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COMMUNITY

Oct. 18 designated 'Chet Szetela Appreciation Day'

Chester Szetela receives MASC Lifetime Achievement Award

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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CHICOPEE -- At-Large School Committee Member Chester "Chet" Szetela received the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's Lifetime Achievement Award during a ceremony in the City Hall Auditorium on Wednesday.

Mayor John Vieau announced Oct. 18 as "Chet Szetela Appreciation Day" in Chicopee.

Szetela, a member of the School Committee since 2002, also received a proclamation from the City of Chicopee and the Massachusetts State Senate.

"I've been very, very blessed and gifted," Szetela said. "I enjoyed the kind words and the people making an effort to be here... (It's important) to want to serve. I really wanted to become part of the community, and I'm very glad that I did."

Szetela said his late wife of 60-plus years, a schoolteacher, inspired him to pursue his career in education. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts and master's degrees in education, he embarked on a 40-year career in the classroom and as a counselor,



At-Large School Committee Member Chester Szetela was awarded with the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's Lifetime Achievement Award on Oct. 18.

spending 34 years with Chicopee Public Schools.

Vieau noted that Szetela has actively championed school safety, helping to implement training programs to prevent bullying and promote safety preparedness. He has also advocated for the presence of school resource officers

in Chicopee schools.

Szetela, a lifelong Chicopee resident and longstanding member of the Housing Authority Board of Directors, has seven children, 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Vieau described the ceremony as a "Szetela family reunion," and



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

(L to R) State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), School Committee At-Large Members Susan Szetela-Lopes and Chester Szetela and Mayor John Vieau, pictured celebrated Szetela's Lifetime Achievement award from MASC during an Oct. 18 ceremony.

Szetela voiced appreciation for his family.

"I think of myself as being a rich man by having six daughters. I appreciate them being here," Szetela said.

Susan Szetela-Lopes, an at-large member of the School Committee, has served on the

board since the late 1990s. She weighed in on how her father has had such a long, outstanding impact on the city and her. "My father's always been an inspiration to me throughout my whole career. He's been a great father

See **SZETELA** page 7

COMMUNITY

St. Stanislaus Basilica holds 47th annual Parish Bazaar to huge fanfare

The bazaar supports the parish and St. Stanislaus School

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- Residents came out in droves to the St. Stanislaus School gymnasium from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Oct. 14 for the 47th Annual Parish Bazaar.

Throughout the day, attendees enjoyed booths, games of chance and raffles, the Polish Kitchen serving pierogies, golumbki, kapusta and kielbasa and more.

Additionally, there were balloons from Balloon Twister Ed Popielarczyk and music from the Heritage "Pops" Polka Band and Sarah the Fiddler.

Father Brad Milunski, who has served at St. Stanislaus for two and a half years, enjoyed seeing parishioners come together and have fun at the bazaar; he was pleased with the turnout.

"I think people really want to get together, and people are looking for, you know, that opportunity to gather," Milunski said. "I think it's probably even



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Pete L'Heureux and Mariusz Zielinski await more attendees trying their game of chance to double their money during the 47th Annual Parish Bazaar at St. Stanislaus School in Chicopee.

more precious now that we had that time of COVID where everybody was kind of shut in and everything shut down."

Milunski said people began asking about the bazaar during the summer so they could offer their support.

"I think people look forward to volunteering for it and people are great at volunteering, contributing toward it. We're grateful to a lot of our sponsors

who contribute to the bazaar," Milunski said.

Deacon Mike Pray of the Knights of Columbus Council 18251 oversaw the free-will donation table alongside Walter James, explaining the council started two months ago at the parish in honor of Father Lucjan Krolkowski.

"He was involved in Poland

See **BAZAAR** page 8

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Eden waves her scepter at Olivia as they pose for a fun photo during the Halloween Party at Chicopee Public Library. The girls were dressed up as Evil Audrey and Mal from the "Descendants" series.

Families enjoy spooky fun at the library

Halloween Party was held Oct. 17

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- Families stopped by the library's Kids Room from 4 - 6 p.m. on Oct. 17 for a Halloween Party.

The party provided many activities, including a creepy kitchen with ChicopeeFRESH, a ghost ring toss game, finding

shapes and patterns with a UV light on bats and ghosts, mummy bowling, a bean bag toss game with a cardboard pumpkin, a yarn maze and pinning spiders on a web.

Additionally, children marched in a costume parade to show off their costumes.

Heidi Davidson came to the event with her daughter, enjoying the monster scavenger hunt, the creepy kitchen and the costume parade.

See **HALLOWEEN** page 8

School Committee to review athletic event admission policy

Also, discussion of traffic and safety concerns on school grounds

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- The School Committee unanimously approved to move forward on reviewing the gate receipts and admissions policy for athletic events on Oct. 4.

The topic was requested by Ward 8 School Committee Member Douglas Girouard after he discovered students couldn't afford to attend multiple athletic events during the week. He said certain athletic events charged more for admission than others.

Girouard suggested the admission fee be lowered to one or two dollars.

"I really feel that students shouldn't have to pay five dollars into a gymnasium where they go to school at to watch their friends play and support them," Girouard said.

Ward 6 School Committee Member Samuel Shumsky said he spoke with a booster team that expressed similar concerns; he also heard from parents

and students.

Additionally, he heard students were turned away from attending games because they didn't know they had to purchase a ticket electronically.

"I do agree that this needs to be really looked into because participation is lacking. I was at my sister's varsity soccer game today and there wasn't really a lot of students there," Shumsky said. "It's heartbreaking to see."

Ward 9 School Committee Member Ron Benard suggested the athletic director be included in the discussion, citing past discussions with prior athletic directors on the issue.

When he was a coach, Benard said his understanding was some fees from games were used to pay for site managers and scorekeepers and "wasn't part of the regular budget."

"I think the AD would (know) where that money exactly goes to," Benard said.

Ward 5 School Committee Member Grace Schofield agreed, suggesting looking at non-electronic ticketing and electronic tickets for students free of charge through showing identification.

"So that they still have the safety

factor there where they know who's coming to the game, but you could just get issued the tickets as admission," Schofield said.

The motion to send the policy to the Policy Subcommittee for review of admission fees and electronic ticketing and invite the athletic director to the meeting carried 11-0.

Next, a discussion was held on traffic and safety concerns on school grounds.

Scott Chapdelaine, director of maintenance at Chicopee Public Schools, discussed concerns at area schools, including the 5-mph speed limit at Chicopee Comprehensive High School not being enforced.

Chapdelaine said there was no ordinance in place for speeding tickets to be given out and would like to change that with the School Committee and City Council's help.

"I didn't realize that no tickets could be written at all, so that's what I'm requesting from you," Chapdelaine said.

Robert Cantin, a teacher at the high school, spoke about rerouting buses to come in through the front entrance and

exit the back with the back gate open due to construction.

"It's just a matter of time before somebody gets hit because we've had so many near-misses," Cantin said.

When Ward 1 School Committee Member Tim Wagner asked Mayor John Vieau about drafting a letter to the City Council on addressing the ordinance issue for speed enforcement, he agreed but cautioned there would need to be further research.

"We'll do some investigative work, Tim, first and then I'll personally draft that letter for enforcement to see if the City Council's within their purview to create an ordinance that would allow for tickets to be passed out on school property for speeding," Vieau said.

Benard hopes the issues get addressed quickly.

"Every moment we're putting students and adults or anybody that's on that property's lives in danger, so whatever we can do to expedite it and make this process as quick as possible and find a solution as quick as possible, I think we need to," Benard said.

No motion was made as further discussion will take place.

City Council approves reducing speed on Chicopee Street to 25 mph

Meeting to be held to address fatal accidents

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- City Council unanimously approved on Oct. 17 to change the speed limits on Chicopee Street to 25 mph.

The approval gives the Department of Public Works the ability to petition the state to change speed limits on state Route

116 on Chicopee Street to the Holyoke line and to 319 Chicopee Street north and southbound.

Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne explained two miles of Chicopee Street have two different speed limits of 25 and 35 mph. After research was done by DPW Superintendent Elizabette Batista, it was discovered the state had provided wrong information on the speed limits.

"I know it's a long process, unfortunately, because there's many pieces that have to go in place to submit this to the state, but I think we need to do it sooner

than later," Courchesne said.

Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López said she was "happy to support this."

"I agree with Councilor Courchesne that it should be 25 mph. For some folks, it sounds like that's slow, but it's not really that slow when you have a park, when you have a lot of pedestrian activity, kids walking to school, kids walking across the street. There's a lot of pedestrian activity on Chicopee Street," López said.

Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski said Batista supports the petition.

"Finally, we'll get the whole street the right way," Zygarowski said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello thanked Courchesne and López for addressing this.

"Hopefully with this kind of initiative, especially reducing to 25 mph, we can save lives and that's what this is all about is making the city safe, making the street safe and saving lives," Costello said.

The motion passed 12-0.

Next, the council approved having Police Chief Patrick Major or his designee meet with the Public Safety Committee to share their findings on the cause of the fatal pedestrian and vehicle accidents on Chicopee Street.

Courchesne explained how as a councilor trying to deal with the fatalities, "it's kind of hard when we don't know the root cause of the incidents."

He is sure Major or his designee can provide information about the cause.

"We just need to know, accident one

how did it happen, accident two how did it happen, because as much as we're just tasked with bringing up ideas, we don't have much control over them being implemented. It's kind of hard to look at ways to improve safety when we don't know the root cause of the incidents," Courchesne said.

López expressed her gratitude to the police department for their work, adding how "the fatalities happening on our streets are some of the hardest moments that the city has faced."

"This is informational more than anything. We want to be able to work with them so we can understand the full totality of the circumstances," López said.

She stressed letting residents know how the accidents happen along with the police department's response and efforts.

"This is just another way to be transparent, so the residents understand what's actually causing the issues, what the causes of incidents are and the role that we all play," López said.

Ward 6 Councilor Derek Dobosz noted how "it's a frustrating issue" and lent his support, citing a recent fatal crash on Chicopee Street on Oct. 2.

"We have to do better as a city to respond to this and we have to make it safer. We have to stop the accidents on Chicopee Street, whatever it takes," Dobosz said.

Costello thanked DPW and the Engineering Department for also stepping up to help address the issues.

"They too are making a great effort in getting our streets safe," Costello said.

This motion also passed 12-0.

