

# Chicopee Register

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**COMMUNITY**

## Flag-raising celebrates *Polish American Heritage Month*

By Kristin Rivers  
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CHICOPEE -- A large crowd of residents and community members gathered at City Hall Plaza on Oct. 19 to raise the Polish American Flag for Polish American Heritage Month.

Mayor John Vieau presided over the ceremony alongside local and state elected officials, city employees and seventh and eighth-grade students from St. Stanislaus School.

Additionally, Frank Chmura, who was at the Polish Flag Raising for St. Joseph's Day earlier this year, returned to hold the Polish American Flag and lead the gathering in Polish song.

In his remarks, Vieau reflected on Polish American figures in history including Revolutionary War Hero Tadeusz Kościuszko and General Casimir Pulaski and how Polish-American Heritage Month "blossomed into a nationwide celebration of Polish heri-



Seventh and eighth-grade students at St. Stanislaus School, James Shea and Frank Chmura pose for a group photo while holding the Polish American Flag during the Polish American Heritage Month Flag Raising ceremony outside City Hall on Oct. 19.

TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

See **POLISH HERITAGE** page 7

**COMMUNITY**



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Todd Marion, general manager at Marion Excavating, breaks a tile with the words "Gun Violence" during the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's New Teen Center Kickoff event at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee. Marion Excavating is one of the companies helping on the project, already beginning work on the new parking lot for the center.

## Boys & Girls Club kicks off New Teen Center Campaign

*The announcement was made at the Castle of Knights*

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
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CHICOPEE -- Community members gathered at the Castle of Knights on Oct. 20 for the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's New Teen Center Campaign kickoff.

The approximately \$3.3 million project will be conducted in three phases, with phase one already underway.

So far, the campaign has raised \$1.6 million.

It will be named Haven Teen Center, the name chosen by the teen members, and include a study zone, digital media lab, Zen room, Club café and gaming den.

During the kickoff, Jason Reed, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club, Mayor John Vieau, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow), Kevin Vann, a Boys & Girls Club Board of Trustees member and chair of the Campaign Committee, and Monica Torres, community & constituent liaison for the City of Chicopee, provided re-

See **TEEN CENTER** page 8

**COMMUNITY**

## Chicopee delegation secures \$50,000 to improve pedestrian safety



TURLEY PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Surrounded mostly by elected officials, (L to R) State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Mayor John Vieau and State Rep. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) hold a \$50,000 check that will go towards securing Chicopee's streets and making them safer for pedestrians.

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
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CHICOPEE -- Since January 2022, three pedestrians have died on Chicopee Street after being struck by vehicles. Another driver passed away on Oct. 2 following a two-car collision on the same street.

The Chicopee Street fatalities, and others in the city, caught the attention of Chicopee's delegation in the State Senate and House of Representatives. On Oct. 23, State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) presented the City of Chicopee with a \$50,000 earmark from the state for fiscal year 2024

to address pedestrian safety throughout the city.

Oliveira said the city's delegation in the State House collaborated to secure the funding. He thanked State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), State Rep. Michael Finn (D-West Springfield), State Rep. Patricia Duffy (D-Holyoke) and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) for their contributions.

"We are just so pleased to join as a delegation to ensure that our municipalities have the tools they need to keep residents safe, and that's what this is about, ensuring that speeds are kept to a minimum, ensur-

ing that there are crosswalks and flashers so that pedestrians can safely cross our streets," Oliveira said.

Oliveira credited Chicopee's City Council, which has approved nearly \$700,000 in safety improvements for Chicopee Street and other dangerous locations since the first fatality on Chicopee Street. He also thanked Mayor John Vieau for working with the state delegation to help spark change.

Vieau expressed gratitude that the city and state delegation work well together.

He said he loses sleep

See **DELEGATION FUNDS** page 8

# Eighth-grade Dupont Middle School students to tour Washington DC

*School Committee unanimously approves trip for June 4-7, 2024*

**By Dalton Zbierski**  
Editor  
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CHICOPEE -- Eighth-grade students at Dupont Middle School have a new reason to look forward to the end of the academic year, as the School Committee unanimously approved a trip to Washington D.C. from June 4-7, 2024.

The School Committee made its decision during its Oct. 18 meeting after hearing a 10-minute presentation by Dupont Middle School Principal Jon Endelos.

"First of all, this is a trip that's been on the books for many years. I've been on the trip myself back in my days at Fairview Middle School. The value in the trip goes well beyond taking a trip. The civics education value to that trip is enormous," Endelos said.

Endelos was so pleased with the first trip that he brought his family back to Washington D.C. for the same tour. A tour for students at Dupont Middle School has been in the works for several years but was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Endelos credited Social Studies teacher Joshua Chrzanowski for "spearheading the research to bring (the trip) back to Dupont," and noted three other teachers expressed they will be chaperones.

"We'll have an administrator going on the trip as well to oversee it because

we are going 800 miles away; to have that peace of mind," Endelos said.

Currently, 50 families have expressed interest via a Google form survey in sending their children to the nation's capital next June, and Endelos anticipates that the number will rise now that the trip has been made official.

The student to chaperone ratio is currently 10 to one but could change before June. For a certain fee, parents can join the trip and not chaperone.

Endelos said several parents have asked him directly to bring back the Washington D.C. trip for eighth-grade students. He said five or six parents text him regularly asking, "Where are we at?"

Chrzanowski and Endelos have put together several quotes for the potential pricing of the trip.

"We found that more companies are getting away from bus trips, and they're doing plane trips. That obviously raises the price so what you have tonight is through Explorica, and that is a traditional bus trip," he informed the School Committee.

If the trip was booked through EF Tours, it would involve air travel and cost \$2,300 per student. A bus trip through Explorica, however, will only cost \$992 per student; a protection plan for \$16 per day is also available.

Noting that there is a "caveat," Endelos explained how Dupont Middle School can have a private tour.

"We have to have 50 students to keep it a private tour. If we go below 50 students, the price stays the same, but we co-op with a different school or district. Not a fan," Endelos said. "So, right now

we're at 50 students, but we haven't officially put it out there as we are doing this so I'm gathering that we're going to get some additional interest if this goes forward."

If four or five students aren't able to travel at the last minute, Dupont Middle School can maintain its private tour, but if the number of students drops down past 40 it may not be so easy.

Last Wednesday, Endelos brought a 24-page document on cancelation and "what if" policies. He also explained how the length of the trip was determined.

"It's a three-night, four-day trip," he said. "We used to do four nights, five days, and it used to be about \$800 a student for that trip. Obviously, everything's gone up, so we've cut it down to make it fiscally responsible but also still get the value of being down in Washington D.C."

In the coming days or weeks, Chrzanowski or Endelos will reach out to the Office of U.S. Congressman Richard Neal. In the past, Neal gave Chicopee students quite the tour.

"We were fortunate the year that I went with them we got a White House tour, the whole shebang with the Capitol. We got to sit in there. It was quite fascinating. We're going to try that again if we can get that forward for our students," Endelos said.

Mayor John Vieau, the School Committee Chair, was ecstatic that the trip was approved. He said it sounds like a very educational and rewarding trip for many students and hopes it will be a memory of a lifetime for them.

Ward 4 Committee Member Sandra

Peret is hopeful that the trip could inspire a student to enter the political field. She thanked the team at Dupont Middle School for its hard work preparing the presentation and trip.

"You have quite an agenda filled with the educational sites of DC as well as some fun things like an optional evening ghost tour and a venture to the International Spy Museum, so it's very nicely set up," she said.

Ward 3 School Committee Member Jason Dout went on the Washington DC trip in eighth grade and enjoyed it tremendously. He asked if there was a way to subsidize the trip for those who can't afford it.

Endelos said one parent has committed to fundraising for students who can't afford it by holding community events such as dining out nights.

"That's great to hear that we're able to hopefully put something together, and if it's something that brings the community together as well it's a win-win," Dout said.

Ward 9 Committee Member Ron Bernard, a retired Chicopee educator, thanked Endelos for bringing back the trip, noting that he went on it with students years back. He said when he sees old students, the Washington DC trip is often a topic of conversation.

"Back in the day when I was teaching at Fairview, I ran this trip for several years. It was very rewarding from an adult standpoint and also very rewarding from a student standpoint," he said. "It's something they always remembered so I'm strongly encouraging that we do this for them."



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# Elms College lecture reflects on 'Faith in a Digital Age'

The lecture was part of the Mary Dooley Lecture series

By Kristin Rivers  
Staff Writer  
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CHICOPEE -- Elms College welcomed Katherine G. Schmidt, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at Molloy University, on Oct. 18 to speak during the college's Mary Dooley Lecture series.

