

# Chicopee Register

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## Vieau wins reelection, reflects on next term

By **Brendan Rooney**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — Mayor John Vieau, who ran unopposed this election, is set to return to office for his fourth term.

When the inauguration festivities in January come around, he's not coming alone as new faces to the City Council will be on hand including Councilor-Elect Joe Pasternak in Ward 5, Douglas Girouard in Ward 8, Jessica Avery and Joel McAuliffe for the role of Councilor At-Large and, lastly, City Collector-Elect Sandra Peret, who Vieau noted he's excited to get to work with.

Vieau sat down with the Chicopee Register earlier this week in a tell-all exclusive reflecting on his next term and coming goals.

### The New Elected Officials

"I will say that as Mayor, I am humbled and honored to just have this wonderful opportunity, to continue the things I get to do, and one of them is to serve this community in this role, and I've learned that it takes this 'together' mentality," Vieau said. "So, I'm going to be reaching out to the newly elected officials,

by having them come in, talk about where we're at, giving them a current snap shot of the current landscape, and to hear their ideas, in regards to what they are looking to accomplish, and help get them up to speed, answer some questions, and listen to their overall concerns, while establishing the overall message, 'we are in this together.'"



Mayor John Vieau

Vieau then added, to ensure clarity, that the approach he continues to put forth with his agenda is that he is putting "Chicopee first."

He hopes all candidates who continue to run and seek a seat as an elected official should always carry a sense of a similar drive to remember the city's values, while holding onto the passion present and the potential starting to emerge.

"We are here to work together, and I will congratulate all of the newly elected officials. I'm happy people are running for office, but I still feel that you do get nervous that someone might not run as well, but it's sometimes a thankless job, and

See **MAYOR VIEAU**  
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TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The Knights of Columbus #4044 donated \$7,000 and winter coats to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry on Nov. 7.

## Knights donate to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen

By **Kristin Rivers**  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Members of the Knights of Columbus #4044 stopped by Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry on Nov. 7 to present a \$7,000 donation and winter coats.

Also, the Knights supported other nearby local organizations with similar donations to Neighbors Helping Neighbors in South Hadley and Kate's Kitchen in Holyoke.

The donation comes as there's increased demand for

help after SNAP benefit cuts and during the federal government shutdown.

Grand Knight Ron Grenier explained the organization is all about gestures of kindness and helping others.

"That's what the Knights of Columbus is for. They help the needy, anybody that's in distress," Grenier said. "We have a lot of need out there right now. They need help and it's something that we're able to do and that's what we're doing."

Grenier said the Knights were honored to help.

"It makes you feel good.

We enjoy doing it and we have a lot of charities that we take care of throughout the year, but this one here is so special," Grenier said.

He added the Knights will also be holding their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Castle of Knights on Thursday, Nov. 27, from Noon to 2 p.m., with volunteers also doing deliveries. Access Care Partners is offering their support this year.

"Everyone's welcome, no questions asked and the more the merrier," Grenier said. "We enjoy it and we look forward to it every year."

Executive Director Kim Caisse shared the donations will be a big help and noted the nonprofit has been seeing "many, many more families."

"Last week, I understand, we went to the Chicopee Library and we saw 160 families and we normally see around 60 or 70, so that just goes to show how many people are in need right now," Caisse said.

Caisse said Lorraine's is here to support the community and give back however they can.

See **LORRAINE'S**  
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## Chicopee marks Veterans Day

By **Brendan Rooney**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — On Tuesday, Nov. 11, the community saw an ensemble of friends, family, local and congressional dignitaries partake in celebrating and commemorating Veterans Day.

The first stop was a Memorial Service and Mass that was held from within Saint Stanislaus Basilica to honor and enshrine the legacy of those who served, living and those who passed away. The agenda then shifted to a ceremonial wreath laying that transpired from the sacred grounds of Veterans Plaza in front of Dupont Middle School, which saw Congressman Richard Neal (D-MA) deliver remarks centered around the importance of Veterans Day and the pursuit of American achievement and daily freedoms, as next year will be the nation's 250th birthday of origin.

After that, various members of the Chicopee High School AFJROTC helped accompany various veterans in displaying wreaths across all of the war memorials, from the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam and the War on Terror Memorial, before Taps was played, signaling an end to the first half of the ceremonies. In attendance were



TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

The rifle squad looks on as "Taps" is played in the background.

Mayor John Vieau, countless members of the City Council and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee).

In addition, the CHS ROTC Cadets were given command by Vieau and former Cadet Arriaga, which energized the faces of many on the cold, frigid morning. However, the most important takeaway was Vieau reflecting on the importance of Veterans

Day and the role the city plays in honoring the legacy of those who enlisted and served.

"Today is a moment where we come together to celebrate and honor those served, and I want it known we are a Veteran-proud city. We have over 4,000 veterans who live here, and there is a ton of pride here in Chicopee for all of our Veterans and armed services," Vieau said.

The agenda then transitioned to the Knights of Columbus Elder Council #69 on Granby Road, where attendees were greeted with a hot lunch consisting of Shepherd's Pie, along with a live musical performance from the Earls as they called out all of the branches of the armed forces

See **VETERANS DAY**  
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## Superintendent announces goals for 2025-2026 school year

Empowering and valuing students, staff and educators"

By **Dalton Zbierski**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — During the Nov. 5 meeting of the School Committee, Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware outlined his goals for the 2025-2026 school year.

Each goal is aligned to strategic priorities that were approved by the School Committee in the spring. At the end of next summer, the committee will rate Ware on if he was able to implement the goals.

"We have our strategic priorities; five of them," Ware said. "The first is caring and respectful places to learn; second is empowering and valuing students, educators and staff; third is academics that inspire; fourth is family and community connections; and fifth and last but not least is effective operations and equitable resources."

### Goal 1: Caring and Respectful Places to Learn

Ware believes that by June 30, 2026, 100% of Chicopee's public schools will have put in place a school-wide effort to promote four core values — belonging, joy, respect and growth. He hopes that this will result in measurable increases in student and staff sense of belonging and facilitate an inclusive culture.

The core values were voted on by a steering committee, which was guided by public input.

Ware said that in January, the district will take an audit of what measures are being taken in schools to prioritize the four values.

The superintendent also

wants to involve students in the process.

"I want to lean heavily on student voice," Ware said. "You see peer-voice councils, which are up and running in a lot of our schools. However, I know there are some schools that have had a bit of an ebb and flow to their councils, and I want to make sure that I support them to get them all up and running so we can actually continue to get their voice as well as staff."

Goal 2: Empowering and valuing students, staff and educators

By June 30, 2026, Ware is confident the school district can increase activities by 25% from the previous year to boost staff morale and expand leadership opportunities across grades pre-K through 12 by 25% as well.

"There are multiple groups that make up our community, and the professional development should be designed to support them as well. This is about the empowering of all of our staff," Ware said.

According to Ware, it is critical to make sure all members of the school community are heard and supported.

"One of the things that was very revealing is that staff have reported not feeling good, right? Morale in some places can improve, so I'm moving past just the recognition days, where it's teacher recognition or principal recognition," Ware said.

Instead, he is looking at other ways to actually include staff members, thank them and show them that the district is appreciative.

"Hopefully, you will hear the self-report after

See **SUPT. GOALS.**  
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The Chicopee High School Air Force Jr. ROTC Cadets pose for a group photo with City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laffamme, Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), Mayor John Vieau, Congressman Richard Neal (D-MA) and Ward 9 City Councilor Mary Beth Costello.