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Ninja Sushi officially opens its doors in downtown Chicopee

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- Community members, residents and elected officials gathered on West Street Oct. 13 for the grand opening of Ninja Sushi.

Ninja Sushi, a Japanese restaurant, is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. and Sunday from noon - 10 p.m.

They are closed on Mondays.

Ninja Sushi offers a variety of meals, including sushi and sashimi lunch boxes, yummy rolls, phoenix rolls, ninja seafood teriyaki, tom yum soup, fried calamari, beer teriyaki bento boxes, a lover box for two and many more.

In addition to offering in-person dining and takeout, they also deliver and place menus through the mail.

Their mission, per their website, is as follows:

“Our company seeks to provide quality food at affordable prices to create the greatest value for all customers that step foot into our restaurant,” it says. “Our team believes in making food that not only tastes delicious but also fulfilling from a superb customer service experience.”

Before the ribbon-cutting ceremony took place, attendees experienced that superb customer service first-hand when they were served a variety of specials and food by the owners and employees.

During the ribbon-cutting, Mayor John Vieau congratulated owners Heyman Ouyang and Tommy Lin on their business, praising the restaurant’s customer service.

“I know when you have great food, you’re going to be successful. They will come,” Vieau said. “I was super impressed with the food I’ve eaten already and I’m excited to order from your menu.”

Vieau added the business moving to downtown “is a great opportunity.”

“The storefronts are filling up like crazy down there, and this downtown is something special. It’s a renaissance or rejuvenation, whatever you want to call it, but it’s something very special happening,



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

(L to R) Chicopee Police Sgt. Thomas Gazda, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Heyman Ouyang and Tommy Lin, owners of Ninja Sushi, Mayor John Vieau and Emergency Management Commissioner Rich Jones celebrate as the ribbon is cut to celebrate the official opening on Ninja Sushi on West Street in Chicopee.

and we’re excited about it,” Vieau said.

State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) echoed similar praise, also enjoying the food.

“It’s always a great thing when a new business invests in the city of Chicopee, so I just wanted to be here alongside our great mayor here in the city of Chicopee to say congratulations to both of you,” Gomez said. “Ninja Sushi is definitely a place I’m going to bring my family.”

Conie Liang, the manager at Ninja Sushi, explained the business is their first location in Chicopee, and they hope to expand.

For now, Liang said, the restaurant will offer sushi options, highlighting their all-day specials.

“We do all-day specials, like two rolls for \$12.95 and three rolls for \$16.95,” Liang said.

On the location, Liang said the

restaurant was looking around online, and the landlord wanted to rent the space out.

“The owners like it here. It’s a fresh feel, something new,” Liang said.

Since opening, Liang has appreciated residents sharing photos on social media.

“With customers, they will post to Facebook or Instagram the pictures and things like that,” Liang said.

She hopes more people come by to try their food and she’ll get to know the community more.

“I like meeting people,” Liang said.

To learn more, visit ninjasushima.com or call 413-331-2103.



A wide-shot of the many menu offerings attendees enjoyed during the official opening of Ninja Sushi on West Street in Chicopee on Oct. 13.

Police department’s ice cream truck hands out last ice cream of the season



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – Late last month, the police department handed out the last of its ice cream for the season. But that doesn’t mean you won’t see the truck on the road anymore. With the colder weather approaching the police department will use the truck to serve hot cocoa at community events. The police department would like to thank all its sponsors that helped to get the truck up and running this year. The support is greatly appreciated.

Chicopee Girl Scout Troop 65202 welcomes new girls

CHICOPEE -- Girls in grades K-5 are invited to join Girl Scout Troop 65202.

The troop meets weekly on Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. in Chicopee.

Register now to claim her spot, as troops fill fast. Annual membership cost is \$35, and financial assistance is available.

See for yourself what Girl Scouts has

to offer. Girl Scouts is the premier organization for girls to learn about leadership, financial literacy, life skills, science and technology, the outdoors and community service. Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

You can register for a spot in the troop at <https://bit.ly/troop65202>.

Questions? Email info@gscwm.org or call 413-584-2602.

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GUEST COLUMN



How will my wife's Social Security be affected by her teacher's pension?

Dear Rusty
My wife, born in 1960, was a Texas school teacher for about 10 years and receives a \$1,000 per month pension from that work. She didn't pay into Social Security while teaching, but she paid into it for about 23 years while working elsewhere. I paid into Social Security my entire life, the maximum in most years, so my SS benefit will be much greater than hers.

I understand there are some sort of penalties or restrictions on my wife's Social Security benefits and also for spousal benefits due to her school pension. Please share the process I can use to estimate my wife's Social Security and tell me if she can file for spousal benefits.

Signed: Planning for the Future

Dear Planning

Because your wife has a Texas school teacher pension earned without contributing to Social Security, any SS benefits she is entitled to will be affected by two rules: first, by the Windfall Elimination Provision, which will reduce her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit and, second, by the Government Pension, which will reduce any spousal boost if she is entitled to one to her own benefit.

The amount of the WEP reduction to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit will be computed using a special formula, which considers the number of years she has contributed to Social Security through other (non-state) work. Since your wife became eligible for Social Security benefits in 2022 the maximum WEP reduction with 23 years contributing to SS will be \$358. If your wife has already obtained an estimate of her Social Security retirement benefit, deduct \$358 from that estimate and that will be pretty close to her actual SS retirement benefit when she claims. Social Security will figure out the exact amount of her WEP reduction when your wife applies, but you can also use Social Security's "WEP Calculator" for an estimate, which you can find by visiting www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculators/.

Whether your wife will be entitled to a "spousal boost" to her own Social Security retirement benefit depends on how your respective FRA entitlements compare and the GPO. The base amount of your wife's spousal boost will be the difference between her pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement. If your wife's normal FRA entitlement is less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, the difference is a "spousal boost" added to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit. However, that base spousal boost will be reduced if taken before your wife reaches her FRA and even further reduced by the GPO (the GPO reduction will be 2/3rds your wife's State of Texas pension, e.g., about \$667. Any remainder left after these reductions to your wife's spousal boost will be added to her own WEP-reduced SS retirement amount, but if the remainder is \$0 then no spousal boost will be given and your wife will get only her WEP-reduced Social Security retirement amount.

FYI, Social Security's WEP and GPO provisions apply to anyone, who has a pension earned without contributing to Social Security, including many public service retirees in the 26 states, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program. I've published numerous articles about how these rules affect benefits and also about the

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** page 5

GUEST COLUMN

The Garden Lady takes on squash pollination



Christl, a recent transplant to Belchertown from California, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady:

"We are doing the post-mortem on our veggie garden and we had an issue with our butternut squash.

Last year we grew butternut from seed and had some lovely fruit that lasted most of the winter. This year we used the same seed, but the fruit was white without the distinctive crook-neck shape.

I've cooked some and it is definitely not as sweet, but my dog is enjoying the special treats. I suspect that it cross pollinated with something else in the garden.

We also grew two types of cucumbers (which despite the rain went gangbuster), Mini cantaloupe melons and a yellow summer squash. None of these fruits seemed to be affected.

My question is how to avoid this? Are there particular cucurbits that are more likely to cross-pollinate or be cross-pollinated? Is there a certain distance one can plant away from each other?

I was hoping to plant some pumpkins and watermelon next year, but in light of the butternut, I am wary. I may be willing to forego planting some of the cucurbits, but cukes are a must and I'd hate to give up my melons.

I have enough room that pumpkins will stay out of the veggie garden."

Thank you for the wonderful and very timely question! First let's talk about how cross pollination occurs.

In the simplest of terms, bees carry pollen from plant to plant. When fruit forms, and the seeds from the fruit are saved and used the following year to start new plants, you can sometimes run into trouble and not end up with the exact plants you grew the year before.

We will take melon and cucumbers out of the equation here - they belong to the genus Cucumis and are species melo and sativus respectively. They cannot cross pollinate because they are different species.

Nor can watermelons, since they are a different genus and species altogether: Citrullus lanatus.

The genus Cucurbita, to which squash belongs, has five different species. Three of them are commonly grown in our climate; one more only occasionally:

Cucurbita pepo includes summer squash: zucchini, patty pan, and yellow crookneck as well as acorn, delicata/dumpling, and spaghetti winter squashes. Small gourds, and most

pumpkins also belong to this species. Pepos have hard, five-sided ribbed stems.

Cucurbita maxima is comprised of banana, buttercup, Hubbard winter squash as well as some pumpkins, most notably the white pumpkin Lumina and the pretty deep orange-red "Cinderella." Fruit in this species have round stems and tend to be on the large side. They often have bumps on their skin and button ends (think of a belly-button). Highest carotenoid content when mature and sometimes the largest fruit on earth!

Cucurbita moschata is comprised of the familiar butternut-type of winter squashes as well as the cheese pumpkin, ancient "Seminole," and many other less common fruits. One distinguishing feature of this group is its smooth surface and usually a tan color. It is often used interchangeably for pumpkin in pie recipes. Quality of flesh and carotenoid content can range from good to poor; seed is nutritious.

Cucurbita argyrosperma. To people that live in the Southwest, their "pumpkin" of choice is the "Green Striped Cushaw" or "White Cushaw." Most consider it to be a rather pretty winter squash. Just like the moschatas, it can be used interchangeably in recipes calling for pumpkin. Reportedly, it handles dry weather and is quite resistant to vine borer. It is rarely grown in our climate. One distinguishing factor of this species is silver seed which is large and nutritious. Culinary quality, however, is pale and poor.

Confusion sets in when you want to save seeds of your produce!

All squash are monoecious, that is male and female flowers are produced on the same plant. Note male flowers (usually outnumber female flowers 4:1) are on stems, flowers are fused with stamens versus female flowers that have an ovary at base.

Both are high in nectar that is attractive to visiting bees, most notably the honeybee and native ground bees.

Cross-pollination will not occur between different species - say between a pepo and a maxima but it will take place among members of the same species.

Since I grew zucchini, yellow crookneck and pumpkins in my garden, all Cucurbita pepos, I can't save the seeds from any of those fruits and expect them to look, or taste, exactly like their parents did.

What makes seed saving even more confusing for the novice is whether or not the variety they are growing is open-pollinated or a hybrid. Hybrids, however, are the result of crossing two inbreds.

