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Chicopee Register

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The award for 'Best Group' went to these two Costco Rotisserie Chickens.



Tyler Gagnon of Chicopee was the first to cross the finish line overall, with a time of 19:55.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Chamber's Thriller 5K supports TJO Animals

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce hosted its Sixth Annual 'Thriller 5K' to support the Foundation for TJO Animals on Oct. 31, with half of the event's proceeds going directly to the nonprofit.

"We are so thrilled to have the community's and Chamber's support, and the funds raised from this event will directly benefit our mission," Janna Brown, executive director for the Foundation for TJO Animals, said. "We're also here just to promote who we are, and what we do for the community, and how you can get involved, and maybe offer some love, and adopt one of our animals because we're currently packed to the max, and we really could use the support especially during this upcoming holiday period."

Brown said that the donations collected on site—which were placed inside a signature giant coffin—will be distributed through the nonprofit's pet food initiative, as the supplies will ultimately benefit other local organizations, including Lorraine's Soup Kitchen and The Gray House in Springfield, as well as Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke.

Chamber Executive Director Melissa Breor reflected on the importance of the annual fundraiser and why TJO was chosen.

"This is our sixth year, and we usually average from 150 to about 180 runners, but I can confirm this is the first year we've actually surpassed 200 participants, which is great," Breor said. "The growth is trending in the right direction. As for decid-

See THRILLER 5K page 5

2026 State Election results

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE – The votes were cast and races decided during this year's State Election on Nov. 3.

It should be noted that State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) ran unopposed this election cycle and secured reelection.

Readers can also read about the race between Congressman Richard Neal and Nadia Milleron in this week's edition.

For U.S. Senate, Edward Markey secured reelection after defeating John Deaton, Shiva Ayyadurai and Joe Tache. Markey received 63.28% or 1,588,175 votes, Deaton received 32.25% or 809,520 votes, Ayyadurai received 2.30% or 57,693 votes and Tache received 2.17% or 54,503 votes.

Maura Healey was re-elected as governor of Massachusetts after defeating challengers Michael Minogue and Andrea James. Healey received 62.07% or 1,561,541 votes, Minogue received 34.57% or 869,696 votes

See ELECTION RESULTS page 8

Neal defeats Milleron in rematch election race

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD – U.S. Rep. Richard Neal is officially on his way back to the House in Washington for a 20th term representing Massachusetts' 1st Congressional District, after defeating Independent Candidate Nadia Milleron in a rematch of their 2024 contest this past Tuesday.

By 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, 24% of ballots had been counted; early returns showed Neal winning 68%, or 52,037 votes; Milleron had 31%, or 24,356 votes. As of Wednesday morning, various reports stated Neal's lead jumped mightily as he garnered 149,322 votes or 65.4%, compared with Milleron's 78,944 or 34.6%—a 70,378-vote margin that sealed a landslide victory.

Earlier that night, Neal's supporters—including family, friends, and local and state elected officials—gathered inside Nathan Bill's Irish Bar & Restaurant in Springfield to await the Congressman's arrival.

Neal entered just after 9:30 p.m., exchanging pleasantries and shaking hands as



TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

U.S. Rep Richard Neal addresses his supporters upon victory.

Queen's "We Are the Champions" echoed throughout the venue, signifying victory achieved.

Minutes later, Neal's daughter, Maura Fitzpatrick, took the stage to offer an ode of gratitude to her father, allowing the congressman a moment of reflection as he embraced his grandchildren. Fitzpatrick revealed this marked Neal's 26th career election victory, tracing his political success from his beginnings on the Springfield

See ELECTION RACE page 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

A group photo at the end, where the officials all received giant thank-you cards for visiting, with a variety of designs, shapes, and sizes.

Markey visits Head Start with local, state officials

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – U.S. Sen. Ed Markey made a stop in Chicopee on Oct. 29 in honor of Head Start Awareness Month, joining Mayor John Vieau, Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga, Councilor-at-Large Jessica Avery, and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) to tour the Westover Head Start facility and observe the vital early education and support services provided to local families.

During the visit, organizational leaders highlighted the overall scope of Holyoke-Chicopee-Springfield Head Start, Inc., which operates on an annual budget of approximately $16 million, and shared that the regional non-profit agency runs 12 locations across Western Massachusetts—including two early learning centers in Chicopee: the Westover location and the Lincoln Grove Early Learning Center, which the city leases to the organization for just $1 a year—serving over 600 low-income infants, toddlers and preschool children annually.

Markey's visit came amid federal turbulence as the latest White House proposed budget cuts threaten to reduce the organization's national budget from approximately $12 billion to

See HEAD START page 8

'Unsafe working conditions' at Fairview Elementary trouble educators

Students there are allegedly brandishing weapons and assaulting staff

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Fairview Memorial Elementary School in Chicopee is earning a notorious reputation for the violence occurring within its walls, according to several educators who work there.

A group of staff members from the school on Memorial Avenue appeared before the School Committee during its Monday night meeting to give the public a better picture of the mayhem they allege is regularly unfolding.

Fifth-grade Fairview Elementary teacher Michelle Reardon has been in the classroom setting for nearly three decades but has never seen anything quite like what she's observed recently.

"We're talking about situations involving students throwing chairs and desks, throwing themselves onto the floor, screaming uncontrollably, making death threats toward other students, brandishing weapons, choking adults, kicking and physically assaulting staff. The list continues," Reardon said.

She described the behaviors of students as "increasingly dangerous" and said the incidents disrupt and subsequently hold back the other 21 students in the room.

Reardon pointed out that the "lack of meaningful intervention or accountability" following these situations is bothersome as well.

"We need to recognize that what we are currently doing is not working. We have experienced serious injuries within our school community," Reardon said. "Employees have been injured. Some have chosen to resign, and positions remain unfilled. We cannot overlook the connection between workplace safety, staff morale and our ability to retain qualified educators."

Reardon emphasized that the Fairview Elementary staff members are not advocating for children to be isolated or punished simply because they're struggling. However, she questioned at what point an employee's safety becomes a priority.

"What is the appropriate response when an employee sustains an injury so severe they require medical intervention? What meaningful steps are taken to ensure that the same situation does not happen again?" Reardon asked.

She expressed that serious injuries in the classroom should no longer be merely considered "an unfortunate part of working in education."

Reardon implored that the school's emergency re-

See FAIRVIEW page 10

IN THE CITY

Crossroads program's simple message: 'Never give up'

The district's 18-22 transitional program continues its growth.

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – Members of Chicopee Public Schools' Crossroads Community Based Transition Program stole the show during their School Committee meeting appearance in City Hall on Monday night.

The program serves non-diploma students with disabilities ages 18 to 22 who have completed their high school requirements.

Participants learn a variety of real-life skills, while gaining employment opportunities.

Transitional Specialist Eric Dahl has built the program from the ground-up. He couldn't attend Monday's meeting, but members of the group praised his leadership and contributions.

Special education paraprofessional Leanna Picard works closely alongside Dahl and commended his "extraordinary dedication, tireless advocacy and continued commitment to Crossroads not only during program hours but throughout the entire year and after school."

Picard further explained that members of the Crossroads program gain access to a range of valuable experiences, including site-based and community employment placements, hands-on independent living skills practice and transportation to locations where they're able to develop and strengthen those skills.

Several program participants were brave enough to share their journeys with the public during the meeting. Joshua was the first to step up to the podium.

"This is my second year in the Crossroads program. My first year was so scary, but I grew so much," he said. "I'm very proud of how far I've come. I cannot wait to continue learning [about] shopping, cooking, saving my money and helping others."

The second speaker, Dominic, said he didn't know he was autistic until he was a teenager. As a sophomore at Chicopee High School, he passed the MCAS test on his first try.

"But during my senior year of high school, my parents believed I still needed more life skills, so they tried to get me into the Crossroads program. They had to fight hard to get me into the program because due to the fact that I passed my MCAS first try, the school department really didn't think I needed it," Dominic said.

He noted that his parents hired a lawyer, who was able to secure him a spot in the program through legal action. Fortunately, it all worked out for the best.

"Despite that, I have made lots of new friends both here and at Goodwill where I work. During my time here, I've learned new things like how to set a budget and cook some things on my own like pancakes, beef hash, cupcakes and lots of other things," Dominic said.

Dominic added that his final day with the program will be Dec. 23. He expressed gratitude to the School Committee for letting the group present.

"I'm so glad that I get one last time to speak to you about my time here at Crossroads, and I would like to thank the School Committee for allowing us to be here. I hope this won't be the last time I get to come. Thank you all for this opportunity to speak before you," Dominic said.

Last, but not least, was Cam, who said he has learned how to cook breakfast, budget with a shopping list and enhance his social skills while participating in the program.

Cam hopes to be a game designer in the future and described himself as a "Nintendo nerd."

He recalled being nervous the first time he delivered a speech, which occurred at his high school graduation ceremony. Luckily, he thought of a saying that helped him capture that moment and this one as well.

"The first time, I was most afraid about being stressed out. What will people say? Are people going to think of me as weird? Are they going to not talk to me? These are questions people ask when they are nervous, and I was one of them," Cam said. "All these questions were in my head, and I thought I couldn't do it. Then, I remembered a saying from a TV show. 'Being brave isn't about feeling brave… It's about being brave even if you feel scared.'"

Before leaving the microphone, Cam thanked his family and all those who have helped him achieve such tremendous growth. He said it is truly appreciated and encouraged others to pass on the encouragement.

"The one thing I do is never give up," Cam said. "If we have people to help each other, the sky is the limit. A lot of people need help. Whether you're young or old or in the middle of age, you can make a difference. Those are things I like to work on; maybe you should too."

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 provides opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for November 2026.

Babies 0-12 months and their caregivers are invited to **Baby Time** on **Tuesdays Nov. 17 at 10:30 a.m**. Baby Time will include rhymes, songs, lap bounces and a short story, as well as some unstructured play time.

Storytime will be on **Thursdays, Nov. 19 at 10:30 a.m**. Join us for 30 minutes of circle time with read-aloud books, songs and rhymes, followed by a craft or activity. For ages 2-5.

Saturday Playgroup will be held on **Saturdays at 1 p.m**. 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.

Pioneer Valley Ballet presents a special **Nutcracker Storytime** on **Monday, Nov. 9 at 4 p.m.** Enjoy storytime with characters, an introductory dance class, and Nutcracker themed craft.

The library will host a **Crafternoon** for kids on **Thursday, Nov. 12 from 3 to 4 p.m**. Come by the library for a fun craft! No registration required. Suitable for all ages, but younger friends may need a grown up to help.

