

Chicopee Register

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

October 31, 2025 Vol 30 No. 26 | FREE

www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

Community celebrates Halloween at SPOOKtacular



The crew at Big Y dressed as the Minions and Gru from the "Despicable Me" franchise.

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Thousands ventured out to Szot Park on Oct. 23 for this year's SPOOKtacular, enjoying many fun tricks and treats along the way. The free community event featured over 80 vendors, interactive haunted buses, the ChicopeeTV Selfie Station,

musical performances by the high school bands and local dance studios, music from DJ Nick Gagne and many more. The sponsors were Holyoke Medical Center, Peoples-Bank, Center for Martial Arts and Fitness, Westfield Bank, Chicopee Electric Light, Florence Bank, Walmart, BJ's, Unity Dance Spectrum, Melha Shriners, Metro Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram and JPolep -

National Convenience Distributors, Republic Services and Polish National Credit Union. Kendall Blanch, a student at Rising Stars School of Dance, performed with her dance group and shared this was her third year performing at SPOOKtacular. "It was a lot of fun. It really was. We all came together, we practiced beforehand and we showed up and we

performed very well," Blanch said. Blanch emphasized the studio taking part in the event is also great exposure for them and future aspiring dancers, sharing what she enjoys about dance. "I enjoy being able to See **SPOOKTACULAR** page 6



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Members of the Chicopee Police Department also got in on the fun.

5th Annual Thriller 5K fun for good cause

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On Oct. 25, the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce hosted its Fifth Annual Thriller 5K, drawing over 100 participants to support the Haven Teen Center at the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, who also came decked out

in a variety of Halloween costumes, as well. The Haven Teen Center was established last November by the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee to provide a space for teens to develop skills, form lasting friendships and explore new opportunities. See **THRILLER 5K** page 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Attendees sing the Polish National Anthem.

Flag raising held for Polish Heritage Month

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Residents, community members, local and state elected officials and more" gathered inside City Hall Auditorium on Oct. 20 to unveil the Polish flag for Polish Heritage Month. The ceremony was moved indoors due to the in-

clement weather, but despite that, the crowds gathered inside to show off their Polish pride. The day after the ceremony, Mayor John Vieau also visited the seventh and eighth-grade students at St. Stanislaus School, who normally come to the flag-raising but were unable to attend due to the weather. Polish Heritage Month,

celebrated in October, celebrates the history, culture and contributions of Polish-Americans, along with commemorating the arrival of the first Polish settlers in Jamestown, Virginia in 1608. Also, honoring historical figures including General Casi-

See **POLISH FLAG** page 9

St. Stanislaus Basilica hosts Parish Bazaar

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The community gathered in droves at St. Stanislaus School on Oct. 18 for the 49th Annual Parish Bazaar. The annual event's pro-

ceeds will support improving the school/Parish Center. Throughout the day, attendees enjoyed booths, games of chance, raffle baskets and prizes, the Polish Kitchen serving full Polish plates, golumbki and kapusta, while hot dogs, grilled kielbasa grinders and hamburgers were made fresh

off the grill outside. Entertainment was provided by the Eddie Forman Orchestra and Bowey the Magic Clown. The booths included face painting, baked goods, a Franciscan Pet Booth, Wreaths Across America, a jewelry booth, a Holiday Shoppe, religious items, "Odds and Ends" and many more.

Fr. Brad Milunski shared the event committee is already talking about next year as it will be the milestone 50th year and this year featured new items including opening the chapel space for a moment of prayer.

"I think it's great. It's great to see so many parishioners and their families and the school's families as well," Milunski said. "We try to really make sure that the children from St. Stan's School bring their families with them and we've seen a number of them



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The women, meanwhile, served the plates to the attendees, posing for this group photo during a brief break from serving.

See **PARISH BAZAAR** page 9

Important Election Information: PLEASE READ Paid for by the Committee To Elect Raj Sanghvi More about Raj Sanghvi

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- Proud Chicopee resident, Ward 4
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- Member of the Chicopee Planning Board
- Volunteer and Donor to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen
- Longtime civic leader who has served multiple organizations in Chicopee

PROVEN BUSINESS & FINANCIAL EXPERIENCE

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READY ON DAY ONE

- Studied Massachusetts Collectors & Treasurers Certification (Knowledge of laws, rules, and duties of the Collector's office)
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COMMITMENT TO RESIDENTS

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IN THE CITY

Kane's Krusade hosts Fifth Annual Pawsome 5K

By **Brendan Rooney**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — On Saturday, Oct 18, Kane's Krusade held its Fifth Annual Pawsome 5K Festival from the grounds of Szot Park.

The festival is the non-profit's largest fundraiser, which also addresses the root causes of pet relinquishment. Since 2011, the non-profit has trained dogs, sponsored local veterinary care services and distributed food and equipment to pet families in need.

Kim George, executive director and founder of Kane's Krusade, shared more about the event.

"We work on this all year, we have more than 28 sponsors, it's a combination of local and large businesses, and the support has been unbelievable to say the least," George said. "It's our third year being here in Chicopee, and we're on track to raise \$30,000 from this event, and I also want to add that we are members of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, and we feel this is a great place for us."

George also took a moment to reflect on the importance of being a pet-owner, taking in the sense of unity unfolding around her.

"Love of pets and dogs is universal, and the unifying factor of dogs brings people together, and it's that unwritten language of how, if you are a dog owner, how can't you appreciate someone else's dog?" George said. "And here they are in costumes, and they get to the nose work demonstration, and it's a special event because in the end it brings everyone together and allows us to appreciate life and be grateful for the things that we have, and to help people who don't have as much as we have."

George then discussed



Kane's Krusade Co-Chair Ray Hoess-Brooks kicks off the race, taking in the Halloween spirit dressed up as the Owl from Winnie the Pooh.

the key differences that arise from Kane's mission by clarifying any misconceptions.

"We address all the reasons why people would have to give up their dog to a shelter, so when people support us, they are not only helping the elderly person, the veteran, or the unhoused person with the dog during points of transition. Our services also help the local shelters, as well," George said. "Which means that is one less dog that has to go through their system and utilize their resources, so it frees it up for all the other pets that need to find homes."

In addition, the fundraiser also drew the attention of some local dignitaries, including Mayor John Vieau and City Collector Nominee Raj Sanghvi, as well as representatives from local first responders, such as the fire department.

Vieau noted that the work being put forth by Kanes is one near and dear



Jeffery Hoess-Brooks as Pooh, husband of Ray Hoess-Brooks, and their Golden Retriever as Tigger, filling out their Winnie the Pooh ensemble

to his heart.

"I'm a dog lover, and I know what it's like to be hit with heavy vet bills, and to know that there is an or-

ganization that is out there to assist and provide financial support to pet owners. It speaks volumes to the brilliant leadership being



Members of the Chicopee Fire Department were on hand to lend their support.

achieved by all from within this special organization," Vieau said.

Offering a comment about the success of the event was Fire Capt. Katie Collins-Kalbaugh.

"This is such a great event, and everything that Kane's Krusade does to help support families with pets is a great thing to be part of," Collins-Kalbaugh said. "We are also providing guidance and tips about fire-prevention questions since it is Fire Prevention Month. And many have been directed at planning for your pets, if a weather emergency arose, and if you need to leave for three days, and remembering the essentials, having food, leashes, and whatever you need to bring for your furry family members."

After some time of walking around and getting to know the various vendors and the products they provided, along with

the assortment of raffles on display, participants took to the starting line, where the emcee of the event, and Co-Chair of Kane's Krusade, Ray Hoess-Brooks, kicked things off, before reflecting on the big fifth year milestone.

