Leadership Through Advocacy Scott Yolker shared why informational events like these are so important.

“Simple. Public Awareness. I mean, the more people

have access to this kind of information, you know, the more people can act on it. The more people can vote and make a difference in not only our legislation but more importantly our local legislation,” Yolker said.

Brianna Zimmerman, a voting rights advocate with TDLC, reflected on her advocacy work.

“As (a) Voting Rights Advocate, my work includes educating people with disabilities on their voting rights; helping people with disabilities register to vote; and ensuring that voting systems are accessible to people with disabilities,” Zimmerman said. “Voters with disabilities, their loved ones, support workers, and even election workers do not always realize that they have the right to vote privately, independently and accessibly.”

Zimmerman then gave some context about REV UP.

“REV UP is a nationwide movement by the American Association of People with Disabilities, AAPD, to build the power of the disability vote. There are REV UP chapters across the country, including Massachusetts. DLC helps to coordinate REV UP Massachusetts, and MetroWest Center for Independent Living provides technical support. REV UP Massachusetts is a statewide coalition of

self-advocates, organizations, and volunteers. Our coalition helps people with disabilities register to vote, learn about their voting rights, and advocate for accessible voting processes in Massachusetts. We hold regular coalition meetings via Zoom,” Zimmerman said. “Additionally, voters with disabilities may experience barriers to accessing information about elections and voting. For example, websites or events such as candidate forums are not always accessible for voters who use assistive technology or written in plain language, people living in facilities may have limited access to the Internet or people they trust to help them vote, and many people do not know where to go to learn about their rights or ask for help. Through education, DLC works to empower voters with disabilities and help bridge the disability voting gap.”

Zimmerman then shared some key information voters should be aware of regarding mail in ballots and an accessible voting machine.

“Massachusetts’ accessible voting machine is called the AutoMARK machine. There should be at least one AutoMARK machine in every polling place. AutoMARK machines mark ballots for voters. The machine can read voters’ ballots aloud in a variety

of languages through provided headphones, magnify ballots or change color contrast on the provided screen. AutoMARK machines have a touch screen and Braille keypad that voters use to select their choices. Additionally, voters whose disabilities make it difficult to mark a paper ballot independently can request to use the accessible vote by mail system as an accommodation. This system allows voters to view, mark, certify, and cast their ballots electronically. The system is secure and accessible for people with disabilities,” Zimmerman said. “All parts of polling places, from the parking lot to the voting area, should be accessible to people with disabilities, in accordance with 950 CMR 51.00. Voters with disabilities can reach out to their local election office to ask about any accommodations they may need.”

For more information about Leadership Through Advocacy visit <https://disabilityinfo.org/records/leadership-through-advocacy/>.

For more information about the Massachusetts West Region Self Advocacy Group visit <https://www.wearemass.org/west-region>.

For more information about upcoming CPL events visit chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

RiverMills Senior Center News

Trunk Sale
CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging will host a Trunk Sale on Friday, Oct. 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging’s RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

The Friends of RiverMills are hosting a Trunk Sale at RiverMills Center! The cost of a parking spot to sell your items is \$10. One car per seller, but multiple spots can be purchased.

and would like to sell your handmade items, please contact Leah Laflamme at 413-534-3698 ext. 105 for more information.

A space for this event is \$15.

Registration to reserve a spot is now open. This event is open to the public to sell and shop.

Memory Connections
CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging continues to offer the support group “Memory Connections” on the first Wednesday of every month from 3 to 5 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging’s RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Memory Connections is a program that serves caregivers of people with Dementia and their loved ones living with Dementia. Caregivers will participate in a program led by Laura Lavoie, president and founder of Our Dementia Life. During this time, their loved ones who have Dementia will spend time in an activity supervised by trained facilitators.

These activities with range from crafts, a walk, music, etc. At 4 p.m., everyone will join together for an early dinner. You must register in advance by stopping by RiverMills center or by calling 534-3698.

Holiday Craft Fair
CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging’s Friends of RiverMills will host a Holiday Craft Fair on Friday, Nov. 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging’s RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main St.

Come on down to RiverMills for the Friends of RiverMills Second Annual Holiday Craft Fair! If you are a local crafter

All Makes & Models Car Show

CHICOPEE – The All Makes & Models Car Show takes place on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Moose Club at 244 Fuller Rd, Chicopee MA 01020.

Come on out and bring your classic to the annual All

Makes & Models Car Show presented by the Corvette Club of Western MA.

Food, beverages, raffles, trophies and live music provided by The Blue Groove Band.

\$20 car entry fee and Spectators are Free.

Cigar Night held at Rumbleseat

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Rumbleseat Bar & Grille hosted its first annual “Cigar Night” with the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning (PCDL), Bernat’s Deli, and the Cigar Room II — a collaboration that organizers described as mutually beneficial for all involved on Aug. 20.

Olen Bielski III, PCDL Director of Business Development, offered insight into the event.

“So this idea came together about a month ago when I was chatting with my good friends Greg [Bernat], Billy [Stetson], and Chris [Borders], and we all thought of a way to celebrate the end of the summer while finding a way to benefit and raise proceeds for the Polish Center, right before the fall, while also keeping it local to Chicopee,” Bielski said. “Because the main vision we are looking to follow at the Polish Center is to develop relationships within the community above all. And so, to achieve that goal, I want to do

one event per month, whether it’s big, small, or large, and we hope to build from here on out.”

Echoing those sentiments was Stetson, owner of the Rumbleseat Bar & Grille.

“Look, these are our neighbors, and so when Olen calls, I always answer because he’s got a great heart, and I truly love the mission they embody and provide to all. So again, anytime they are looking to raise a little bit of money, we are always going to be ready to step up and offer our services any way we can,” Stetson said. “And far as I’m concerned, I love having them occupy that property at Holy Name, because Holy Name was the original parish for the Springfield Diocese. Right in between, we have Elms College, which is one of the oldest Catholic colleges in the country, and people don’t know this: the oldest cemetery in the Springfield Diocese is right next to 7-Eleven. So, this corridor is really important, and having them anchor one end of the corridor is quite special.”