Homeschool Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 11:30 a.m.** to discuss a book and do an activity based on that book. Homeschooling families with kids of all ages are welcome. See the Kids Room to borrow a copy of this month's book, Time to Make Art by Jeff Mack.

Sewing Club will meet on **Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 3:30 p.m**. Learn and practice basic sewing skills by making fun projects. Great for ages 6 and up. Teens welcome! If you are not familiar with using a needle and thread, bring an adult to help.

Little Kid Dance Parties will happen on **Tuesdays, Nov. 24 at 10:30 a.m.** Little ones ages 0-5 are invited to move and groove with their caregivers. Older kids are welcome.

Build with LEGO on **Monday, Nov. 30 at 6 p.m**. Bring your creativity and hang out with our big pile of bricks. Best for ages 6 and up.

Teens

Teens in middle and high school can participate in our new **Craft Club**, hosted twice per month after school at **3 p.m**! Each meeting will feature a different, exciting craft! For the month of **November,** a Clay Magnets craft will happen **Wednesday the 4th,** and we'll be making Emotional Support Chickens on **Wednesday the 18th**!

Fans of comics and manga are encouraged to stop by on **Tuesday, Nov. 17** at **6:30 p.m.** for our new **Bring Your Own Comic (B.Y.O.C.) Club!** It's like a book club, except you get to read whatever you want! Share your thoughts about whatever comic you're currently reading, discover new stories from fellow fans, get to hear about new additions to the library's collection, and more!

Teens can visit the library on **Monday, Nov. 16** at **3 p.m.** for **ChicopeeFRESH Teens: Three Sisters Chili.** Learn about the three sisters, corn, beans, and squash, and how they help each other grow. Then help make a delicious and quick chili you'll get to enjoy!

Visit our website for more info about all of the library's events! www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org

CPL adult programs for November

CHICOPEE – Here are some of our upcoming library programs for November 2026.

The Chicopee Library will be hosting a Polish Holiday Festival on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with Susan Urban, a Polish Culture Expert. There will be a variety of displays including miniature Polish costumes, Polish Embroidery Designs, Paper Cuttings (Wycinanki) and Pajaki (mobiles). There will be Polish music and refreshments and a variety of make and take crafts. Admission is free and open to all ages. This event is funded in part by a grant from the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

We also have Speed Puzzling on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. Register from the library calendar or call the Reference Desk at 413-594-1800x3. Teams of 4 will compete to complete identical puzzles in the fast time. Recommended for ages 10+.

Check out our calendar online at chicopeepubliclibrary.org or stop by the library for a printed calendar.

RiverMills Senior Center list events

Veteran's Day Breakfast

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host a Veteran's Day Breakfast on Monday, Nov. 9 at 8:30 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

RiverMills invites you to enjoy a homemade breakfast in honor of Veteran's Day. To say "Thank You" to those who have served, breakfast for veterans and active military is free. All other attendees is $5. You must register in advance at RiverMills Center.

Holiday Craft Fair

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

Come on down to RiverMills for the Friends of RiverMills Second Annual Holiday Craft Fair! If you are a local crafter and would like to sell your handmade items, please contact Leah Laflamme at 413-534-3698 ext. 105 for more information.

A space for this event is $15.Registration to reserve a spot is now open. This event is open to the public to sell and shop.

Memory Connections

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

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

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

Massage Therapist needed

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging is looking for a Massage Therapist to offer monthly chair massages to our members. You must be a licensed massage therapist to provide these services.

If you are interested or know of anyone who may be interested in this, please reach out to Program Coordinator Casey Conroy at 413-534-3698 ext 118.

Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser returns to Chicopee, benefiting adults with developmental disabilities

CHICOPEE - The Joseph D. Freedman Bowl-a-Thon to Benefit Camphill Village returns to Bowlero Chicopee on Saturday, Nov. 14, offering raffles, games, and family fun—all to benefit the 100 adults with developmental disabilities living in Camphill Village.

Since its inception, the Bowl-a-Thon has welcomed hundreds of families and sponsors who have helped us raise almost $700,000 for this amazing organization.

"We've seen firsthand how Camphill Village changes lives—not just for residents, but for their families here in Western Mass and Northern Connecticut. These are our neighbors, our friends, and our loved ones," said John Freedman, a Springfield business owner whose sister Susan has lived a fulfilling life in Camphill Village for decades. "Supporting and organizing this event means supporting a community that continues to care for these individuals throughout their lives."

Though located on the Berkshire border in Columbia County, NY, Camphill's impact reaches deeply into our Western Massachusetts communities, where local families have loved ones living there or have been touched by its model of lifelong care.

Since 1961, Camphill Village has provided a peaceful setting for adults with developmental disabilities to garden, farm, create, and live alongside residential service volunteers from all over the world.

Now, as Camphill's residents who entered in their 20s have now surpassed their 50- and 60-year anniversaries of making their home in Camphill, the Joseph D. Freedman Bowl-a-Thon remains a major funding source for Camphill's residents, whose needs are evolving as they age.

Register and learn about sponsorships at camphillvillage.org/bowlathon.

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IN THE CITY

CFD, CPD compete in Second Annual Wing-Off

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent



Group photo between both departments out the restaurant before action got underway.

TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

CHICOPEE — To kick off October, the fire and police departments renewed their friendly rivalry for the Second Annual "Blazing Badges" Wing-Off to benefit the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club.

The highly anticipated matchup spanned five intense three-minute rounds, with the fire department defending its title by a razor-thin 65–64 margin. Ultimately, both sides agreed that supporting local youth was the real victory—an element Mayor John Vieau touched upon.

"Today is about building relationships and helping create opportunities for the kids of the Boys & Girls Club," Vieau said. "By hosting this event, it not only achieves that goal, but it also allows the community to see law enforcement and first responders in a positive light, showing that positive role models truly can make a difference in shaping one's life. Who knows? Maybe some of these kids could be a future firefighter, police officer, mayor, city councilor, architect—the possibilities are endless."

He then added that the non-profit will always hold a special place in his heart, citing his journey from being a member as a child and teen to serving as a camp counselor, board member, athletic director and executive director. That extensive background highlights a deep-rooted connection to the organization's mission of providing and developing a future for local youth.

Vieau also stepped back into action for a head-to-head rematch against Jason Reed, the current executive director of the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club, with Vieau coming out on top by a score of 15–11 wings.

Vieau shared that he enjoys the rivalry between the two departments because it shows great camaraderie among all involved.

"I also want to add that it shows a sense of growth as the city continues to build," Vieau said. "It's refreshing and quite innovative to know that what once started as 'Battle of the Badges' on the ice has evolved into a Wing-Off and a softball game. Everyone always competes at a high level that continues to grab the attention of the public, and the funds raised help develop and cultivate Chicopee to reach new heights. Being able to witness and be a part of these moments is always special."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF KATIE COLLINS-KALBAUGH

Chicopee Fire Department came out on top over the PD by a narrow wing 65-64, the entire team is pictured here.

Echoing similar sentiments, Buffy Ignatowicz, general manager of The 99 Restaurant—which served as the main hub for the friendly fundraiser—highlighted why the venue was proud to host.

"The truth is quite simple: one, we do it for the kids, and two, we're very passionate about fundraising, especially when it comes to the Boys & Girls Club," Ignatowicz said.

Those who attended were treated to a variety of festivities throughout the evening, including 50/50 raffles and trivia, and according to officials, it sounds like the competitive fundraiser has solidified its place as an annual community tradition.

Carmen Rodriguez recognized with Latino Excellence Award

Receives award in ceremony with officials

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent



TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Mayor John Vieau holding the official citation with 2026 Latino Excellence Award Nominee Carmen Rodriguez standing next to him.

CHICOPEE — A special moment unfolded in Chicopee last month on Oct. 14, as Carmen Rodriguez, a Chicopee Public Schools (CPS) Family and Community Engagement Liaison (FACE) who travels between Chicopee High School and Gen. John J. Stefanik Elementary School, was honored with the Latino Excellence Award.

The award was on behalf of the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, presented by State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), represented by Arriaga's aide Tevin Colon and Gomez's District Director Lamari Jackson, surrounded by friends, students and elected officials, from the grounds of the district's new administration building.

Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware opened the ceremony, offering gratitude to all in attendance.

"Before we get started, I actually just want to acknowledge and give a personal shoutout to Senator Gomez, who actually reached out to me at first to discuss this opportunity in this award, as well as Representative Arriaga, and so, I just want to thank our legislature because they always look out for Chicopee, and their support is always appreciated and felt," Ware said.

Following Ware was Mayor John Vieau, who shared his patented message, "It's a beautiful day in Chicopee!" Before continuing his remarks to reflect on the evolution of the district's support staff, noting that the city traded in traditional roles for a more proactive approach.

"We traded in our truant officers for community and family... liaisons because it's really a different aspect of how we approach students, families, getting kids back in school," Vieau said. "I believe that this model under Dr. Ware's leadership has been very successful," pointing to how liaisons work to keep students engaged for at least six hours a day.

Echoing Vieau's sentiments and directing focus to Rodriguez's achievement was fellow Family and Community Engagement Liaison Kristen Coelho.

"Family engagement work is not always easy, but she constantly goes above and beyond to support our families, connect them to resources, and help them feel supported and connected to our schools," Coelho said. "One of the things that makes Carmen so special is her ability to make every family feel seen and heard. She has a way of building connections and making families feel that they matter, and that is something truly special."

Following the tributes, Vieau, along with Colon and Jackson, formally presented Rodriguez with her citation from the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, recognizing her as a 2026 Latino Excellence on the Hill honoree. The official document highlighted her instrumental role in advancing school attendance initiatives—ranging from monthly attendance award celebrations, golden ticket incentives and student prizes to organizing events like multicultural family nights and ice cream socials that continue to foster and cultivate a positive school culture for all.

Taking to the podium to accept the honor, Rodriguez admitted she was initially taken aback when she first learned of the recognition, recalling an enigmatic text message asking what she was doing later that day at 4 p.m.

"My response was like, 'What? For what? Why? Why me? Like what is it?'" Rodriguez recalled with a laugh during her acceptance speech. "So, the reason I ask those questions is because to me, I do this because it's who I am. This comes to me naturally. I don't expect anything in return. I don't expect—even though I am grateful—I still think this is the right thing to do, as I do listen with my heart first, and I think this is why a lot of the families, students and the staff open up to me because I do listen with my heart before anything else."

Rodriguez continued sharing that her mission is committed to building genuine bridges with families from all walks of life.

See RODRIGUEZ page 10

Historical Society hosts Daniel Bullen talk

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Historical Society hosts author Daniel Bullen, who will present a talk on his new book, Daniel Shays's Honorable Rebellion.