# IN THE CITY

## City food drive supports local food pantries

**By Kristin Rivers**  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - A city food drive held outside City Hall on Nov. 6 helped fill up local food pantries and food banks in response to the SNAP Benefits cut this month.

From 1 to 4 p.m., residents, community members and more stopped by the parking lot outside City Hall to drop off their donations, which would then be distributed to the local food pantries and food banks.

For residents in need of help, the following food pantries and food banks are available.

- First Congregational Church of Chicopee, 06 Chicopee Street (413) 592-0396
- Breaking Bread with Community: 1st and 3rd Sundays: 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Regina's Pantry: Sundays 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry 170 Pendexter Avenue (413) 592-9528
- Meals Served: Monday through Friday: 4 to 6 p.m.
- Pantry: Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Food Bank of Western Massachusetts Mobile Pantry 50 Broadway Street (413) 419-0079
- 2nd and 4th Mondays: 10 to 11 a.m.
- No verification required; please bring an empty shopping bag.
- First Central Bible Church 50 Broadway Street

- (413) 592-5353
- 1st, 3rd, and 4th
- Tuesdays: 9 to 11 a.m.
- 2nd Tuesday: 6 to 8 p.m.
- One visit per month. Closed on snow days and voting days.
- House of Refuge International, Inc. 292 New Ludlow Road (413) 437-8600
- 2nd and 4th Saturdays: 2 to 4:30 p.m.
- La Iglesia De Dios Incorporada 200 Exchange Street (413) 314-9067
- Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9 a.m. to Noon and 1 to 5 p.m.
- Mission Center New Jerusalem 625 Front Street (413) 534-8103
- Thursdays: 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- Our Father's House 938 Chicopee Street (413) 437-8071
- 4th Saturday: 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.

Mayor John Vieau explained how thousands of residents receive SNAP benefits.

"We know that there's a huge need right now and we want to make sure that we're helping our community. So, my team thought of this wonderful idea of partnering with the former retirement director, Anna Hamelin," Vieau said. "She, every year, has been engaged with doing some type of food drive to help support local pantries—specifically Lorraine's, in most cases—and I said, 'Absolutely, we should do our part' and my



Chicopee Public Library Director Laura Bovee stops by with donations from the library.

team created this wonderful food drive."

Vieau emphasized when there's a need, cause or reason, "this community comes through every single time" to lend their support.

"We want to make sure that the pantries have some food on their shelves and we know that Lorraine's was running low. Very low. Having conversations directly with Kim Caisse, the executive director, and Donna Marratta, they're running really low. So, we were trying to find creative ways to help," Vieau said.

He expressed gratitude for the community lending

their support and donating. "I think people understand that it is a real issue and that, like I had mentioned, when there's a cause,

this community, they come through," Vieau said. "There are many out there who are willing to help and give back."



After noting the high food prices, Vieau again emphasized there is help out there.

"Those foods that we need to nourish our bodies are becoming more and more expensive every day and if there's a way that we can help, whether it'd be our small part of helping provide some non-perishables and add some of the essentials at Lorraine's or Regina's Pantry and the other mobile pantries. There's a whole bunch," Vieau said. "We have those lists; it's available through my office, so we wanted to make sure people know."

For anyone who wasn't able to donate that day, Vieau encouraged the community to donate directly to the food pantries and food banks, whether food or monetary donations.

Vieau's message was this.

"It's gratitude. I'm thankful for the generosity of this community and always coming through," Vieau said. "If you're struggling, I encourage you to go to the pantries. There's mobile ones, come to Lorraine's, call my office. We're here to help. I take a lot of pride in that and I'm just grateful for the generosity of the Chicopee community."

As an additional note, the government shutdown of- ficially ended on Nov. 12.

Residents stop by to drop off their donations for the city-wide food donation held outside City Hall on Nov. 6

## Chicopee school district receives 111-page review from DESE

**By Dalton Zbierski**  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Each year, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education reviews approximately 20 school districts across the state.

During the spring, it was Chicopee's turn to be evaluated. Before this analysis could occur, Chicopee Public Schools had to provide DESE with a wide range of data and materials.

Jennifer Bellville, the district's assistant superintendent for instruction and accountability, described the process of providing DESE with what it needed.

"It was quite the undertaking," Bellville said, during the Nov. 5 meeting of the School Committee. "We had

to submit several documents, [have] on-site visits, we had focus groups, we had interviews, we had classroom visits as well as there was a lot of data triangulation."

Ultimately, Bellville reported that 130 stakeholder interviews occurred, and 143 classroom visits were conducted.

By compiling this information, district officials were able to get a clear view of a variety of categories, including enrollment.

"We ended the school year of '24-'25 with 6,755 students," Bellville said. "We are currently working on our Oct. 1 submission. Districts have until December to verify that data, but as of October, our current enrollment here in Chicopee is 6,625 students."

Bellville identified the

downward trend in enrollment and provided an explanation.

"We do recognize that our enrollment is declining, but I do want to remind everyone that part of that decline has to do with we had many students in the shelters and the hotels that have sense closed down. We are seeing that across the board in a lot of our data," Bellville said.

This school year, there are 50 less students in the district that are English language learners. There are other similar drops in other categories of learners, but Bellville said that the five-year trend still points upward.

"As you see with the five-year trend, we have seen a significant increase in multilanguage learners as well as our students with disabili-

ties," she said. "From 2019 to where we are currently, we have seen an increase of approximately 225 students on [Individual Development Plans]."

If the review made one thing clear, Bellville believes that it's a demographical change.

"Our demographics have changed, the needs of our students have changed, and we're definitely seeing that across the board from pre-K to our 18 to 22-year-old program," she said.

Regarding DESE's review, the purpose was to evaluate the district on its systems, identify areas of improvement, inform district officials what is going well in Chicopee's schools and relay where improvement is needed.

This ranged from leadership and governance to curriculum and instruction to assessment, human resources and professional development to student support and financial and asset management.

"We just received this 111-page report. To summarize it, I wanted to talk about some of our key themes," Bellville said. "They found a lot of really high-level highlights. They found that we are a collaborative, strategically focused district. We have strong leadership alignment. We have transparent budgeting, and there's a strong commitment to stakeholder engagement."

Bellville also listed several areas that need improvement, according to DESE.

"They talked about our inconsistent instructional

leadership team practices. This was not a surprise for us, as our elementary [schools] were in their first year of implementing instructional leadership teams. So, that was a new practice for them," Bellville said.

The district administrator also brought up another concern.

"We really are struggling, especially with our English Language Parent Advisory Council... Families are nervous to come and to engage," Bellville noted.

The entire report is available on the Chicopee Public Schools website. One can view Bellville's entire presentation on Nov. 5 by viewing the Chicopee School Committee meeting on ChicopeeTV's YouTube page.

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# IN THE CITY

## Sendoff a celebration of community pride

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Football Team received a sendoff from parents, friends, school staff, local elected officials, the fire and police departments and more ahead of their playoff game against King Philip Regional High School on Nov. 7.

The Colts had finished their regular season undefeated with a record of 8-0 and were heading to the state tournament for the first time in a decade, receiving a police escort from the high school on their way to Wrentham for the game.

Football Coach Graham Raymond said the team was excited for the playoff match.

"We're just really excited. We got a big playoff game, we got two undefeated teams," Raymond said. "We've been trying all week to get ready to play King Philip. They've got a great team and we've had a great season so far. So, we prepare for them as hard as we can and we're just ready to go."



Colt Pride was on display during the sendoff for the Chicopee Comprehensive High School Football Team on Nov. 7, decked out in blue and gold and showing off the banner.