The lecture, titled "Faith in a Digital Age," took place in the Alumnae Library Theater.

Throughout her lecture, Schmidt talked about the transformation of faith in today's society and how people identify faith in digital culture, highlighting the relationship between religion, theology and technology, theological assumptions on creation, the church, incarnation and sacramentality, the impact of social media on Catholicism and what faith communities can do to become more informed on today's digital landscape.

A Q&A later followed the lecture.

Schmidt connected with the college through Michael McGravey, Ph.D., assistant professor of Religious Studies and director of the Institute for Theology and Pastoral Studies, as they are part of the College Theology Society.

As the world changes, Schmidt wants religious communities "to think carefully about their own relationship to digital technologies."

"To not think about them only as tools or as some sort of neutral things that we can use," Schmidt said. "But to think about where they're coming from, who's developing them, what kind of values are going into them."

Additionally, what religious and philosophical traditions, critical thinking, the humanities and liberal arts can bring to the conversation.

"Like Artificial Intelligence, for example, how are we thinking about what it means to be human in the context of rapid technological progress," Schmidt said.

Schmidt also wants people to think about technology and digital context "in a different way" and "more carefully" after her lecture.

"Thinking about it in terms of how we've always thought about our relationship to media, how we've used art, how we've used music, how we've even used the spoken word in the past to connect with each other and to connect to



(L to R) Michael McGravey, Ph.D., assistant professor of Religious Studies and director of the Institute for Theology and Pastoral Studies at Elms College, and Katherine G. Schmidt, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at Molloy University, smile for a photo before Schmidt presents her lecture at Elms College.

God. So, is there a way for us to think about digital technology not as only new but also as something that is deeply human and part of who we are as mediated creatures?" Schmidt said.

Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay reflected on the legacy of Sister Mary Dooley, the lecture series' namesake, in his opening remarks; she served as the sixth president of the college from 1979 to 1994, a faculty member since 1968 and president of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield from 1971 to 1979.

Dumay said Dooley "was a true giant."

"When regarding the legacy of Sister Mary over the past century and even as we approach our second century, rest assured that each of her successors, myself included, stand on her shoulders," Dumay said.

McGravey was excited about the lecture, explaining the Institute for Theology and Pastoral Studies sponsors the lectures every fall and spring.

"I think Katherine's research and opportunity provides that insight into where we're looking for the inner connection, the sort of crossroads of where theology or religious studies and faith come into play on the Internet," McGravey said.

McGravey hopes attendees, including students, learn something new from the lecture.

"Our students get to see a person who's really dynamic, really engaging, really well informed on this topic, and I hope they get something from that as well," McGravey said.

McGravey encourages the community to visit the college for their events,



Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay, Ph.D., MBA, gives opening remarks on the legacy of late Sr. Mary Dooley, who served as president of Elms College from 1979 to 1994 as well as on the faculty and chair of the Language Department



J. Marshall, director of career services at Elms College, gives the opening prayer before the start of the "Faith in a Digital Age" lecture.

adding there's something for everyone, Catholic or non-Catholic.

"The door's always open. We want folks to come in, to be welcomed here,



Katherine G. Schmidt, associate professor and chair of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at Molloy University, shares her thoughts during her lecture,

to join us for special lectures like this," McGravey said. "There's events always on campus that are really welcoming to having our Chicopee neighbors."

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## LETTER TO EDITOR

### Accolades of Applause to Delmarina Lopez. Silence is not Lopez.

*A vote for Delmarina Lopez as mayor is for our Better Best Chicopee*

To the Editor,

At City Council, Lopez' questions speak truth in spite of a few councilors' rhetoric, distraction and gaveling techniques to stop Delmarina.

Watch action hero Lopez's leadership thwart blatant deliberate headwaters during the Sept. 27 Zoning Committee meeting involving 523 James St. Standing Up, Speaking Out and Stepping To, Lopez reads Chicopee citizens' protest petition into the public record to document the facts and truth, to secure procedure and process, to uphold Chicopee and Massachusetts law; thereby protecting and representing each and every citizen, all rights, as well as the zoning committee, council, departments, and our entire city.

<https://vimeo.com/channels/chicopee-government/869156645> is the available recording (0:00:00 – 1:23:40).

At the Aug. 3 City Council meeting, Delmarina requests decorum be upheld by and for each council member.

Dignity, dedication and duty describe Delmarina. Truth, action, representation as well as leadership is Lopez. Delmarina Lopez proves steadfast to and for one and all in Chicopee.

Truth and representation are vital fundamentals for all direction and each policy in Chicopee.

When the elected forget their power is given to them by the voter and is the voter's power, then elect those who know their power belongs to the voter and will represent the voter.

It is now our turn to always Stand Up – Speak Out – Step To VOTE.

On Nov. 7, a vote for Mayor Delmarina Lopez is for our Better Best Chicopee.

See, Hear or Know Something, then also come to public input (even via zoom or phone) 7:15 p.m. at Chicopee City Council meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Call Council department (413) 594-1435 for schedule and link information.

Thank you.  
**Sue Nimchick,**  
Chicopee

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## GUEST COLUMN

### Black cats? A purr-fect addition to the family



By Kimberly Palmucci

Reports indicate that black cats are less likely to be adopted than other fur colors, and if you've ever purr-sonally known a black cat, you may be just as bewildered as I was when I learned this fact.



Mayra and Rosie, two black cats who found their fur-ever homes.

As I'm writing this, my two black cats are curled up on a nearby blanket, basking in a sunlit autumn glow. Yet, the stats of the matter remain—according to several studies, including one regarding a cat's fur color and how this impacts their adoptability, the results were certain.

"Black cats in [shelters] should receive extra consideration for rehoming," the study revealed.

Further, entirely black cats did not enjoy "improved outcomes" during the month prior to Halloween, the one time of year when their outcomes might be expected to improve, the study reported.

So, when considering a new pet for the family, why not consider a black cat or two?

Here's my adoption story for Mayra and Rosie, my "foster kittens turned fur-ever cats."

I met them at a book signing event during which I'd teamed up with a local animal rescue to raise donations. The event started out great, but very soon after I arrived, a dog that I lovingly refer to as "the stinky dog" arrived, too. The event was in a pet store that offered a doggie bathing area, and the stinky dog chanced in after an ill-fated experience—getting sprayed by a skunk.

The dog's owner was noticeably stressed out, and I tried my hardest to ignore the scent, but tears were quite literally forming in my eyes. Approaching the volunteer leading the event—Kathy—I intended to tell her that I, as a very sensitive soul who can't handle the atrocity of foul odors, would be packing up my books and heading out.

When Kathy turned around, I saw that she was wrangling and wrestling with an incredi-

bly tiny black kitten—and this cat was upset. Meowing, crying, and wiggling, the kitten was passed around to several volunteers, and as a person who'd recently drifted into the center of this chaotic scene, the cat was eventually passed to me.

The kitten, Rosie, was around eight-weeks-old. She was so small, but she was zesty. I hadn't expected to be holding a distressed cat, but I understood the assignment; I also related to the kitten's concerns, and holding her close against my chest, I rocked her like an infant and walked down an aisle into a quiet corner.

In my arms, little Rosie calmed down instantly. The volunteers exchanged glances and sighs of relief; at the time, I didn't know why this kitten chose me as the one human who could calm her. But looking back, I know now what I hadn't known then—it was fate!

For the remainder of the event, no more books were signed. After the kitten had fallen asleep in my arms, I spent the next two hours cradling her, swaying her, and walking around the store. Over the years, in my career as a writer and as a volunteer with several animal groups, I've held countless adoptable pets. But this little kitten? There was something inexplicable about the way she made me feel. As the event neared its end, I knew it would soon be time to hand over the kitten, who would be transported back to her current foster home and, eventually, adopted. And thinking about that, I felt an overwhelming sense of sadness.

"What are the chances of me taking this cat home?" I jested to Kathy, who responded by telling me that I could.

"You said what now?" I retorted, still swaying the cat. "I can take her home with me?"

"Well, you could foster her if you wanted to. It would actually be really helpful," she said. "We've got lots of kittens right now and are looking for foster homes."

I knew that fostering kittens didn't require a lot of space; any extra room, or even a small bathroom, could be used to house the kitten until she found her fur-ever home. My mind ignited into a blaze of calculations, and I came to the conclusion—this could actually work.