Seeds saved from hybrid plants will likely germinate and produce fruit. Unfortunately, it will not be true, and it may or may not have a resemblance to the fruit you saved it from - it will likely resort back to either of its parents or some unique, different combination of genes.

With all of this said, I have a few thoughts as to what happened to produce misshapen butternut squash. If it was seed you saved from the

See **GARDEN** page 7

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.

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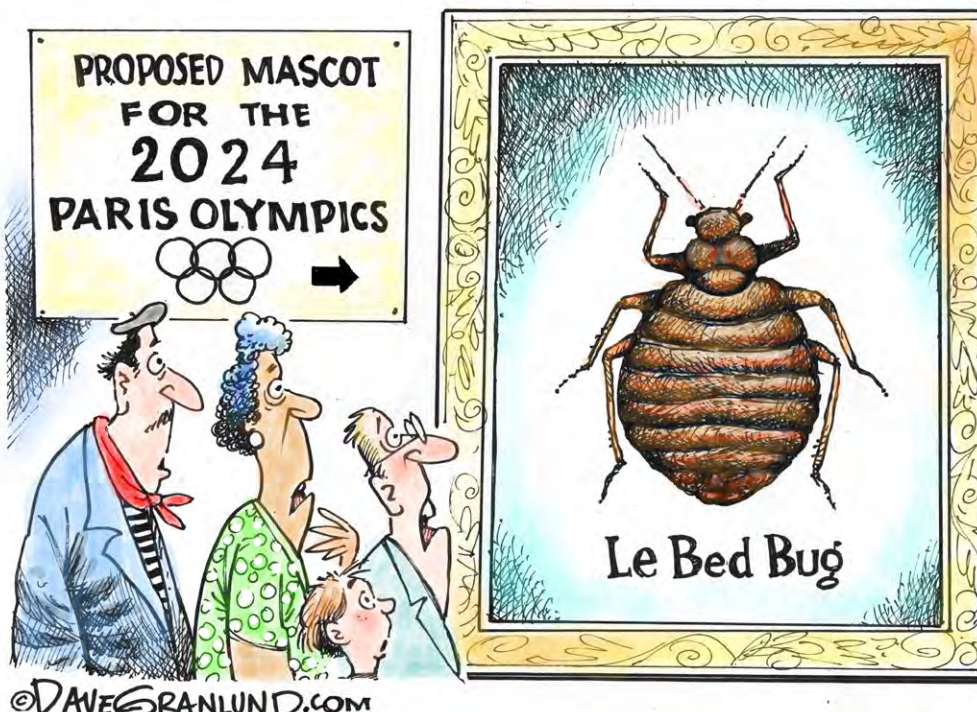
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Arbors Gives Back raises \$13,000 for Alzheimer's Association

CHICOPEE – The Arbors Gives Back, a nonprofit, philanthropic organization dedicated to raising funds to serve the needs of the local community, raised \$13,000 during a Sept. 16 fundraiser at the Castle of Knights on Memorial Drive in Chicopee.

The money will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association, which works on a global, national and local level to provide care and support for those affected by Alzheimer's and other dementias.

The event was called "I Wanna Rock for Alzheimer's" featuring '80s tribute band Aquanett.

Fun was had by all, and with everyone wearing '80s attire, it was a ROCKIN' good time.



The Arbors Gives Back raised \$13,000 for the Alzheimer's Association during a Sept. 16 fundraiser at the Castle of the Knights.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ARBORS GIVES BACK

In the jumbo check presentation, at the left is Shauna Dandy, manager for Walk to End Alzheimer's Pioneer Valley, in the center is The Arbors & Ivy Assisted Living Communities for Activities & Memory Care Regional Director Julie Dudley and at right is Kristen Bruno, Arbors at Chicopee marketing director.



The theme of "I Wanna Rock for Alzheimer's" event on Sept. 16 was '80s attire.



Upcoming events and announcements

Chicopee offering Hatha Yoga Classes

CHICOPEE -- The Chicopee Parks & Recreation Department is offering a Hatha yoga class. The class is being offered on Wednesday Evenings 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. It began Oct. 18 and will run through Nov. 22.

This class series is open to all levels of experience from those wanting to start, restart or maintain an ongoing yoga practice. It is designed to increase strength and flexibility in an accessible way. Focusing on providing a movement-based practice that can be used for stress management, can help boost circulation and will promote overall health and wellbeing. All classes will be held at Chicopee River Mills Senior Center. Exercise Studio #17 room located on the 2nd floor of the building at 5 W. Main Street Chicopee. This class is open to Ages 15-years-old and older. Instructor Caitlin Lavin has over 10 years of teaching Hatha Yoga and over 15 years experiencing other various forms of yoga. The cost for a 6-week session is \$80/Resident \$90/Non-Resident or a drop-in fee of \$15/Residents \$17/Non-Residents per class. Space is

limited so register now! To register go to www.chicopeerec.com.

Fairview Cemetery announces Fall Cleanup

CHICOPEE – As the leaves begin to fall, the Chicopee Parks and Recreation Department will begin cleanup of the Fairview Cemetery beginning the week of Oct. 23. The Fairview Cemetery Commission and Parks Department asks that all families please remove grave decorations by Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023. Once the cleanup begins all remaining decorations will be removed and discarded by cemetery staff.

Artificial grave ornaments, artificial flowers, enclosures of any kind, and new plantings in the ground are not allowed as they are hazardous to both visitors and workers. Holiday pots and boxes will only be allowed during the Memorial Day and Holiday seasons.

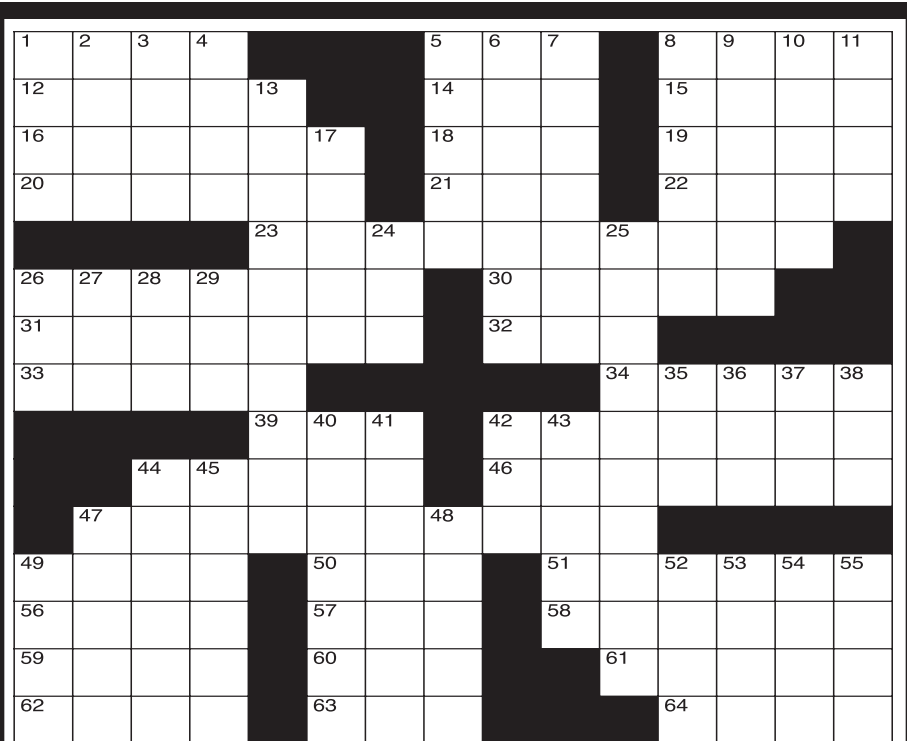
For a complete list of Fairview Cemetery rules and regulations, fees and charges, and monument policies, please visit www.chicopeema.gov/384/Fairview-Cemetery or call the Parks and Recreation Office at 594-3481.

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

rationale behind both provisions, which you are welcome to review at this AMAC Foundation website by visiting www.SocialSecurityReport.org.

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 infor-

mation 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.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A device to disengage without a key
- 5. Subdivision
- 8. Network of nerves
- 12. Lounge chair
- 14. Ocean
- 15. C. European river
- 16. Bowl-shaped cavity
- 18. ___ Caesar, comedian
- 19. Lyric poems
- 20. Tia's sister
- 21. A way to develop
- 22. Cows collectively
- 23. Areas close by
- 26. Slightly disreputable
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. One who cites
- 32. Food stall: ___ pai dong
- 33. Narrow valley between hills
- 34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo

- 39. More (Spanish)
- 42. Classroom implementations
- 44. Cognizant of
- 46. One who tells on others
- 47. Free from slavery
- 49. Thick piece of something
- 50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms
- 51. Removed entirely
- 56. Late rocker Turner
- 57. Appreciated
- 58. Observation expedition
- 59. Opposite of sub-tracts
- 60. Unit of work
- 61. Wreckage on the sea bed
- 62. Affirmative! (slang)
- 63. Witness
- 64. River in England

CLUES DOWN

- 1. A dissenting clique
- 2. Japanese city
- 3. Spiritual leader
- 4. Second letter of Greek alphabet
- 5. Musical term
- 6. Ruled over
- 7. Fortified wine
- 8. First year player
- 9. Moved in a circular way
- 10. Adolescents
- 11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- 13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
- 17. Bring up
- 24. Factual written account (abbr.)
- 25. Having three sides
- 26. Annoy
- 27. Hustle
- 28. American WW2 leader
- 29. Stale atmosphere
- 35. US Treasury
- 36. Sound unit
- 37. They ___
- 38. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 40. Places to play video games
- 41. Medical event
- 42. When you hope to arrive
- 43. Fixed prices
- 44. Popular Boston song
- 45. Valley in Indiana and Illinois
- 47. Omit when speaking
- 48. German explorer of the Congo Basin
- 49. Stick around
- 52. From a distance
- 53. Heroic tale
- 54. Amounts of time
- 55. Eat

ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

Police department holds its first C3 Hispanic Heritage Month Domino's Tournament

CHICOPEE -- The police department would like to thank those who came out to its first C3 Hispanic Heritage Month Domino's Tournament earlier this month. The event was a great success with many great conversations with residents of Chicopee Center. Special thank you to Paris and Ty's Food Truck for coming by to provide some delicious food. State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Mayor John Vieau and many dignitaries from City Hall that stopped by for a game and conversation with the residents. Thanks to Emmanuel Reyes from Jazx'd in Time Collective for providing some live music. The police department hopes to see everyone at the next event!