You probably know of "Shays' Rebellion" as the time when "farmers who were angry about taxes" "created unrest" that exposed the weakness of the Articles of Confederation, causing the Founding Fathers to write the Constitution.

Mr. Bullen shows that, in fact, Shays and thousands of farmers were not trying to overthrow the government. They were protesting flagrantly unjust economic policies that were forcing them off their land, all to pay windfall profits to financiers. The book draws on extensive research to show that the farmers kept the peace through five months of protests and won reforms in an electoral landslide.

Join us for this history with deep contemporary relevance on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bazan Community Room of the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee. The event is free and open to the public.

Daniel Bullen holds a Ph.D. in American literature. He is the author of two other books, "The Love Lives of the Artists: Five Stories of Creative Intimacy" and "The Dangers of Passion: The Transcendental Friendship of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Margaret Fuller." He lives in western Massachusetts.



OPINION

in the Garden by Roberta McQuaid

Take notice of the subtle oak

Sometimes subtle beauty is just as eye catching as full-blown fireworks.

This fact was reinforced this past week, when oak trees took center stage as leaves worthy of peeping. No, they do not possess the pumpkin orange, lemon yellow or cherry red tones that maples do, but nonetheless they quietly beg the passerby to take notice.

Ahh, burnt umber, raw sienna and burnt sienna, mahogany and magentas. Gosh, I love them all.

It's like taking a peek inside a very good oil painting kit and seeing all your favorites.

Why don't we take a closer look at the genus called Quercus, to which our beloved oak belongs. The oak is a member of the beech or Fagaceae family.

One unique feature that the oak has and other members of the family do not is that its nut is carried in a cap. The nut and cap together are called an acorn.

Acorns are a valuable food source for wildlife. Wild turkey, deer, larger songbirds and squirrels among others depend on the nut for surviving the winter.

One way to tell the difference between species of oak tree is by their acorns. Examine how they wear their "cap."

The cap of the white oak is about one-quarter the size of the oblong shaped nut. The red oak, on the other hand, has a squatty, saucer-like cap covering a more globose shaped nut.

The pin oak has an obtuse nut and a more diminutive cap- a big belly so to speak!

There are some 500 species of oak throughout the world. Some of them are evergreen, holding onto their leaves throughout the winter months.

These oaks are located in the more southern, warmer regions of our country. Even though our oaks are deciduous, it takes a long time for them to completely defoliate.

Sometimes it is the next season's emerging leaves that finally push the old ones off! This is often problematic for the homeowner who likes to keep his lawn leaf-free.

At work I once saw a young groundskeeper attempt to shake the leaves off of a young pin oak tree – just to be done with his weekly task!

Most oaks tolerate transplanting the best when they are young and small in size. The pin oak is one exception; its shallow, fibrous root system allows it to be transplanted as a larger specimen.

For this reason, the pin oak is widely used for home landscaping. It is also highly sought after because of its unique, pyramidal shape: the lowest branches are pendulous, the middle are horizontal and the top are upright.

Did you know that cork is harvested from the bark of a species of oak tree? Yes, the cork oak grows in Spain, Portugal and parts of Northern Africa.

Another interesting fact: oaks get struck by lightning more than any other tree. This is likely due to their height, some topping over 80 feet at maturity.

The oak tree can grow to be very old. Reportedly, the oldest oak tree in the United States is in Temula, California.

This Coast Live Oak (Quercus agrifolia) named the Pechanga Great Oak, is estimated at 2000 years old!

In nearby Maryland, the Wye Oak lived to be about 460 years old before its demise in 2002. It topped off at 95 feet tall, 165 feet wide and 8 feet in diameter.

In 2006, a clone of the tree was planted in the remains of the trunk in a special ceremony.

All the trivia aside, I hope that you take notice of the subtle colors that line our hills and vales now that the fireworks have subsided. If you are forced to look at them "up close and perswonal" by way of a rake, don't forget they make great mulch – just chop them up with the lawnmower first. Your plants will benefit from your labor.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Habitat for Humanity

A place to call their own

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

WEST SPRINGFIELD - When Chantal and her three young children immigrated to Western Massachusetts in 2012, she couldn't know everything the years ahead would bring. But she knew what she wanted for them: a better life and more opportunities. Fourteen years later, after navigating the challenges of starting over in a new country, the family is preparing for another beginning — a home Chantal will help build and purchase through Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH).

Chantal received the news on a warm, sunny Friday afternoon in late June. She and her children stepped outside to find Habitat staff and board members waiting with a sign, smiles, and congratulations.

"I did not expect it at all," she said. "I was very surprised and happy when Habitat came and told us. Being chosen by Habitat for Humanity means so much to us because it allows our family to finally have the stability we have been searching for."

When they arrived in the United States in 2012, Chantal's children were 3, 7, and 10. Before that, the family had lived as refugees in Rwanda after Chantal was forced to leave her native Democratic Republic of Congo because of war and conflict. In Western Massachusetts, she faced the challenges of adjusting to a new way of life while working to provide a stable home for her children.

"We have had to move three different times. One apartment was affected by a fire. Another became too small for our family, and at another home, the landlord decided to sell the property. We had to move again," Chantal said. "Each move meant packing our belongings, finding another place to live, and starting over again."

Chantal, who is a housekeeper at a nursing home, said she learned about Greater Springfield Habitat online and through people who have been through the program.

"I applied because I want a safe, stable, and affordable home for my family," she said. "I want my children to have a place they can call 'home.'"

Now, Chantal has begun the Habitat Homebuyer Academy as part of her sweat equity requirements, taking the first steps toward building and purchasing her family's home.

"Chantal has worked hard to create opportunities for her children through every challenge and every move," said Olga Callirgos, GSHFH Homeowner Services manager. "As she works toward purchasing her home, she's building on that commitment. We're excited to walk alongside her as her family prepares for a future with a place to call their own."



Chantal (far left) and her family celebrate her selection for Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity's Homeownership Program.

What happens if Social Security runs out of money to pay benefits?

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor

Dear Rusty:

What happens to seniors if the country runs out of funds to pay out monthly Social Security to beneficiaries?

I am 78 yrs old and Social Security is my only income.

Signed: Worried Senior

Dear Worried Senior:

Please put your mind at ease, the government will never run out of money to pay Social Security benefits.

That's because if people are working and contributing to the program (e.g., always), Social Security will always have at least some money to pay benefits. What you are hearing about are recent media reports about Social Security having financial issues, expected to come to a head in just a few (six) years.

The primary risk for you (and everyone else) is this: if the reserves in the Social Security Trust Fund (currently about $2.5 trillion) run dry, it would result in a reduction to everyone's monthly benefits.

Right now, the Social Security Trustees are projecting a cut of about 22% starting in the fall of 2032. But that will only happen if Congress fails to act and reform the SS program before the SS reserves are fully depleted.

And that is, in our opinion, not likely to happen unless Congress is completely and totally derelict in its obligations to American seniors and their dependents. Not a pleasant scenario, but neither is it one likely to occur.

Here at the AMAC Foundation, we are working vigorously to prevent the depletion of the Social Security Trust Fund and our expectation is that Congress will, indeed, eventually take action to prevent any cuts to monthly benefits.

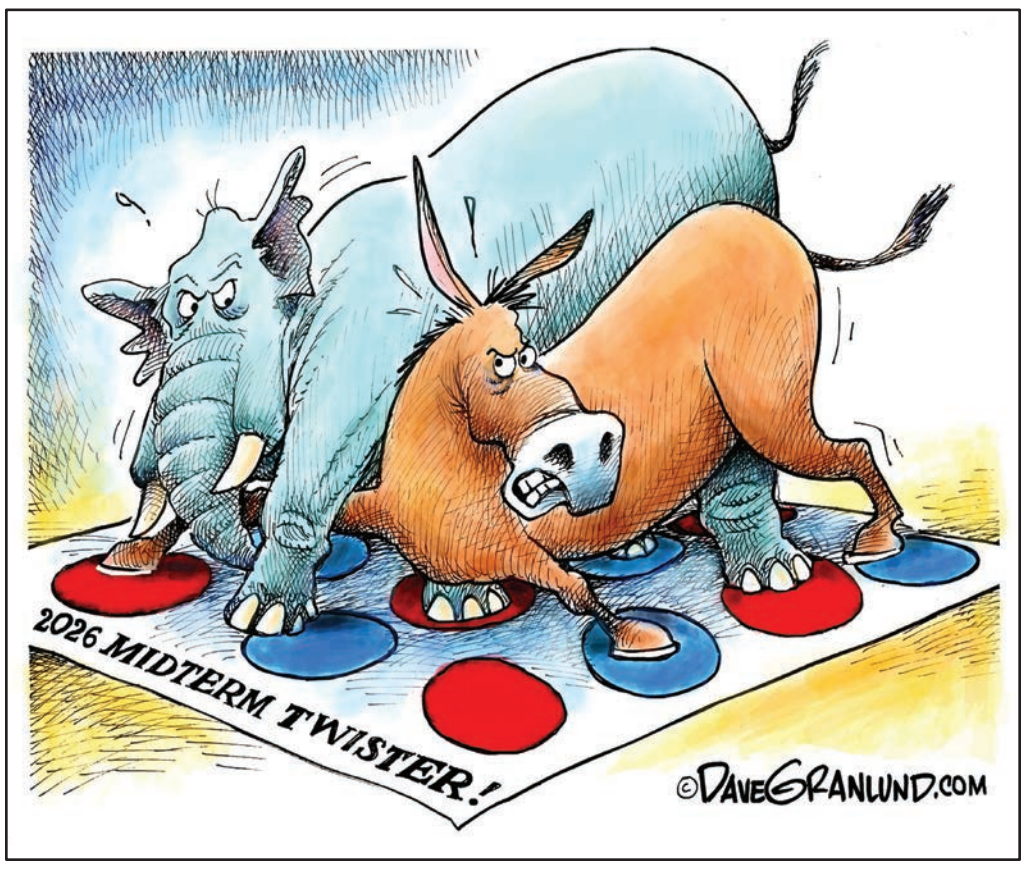
It would be political suicide for Congress (and any President) to allow those Social Security benefit cuts to occur. That would greatly increase the poverty level in America. As we have often reported publicly, we have already proposed a commonsense plan to restore Social Security to long term solvency and are working in Congress and with the Social Security Administration to promote the needed reform.

You can see more details of AMAC's plan here: https://amac.us/social-security-guarantee

So, while we fully understand your personal anxiety, we feel confident in assuring you that you are very unlikely to experience any cuts to your monthly Social Security income.