Borders, owner of the

Cigar Room II in Agawam, described Olen as a longtime customer and said he was eager to support the idea from the start.

“He [Olen] came through, and he wanted to do an event, and we discussed having cigars involved with a steak night, and I said that would work perfectly. So, then I was able to find a sponsor to come up with some cigars that he could give out to his friends, and I offered the idea to come and talk to people about my business, and he said, ‘Let’s do it,’ so that’s exactly how this came together,” Borders said.

The fundraiser ran from 6 to 9 p.m., with attendees treated to a full buffet featuring braised beef, pork chops in mushroom sauce, red and yellow roasted fingerling potatoes, a vegetable medley, and an authentic Polish vegetable salad (Sałatka jarzynowa). Guests also had the opportunity to utilize the golf simulator and participate in a raffle.

Organizers shared that they hope this becomes a yearly event and can’t wait to partner up once again.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Trailer Trash benefit concert for Harmony House

CHICOPEE - The popular local band Trailer Trash is performing a concert to benefit Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, a nonprofit home providing compassionate end-of-life care and companionship to hospice patients in need.

The concert will be on Friday, Nov. 6 at the Portuguese American Club located at 149 Exchange Street in Chicopee. Tickets can be purchased in advance online for \$20 or at the door for \$25. Doors open at 6:15 pm, with the concert commencing at 7 p.m. Known for their high-energy performances, Trailer Trash will bring their modern country sound to the stage for an evening of music and dancing while raising funds to sustain the work of Harmony House. The event will also include raffles, food for purchase from Pizza Lino with a portion of proceeds being donated to Harmony House, and a cash bar.

The event is supported by local sponsors, including headlining sponsor Yankee Home. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available at www.HarmonyHouseWMA.org/

trailertrashconcertorbyemailingdevelopment@HarmonyHouseWMA.org.

Community members can also get involved with Harmony House by volunteering. If you might be interested in providing care and com-

panionship to our residents, organizing special projects to engage our residents, or supporting our fundraising efforts, please email admin@HarmonyHouseWMA.org. To learn more, please visit www.HarmonyHouseWMA.org.



TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Olen Bielski III, PCDL Director of Business Development, Christopher Mattoon, PCDL Curator, Greg Bernat, owner of Bernat’s Deli, and Chris Borders, Owner of the Cigar Room II.

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Preserving Home, Honoring Service

By Brandice J. O'Brien
Marketing and
Communications Manager,
Greater Springfield Habitat for
Humanity

WEST SPRINGFIELD - Springfield resident and disabled Army veteran James knows what goes into homeownership. For years, he's put in the time, work, and money it takes to maintain the place he calls home. James, who shares the two-story home with his wife Tanya, purchased the house in 2010 and has since replaced the siding, interior doors, and windows.

But some repairs are bigger and costlier than a veteran can tackle alone. That's where Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) comes in. Through our Veterans Build Home Preservation program and with support from The Home Depot Foundation, we're partnering with James to address necessary exterior repairs to his East Springfield home.

"I'm thrilled to work with Habitat," said James. "They are professional and courteous. Joe is hilarious and Edgar is so punctual and meticulous."

GSHFH's Veterans Build Home Preservation program is a part of a national initiative to provide housing solutions to U.S. veterans, military service members, and their families. Services include accessibility modifications for bathrooms and kitchens, ramps, roof repair/replacement, weatherization, heating system upgrades, porch/stair repairs, and hard surface flooring to help with mobility.

The Home Depot Foundation provides grant funding to Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the country through its Repair Corps grant. To qualify, an honorably discharged veteran must live in the home full time, although the veteran doesn't need to own it.

At James' home, Greater Springfield Habitat Construc-



Edgar Herrera of Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity's construction crew measures a board while working on James' new deck.

tion Manager Joe Schebel and Staffer Edgar Herrera are replacing decayed decking, faulty wiring, and a broken sliding door. A subcontractor will fix the crumbling chimney.

James said he learned about GSHFH's Veterans Build Home Preservation program through fellow veterans Bruce and Wayne, whom he met through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Greater Springfield Habitat had replaced the back deck on Bruce's Pine Point colonial and completed repairs at Wayne's West Springfield mobile home. Earlier



James proudly stands in front of his East Springfield home.

this year, James reached out to Aimee Giroux, GSHFH executive director, and inquired about the program.

"I was very excited and pleased to see the final product at their homes," James said. "I was told — and warned — the process takes a while. I applied in March, and here we are."

For James and Tanya, the repairs will do more than address a worn deck, faulty door, electrical outlet, and damaged chimney. They will

help preserve the home the couple has invested in for many years and allow them to continue living there safely.

"James has put years of work and care into his home, and we're honored to help him protect that investment," Aimee said. "Our Veterans Build Home Preservation program is about standing alongside those who served and helping them remain safely and securely in the homes they love."

Chicopee Register

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SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor

I'm evaluating my retirement plan; what are my options?

Dear Rusty:

I am 69 1/2 years old now and applied for Social Security at the end of June.

I am still working and was planning to begin my retirement in September. A couple of factors arose for me to question if I made a hasty decision by applying for SS.

The employer I have been working for the last 29 years has asked if I would stay on a little longer, which would be good because we have some debt I want to lose before I retire.

I was reading about suspending Social Security and continuing to work. If I understand it right, if I suspend my SS, no payback will be required, and I can continue to work until I'm ready to retire. No spousal benefits taken yet.

Signed: Reevaluating my Retirement

Dear Reevaluating Retirement:

I'm assuming you asked for your Social Security benefits to start in September (when you originally planned to retire), but that you won't be 70 years

old until March 2027.

If that is correct, be aware that you will not immediately get all of your earned Delayed Retirement Credits when your benefits start in September — you will only initially get the DRCs you have earned through the end of 2025.

That's because Social Security usually applies DRCs in January of each year. So, what will happen is that your September benefit amount will lack the 5.3% DRCs you earned in 2026, until January 2027 when they will apply the DRCs earned in 2026 to your monthly payment amount.

Said simply, your initial September benefit will not include your full age 69.5 entitlement because it won't include the 5.3% extra you earned in 2026. That extra monthly amount will be awarded in January 2027.