"This is our fifth year doing the event, and third year at Szot. We are super excited to be back here, and the number of people who came out today to celebrate a great cause has been absolutely incredible," Hoess-Brooks said. "Kane's is near and dear to my heart, and their mission statement is beyond amazing, and being part of this organization is a sense of achievement that can't be taken away."

With the funds raised from the 5K, Kane's Krusade hopes to continue its mission of supporting pet families and preventing pet relinquishment in the coming year.

City of Chicopee's Veterans Day activities

CHICOPEE - "On this Veterans Day, let us remember the service of our veterans, and let us renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free."

"Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a

national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime."

Tuesday, November 11 at 10 a.m.

Veterans Day will start off with a Memorial Service that will be held at Saint Stanislaus located at 566 Front Street, Chicopee, MA.

A wreath laying will be at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Plaza on Front Street in front of Dupont Middle School located at 650 Font Street, Chicopee, MA.

Lastly at Noon, lunch will be held at the Knights of Columbus located at 460 Granby Road, Chicopee, MA. We will be presenting awards to our Patriotic Business and Patriotic Organization of the year as well as our annual Charles H. Tracy Awardee recognition ceremony.

Holy Name Christmas Bazaar and Raffle Nov. 7

CHICOPEE - The Holy Mother of the Rosary Church will hold a Christmas Bazaar and Raffle on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Church Hall, 20 Bell Street, Chicopee. There will also be Polish and American food as well as baked goods available.

Polling locations for 2025 Municipal Election

CHICOPEE – Below is a list of the polling locations for the 2025 Municipal Election.

- Polling hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.
- 1-A Bellamy Middle School, 314 Pendleton Avenue
 - 1-B Bellamy Middle School, 314 Pendleton Avenue
 - 2-A Patrick E. Bowe School, 115 Hampden Street
 - 2-B Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road
 - 3-A Stefanik School, 720 Meadow Street
 - 3-B Stefanik School, 720 Meadow Street
 - 4-A Chicopee Senior Center, 5 West Main Street
 - 4-B Chicopee Senior Center, 5 West Main Street
 - 5-A First Central Bible Church, 50 Broadway
 - 5-B First Central Bible Church, 50 Broadway
 - 6-A-N Knights of Columbus, 1599 Memorial Drive
 - 6-A-S Sheridan Circle Community Building, 1 Central Ave.
 - 6-B-E Litwin Elementary School, 135 Litwin Ln. Off Burnett Road
 - 6-B-W Sheridan Circle Community Building, 1 Central Ave.
 - 7-A Legacy Church Hall, 790 Chicopee St.
 - 7-B Legacy Church Hall, 790 Chicopee St.
 - 8-A Chicopee Housing Authority, 7 Valley View Court
 - 8-B Anna Barry School, 55 Connell St., Holly St. Entrance
 - 9-A Knights of Columbus, 1599 Memorial Drive
 - 9-B Knights of Columbus, 1599 Memorial Drive

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IN THE CITY

City Councilors chastise school district's lack of active shooter preparedness

A future meeting has been scheduled to discuss the matter further

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – A group of Chicopee City Councilors criticized the school district's lack of emergency preparedness during the board's meeting on Oct. 21.

The council unanimously voted for the Education and Public Safety Subcommittees to meet to discuss the absence of active shooter training for the district's paraprofessionals and other personnel such as custodians.

Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne brought the item to the table. He explained he has had recent discussions with paraprofessionals in the city and learned they don't have any professional development relative to active shooter training.

"[This] blows my mind because not only do they actively take the role of a teacher many times, but during school, they're escorting children around, and they aren't actually trained in what to do when this happens," Courchesne said.

Courchesne, who has a law enforcement background as a correctional officer and deputy sheriff, questioned why every single staff member is not trained for such an emergency. He said it is beyond his comprehension, but remains optimistic that a conversation could produce answers.

"Hopefully, we can have some dialogue and, hopefully, some teachers and paras can show up," Courchesne said. "It's time we get this out in the

open and get it discussed and fixed."

Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks weighed in, noting that it's not only the paraprofessionals who this should apply to.

"It's my understanding that it's only offered as an optional professional development option, up to and including administrators," Brooks said. "So, it's a larger issue. I mean, the kids are more well-versed in active shooter training than some of our professional staff, credentialed or otherwise. So, for me, it makes 100% perfect sense to get this done."

According to Brooks, it shouldn't be left to the individual employee to choose to do an additional professional development session to increase their emergency preparedness. He said it should be a blanket policy for all staff ranging from custodians to building principals.

Brooks acknowledged he was speaking with "vigor" last Tuesday as he recalled the active shooter scare that occurred at Chicopee Comprehensive High School on Aug. 31, 2018.

That day, a 16-year-old student claimed to see a suspicious and possibly armed man walking around the school. The girl was later charged with making a hoax, Chicopee police reported at the time.

For Brooks, whose daughter was in the school that day, the incident feels like yesterday.

"I couldn't get in the parking lot at dismissal time because there were literally 80 police vehicles swarming that building," Brooks said. "Our police department was prepared. Were our teachers, were our paras, were our custodians? I don't know the answer is yes on that, so having lived it firsthand, I

think this is an invaluable opportunity to address it and make sure in the day and age that we live in that this is addressed properly and promptly."

Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky was a Chicopee Comp student that day and described the experience as both traumatizing and surreal. He thanked the law enforcement personnel who responded that day, calling them "top tier," and asked why all these years later, little progress has been made.

"The fact that it's now been seven years, and nobody thought it was a good idea to have this type of training... I'm astonished by it. Truthfully, I'm actually in disbelief," Shumsky said. "So, I wholeheartedly support this and support expanding it to every person who works in the schools, whether it be a custodian, whether it be a student teacher, whether it be anything. I mean, this shouldn't even be optional."

Ward 9 Councilor Marybeth Costello's daughter was in the school that day as well. Costello recalled what was a "very trying day" and said that the school staff and police officers did a great job with their collective response.

However, she agreed that more must be done to protect the city's students if such an emergency were ever to actually occur.

"This is something that should have been done a long time ago," Costello said.

City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme noted that the School Department has its own group for public safety matters and asked that those officials be invited to the meeting.

The item passed unanimously.

CPL programs for Kids and Families

Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for Kids and Families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children, teens, and families. The Youth Services Department seeks to provide opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for November 2025.

Sensory Play Saturday will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1. Come let your babies socialize and explore sensory play! We will have our play area set up with some sensory activities and other play opportunities. For babies 0-24 months and their caregivers.

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

Visit us on Nov. 4 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and do your part to keep the Honmoon golden at our K-Pop Demon Hunters Party! We'll have K-Pop themed crafts, fun activities based on the hit film, and of course some sing-alongs to Huntrix's chart topping songs!

Little Kid Dance Party will be on Wednesdays, Nov. 5 and 19 at 10:30 a.m. Moving and grooving for kids and their caregivers. Geared toward ages 0-5, but all are welcome!

45 minutes to one hour of energetic activity including singing and dancing, action rhymes, and playing with props like scarves and shakers.

Build with LEGO on Thursday, Nov. 6 at 4 p.m. Unstructured building time for kids ages 6 and up.

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Fridays Nov. 7 and 21 at 11 a.m. Babies crawling to 24 months and their caregivers are invited to join us for free play followed by circle time exploring songs, fingerplays and movement!

Create Art with Crayons on Saturday, November 8 at 1:30 p.m. Join Marie Manley Tucker for a monthly drawing lesson this fall. Each month will have a different theme. November's theme is Silly Foods! Recommended for ages 5-12.

The Kids Room Sewing Club will have its first meeting on Wednesday Nov. 12 at 3:30 to 5 p.m. The library plans to host monthly sewing meetups to learn basic stitches and practice skills by making fun projects. This month we will make autumn themed felt magnets. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Kids who are not familiar with using a needle and thread should attend with an adult. Teens are welcome.