Wolfie enters the Mayor's Office



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHLOE SOTO, MAYOR'S OFFICE

The Mayor's Office always appreciates visits from Chicopee residents, especially when they bring along their delightful pets. On Oct. 10, Wolfie wandered around the office, bringing joy and smiles to everyone he met. Caption courtesy of Chloe Soto, Mayor's Office.

Elms College surged up U.S. News & World Report's 2024 Best Colleges Rankings

CHICOPEE -- College of Our Lady of the Elms greatly improved its ranking on two listings in the U.S. News & World Report 2024 Best Colleges Rankings and was listed as a Best Value School in the North Region for the first time.

The college jumped 33 places to number 60 on the list of Best Regional Universities (North) and rose 22 slots to number 12 in the Top Performers on Social Mobility - Regional Universities (North) category.

This list ranks schools for enrolling and graduating large proportions of students who have received federal Pell Grants. New this year, Elms College was ranked number 33 on the Best Value Schools - Regional Universities (North) list. This category examines a school's academic quality and the cost of its programs. The higher the quality of programs and the lower the cost, the better the value a school provides.

"It gives all of us at Elms College immense pride and satisfaction that the Elms value is recognized in rankings such as the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings. We are pleased that Elms improved its ranking on two lists this year and entered the list of Best Value Schools (North)," said Elms College President Harry E. Dumay, Ph.D., MBA. "In addition to the high-quality education we provide, I thank the Elms community for their efforts that empower our students to make a difference in the lives of the people around them."

USN ranks Elms College as a university because of changes to the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's basic classification system and the number of graduate programs Elms offers. The Carnegie categories are the accepted standard in U.S. higher education.

The USN Best Colleges rankings are designed to help students and their families find colleges that offer the best academic value for their money. The list provides at-a-glance breakdowns of each institution and ranks them based on such indicators of excellence, value, and first-year student retention rate.

The full rankings are viewable at www.usnews.com/colleges.

GARDEN from page 4

plants you grew the year before, maybe they were hybrids and what you ended up with is something back in the genetic line.

Or maybe they cross pollinated with your neighbors moschatas; for true seed, plants would need to be isolated one-half to one mile.

If what you grew was from the original seed packet-not anything you saved, then it remains a mystery.

Regardless, I do hope this helped in de-tangling a confusing topic and encourages you to plant all of your favorites next year!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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IN THE CITY



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Mayor John Vieau speaks during an Oct. 18 ceremony celebrating At-Large School Committee member Chester Szetela.

State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) presents At-Large School Committee Member Chester Szetela with a proclamation from the State Senate.

SZETELA from page 1

to us,” Szetela-Lopes said. “My mother said about my father that he gets up in the morning and does what’s right throughout his day. He does the right thing. He’s led a really good life.”

Sarah Bolton, a daughter of Szetela, said her father never touched a drink in his life, “which creates a safety net for a child.”

Bolton described Szetela as a big sports fan who never missed his children’s games. She discussed what she learned from watching her father.

“He educated six daughters, and we are doing well,”

she said. “Hard work pays off, and he’s worked hard. (His story tells you) that if you work hard, you will be successful, no matter what it is. My dad taught us if you’re going to do something, do it well.”

Glenn Koocher, executive director of MASC, traveled from eastern Massachusetts to present Szetela with the award. He described what the award stands for.

“It is given largely to people who have contributed to their community in decades of service as a teacher, decades of service as a member of the School Committee,” he said.

State Sen. Jake Oliveira

(D-Ludlow), a former longtime school committee member in his hometown, praised Szetela for serving in one of the “most thankless roles in government.”

“As a school committee member, we’re always told when we get into that our number one constituency is not the people that elect us, it’s not the people we’re friends with, it’s the children we serve in the school system,” Oliveira said.

As a fellow school committee member, Oliveira monitored Chicopee’s progress over the years. He shared kind words regarding Szetela’s contributions to the district’s growth.

“During your time as a

school committee member, Chicopee invested in their public schools. They built two new high schools that are state-of-the-art. Even though they’re aging right now, they are still the envy of every school district in the area,” Oliveira said.

Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware, new to the district, watched a year’s worth of School Committee meetings before entering the office for this school year. He said the task helped familiarize him with the different personalities, visions and character traits of the board members.

“When (Szetela) speaks, people listen. What I have

learned is when he says something, it’s always in the best interests of the kids, and that’s why I’m happy to be here,” Ware said.

Ware told Szetela that he is much deserving of the lifetime achievement award and other proclamations. Ware said he wants to emulate Szetela’s journey.

“Mr. Szetela, I hope I last in the game as long as you. I’m only one-third of how long you’ve been in education; I have 20 years. Sixty years? I want to be just like you when I grow up. Thank you much for choosing to be a leader for Chicopee Public Schools,” Ware said.



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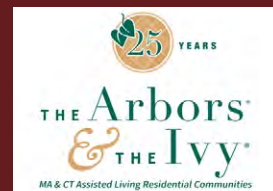
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IN THE CITY



The Heritage "Pops" Polka Band performs during the 47th Annual Parish Bazaar at St. Stanislaus School in Chicopee.

BAZAAR from page 1

with the movement to try to get children out of Poland during World War II, away from the Nazis and everything. So, he helped lead children through the woods and things like that to save them from the Nazis," Pray said.

Pray said, "It's important to be out there in the community," and meet people through participating in the bazaar.

"We have only a couple things we've done in the community, but we're going to be doing more and more," Pray said. "It's good to be out here just to serve the people, just to be with them. Let them know God loves them."

Al Dion was at the bazaar for Wreaths Across America, explaining Chicopee joined the initiative last year through Paul

Barabani, a resident and parishioner who is the location coordinator for Agawam Veteran's Cemetery.

National Wreaths Across America Day takes place on Dec. 16.

"We're here at the bazaar to try to spread the awareness and try to get more people to sponsor wreaths and spread the word to get volunteers," Dion said.

Dion added that sponsoring a wreath supports the parish; he can be reached at adion@cpsge.org for more information.

"The \$17 that someone sponsors, five dollars of that will go back to the basilica itself so it supports the church at the same time," Dion said.

Matthew Nabors, a 2020 graduate of St. Stanislaus School, oversaw the corn-hole games, sharing that he loved the school and was happy to support it.



A long line of attendees wait to get their treats from Polish Kitchen during the 47th Annual Parish Bazaar at St. Stanislaus School in Chicopee.

"It's a great family here. We were taught morals, we were taught religion, how it affects us. I was taught things that help me in my day-to-day life now," Nabors said. "It's great."

Nabors was thrilled with the turnout.

"It means that St. Stan's did something right if people are coming back and supporting it. It's a great thing," Nabors said.

Milunski wants the community to know how thankful the parish and school are for their support.

"We really want St. Stan's – not just the bazaar – but any time throughout the year to be a place that welcomes everybody and welcomes people to find their faith or renew their faith again and to find and to acknowledge the importance of God in their life," Milunski said.



Religious art pieces on display for purchase.

HALLOWEEN from page 1

"She's the one who brought me here because we do come to the library quite a bit and we saw (this) last month on the calendar and she said, 'I have to get my costume so I can come to the party!'" Davidson said.

Davidson appreciates the library holding events like the Halloween Party for the sense of community and meeting other families.

"It's the coming together. It's something to look forward to because there is joy in picking up books and reading. But this way you get to do both. You have that experience, and you have the community and the gathering on top of it," Davidson said.

Julie Fruscio came with her two children, who enjoyed the UV pen activity, appreciating the library putting together the event and the staff's creativity.

"I just appreciate the thought that went into it. The safety for the kids, the collaborations between families and children in the community," Fruscio said. "My kids love to read, we love being here, so having fun things to do outside the norm is a plus."



Jennifer Lozano and her son dressed up as bunnies and had fun during the Halloween Party at Chicopee Public Library.

Fruscio encourages the community to support the library.

"I think the library is such a special place for the kids," Fruscio said. "Funding for this building is important and making sure that we can just continue to have



Alexandria, as Sleeping Beauty, is hugged by Harleigh as Mirabel from "Encanto" during the Halloween Party.

memories in this building is important."

Angelina Belz and Eden Elias had fun at the party, dressing up as a snow queen and Evil Audrey from "Descendants 3."

"I like how all the stuff is really fun and it is my first time coming to a Halloween Party here, and my mom got me a tool kit and a to-go bag, and she's dressed up like a skeleton," Belz said.

"I like seeing other people's costumes," Elias said. "I like everything about the Halloween Party, and this is actually my first time at a Halloween Party just here. I really, really, really, really love

everything about this place."

After today's party, Belz and Elias look forward to more Halloween fun.

"I'm going to go to my friend's house and I get to wear my Princess Peach costume," Belz said.

"I'm going to my school's trunk-or-treat," Elias said. "I really love trunk-or-treats. There's so many games, there's so many activities, there's candy, there's so much! I love trunk-or-treats!"

Brent Tenerowicz, youth services associate at the library, was happy everyone had a great time, including the adults dressing up in costumes alongside the kids.

"We're thrilled with the turnout. We're so excited to see so many people. We are so excited to see everybody having so much fun with everything," Tenerowicz said. "Overall, we're just really excited with how this event came to be and the feedback that we've gotten from everyone and just the general level of excitement that was happening this afternoon."

Tenerowicz said there's more to come with a Halloween Craft from 4 - 6 p.m. on Oct. 31 in the Kids Room.

"A lot of staff will be dressed up for the day that day and so we do encourage patrons if they're going to be stopping by the library on Halloween on the 31st, they're more than welcome to stop by in costume and have fun with us as well," Tenerowicz said.

Belz and Elias had this message for Chicopee.

"Happy Halloween!" they said.



Bri Jackson, farm-to-school coordinator for Chicopee Public Schools, meets with families in the Children's Room for spooky kitchen activity.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS



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Panthers win slugfest over Pacers

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—Because the JV girls soccer match between Palmer and Chicopee was canceled, it gave Celso Sandoval, who's the Lady Panthers head coach, an opportunity to play his younger players in the varsity game.

With the Lady Panthers holding a 7-1 lead at halftime, seven reserve players were on the field at the start of the second half.

Chicopee managed to slice the deficit to 8-4 with a little more than 10 minutes remaining in regulation. It forced Sandoval to put his starters back into the game.