We are firmly committed to preventing that from happening and will continue to vigorously lobby Congress to make the SS changes needed before the SS Trust Fund is fully depleted.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Chicopee Register

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Send letters to:
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24 Water Street,
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or email
chicopeeregister@turley.com.
The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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

IN THE CITY



This group of friends posed by the King Gray "Spooky Bus".

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY



The donation coffin next to this massive skeleton, which turned out to be a great photo spot for many.

THRILLER 5K
from page 1

ing which nonprofit enters the spotlight, it honestly changes every year. The Board of Directors is given a list of options; they vote, and we then take into account who we haven't helped before. So, we try to switch things up while pooling ideas on how we can improve from the year prior."

As usual, the long-standing fundraiser used the grounds of Grise Funeral Home right across the street from Elms College as its base of operations, where registration opened at around 10 a.m. and consisted of all ages and costumes to celebrate the holiday, as some key costumes ranged from Costco Rotisserie Chickens, Disney Characters, Dogs, a Banana, the Grinch, Marvel icons and everything in between.

With a little time to spare before the race kicked off, the Chicopee Register took a trip on the King Gray "Spooky Bus," which proved to be a delight. Providing insight into the interactive experience was the company's operations manager, Elena Dore.

"This is the 16th time we've brought the bus out into the community, and the reception is always extremely positive," Dore said. "The process is quite simple: you walk through the entrance, and when you make it through, you get some candy."

The exterior featured a plethora of pop-culture icons, while the interior was decked out with a variety of Halloween memorabilia—ranging from skeletons strapped to the seats to prop playing cards, graves, and pumpkins. To top it all off, a crew of pirates and buccaneers watched your every step on the way out.

Dore added that the bus continues to be a major attraction, with many attendees stopping to take photos with it.

As the exploration continued, it was noted the registration line didn't let up until about 10 minutes before race time, when the focus shifted to a local dance group that performed to rave reviews, generating ample excitement.

Among those in the crowd was Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks, who shared that the event carried a special significance this year as a proud rescue dog owner.

"This event is always an exciting time for all, because not only does it raise funds for an incredible charity, but this is extremely special to me because I own a rescue dog," Brooks said. "And I can confirm it's been the most special experience, and to be able to be a part of this event not only reflects the city's commitment to the downtown area, but it also shows that the residents of Ward Two know how to come and support a good cause, and in my opinion TJO is one of the finest causes in the region."

After Brown and Breor delivered opening remarks, attendees gathered at the starting line and were off. Runners soon came rushing back across the finish line: Tyler Gagnon secured first place in the men's division with a time of 19:55, while Mackenzie Turgeon of Westfield won the women's bracket at 21:40, with a lively crowd following close behind.

Gagnon said, "It felt great to win," and shared he will be back next year; he enjoyed seeing everyone in costumes and encouraged all to participate.

Upon completion, everyone hung around and enjoyed the after-party, which ran until 2 p.m., where the celebration carried on with live music courtesy of DJ Gregory James, along with Grilled Fanta Cheese Truck, Sweet Treats 413 and Leadfoot Brewery to help offer food and beverage options.

The event was sponsored and presented by Holyoke Medical Center and Riley Home Realty with support from Grise Funeral Home, Health New England, Ivy's Events, The Polish National Credit Union, Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, Valley Opportunity Council, The Republican, HUB Insurance Services, IQ Ink, Quality Plus Metrology Services, The Juice Box Piercing Studio and Westfield Bank.



Women's Division Winner Mackenzie Turgeon of Westfield, who finished with a time of 21:40, pictured with her parents.



Chamber member Kate Riley, Riley Home Realty, Ashley Batlle, Owner of Beauty Batlles Lounge and chairperson of the Thriller 5K, along with a fellow participant.



The Foundation for TJO Animals information table near registration



An inside look from the King Gray 'Spooky Bus".



A local dance group having some fun as all gathered around.

PAWZAAR
ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

PAWZAAR CRAFT FAIR
Saturday, November 14th
10AM - 3 PM

Bring a pet food donation and receive a raffle ticket!

St. Catherine's Church – 1023 Parker St., Springfield

This community favorite event features over 40 vendors from around the Pioneer Valley, loads of fabulous raffles, pet merchandise, a bake sale, and an exciting special raffle. This event is FREE to the public, so come on out and enjoy the festive atmosphere, shop for unique gifts, and support a great cause.

Proceeds benefit the animals in need at Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control & Adoption Center.

Foundation for TJO Animals

IN THE CITY

800+ attend Out of the Darkness Walk for suicide prevention

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

AGAWAM – Over 800 people gathered in School Street Park in Agawam on Oct. 24 for the 2026 Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Community Walk.

The annual event raises awareness for suicide prevention and gathers community members, residents, family members and friends and more together to share their stories, remember those lost to suicide and raise their voice for education, research and resources to help those who are struggling.

In 2025, 648 people died by suicide in the state of Massachusetts.

The event featured a Honor Bead Ceremony with attendees wearing a color sharing their connection to the cause whether the loss of a child or spouse, military or the LGBTQIA + community to a personal struggle or attempt, AFSP bandanas to recognize the pets who support those who are struggling, remarks from American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Massachusetts Chapter Event Co-Chairs Karen Carreira and Lyndsey Nunes and State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), community resource tents including free hugs, a station to create your own henna, therapy dogs from the Hampden County Sheriff's Department and more, raffle prizes, music overseen by a DJ at B_entertained and more.

The top 10 individual fundraisers were Melissa Soto, Cassandra Newman, Jeffrey Burke, Erin Mahoney, Chuck Gorman, Denise Lemenager, Sarita Sheehan, Julia Goldberg, Michael Carreira and Karen Carreira.

As for the top 10 fundraising teams, they were Carla's Angels, Hold On Til Dawn, Power of Three, We're a Little Bit Alexis, Team TruNorth Bank, Sarah's Stars, Randi's Rainbow, Rusty's Free in the Wind, Nathan's Team and Team Nathan.

This year's sponsors were TruNorth Bank, Elm Electric, Fontaine Brothers, Westfield Gas & Electric, All State Materials Group, Pioneer Behavioral Health, the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Helpline, Westek Architectural and Calm and Collar which sponsored the Paws 4 Prevention table.

To learn more, visit afsp.org/chapter/Massachusetts.



Members of the Elms College cheerleading team from Chicopee held signs and cheered on walkers along the course.



Family members at the event also held signs in memory and honor of loss loved ones, as shown here.



A shot of the stage at the event, with the colorful hearts on sticks in front. In 2025, 648 people died by suicide in the state of Massachusetts. *TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS*

ELECTION RACE
from page 1

City Council and as Mayor of Springfield to now earning his 20th congressional term at age 77.

"Dad, I have witnessed your dedication, commitment and passion for this job since I was a little girl, and it's truly special to see how in awe your grandkids are of you, and tonight we just can't thank everyone for the fight shown during this past election season," Fitzpatrick said.

Neal then took the podium to address his supporters late Tuesday night.

"I want to say thank you to people of the 1st Congressional District of Western and Central Massachusetts, for helping secure our big victory tonight. These are the people who have put their faith in me to represent them in Congress for a long period of time, and it's because of all of you who have been front and center for some of the most consequential moments of our time," Neal said.

He also noted that he earned approximately 75% of the vote in his hometown of Springfield.

"Those are the people who know me best," Neal said.

Now having won reelection, amid the substantial 'Blue Wave' which swept across the nation that same night and resulted in the Democrats officially winning back the House and Senate, Neal looks to regain the gavel and prestigious title as chair of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, giving him significant influence over tax policy, tariffs and the future of Social Security, all elements he campaigned on from the start.

"Across this country, people have sent a message. They've rejected many of the policies of what we've witnessed over the last few years," Neal said. "They've rejected an agenda that has made life more expensive for working families, threatened access to healthcare, and threatened programs that millions of Americans have come to rely upon."



Independent Candidate Nadia Milleron looks around as her supporters and constituents talk amongst selves at her HQ.

Reflecting on the political shift, Neal emphasized the practical advantages of holding power.

"I've been part of big minorities, and I've been part of small minorities, and I must tell you, a big majority is to be preferred," Neal told the crowd, expressing confidence in his party's long-term momentum. "That gives us a chance to build a durable governing majority, not just for a presidential election cycle but for decades to come. This shows we can build a governing coalition."

Neal then reflected on the achievements he has brought to his district since being in office.

"When you consider what we've accomplished, the results speak for themselves," Neal said. "I've spent my life working for this district, and there's not a family in Western or Central Massachusetts who has not been impacted positively by the work that I have done, including bringing back billions of dollars to the state of Massachusetts; I helped reopen a hospital in North Adams that lay dormant for the past decade, and I can't forget working to secure over $264 million of federal money to help open the new Holyoke Veterans Home, which was achieved under a PLA-Project Labor Agreement- and it came in under budget and on time."

The congressman then concluded his thoughts by sharing this.

"We're going to fight to restore those ACA credits. We're going to fight to restore funding for Medicaid," Neal said. "And remember, our hospitals are our biggest employers, and we need to push back on what has been done with that big bill that actually gives tax cuts to the wealthiest amongst us while cutting healthcare services for people who really need them. So, we're going to fight to restore SNAP. We're going to rein in this reckless war in Iran. We're going to hold ICE accountable. And I want to give you a bedrock guarantee: We're going to make sure that Social Security is there for all of you as you're entitled to."

He then shared what he wishes his opponent, Milleron.

"I wish her all the best, and good luck in the future," Neal said, and congratulated her on a hard-fought campaign.

The victory came two weeks after Neal and Milleron faced off in their only debate of the campaign, a 30-minute exchange in which the long-time incumbent in Western Mass discussed his track record, and Milleron tried her best to deliver a final pitch to voters.

Milleron, a native of the Berkshires, was surrounded by friends, family and supporters at her campaign headquarters, just two minutes down Island Pond Road.

Milleron reflected on the rematch and her campaign, which resulted in a second consecutive defeat to Neal.

"I felt we reached out to a lot of people; we had a good ground game, we had a good phone banking, and overall I thought it was organized. But the thing that was different about this time than two years ago, even though we had a much better organization, and a much bigger team, was that Richard Neal lied about me and spent millions of dollars doing it," Milleron said.

She offered claims that through Neal's efforts, voters were led to believe she was pro-MAGA, which Milleron clarified wasn't the case.

"Neal distorted the election because he created a persona for the voters that wasn't real. I'm not MAGA. I'm not a Trump supporter, but it's clear people are justly afraid of Trump, and what he is doing to their quality of life. And so, by falsely associating me with Trump, the voters didn't have a real choice, because they didn't have a real picture of who I was, and so that's how millions of dollars distorts an election, and it destroys our democracy," Milleron said.