Storytime will be held on Thursday, Nov. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Storytime is for children ages 3 to 5. This program features about 30 minutes of structured circle time, followed by 15-30 minutes of a craft or activity. Circle time will include two to three read aloud books, rhymes, songs, and felt boards. Children will be encouraged to ask and answer simple questions and recognize things like shapes, colors, letters, and numbers.

The library Homeschool Meetup will be on Thursday, Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. This group meets once a month September - June for homeschooling families with kids of all ages to hang out, do activities and learn together. Different activities each month are planned by

the group.

Terrific Twos will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 10:30 a.m. Terrific Twos is for two-year-olds and their caregivers. This program features about 25 minutes of structured circle time, followed by about half an hour of semi-structured playtime. During circle time, we will sing songs, do rhymes, do some big movements, and read one book. The book choice rotates between either a read aloud picture book or a group read of a board book. Playtime involves a choice of craft, activity, or play.

The Children's Room is a great place to hang out. Coloring pages and board games are always available. There are also some new things you can play with while you visit. Ask us about food toys for the play kitchen, building blocks, or the art cart.

Teens!

Visit the library after school and enjoy the Teen Space with friends! We've got board games, puzzles, the library's Switch, and coloring to enjoy.

Anime Club is coming back in November! Be sure to stop by Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 3 p.m. for the first meeting of the school year. We'll be discussing all things anime and manga, enjoying some chill crafts, and talking about what cool activities everyone wants to see at future meetings!

Stop by the Teen Space after school (2:30 to 4 p.m.) Nov. 7 and 21 for Board Game Fridays! We'll be teaching everyone how to play some of our more unique board games that we have at the library. Will you steal treasure from a sinking island? Lie your way to victory? Sell a caveman a new invention? Who knows!

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ENDORSEMENTS

Joan Tillotson:

"I have known Sandra Peret for many years and enthusiastically support her as the next City Collector. I respectfully ask you to vote for Sandra on November 4."

Derek G. Dobosz:

"Please join me in voting in the November 4th Election, and voting for the most honest, trustworthy, and proven leader for Collector-Sandra Ann Peret."

Adam Lamontagne:

"I respectfully ask you to support this highly qualified, honest, and trustworthy, candidate for Chicopee City Collector."

Local 509 SEIU:

The 'Massachusetts Union for Human Service Workers and Educators' has proudly endorsed one of its members, Sandra Ann Peret, for Chicopee City Collector.

From The Heart of Chicopee -FOR-

The Good of Chicopee

As a 3rd Generation Chicopee resident I am deeply committed to Chicopee's future having served our community as a volunteer, School Committee Representative, and having raised my family here.



LEADERSHIP/ PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- The **ONLY** candidate with **Executive Leadership** experience
- The **ONLY** candidate to **lead** a staff of 20 professionals
- The **ONLY** candidate to **Design and Implement Operating and Internal Control** procedures.
- The **ONLY** candidate with experience complying with complicated **state and federal regulations**
- The **ONLY** candidate to **Defend and Succeed with Legal Proceedings**

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE

- I have **NO** outside political consultants
- I have **NOT** sought corporate or political **Endorsements or Contributions**
- I am **NOT** associated with any businesses; therefore, I have **NO Conflict of Interests**
- I am campaigning **Door-to-Door** asking Chicopee residents for **Their Endorsement!**

I ask for your Vote on November 4th. Sandra Ann Peret, Thank you!

PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT SANDRA ANN PERET

IN THE CITY

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

More review; what worked what didn't

Last week I wrote about two new winter squash varieties I grew in this past summer's garden, as well as a Barbie doll sized melon.

According to Mom, it made for a good read. Let's keep the momentum going with more "new to me" varieties in this column.

As dedicated readers may remember, this past summer's garden was to accomplish the goal of growing more food, food that would cut down on the grocery bill and feed the family through the winter. I took my chances growing a hybrid paste tomato by the name of Plum Regal. Its accolades were many: late blight resistance, moderate resistance to early blight, a promise of a good yield and a tasty outcome.

I typically only grow heirlooms, so this tomato really had to prove itself. My only dilemma was that I sometimes have issues with blossom end rot, and specifically on paste types.

I tried a new fertilizer formulated specifically for members of the Solanacea family, aptly named "Tomato Sauce." You know what? It worked.

No blossom end rot and a freezer full of sauce, tomato chunks and roasted tomato blends. I will be ordering both the seeds and the fertilizer from Fedco (fedcoseeds.com) in anticipation of next year's garden.

With every success comes not quite a success. I'll call Muskmelon "Melonade" one of those adventures. I was intrigued by the description in the Fedco catalog, "firm orange flesh is tart, punchy and refreshing," and had hoped it would keep our family in melons for a month or so. Not exactly.

I couldn't get over the fact that what looked like a cantaloupe tasted like a lemon! No one in the house liked it. I'm not going to call it a failure, because if anything, I learned that I could grow a muskmelon successfully.

I worried I would harvest them too early, or too late, but I harvested them just right, and they grew exceeding well on black plastic down the middle of my heat retaining rock wall raised beds. Next year I will search for a variety with a more typical flavor and it could just be a win-win.

I have always wanted to grow Indian corn as a fall decoration, but was leery of the space needed for such an endeavor. The experts talk about growing corn four rows deep for proper pollination and kernel formation.

I threw caution to the wind and decided I'd grow a popcorn. I enjoyed the commentary in the Fedco catalog in the description of a variety named "Calico." "you can hang it on your door in fall and pop the very same batch come Thanksgiving." Sold.

I grew only eight plants, set out in a four by two pattern. Shucking the corn felt a lot like Christmas morning with the surprise factor involved. Will the kernels be gold, blue, mottled or bronze?

I ended up with enough to decorate with and come Thanksgiving I will indeed try and pop some. I've had some experience popping eared corn before.

At our family vacation my sister in law tried it out. She put the dried ear she had purchased in a paper bag and folded it shut, placed it in a microwave on high for about 3-4 minutes and yum!

What else worked out well in my garden this year? The succession planting of green beans seeded immediately after my garlic was harvested worked out superbly. No additional fertilizer required.

I was able to freeze a lot of beans from that second sowing. I guess I always wish there are more to freeze, so maybe next year the row will be longer.

I didn't utilize the wide row method this year. Two parallel rows with a walking row down the middle made the harvest easy.

I hope you had your share of successes this past summer, and if you are anything like me, you are already scheming next year's veggie garden.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to poumette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

The trials of the Appalachian Trail



By Julie Midura
BEES! RUUUUN!!

It was midafternoon on the fourth day of our backpacking trip through New York State on the Appalachian Trail. A 93-mile hike from the New Jersey border to the Connecticut border in early October.

The first three days had confirmed what others had warned us—the trail through New York would not be easy. Especially this year, when most of the "reliable" streams were bone dry due to the drought. Many days, we were forced to detour off the trail and hike into towns to procure water. With temps in the 80's, dehydration was an ever-present worry. In addition, the added weight of up to 6.6 pounds of water on our backs made the technical scrambles up steep rock ledges even MORE precarious.

On day 4, we were hustling, intent on hiking as many miles as possible so that we could reach a reliable water source—a water spigot at a pump house—before pitching our tent for the night. We were 12 miles into our day when the unimaginable happened.

Tom was about 75 feet ahead of me, when he suddenly paused and turned back to make sure that I was still behind him. When he saw me a short distance away, he continued on.

Fifteen seconds later, I reached the spot where he had momentarily stopped, and I felt a red-hot sensation on my right arm, followed by another on my left arm. Before I even looked down, I knew that I had just been stung by Yellow Jackets... the most despicable spawn of satan that has ever inhabited this planet.

Tom must have unknowingly stepped on a ground nest, and they were coming out for vengeance as I walked past.