The Lady Panthers added three more goals and posted an 11-4 victory in a Central Division contest held at historic Szot Park, last Thursday afternoon.

"We didn't have a JV game today, so I decided to play our younger players in the varsity game. I thought this would be a very good learning experience for them," Sandoval said. "Once the score got to 8-4, I wanted to see how my starters would react to going back into the game. I was going to put them back into the game at some point during the second half. My main goal is to continue to build this program."

The road victory snapped Palmer's four game losing streak and it also evened their overall record at 6-6-1.

"Anytime that you can get into the W column, it's a plus," Sandoval said. "Hopefully, this win will give us some momentum heading into our next game against Monson."

The Lady Panthers, who were scheduled to host the Lady Mustangs at historic Legion Field on Monday, posted an 11-1 victory over the Lady Pacers (0-11) in their first meeting, which was also held at Legion Field on



Sophia Moreira makes a pass back.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Avery Placzek sweeps a pass forward.



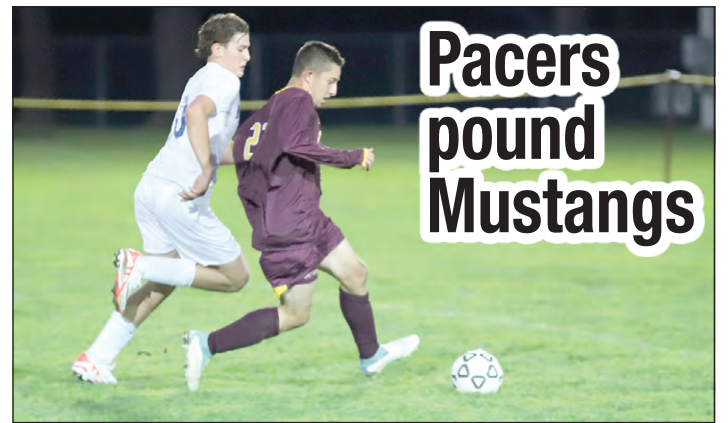
Krista Hajdamowicz guides the ball forward.

September 20.

"They took a 1-0 lead against us in the first meeting of the season," Sandoval said. "We were able to respond very quickly after that. Chicopee is also a very young team."

Chicopee graduated 14 players a year ago and Gabby

See PACERS page 11



Pacers pound Mustangs

Griffen Wisley tries to break away and go for the goal.

CHICOPEE – Last Tuesday night, Chicopee High boys soccer took it to Monson with a 7-0 drubbing of the Mustangs. Griffen Wisley led the way with a hat trick and Nazaryl Kravchencki had two goals of

his own. Adam Brunelle and Caleb Morrissette had seven saves combined for the shutout. The Pacers are 7-6-1 and looking to qualify for tournament in the final week of the season.



Daniel Lonczak clears the ball up the right side



Yousif Hamid takes possession of the ball and starts to move up the field.



Jason Gregoire makes a quick pass.



Dakota Campos-August goes straight up with the set.



Eliza Burger attempts to overcome a block.

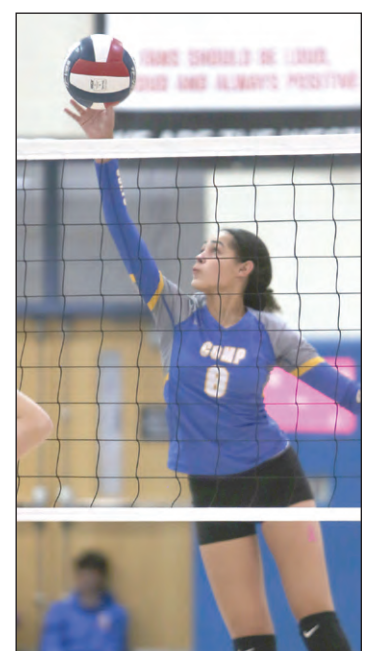
Colts fall against visiting Agawam

CHICOPEE – Last Wednesday afternoon, Chicopee Comprehensive girls volleyball suffered a 3-1 loss against Agawam. The Colts are now 4-12 this season. Comp trailed 2-0 and won the third set to force a fourth set before Agawam took the match. Eliza Burger led the Colts with six kills, nine digs, and two aces.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Charlotte Smith attempts to send the ball back over the net



Lorianys Vazquez gets a tip over the net.

Thunderbirds rebound to beat Bruins

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-1-0-0) overcame a sub-par second period and battled their way to a 4-3 win over the Providence Bruins (0-1-0-1) on Sunday afternoon inside the MassMutual Center.

Vadim Zherenko got the nod in net for Springfield and picked up the win, stopping 38 shots on the afternoon. On the other end, Brandon Bussi got the start for Providence in the net, making 20 saves on 24 T-Birds attempts.

After a flurry of chances in the Providence zone about halfway through the first period, captain Matthew Peca got the T-Birds on the board first as he knocked a rebound home at the 7:48 mark. On a seemingly harmless play, Wyatt Kalynuk wristed a point shot toward Bussi, who appeared like he would squeeze it in the glove to get a whistle. Instead, the puck popped out of his trapper, and Springfield kept the puck in the zone the next half minute, culminating in the goal by Peca, which came as a sixth attacker was jumping on the ice

following a delayed Providence penalty.

Peca's first goal of the season would be the only tally of the period, as the T-Birds marched back to their dressing room with a 1-0 lead. Nathan Walker picked up a point for a second straight day, getting credit for the primary helper, while Dylan Coghlan accrued his first point as a T-Bird with the secondary assist.

Providence had a golden opportunity to score five minutes into the second frame when Vincent Arseneau took advantage of a turnover and found teammate Joey Abate in the slot, but Abate's shot nailed the post and the score remained 1-0.

The T-Birds had a golden opportunity of their own to capitalize on with 7:28 to go in the second after Zachary Bolduc intercepted an errant pass, but Bolduc just missed on the glove side of Bussi as

the shot sailed over the crossbar.

John Farinacci finally got the P-Bruins on the board, hammering home a rebound past Zherenko on the power play, tying the game up at one apiece.

With just over a minute to play in the second, after an unforced giveaway in the defensive end by Springfield, the Bruins took advantage as Farinacci found Luke Toporowski for a one-timer in the slot, giving the P-Bruins a 2-1 lead going into the dressing room.

It didn't take long for the T-Birds to get even in the third, as Walker recorded his second goal of the season just nine seconds into the period to open up the scoring, with Adam Gaudette and Calle Rosen getting credit with the assists.

Just 4:19 later, Bolduc joined the scoring party on a 2-on-1 rush as he rifled home a shot past Bussi on the

blocker side. The first-round pick's first career pro goal made it a 3-2 game.

Providence did not go away quietly though, as Marc McLaughlin tipped in a Reilly Walsh point shot on a Bruins power play at the 13:21 mark, bringing the game to a 3-3 tie.

In need of another response, and with another delayed penalty situation, the top line delivered in the clutch. Finding a quiet area in the slot area, Gaudette snapped a perfect shot under the crossbar and recorded his first of the year and second point on the day, making it 4-3 with just 4:52 to go in the third.

Despite pulling their goalie and several dangerous scoring chances, Providence could not tie the score and the T-Birds escaped with their first victory of the year in thrilling fashion.

The T-Birds return to the MassMutual Center on Friday to complete their season-opening three-game homestand as they take on the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, with puck drop set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.



Railers fall to Mariners in opener

AUBURN, ME – The Worcester Railers HC (0-1-0-0, 0pts) fell to the Maine Mariners (1-0-0-0, 2pts), on Friday night by the final score of 4-2 at Norway Savings Bank Arena. The Railers are at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center against the Maine Mariners on Saturday, October 14th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Maine started the game with two quick goals in the first from Ethan Keppen (2-0-2) and Wyllum Deveaux (1-0-1) to grab a 2-0 lead through one period. Worcester got on the board in the second thanks to Zach White's tip in front to make it 2-1. The Railers and Mariners traded goals midway through the second, as Jimmy Lambert (1-1-2) for Maine put the Mariners up 3-1 just before Jake Pivonka (1-0-1) got the Railers back to within one. Keppen scored the only goal of the third, as Maine would go on to beat Worcester 4-2 on Friday night.

The Mariners poured on the offense in a hurry to open the first, scoring twice in the first 3:06 of the game. Ethan Keppen (1st) finished off a cross-ice passing sequence from Tyler Drevitch to beat Tikkanen far-side and make it 1-0 Mariners. Wyllum Deveaux similarly capped off an up-ice rush with a backdoor tap-in past Tikkanen off a feed from Reid Stefanson (1st) to make it 2-0 Mariners. Former Railer Jimmy Lambert was in the lineup for the Mariners and managed to record the secondary assist on Deveaux's goal. Shots in the first favored Worcester 14-6.

Zach White (1st) got Worcester on the board early in the second with his first as a Railer. John Copeland unleashed a shoulder-high shot from the point that White redirected past Starrett to make it 2-1 Maine. Lambert (1st) recorded his second point of the night as he beat

Tikkanen with 8:01 to go in the second, and put Maine back up by two, 3-1. Just 19 seconds later, Jake Pivonka (1st) got Worcester back to within one off assists from Riley Piercey and Ashton Calder. The second period came to an end at 3-2, with Worcester continuing to outshoot the Mariners 12-11. The Railers led in shots through two at 26-17.

Intensity & physicality escalated midway through the third period. Mike Higgins and Cole Dubinsky dropped the gloves in response to a check on Worcester's Artyom Kulakov, which left him slow to get up. Maine scored first in the third when Ethan Keppen (2nd) found the puck alone far side off a feed from Stefanson to beat Tikkanen and make it 4-2. Worcester went on the power play late in the game with 1:46 remaining as Connor Doherty was sent to the box two minutes for roughing. Kulakov then dropped the gloves with Doherty, with both players ejected for the rest of the game after the fight. Neither team would score to wrap up the third, as the Railers fell 4-2 to Maine to open the preseason.

Cambridge half-marathon registration open

CAMBRIDGE – Registration is open for the Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K at CambridgeSide. The races are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 5 (race begins 7 a.m. EST) on a gorgeous new course with views of the Charles River along Memorial Drive.

The Cambridge Half Marathon is a 13.1 mile fast and flat course featuring views of the MIT, John W. Weeks Footbridge, Harvard University Stadium, Charles River and more. The new 5K race also offers scenic views alongside the Charles River. Both courses are USATF certified and start and finish at CambridgeSide.