When asked where she goes from here, Milleron advocated, "We still need a tax break and we can still get it; we don't have to be elected to get it."

"The people can move on Congress and demand what is really ours: 'our tax money,' and it's being used for our own destruction," Milleron said.

She then added that she's going to press Neal as she continues to find a path forward, decrying "Medicare for All"(MFA), a main component she ran.

"We're going to make sure he supports Medicare for All because he hasn't supported it so far. And that isn't what the people in the district want," Milleron said.

Additionally, she said she's currently planning a rally outside Baystate Medical on Nov. 10, set to begin at 6 p.m., to help bolster her efforts for the MFA cause.

Lastly, Milleron confessed she was grateful for all of her supporters, voters, and constituents who helped keep the congressional bid alive, but admitted she didn't have the financial value to reach the heights Neal did in terms of television marketing, which she alleged resulted in additional "propaganda programming."

Looking ahead, Neal struck an eager tone, telling Turley Publications he was ready to hit the ground running at 10 a.m. Wednesday with a full agenda.

"Well, my first meeting's at 10:00 tomorrow morning, and we're going to do a press availability to reflect upon what has actually happened across the country tonight," Neal said. "So, I intend to keep a full schedule, and I think it's going to be a pretty energetic agenda, as I outlined it here at the microphone just a few minutes ago."

The next U.S. Congress class will be sworn in January 2027.

Even though the victory over Milleron, Neal had a closer-than-expected path to November, as newcomer Jeromie Whalen came within striking distance, garnering 46.3% of the vote during the Sept. 1 Democratic primary compared to Neal's slim margin of 53.7%.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

A group photo of all U.S. Rep Richard Neal's interns, celebrating the victory.

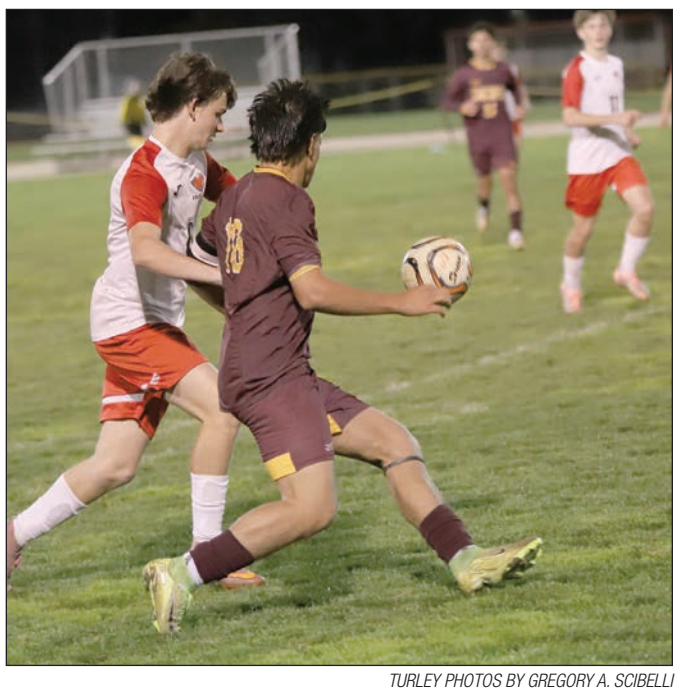
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Pacers fall by shootout in semifinals

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee High School boys soccer team reached the Western Massachusetts Class B semifinals for a second straight season, falling 3-2 against Monument Mountain of Great Barrington after a shootout. Griffin Wrisley had one of Chicopee's two goals during regulation. At 12-4-2, the Pacers will enter the state tournament with seeds set to come out late this week.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

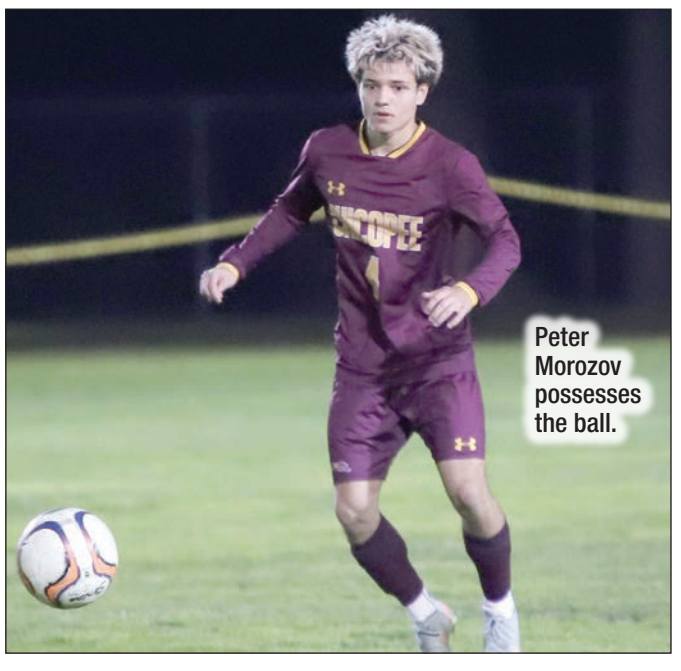
Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi fights for possession of a loose ball.



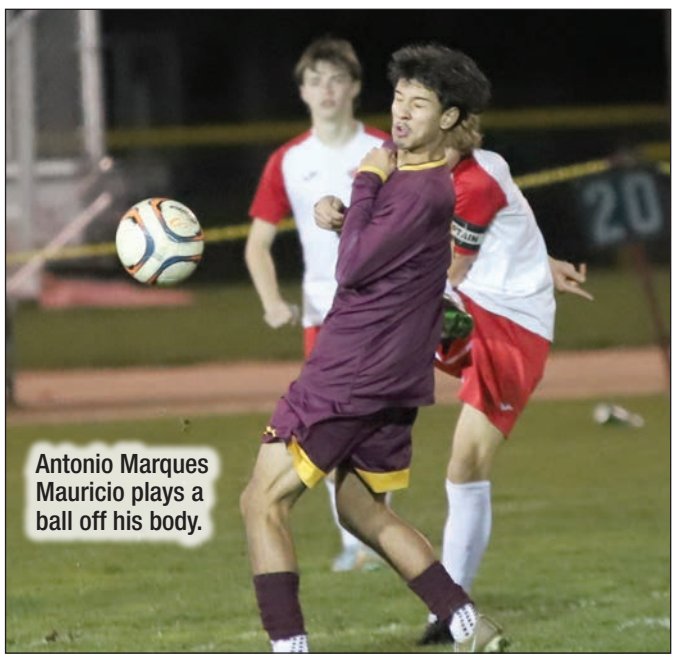
Ayad Hamid makes a quick touch.



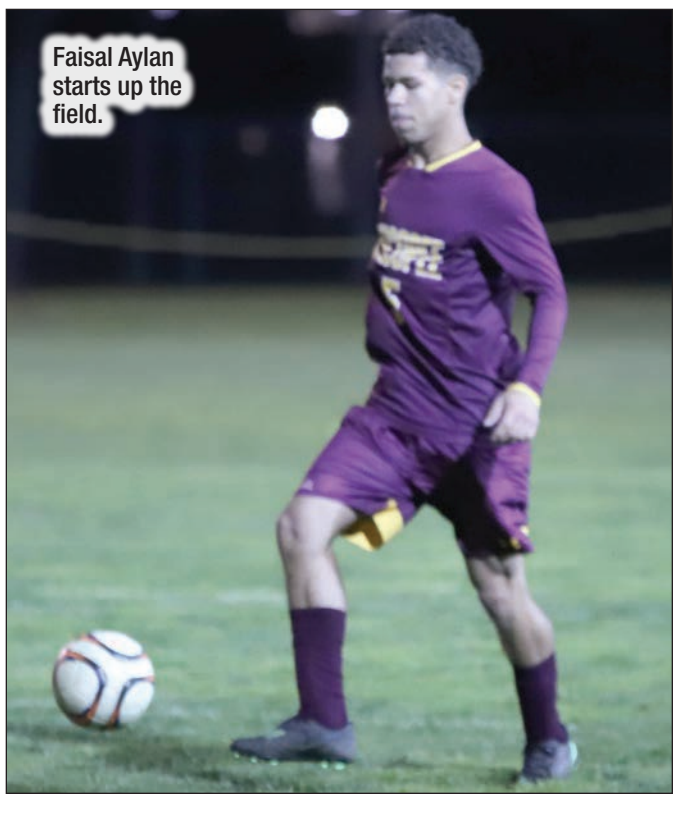
Leelin Franceschina goes after a ball in the air.



Peter Morozov possesses the ball.



Antonio Marques Mauricio plays a ball off his body.



Faisal Aylan starts up the field.

Colts, Pacers head for nonplayoff action

CHICOPEE – Last week, Chicopee and Chicopee Comprehensive football both completed their regular seasons. Comp managed to grab its first win of the season in Week 8. Both were not able to qualify for their respective state tournaments and both teams will head for nonplayoff action in Weeks 9 and 10.

To start with, Comp will face off on the road with West Springfield High School. Chicopee High will host Mahar Regional in a matchup at Szot Park.

Both teams will still face each other on Thanksgiving coming up later this month.

Power play leads Hartford past T-Birds

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (3-4-2-1) fell victim to a red-hot power play as the Hartford Wolf Pack (6-6-1-0) doubled up the T-Birds for a 4-2 win on Sunday afternoon inside the MassMutual Center.

The Wolf Pack leaned on their biggest weapon of the early season, the league's fourth-ranked power play, to take the 1-0 lead at 9:37 of the first as Anton Blidh pushed a point-blank rebound past a sprawling Georgii Romanov.

However, that lead would prove to be fleeting, as just six seconds later, T-Birds captain Chris Wagner crashed the net to nudge a backhand rebound from Justin Carbonneau in behind Spencer Martin at 9:43, tying the game.

With neither team generating much at even strength into the midpoint of the second, the Wolf Pack's scorching power play fired the next punch as Liam Greentree connected from the right circle at 12:01 of the middle period to restore the Hartford lead, 2-1.

After surviving three other Hartford power-play chances, the T-Birds got a man-up opportunity of their own and quickly evened the slate as Nathan Walker took a T.J. Tynan pass at the goal crease, turned to his forehand, and shuffled it past Martin at 8:31 of the third to make it 2-2.

Unfortunately, much like Springfield's quick response to the Blidh power-play goal in the first, Hartford had a similar response in the third as Glenn Gawdin got a puck on his backhand in the low slot and flipped it through Romanov's blocker side, giving the Wolf Pack the 3-2 advantage at 9:55.