"Let me ask my husband," I said, not wanting to make a unilateral decision for the family without him. "He will be the deciding factor."

When my husband, Dom, answered the FaceTime call, I knew the possibility of him saying yes was slim—very slim—but it wasn't zero.

"That's a cute cat," he said when he answered; the camera was focused on the little kitten I was holding. "Now put it back and come home."

I truly did try to put her back; she woke, squirming and letting out a shrill meow as she was placed into a small cat carrier. From inside the carrier, I heard another muffled meow—apparently, Rosie had a twin sister named Mayra who'd been inside the carrier the entire event because she was shy.

As I packed up my books, watching as all the adoptable pets were brought out of the store, I turned to Kathy.

"Am I going to regret not bringing that kitten home with me?" I asked, hoping Kathy could somehow supply an answer that would make it feel better. "Is it a mistake to let her go?"

"I don't know," she replied, having witnessed the bond Rosie and I had shared. "How do you feel right now?"

My lip started quivering. *Quivering.* Tears welled in my eyes, and I stood there in the middle of this pet store like a lost child. In that moment, I realized, having Rosie in my arms had been a peace and connection I'd only known twice before, with my other two cats, so, my husband was surely not surprised at all when I rolled up to our house that afternoon with two new foster kittens who we adopted the following day.

These two black cats have now wrapped their paws around my heart—and purr-haps a black cat awaits the love of your family, too!

Or any adoptable pet, for that matter, as all pets are worthy of love.

## 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](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com) or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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‘What’s up Wednesday!’



Photos courtesy of Barry School

CHICOPEE – Last month at Anna E. Barry School, students who completed the summer workbooks had their pizza party, extra recess and received a token for a book. Kindergarten teachers celebrated fall with matching t-shirts, and several fourth and first graders came in accidentally twinning each other. Check out more photos on the Anna E Barry School Facebook page. Each Wednesday, the school will upload photos of students doing amazing things. “What’s Up Wednesday” can be seen on Facebook. See pictures weekly on the Anna E. Barry School FB page



Applebee’s to offer free children’s meals on Halloween

CHICOPEE -- Witch-ing you a Happy Halloween! This Halloween, visit the Applebee’s on Memorial Drive and receive a free kid’s meal for a Halloween treat that is truly spook-tacular! Ap-

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St. Joan of Arc fourth graders finish Lexia Core5



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL

CHICOPEE – Congratulations to St. Joan of Arc School fourth graders Cole, Hudson and Luke for finishing Lexia Reading Core5, as seen in this photo from Oct. 5. Lexia Reading Core5 is an interactive computer online program designed for students in preschool through fifth grade. It helps students master foundational reading skills through constant assessment to guarantee reading success, according to Family Literacy Centers. St. Joan of Arc School congratulates the students for accomplishing “quite the feat.”

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# Ford donates 2024 Mustang GT convertible to school district's Tech Ed program

Vehicle was damaged by flooding but is still worth \$30,000

By Dalton Zbierski  
Editor  
dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE -- The Career and Technical Education Department for Chicopee Public Schools has received a 2024 Mustang GT convertible from Ford Motor Company and Marcotte Ford in Holyoke.

The donation was officially approved by the School Committee on Oct. 18. Mayor John Vieau, the School Committee chair, expressed his gratitude.

"A very exciting motion and a very exciting order... I will be writing thank you letters to Ford Motor Company and Marcotte Ford on behalf of the committee if that's the will," Vieau said, as the committee approved the request.

Carl Ingram, career and technical education director for the district, wrote a letter to the School Committee that was read aloud by Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware. Ingram wrote that Ford Motor Company and Marcotte Ford are excited to donate to the program and he provided the vehicle's backstory and how it will impact students.

"This vehicle was involved in flooding at the Flat Rock Assembly Plant and cannot be sold but has been cleaned by the dealership in preparation for donation," In-

gram wrote. "Students will have the ability to work on new electrical and mechanical control systems found in new cars today. Testing and diagnosing with the school's extensive computer diagnostic controllers will provide our students with additional competencies to give them a competitive edge in the market."

Despite damage incurred, the vehicle is worth \$30,000. Ward 4 School Committee Member Sandra Peret was grateful for the donation.

"This sounds like a wonderful project that the students will be involved with. Thank you to Mr. Ingram for reaching out to Marcotte Ford regarding this," she said.

During the personnel report on Oct. 18, it was announced that the district made

12 new hires; three are teachers and four are paraprofessionals. The district has also moved to orientation once a week, as hiring season slows down.

Peret noted that seven Chicopee educators are attending conferences; some are virtual, and others are local. Topics include the impacts of anxiety and sleep on the brain, MCATs science and tech engineering, MCATs update for teachers with experience, educational stability orientation, a social work conference and a school psychology association fall conference.

Lastly, several members of the committee encouraged safety during Halloween. Peret began the discussion.

"If any of the students are going out for the Halloween festivities, please be careful as you're crossing the street and be aware of cars coming and going. Look both ways just as a safety precaution," she said.

Ward 3 School Committee Member Jason Dout wished students a happy Halloween and made it clear it is not just the youths who have to practice safety on the holiday.

"For the adults who may be out and driving around, just understand that in a world where children are forced to grow up much quicker than they should be, Halloween is one of the few times that they still have to enjoy so please pay attention to the roads and make sure that our kids are able to safely enjoy the holiday festivities."

## BINGO for Designer Purses & Power Tools at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE -- The Council on Aging will be holding BINGO for Designer Handbags & Power Tools on Thursday, Nov. 9 from 6-9 p.m. at the COA's RiverMills Center located at 5 West Main St.

The FRIENDS of RiverMills Center is hosting a charity event to raise funds for senior center programming. Come out and enjoy a night of fun for a good cause! The prizes include genuine designer handbags from Coach, Michael Kors, Dooney & Bourke and Kate Spade, along with tool prizes that every fit-it person will love.

There will also be chances to win great raffle prizes. All beverages must be purchased on site. Beer, wine, water and soda will be available for purchase on site. No outside beverages allowed for safety reasons. Bring your own snacks.

Tickets are \$35 a person, which includes 10 games. Tickets must be purchased in advance at RiverMills Center. If you don't buy a table, it is first-come, first-sit. Tickets are now on sale.



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— **Beth from Belchertown**

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# IN THE CITY



Mayor John Vieau presents the Polish American Heritage Month proclamation to Matthew Slowik, a student at St. Stanislaus School, during the Polish American Heritage Month Flag Raising ceremony.



State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) talks about the Polish American Caucus as City Assessor Victor Anop, Mayor John Vieau, City Assessor Brian Suchy and City Council Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski listen.



City Assessor Brian Suchy, City Council Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and Mayor John Vieau watch as Dominik Szczech, a student at St. Stanislaus School, cranks the lever to raise the Polish American Flag.

## POLISH HERITAGE from page 1

tage, culture and pride” after its establishment in 1981.

“As we embrace this month, it’s inspiring to note the Poles who now constitute the sixth-largest ethnic group in America, having a presence in all 50 states and contributing significantly to every facet of American life,” Vieau said.

Additionally, Vieau pointed out the mural gracing the Starzyk building designed by Bezt, a renowned Polish artist, this summer, calling it “a proud emblem of Polish artistry” and stating how it “really represents the Polish American community here in Chicopee.”

“The beauty and depth of

his art has not only put Polish street art on the global map but has also left an indelible mark on countless hearts,” Vieau said.

Vieau then shared this message with the St. Stanislaus School students.

“Be you. Be yourself. Be proud of your heritage, your family and your friends. Be proud of your school and your city and always be proud of being an American,” Vieau said.

State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) reflected on several things in his remarks from restarting the Polish American Caucus in the state legislature to hosting the Polish ambassador at the State House last month.

Additionally, he celebrat-

ed the changes in Poland as Bridgewater State University hosted Lech Wałasa, the country’s first democratically elected president after the Cold War, and Poland just recently voted in a new government.

“It is so important that as we celebrate Polish American heritage that we, also, pay attention to what goes on overseas because we don’t live on an island on our own. We are reliant upon one another, and Poles saw that this weekend, and I want to celebrate that incredible out showing of support,” Oliveira said.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) said moments like the ceremony are opportunities to pause and “celebrate

the differences that bring us all together.”

“Chicopee is a growing, diverse community and we aim to welcome and celebrate all communities, all cultures and today, in particular, we’re taking the time to celebrate the accomplishments and the contributions of the Polish community here in Chicopee,” Arriaga said.

Arriaga took a moment to address the city’s Polish American community directly.