Race registration includes quarter zip pull over (half marathon participants) or long sleeve shirt (5K participants), five complimentary CambridgeSide parking passes, training plan, race bib with timing chip, and finishing medal. Register for both races at CambridgeSide.com.

Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K at CambridgeSide race proceeds benefit Cambridge Camping (CambridgeCamping.org), City of Cambridge Scholarship Fund (Cambridge.gov/Services/City-Scholarship) as well as other local charities. Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K is sponsored by Canam Group Inc. and training sponsor MYSTRYDE.

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Celeb chefs join Bellamy Middle School kitchen staff



CHICOPEE -- In honor of National School Lunch Week, Bellamy Middle School had special guest servers on the line on Oct. 12.

Bellamy welcomed Chicopee Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Marcus Ware, and their principal, William Holt! They helped the fabulous kitchen staff serve up the school's newest menu item, a Korean BBQ pork bulgogi over rice with lots of fun toppings, including local real pickles kimchi!

For a lot of students, it was their first time trying some of these items, and it was a hit, with many asking for us to menu it again. Bellamy developed this recipe with Chef Sam and Chef Sherry from Proj-

ect Bread and has taste tested the recipe with students as well as had a recipe demo/training with staff so they were fully prepared to make and serve it on Oct. 12.

PLUS, Bellamy hosted Diane Krol from New England Dairy and Darryl Williams, a dairy farmer from Hatfield, who were visiting to help up kick off the school's hot chocolate milk bar. Students got samples of hot chocolate made with milk from McCray's Farm in South Had-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ley, complete with fun toppings. As you can see, it was a HUGE success, so the school district hopes to work out the logistics and try it out at other schools too.

COLLEGE NEWS

Chicopee students named to Goodwin University's Dean's List Summer 2023

EAST HARTFORD, CT -- Goodwin University announces 524 students achieved Dean's List status for the Summer 2023 session. The following students are from Chicopee: Destinee Coulombe, Alyssa Dobosz and Eliana Febus.

HCC announces Dean's List for summer 2023

HOLYOKE - Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's List. A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have are from Chicopee and earned Dean's List honors for the Summer 2023 semester. Jessica Baez, Kostiantyn Chernytskyi, Emily Crosier, Vickie Kelliher, Kyle Kokosa, Angelina Christina Martel, Nelitza Martinez, Y Nguyen, Emily Gibson Page, Johanna Perez Nieves, Morgan Catherine Pierog, Jonathan M. St. George, Erin Elizabeth Stevens, Amber Sutherland, Angelis Nicole Vargas, Marta L. Zuluaga.

PACERS from page 9

might not have won a game yet, but the players have developed their skills a lot since the start of the season. We scored a season-high four goals in today's game and I'm very proud of the effort of my players."

Palmer sophomore Charlotte Theriault, who recently recorded her 100th career point, added five more points to her totals against Chicopee. She posted her third consecutive hat-trick and eighth overall this season. She also had a pair of assists.

"Charlotte is a team-oriented soccer player, and she leaves it all on the field," Sandoval said. "It's very exciting watching her perform on the field."

Theriault assisted on the Lady Panthers first goal of the match, which was scored by sophomore Loretta Petrasiewicz.

Palmer's next two goals were scored by Theriault, who entered this week's action with a total of 38 goals. She has scored a total of 77 goals since joining the varsity soccer team as an eighth grader.

Theriault's first two goals in the Chicopee game were assisted by senior's Grace Burke and Fallon Lynch.

During the 24th minute, Palmer built a 4-0 lead when senior Jordan Bigda fired a shot into the left corner of the net past Chicopee junior goalkeeper Jocelyn Coira (7 saves). The assist was given to junior Ava Przybycien.

The home team broke the ice following a goal by freshman Cassidy Pytel, which was her first goal of the season. Senior Avery Placzek was credited with the assist.

The Lady Panthers final three goals of the first half were scored by Petrasiewicz, junior Gianna Perry, and junior Jayda Pardo.

Less than a minute into the second half, a free kick taken by Placzek deflected into the net off the hands of Palmer junior goalie Aubrey Boucher (5 saves) making the score 7-2.

In the 54th minute, Palmer was given a penalty kick by the referee following a handball in the box. Przybycien stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the back of the net pushing the Lady Panthers lead back up to six goals again.

Chicopee continued to battle back with a pair of goals from eighth grader Sophia Moreira, and Placzek.

It was Moreira's first career varsity goal.

"This is Sophia's first year playing soccer and it was fun watching her score a goal for the first time," Hicks said. "She's a very hard worker."

At that point, Sandoval decided to call a time-out to put his starters back into the game.

A breakaway goal by Theriault in the 68th minute gave Palmer a 9-4 advantage.

Palmer's final two goals of the match were scored by seventh grader Evelyn Ladue, which was her first varsity goal, and Baer.



Gabriella Nicholson muscles her way to possession.

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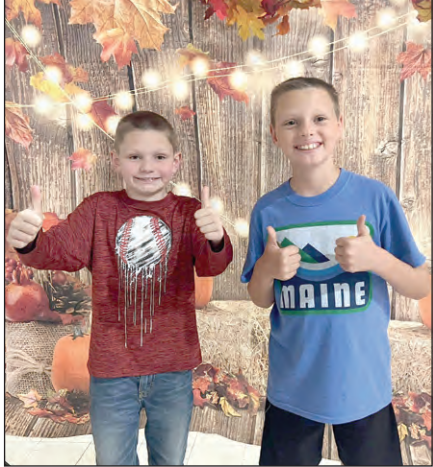
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Bake sale sells out at Strieber open house

CHICOPEE – Strieber Elementary School had a great turnout at its open house last month. The bake sale sold out, and 120 mums were sold. Thank you to the school’s amazing staff, students and families.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STREIBER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Sgt. Robert R. Litwin School holds first open house of school year



CHICOPEE – Last month, Sgt. Robert R. Litwin School held its first open house of the new academic year. The school thanks all the families who came out. A great time was had by all.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SGT. ROBERT R. LITWIN SCHOOL



Legislators hope to head off more attempts to ban books

By Michael Harrison
Correspondent

LUDLOW — A proposal that could have created a book banning policy in local school libraries may have stalled last spring, but a pair of state legislators with shared roots have introduced a bill intended to stay ahead of any future attempts.

The legislation, SD.2679, titled “An Act protecting against attempts to ban, remove, or restrict library access to materials,” was referred to the Joint Committee on Rules on July 6. Its sponsors, Sen. Jake Oliveira and Rep. Aaron Saunders, both said they are confident it will proceed on a track that will lead to an eventual public hearing.

“The situation in Ludlow was unfortunate to say the least, but we shouldn’t have to wait for the next time opponents of First Amendment freedoms attack another one of our towns,” Saunders said.

“The real value of this library protection bill is that it is a proactive measure that will provide our public libraries with a measure of protection against book banning efforts.”

According to Oliveira, “I’ve found attempts to put in place policies that could lead to book bans growing across the country for some time, but once it arrived here in Ludlow, I knew it was time to take immediate action.”

Last spring, after prior public discussions over the appropriateness of certain books in Ludlow schools, School Committeeman Joao Dias made a motion during a meeting to enact a new policy that could have removed a pair of young adult novels – “Crank” by Ellen Hopkins and “Looking For Alaska” by John Green – and possibly dozens of other titles from school libraries.

The motion did not receive a second and never came to a vote.

Neither Dias nor any other Ludlow School Committee member responded to a group email sent to all of their official accounts seeking comment. Committee member and Secretary Jeffrey Stratton, reached by text, declined to comment. Committee Vice Chair Sarah F. Bowler did not respond to a text. Ludlow Superintendent of Schools Frank Tiano did not respond to a voice message left on his extension at the district office.

During discussions earlier this year, Dias said he modeled his policy proposal on one he read about online when it was enacted by the Central Bucks School District in Pennsylvania. That policy has since been challenged in a federal lawsuit filed by the ACLU.

“These attempts, like the proposed Ludlow School Committee policy ripped off the internet from a school district in Pennsylvania, could censor age-appropriate materials because of a political or xenophobic viewpoint,” Oliveira said.

“What’s happening in our public schools could easily happen in our public libraries. I am proud to partner with Rep. Aaron Saunders to protect our libraries from these attempts to censor books. It’s a strong bill that I’m incredibly proud to sponsor. I’m prepared to champion it until we get the results needed to protect our literature and free thought from extremists pushing a fringe political agenda.”

The two legislators behind SD.2679 are Ludlow natives. Oliveira still resides there while Saunders resettled his family in Belchertown. Both said they want to head off any statewide movement toward censorship in school and public libraries.

Oliveira, who served 12 years on the Ludlow School Committee before he was elected as a state representative in 2020, also has a background in higher education, serving as assistant executive officer of the Massachusetts State Universities

Council of Presidents. Saunders is a former Ludlow Select Board member, former chief of staff to state Sen. Gale Candaras and is a co-founder of Loophole Brewing. He also served on the staff of former U.S. Senator John Kerry.

Oliveira, who was first elected to the School Committee in 2009, said he recalls past discussions over books.

“During my time on the committee, removal of books in school libraries started to bubble up in Ludlow when national politicians began making this a wedge issue,” he said.

“When a challenge to certain books in a school library was brought to the attention of the school committee, we followed our district politics and formed a review committee with parents, teachers, administrators and librarians to review the challenged books. I sat on that committee and read personally the challenged material and shared it widely with friends with children and the committee determined unanimously that most materials were age-appropriate.”

Oliveira said his background in education “certainly informs my position, but this goes far beyond education.”

The bill he filed with Saunders “focuses on our public libraries,” he said.

“I have been working with colleagues in the legislature on other legislation focused on our public-school libraries. This legislation is needed across the commonwealth because it’s about protecting not only our students’ education but also free thought, freedom of expression, diversity and marginalized communities that the proponents of the proposed book bans can’t accept.”

Both said they have received positive feedback from constituents and fellow legislators.

“The book banning effort in Ludlow was a wake-up call to ensure that the Legislature is doing everything it should to protect our public libraries,” Saunders said.

“The bill Senator Oliveira and I filed will help provide those protections.”