FYI, if you were to, instead, claim for your SS benefits to start in the month you turn 70 (March 2027),

See SOCIAL SECURITY page 6



Garden scurrying

The forecast of a September nor'easter certainly had everyone scurrying about.

Instead of running to the grocery store for necessities, I headed straight to the garden to tidy up a few things. With visions of air-borne pots, soggy containers of compost and ruined produce dancing in my head I got right to work.

First to check off my list was digging up the potatoes. The stems had died down on two of my three rows over two weeks ago and I didn't want the spuds sitting in impending mud when they could be curing somewhere safe and sound.

Speaking of curing, it is important to be intentional with this step, so that your potatoes will be edible well into the winter months. Curing potatoes properly will help to prevent rot, premature sprouting, and toxic greening of the skin and flesh.

By waiting a week or more after the plant has died

before digging up the tubers, the skins will thicken and be less prone to injury during harvest. Once they are dug, a week spent in a cool and totally dark space will further firm their skin and change sugars to starch, completing the ripening process.

Never wash potatoes prior to storage! Gently brush off dirt and store in a single layer in the darkness at 55-60 degrees.

Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Use any pitch-forked or shovel-marked spuds first, as damage to the skin will invite rot.

Once the potatoes were out of the ground, I applied a two-three inch layer of composted manure and lime to the plot, then worked it in to the soil.

I won't be planting potatoes there next year other wise I would have stayed away from both amendments.

After that, I got to task number two, planting a cover crop in the empty ground. I figured with rain coming over the course of three days it would be off to a great start. In the big garden, where I can use my tiller, I sow winter rye.

It will start growing now, hold the soil in place over the winter, then, as spring ensues, it will grow tall and go to seed. Typically you mow

it down or incorporate it into the soil before it gets too big.

Winter rye adds so much organic matter to the garden. Be sure to give the grass time to break down before planting into it; chopping it up/in about three weeks to a month before planting is a good plan.

Another thing that occurred to me while I was sowing the rye was seed saving. I purposely left what was left of my first sowing of green beans to go to seed.

I harvested all of the dried pods and will shuck them later, once I am sure that they are fully dry.

Finally, a bit of house-keeping to finish out my scurrying around. I collected my black plastic mulch, row covers and insects netting. I will hose off the black plastic, cinch up holes in the netting, and assess what I can salvage of my aging row covers.

I've smartened up and finally labeled what I use for what crop. For example, my number of cantaloupe/watermelon hills will likely remain the same, so reusing the same plastic mulch in that spot next year is a good plan.

With the storm behind us now, I can go back to a less frantic approach to garden clean up. Enjoy the fall foliage as you embark on your own work.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 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.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to:
The Chicopee Register,
24 Water Street,
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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 journalregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

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

Campaign news

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

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

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.

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IN THE CITY

Polish National Credit Union hosts Community Shred Day at Executive Office

CHICOPEE - Polish National Credit Union (PNCU) is pleased to host a free Community Shred Day on Friday, October 16, 2026, from 10 a.m. to Noon at its Executive Office, located at 46 Main Street in Chicopee.

The event provides community members with a secure and convenient way to dispose of confidential documents and protect themselves from identity theft and fraud. Attendees are encouraged to bring outdated financial records, credit card statements, tax documents, medical records, and other sensitive paperwork for secure on-site shredding.

As concerns about data security continue to grow, properly disposing of personal documents is an important step in safeguarding personal and financial information. PNCU's Shred Day offers a safe, environmentally responsible solution while helping educate consumers about identity theft prevention.

"Helping our members and neighbors protect their personal information is an important part of our commitment to financial well-being," said Michael Sugrue, President of Polish National Credit Union. "This event provides a convenient way for individuals to securely dispose of sensitive documents while also supporting an important community cause."

PNCU remains committed to providing resources and educational opportunities that help individuals make informed financial decisions and protect themselves from fraud and identity theft. In addition to offering free document shredding, the credit union will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Chicopee Senior Center. Community members are encouraged to bring a donation to help support local seniors in need.

Community members may bring paper documents for shredding during the event. To ensure the event can accommodate as many participants as possible, there is a maximum limit of three boxes of documents per person.

Habitat Family Fun Fest in Ludlow Oct. 17

LUDLOW - Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) is counting down the days until its second annual Habitat Family Fun Fest, happening noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17, at Vanished Valley Brewing Co., 782 Center St., Ludlow. Admission is free.

The family-friendly community event will bring together food, music, entertainment, local vendors, and community organizations for an afternoon of fun while raising awareness and support for Greater Springfield Habitat's work throughout Hampden County.

This year's growing lineup already includes the Bella Borinquen food truck, a DJ, Stompin' Boots, and Peruvian performer Etienne Perley, who will share the sounds of the pan pipes. Guests can also browse and shop from numerous vendors and connect with several community partners. There is still space if others would like to join us.

"Habitat Family Fun Fest is really about bringing people together," said Aimee Giroux, executive director of Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity. "You can come out, enjoy some great food and entertainment, support local vendors, meet organizations doing good work in our community, and learn a little more about Habitat along the way."

Habitat Family Fun Fest builds on the success of GSHFH's inaugural event in 2025, which welcomed roughly 150 attendees and raised approximately \$16,000 to support the organization's mission.

Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity partners with local families to build and preserve safe, affordable homes while providing opportunities for volunteers, businesses, and community members to help strengthen neighborhoods throughout Hampden County.

For event information and updates, visit hatspringfield.org/fun-fest.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

you would get your full age 70 amount immediately (SS awards all earned DRCs if benefits are claimed to start in the month you turn 70).

Now, on to your question: Yes, if you take your benefits effective with September 2026 you can suspend your benefits, but you can only suspend them until the month you turn 70. And if you are suspending your benefits, you will not need to repay Social Security for any benefits you happen to receive before you suspend.

As is obvious, you will not receive any SS payments while your benefits are suspended, and you will earn DRCs for the months your benefits are suspended, resulting in a higher monthly amount at age 70. Also, since you have already passed your SS Full Retirement Age, you can work and earn as much as you like, without your Social Security benefits being negatively affected.

Regarding your comment "No Spousal benefits taken yet." FYI, you cannot get spousal benefits while your benefits are suspended, nor can your wife get spousal benefits from you while you SS retirement benefits are suspended.