Raymond expressed gratitude for the community support.

"It feels like a big high school game in Texas or something like that with a great atmosphere and all the people supporting us and

the police escort. So, it's just a really exciting feeling," Raymond said. "Go Colts!"

For Kristina Skaza and Tracie MacKenzie, who are parents, the playoffs were a long time coming.

"We are so excited, we are finally going to the playoffs after so many years!" MacKenzie said.

"These kids are doing great, working hard and working great as a team," Skaza said.

MacKenzie said the team has been phenomenal to watch all season, praising the team for their efforts.

"It's been awesome to watch every single week," MacKenzie said.

"I agree. They've been working really hard and we've been waiting for this season for a long time and they've been working great!" Skaza said.

Their advice was this. "Do awesome! We're proud of you, keep up the good work, don't give up," MacKenzie said.

"Working hard, don't give up, try your best and you guys did a great job thus far. Keep it up!" Skaza said.

Principal Andrew Lamothe and Mayor John Vieau also gave the team a pep talk before they boarded the buses.

"One thing I want to share is that I know all of you have that Chicopee pride, so first it's a beautiful day in Chicopee! Take that Chicopee Pride all the way to Wrentham and bring home a win! You always represent Chicopee so we win or lose with dignity and respect. Leave it all on the field. You've worked

so hard," Vieau said. "The city's behind you and super proud of you. Get out there and play, do everything you can do to the best of your ability and come home with that victory!"

"On three, can we say Go Colts? One, two, three..." Lamothe said.

"Go Colts!" the team said.

### After the Game

Unfortunately, the Colts fell to King Philip Regional High School in round one of the Division III Playoffs, losing 51-0 and ending their season with an 8-1 record.

Despite this loss, the Colts will get to play one more home game against Minnechaug Regional High School on Friday, Nov. 14, in what is being dubbed the Western Mass D3 Bowl Game, providing one more opportunity for the community to celebrate the team and show off its community pride.

After this, the community will get to enjoy the annual Thanksgiving Day tradition of the Sword Game between Chicopee Comp and Chicopee High at Szot Park.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS



The players receive a pep talk from Principal Andrew Lamothe and Mayor John Vieau.



The police escort begins.

## CFD receives visit from The Arbors



PHOTO AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE - Thanks to our friends from The Arbors at Chicopee for their recent surprise visit!




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## IN THE CITY

# in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

## Garden Lady follow up

Martha wrote in after my column on Stinging Nettle. As you may recall, a reader had reached out about this plant and how it had begun to grow rampant in her field.

She was nervous about coming in contact with it, and nervous for her dog, as well, who likes to run in the tall grass. Her main concern was eradicating it, and although I gave her some advice on how to do that, I should have also given the plant a little more well-deserved recognition.

Herbalists and others interested in the nutritional value of nettle often plant it "on purpose."

This is what Martha had to say: "I did, indeed, plant nettles; they are in a part of the yard where their growth will be somewhat controlled. But are they not an excellent source of calcium, and have plenty of other health benefits, besides? It seems we are quick to 'eradicate' the less tame plants, which, upon investigation, can prove to be beneficial."

Martha, your point is well-taken! I guess it goes along with the old saying, "one person's trash is another person's treasure." Or better yet, how about "one person's weed is another person's medicine?"

Along similar lines, this question came in from Steven, who lives in Becket. He wrote to the Garden Lady curious about the late blooming perennial, Monkshood.

First he provides some background; "My wife was starting to clear a small flower area we have next to the driveway two weekends ago. She was cutting down daisies that we didn't even plant there. I saw a flower next to the daisies, which I had never seen before and asked her what it was. She said she had no idea, that she'd never seen it before either. I took some pictures, and every search I did on them said that they're Monkshood. I told her that the search said they're poisonous."

I walked away and then read a little more and found out that they're poisonous to the touch. I went back to tell her and she had cut them down without touching them

because she was scared our dog would get into them. We just left them where they're lying. The stems are still sticking out of the ground. What are your thoughts? Is that what you think they are too? My research didn't show them growing in this area. Also, thoughts about how we should handle them if they are indeed poisonous?"

Monkshood (*Aconitum*) is a pretty perennial that has blue "hooded" flowers along two-four foot spikes. It is a cottage garden favorite because it is one of a few flowers that do bloom in blue shades, and it blooms towards the end of summer, when few other plants are in their glory.

Due to the unique flower shape, the plant is mainly pollinated by "long tongued" bumble bees, who pry open the flower to get at the pollen. With all this said, the plant sounds great!

Now here comes the "but..." Caution should indeed be exercised around Monkshood. It goes by other common names that are more telling of its true nature, Wolfsbane and Devil's Helmet among others.

The plant contains a deadly toxins, aconitine and diterpene alkaloids that can result in death if ingested. It is even advised to use gloves when handling the plant, even its roots if you were to dig it up, because of absorption that can occur through the skin.

Most experts recommend not growing it in gardens that pets or children may frequent.

I hope this answers your question, Steven. I do think that you were on target to be concerned, especially because of your dog.

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

## in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer



### Horned lark

Recently, the Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sighting of a horned lark on the summit of Mt. Wachusett in Princeton.

Only the male horned larks have "horns." They are tiny and hard to see. Males are sandy to rusty brown above with a black chest band and a curving black mask. The face and throat are either yellow or white. The female lacks the horns and face mask. She is brown with darker streaks and has a white eyebrow and white below.

They are about the size of a robin and the only lark species in North America. The female lays three to four pale gray to greenish white, blotched and spotted with brown eggs in a slight depression in the ground. Incubation is by the female and young are fed by both parents. Young may leave the nest after nine to 12 days. They are not able to fly for about another week.

Larks forage entirely by walking and running on the ground. Except when nesting, they usually forage in

flocks. They eat seeds and insects. They also eat berries. They are present all year in most areas from southern Canada south. They are strictly migratory in the far north.

### Mass Audubon bird sightings

On Oct. 25 Wachusett Mountain in Princeton, hawk watchers reported sighting from the summit two northern harriers, ten sharp-shinned hawks, nine Cooper's hawks, 18 red-shoulder hawks, four red-tailed hawks, two American kestrels and one merlin. In addition, people saw two bald eagles, 37 turkey vultures and one horned lark.

### Helping birds

With more than 40 million acres of lawn in the U.S. alone, there's huge potential to support wildlife by replacing lawns with native plantings. People will have less grass to mow by adding native plants. They then will be able to watch the birds come into their yard. They also provide shelter and nesting areas for birds. The nectar, seeds and berries help feed the birds.

### Brimfield birds

A Brimfield resident emailed on Oct. 17 that he went to the Brimfield State Forest a few days ago and checked three ponds. He said, "Not much about, one pond had eight Canada Geese and another had a

group of wood ducks. Maybe a couple dozen in a beaver pond, it was difficult to get a count with all the stumps and branches in the water."

He said, "In the yard the Eastern Towhee and Northern Catbird were last seen the second week of October. Besides the usual suspect there have been white-throated Sparrows (most were the tan-striped color form), common yellowthroat (female). An unusual sighting was a male northern flicker taking a drink at the bird bath. That is the first time that I have seen a woodpecker take a drink" He also saw two dark-eyed juncos, the first of the year in his yard. One took a bath.

### Sunflower seed heads

The Brimfield resident reported the tufted titmouse and northern cardinal really like the sunflower seed heads that he has been hanging on one of my feeder stations. Because of the black bears, he has no birdfeeders out yet.

### Warren ponds

The Brimfield resident drove past the ponds in Warren. At the one on New Reed Street, there was an adult bald eagle, three mallards and two double-crested cormorants.