Gawdin's second point of the night proved to be enough, as Martin came up with a huge save from the net front on Dylan Peterson in the closing minutes, and Hartford then got insurance on an empty-net finish from Juuso Parssinen to wrap up the scoring late.

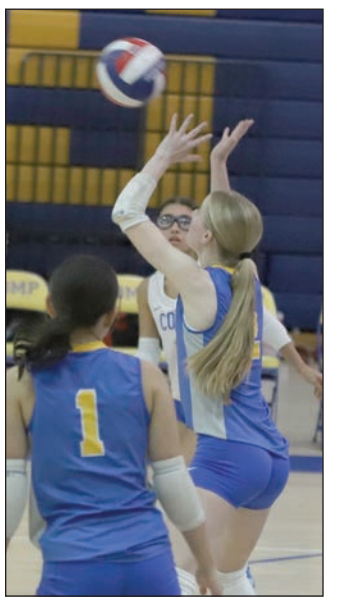
The T-Birds' homestand continues on Friday and Saturday as they take on the Hershey Bears in back-to-back contests at 7:05 and 6:05 p.m., respectively.

Colts lose in WMass tourney

CHICOPEE – Last Tuesday, Chicopee Comprehensive High School girls volleyball was defeated 3-1 by Minnechaug in the quarterfinals of the Class A Western Massachusetts Class A Tournament. In a consolation game following the loss, Comp defeated West Springfield 3-0. Comp was 14-6 heading into the state tournament and drew a home game in the preliminary round on Wednesday, Nov. 4 against Bishop Stang High School at 5 p.m.



Ellie-Miri Suarez dives to keep the ball in play.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

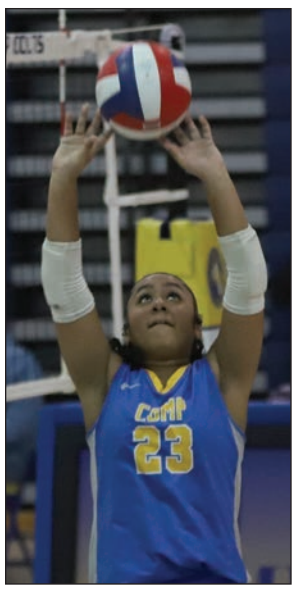
Brielle Bennett sets from the back line.



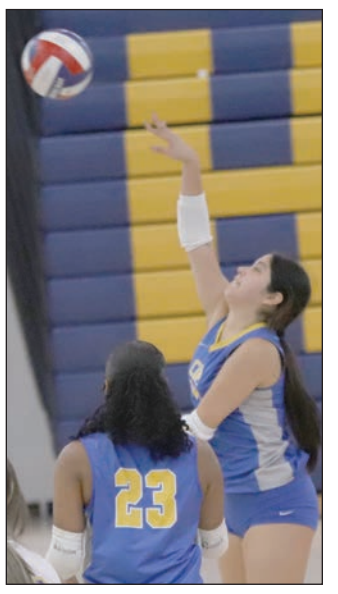
Trinity McCarthy goes for a block.



Christina Zielinski bumps the ball over the net.



Keishalee Guzman sets the ball near the net.



Angie Chuquilla-Bermudez goes for a spike.

Railers comeback falls short against Adirondack

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers HC (1-4-0-0, 2 pts) visited the Adirondack Thunder (2-1-0-0, 4 pts) on Friday evening at Harding Mazzotti Arena in Glens Falls, NY, falling 3-2 in regulation. This matchup marked the first of eight meetings between the two teams during the 2026-27 regular season. The Railers are back in action at the DCU Center at 10:05 a.m. against Adirondack in their annual School Day game.

The Railers and Thunder played a scoreless first period, with both teams looking to create opportunities offensively. Worcester recorded 11 shots on goal, while Adirondack finished the period with 12. At 11:46, Jacob Graves was called for hooking, sending Worcester to the power play. Adirondack successfully killed the penalty and both goaltenders kept the puck out of the net to send the teams into the first intermission tied 0-0. It was the first game for the Railers where both teams entered the intermission scoreless.

Adirondack broke through at 7:09 into the second period when Jordan Klimek (1st) scored off assists from Tanner Edwards and Jarret Lee to give the Thunder a 1-0 lead. Edwards was called for unsportsmanlike conduct during the goal celebration, giving Worcester a power-play opportunity. Just 1:36 after the game's first goal, Tristan Ashbrook (3rd) scored a shorthanded goal at 8:45 left in the 2nd, assisted by Patrick Grasso, to extend Adirondack's lead to 2-0. At 10:13, Caige Sterzer and Jacob Graves dropped

See RAILERS page 8

IN THE CITY

ELECTION RESULTS
from page 1

and James received 3.36% or 84,528 votes.

For Attorney General, Andrea Campbell was reelected after receiving 65.46% or 1,628,789 votes, defeating challenger Michael Walsh who received 34.54% or 859,338 votes.

For Secretary of State, William Galvin was reelected after receiving 71.14% or 1,766,367 votes, defeating challenger Anne Brensley who received 28.86% or 716,666 votes.

Deborah Goldberg will once again be treasurer after receiving 65.80% or 1,612,585 votes, defeating a challenge from Elizabeth Dionne who received 34.20% or 838,321 votes.

As for Auditor, Diana DiZoglio was reelected after receiving 83.80% or 1,904,168 votes, defeating Al Ozonoff who received 16.20% or 368,202 votes.

Ballot Question Results

There were also 9 ballot questions for consideration.

Question One on the public records law expansion, 85.9% voted yes while 14.1% voted no. This means the state's open records law would expand to include the Legislature and Governor's Office.

On Question Two on collective bargaining for the Committee for Public Counsel Services, 64% voted yes and 36% voted no. The yes does not guarantee unionization, but opens the door to it.

The Committee is a state agency tasked on overseeing the public defense system to begin forming a union.

Question Three on scrapping the state's existing partisan primary elections and creating an all-party primary that would have the top two finishers advance to the November General Election was shot down by voters, with 61.% voting no and 38.9% voting yes. This means nothing will change and remain the same.

Question Four to authorize same-day voting registration in the state passed with 56.3% voting yes and 43.7% voting no.

Question Five was about rewriting a state law known as Chapter 62F to make tax refunds from the state more frequent, with the law tied to increases in state tax revenues. This was rejected by voters with 52% voting no and 48% voting yes.

Question Six focused on dedicating a portion of state sales tax to a new Nature For All Fund, with the money going towards conservation and recreation and help protect clean drinking water, conserve natural resources, expand parks and recreational areas and support climate resilience. 60.8% voted yes while 39.2% voted no.

Question Seven concerned reducing the minimum lot size required to build single-family homes statewide. This was narrowly defeated with 50.6% voting no and 49.4% voting yes.

Question Eight was on whether to repeal recreational marijuana. This would have changed the state's marijuana law by repealing the legislation voters enacted in 2016 which legalized the drug and, also, the sale of marijuana at retail shops.

This was overwhelmingly voted down with 75.6% voting no and 24.4% voting yes.

Question 9 asked voters on whether to keep or repeal legislation that made changes to the state's gun regulations, which focused on imposing rules on untraceable "ghost guns," expanded the definition of an assault-style weapon, expanded the state's Red Flag Law and banned people from carrying weapons in polling place. This was first enacted in 2024.

A yes vote would have kept the law while a no vote would have repealed it, but not rolled back existing gun laws in the state.72.3% voted yes while 27.7% voted no, therefore keeping the law as is.

HEAD START
from page 1

$9.8 billion—a reduction of roughly $2.2 billion.

"The Trump administration is talking about reducing the national Head Start budget from $12 billion a year and taking out $2.2 billion, and they're calling it a savings," Markey said. "I call it a cut—a cut that will mean fewer teachers, fewer programs and fewer opportunities for all of these kids to be able to maximize their God-given abilities. We have to make sure every kid gets their opportunities... It just can't be divided along income levels."

Despite the fiscal concerns, the senator praised the early academic progress being exhibited as he and the other officials toured the classrooms.

"And so, all of these kids have unlimited potential that God has given them, and you bring it out at the earliest of age—all the way down to nine months of age, all the way up to the age of five," Markey said. "This program didn't exist when I was a kid; kindergarten didn't exist; you started in the first grade. Today, we just can't afford to do that. We have to make sure these kids all get an early introduction to all of the skills they're going to need for the rest of their lives. We saw future engineers building houses, and future transportation experts building an entire railroad, from beginning to end with the bridges and all other parts of what a transportation infrastructure would have to have in our country—and you can see, even at this early age, their ability to be able to do it."

Echoing Markey's urgency was Arriaga, who revealed she was a former Head Start student, which spoke to the deep impact of the program that helps offer support to local families and military personnel connected to Westover Air Reserve Base.

"I myself was a Head Start kid... way, way long ago," Arriaga said. "My nieces and nephew also were all Head Start kids here at this facility, and I know from the veteran community, lots of our military families have come here and are still continuously coming here because of the trust that they have in our system."

Following suit was Vieau, who highlighted the importance of early education infrastructure, emphasizing that educator shortages continue due in part to cuts.

"There's a shortage of preschool and teachers," Vieau said. "The city of Chicopee offers free preschool, but we're full, so with that said, I'm so grateful to Holyoke-Chicopee-Springfield Head Start for what they do, because the truth is it's really about the future... It's about molding minds and getting them ready for elementary school and, hopefully, the future leaders of our community."

Lastly, it was revealed prior to the visit that both Avery and Arriaga filed a resolution to ensure Chicopee continues to stand by the nonprofit, which the City Council unanimously approved on Oct. 6.

"When we discussed it, we talked about how for every dollar that we put in, $9 is back in our community," Avery said. "It means that their parents get to go to work; it means that they get to have a roof over their head, that they get to go and have transportation... We're seeing it directly on the city level."

Adding supplemental foundation to Avery's point was Arriaga, who emphasized that early childhood education lays the foundation for lifelong success, values that all officials recognized.

"Our education and essential care of kids is of the utmost importance, and I stand by it and will always stand by it," Arriaga said, sharing that her own children attended Head Start before going on to become honor students in Chicopee public schools. "It was getting them involved early that really made a difference."



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

Officials toured the first room which was the rainbow room, and consisted of 2 years 9 months up to 5 years old partaking in a variety of activities.



At-Large City Councilor Jessica Avery and Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga sat and talked to a few friends during the visit.

RAILERS
from page 7

the gloves and received fighting majors.