To be clear, spouse benefits are only paid when one spouse's benefit at their FRA is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA benefit. Spouse benefits are always based upon FRA entitlements, not on the larger amounts which will result from waiting longer to claim.

In other words, your wife would only be eligible for a spousal benefit from you if her FRA entitlement was less than 50% of your FRA entitlement (not your age 70 SS entitlement). And she cannot get a spousal benefit while your benefits are suspended.

To recap: Yes, you can suspend receipt of your SS retirement benefits until the month you turn 70 and get credit for that delay (resulting in a higher benefit). And, yes, you can continue

working as long as you wish and your benefits will not be negatively affected.

And just for added information, you can also ask Social Security to withdraw your current application for SS benefits and then reapply in January 2027 for your benefits to start in March 2027, the month you turn 70. You have both options.

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

Vieau noted Chicopee is "and will always be a Veteran-proud city" and veterans have settled in the city because of that moniker, affordability and places like American Legion 452.

He thanked the legion for keeping "the drive and the mission going."

"This place is special. This is the 'Cheers' of downtown Chicopee. This is one of the best places to eat lunch. This is a place where you can come and feel safe and comfortable and share your story, whether it'd be watching a sporting event, playing pool," Vieau said. "Spending time here at this wonderful space with a great cook, a great support system. You guys make some amazing meals and you're feeding the community."

Shaw explained WMVSOA includes a collaboration of all four Western Massachusetts' counties' municipal veterans services officers, adding that, as municipal VSOs, they cannot fundraise as they are not 501(c)(19) or 501(c)(3), hoping more outreach gets the word out.

"So, how do we get the outreach budget to host events, print our materials, better our social media management, create the opportunity to get this information out there because after 9 years — I've known about VSOs for over 16 years — for the last 9 years, I still, every outreach event, find people who don't even know their town has a Veteran's Agent. They don't know that this office exists," Shaw said. "My former deputy lived in the city for eight years and found out about my office as a veteran when he saw the job posting. How do we market what we do? We're the 411 for veterans and surviving families for all of federal, state and local benefits. How do we get our information into their hands, because after 9 years, we're still not getting everyone."

DiLuzio added that VOICE has helped connect hundreds of veterans with services at federal, state and local levels and the funding will help them to accomplish more.

Velis, a veteran himself and a member of American Legion Post 124 in Westfield, stressed the importance of securing this funding and how organizations like the Legion can give veterans a place to have conversations and meet one another. He said communities can support local legions and VFWs by having veterans join them and residents contribute.

"I think these organizations that aim to kind of foster these relationships and welcome these veterans home to these places, we need to contribute to that," Velis said. "I know just from being a veteran, how many people who haven't served want to support, want to do things. So, support your local Legion, your VFW, all these other organizations that are out there, because I think it's really, really important, again, because it speaks volumes about where we are as a nation and how we value things like Patriotism and those people who fought for the country."

Anischik has been commander and manager at the American Legion Post 452 for 10 years, explaining the earmark will help purchase new kitchen equipment, redo the kitchen floor and more. He noted how they started providing lunches every day.

"So, it's just getting busier in the kitchen and we need some updated equipment to make life easier," Anischik said. "We didn't have a dishwasher before. It was all hand-washed, and then the tables, there was some tables in there, but they're all old, so purchase some new tables."

After expressing gratitude for the earmark and to Velis, Anischik added he appreciated the other elected officials who came to show their support.

"Anything that I can do to help them out or they can do to help me out is great," Anischik said. "All these guys didn't have to come down here. They did. They wanted to check out the work that was done. I like seeing them face to face and having a conversation with them."

He encouraged veterans and the community to come down and visit, whether for a beer, soup and a salad and more. Every Wednesday night, he added, there's a home-cooked meal from 4 to 7 p.m. for \$12 to \$14.

"I have all my directors as volunteers. They come down, run food out, whatever, help bag up the to-gos and all that, so I want to give a shout-out to my directors helping out," Anischik said.

"Ask and you shall receive it. Continue supporting," Anischik said.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE from page 1

"That's the old Chicopee High School. It was never built to be a school where we would be picking up a majority of our students and dropping them off every morning. It was never designed that way, and it really has become problematic.

I believe that this is a great way to address the issue," Vieau said.

The School Committee made its vote after a thorough presentation from Dupont Middle School Principal Jonathan Endelos. He outlined the problems he has observed since arriving at the building in 2022.

"We haven't had any incidents. I'm happy to say we've had near incidents because I'd rather report that than tell you we've had incidents. But this has been going on since I've been at Dupont," Endelos said.

Endelos has worked closely with the school district's director of maintenance, Scott Chapdelaine, to create potential solutions.

They've studied the hazards and are advocating for change.

While at the podium in City Hall, Endelos went into detail describing what he has seen.

"It's not just a drop off and pick up problem. We know it's a parking problem. We know parents tried to drop their kids off in the parking lot," Endelos said. "I get the frustration from the parent side of it, but if you're familiar with Academy Street, the width of that road is not very wide. Yet, every day this school year, we've had three cars in that width of Academy Street. So, you can only picture the space in between each of those vehicles, which is a problem."

Endelos added that one of the biggest problems involves parents dropping off and picking up students on the opposite side of the school on Academy Street and then walking their children across the busy roadway.

"We've had three near incidents this school year in the first three weeks of school where parents are coming down Academy Street from Fairview to drop their kids off, and then scoot them out of the car, and then keep going down Academy," Endelos said.

He added that "while it seems innocent, and they're just trying to do the right thing by their child," parents need to learn the right way to go about dropping off or pick up their children.

"My concern is safety. We've just had way too much of it," Endelos said.

Hopefully, the School Committee's letter endorsement on Sept. 16 will represent a major step toward making the area around the school safer during drop-off and pick-up hours.

The School Committee certainly appeared to be all for it.

Several board members spoke favorably on the item

before the group voted unanimously to send the letter to City Council.

"I want to thank Mr. Endelos for really pushing this," Ward 9 School Committee member Ron Benard said. "My personal experience, my last six years of teaching I was there, so I had the experience of seeing this nightmare every single day. So, I'm hoping that the City Council will be able to address it."