### Canada geese

I saw a flock of about two dozen Canada geese land in a harvested cornfield in Barre this past Saturday. I do not know if they were local geese or some migrating south from the north.

*People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.*



your health

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN  
Guest Column

## The alcohol conundrum

Excessive alcohol consumption has long been recognized as an illness that contributes to societal problems like drunk driving and domestic violence, along with a host of physical ailments that are potentially fatal.

Right up until the 21st century, though, there was consensus that moderate alcohol intake did little harm, and might even have had some health benefits. Red wine, in particular, was found to contain antioxidants like resveratrol that may lower blood pressure and polyphenols, which may improve blood flow to the heart.

That was then, and this is now.

Increasingly, research is finding that the risks of even moderate alcohol intake outweigh its benefits. Alcohol

consumption is a risk factor for several types of cancer, including breast, colorectal and oral cavity cancers. According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), moderate drinkers have a 1.23-fold higher risk of alcohol-related cancers.

The World Health Organization (WHO) says that there is no safe level of alcohol consumption, and that even relatively low levels can increase the risk of breast cancer.

And a large British study released just this month found "light" drinking (about an ounce of spirits a day for men and half an ounce for women) was associated with an increase in cancer deaths among older participants. The risk was greater for those who had existing health problems or who lived in low-income areas.

Just as cigarettes were once thought to be healthy and are now known to be dangerous, alcohol is on a trajectory to becoming another health pariah. Dr. Victoria Amesbury, an internist who has been practicing for 36 years, would be OK with that.

"One of the amazing things I run into all the time is well-educated women who drink," she says. "There are studies that indicate even two drinks a week is toxic, and that it is now thought there is a definite connection between alcohol and breast cancer."

"But when I tell a patient to stop drinking, they say all their friends drink and they don't want to be an outcast."

There's the rub. Alcohol is so ingrained in our society that it's hard to imagine life without it. Around the time America was founded, alcohol was actually thought to warm the body and aid digestion. It was used to treat colds and fevers and even given as a sedative during childbirth. During the mid-19th century, alcohol was the main painkiller used in surgery.

Look back at movies from the '30s and '40s (I'm thinking particularly of "The Thin Man" series) in which cocktails took center stage,

consumed by glamorous people. How could we not fall in love with booze?

Should we all quit drinking cold turkey, particularly women? That's not likely to happen. Just as everyone hasn't been persuaded to give up cigarettes, not everyone will be persuaded to stop drinking alcohol, no matter what the research says.

I think the question becomes, "How do you mitigate your risk factors if you choose to continue drinking?"

For her patients who continue to drink, Dr. Amesbury recommends abstaining for three or four consecutive days each week, and then consume only light amounts the other days, no more than five ounces of wine. If you want more to drink, mix the wine with club soda or another mixer.

Another tactic is to take a month-long "vacation" from drinking a couple of times a year, say a "dry January" and a "dry July." In those 31 days, research has found, moderate-heavy drinkers can see improvements in insulin resistance, blood pressure, body weight and cancer-related growth factors. It also allows liver cells to recover from alcohol's toxicity.

Only drinking alcohol during meals, drinking slowly,

alternating alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (particularly water!) are other measures you can take to mitigate some of the risks associated with alcohol.

There is also the growing trend of "mocktails," which can mimic favorite alcoholic drinks in flavor without the buzz. Think about mocktail mimosas, Moscow mules or sangria.

There was a time when a nonsmoker was considered weird, and now smokers are relegated to designated areas, or banned entirely. Maybe a time will come when not drinking is considered the cool thing to do. Until then, do what you can to lower your risk factors.

*Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of Northshore Patient Advocates LLC (NShore). She is also founder and CEO of Nurse Advocate Entrepreneur, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to newspaper readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com.*

## Chicopee Register

### TEAM



**EDITOR**  
Kristin Rivers  
krivers@turley.com



**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Wendy Delcamp  
wdelcamp@turley.com



**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
sports@turley.com

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@ChicopeeRegister



www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President

**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.  
www.turley.com

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

**Send letters to:**  
**The Chicopee Register,**  
24 Water Street,  
Palmer, MA 01069  
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The deadline for  
submissions is Tuesday at noon.

## WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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

## Election letters to the editor

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

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

### Campaign news

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

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

# IN THE CITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOEL RODOWICZ

2026 Chicopee Award Recipients: Left to Right: Dan Therrien, Council 69 Grand Knight; Bernie St. George, Parade Marshal; Aly Sliwa, Committee President; Haley Jarvis, Woods Award; and Ray LeHouiller, Council 69 Home Association President. Therrien and LeHouiller will accept the Atkinson Award on behalf of Council 69. All will be recognized at the President's Dinner on February 7, 2026.

## Parade Committee announces Marshal and Awards for 2026

CHICOPEE - Chicopee Parade Committee President Aly Sliwa has announced the following award recipients for the 2026 parade season. The announcement was made at the committee's monthly meeting on Nov. 10. Bernie St. George will serve as Parade Marshal and will lead the Chicopee contingent in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 22, 2026. He is a former Chicopee business owner and member of Knights of Columbus 4044, Galaxy Community Council, and Cigars for Soldiers, as well as a member of the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke's Board of Directors. Haley Jarvis will receive the Woods Award, which recog-

nizes a committee member for long-term, exemplary service. Elder Council 69, Council and Home and School Association, will be recognized with the Atkinson Award, which honors a person or organization in the community that has supported the committee. Award recipients will be formally recognized at the President's Dinner on February 7, 2026, to be held at the K of C Elder Council 69, Granby Road, Chicopee. The public is invited, and tickets to the event will go on sale after the new year. Applications for the 2026 Colleen Contest will be posted on the committee's website at [www.chicopeespc.com](http://www.chicopeespc.com) soon.

The Committee will introduce the new Chicopee Tartan at a Christening to be held on Saturday December 6, 2025, from 2 to 5 p.m., at The Hub at Market Square (old Chicopee Library). Tartan swag and March Madness Calendars will be available for purchase at that time. Watch the committee's social media for further information on this and other events. The committee meets throughout the year, and new members are always welcome. Anyone interested may contact the committee through its Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/chicopeespc/>, or website at [www.chicopeespc.com](http://www.chicopeespc.com).

## Narcotics investigation leads to arrest

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Police Department Narcotics Unit, in conjunction with the Western Massachusetts FBI Gang Task Force (WMGTF), conducted an investigation into the trafficking of fentanyl from a residence located on St. James Avenue in Chicopee. Through the course of

the investigation, the offender was identified as Margarita Burgos. Detectives assigned to the WMGTF subsequently applied for and were granted a search warrant for the residence. On November 6, 2025, members of the Chicopee Police Narcotics Unit and the WMGTF executed the

search warrant. As a result of the search, Margarita Burgos, who was present at the time, was placed under arrest and charged with the following:  
 Trafficking fentanyl over 10 grams  
 Possession with intent to distribute a class B substance

## Chicopee Historical Society presenting talk on Fisk

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Historical Society will present a talk on the Fisk, one of Chicopee's most renowned manufacturers. From the early days with Noyes Fisk taking over the property of the Spaulding & Pepper Co., makers of rubber tires, the Fisk Rubber Company was a major employer

until it became United States Rubber in 1940, and later on, Uniroyal. Despite the company changes, it would always be familiarly known as "The Fisk." Society board member Joe Pasternak, assisted by president Chet Kobierski, will present the company's history through many photos of the interior of the administration

building, factory production, and company employee and family activities, including sports teams that were sponsored by the Fisk. The event is free and open to the public, 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 in the Bazan Community Room of the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, Mass.