I screamed in agony as a swarm of them descended upon me—stinging my ankles, thighs, and arms. It felt as though someone was shooting red-hot flaming arrows directly into my skin.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A sound that was unrecognizable even to my own ears came out from somewhere deep inside of me. A guttural sound. Like a deep moan intermingled with a high-pitched wail. It bordered on primal. Tom turned at the sound—later telling me that he thought the sound was coming from a wounded animal.

I screamed to Tom to "RUUUUN!" at a decibel that could be heard from miles away, since Tom is deathly allergic to Yellow Jacket venom. With adrenaline coursing through my body, I raced along the rock-strewn path like an Olympic medalist, waving my arms to ward off the monsters that were attacking me.

When it seemed as though I was no longer being chased, I finally stopped and bent down to swipe off a dozen Yellow Jackets that were still clinging to my merino wool socks. The pain in my ankles was excruciating, and I began screaming and crying all at once.

I unclipped my pack and dropped it to the ground so that I could pull out my first aid kit. Within seconds, more yellow jackets were upon me. "They smell the pheromones!" Tom yelled. With no thought of his own safety, he flailed his arms to ward them off and screamed, "RUN Julie!"

Leaving my pack behind, I ran like the speed of light until the wasps finally gave up their chase.

A few minutes later, Tom came barreling up the trail with my enormous backpack in hand. His concerned face was filled with desperation when he saw me. I had been stung over 2 dozen times. Tears were rolling down my face. My arms and thighs were already swelling from

the venom, and my ankles were so swollen, they were unrecognizable.

Tom insisted I use his EpiPen, since I had a severe reaction to Yellow Jacket venom in the past. I refused. "We still have 4 more days out here. If YOU get stung, it's life or death. If my throat starts to close, you can inject me. If not, we're saving the EpiPen in case you get stung."

Fortunately, we were only a mile and a half from the water spigot at the next road crossing. Once we got there, I took off my shoes and socks and ran cold water on the stings in a vain attempt to reduce the pain and swelling. I even went so far as to text my kids to ask them to google whether or not urine could reduce the pain and swelling of Yellow Jackets venom. (Desperate times call for desperate measures!) Alas, they responded that it was just a fallacy. Tylenol was my only option.

Needless to say, I spent a pretty sleepless night in our tent that night due to the pain. The intense itching would begin the following morning. Oh, the joys!

Our 7-day hike through New York State was definitely the single most challenging backpacking trip we have ever taken. But each trial made us even more grateful for the blessings we encountered along the way. The sunrises and sunsets. The conversations with fellow hikers around a campfire. The enormous trees. The rare flowing stream. Even the bear encounter while we were brushing our teeth at a primitive tent-site on our second night on trail seemed like a gift.

But that's a story for another day. Let the adventures continue!

Chicopee Register TEAM



EDITOR
Kristin Rivers
krivers@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

The Chicopee Register is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



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www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

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www.turley.com

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Send letters to:
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The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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

Election letters to the editor

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

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

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

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



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IN THE CITY



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Willimansett C3 Unit, Boys & Girls Club host Halloween Party

CHICOPEE - The Willimansett C3 Unit partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee and the Senator Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative to throw a fun-filled Halloween Party for the teens!

They ate pizza, snacks and candy. We played games, listened to spooky tunes, danced and handed out prizes for the top 3 costumes.

It was great to see everyone's creativity and Halloween spirit on full display

— thank you to all the neighborhood teens who came out and made it such a great night! Special shout out to the wonderful staff at the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee. Without your help, we couldn't have done this.



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The Polish Center announces five Polish Heritage Award winners

CHICOPEE - The Polish Center of Discovery + Learning, located in Chicopee, proudly announces the 2025 Polish Heritage Award winners.

They include: Carolyn Czaja Topor, Sheryl Mardusz, Wieslaw Olszak, John Skibiski, and Fred Zimnock. The Award honors the individual(s) who have promot-

ed their Polish heritage and culture. Past winners of the Polish Heritage Award in the prior 18 years of the Krakus Festival include: Happy Louie and Julcia, Joe Topor, Chicopee Provision and the Polish National Credit Union.

This year's honorees will be presented their award at the Krakus Festival. The

nineteenth Krakus Festival will take place at the Wyckoff Country Club on Sunday, Nov. 2.

The event will feature live Polish music sing-along, Polish cuisine, and the presentation of the Awards. To purchase tickets, contact Joanne Gruszkos at 413.537.1732.

Sand for Seniors Drive-Up Event

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host a Sand for Seniors Drive-Up event on Monday, November 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center located at 5 West Main St.

The Hampden County Sheriff's Department will be at RiverMills Center for a drive-up "Sand for Seniors" event for those who need a bucket of sand for the winter months. This is a sand/salt mixture. This event will be located in

the lower level parking lot. Buckets will be provided and will be loaded into your vehicle. You must be able to unload the bucket on your own at home. You must register in advance by calling 534-3698 or by stopping by RiverMills Center.

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SPOOKTACULAR
from page 1

express myself and helping others express themselves through dance," Blanch said. "It really showcases that anybody, no matter what their age, can dance."

Her favorite costume was Sonic and she looks forward to spending Halloween with friends watching "Halloweentown."

Chris Parker, the 115th potentate for Melha Shriners, was excited to see the children enjoy rides on the little cars and get candy.

"Nothing like seeing the smile on kids' faces," Parker said.

Parker said the event also provides an opportunity to connect as their headquarters moved to the former Collegian Court in the summer of 2022.

"It's always good to see families, especially at a great event like this. It's a safe environment for the families, safe part in and seeing how we just moved into the community of Chicopee, we want to be a part of it," Parker said. "We moved in a couple years ago and we just want to do stuff in our community."

Parker grew up with the Shriners, with his father having been part of the organization. He himself got involved in 1989 and then officially joined in 2011.

"The parades are fun, doing the outreach is fun, but nothing is like our philanthropy helping children from around the world," Parker said.

Parker loved seeing all the costumes, but one stands out.

"The best costume is the smiling children that are coming through," Parker said.

Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga, dressed up as a Hufflepuff student from the Harry Potter series, joined her colleagues and daughter handing out candy to the kids.

Arriaga shared, "This is an amazing thing that the city does every year."

"I've been taking my kids since they were little. I've seen how much it's grown over the years and I'm just actually happy to be a part of it and I love being able to just see every kid have fun. get their costumes and just have a safe, fun Halloween together as a com-



A baby dinosaur and its mom dressed up as Jessie from "Toy Story" were among the many families in attendance.



Families went all out for SPOOKtacular, including this duo dressed as Carl Fredericksen and the house from the Pixar film, "Up."



A family adorned with unique costumes to celebrate SPOOKtacular. TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

munity," Arriaga said.

Her favorite costume is seeing the babies in costume, whether little dinosaurs or Minnie Mouses.

Arriaga added, as a city councilor, it's important to be involved in the community and take part in events like this.

"I think it really shows just the resilience that we have as a city that we're still doing something and it's gotten so big over the years. It hasn't disappeared over time, it just keeps growing and growing and growing," Arriaga said. "The mayor's office does a really good job and again, like I said, just to see the businesses that come out every single year, the new businesses that are here, I think it's really good for them to see the community in which they are thriving in also so, again, they can just connect and have conversations and they can also learn what their community needs too, which I think is a really amazing thing."

Mayor John Vieau praised everyone who lent their support to make the event happen, later adding he was amazed by the many costumes, especially the unique ones.