“You’re an intricate part of our community. Hardworking, family oriented and I’m so glad that you’re a part of my community and that I get to represent you all,” Arriaga said.

Arriaga also reflected on the Polish ambassador’s visit to

the State House and the country’s recent election.

“We know that that vision, that perseverance, that drive is in you all and you’re going to put it into our community so we can continue to thrive and be proud to be here in Chicopee,” Arriaga said.

After reading the proclamation, Vieau presented it to Matthew Slowik, a student at St. Stanislaus School with Polish American heritage.

The ceremony concluded when Dominik Szczech, another student at St. Stanislaus School, cranked the lever to raise the Polish American Flag as Chmura led the crowd in singing “God Bless America” in English and Polish.

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# IN THE CITY

## TEEN CENTER from page 1

marks on the campaign.

Afterward, the speakers swung a hammer at a wall depicting the barriers teens face, including poverty, low self-esteem, hunger, gun violence, bullying and more.

Vieau said the club “teaches you so much about life.”

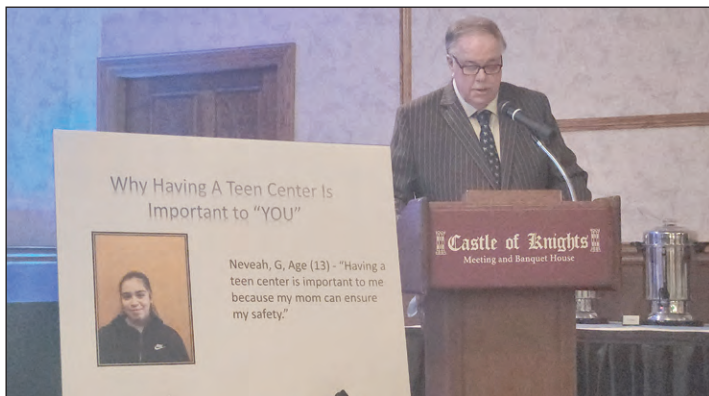
“It really makes a difference for our kids, and I couldn’t think of a better way of deterring crime than investing in the kids of Chicopee,” Vieau said.

Oliveira explained the state legislature is working to address some of the barriers displayed on the wall, including suicide, mental health and gun violence.

“Boys and Girls Clubs have always been on the frontlines of making sure that students, children, have the resources and the supports around them in order to fulfill their lives. A teen center is one of the most important functions that you can possibly have,” Oliveira said.

Vann said this project has been in the works for many years, stressing the importance of remembering the need the Haven Teen Center will address throughout the campaign.

“I can tell you this morning that the need will never get lost along the way and this committee is laser-focused on finding



Kevin Vann, a member of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's Board of Trustees, provides remarks on the new teen center during the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's New Teen Center Kickoff event at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee.

a way to the goal line,” Vann said.

Torres became a Club Mom in 2015 and serves on the campaign's Steering Committee, expressing gratitude to the club for supporting her daughters.

“The vision is to create a safe haven where young people can feel accepted, encouraged and supported with accessible hours and mentors who are willing to invest time in enhancing their abilities. The same safety I felt when my daughters attended after-school programs and summer camps there,” Torres said.

Reflecting on the campaign and community support, Reed said it means so

much as kids “need us now more than ever,” with more guidance, mentoring and opportunities.

“As a Boys & Girls Club, my goal is always to try and provide opportunities to the young people that need it most and they may not have access to those opportunities anywhere else. So, if we can do that, if people can help us with that, then we will make this community stronger than it already is,” Reed said.

Reed encourages the community to also attend the 12th Annual Black Tie & Sneakers Gala on Nov. 3 from 5:30 - 11 p.m. at the Log Cabin in Holyoke.



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A poster board depicting what the Haven Teen Center will look like during the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's New Teen Center Kickoff event at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee.

Tickets are still available at [www.eventcreate.com/e/bgccsneakersgala](http://www.eventcreate.com/e/bgccsneakersgala).

“It is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we’re really looking forward to it,” Reed said.

Reed had this message for the community.

“Come to the campus. Check it out. See what we’re doing. Pay a visit. See how far the campus has grown over the past few years,” Reed said. “The kids (energy is) infectious. You will want to be a part of it. They tell the story better than I ever can, so come and check us out.”

To learn more, visit [bgcchicopee.org/](http://bgcchicopee.org/)

## DELEGATION FUNDS from page 1

every time he hears of a fatal crash and considers it one less person at someone’s holiday table. He explained why distracted driving is to blame and may be at an all-time high.

“During COVID-19, many people spent many times alone, extremely focused on communicating through social media, and I think it really just enhanced people being addicted to their cell phones to be blunt. That seems to be a real issue today,” Vieau said.

Vieau noted that students in the city’s high schools and middle schools are required to secure their phones in Yondr pouches for the duration of the school day. He said the addiction to technology doesn’t just apply to teens but to drivers who aren’t entirely focused on the road.

“I think distraction and impairment are two of the biggest obstacles that we face right now,” Vieau said.

Vieau said the city’s Engineering Department has worked with MassDOT to try improving safety on the streets. Earlier this year, the city spent \$200,000 to purchase 13 rectangular rapid flashing beacons and four radar signs.



TURLEY PHOTO S BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Mayor John Vieau speaks about road safety in City Hall on Oct. 23.

“We also started a preliminary safety improvement project,” Vieau said. “The goal was to find those locations throughout the city of Chicopee. And to find those locations, we asked for the public’s help. We asked for the City Council and School Committee, business owners and stakeholders in Chicopee to help locate (different difficult areas to cross) and how we could make them safer.”



State Rep. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) presented a \$50,000 check to Chicopee on behalf of the state on Monday to improve road safety.

Vieau said substantial improvements have occurred on Chicopee Street. Over the past year, road diets have been installed to slow speeds, and the rapid flashing beacons have been installed at five crossings “north of the Y.”

Vieau even created a public service announcement with ChicopeeTV to promote crossing the street safely, something he said he “never expected to do in a million years.”

When walking, he noted the goal is to make eye contact with the driver and look both ways before you proceed. He said it seems like common sense, but apparently it isn’t.

Fire Chief Dan Stamborski noted that there is nothing more disheartening than having to respond to a tragedy like an individual being hit by a car. He offered similar commentary to Vieau’s, noting that both the pedestrian and driver often both contribute to a crash.

“It’s being distracted. It’s not just the driver,” Stamborski said. “Often, people need to get the message that they don’t walk out from behind the car. They need to kind of look left and look right like we were taught when we were children. Some people just don’t bother anymore.”

Stamborski and Police Chief Patrick Major both offered words of appreciation to the state delegation for securing the funding.

Major said that safety is everyone’s responsibility, but personal safety is the individual’s responsibility first and foremost. He noted that the volume of traffic has increased greatly over the past several years and that with more cars on the road, there is a higher likelihood for a crash.

“Walking, driving, their attention should be on what they’re doing,” Major said. “If you’re crossing the road, look both ways and check again. If you’re driving, make sure your focus is on the road. Have your eyes in front of you, don’t be distracted by a cellphone, a radio, substances or anything else that will take your attention away from what’s in front of you on the road.”

Earlier in the press conference, Vieau noted that the police department has already written over 6,000 citations this year, having surpassed last year’s mark by the end of October. Major did not refer to statistics but referenced personal experience when encouraging people to be safe while driving and walking.

“I worked accident reconstruction many years,” he said. “I know once you have a vehicle that weighs most times over a ton, coupled with the speed and velocity, you get kinetic energy, and when that energy comes across a human being crossing the road, we know that we’re going to have a catastrophic event happening.”

Arriaga kept her words limited at the podium on Monday but thanked the delegation for its collaboration and agreed that technology has played a role in distracting drivers and pedestrians.

As a resident of Chicopee, with her entire constituency living in the city, Arriaga spoke from the heart when she identified that there is an issue that must be addressed.

“People are getting hit by cars in Chicopee, and that’s the reality of it,” she

said. “This (funding) is going to help because it’s no surprise that we are here to speak about pedestrian safety. I know Chicopee, I grew up in Chicopee, and it has never been worse than it is now. I have a little one, and of course we all teach our little ones how to cross the street, but it has come down to that we actually have to remind folks how to cross the street.”

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TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM  
Jacob Lozado charges up the field.



Jaydis Rodriguez tries to fight through the crowd.