### LORRAINE'S from page 1

"It means a lot to us and that's what we're here for. Lorraine's has been around for over 40 years and we always served the community by giving out free food at our pantries and also a dinner every night, Monday through Friday, and it just means so much to us to be able to give back to the community and we're here to just make sure that people have food on the table, especially now and with the holidays coming up," Caisse said.

means so much to us that they continue to support us all the time. It's really humbling to know there's people in the community doing this for us," Caisse said.

Lorraine's Board of Directors President Donna Marratta was moved by the Knights' donation, calling it "A Godsend."

"People have the misconception that people who come to a pantry are homeless. No. People that come to a pantry are you and I. If I had lost my check, I was on a single income. Even before SNAP, the amount of people were rising because now we're coming into the winter months, so now you have the extra bill of heating," Marratta said. "Also, with a family, you want to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, maybe have little gifts. So, it always gets tighter, but the need is all-year round. Sometimes, this time of year, people are a little more generous, but in the middle of summer or in May, we need the food just as much as we need it now."

Marratta said how Lorraine's and other food banks can help fill that gap for those

who are on SNAP benefits. "Most of the people that come are families, elderly," Marratta said. "Right now, people are very concerned."

She also stressed the importance of making sure the staple items Lorraine's provides are continually stocked.

"We get the bread and the produce comes from the grocery stores. Big Y, Stop & Shop, Target, BJ's. Without them, we wouldn't have anything on our shelves, and then we get some of the staple items from the Food Bank (of Western Mass), we're able to order," Marratta said.

Caisse said this. "This is what the community is about. Here in Chicopee, I have to say when we put the word out that we're in need, the community is always there for us and we're so grateful for that and all that they always do for us," Caisse said.

Grenier's message was this.

"We know there's a need out there. We're there to help out as much as we can. We enjoy doing it. It's a lot of work, but that's what we're there for," Grenier said.

## Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for Kids and Families

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

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

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

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

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Fridays Nov. 21 at 11 a.m. Babies crawling to 24 months and their caregivers are invited to join

us for free play followed by circle time exploring songs, fingerplays and movement!

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

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

The Children's Room is a great place to hang out. Coloring pages and board games are always available. There are also some new things you can play

with while you visit. Ask us about food toys for the play kitchen, building blocks, or the art cart.

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

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

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

Visit the library website for more info about all of the library's events! [www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org](http://www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org).

## Elms College to host Gaelic football match between UMass and UConn Nov. 16

CHICOPEE - As part of International Education Week, Elms College will host a Gaelic football scrimmage on Sunday, Nov. 16, between club teams from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and the University of Connecticut. The game is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Leary Field.

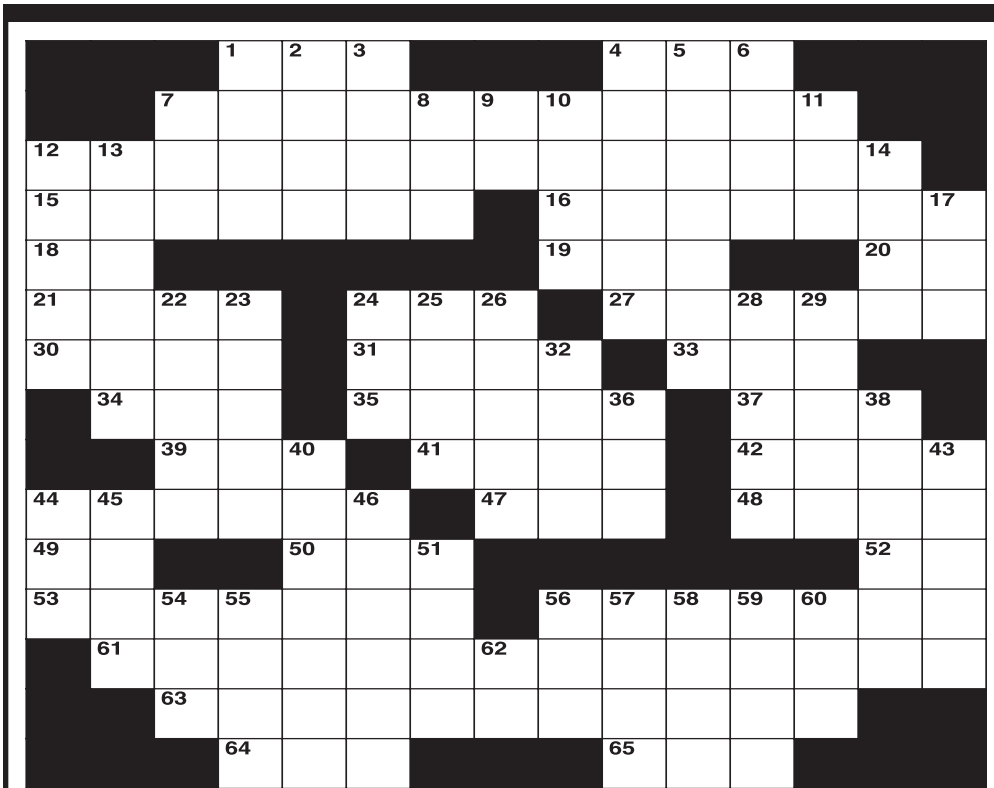
the 14th Century. The sport has been played in America since the arrival of the first Irish immigrants. It is a fast-paced, high-scoring game combining elements of soccer, basketball, and rugby.

The afternoon provides an opportunity to learn about Irish culture and heritage.

Elms College, under the direction of Irish Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Mi-

chaela Burke, launched its own Gaelic football club this fall as a fun way to expose students to Irish culture.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State, and is part of efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and to attract future leaders from abroad to study in the United States.



### CLUES ACROSS

- Expression of surprise
- Keyboard key
- One who works on lights
- Notable children's story
- Fall back into a bad pattern
- Eye parts
- Atomic #18
- Of she
- Farm state
- One point south of southeast
- British media entity
- Asian garment
- Drench
- Expressions of pleasure
- Turf
- UK trade union (abbr.)

### CLUES DOWN

- Razorbill genus
- Longtime Baltimore tight end
- Performs on stage
- Supports a sentiment
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Broadway songwriter Sammy
- Snakelike fish
- Men's fashion accessory
- Hospital worker
- Something to scratch
- No (Scottish)
- Volcanic ash
- Of this
- American jazz drummer Watts
- Drop down
- English dialect
- Predatory seabirds
- Imams' deputies
- Fertility god
- Fence material

### CLUES ACROSS

28. Parks and DeLauro are two
29. Distinctive smell (Brit.)
32. Protein-rich liquids
36. Touch lightly
38. Season for Catholics
40. Boat race
43. Police actions
44. Chinese river
45. Waterfall (Scottish)
46. Walk ostentatiously
51. Type of carpet
54. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano
55. Sea eagles
56. An enclosure for confining livestock
57. Dry
58. An increase in price or value
59. The highest point of something
60. Government lawyers
62. Larry and Curly's pal

# McAuliffe appoints Chicopee Native Jeffrey Trask as Chair of Transition Team

CHICOPEE - City Councilor-at-Large Elect Joel McAuliffe today announced the appointment of Jeffrey Trask as Chair of his Transition Team, leading preparations for McAuliffe's return to the City Council and helping to guide early priorities focused on modernization, public safety, and economic growth.