At-Large School Committee member Robert Cantin agreed. As a former educator in the city, he echoed Benard's perspective.

"I think the idea is grand because none of the schools in Chicopee were ever designed for parent drop off," Cantin said. "I worked at Chicopee Comp, and we always had a nightmare with the buses. It took a little while to get the bus [process] redone for that, so I'm in favor of this wholeheartedly. Thank you [Principal Endelos] for coming and presenting to us."



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Lamari Jackson, aide to State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), stressed how the delegation works to support the servicemen and servicewomen. Also, supporting mental health support for veterans.

AMERICAN LEGION from page 1

Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), Lamari Jackson, aide to State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks, American Legion 452 Commander/Manager Adam Anischik, Stephanie Shaw, director of Veterans' Services for the City of Chicopee, WMVSOA Member and VOICE Secretary, Massachusetts Office of the Veterans Advocate Regional Liaison Christian DiLuzio, members of WMVSOA and VOICE and American Legion 452 volunteers.

The \$50,000 earmark is a \$40,000 State Budget Earmark for American Legion 452 to support kitchen renovations and other building improvements, a \$5,000 State Budget Earmark for WMVSOA and a \$5,000 State Budget Earmark for VOICE for regional programming and veteran outreach initiatives.

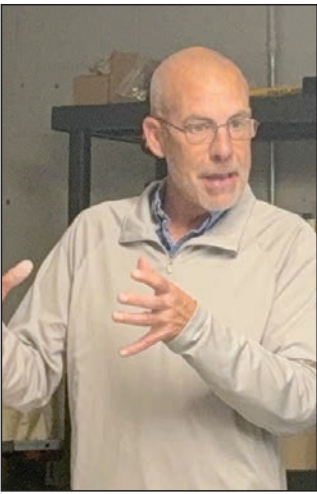
Oliveira shared how American Legions have "taken on a new life" in the 21st century.

"I think all of us think about them as places where my dad's generation...would go and have a beer. Now they're full-service centers. They're places where people go. It's not just the veterans themselves. It's the family members that come here too. It's where they can get a good meal, it's where they can find that camaraderie and find community," Oliveira said. "I think in the 21st century, this is why we've seen a resurgence of them."

Vieau noted Chicopee is "and will always be a Veteran-proud city" and veterans have settled in the city because of that moniker, affordability and places like American Legion 452.

He thanked the legion for keeping "the drive and the mission going."

"This place is special. This is the 'Cheers' of downtown Chicopee. This is one of the best places to eat lunch. This is a place where you can come and feel safe and comfortable and share your story, whether it'd be watching a



Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks shared how the earmark is "long overdue" and will help with the revitalization of downtown Chicopee.

SPORTS

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SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

Pacers score big shutout of rival Colts

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The three freshmen on the 2023 Chicopee High School boys’ varsity soccer team were Mohanad Aljashaam, Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi and Griffen Wrisley.

The trio, who are currently seniors, and their teammates endured three losses that season to cross-town rival Chicopee Comp.

Things have certainly turned around in the rivalry series since the first meeting of the 2024 campaign ended in a 1-1 draw.

With Alnuaimi recording his second hat-trick of the 2026 regular season and Wrisley chipping in with a pair of goals, the Pacers posted a 6-0 shutout victory over the Colts at historic Sztot Park, last Wednesday night.

“We graduated 12 seniors from last year’s team, but we’re playing with the same amount of confidence,” Wrisley said. “We just wanted it a little bit more than they did.”

The Pacers (4-2) have overwhelmed the Colts (1-6) by a combined score of 25-1 over their last four meetings on the soccer pitch.

Wrisley made a little bit of history in the second game of the regular season by becoming the first Chicopee High boys’ soccer player to score 100 career goals.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
Rodney Blanc reaches out to get a touch on the ball.

“That was a very special moment for me and my family,” he said. “It’s something that I’m going to remember for the rest of my life.”

While the outcome in last Wednesday’s match didn’t go their way, Chicopee Comp head coach Vincent Rodriguez did see some bright spots on the grass field.

“I thought we played well in the first half. We just made a couple of costly mistakes in the second half and they buried them,” said Rodriguez, who hasn’t celebrated a victory in the rivalry series. “This rivalry will mean a lot more to us once we do win a game. We have a lot of respect for

coach (Hugo) Destapado and his players.”

If the decision was left up to Destapado, the two squads would be combined into one team.

“I really wish that we had only one team for every single varsity sport in this city,” Destapado said. “I’m hoping it happens sooner rather than later because the numbers are starting to decrease across the board. All these kids have grown up playing sports together and they were split up once they got to high school. It would be nice to united and play as one team.”

The two boys’ soccer teams won’t be forming a co-



Jack Neuhauser makes a play on defense.

op this season. They’re scheduled to meet for the second time at Mitchell Kuzdal Field on Oct. 12.

Comp freshman goalie Dante Ferreira made a total of 9 saves in his meeting against the Pacers. He managed to keep the contest scoreless during the first 15 minutes of the opening half.

Alnuaimi, who posted his first hat-trick in a 6-0 road win over Westfield High School back in the middle of September, broke the scoreless tie by firing a shot into the right corner of the net during the 16th minute. Wrisley was

See **FOOTBALL** page 8



Zachariah Yarovoy looks to pass the ball to a teammate.

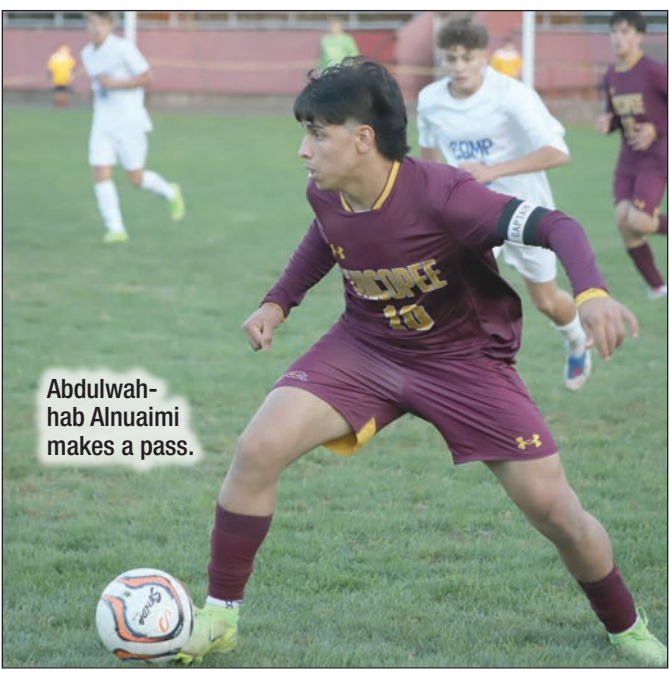
Mohanad Aljashaam makes a throw-in.