"I see nothing but smiles and I'll tell you, the dentists are going to be happy in Chicopee because a lot of candy's been passed out today," Vieau said. "I would say that there's thousands of people here and it's just incredible to see and I just couldn't be more proud of



There were also DC Comics villains spotted amongst the costumed characters, with Poison Ivy, the Joker and Harley Quinn on hand with candy and mischief.

the team. My team's very special and they take a lot of pride in these events and it's really about the community, and I'll share that the stakeholders who are vested here, they're either tabling or they've donated and they've made this event that much more special."

Vieau said every table at SPOOKtacular "creates an opportunity" in the haunted buses to Melha Shriners and ChicopeeFRESH handing out free meals.

"It's just an incredible night for everybody and I'm

just so happy and proud of. It's what Chicopee does best. There's a lot of Chicopee pride here and I'm happy to be here and to be a part of it," Vieau said.

He added planning for next year begins very soon.

"That's the goal. We'll start tomorrow," Vieau said. "They're probably going to regroup after tonight and try to find out ways we can do things a little better, but all in all, I couldn't be more proud of the team that put this together. It's a great night in Chicopee, it



There was a DoodleBob—the drawing SpongeBob SquarePants brought to life with a pencil—sighting at the WestComm Regional Dispatch table.

really is."

His message was this.

"Please celebrate the Halloween season safely. Tonight, we kick it off and we did a tremendous job of that and don't lose your Chicopee pride. It's a beautiful night in Chicopee and that's what it's about. That wonderful sense of community. We all love this city and it's evident by the turnout," Vieau said. "Just so proud that we're able to put an event together that is absolutely free, so everyone gets to participate in every aspect of the evening.

No one gets left out, there's no food trucks selling you stuff—no one's allowed to sell anything, so everything's free—and I think people kind of enjoy the fact that you walk up to a table and no has to dig in their wallet. With a tough economy that we're all facing, inflation, a night out like tonight is something special, so I'm just so proud of my team because they worked so hard that tonight was successful and it's evident by the smiles on people's faces. It's another successful SPOOKtacular!"

THRILLER 5K
from page 1

portunities. At this moment, the center currently serves close to 50 teens daily, offering a variety of programs and activities to engage and support local youth.

The registration for the race kicked off at 9:30 a.m., from the grounds of the Grise Funeral Home right across the street from Elms College, and runners then lined up at 11 a.m. and upon completion, those who participated all met up afterwards at The Rumbleseat Bar & Grille, which hosted an after-party.

The event was sponsored and presented by Holyoke Medical Center and N. Riley Construction with other sponsorship support from Republic Services, Valley Opportunity Council, The Polish National Credit Union, Health New England, The Republican, Beauty



Attendees were excited to come out and support the Haven Teen Center at the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee. TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Battles Lounge, Ivy's Events, Florence Bank, Grise Funeral Home, IQ Ink, Cote Entertainment & Lighting, Rumbleseat Bar & Grille, Alianza,

CubeSmart Holyoke, Westfield Bank, Revitalize Chiropractic & Sports Rehab, Beaulieu Home Improvement and Laura Donn Coaching.

Jason Reed, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, also had some fun by sporting the look of Professor Doc Brown from "Back to

the Future."

"This is a great event, we have been doing this for years, and to see so many people from so many different parts of our community come out and support not only the Chamber, but the Boys & Girls Club is really great to see," Reed said. "I think the more positive events we can do like this to bring people together, just exemplifies what the meaning of community is all about, and if given the chance to do more special events like this, the better we will be off."

In addition to Reed's position within the Boys & Girls Club, he is also the current chair of the Chamber, which he then reflected on the memory of when he found out the new teen center would be chosen as the charity in focus for this year, one he felt was truly a humbling experience to take in.

Also in attendance was Ashley Battle, Owner of Beauty Battles Lounge and chairperson of the Thriller 5K, who took a moment to reflect on how the event has evolved since its inception.

"I'm extremely proud, and I have been a part of this since the beginning, and I just absolutely love the fact that we get to support a different organization each year, while still leaving the door open to allow the previous organization from the year before to join us and participate, all while helping us cultivate the event and allow it to grow to a bigger and better event next year," Battle said.

With the funds raised from the Thriller 5K, the Haven Teen Center will continue to offer valuable resources and support to Chicopee's teens, fostering a positive environment for growth and development.


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Jessica L. Avery

CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE | VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 4TH

Avery Takes Action:

- ✓ Amplified the voices of veterans, their families, and Soldiers' Home staff by facilitating Western Mass hearings and capturing direct stories.
- ✓ Advocated for the expansion of early, in-person municipal voting to promote voter turnout.
- ✓ Supported Chicopee families with accessing Veterans' benefits during the COVID-19 crisis.
- ✓ Volunteered as a scholarship reader for the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.



"I grew up in Chicopee, and believe in solutions for and by the people.

On the City Council, I will *reduce red tape* for primary residence additions, *protect our energy and natural resources*, and champion cooperative purchasing to *lower costs*."

Avery4Chicopee.com Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jessica Avery



A group shot of members of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce and the organizers for the Thriller 5K.

SPORTS

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Pacers battles to draw with Ludlow

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—It has been more than ten years since the Chicopee boys' soccer team celebrated a victory against Ludlow.

The Pacers held a 2-0 halftime lead in the first meeting on the soccer pitch between the two squads since 2020. The Lions, who celebrated their senior day, battled back during the second half and the non-league match, which took place at the Ludlow Sports Complex on October 20, ended in a 3-3 draw.

"We held a 2-0 halftime lead and if we could've scored another goal at the second half, we could've put the game away," said Chicopee head coach Hugo Destapado. "Ludlow was able to score a goal which gave them a little bit of life. It was their senior day, and I knew that they weren't going to give up."

The two teams used to be members of the same league.

The last time that the Pacers defeated the Lions



Dominic Garcia heads up the middle of the field.

was a 1-0 shutout in the second meeting of the 2013 regular season. The Lions then won the next nine meetings.

While the Pacers (12-1-3) had already clinched a berth in this year's Division 3 state tournament the Lions (4-7-6) kept their dreams of qualifying for the Division 1 state tournament alive for a couple more days.



Peter Morozov sends a pass away.

"We're mathematically still alive," said Ludlow head coach Greg Kolodziey. "We stepped up the energy during the second half against a very good Chicopee team. We came very close to winning the game."

The Lions, who were ranked 35th, most likely won't be one of the teams competing in the Division 1

state tournament following a 2-1 loss at Minnechaug Regional in the Western Mass. Class A quarterfinals, last Thursday.

The seniors listed on Lions varsity roster are Gabriel DiRosa, Sam Pontes, Luke Slatton, Ethan Love, Ethan Steigmeyer, Michael Mariani, Spencer Huntley, Owen Goncalves, and Ayden Gon-



Yousif Hamid goes after the loose ball.

calves.

"It's a very good senior class," Kolodziey said. "This was their day and all of them played very well."

The Pacers took a 1-0 lead during the eighth minute of the opening half when junior Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi fired a shot into the right corner of the net past junior goalie Nick Dion (9 saves)



Bryce Roberson tries to beat an opponent to the ball.

During the 57th minute, Ludlow sliced their deficit in half when Dias scored a goal. Love was credited with the assist.

The tying goal was scored by Mariani, who boot-

ed a line drive shot into the

See PACERS page 8



Tariq March avoids a tackle while on the run.

Chicopee football wins four game



Joshua Cintron gets a big tackle.



Jadriel Aviles tries to take down his opponent.



Brandon Thomas makes a block on the offensive line.



Anthony Cabrera-Cavette makes the tackle for the Colts.

Colts outlast Brownies

HICOPEE – Last Friday night was a battle of conference unbeaten as Agawam faced off with Chicopee Comprehensive. Both teams had no shortage of offense, but it was the Colts that had more in a 46-32 win. Agawam fell to 4-3 on the season, though their other two losses were in independent games. Agawam lost its first Suburban South conference game. Comp is having a phenomenal season and is a perfect 7-0. This Agawam will host Wahconah on Friday, Oct. 31 while Comp faced Amherst on the road on Thursday, Oct. 30.