## Tigers roar past Pacers

CHICOPEE – Last Friday night in the rain at Szot Park, South Hadley’s offense had no trouble finding the end zone in a 40-14 win over host Chicopee. Owen Dawson had another big game with 176 yards rush-

ing and two touchdowns. Chicopee’s two touchdowns were scored by Anthony Claudio and Hector Adorno. South Hadley is now 6-1 heading into the final week of the regular season. Chicopee is now 0-6.



Braeden Siano attempts a pass.



Xavion Maldonado gets past the South Hadley defense.



Noah Galas and Nadir Johnson go for a tackle.

## Colts fall in final pair

CHICOPEE – Last week, Chicopee Comprehensive girls soccer suffered a pair of losses to close out the regular season. Last Friday night in the rain, the Colts suffered a 1-0 loss against Agawam. That was followed by a 2-0 loss against Westfield. The Colts did defeat St. Mary’s 3-0 last Wednesday. Comp was scheduled to face West Springfield in the Western Mass. quarterfinals on the road earlier this week.



Kaitlyn Chagnon attempts to clear the ball away.



Alexandra Sawicki blocks an Agawam player from possessing the ball.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI  
Molly Girouard makes a long throw-in.



Madelyn Rice picks up save.

## Colts suffer tough loss against Falcons

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM-- As the 15<sup>th</sup> ranked football team in the latest MIAA Division 3 power rankings, the Minnechaug Falcons couldn’t afford to slip up against the Chicopee Comp Colts.

The Falcons, who are looking to qualify for the state playoffs for the third consecutive year, posted a 56-0 home victory over the Colts (0-7, 0-4) in an AA League contest, last Friday night.

“I thought we did a very good job of staying focused and not looking towards our next game,” said Minnechaug head coach Will Nickerson. “We’ll be hosting Longmeadow next week and there will be a lot at stake in that game.”

The Falcons have now won the last six meetings on the gridiron against the Colts.

On September 30, 2016, the Colts defeated the Falcons 32-8 on their home field. Former Comp QB Trevor Johnson threw four touchdown passes in that game.

Any thoughts that the current Colts players might’ve had of celebrating another road victory against the Falcons didn’t last very long.

After receiving the opening kickoff, the Falcons marched down the field in the rain under the direction of sophomore quarterback Jack Lucarelle, who’s a returning starter.

Sophomore running back Max Baroni carried the ball four times before Lucarelle completed the 63 yard six play drive by

throwing a 15-yard swing pass to senior wide receiver Davis Nelson, who scored the first of the Falcons six touchdowns.

Senior Nic Patrakis made the first of his five extra point attempts. He also made a pair of field goals in the second quarter. Most of his kickoffs sailed into the end zone.

“Nic is a valuable weapon for us as a kicker and punter,” Nickerson said. “He had played soccer his whole life before joining the football team as a sophomore. He’s hoping to be a kicker for a college football team next year. We’re very excited for him.”

After the Colts were forced to punt on their first offensive series, the Falcons took a 14-0 lead when Lucarelle flipped the ball to junior wide receiver

Noah Brathwaite, who sprinted 43 yards into the endzone, with 4:40 left in the first quarter.

A little more than a minute later, senior linebacker Sean Murphy returned an interception 20 yards for the Falcons third touchdown.

Minnechaug junior linebacker Ryan Oldread recovered a fumble at the Colts 23 yard line with 1:50 left in the opening quarter.

It looked like senior tight-end Dajzuan Johnson had scored the Falcons fourth TD on a fourth and goal running play, but it was nullified due to a blocking in the back penalty.

Instead of going for it a second time, Patrakis ran onto the field and made a 29-yard field goal with 10:38 left in the first half.

On the ensuing series, the Colts offense picked up a first down for the first time in the game on a 12-yard run up the middle by sophomore running back Francis Jordan.

A couple of plays later, Brathwaite recovered another fumble for the home team leading to a 25-yard field goal by Patrakis. It increased the Falcons lead to 27-0 with 5:43 left in the first half.

With a little more than a minute remaining on the scoreboard clock, Lucarelle called his own number and scored a touchdown on a five yard draw play.

Then Johnson, who has made a verbal commitment to play college football at the University of Maine, wrapped up the

See COLTS page 10

# T-Birds drop decision to Penguins

WILKES-BARRE, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-3-0-0) put forth a strong effort, but could not come away victorious, falling to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (2-2-0-0) by a score of 3-1 at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza.

Vadim Zherenko got the start between the pipes for Springfield and had a terrific game, stopping 33 shots on 35 Penguin attempts. On the other end, Joel Blomqvist got the start for the Penguins and picked up his first AHL win with 31 stops.

It was a special night even before the onset of the game for the Bitten family, as Sam Bitten took the ice for his AHL debut alongside his older brother Will, marking the first time in T-Birds history that a pair of brothers skated as Springfield teammates.

Unlike the other games the Thunderbirds have had this season, the first period did not bring any goals and the two teams remained scoreless heading to their dressing rooms. Zherenko was the much busier goaltender during the first period, as he denied all 14 Penguins shots sent his way.

At the 1:35 mark of the second frame, Wilkes-Barre got on the board first. Forward Vinnie Hinostroza broke behind the T-Birds defense, took a stretch feed from

Rem Pitlick, and scored on a backhand deke that snuck past Zherenko.

The score did not remain 1-0 for long, as Adam Gaudette continued his red-hot start to the season with a stroke of luck. An innocent clearing attempt around the boards instead saw the puck skitter to the edge of the crease. After linemate Nathan Walker spotted the loose puck, he was stopped by Blomqvist on the initial chance, but the hulking Gaudette slammed the rebound home to tie the game up at 1-1 at the 3:18 mark of the period.

As the game hit its midpoint, Wilkes-Barre forward Jansen Harkins broke away from the pack and went in on a breakaway with a chance to restore the Penguin lead, but Zherenko was up to the challenge and made the stop with the left leg. Later on in the period, T-Birds had a great chance to go up a goal with Zachary Bolduc stripping a Penguins defenseman before making it a 2-on-1 with Will Bitten. Unfortunately for the rookie winger, Blomqvist made the stop, knocking away the shot with his blocker, and keeping the score at 1-1. The second period would not bring any scoring for both teams, as the score remained the same at 1-1 going into the third and final period.

The two teams traded chances to start the third period, but neither team could

convert. It was not until the 9:03 mark that one of the teams would take the lead. The Penguins power play finally cracked its dry spell, as Pitlick jabbed a power play goal home after a scramble in front of Zherenko's crease, giving his team the 2-1 lead.

With 3:01 to go in the game, the T-Birds were given a power play thanks to a Wilkes-Barre bench minor for too many men on the ice. Walker nearly deadlocked the score, but his deflection on a point shot deflected off the crossbar and stayed out. Shortly after the power play ended, Harkins put the game out of reach with an empty-netter, his first goal as a Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguin.

Springfield's three-game weekend continues as the team travels to play Lehigh Valley on Sunday afternoon for a 3:05 p.m. matchup against the Phantoms. The T-Birds will look to avenge their home loss on Friday night against the Phantoms and pick up their second win of the season.

The T-Birds return home to the MassMutual Center next Saturday, Oct. 28 for our Ok-T-Bird-Fest game to face off against the Providence Bruins for the second time this season. The puck will drop at 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

# 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 (Cambridgema.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.

# Monadnock releases 2024 schedule

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Monadnock Speedway and JDV Productions announced this evening the full 2024 event schedule for the Winchester, New Hampshire oval.

The schedule begins with the JDV Open on Saturday, April 20, 2024 and ends with the return of the Winchester Fair event on Saturday, Sept. 21. The schedule includes 20 events spanning from April through September, including house divisions, touring series dates, special events and more.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will return to Monadnock Speedway for three dates in 2024: the third annual Granite State Derby on May 4, the third annual Duel at the Dog on July 20 and the second annual Winchester Fair on Sept. 21.

The first competition laps on the brand new track pavement will be on April 20 with Monadnock's house divisions in action. The Mad Dog Modifieds, Super Streets, Mini Stocks, Pure Stocks, Six Shooters and Mad Pups will be racing. The Mad Dog Modifieds were previously named NHSTRA Modifieds, while the Super Streets were previously NHSTRA Late Models and the Young Guns have been renamed to the Mad Pups.

The house divisions will each have special events throughout the year - headlined by a Triple Crown Series, a Monadnock Salutes Pure Stock special (May 18), 15th annual Firecracker 100 (June 29), the inaugural Six Shooters Showdown (July 13), Mini Stock Meet (August 3), Mad Dog Masters Challenge (August 10) and Super Street Summer Shootout (August 17).