Trask, a Chicopee native with deep roots in the community, currently serves as Head of Enterprise Resilience for ISO New England and Fire Commissioner and Director of Emergency Management for the City of Holyoke. He has built

a distinguished career in emergency management, crisis response, and organizational leadership, with prior roles at MassMutual, MIT, and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

A BusinessWest "40 Under Forty" honoree, Trask was recognized for his leadership in strengthening emergency preparedness and continuity planning across both the public and private sectors. His career includes key roles in major regional responses, from the 2011 tornado recovery to coordinating emergency operations in the aftermath of the Boston

Marathon bombing to serving in various roles managing pandemic response and recovery.

"Jeff brings unmatched experience in leadership, public safety, and crisis management - but more importantly, he brings heart," said McAuliffe. "As a Chicopee native, Jeff understands the values that make this city special. His expertise and dedication to community service will help us ensure a strong, effective start as we get to work for the people of Chicopee."

Trask said he was honored to take on the role.

"Chicopee has always

been home for me," said Trask. "I'm proud to help Joel and the new City Council prepare to hit the ground running, focused on results that strengthen our neighborhoods and make our city even better."

McAuliffe, a former three-term City Councilor and current Director of Career and Technical Education for Holyoke Public Schools, was recently elected City Councilor At-Large. His priorities include revitalizing downtown Chicopee, expanding economic opportunity, and modernizing city government to deliver efficient, transparent services to residents.

## CFS, CPD take part in Sand for Seniors



CHICOPEE - On Nov. 6, members of the Chicopee Police Department and Fire Department supported the Hampden County Sheriff's Office Triad in delivering buckets of sand throughout the city of Chicopee. These buckets are provided free of charge, prior to the winter months, to help prevent winter slips and falls and related injuries in older adults. For more information about the Sand For Seniors program, or other Triad initiatives, which are aimed at keeping older adults safe and independent at home, please call the TRIAD office at 413-858-0060.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS

## Shots fired call leads to arrest on Nov. 2

CHICOPEE - On the morning of Sunday Nov. 2 at approximately 5:48 am WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch received a 911 call reporting shots being fired in the 0-100 block of State St. The reporting party provided a description of the suspect vehicle and also advised dispatch that the involved vehicle was now parked in the 0-100 block of Beverly St.

Responding Officers located the suspect vehicle and observed that it was occupied by two male parties. Due to the fact that there was a report of shots fired and the vehicle was located where the reporting party stated it was, Officers approached and asked both the operator and passenger to step out of the vehicle. The passenger was identified as Robert Irizarry and the

operator was identified as Fernando Resto. Neither the operator nor passenger had a weapon on them however, a loaded Ruger pistol was located inside the vehicle.

Robert and Fernando were both asked to produce a License to Carry, both stated they did not have one. Based on the description provided by the reporting party and the location of where the firearm was locat-

ed Robert was placed under arrest.

Robert Irizarry, a 31 year old male from Springfield was arrested and charged with the following:

Firearm, Discharge Within 500 Ft of a Building Disturbance While Carrying a Dangerous Weapon Firearm, Carry Without License Possess Ammunition Without FID Card

## HCSS Winter Raffle

CHICOPEE - The Hampden Charter School of Science Winter Raffle takes place on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 20 Johnson Rd. in Chicopee.

There will be over 50 prizes, a \$150 lottery tree, a signed Red Sox baseball and a 40 inch TV. General tickets are 3 for \$5, 8 for \$10 and 25 for \$20.

Other prizes include a Furnari Jewelers necklace - \$1,000 of sparkle! Tickets at 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20 and a \$500 Woodloch Pines Resort Gift Card at 1 ticket for \$5 or 3 tickets for \$10.

Your \$5 entry ticket will lead to a 50/50 raffle ticket (12 and under free).

Doors open at 1 p.m., raffle starts at 2 p.m. Also, meet Boomer from 1 to 2 p.m., a winter craft for the first 50 children under 10, \$10 mystery grab bags (prizes range from \$10 to \$50), \$2 cupcakes (every cupcake sold also enters you in our Sweet Treats Raffle and a Reserved Front Row Graduation Seating -

Live Auction.

The raffle donors are Ashley Furniture, Basketball Hall of Fame, BJ's, Boston Crawling, Boston Red Sox, Bowlero Bowling, Buffalo Wild Wings, Burger King, Charles River Cruises, Chick-Fil-A, Chili's Bar and Grill, Cinemark, Coca Cola, Crumbl, Furnari Jewelers, Hartford Yard Goats, Home Depot, Hy-Line Cruises, Jersey Mike's, Just B Prom, Kate Spade, Longhorn Steakhouse, Margaritaville Water Park, Men's Warehouse, 99 Restaurant, Northampton Dojo, Outback Steak House, Olive Garden, Springfield Museums, Springfield Thunderbirds, Starbucks, Tees 413, Texas Roadhouse, The Adventure Park, The Skin Nutritionist, Tree House Brewery, UMass Theater Department, Wendy's, Woodloch Pines, Wood-n-Tap and Worcester Red Sox.

Bundle up with big prizes! Every ticket helps HCSS athletes shine!

## Holiday Arts & Crafts for Kids

CHICOPEE - Holiday Arts and Crafts for Kids ages three to five will be taking place on Tuesdays Nov. 18 and 25 and Dec. 2 at 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate the holidays by creating fun, creative crafts. All materials included!

Location: Head Start Lincoln Grove, 216 Broadway St. Chicopee Register to partici-

pate.

Please call or email: Silvia at 413-505-9053 or Durands@headstart.org.

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

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

## Holiday Craft Fair at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging's FRIENDS of RiverMills will host a holiday craft fair on Friday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Come on down to RiverMills for the FRIENDS of RiverMills first event

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 and registration for a space opens Monday, Oct. 20.

This event is open to the public to sell and shop.

### MAYOR VIEAU from page 1

it's such a rollercoaster of emotion," Vieau said. "The highs and lows of being Mayor are incredible, and when you do something that people like, it's great, and you do something they don't, it's not so great, but once again, at the end of the day, I'm here to work with everyone."

In addition, Vieau also addressed the criticism that prompted some to put down a write-in candidate or leave his name blank at the ballot by noting he's hopeful that this next term in office will cause a shift in change as a conduit to earn their trust, which has been his goal since the first day he took office.

"I'm here to serve this community to the best of my ability," Vieau said. "I try to grow as a person every day, and I want to pass along that I am extremely passionate about the city of Chicopee, and that extends to what we are trying to accomplish, and we are trying to progress at a

pace that our tax and rate payers can afford, and that's the goal."

### Education in Chicopee is Key

One of the major topics Vieau also discussed was the importance of education in Chicopee, being a main staple.

He feels confident about the future and current stability of Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware's leadership and vision.

"I do feel we are in a really good place when it comes to education, and like public safety, it's one of my top priorities, especially as Chairman of the School Committee, and our focus stays aligned with providing a 'high quality' education, because we need to remember the kids are our future, and we are motivated to invest in our students and help develop a future for all," Vieau said.

He also reflected on the overall structure of the School Department in the city, which continues to evolve and adapt.

"I do believe the School Committee under Dr. Ware's leadership and his team are

heading in the right direction. I'm very comfortable and confident of where we are heading," Vieau said.

Vieau then revealed that Dr. Ware is set to stay and has been personally working on his new contract.

"He's (Ware) committed to staying here, and I look forward to working with him," Vieau said.

And speaking on the status of contracts, Vieau noted that the current contract between the CEA and the City has been agreed upon for Unit A - Teachers has passed along to be ratified, showing significant development from a point of uncertainty that gained traction this past year, but it looks all signs of this chapter have come to a close, as Vieau now looks to move forward.