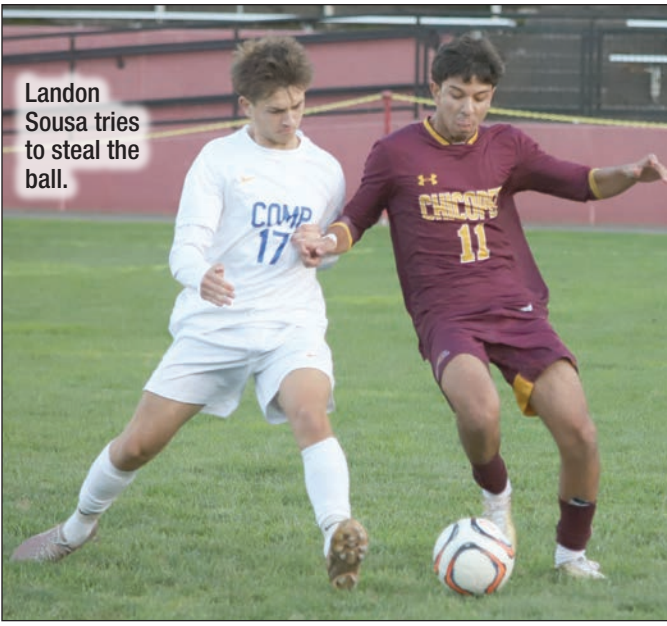
Dillon Harris takes the goal kick for Comp.



Antonio Marques Maruricio tries to head for midfield.



Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi makes a pass.



Landon Sousa tries to steal the ball.



Ellie-Miri Surez makes a bump to her side.



Keishlee Guzman sends a set up.



Christina Zielinski goes high to get a spike over the net.



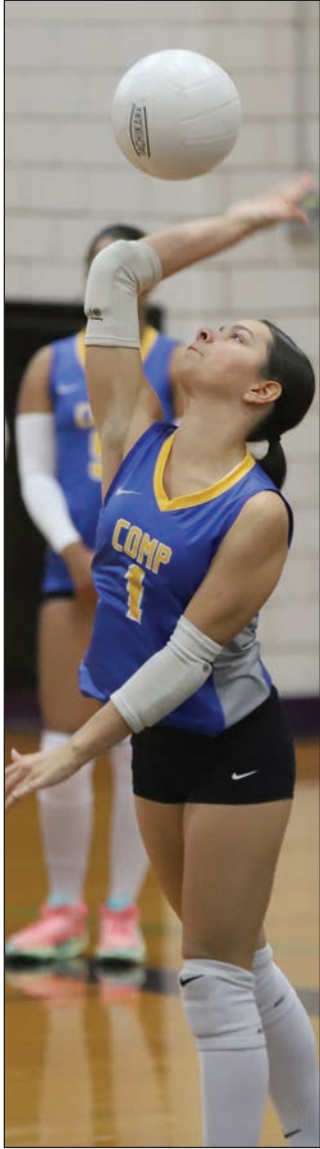
Brielle Bennett socks a hit over the net.



Trinity McCarthy makes a soft hit over the net.



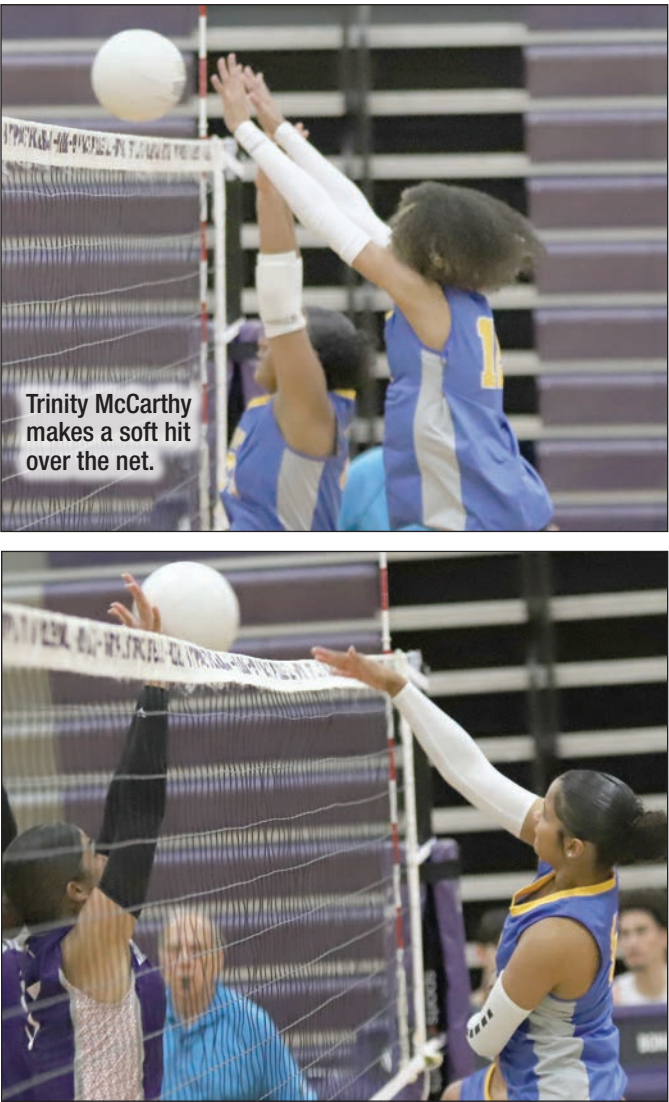
Lori Vazquez nails a spike.