Christopher Chagnon takes the quarterback keeper on a run.



Francis Jordan dives for a quarterback sack.



Jake Galas combines with two other teammates to make a tackle.



Victor Ferrer pounces on the fumble.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

SPORTS

T-Birds fall at home to Wolf Pack

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-5-0-0) could not hold off a hungry Hartford Wolf Pack (2-4-0-0) squad in a 6-3 defeat on Saturday at the Mass-Mutual Center in the second battle of the Braman Pest Control I-91 Rivalry Series.

From the onset of the game, the Wolf Pack, a night after getting shut out on home ice, peppered pucks on Georgi Romanov, with the T-Birds goalie standing tall to stop the first 13 tries that came his way.

The netminder's strong opening minutes allowed Springfield to get to the lead at 13:36 when Corey Schueneman squeezed a wrist through traffic and past Dylan

Garand to make it a 1-0 game.

A Wolf Pack power play quickly tipped the game on its head, though, as Brett Berard cashed in Hartford's first man-up goal in 15 tries at 16:15 to tie the game, 1-1. Blake Hillman followed 2:15 later with a back-post tap-in after a beautiful move by Bryce McConnell-Barker set up the chance. Hartford carried the 2-1 lead into the intermission after outshooting Springfield 17-4 in the opening period.

Unfortunately for Romanov and the T-Birds, things did not improve as the second period began, as Brendan Brisson crashed the net front and cashed in his own rebound at the 44-second mark of the period to extend the lead to 3-1.

Carey Terrance's second goal in two games against Springfield made it 4-1 at 2:09, and Gabe Perreault deflected a Justin Dowling shot home at 2:26, and in the blink of an eye, the Hartford lead grew to 5-1.

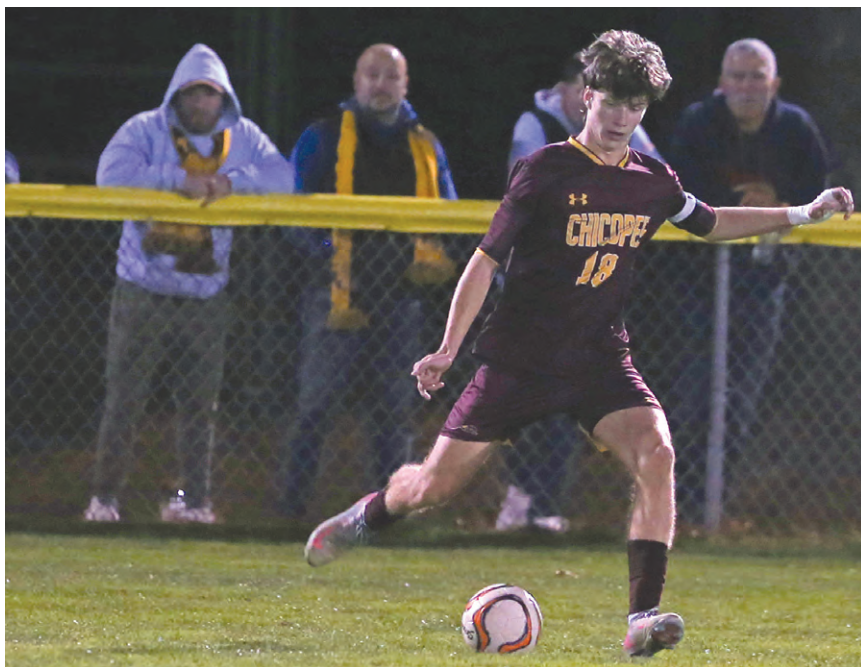
After a goaltending switch and a timeout, Springfield replied with Leo Loof potting his first career AHL goal at 3:39 to make it 5-2. Dalibor Dvorsky and Juraj Pekarcik each assisted on Loof's goal, their second assists of the night.

The T-Birds could not pull any closer, though, as McConnell-Barker found the net after a fortuitous bounce on an odd-man rush ended up on his tape at point-blank

range. His second goal in two games against Springfield pushed the score to 6-2, but would prove to be the only goal Hartford put behind Vadim Zherenko on 13 shots.

Dvorsky added his third point of the night with his second power play goal in as many nights at 14:55 of the third to make it 6-3, rounding out the game's scoring. Despite only stopping 12 shots on the night, Garand picked up his second win over the T-Birds in four nights.

The T-Birds continue their three-game homestand next Friday with a Halloween night matchup against the Hershey Bears. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. inside the Thunderdome.



Brandon Langevin clears the ball up the field

PACERS from page 7

lower left corner two minutes later. The assist was given to Dias.

The match remained tied for four minutes before Wrisley gave his team the lead back with scoring his second goal.

With five minutes remaining in regulation, a goal from Ludlow soph-

omore Anthony Schuko following a corner kick tied the score for the second time and that's how the contest ended.

The Pacers didn't have very much trouble defeating Wahconah Regional, 6-1, in the Western Mass. Class B quarterfinals. They were scheduled to host the Belchertown Orioles in the semifinals on Monday night.



Tiago Destapado gets the header.

IN THE CITY

Halloween fun with CPD and Stefanik Elementary School



PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHICOPEE - C3 Willimansett was out handing out candy on Oct. 22 at the Stefanik Trunk or Treat.



Chicopee Historical Society presenting talk on Fisk

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Historical Society will present a talk on the Fisk, one of Chicopee's most renowned manufacturers.

From the early days with Noyes Fisk taking over the property of the Spaulding & Pepper Co., makers of rubber tires, the Fisk Rubber Company was a major employer until it became United States Rubber in 1940, and later on, Uniroyal. Despite the company changes, it would always be familiarly known as "The Fisk." Society board mem-

ber Joe Pasternak, assisted by president Chet Kobierski, will present the company's history through many photos of the interior of the administration building, factory production, and company employee and family activities, including sports teams that were sponsored by the Fisk.

The event is free and open to the public, 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 in the Bazan Community Room of the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, Mass.

Dream Designers program

CHICOPEE - Join us for exciting and interactive STEM activities designed to ignite curiosity, creativity and critical thinking in children 2.9 to five years old and their families.

Explore, experiment and discover the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through hands-on experiences!

Location: E.N. White Elementary School
Time: 1 Jefferson St., Holyoke 4 to 5 p.m.

Dates: Wednesdays, Oct. 1 through Nov. 5

Children must attend with an adult.

The programs are offered by the Holyoke Chicopee Family and Community Program.

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


To register, contact Shane at 413-310-1632.

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VOTE November 4th

RE-ELECT Shane D. Brooks CITY COUNCIL WARD 2



As I have knocked on doors and talked with the residents of Ward 2, we've had an open and honest dialogue about the challenges that we face here in Ward 2. Here's where I stand on issues that are important to you:

- I vehemently oppose the detrimental impact of locating Barry School behind the Szetela Early Childhood Center. The negative consequences of this project will destroy the integrity of our neighborhood, I will continue to fight this project
- I am committed to Public Safety and real Code Enforcement in our city
- I will continue to address issues associated with Homelessness and Addiction downtown

As a city leader I will confront these challenges head on as we continue our efforts to make Chicopee a desirable and affordable place to live. We must continue to provide a quality education for our children, affordable services for our residents and an attractive option for new business development.

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT SHANE BROOKS

Health and Outreach Fair at RiverMills Center Nov. 11

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will have a Health and Outreach Fair on Monday, Nov. 10 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Join RiverMills Center for the Annual Health and Outreach Fair. There will be an array of info tables with

various community agencies, blood pressure screenings, food samples, and of course, goodies!

This is a great event to take advantage of to see all the wonderful agencies that are in the community that support the older adult population. Registration is not required.