According to Oliveira, “Since these aggressive attempts to put in place narrow-minded policies have been proposed, I have received messages of concern from parents, students, teachers, community members and colleagues from across the state. I have received an overwhelmingly positive response from constituents and from members of the State Library Board of Commissioners. They want to see books kept on the shelves at our public libraries and schools.”

He added that, “Book bans are nothing new. They are ways to suppress free thought and have been employed by Communist China, the Soviet Union, and Nazi Germany.”

Kristin Santos, youth services assistant at Hubbard Memorial Library, said she’s aware of the proposal the school committee ultimately did not vote on and the controversy over “Crank” and “Looking For Alaska,” which she said have been increasingly checked out by local adults.

“People do come into the library to check out books that are being questioned to see what’s going on inside and decide for themselves if they are appropriate for their own children,” Santos said.

The mother of a local middle school student herself, “I didn’t read ‘Crank’ – I listened to ‘Crank’ because I didn’t have a lot of time to sit down and read the novel, but I listened to it to make my own decisions on the book,” Santos said.

“You can read a part of a book but that doesn’t mean you understand the whole book. I need, by myself, to make those decisions for my child.”

She declined to share her personal opinion of the book.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Two suspects charged with accessory murder in fatal Holyoke shooting involving an infant

HOLYOKE -- The Hampden County District Attorney's Office reported on Oct. 17 that both Jose Galarza, 31, and Jay Marie Rosado-Rosario, 29, both of Holyoke have been charged with, accessory after the fact – murder, in connection with the investigation into the fatal shooting of an infant in Holyoke on Oct. 4.

Both suspects have been charged in relation to the on-going effort in locating the third suspect in the shooting, Kermith Alvarez, for their alleged efforts in assisting him after the shooting.

Jay Marie Rosado-Rosario was arraigned on Oct. 16 in Holyoke District Court and her bail set at \$5,000, her next court date is scheduled for Nov. 17. Jose Galarza was arraigned in Holyoke District Court on Oct. 17.

It was released last week that the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Hampden District Attorney's Office, Holyoke Police Department and Massachusetts State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section was actively pursuing Kermith Alvarez, 28, of Holyoke. Alvarez is the third suspect being sought in connection with the shooting on Sargeant Street in Holyoke which claimed the life of an infant.

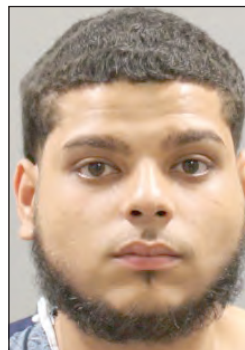
Law enforcement is asking that if you have any information regarding the whereabouts of Kermith Alvarez, you are asked to contact the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit at (413) 505-5993 or the Massachusetts State Police:



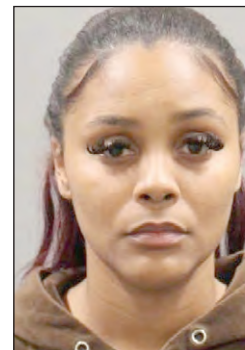
Kermith Alvarez, 28



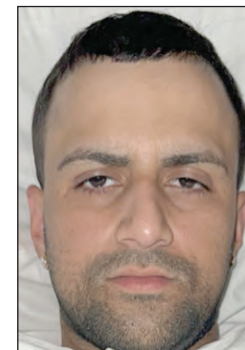
Jose Galarza, 31



Alejandro Ramos, 22



Jay Marie Rosado-Rosario, 29



Johnluis Sanchez, 30

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HAMPDEN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section at 1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873). ALVAREZ is actively avoiding law enforcement, the firearm used in this incident has not been recovered, and he should be considered armed and dangerous.

On Oct. 6, Johnluis Sanchez, 30, of Holyoke, was arraigned by Zoom in Holyoke District Court for is suspected involvement in the Oct. 4 shooting. His bail was revoked on an open firearms case out of Holyoke District Court, and he is being held without the right to bail on a charge of murder for his suspected involvement in this case, other charges are expected to follow. His next scheduled court date is on Nov. 3.

On Oct. 5, Alejandro Ramos, 22, of Holyoke, was arraigned on a charge of murder in Holyoke District Court for is suspected involvement in the shooting. He is being held without the right to

bail, with his next scheduled court date on Nov. 3.

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 12:38 p.m. members of the Holyoke Police Department responded to a reported shooting in the 100 block of Sargeant Street.

It appears three male suspects were involved in an altercation, during which a shooting occurred. It is believed one of the rounds from that altercation struck a public transportation bus and an uninvolved female occupant, who was seated in the bus.

This victim, who was pregnant, was transported to a nearby hospital in critical condition. The infant, who was delivered, and needed life-saving medical services, tragically passed away.

This incident is still under investigation by the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Hampden District Attorney's Office and the Holyoke Police Department.

ALVAREZ Most Wanted
Kermith Alvarez, 28, is wanted for the murder of an infant in Holyoke.

Massachusetts National Guard Counterdrug Program provides handheld drug analyzer

SPRINGFIELD -- Hampden District Attorney Anthony D. Gulluni and Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard, Major General Gary W. Keefe, announced in August the donation of TruNarc, a handheld drug analyzer, to the Hampden District Attorney's Office.

Hampden District Attorney Gulluni stated, "The TruNarc device will allow members of my narcotics taskforce to field test suspected narcotics on site. Over 93% of toxicology reports completed in fatal overdoses reveal the presence of a synthetic opioid, usually fentanyl, as being present. This indicates the widespread presence of these potent and deadly synthetic opioids available in the street level narcotics trade. TruNarc's deployment in Hampden County will enhance the safety of officers and the public. Officers will be able to know the type and potential lethality of the substances they are handling within mere seconds. It will also inform investigators as to the make up of seized narcotics and potentially target the most lethal strains to get off the streets without needing to wait for a lab analysis."

Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard, Major General Gary W. Keefe stated, "The National Guard Counterdrug Program supports local law enforcement and state counterdrug operations by leveraging its unique military capabilities, national resources and community focus. The procuring of TruNarc for

use by the Hampden District Attorney's is a continuance of our partnership in the fight against narcotics trafficking and promoting public safety in Massachusetts."

The contribution by the Massachusetts National Guard is the continuation of a relationship that was cemented with the signing of a memorandum of understanding in December of 2015, and renewed under the command of Major General Keefe in 2018.

The partnership allows the Hampden District Attorney's Office and the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to it to leverage the Massachusetts National Guard and Department of Defense resources to aid the Hampden District Attorney's Office in its efforts to curtail and eliminate drug trafficking and distribution in the region.

Currently, two members of the Massachusetts National Guard are assigned to the Hampden District Attorney's Office. One to Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni's SAFE Unit, and another to his Hampden County Narcotics Taskforce. The Guard members work to maintain counterdrug information systems as well as provide intelligence analysis and support to the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Hampden District Attorney's Office.

In addition to the invaluable personnel assigned, the Massachusetts National Guard Counterdrug program as assisted

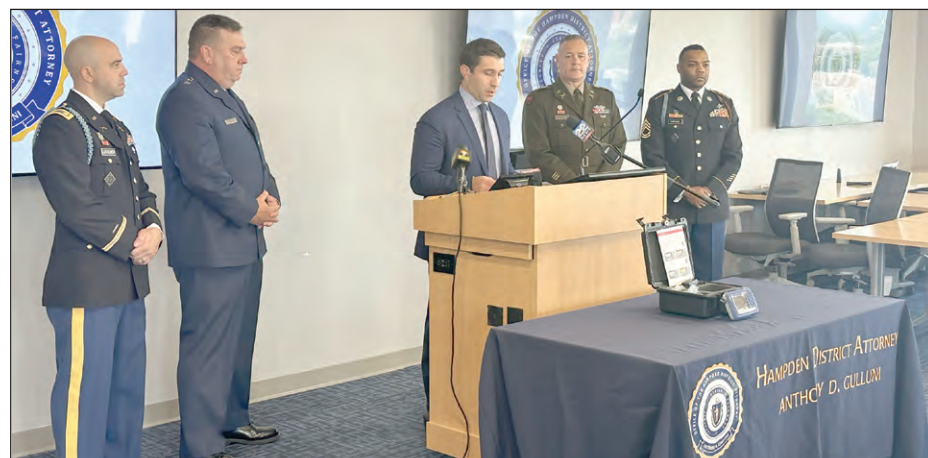


SUBMITTED PHOTOS

the District Attorney's Office as well as local police departments by purchasing over \$40,000 in equipment over recent years.

The Trumark device represents an

approximate \$30,000 contribution to the Hampden District Attorney's Office and its efforts for public safety and combating the illicit trafficking of narcotics in Hampden County.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

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Belchertown, MA 01007

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E99N413381
Jose Arismael Hernandez
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Burlington, MA 01803
10/06, 10/13, 10/20/2023

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VIN: 1FTNW21L43EB42738
Evaldo Simoncelis
187 Campbell Ave.
Revere, MA 02151

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

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

2013 Ford Transit
VIN: NMOLS7CN3DT158986
North East Safety Inc.
PO Box 11115
Portland, ME 04104

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

2008 Volkswagen Touareg2
V8
VIN: WVGC77L98D054185
Tommy Seidell
66 Clarence St.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2012 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL2AP6CN405411
Ruben Lopez
303 Maple St. Apt. 146
Springfield, MA 01105

2005 Chevrolet Colorado
VIN: 1GCDT196958268706
Clement Mortone
15 Sogmore Rd.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2005 Honda Cr-V EX
VIN: SHSRD78825U327757
Victor Serrano
12 Daytona St. Apt. 1
Springfield, MA 01108

2009 Kia Sorento EX
VIN: KNDJC735995873922
Heaven Burton-Jordan
1716 Dwight St. Apt. 5
Springfield, MA 01107

1999 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCG1643XA028258
Jason Gurwacki
PO Box 1455
Southwick, MA 01077

2000 Ford F150
VIN: 1FTRF18L1YNA24297
Paul Brodsky
37 Hewitt St.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport
VIN: 5XYZDLB3DG079215
Mark Zhupikov
524 Springfield St.
Chicopee, MA 01013

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Veronica Lynn Wheeler
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Chicopee, MA 01020

2008 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCS12778A014640
Chelsea Brunson
1193 Elm Street
West Springfield, MA 01089