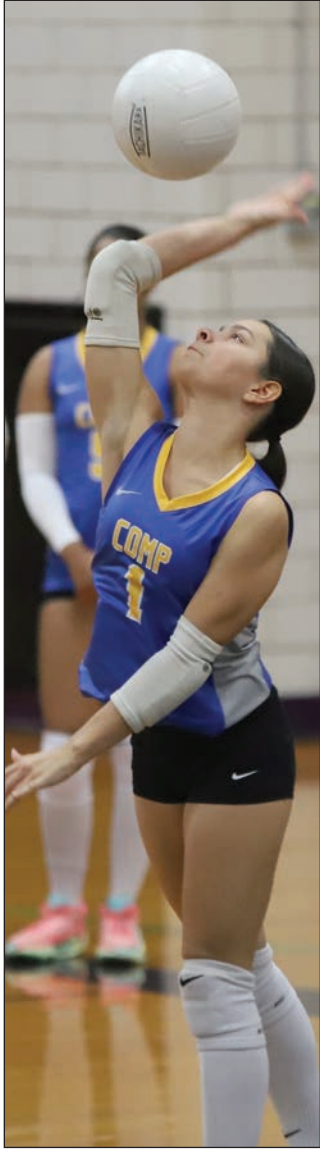
Peyton Riley serves the ball away for the Colts.

Colts grab third sweep of season

CHICOPEE – Last Thursday afternoon, Chicopee Comprehensive girls volleyball scored its fourth win of the season, sweeping host Holyoke 3-0. It was the third time this year the Colts had a 3-0 win. Comp is now 4-2 on the season with a matchup coming up against Commerce on Friday, Oct. 2 at 5:15 p.m. They are back at home on Monday, Oct. 5 hosting East Longmeadow at 6 p.m.



Trinity McCarthy makes a soft hit over the net.



Peyton Riley serves the ball away for the Colts.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P2021EA
Estate of:
Michael Francis Aubuchon
Date of Death:
April 18, 2025
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Ernest F Aubuchon of Lunenburg, 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.
10/02/2026

**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.
HD26P2090EA
Estate of:
Frances C Harackiewicz
Date of Death: 09/20/2020
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **James P Harackiewicz of West-erly, RI** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that **James P Harackiewicz of West-erly, RI** 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 10/28/2026. 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 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. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 29, 2026
Rosemary A Saccamoni,
Register of Probate
10/02/2026

**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 October 2nd, 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.

2020 Toyota Sienna
VIN: 5TDXZ3DC1LS043032
Wenrui Wu
12 Woodland Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

Kia Optima
VIN: 5XXGM4A73FG354947
8 Mile Detailing LLC
23 Birch Rd.
Swanzy, NH 03446

2021 Honeystar 50 Moped
VIN: L5YACBBMON1105039
Catherine Blake
28 Forrester St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

2010 Mazda Cx-7
VIN: JM3ER4WL7A0311955
Amanda Francis
16 Olivine St., Apt. 2
Chicopee, MA 01013

2015 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FA6P0H70FR108091
Steve Autar
109 Prospect St. #2
Schenectady, NY 12308

2007 Dodge Nitro
VIN: 1D8GU28K57W650150
Jonathan Cruz
15 N Summer St., Apt. 1C
Holyoke, MA 01040

2014 Utility Trailer Mfg Base
VIN: 1UYVS2532EG833913
Best Way Logistics 1 Inc.
2701 Washington Blvd. #2
Bellwood, IL 60104

2013 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GJAA63DG023912
Charles Obutu Obutu
463 Belmont Ave.
Springfield, MA 01108

2014 Honda Insight
VIN: JHMZE2H32ES003009
Scott Forest
133 Allyn St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2012 Scion TC
vin: Jtkjf5c78c3026964
Tristan Bell
657 S Westfield St.
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

E Bike
Chepurin Yan
37 Cabot St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2014 Volkswagen Passat
VIN: 1VWAT7A35EC097079
Anthony Dekarski
242 Montgomery Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

2018 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FA6P0LU0JR193844
Dakota Shatto-Ravalli
408 Northampton Rd., Apt. 105
Amherst, MA 01002

2019 Moped
VIN: L9NTCBAD101011264
Alexis Grrres
2 Hiill Ave.
Easthampton, MA 01027

2012 Ford Focus
VIN: 1FAHP3F27CL216557
Anibal Almonte
80 Debra Drive
Chicopee, MA 01020
09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2026

**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 October 9th,

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.

2004 Acura MDX
VIN: 2HNYD18824H549430
Stephanie Jackson
3 Laurel St., Apt. 11
Holyoke, MA 01040

2007 Isuzu NQR
VIN: JALE5B16X77904380
Fast & Quality Moving Inc
8 Adair Rd., Apt. 2
Brighton, MA 02135

2025 Fly Wing Taizho
VIN: HZ2TCDM48S1008323
Miguel Angel De Jesus Martinez
220 Pearl St.
Springfield, MA 01105

2010 Mazda Mazda 3
VIN: JM1BL1S64A1314494
Pamela Dean
105 Union St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2010 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDC8AE0AU074574
Cassidy Day
1 Summer St., Apt. 1B
Easthampton, MA 01027

2013 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GPAU63D2860876
Miguel Rodriguez
37 Lynwood Ave.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2018 Audi Q7
VIN: WA1LHAF73JD036883
Stephan Frank
121 Village St.
Bristol, CT 06010

2021 Taizhou Rugby 11
VIN: L5YTCKAV9M1138977
Thomas Lavin
341 Huttleston Ave.
Fairhaven, MA 02719

2013 Subaru Outback
VIN: 4S4BRBAC3D3224916
Solomon Reynolds
97 Hamlin St.
Manchester, CT 06040

2006 Chevrolet Sivilrado 1500
VIN: 3GCEK14V76G6181582
Jennifer Desreuisseau
519 E River St., Lot 38
Orange, MA 01364

2005 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM56405A005033
Richard Browning
224 Woodville Rd.
Asaway, RI 02804

2020 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCVF1F37LA008344
Lexxiani Lopez
23 Wayland St., Apt. 2R
Hartford, CT 06114

2011 Bmw X3
VIN: SUXWX5C52BL714285
Xoshell Baez
251 Beacon Cir.
Springfield, MA 01119

2010 Acura MDX

VIN: 2HNYD2H6XAH506373
Carlos Villanueva Martinez
121 Pilgrim Ave.
Worcester, MA 01604

2014 Honda Pilot
VIN: 5FNYF4H4XEBD01211
Unknown
Unknown
9/25, 10/02, 10/09/2026

**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 October 16th, 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.