Adirondack added to its lead at 9:38 of the third period when Jack Hanzel (2nd) scored, assisted by Shane Harper and Tristan Ashbrook, making it 3-0. Worcester continued to battle in a physical game that featured several penalties and fights. With time winding down, the Railers pulled Parker Gahagen for an extra attacker, hoping to find a goal and keep a glimmer of hope alive. The move paid off at 18:25, when S. Moses (1st) scored his first ECHL goal on the power play, assisted by Micheal Suda and Matt DeMelis, cutting the deficit to 3-1. Amid the ensuing flow of play, the railers pulled the goalie and scored again. DeMelis (3rd) scored for the Railers on a one-timer to turn what was once a 3-0 game into a 3-2 game. Icing was called against Adirondack with four seconds remaining in the game, but Worcester failed to score on the ensuing faceoff and fell by a 3-2 final on Friday night.

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

Turley Publications, Inc.



Kelsie Smith
January 11, 2026
Parents: John & Carolyn Smith, Palmer
Grandparents: Theodore & Susan Smith, Ware
Joseph & Audrey Jones, South Hadley

Turley Publications would like to help you show off the newest member of your family this Christmas...

FOR FREE!

Mail to:
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Palmer, MA 01069
Attn: Jamie Joslyn
Include a self addressed/ stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: BABY'S FIRST.
This offer is available to all babies born in 2026. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-25, 2026.

Baby's Name: _____
Birthdate: _____
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Parents' Town of Residence: _____
Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: _____
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Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) _____

Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.

- ❑ Agawam Advertiser News
- ❑ Barre Gazzette
- ❑ Chicopee Register
- ❑ Country Journal
- ❑ The Holyoke Sun
- ❑ Journal Register
- ❑ Quaboag Current
- ❑ The Register
- ❑ Sentinel
- ❑ Town Reminder
- ❑ Ware River News
- ❑ The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Deadline for photos and forms is Thursday, December 4, 2026

NURSES: TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR CAREER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

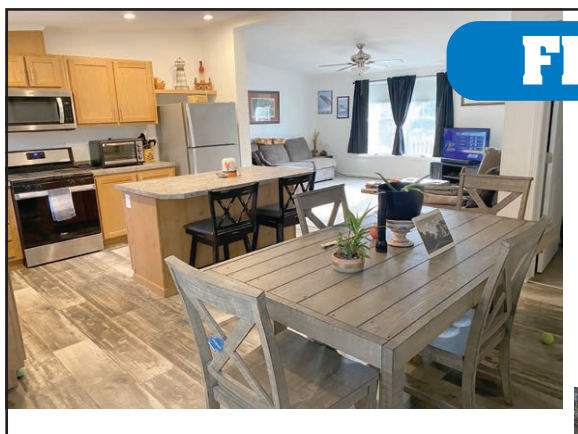
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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL LICENSE COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The License Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Home Occupation License application at 14 Bardon St for the purpose of an at home baking business. Applicant – Evelyn S. Vargas, 14 Bardon St., Chicopee, MA 01020.

The November 16, 2026 License 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 8:00 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, Chicopee, MA 01013. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.
10/30, 11/06/2026

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Home Occupation License application at 17 Woodcrest Ct. for the purpose of an at home bakery to start a small business to provide for family. Applicant – Allison Kraucunas, 17 Woodcrest Ct., Chicopee, MA 01020.

The November 16, 2026 License 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 8:00 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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10/30, 11/06/2026

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The License Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Home Occupation License application at 18 Devlin Dr. for the purpose of baked goods sales from home. Applicant – Brianna Souza, 18 Devlin Dr., Chicopee, MA 01020.

The November 16, 2026 License 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 8:00 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, Chicopee, MA 01013. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.
10/30, 11/06/2026

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 19, 2026 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 section 275-50 (A) for the purpose of modification of an existing Special Permit to convert two 14'x48' billboard static sign panels to two 14'x48' digital billboard sign panels on the existing monopole located at 530 Memorial Dr. Applicant – Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC, Patrick Keough, 32 Midland St., Windsor, CT 06095.

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

The November 19, 2026 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 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.
10/30, 11/06/2026

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The License Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM** in the Auditorium, 3rd floor, City Hall, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Home Occupation License application at 131 Beauregard Ter for the purpose of baking cake pops to sell at home. Applicant – Dori Acevedo, 131 Beauregard Ter, Chicopee, MA 01020.

The November 16, 2026 License 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 8:00 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.
10/30, 11/06/2026

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Special Permit application under section 275-61 C3 & 40G for the purpose of new license all alcohol/wine and malt and flexible parking standards located at 264/258 Exchange St. Applicant – Nonna's Village, Angela P. Breault-Klusman, 29 Concord St., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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

The November 19, 2026 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 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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10/30, 11/06/2026

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The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 19, 2026 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 section 275-30 (B) for the purpose of allowing temporary storage and staging of containers within the existing paved parking lot area of the back of the building to support the stores inventory management and seasonal freight operations located at 591 Memorial Dr. Applicant – Walmart, Jesse Staley, 591 Memorial Dr., Chicopee, MA 01020

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

The November 19, 2026 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 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

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10/30, 11/06/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Matthew Beaudoin, a/k/a Matthew R. Beaudoin to Chicopee Savings Bank, now held by Westfield Bank, Successor by Merger to Chicopee Savings Bank, dated August 24, 2010 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 18432, Page 327, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at **Public Auction** at 11:00 a.m. on the 9th day of December, 2026, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 6 Parkwood Drive, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in said Chicopee, being known and designated as Lot #70 (seventy) on plan of lots entitled "section D owner; Hamar Construction Co., Inc., Janik Construction, Inc., location Chicopee, Mass., dated Jan. 1955, Dobb, Beesley & Miles, Engineers, Springfield, Massachusetts", recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 46, Page 129; said lot is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

EASTERLY by Parkwood Drive, as shown on said plan ninety (90) feet;

SOUTHERLY by Mayflower Avenue, as shown on said plan, one hundred five and 02/100 (105.02) feet;

WESTERLY by Lot #55 (fifty-five) and a portion of Lot #56 (fifty-six) as shown on said plain, ninety-two and 29/100 (92.29) feet; and

NORTHERLY by Lot #69 (sixty-nine) as shown on said plan, one hundred five (105) feet.

Subject to restrictions set forth in deed to Rene L. Cote, recorded in said Registry of Deeds, June 13, 1956 as Document #15409."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 ($10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith. A buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the successful bid will be paid by the successful bidder and incorporated within the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Westfield Bank,
Present Holder of said Mortgage
By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein
Jonathan C. Sapirstein
SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1500 Main Street, Suite 2504
P.O. Box 15408
Springfield, MA 01115-5408
(413) 827-7500
Its Attorneys
Date: October 16, 2026
11/06, 11/13, 11/20/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT HAMPDEN, ss
Case No. 2679CV00399

ESTATE OF TERESA CARTIER
Plaintiff
v.
JOANNE SOWA, deceased
Her heirs, successors, and assigns
DEBORAH L. CLEVELAND, deceased
Her heirs, successors, and assigns
DONNA M. BEDARD
Her heirs, successors, and assigns
Defendants

ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Joanne Sowa, Deborah L. Cleveland, and Donna M. Bedard and their heirs, successors, and/or assigns:

You are hereby notified that a civil action has been filed by the Estate of Teresa Cartier, by its Personal Representative Michael Cartier, in which you are named as a Defendant. Wherein Plaintiff is seeking service of process by publication. This complaint concerns property in Chicopee, Massachusetts once owned Joanne Sowa, Deborah L. Cleveland, and Donna M. Bedard. Said property is known as 14 Lawrence Road, Lot 71-B, Chicopee, Massachusetts. See Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book of Plans 315 Page 17. Plaintiff seeks a judgment declaring that Plaintiff holds 100% clear, marketable and record title to the property known as 14 Lawrence Road, Chicopee, Massachusetts.

This complaint may be examined at the Hampden County Superior Court, or a copy obtained from Plaintiff's Attorney.

If you intend to make any defense, you are hereby required to serve upon the Plaintiff's Attorney, Sean T. Powers, Esq., Powers Law Group, LLC, whose address is 680 Westfield Street, West Springfield, MA 01089 an answer to the Complaint on or before the 9th day of December 2026, next, the return day, hereof, and a copy thereof must be filed in this court on or before said day.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for relief demanded in the Complaint. Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(a), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the Plaintiff which arise out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the Plaintiffs' claim, or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

It appearing to this Court that no personal service has been made on the heirs, successors, and/or assigns of Joanne Sowa, Deborah L. Cleveland, and Donna M. Bedard and that after a diligent search Plaintiff has served the living Defendant, Plaintiff can determine, that there are no other such persons upon whom they can lawfully make service.

It is ORDERED that notice of this suit be given to them by publishing a copy of this notice three consecutive times in either the Chicopee Register and/or Chicopee Herald, a newspaper general circulation in Chicopee in the County of Hampden and said.

Dated this 16th day of October in hte year 2026.

Hon. Jeffrey J. Trapani,
Justice
10/30, 11/06, 11/13/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD26P2247GD In the matter of: Aiden R Dion 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
Renee M Dion of Chicopee, MA
Robert T Dion of Chicopee, MA
in the above captioned matter alleging that **Aiden R Dion** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that
Renee M Dion of Chicopee, MA
Robert T Dion of Chicopee, 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 **11/18/2026**. 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. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 21, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/06/2026

Massachusetts Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD26P2279GD In the interests of Shiloah R Robinson of Chicopee, MA Minor

NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **10/26/2026** by **Shamyia Ravine Robinson of Chicopee, MA** will be held **12/01/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing.** Located: **Judge Randle-In Person: 50 State St Springfield, MA 01103 Courtroom 3 - 4th Floor.**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: **1.** File the original with the Court and **2.** Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

4. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

5. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form (MPC 263). Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: October 26, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/06/2026

More Legalson page 10



PUBLIC NOTICES
ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

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

Public notice deadlines are Friday at 3 p.m.

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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. HD06P0599EP1
Estate of:
Estelita M. Hurley
Date of Death: 10/02/2003
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Claire M Sampson of South Hadley, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that **Claire M Sampson of South Hadley, MA** be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 **11/25/2026**.