Community Newspaper **ADVERTISING Works!**

IN THE CITY



A group shot of attendees and local elected officials celebrating their Polish pride during the Polish Heritage Month Flag Unveiling on Oct. 20.

Polish Miss Massachusetts 2026 Dominika Jasinska unveils the Polish flag.

POLISH FLAG from page 1

mir Pulaski. Polish Miss Massachusetts 2026 Dominika Jasinska said, "It was truly an honor" to be at the ceremony representing Polish culture and her place of work, the Polish National Credit Union. Jasinska also recently visited Poland. "It's really nice to do these kinds of things, these kinds of events, in order to keep ourselves close to our beautiful Polish culture and we go back to Poland to see

our family, there are things that still keep us connected to them and to our beautiful Polish culture," Jasinska said. "So, I'm very grateful that this city does things like this and events like this to celebrate our beautiful heritage and other places like the Polish National Credit Union also support places like this, so that it's possible to celebrate the beautiful Polish culture that we have and it's so important that we all hold so dear to our hearts." Vieau reflected on his own Polish heritage and also noted the contributions of

the Polish community from the kielbasa to the mural of a puppy curated by renowned Polish artist Bezt in Summer 2023. "I really am so fortunate and blessed to have learned so much about my Polish heritage and what it means to be Polish and I think that's something that's spread to every single kid I see to, whether it'd be someone in Pre-K all the way to seniors in high school, and that's to be proud. Be proud of where you come from, your heritage. Keep that active in your life and don't ever let anyone ever take that

from you," Vieau said. "I think it's so important that we're so proud of where we come from and never forget those roots, because those roots are very important." State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) shared that he has chaired the Polish American Caucus, and 20 members of the state legislature have Polish heritage, many of whom come from the Western Massachusetts area and the eastern part of the state. Oliveira said that in the state, a multitude of cultures are celebrated and the city has "a proud and long-standing

history with the Polish-American community." "But as the city of Chicopee recognizes Polish heritage, we also get a lot of questions. Why October? Why do we celebrate Polish-American Heritage in October? And it's because over 400 years ago, in 1608, the first Polish settlers settled in the United States in what is now Jamestown, Virginia and they settled here as a small group of individuals that came, but it also celebrates those that helped our history in the United States," Oliveira said. He then noted Pulaski

and other Polish-American individuals that fought alongside the Americans for their independence and freedom. "This is tied to our history and as we celebrate 250 years of independence, let us never forget the contribution that Poland made for our long, hard-fought, won-for independence," Oliveira said. Vieau then presented the mayor's proclamation to members of the St. Stanislaus Basilica Choir, followed by Jasinska unveiling the flag and performances of the Polish National Anthem, "God Bless America" and "Stolat."

POLISH BAZAAR from page 1

here take advantage of some of the children's activities and games. It's just a great way to connect with the neighborhood too, with the city." Milunski said the community event also brings in community outside of the parish, inviting neighbors and new and old friends to partake in the festivities.

Also, seeing the families and children passes on the tradition to the next generations.

"I think the size of Chicopee is such—being a smaller town but not so small—it's nice to have things where people come together and they know everybody or they can at least see people they haven't seen in a while, but they can keep that connection going," Milunski said. "I do see a lot of new faces, I see, of course, our regular parishioners and school families, but I also see a lot of new faces of people that just wander in. Maybe they'll keep coming back or come to the Basilica too."

Two of the Event Co-Chairs, Julie L'Heureux and Kim Macikszek, credited Milunski with keeping the event going along with their fellow event planners.

"We wanted to bring back what was our tradition, which is combined the generations together, so we wanted to make sure we brought in the children in the schools, the teens, and you'll see more teens and children here now and with the older population," L'Heureux said. "We found out if we match the commitment on the teens, then it works really well as far as that goes."

"When my kids were here, they were in their 20s and it was nothing but students. This was the place to be and then suddenly with COVID, that's not as true. So,



The men behind the cooking of the full Polish plates and Polish food during the event.

that's how we came up with the Carnival theme and we do the popcorn, snow cones, cotton candy to bring the kids back in school and let them know what's here," Macikszek said. "It's good as a community because even with COVID, it was so different for so long and now we're back together, we're having fun, we're listening to music, the kids are here, all the generations and everything we raise—every single booth here—everything goes to the church, so it's all our ways to give back."

L'Heureux and Macikszek were thrilled with the turnout—including seeing many families—and emphasized the importance of tradition and building on the roots, encouraging the community to get involved.

"When you start with the roots, you find out that the roots really have a very important history and we can do things as well as our parents and grandparents, and we just need to be able to do that," L'Heureux said.

"As a parish, we welcome anyone to come to the church, we welcome anyone to come

to the Bazaar, we welcome anyone who has suggestions, who wants to help us. We have a committee that we start now, we're planning ahead. If anyone has ideas, please let us know. We welcome you to come on any one of our committees," Macikszek said. "We're here for you, we'll find something that you're interested in and we'll do our best to help you."

L'Heureux also stressed the spirituality, noting people who aren't Catholic are also lending their support.

"The importance is that we're supposed to be out there (as) a testimony to Jesus. Even doing this as (a) volunteer is a testimony to Jesus," L'Heureux said. "I feel like I'm honestly putting into practice my beliefs in what Jesus' mission is meant to be. You're supposed to put in faith, what you believe in and this is my way of doing it."

Macikszek encouraged the community to attend the event.

"Once again, it's a community event for all of Chicopee. We want to be welcoming to everybody and have

them come, have a good time and enjoy some food and let them know if they need us, we're here as a community,"



Julie L'Heureux, one of the event co-chairs for the Parish Bazaar, poses for a family photo with her grandson and daughter.

Macikszek said. Milunski thanked everyone for coming out to support the event. "We're really grateful for all the people who come to

support and help keep it up as a strong tradition," Milunski said. "Looking forward to the 50th next year!"

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#10 One Large 1 Topping Pizza, 20 Wings & FREE 2 Liter Soda \$40.99 +Tax	#14 One Medium 1 Topping Pizza, 10 Wings & FREE 2 Liter Soda \$30.99 +Tax

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A group shot of the Student Council and Youth Ministry Members at St. Stanislaus School who gave out treats to attendees.

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.
HD25P2201PM
In the matter of:
David Diaz
Of: **Chicopee, MA**
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/
Minor)

**CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
CONSERVATOR OR OTHER
PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Jennifer Diaz** of Chicopee, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **David Diaz** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jennifer Diaz** of Chicopee, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

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 **11/12/2025**. 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 22, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate

**CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL
ZONING COMMITTEE
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM*** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-58 (C 7) for the purpose of operating a towing and storage business located at 78 West St. Applicant – Cruise Control Transportation, Inc., Joshua Roy, President, 210 Charlton Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566.

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

The November 20, 2025 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>)

[chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications](https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications).) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov 10/31, 11/07/2025

**CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL
ZONING COMMITTEE
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM*** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-50 (C) for the purpose of erecting an oversized accessory use sign and a second ground sign located at 357 Burnett Road and 0 Burnett Road (Parcel ID 0266-00012). Waivers requested – (1) Goal post sign: By right - sign is requested for 16 sf over permitted 60 sf (Ind Zoning), (2) Mid-rise sign: full relief. Applicant – Pilot Travel Centers, LLC, Jack Rymer, Project Mgr, 5508 Lonas Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909.