Another topic was Barry Elementary School, with Vieau emphasizing a site will be solidified and that the new elementary school will be built. Also, will be used as a blueprint when other renovations are needed.

The Chicopee Register

will have more on this development next week as a Barry School Building Commission meeting took place on Nov. 13, where an official location was revealed to the public.

"I believe having the opportunity to build a brand new state-of-the-art elementary school with cutting-edge technology is nothing but an enhancement to our community," Vieau said. "I also want it known we're not building it because our district is swelling. In fact, we are shrinking, but we do expect in the near future that population trends show that Chicopee's population will most likely be increasing, as we add more housing stock, but at the end of the day, this is a legacy project, we hit the lottery and it's clear we have the tools and potential to build something special that would be nothing but a major enhancement to our neighborhood."

### Public Safety continues to be #1

Vieau said another number one priority he looks to solidify in public safety.

"We have invested in first responders across the board, Police, Fire, Ambulance Services, because I believe when you are at your worst, you want someone to show up at their best, and the goal is to have someone show up, and have them help you with whatever it maybe you're dealing with, and do it in the most professional manner possible," Vieau said.

He shared praise for Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski and Police Chief Patrick Major for their leadership.

"I can confirm we are cutting-edge for our first responders. We are giving them the tools they need to

not only protect themselves, but also to protect the community," Vieau said. "It's noticeable, the morale is up, people want to work here, we're taking lateral transfers for the first time in the PD, and that's exciting to notice," Vieau said.

Vieau said that seeing a sense of rebirth taking shape across the city, across all departments, especially first responders, is one worth telling and he credits factors such as pay parity, have given way to opportunities being present; driving the enthusiasm to join Chicopee.

"I think this movement is a great distinction and reflection of Chicopee that shows that people want to come, work, and live here," Vieau said.

### Controlled Pedestrian Safety

Vieau also provided a small sample of the inner workings and process of the Safe Streets for All Initiative, which was greenlit and brought forth after understanding that the world we reside in, automobiles continue to get faster and more efficient and add in the element of distracted driving has led to multiple fatalities.

He stressed it's time for a point of change.

"Look, I'm not going to label myself as the 'Pedestrian Mayor', but when you have five fatalities, throughout the span of the last five years, it's an awakening process, and it's clear that this isn't a Chicopee problem, it's a national and even an international one predicated on distraction," Vieau said. "We need people to focus on driving their car, because at the end of the day it's a dangerous, dangerous weapon, and

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# SPORTS

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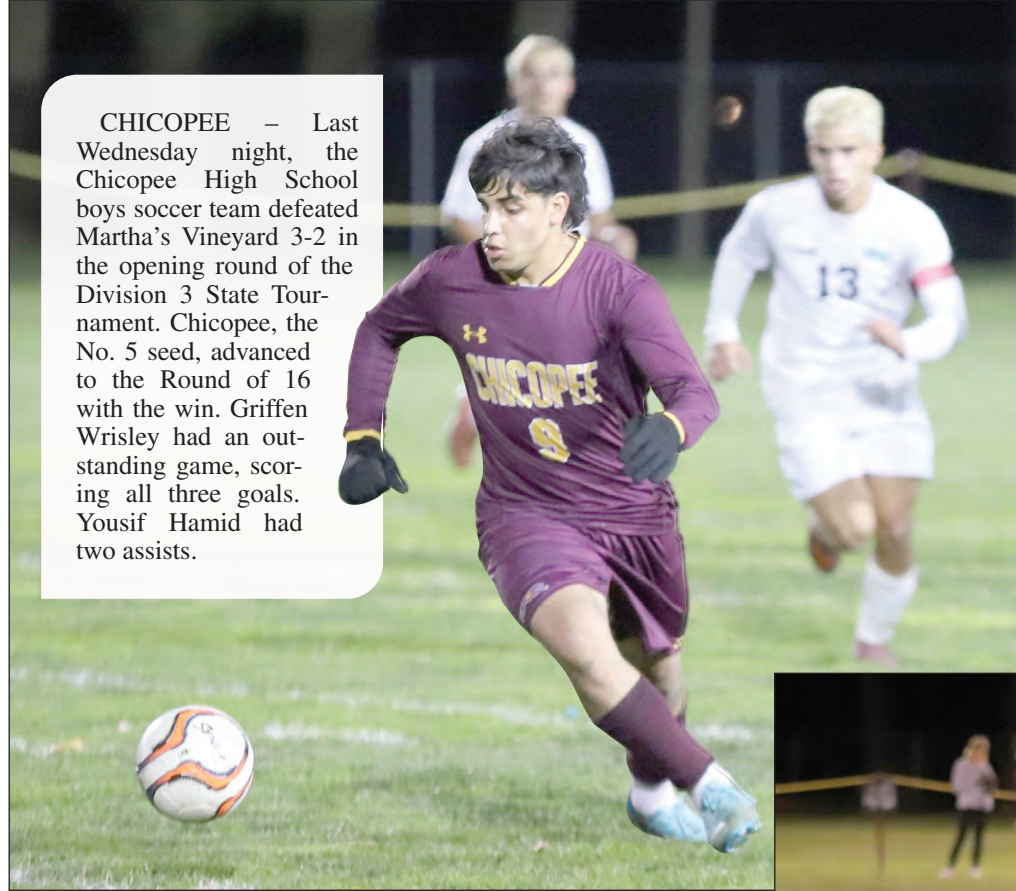
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## Wrisley leads Chicopee to win in opening round



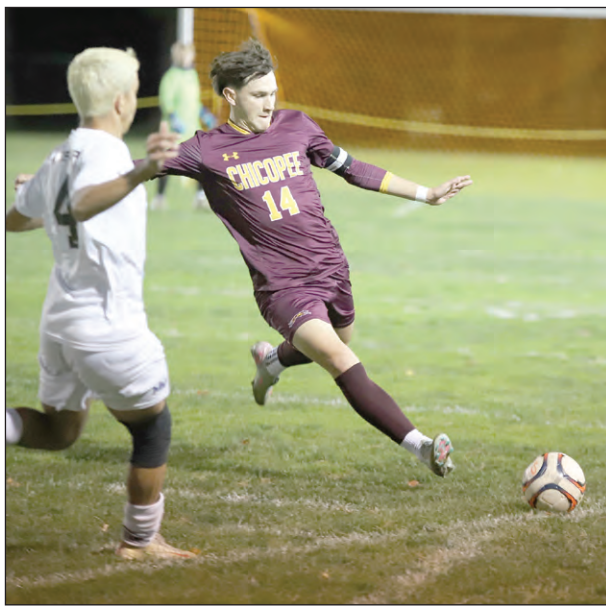
Dominic Garcia reacts to the ball being kicked away from him.



Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi goes after the loose ball.



Yousif Hamid looks to steal the ball.



Evan Tyrrell looks to clear the ball ahead of an opponent.



Zachariah Yarovoy dives on the ball for a save.



Griffen Wrisley is held as he tries to advance with the ball.

CHICOPEE — Last Wednesday night, the Chicopee High School boys soccer team defeated Martha's Vineyard 3-2 in the opening round of the Division 3 State Tournament. Chicopee, the No. 5 seed, advanced to the Round of 16 with the win. Griffen Wrisley had an outstanding game, scoring all three goals. Yousif Hamid had two assists.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Colts undefeated streak ends in state playoffs

CHICOPEE — Last Friday night, the Chicopee Comprehensive High School football team took its undefeated record on the road in the Division 3 State Tournament first round. The Colts were matched up with King Philip. The Colts, who were the winners of the Suburban South conference this year, was not only defeated for the first time this year, but was shut-out by a 51-0 score. The Colts themselves, had two shutouts in local competition. With the loss, the Colts have two games remaining this season. Chicopee Comprehensive will face Minnechaug in a Week 10 nonplayoff game on Friday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at home, then play at Szot Park in the Sword Game against rival Chicopee on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 27.