A full 2024 Monadnock event schedule can be found by visiting MonadnockSpeedway.com and JDVProductions.com.

"We're excited to work with the great teams that make up the Monadnock Speedway house divisions, multiple touring series divisions and others to be sure the 2024 season at Monadnock is one to remember," Josh Vanada, owner of JDV Productions, said. "Our team will look forward to releasing more and more information as the season draws closer. The new pavement at Monadnock Speedway is going to make the racing better than it has ever been and we look forward to showcasing it to dedicated, loyal race fans in 2024."

Additional special events during the season will include the 53rd annual weekly racing opener on May 11, the second annual Winchester Open Modified 100

for the JDV Open Modifieds on June 8, the inaugural 350 Super Thunder in the Mountains on June 15 and the 53rd annual championship Saturday on September 14, where all house division champions will be crowned.

The only two-day show of the season will be the finale weekend on September 20 and 21. On Friday night, Sept. 20, a new winners night for house divisions will require drivers who enter the races to have never won a Monadnock event before in that division. The season officially concludes on Sept. 21, with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour's Winchester Fair and more.

For touring series classes, on top of the Whelen Modified Tour in town three times, the NEMA Midgets will visit once, the NEMA Lites three times, the Evolve Pro Truck Challenge twice and the Pro 4 Modifieds five times. Additional touring series divisions include the R&R Street Stock Open, Little Webb's Super Series and the Senior Tour Auto Racers.

Open Late Models, Open Mini Stock, Big Wheel events and more are also on the calendar. JDV Productions and Monadnock Speedway will release additional information throughout the winter months about the 2024 racing season.

COLTS from page 9

Falcons' first half scoring spree by returning a fumble for a touchdown.

Johnson took a direct snap on the two-point conversion play before scoring another touchdown, which gave Minnechaug a commanding 42-0 half-time lead.

Baroni and junior running back Josh Disa scored the Falcons final two rushing touchdowns during the third quarter.

The Colts offense finally moved the ball into Minnechaug territory in the fourth quarter, but the Falcons defense posted its first shutout of the season.

"We played very well on both sides of the ball tonight, which was great to see," Nickerson said. "We'll need to continue playing well against Longmeadow, who beat us last year."

While the Falcons are preparing to host Longmeadow on Friday night, the Colts will be looking to get into the win column for the first time this season when they face Westfield at Bullens Field.

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# Random Acts of Kindness

By Barb Turcotte

This month's Random Acts of Kindness article is a little different. First, it's a *HUGE* thank you to Turley Publications' now retired lead editor, Eileen Kennedy, for allowing me to pursue my vision. Then a further thank you to the editors of the Agawam Advertiser, the Chicopee Register, the Ludlow Register, which includes Indian Orchard, and the Wilbraham-Hampden Times. Some editors I've worked with for two years and others only one, but they have continued to share my monthly stories about the kindnesses you in these communities are doing.

In my opinion, this was Turley's Random Act of Kindness bestowed on me! Doing these stories, I have met some of the most incredible people that would never have crossed my path otherwise. During this time, it's often been suggested that I share my story so at my two-year anniversary I decided to do that.

When I first began visualizing these stories, I thought "Random" meant doing for strangers. I've since come to realize it's means offering an unexpected kind gesture to both strangers and those we know.

My desire to give back began when I was young and has continued throughout my life. Being able to share with or network people has always given me great pleasure and why I feel I've lived a 'rich' life, yet it has no financial value. Some things are priceless! I've found that giving of your time and energy are sometimes more valued than a monetary donation.

I volunteered for the Rays of Hope (the local breast cancer charity) for over 20 years wearing numerous hats and orchestrated many large events to benefit this charity. If you support a charity in any way, you are doing a Random Act of Kindness because what you offer helps so many.

I am also very proud of a social group (not romanced focused), for singles I created and facilitated as a volunteer for 10 years called Just 'Cause. To this day over 20 years later, many of us continue with the lifetime friendships we made.

After retiring, I'm privileged and love working per diem at an Independent/Assisted Living facility. While at lunch with some residents, a young couple paid for the table's meals (amazing!), and that inspired me to create a monthly Random Act of Kindness basket. With its proceeds, we in turn do various Random Acts of Kindness on behalf of the facility. I was so excited to be able to coordinate nine florists within the towns where I'm published,

to donate over 700 flowers that the residents gave away to shoppers at two different malls. Such a united effort of Random Acts of Kindness, it created so many smiles!

Many years ago, I was the recipient of someone unexpectedly paying for my groceries. It was such a surprising experience and confirmed my belief there are truly many more kind and caring people than not. And so began my personal goal of doing Random Acts of Kindness for others. I've bought flowers and given them to strangers or those buy one-get-one sales, I've always managed to find someone who could use the second one. I've bought gift cards at a store I'm shopping and then given them to unsuspecting customers. I'm assuming these things made their day better, I know it did mine, just envisioning them enjoying that surprise.

I had a friend ask if I would help her sell her products at a Vendor Day, and I readily agreed. It was a wonderful experience, and at her suggestion, I brought the monthly Random Act of Kindness basket with us. I loved a particular hand-made, hand-painted table ornament one of the vendors had done and was going to buy it for my next basket. When I went to purchase it, he inquired if I was going to use it for a basket and when I admitted I was, he loved the concept of what we were doing and donated it! My friend also donated an item!

And the best, though I didn't win, was the Salute to Heroes created by three local Hyundai dealerships; someone nominated me! I must say I was shocked and absolutely feel like I won just in the fact that someone thought I was worthy of such an honor. Congrats to comedian Jess Miller who has done some amazing work through her comedy shows to benefit various local charities!

I hope you all continue to extend niceties to one another because doing Random Acts of Kindness truly does make a wonderful difference in all our lives. It starts with us as individuals doing one thing at a time by spreading positivity! Be contagious in a good way!

*I'd love to hear from you about your gestures or perhaps you'd like to tell me about someone you think should be recognized for the good things they do. Please contact me at bdt514@aol.com or 413-788-7514, who knows, you might see your story in this column, 'Just 'Cause' you witnessed, did or received something nice being done. Next month I'll be telling your incredible Random Acts of Kindness stories again. Thank you for reading!*

# Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School

Accepting applications for 2024/2025 school year

SOUTH HADLEY -- The Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School is pleased to announce the application for the 2024-2025 school year opens on Nov. 1. Applications are available in English and Spanish on the PVPA website [www.pvpa.org/admissions](http://www.pvpa.org/admissions). To request a paper application or for more information, email [admissions@pvpa.org](mailto:admissions@pvpa.org) or call 413-552-1580 ext. 228.

Eligibility to apply is limited to those students currently in grades six through eleven who are applying for the 2024-2025 school year. Online applications must be submitted by Feb. 11, 2024. Paper applications must be postmarked no later than Feb. 11, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted. The lottery will be held on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024.


PVPA has a 25-plus year history of providing a free, college-preparatory education that is firmly based in a commitment to providing students with a broad exposure to the Arts. Prospective future students and their families are in-

vited to attend one of the Open House Events happening throughout the open application period. Registration, dates and times are available on the PVPA website [www.pvpa.org/admissions](http://www.pvpa.org/admissions).

Enrollment in PVPA is free and open to all Massachusetts students in grades 7-12 on a space available basis. Priority is given to students from Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties, as well as Brookfield, Petersham and Sturbridge. All students are welcome, and students who are passionate about the Arts are strongly encouraged to apply!

PVPA is a publicly funded charter school authorized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Per MA General Laws, Chapter 76: Section 5, shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special need, proficiency in the English language or academic achievement.