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

The November 20, 2025 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov 10/31, 11/07/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103**
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25P2181EA

Estate of:

Anna M Daponde
Date of Death: **05/09/2025**
**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 **John C Daponde of Feeding Hills, 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: **John C Daponde of Feeding Hills, 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 11/18/2025. 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 21, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
10/31/2025

**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 7th, 2025 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.

2011 Hyundai Tucson
VIN: KM8JUCAC8BU226118
Melania Hasiuk
95 East St. S.
Suffield, CT 06078

2003 GMC Sierra K1500
VIN: 2GTEK19V931303419
Mathias, Shelya M
15 Noyes Ave.
Providence, RI 02907

2015 Chevrolet Cruze
VIN: 1G1PA5SG9F7103896
Jose Lebron Santos
385 Wolcott St.
Waterbury, CT 06705

2000 Lexus GS 300
VIN: JT8BD68S3Y0097047
Muhammad Memon
126 Matianuck Ave.
Windsor, CT 06095

2002 Mercedes Benz S500
VIN: WDBNG75JX2A228255
Dean Holliday
416 Fairview Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06606

2010 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 2T1BU4EE8AC255172
Miguel Castaneda
PO Box 1304
Dudley, MA 01571

2007 Acura TSX
VIN: JH4CL96997C019247
Desray King
127 Dickinson St., Apt. 21
Springfield, MA 01108
10/24, 10/31, 11/07/2025

**SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES**

UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on October 31st, 2025 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.

2007 Jeep Liberty Sport
VIN: 1J4GL48K37W705041
Richard Blair
122 Bates Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 Infiniti FX35
VIN: JNRA508W75X216594
Beverly Thornicroft
8 Winter St.
Lexington, MA 02420

2007 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFA15527H506535
Nicholas Werthessen
91 Pleasant St., Apt. D9
Medfield, MA 02052

1986 Mercedes 300 SDL
VIN: WDBC25D1GA264698
Roman Kotsaba
95 County St.
Norwalk, CT 06851

2006 Acura TSX
VIN: JH4CL96806C008093
Madeline Sanjurjo
275 Main St., Apt. 21
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2016 Subaru Legacy
VIN: 4S3BNAD68G3002893
Austin Trindade
231 Pine Swamp Rd.
Cumberland, RI 02864

1998 Chevrolet S10
VIN: 1GCCS1449WK185009
Carlos Cruz Gonite
24 N East St., Apt. 1A
Holyoke, MA 01040
10/17, 10/24, 10/31/2025

**SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES**

UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by In-

terstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 14th, 2025 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.

2006 Kia Sportage
VIN: KNDJE723367269261
Ricardo Kavanagh
4 Bliss St.
Taunton, MA 02780

2001 Ford F150
VIN: 1FTRW08W01KD75083
Alethea Stevenson
1229 S Branch Pkwy
Springfield, MA 01129

2002 Ford Ranger
VIN: 1FTZR45U42TA10130
Andrew Kolton Goss
192 Manchester St U6
Concord, NH 03301

2011 Dodge Durango
VIN: 1D4SE5GT1BC614194
Denise Faraca
17 America Dr.
Peabody, MA 01960

2014 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FA6P0HDXER267155
Theodis Caldwell
40 Sylvan St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2013 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL3AP0DN571236
Annette Taylor
23 Howes St.
Springfield, MA 01118

2015 Ford Transit Connect
VIN: NM0LS7E77F1185010
Peter Simpson
185 Main St.
Northampton, MA 01060

2012 Nissan Rogue
VIN: JN8AS5MV1CW357534
Christian Owens-Cote
58 Ames Ave.
Chicopee, MA 01020
10/31, 11/07, 11/14/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103**
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25P2180EA

Estate of:

Joseph Kapinos
Date of Death: **05/17/2025**
**CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Virginia J. Doerpholz of Fitzwilliam, NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Virginia J. Doerpholz of Fitzwilliam, NH** 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 11/18/2025. 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 21, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
10/31/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103**
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25P2152EA

Estate of:

Dennis Norman Menard
Date of Death: **07/21/2025**
**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 **Jacqueline R Menard of Tolland, 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: **acqueline R Menard of Tolland, 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 12/01/2025. 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 16, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
10/31/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD25P2190EA**

Estate of:

Norman Joseph Muller
Also Known As:
Norman J. Muller

Date of Death:
August 29, 2025
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Louise D. Durand of Ludlow, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Louise D. Durand of Ludlow, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being adminis-

tered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
10/31/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103**
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD24P1850EA

Estate of:

Frederick Peter Radwanski, Jr.
Also known as:
Frederick Peter Radwanski
Date of Death: **07/05/2024**
**CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
ORDER OF COMPLETE
SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Hyman Darling of Springfield, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account 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 11/25/2025.

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 21, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
10/31/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD25P2168EA**

Estate of:

Reinaldo Rivera Lozada
Date of Death:
August 21, 2025
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Orlando Rivera Carrucini of Springfield, MA**

Orlando Rivera Carrucini of Springfield, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
10/31/2025

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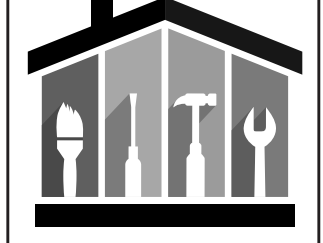
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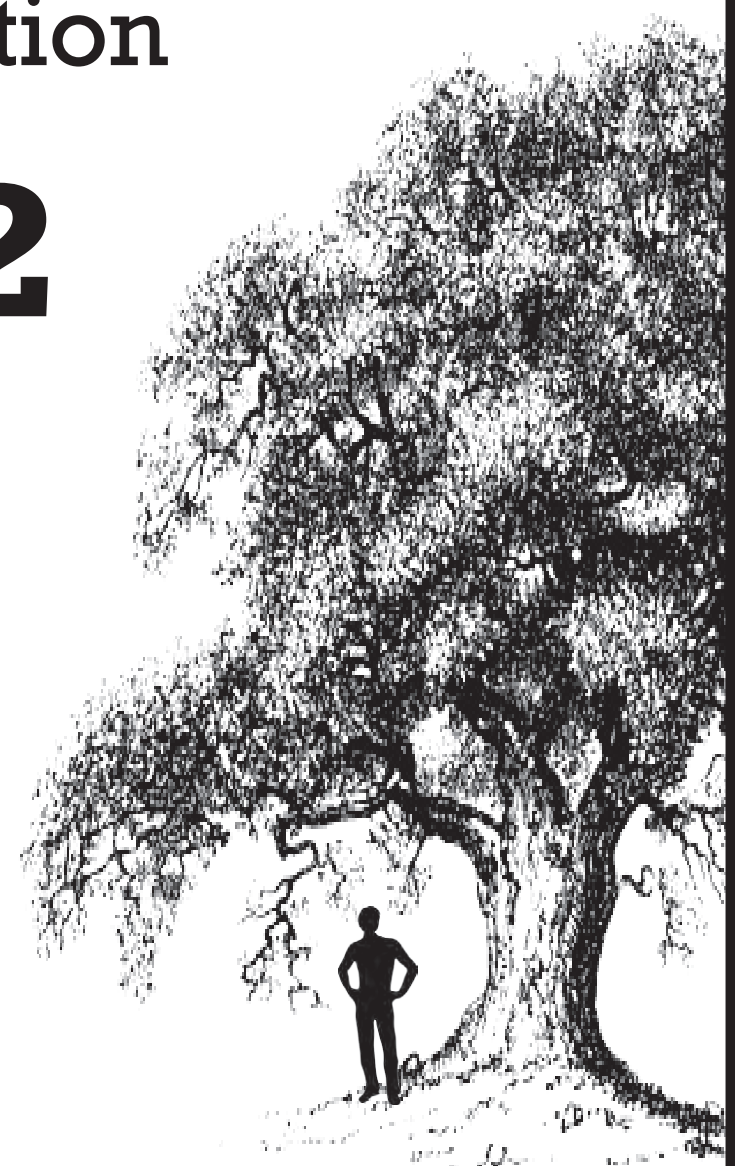
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