2015 Chrysler 200
VIN: 1C3CCCAB9FN719317
Djily Diop
897 Riverside Dr., Apt. 3
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

2003 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGES16533H542302
Xavier Aponte
25 Collins St., Apt. B5
Westfield, MA 01085

2007 Toyota Rav4
VIN: JTMBD33V075102966
Dennis Decosta
174 B Cedar Ter., Apt. B
Natick, MA 01760

2012 Hyundai Veloster
VIN: KMHTC6AD1CU069281
Efrain Felix
104 Lee Lang Terrace
West Springfield, MA 01089

2015 Honda Cbr1000rr
VIN: JH2SC5908FK700224
Enrique Santiago-Baez
21 Waverly St.
Springfield, Ma 01017

2011 Komfort 5th Wheel
Camper
VIN: 47CFKNS2XBP627517
Unknown Owner

2010 Audi Q7
VIN: WA1LYAFE7AD006879
Aidalina Vizcarrondo
36 Oswego St., Apt. 3
Springfield, MA 01105

2004 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM56394A050560
Robert Jimenez
272 Greenaway Drive
Springfield, MA 01104
10/02, 10/09, 10/16/2026

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.**

**HD15P0079PM
In the matter of:
Armand J Pellerin
of Chicopee, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **First and Final** account(s) of **Dorene Archambault of East Granby, CT** as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before **10:00 A.M.** on the return date of **10/16/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

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

Witness, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 11, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccamoni
Register of Probate
10/02/2026

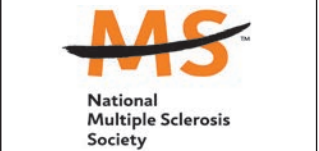


Nobody dreams of having multiple sclerosis

Some dreams are universal: hitting a ball over the Green Monster; winning the World Series with a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth inning. Finding out you have MS is not one of them.

Multiple sclerosis is a devastating disease of the central nervous system where the body's immune system attacks the insulation surrounding the nerves. It strikes adults in the prime of life - and changes lives forever.

To help make the dream of ending MS come true, call 1-800-FIGHT MS or visit us online at nationalmssociety.org.



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.

Get ready for Fill-A-Bag Plus Sale Oct. 10

Holy Mother of the Rosary National Catholic Church will be hosting a Fill-A-Bag Sale on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Church Hall located on 20 Bell St. in Chicopee. Fill a shopping bag (provided) with clothing, household goods, and more. All other items are half price. Jewelry and certain other items excluded

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ARE NOW ONLINE**

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2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

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FOOTBALL from page 7

credited with the assist.

A minute later, Alnuaimi scored an unassisted goal giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

“It was a great feeling after I scored the two goals in the first half,” Alnuaimi said. “It was also the fourth time in a row that we’ve defeated Comp.”

With nine minutes left in the opening half, Wrisley added his name to the scoring column with a low shot into the left corner. The Pacers third goal was assisted by junior Shawn Murphy,

Late in the first half, a free kick taken by Comp senior Ali Al Zubadi sailed high over the crossbar.

Sophomore Finian Carter also had a shot attempt for the Colts during the first 40 minutes.

Wrisley and Murphy scored back-to-back goals less than ten minutes into the second half. Both of those goals were assisted by Alnuaimi, who completed his hat-trick with a goal during the 55th minute.

With 10 minutes left in regulation Chicopee High junior goalie Zachariah Yarovoy (5 saves) was replaced by sophomore Mason Dombrek (1 saves).

The Pacers will be making the short trip to Comp's turf field with their sights set on bringing home the Cup for a third straight year.

Austin Lind makes a play on defense.



Ali Al Zubadi is pursued by a defender.



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FRIDAY AT NOON

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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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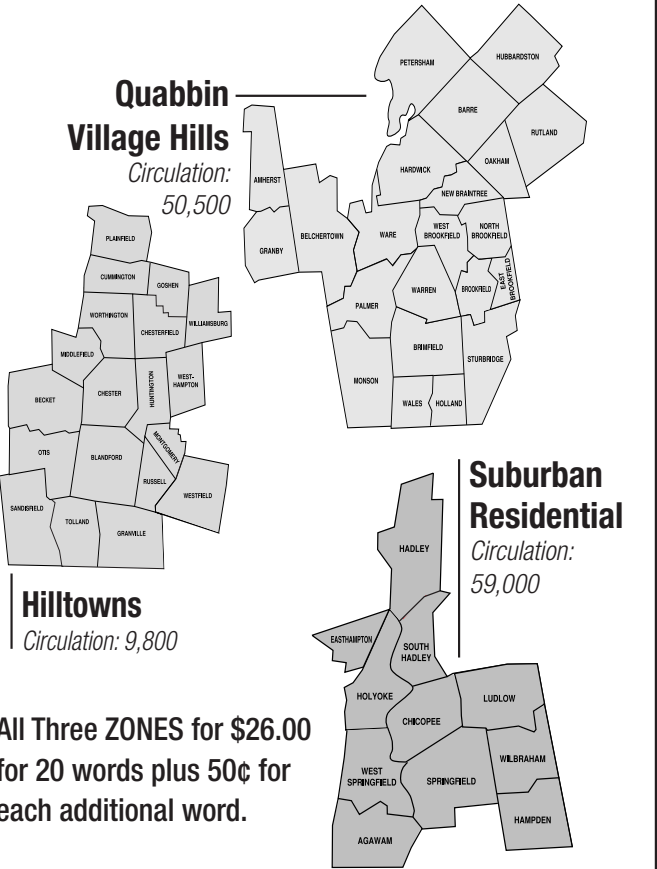
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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 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	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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