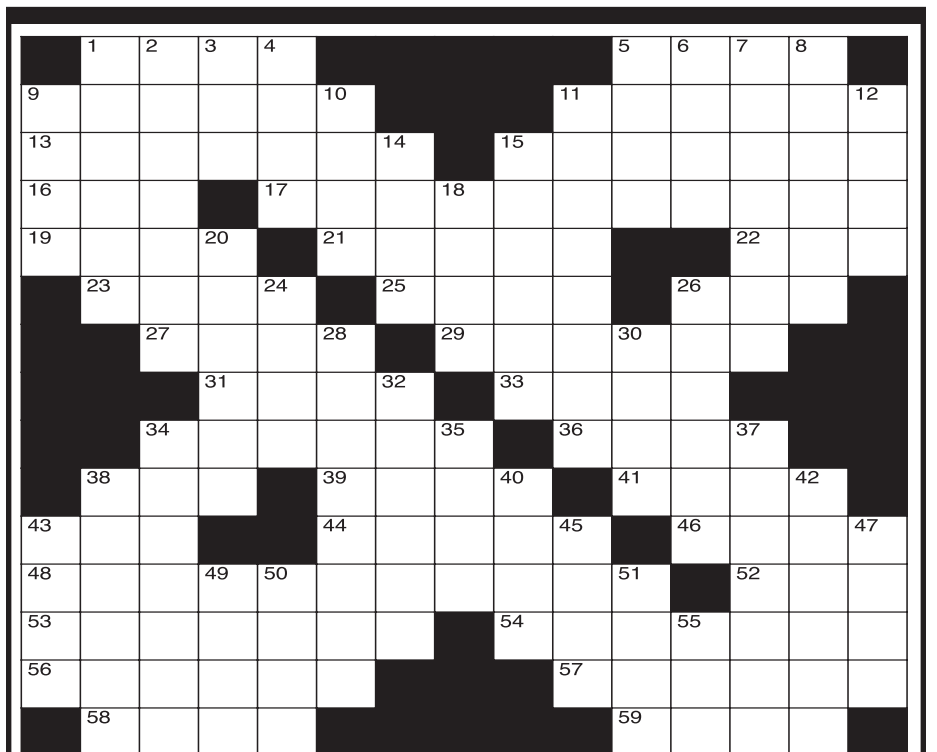
For more information, and to apply: [admissions@pvpa.org](mailto:admissions@pvpa.org).



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- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Male children</li> <li>5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to ..."</li> <li>9. Unfolded</li> <li>11. Digestive disease</li> <li>13. Wednesday</li> <li>15. Malignant tumor</li> <li>16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)</li> <li>17. Slowed</li> <li>19. Letter of the Semitic abjads</li> <li>21. Weights of cars without fuel</li> <li>22. Former CIA</li> <li>23. Asian country</li> <li>25. Instead</li> <li>26. Ancient Egyptian King</li> <li>27. Privies</li> <li>29. Shopping trips</li> <li>31. Paradoxical anecdote</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>33. It's on the table</li> <li>34. Ancient Persia ruler</li> <li>36. Small American rail</li> <li>38. File extension</li> <li>39. Days (Spanish)</li> <li>41. Everyone has one</li> <li>43. South American plant</li> <li>44. About ilium</li> <li>46. Vanished American hoopster</li> <li>48. A type of breakfast</li> <li>52. Uncooked</li> <li>53. Examined</li> <li>54. Christian recluse</li> <li>56. Strong posts</li> <li>57. Some are for pasta</li> <li>58. Skinny</li> <li>59. School-based organizations</li> </ol> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ringlet</li> <li>2. Type of complex</li> <li>3. Midway between north and northwest</li> <li>4. It becomes something bigger</li> <li>5. German courtesy title</li> <li>6. Genus of birds</li> <li>7. Marked by public disorder</li> <li>8. Least aggressive</li> <li>9. Russian city</li> <li>10. Insect repellent</li> <li>11. Interruptions</li> <li>12. Scoundrels</li> <li>14. 1,000 calories</li> <li>15. What one does overnight</li> <li>18. Dwarf planet</li> <li>20. Pipe</li> <li>24. Black powdery substance</li> <li>26. Set of four</li> <li>28. Canned fishes</li> <li>30. North Carolina college</li> <li>32. Secured</li> <li>34. A disgraceful event</li> <li>35. Physical suffering</li> <li>37. The home of the free</li> <li>38. Some are boys</li> <li>40. Satisfy</li> <li>42. Makes very happy</li> <li>43. South American plants</li> <li>45. Modes of transportation</li> <li>47. Female sheep</li> <li>49. Type of torch</li> <li>50. Piece of merchandise</li> <li>51. Jump over</li> <li>55. Wife of Amun</li> </ol> |
|---|---|--|

ANSWERS ON PAGE 15

## GUNS WANTED

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# Celebrate Halloween on a budget

Courtesy of the Better Business Bureau

Consumers are gearing up to celebrate Halloween. Total Halloween spending is expected to reach a record \$12.2 billion, exceeding last year's record of \$10.6 billion, according to the National Retail Federation's annual survey conducted by Prosper Insights & Analytics. A record number of people (73%) will participate in Halloween-related activities this year, up from 69% in 2022.

Those numbers can seem daunting for a single day, especially when watching the family budget. However, there are ways to keep the fun, stylish, and on budget. Better Business Bureau recommends the following tips this Halloween:

**Look around your home**

Check your closet. There are probably hidden surprises to help you throw together a killer costume! Getting creative will not only help save money but also space.

**Rent a costume**

If the idea of spending money on buying a costume isn't quite appealing because you will only wear it once, consider renting. Renting a costume leaves room in the budget. Research rental companies on BBB.org, check the store policy regarding trying on costumes, inspect the condition of the outfit, and read the rental agreement carefully before signing anything.

**Buy in bulk**

It may seem counter-intuitive, but buying more can save you money! Buying in bulk lessens the cost per item. Budgeting can be especially handy on a night like Halloween, considering there might be more trick-or-treaters this year. Factory-wrapped candy will last a long time, even if you have leftovers. And let's be honest, leftovers are pretty tasty, even after Halloween.

**Always check the return policy**

Seasonal shops carry unique items for a short period in a temporary location or online. When shopping for a seasonal vendor, understand the store's return policy before purchasing. Remember: Buying a bunch of stuff with the intent of simply returning it after October 31 is considered fraud.



**Shop smart online**

When shopping from an online website, the first step is ensuring the URL starts with "HTTPS" and includes a lock symbol. The S in "HTTPS" stands for secure. Look up the website's privacy policy and contact information. If it is not clearly listed, or they only have an email as the point of contact, take that as a big red flag and shop elsewhere.

Also, be sure to use your credit card instead of your debit card, as credit cards not only provide additional protection but also easier to dispute a fraudulent charge.

**Seasonal stores**

If you decide to shop from a seasonal store, ask whether or not they will be open after the holiday, how long they plan to stay open, and if they will accept returns after Halloween. If they plan to close up shop on November 1 or refuse returns after, either consider shopping elsewhere or take more time to be sure that item is exactly what you want before making the purchase.

**More tips for seasonal "pop-up" stores:**

Ask the owner if there is a website in case you must contact them later.

Save every receipt.

Use a credit card to dispute problem charges with the issuer.

Make sure you are clear on what items are FINAL SALE.

Attending a special event or visiting a haunted house

Before purchasing tickets, research the group offering the experience and make sure that there are no complaints about the company hosting the event.

Check out the company at BBB.org. Read what previous customers say, and see how the business responds to complaints.

Check BBB Scam Tracker and see if other consumers have filed a report about the event host.

Search the business online by adding the words "Complaint," "Reviews," or "Scam" after their name for different search results.

More tips on buying tickets.

*Have a safe, happy Halloween!*

# Do you know the signs & symptoms of breast cancer?

*There is more to early detection than just lumps*

SPRINGFIELD -- Given it's the most common cancer in women in the U.S., breast cancer is well-known and understood to be a health issue of concern. What's not so well-known is that there's more to early detection than just lumps.

"While the most common symptom of breast cancer is no symptom at all-which is what makes mammograms so valuable-when it does make its presence known, it's not always in the form of a lump or a mass. That's not to say lumps and masses aren't concerning-they definitely are-but there are other signs to look for and pay attention to if you notice them," said Dr. Ann-Kristin U. Friedrich of Baystate Surgical Oncology and Breast Specialists.

Friedrich noted that while breast cancers occur beneath the skin, they can cause a variety of changes readily visible to the naked eye.

"It's extremely valuable for women to be familiar with how their breasts look and feel when healthy, making it easier to detect even subtle changes when they occur. Changes tell us that something different is going on and you should reach out to your doctor to figure out what's causing it. Just because it's not a lump, doesn't mean it's not worth getting it checked out," she said.

Potential warning signs to keep an eye out for include changes in the nipples:

- New asymmetry: the shape or size of a nipple changes in any way
- Retracted/inverted or flat nipple: the normally raised tissue of the nipple flattens or even appears to be drawn into to the breast
- Scaliness: the texture of the tissue of the nipple becomes dry or even flaky
- Discharge: fluid leaking from one nipple, often appearing green or brown in color or may be clear or bloody. May occur with or without manipulation.

Changes to the skin or appearance of your breast that may indicate breast cancer include:

- Thickening skin: may occur in small areas or may involve an entire breast
- Redness: skin may appear pink, reddish purple, or bruised and breast may be swollen and tender
- Orange peel: skin appears thicker and pitted like the peel of an orange
- Wounds without injury: an unexplained wound on the surface of the breast.