2015 Nissan Rogue
VIN: JN8AS5MV5FW258557

Viktoriya Kozodoy
155 Main St. Apt. 3
Westfield, MA 01085

2003 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM55693A108614
Victor Arzola
72 Virginia St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2003 Lincoln LS
VIN: 1LNHM87A23Y688878
Efrain Santana Rosario
70 Broadway St. Apt. 222
Chicopee, MA 01020
10/06, 10/13, 10/20/2023

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VIN: 1GNLT13W61K196733
Jacob Hanecak
620 Meadow St.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2003 Lincoln LS
VIN: 1LNHM87A23Y688878
Efrain Santana Rosario
70 Broadway St. Apt. 222
Chicopee, MA 01020

2003 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 2T1BR32E73C145314
Luis Garcia
48 Alvord Ave.
Chicopee, MA 01020

2004 Acura Tsx
VIN: JH4CL96884C034812
Linda Humphries
197 High St. Apt. 203
Holyoke, MA 01040

2005 BMW 325Xi
VIN: WBAEU33475PF63085
Sean O'Grady
30 Regency Court
Chicopee, MA 01020

2007 Hyundai Azera
VIN: KMHFC46F87A211483
Andrew Diaz
36 Kelso Ave.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2012 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDH4AE8CU192613
Carlos Velez
175 Walnut St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2014 Chevrolet Malibu
VIN: 1G11B5SL1EF239542
Vincent Thompson

7149 Whitestone Rd. Apt. B
Indianapolis, IN 46256

2016 Mazda Cx-5
VIN: JM3KE4CY1G0853642
Nelson Ortiz
22 Spring St.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2002 Chevrolet Tahoe K1500
VIN: 1GNEK13Z82J338248
Joseph Lucia
1084 Montgomery Rd.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2002 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE32K82U095943
Konan Martes
431 Appleton St. 2R
Holyoke, MA 01040

2003 Chevrolet Malibu
VIN: 1G1ND52J73M722942
Dylan Lynch
229 Miller St. Trlr D10
Ludlow, MA 01056

2006 Cadillac DTS
VIN: 1G6KD57Y16U231774
Boyd McCraney
PO Box 1712
Springfield, MA 01101

2007 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM66547A052437
Alex Soto
93 Orange St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2007 Hyundai Santa Fe
VIN: 5NMSH13E47H003878
Maria Guaman
29 Stevens St.
Danbury, CT 06810

2009 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 1NXBU40E99Z037467
Travis Marks
4 Pomeroy St.
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

2009 Volvo S80
VIN: YV1AS982891106433
Tracy Weston
45 Wolcott St., Apt. 1R
Holyoke, MA 01040

2012 Infiniti G25
VIN: JN1DV6AR9CM861311
Angel Gonzalez
70 Chestnut St. Apt. 303
Holyoke, MA 01040

2019 Ford Raptor
VIN: 1FTFW1RG0KFC51566
Lisa Vasquez
124 Westwood Ave.
East Longmeadow, MA
01028

2003 Chevrolet K1500
Suburban
VIN: 3GNFK16Z73G121017
John W Bazille
445 Cleveland Ave. SE
Apt C44
Atlanta, GA 30354

2003 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM55693A108614
Victor Arzola
72 Virginia St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2006 Acura TL
VIN: 19UUA66256A000591
Haciell Conception
100 Shield St.
West Hartford, CT 06110

2006 Volvo Xc70
VIN: YV4SZ592761210031
Amare Smith
12 Hiawatha Rd., Apt. 1
Mattapan, MA 02126

2007 Chrysler Pacifica
VIN: 2A8GF68X17R176176
Jennifer Arris
100 Ducharme Ave.
Chicopee, MA 01020

2007 Honda Cr-V
VIN: JHLRE48717C073245
Kiarra Rivera
18 King St. 2nd Floor
Westfield, MA 01085

2008 Mercedes-Benz
VIN: WDDGF81X78F112932
David Torres
139 Union St. Unit 5
Westfield, MA 01085

2009 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDU46D39U788152
Jenny Marie Simons
14 Gate St.
Palmer, MA 01069

2015 Chrysler 200 C
VIN: 1C3CCCB4FN521919
Allelu Morgan
9 Highland Village, Apt. B
Ware, MA 01082

2016 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDH4AE6GU520973
Terenz DeLeon
3 Lawn St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2016 Volkswagen Passat
VIN: 1VWAT7A33GC028166
Kenan Ahmeti
398 Elm St.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2018 Acura TLx
VIN: 19UUB2F56JA007493
Desiree Anderson
1 Main St.
Oxford, MA 01540

2018 Freightliner M2 106
VIN: 3ALACWFC6KDKD4833
Sharon Foods
7 Food Mart Rd.
Boston, MA 02118

2022 Volkswagen Tiguan
VIN: 3VV2B7AX4NM030776
Denison Kapllani
41 Nahant Ave
Winthrop, MA 02152

Boat w/ Trailer
VIN: Unknown
Charlie Gore
738 Main St.
West Springfield, MA 01089
10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2023

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

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24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
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OPPORTUNITY

newspaper correspondent

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WANTED TO BUY

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HELP WANTED

Board of Health Coordinator Position

The Town of Hampden seeks qualified applicants for the position of Health Coordinator, providing a wide variety of administrative services to the Regional Health Department and Hampden Board of Health. The successful candidate will possess effective communication skills, computer literacy, and the ability to operate office equipment.

Full job description and compensation information at the town of Hampden website: <https://www.hampdenma.gov>.

Submit cover letter and resume electronically to Robert T. Markel, Town Administrator, at townadmin@hampdenma.gov.

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HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

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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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RiverMills Center announces upcoming programming

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging at Chicopee’s RiverMills Center, the senior center located at 5 West Main St., has announced programming that will occur in the coming weeks.

Sound Bath Healing at RiverMills Center

The COA will offer the workshop “Sound Bath Healing” on Friday, Oct. 20 at 1:30 p.m. at the RiverMills Center.

This is a one-hour group sound healing meditation experience, helping to calm, ground and rejuvenate as we face the continual daily stressors in life, while utilizing gongs, crystal and metallic singing bowls, vocals, percussions and strings. This workshop is led by Jeffrey Wyda, Board Certified Holistic Registered Nurse, who specialized in integrative health and wellness. You must register in advance.

Red Sox Nation at RiverMills Center

The COA will host the program “Red Sox Nation” on Monday, Oct. 23 at 1:30 p.m. at the RiverMills Center.

Take a fun and enlightening journey through Boston Red Sox history with Martin Gitlin, the

author of The Ultimate Boston Red Sox Time Machine Book. This presentation features exciting and nostalgic videos of the greatest and most fascinating players, teams, events and moments in franchise history. The program also includes trivia and a question-and-answer session. You must register in advance.

Drum Circle at RiverMills

CHICOPEE -- The COA will offer a Drum Circle on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. at the RiverMills Center.

Have fun learning to play traditional drums, such as Djembes, and simple percussion instruments in a group setting. No musical experience is necessary, just a desire to relax and have fun with others in a community setting. The cost is \$8 each session and you must register in advance at RiverMills Center.

Health and Outreach Fair at RiverMills Center

The COA will have a Health and Wellness Fair on Friday, Oct. 27 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the RiverMills Center.

Join RiverMills Center for our third annual Health and Out-

reach Fair at RiverMills Center. There will be an array of info tables with various community agencies, blood pressure/cholesterol screenings, food samples, and of course, goodies! Registration is not required.

RiverMills Center Transportation Services

The COA’s Transportation Department provides rides to doctor’s offices, supermarkets, pharmacies, etc. for Chicopee older adults.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations must be made at least five business days in advance by calling 413-536-5733.

A \$15,750 grant from West-Mass Eldercare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings. Shopping Trips are funded in part by a Title III/Older Americans Act grant from WestMass ElderCare, with support from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Federal Administration for Community Living. There is no charge for this service, but participants are welcome to make a voluntary, confidential donation for a shopping ride.

Freedom Credit Union accepting donations in support of Unify Against Bullying

October Month of Giving Campaign focuses on anti-bullying initiatives

CHICOPEE -- Throughout the month of October, all Freedom Credit Union locations throughout Western Massachusetts, including the one on Memorial Drive in Chicopee, are collecting cash donations to benefit Unify Against Bullying. The Springfield-based non-profit organization seeks to bring an end to bullying through the celebration of diversity; it provides grants to those who are in the best position to make a difference: children, parents, teachers and administrators.

“Unify Against Bullying says, ‘When we stand together, we stand as one,’” said Freedom Credit Union President Glenn Welch. “That’s exactly what we’re doing as we support this incredible organization through our Month of Giving campaign this October. There’s no place for bullying in our community— let’s work together to put an end to it.”

Unify Against Bullying works to provide grant funding for schools and other programs where individuals are on the frontlines of bullying and potential bullying every day. By providing added resources, they aim to promote awareness and acceptance, and show children that the days of ignoring or tolerating bullying are over. Unify hopes to promote the celebration of differences and come together as one community.

“Not only is this a cause we are proud to support, but our West Springfield branch officer, Debra Mainolfi, is a member of the board of directors for Unify Against Bullying,” added Welch. “We are proud that so many of our employees are involved in organizations working to better our communities, and we’re honored to support them in any way we can.”

Freedom Credit Union invites its employees and members, as well as the community at large, to make monetary donations at any Freedom branch.

REGION

Polish Plate Dinner to be held on Oct. 21

Mini Penny Sale to be held same day

INDIAN ORCHARD -- A Polish Plate Dinner (Kielbasa, Golabki, Pierogi (4), Kapusta, Bread) and Frozen Polish Food Sale will be held at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall 25 Parker St. Indian Orchard, Ma (Eat in or Take Out) on Oct. 21, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For tickets at \$20 please call:

Maria Kowalski--413-222-6229 or Maria Bukowski- 413-427-9464.

Also: on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Altar Servers will have a Mini Penny Sale with Door Prize of a Salt & Pepper Set from Poland (worth \$150) donated by Father Piotr. Prizes will be drawn at 4 p.m.

Meat pies are back, order now!

LUDLOW -- St. Elizabeth Parish is now taking orders, and pies will be available through Nov. 3 while supplies last. Each individual size pie is \$5. Place online orders at www.stelizabethludlow.org or by calling the Rectory Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 583-3467.

Please pay in full at the time of pickup with cash or a check made out to St. Elizabeth Parish.

SUBMISSIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Send your stories and photos to dzbierski@turley.com



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