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

The estate is being administered under formal 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 recipients 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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 28, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/06/2026

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 20th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2026 Zhejian Senling Moped
VIN: LFETCLDLXT1405722
Rosie Veazquez
561 S Canal St Apt 531
Holyoke, MA 01040

2022 Jiangsu Baodiao Moped
VIN: L2BB9NCC5NB113207
San Justino Navedo Natal
26 Prospect St
Ludlow, MA 01056

2021 Cana F1MA
VIN: HZ2TCDM43T1020946
Samaria Otero
77 Drexel St.
Springfield, MA 01108

Moped
VIN: LJ4TCKPC461085619
Unknown

1995 Kawaskai ZX600- F
VIN: JKAZX4F13SA005257
Sean Conroy-Laboeuf
1062 Park St Apt 3
Palmer, MA 01069

2002 Honda Cbr 600 F4
VIN: JH2PC35022M300626
Alexander Burdsall
100 Timberline Rd.
New Hartford, CT 06057

2025 Taizhou Qiantin
VIN: HODTAEG13SX123774
Tanisha Moreno
79 Bay St., #2C
Springfield MA 01108

2025 Taizhou Moped
VIN: HZ2TCDMD6S1001144
Tanisha Moreno
79 Bay St. #2c
Springfield, MA 01108

2014 Ford Focus
VIN: 1FADP3F22EL120921
Aaa Insurance
PO Box 8368
Essex, VT 05451

2012 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL2AP7CN407846
Alberto Rodriguez
18 Percy St. #1
Chicopee, MA 01020

2009 Buick Lacrosse
VIN: 2G4WC582991148875
Joel Dietrich
19 Hadley Village Rd., Apt. D
South Hadley, MA 01075

2013 Yamaha Xvs1300
VIN: JYAVP32E1DA003402
Michael Mahitka
385 Brookfield Rd.
Brimfield, MA 01010

Tao Sanmen Yaun Moped
VIN: LL0TCPHXL6003012
Francisco Sempri Ramos
70 Westford Ave.
Springfield, MA 01109

1985 Mercedes Benz 300
VIN: WDBAB33C7FA272293
Alexander Delvalle
96 1/2 Meetinghouse Rd.
Chicopee, MA 01013

1986 Dodge D150
VIN: 1B7HD14T5GS004917
Robert Dunn
61 Boyer St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2017 Ram 1500
VIN: 1C6RR7KT4HS584469
Henry Mikucki
20 William St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDN46D55U070660
John Velazquez
39 Newport St., Unit B
Springfield, MA 01119
11/06, 11/13, 11/20/2026

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 6th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2014 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCR2F36EA129475
Mathew Cotto
617 Harrison Ave.
Scranton, PA 18510

2010 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL2AP6AN542961
Francisco Santiago Moreno
58 Chester St.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2007 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM56717A066291
Jessica Harrington
185 North St.
Bennington, VT 05201

2009 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG12679H505881
Xiomara Rivera
5 Riverboat Village Rd.
South Hadley, MA 01075

2007 Mazda Mazda 6
VIN: 1YVHP80C075M60922
Benedict Smith
213 4th Ave.
Bellaire OH 43906

2003 Ford F250
VIN: 3FTNX21L33MB23573
Jerry Francisco Ramos
168 Sewall St.
Ludlow, MA 01056

1995 Chevrolet Camaro Z28
VIN: 2G1FP32P3S2113159
Angel Guzman
109 Outer Dr.
Chicopee MA 01022

2018 Volkswagen Jetta
VIN: 3VW2B7AJ4JM263378
Rafael Hernandez
119 Lebanon Hill Rd.
Southbridge, MA 01550
10/23, 10/30, 11/06/2026

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 13th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer
VIN: 1GNDT13S952186992
Luis Carrucini Roberto
611 Cheeseman Court
Newport News, VI 23608

2015 Chevrolet Malibu
VIN: 1G11F5SL6FF127101
Kaila Coppedge
389 Hamilton St., Apt. 3
Southbridge, Ma 01550

2006 Toyota RAV 4
VIN: JTMBD33V166020561
Yvonne Provost
583 Pochassic Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

2008 Subaru Forester
VIN: JF1SG65648H704984
Robert Henderson
1139 Westfield St., Apt. 40
West Springfield, MA 01089

2006 Shan Jmstar
VIN: LJ4TCKPZ76J001510
Unknown
10/30, 11/06, 11/13/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD04P2736EP1
Estate of:
Emelina Z. Lapa
Date of Death: 07/31/2004
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Patricia Zelina Lebeau of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that **Patricia Zelina Lebeau of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 **11/25/2026**.

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

The estate is being administered under formal 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 recipients 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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 28, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/06/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD18P1464GD
In the interests of
Shiloah R Robinson
of Chicopee, MA
Minor
NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Resignation or Petition for Removal of Guardianship of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition to Resign as Guardian of a Minor or Petition for Removal of Guardian of a Minor filed by **Shamyia R. Robinson** on **10/26/2026** will be held **12/01/2026 08:30 AM Motion.** Located **Judge Randle-In Person: 50 State St., Springfield, MA 01103 Courtroom 3 - 4th Floor.**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: October 26, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/06/2026

FAIRVIEW
from page 1

sponse procedures must be addressed. She urged the School Committee to intervene and inquired what will be done to curb the chaos at Fairview Elementary.

"If a student threatens a school community, brandishes a weapon or physically injures an employee, what protocols are being followed? Why are we not consistently implementing appropriate emergency procedures such as a lockdown or a shelter in place? When circumstances warrant them, why do we seem to associate these procedures primarily with threats entering through the front doors rather than recognizing that serious threat can originate within the building itself?" Reardon asked.

She stressed that the staff's questions deserve clear and consistent answers and that more decisive protocols must be implemented.

"Staff members should never have to question whether they are protected or what steps they should take during a dangerous situation," Reardon said. "We cannot continue to put fires out without addressing what is causing them."

Nicole Roth, a preschool paraprofessional at Fairview Elementary, echoed Reardon's sentiment.

Roth characterized the situation as being a "crisis that can no longer be swept under the rug."

She spoke on the rising rate of injuries to staff members at the school caused by students and talked about the negative effects these incidents have.

"When a staff member is injured, it is not just an isolated workplace accident. It is a systemic failure. It impacts the morale of the entire building. It creates an environment of anxiety instead of learning and forces excellent, dedicated educators to question whether they can afford to stay in this procession," Roth said.

Roth added that the staff is stretched thin and protocols aren't working. She said educators at Fairview Elementary need more administrative support while working in such difficult conditions.

"We cannot advocate for students' wellbeing while remaining silent on the workplace injuries of the educators who serve them," Roth said.

Among the speakers during the public input session of Monday night's School Committee were educators from other buildings in the district, as well as parents and concerned citizens.

Reportedly, there was a slight issue streaming the meeting live, but it can now be seen in its entirety on the ChicopeeTV YouTube channel.

The Chicopee Education Associations Co-Presidents Jess Bean and Will Kulig also shared this statement with the Chicopee Register on Wednesday night regarding the ChicopeeTV broadcast.

"Chicopee Education Association co-presidents Jess Bean and Will Kulig issued the following statement upon learning that a ChicopeeTV employee was terminated following the Nov. 2 School Committee meeting: The Chicopee Education Association urges the reinstatement of a ChicopeeTV employee who was terminated following the Nov. 2 School Committee meeting that was not accessible via usual outlets. Members of the CEA staged an important action regarding school safety at the meeting, and many were curious why the meeting was not accessible on ChicopeeTV or Facebook," they said. "The CEA learned that a combination of technical difficulties and unforeseen circumstances interrupted the broadcast. The CEA does not believe its action was being intentionally blocked from viewers and appreciates that the meeting was still available live via Zoom and that a recording of the meeting was posted later that same night. ChicopeeTV provides a valuable service to the community and the workers dedicated to keeping our community informed must be treated fairly."

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EARLY DEADLINES
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Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of November 23-27, 2026.
Thursday, Nov. 19 at 2 PM for November 26 issue
• CLASSIFIEDS FOR ALL PAPERS •
• Country Journal • The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times
Friday, November 20 at 2 PM for November 26 Issue
• Agawam Advertiser News • Sentinel • Quaboag Current
Monday, November 23 at 2 PM for *November 26 Issue*
• The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette
Tuesday, November 24 at 2 PM for *November 27 Issue*
• Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
413-283-8393 • www.turley.com

RODRIGUEZ
from page 3

"I'm proud that I get connected with families, students, staff, and the community from many different backgrounds," Rodriguez said. "Because I want families to know that there is someone they can come to, someone who will listen without judgment, help them find answers, or just simply sit with me and figure things out. Those connections are what make this job meaningful to me. Receiving this award today is my reminder that sometimes the things that do every day, the things that feel ordinary to us, can mean something very important to someone else."

Rodriguez then pivoted as she took a moment and looked around before bestowing gratitude to all of her supporters and those in attendance, showing her heart on full display.

"So, to my FACE team, thank you for always being there when I'm looking for ideas, trying to find answers, and always willing to help. What's next? They don't even ask me questions; they said, 'Let's do it'," Rodriguez said. "And to the amazing staff that I work with every day, thank you. Thank you so much for making my job so easy and so enjoyable."

She then bestowed praise on Ware, Vieau, Colon, and Jackson, before wrapping up.

"Thank you all for being here celebrating me. I am so proud to accept this award. I'm grateful to everyone who has been part of my journey, and most importantly, this is for my team," Rodriguez said.

The ceremony then concluded with warm applause from the crowd, capturing a snapshot of a district proud of the individuals working quietly behind the scenes to uplift its students and families.

Chicopee Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary,** costing $275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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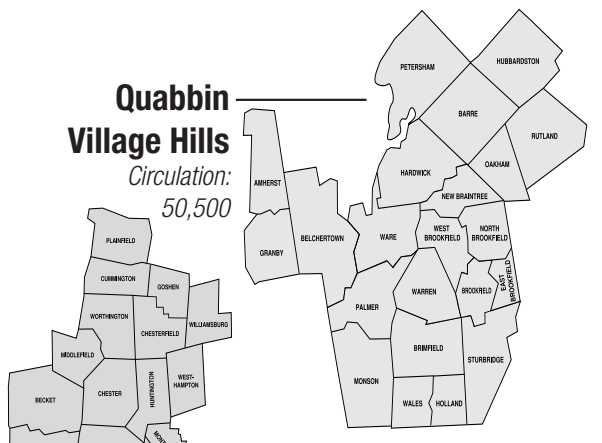
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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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33 Base Price $32.50	34 Base Price $33.00	35 Base Price $33.50	36 Base Price $34.00
37 Base Price $34.50	38 Base Price $35.00	39 Base Price $35.50	40 Base Price $36.00

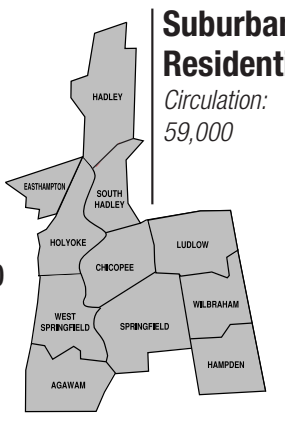
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