Additional, but less common symptoms of breast cancer include:

- Unexplained pain in breast or arm pit
  - Swelling or pain in armpit.
- Of importance to note, while pain in the breast is common, the cause of the pain being breast cancer is usually rare.

- Signs of advanced disease include:
- Seizures, neurological dysfunction
  - Severe bone pain and spontaneous fractures
  - Shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing
  - Unexplained weight loss.

If you notice any unusual symptoms or unexpected changes in your nipples or breasts, consult your doctor. Be sure to mention any family history of cancer, as this may affect your risk level. And even if you don't see lumps or any of the less-common signs, continue to get mammograms as recommended for your age and risk level.

Not all changes to the nipple or breast are due to breast cancer, Dr. Friedrich added.

"Your symptoms may very well be a sign of another underlying condition or even caused by a medication or changing hormone levels due to childbirth or menopause. But, especially with breast cancer where early detection and treatment is key to survival, it's better to be safe than sorry. If you notice a change, contact your doctor to determine the best course of treatment and care," she said.

For more information on breast cancer surgery at Baystate Health visit: <https://www.baystatehealth.org/>

**Have Something to Share?**  
Send your stories and photos to [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23C0302CA**  
**In the matter of:  
Nova Rose Adkins  
CITATION ON PETITION  
TO CHANGE NAME**  
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Nova Rose Adkins of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**Nova Rose Paradis**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/13/2023.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 16, 2023

**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/27/2023

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT  
HAMPDEN, Div.  
Probate & Family Court  
Dept. HD23E0048PP  
To George Carvalho-Gendreau of Granby, in the County of Hampshire, and to all other persons interested.**

A petition has been presented to said Court by Valerie Laplante, of Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, representing that they hold as joint tenant in an undivided part or share of land lying in Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at a private sale or public auction for not less than Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand (\$215,000.00) Dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

## EXHIBIT A

The land in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, together with all the buildings thereon, bounded and described as follows:

Being Lot 4 on Plan in the City of Chicopee, Mass., Durkee, White, Towne and Chapdelaine, Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, Dec. 5, 1972, which plan is recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans 155, Pages 124 and 125; said premises being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Southerly by Beaudry Avenue as shown on said Plan, seventy-five and 00/100 {75.00} feet; Westerly by land of one Heck, as shown on said Plan, one hundred nine and 00/100 (109.00) feet, Northerly by land of

Memorial Realty Trust seventy-five and 00/100 {75.00} feet; and Easterly by Lot 3 {three} on said Plan one hundred nine and 00/100 {109.00} feet.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney, should file a written appearance in said Court at **Springfield** before ten o'clock in the morning on the **fourth day of December 2023**, the return day of this citation.

Witness, **BARBARA M. HYLAND**, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this 3rd day of October 2023.

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD22P2230EA**  
**Estate of:  
Ellen Delia Borowski  
Also known as:  
Ellen O Borowski,  
Ellen O'Connor Borowski  
Date of Death: 08/16/2022  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
ORDER OF COMPLETE  
SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Theodore P Borowski** of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/27/2023.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: October 23, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/27/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P2097EA**  
**Estate of:  
Ann Marie Chicoine  
Date of Death: 05/21/2023  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Denis R Chicoine of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Denis R Chicoine of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/09/2023.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 12, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/27/2023

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under **G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on 11/3/2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

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VIN: 1GN13W61K196733  
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: KMHF46F87A211483  
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  
Haciel 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: 1C3CCCCB4FN521919  
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

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under **G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 24, 2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2002 Toyota Camry Soara Se  
VIN: 2T1CE22P12C014468  
John Renaud  
8E Townhouse Rd  
Broad Brook, CT 06016

2006 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCM56436A055071  
Raymond Grabiec  
109 Honey Pot Rd.  
Hadley, MA 01035  
2002 Honda Accord

VIN: 1HGCG225X2A018999  
Jean Jones  
3056 39th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53210  
10/27 11/03, 11/10/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103**

**(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P2173EA  
Estate of:  
Douglas Adolph Kida  
Also known as:  
Douglas A Kida  
Date of Death: 05/21/2023  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Eugene Kida of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Eugene Kida of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/17/2023.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 20, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/27/2023

**See More Legals  
on Page 15**

**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.**

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## HELP WANTED

### 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](mailto:townadmin@hampdenma.gov).

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## HELP WANTED

**NEIGHBORLY CLEANING & CARE** is looking for mature, responsible adults with own transportation, experience and references for a house-keeping position. Hours 7:30- 2:30. Call Nancy today (413)267-4297.

## SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS

Experience preferred: basic math skills a plus. Immediate openings, first shift, flexible hours. Inquire at **The Nixon Company, 161 Main St., Indian Orchard.** Contact: 413-543-3701 or [info@NixonAwards.com](mailto:info@NixonAwards.com)

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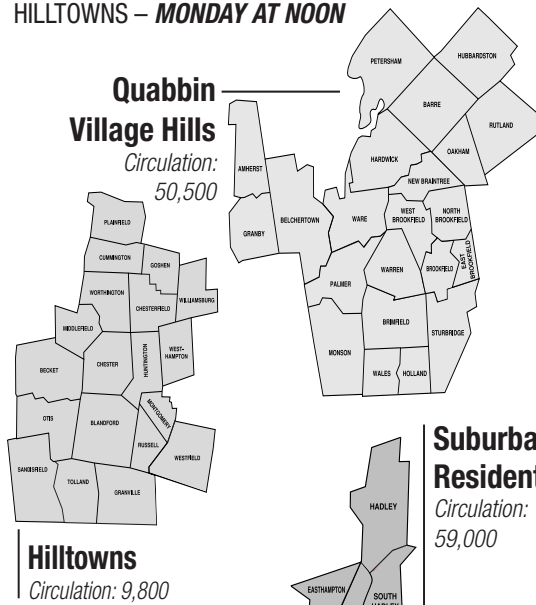
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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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## PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 The Trial Court  
 Probate and Family Court  
 Hampden Probate and Family Court  
 50 State Street  
 Springfield, MA 01103  
 Docket No. HD23P2111GD  
 In the matter of:  
 Richard Pazik  
 Of: Chicopee, MA  
**RESPONDENT**  
 Alleged Incapacitated Person  
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department Of Developmental Serv of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Richard Pazik is in need of a Guardian and requesting that

Eliza Crescentini of Holyoke, MA  
 Marco Crescentini of Holyoke, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian

is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 11/10/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First

Justice of this Court.  
 Date: October 13, 2023  
 Rosemary A. Saccomani  
 Register of Probate  
 10/27/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 The Trial Court  
 Hampden Probate and Family Court  
 50 State Street  
 Springfield, MA 01103  
 (413)748-7758  
 Docket No. HD23P2151EA  
 Estate of:  
 Carol Ann Woytych  
 Date of Death: 12/21/2019  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
 A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Mary E Dupont of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Sarah L Day of Hatfield, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
 You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written

appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/15/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
 A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.  
 Date: October 18, 2023  
 Rosemary A. Saccomani  
 Register of Probate  
 10/27/2023

## 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.

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- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
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- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor  
 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
 or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



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# Elms College holds Innovation Challenge

CHICOPEE -- On Sept. 29, all first-year Elms College students participated in the annual Innovation Challenge.

Students were placed into teams of five to six students with their first-year course. The teams worked together, brainstormed and problem solved to develop their professional networking skills and approach innovation in a systematic way.

The experience provided them with authentic leadership and teamwork experience, increased their sense of belonging to the Elms community and integrated more experimental learning activities into the curriculum.

Participants were able to apply specific tools and methodologies to enhance creativity and enable innovation.

The winning team's idea was to reduce depression and loneliness in nursing home patients via a mobile pottery studio.

The second-place team proposed to reduce claustrophobia in closed MRIs using plastic image inserts and earplugs.

The third-place team suggested a video translation service to translate forms line by line.

Thanks to the Elms staff judges: Lukman Arsalan, Samalid Hogan, and Ryan Stelzer and congratulations to the student participants.



First-place team



Second place team



Third place team



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELMS COLLEGE

Judges Lukman Arsalan, Samalid Hogan, Ryan Stelzer (No particular order)



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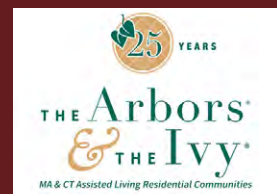
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