## Knights, Pacers, renew old rivalry



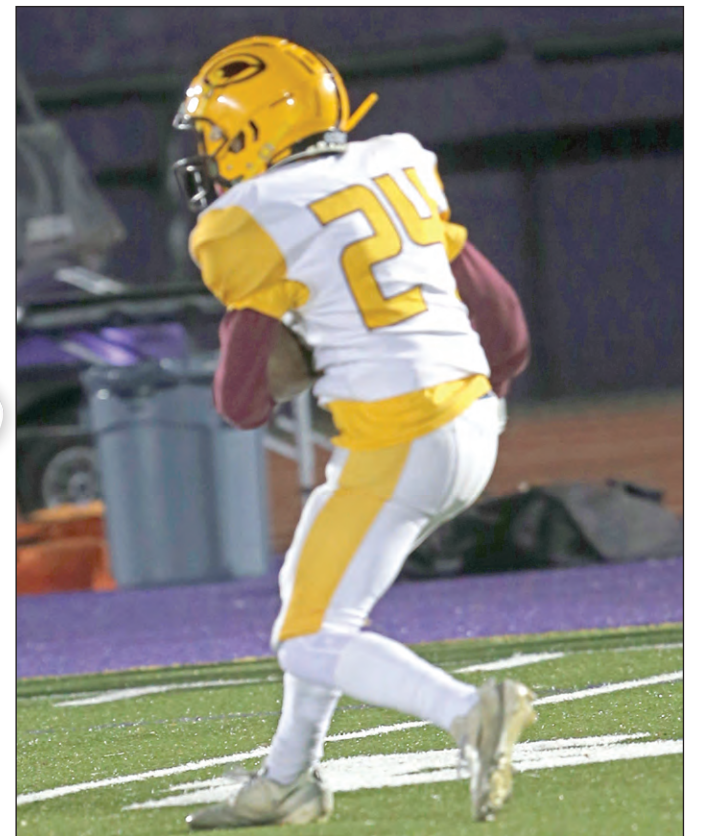
Jeremiah Berrios dekes to his left.

Brandon Thomas makes a reception.

HOLYOKE — Chicopee and Holyoke football played 100 games on Thanksgiving morning before both schools moved on from the holiday rivalry. It has been a few years since the teams played in the regular season as well. But last Thursday night, Chicopee and Holyoke drew each other in a nonplayoff game for Week 9. Holyoke,

which has struggled during the season, defeated Chicopee 35-12 to improve to 3-6 on the season. Chicopee fell to 5-4. The Pacers drew a road game against Monument Mountain in Week 10 while Holyoke will travel to neighbor West Springfield.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Anthony Bonafilia advances up the field on a run.



Tariq Marsh tucks the ball away as he runs into traffic.



Hector Adorno advances on a run.



Joshua Cintron makes a pass attempt.

## SPORTS

## Cougars set for opener

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Community College women's basketball schedule began this week with a matchup against Quinsigamond Community College. Their next home game is scheduled for Nov. 15 at 1 p.m. against Five Towns College.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Holyoke Community College Women's Basketball team was set to open up their regular season this week.



## Owls capture conference championship

WESTFIELD – Senior forward Kaleigh Murphy (Pembroke, Mass.) scored a goal and added an assist as top-seeded Westfield State University defeated fourth-seed Worcester State University 4-2 in the 2025 MASCAC Championship game from Alumni Field in Westfield, Mass. on Saturday afternoon.

The Owls win back-to-back conference titles as today marked Westfield's 18th victory of the season and 16th consecutive win, both active school records. The Owls (18-3) punched their ticket into the NCAA Division III Tournament and will await the destination and opponent which will be determined on Sunday, November 9 at 9:00 P.M. as part of the NCAA Selection Show. For the Lancers (9-12), their season comes to an end after two playoff wins, defeating Salem State before upsetting Bridgewater State to reach the title game.

Murphy was named the 2025 MASCAC Tournament MVP.

She wasted no time giving the Owls a lead, tallying her 18th marker of the season just four minutes into the game. Sadie Stauffer (Suffield, Conn.) directed an initial shot which was deflected in front to the stick of Caroline Andrade (Watertown, Mass.) whose shot was saved. The rebound found Murphy who swept in the goal for a 1-0 Westfield lead.

Worcester responded midway through the quarter with Emily Curran (Fall River, Mass.) backhanding home a goal off a saved shot by Emma Gniadek (Worcester, Mass.) for her first goal of the season.

A well-executed penalty corner resulted in a shot from the top of the arc from Murphy, finding the stick of Stauffer who tipped the shot up and into the cage for a 2-1 advantage with 11:46 to go in the half. The goal was a just reward for Stauffer, after previously having a goal disallowed for a high shot upon

conversation from the officials.

1:53 into the second half, the Lancers would respond for a second time to equalize the contest after a trip in the box generated a Worcester penalty stroke. Curran stepped up to take the stroke, flicking the attempt to the right side of the cage for her second of the season.

The Owls quickly seized momentum back in their favor, scoring two minutes and 26 seconds after Curran's second goal. Once again, Westfield capitalized on a penalty corner, tallying directly off the insert with Erin Lane (Canton, Mass.) hitting Caroline Andrade (Watertown, Mass.) who fired a shot through traffic towards goal which bounced off the pad of Lizzy MacDonald (Medford, Mass.) and into the cage.

In the fourth quarter, Westfield exerted championship effort, holding Worcester without a shot attempt while adding an insurance score with less than five to go. Kacey Curran (Fall River, Mass.) rifled a shot from the right side of the shooting area which was padded aside by MacDonald with the rebound finding Shannon Gover (Nor-

wood, Mass.) in the middle of the goal mouth where she tucked in the fourth goal of the game and her second of the season. The Owls outshot the Lancers 9-0 in the quarter and 23-11 in the game.

Gover, a key component to the back line of the Owls defense, stepped up into the offensive play in a timely manner, notching her third career goal. Gover and the rest of the Owls defense did an exceptional job of limiting the Lancers leading goal scorer Kaylie Ciccone (Douglas, Mass.) who was held to just one shot on goal, a short side shot that was saved by Gniadek.

The Owls win their second straight MASCAC Championship, both under the leadership of head coach Carden Brown. The Owls have recorded three straight double-digit win seasons in Brown's three years at the helm, setting the program win record last season before shattering such record this season.

MacDonald put forth a strong effort in net for the Lancers, making 11 saves in the game. Gniadek picked up three saves for her 12th win of the campaign.

## Worcester Railers fall to Maine 4-2

WORCESTER – The Mariners won again Sunday afternoon, 4-2, although it was a close game that the Railers might have taken, or at least tied.

Worcester had yet another goal disallowed due to goalie interference, this one deposited by Riley Ginnell at 19:28 of the first period. It would have closed a 2-0 deficit to 2-1 but was waved off. Since the fourth Maine goal was into an empty net, the wave-off was huge.

It was also the second in the last two games that call went against the Railers.

"Both nights, I think they were wrong," coach Nick Tuzzolino said. "They decide what they decide but I think it happens a lot to us in this building."

These goalie interference reviews are becoming a plague. There seem to be one or two every game. They take up time and kill the flow. They are like football pass interference calls. If six people look at them you'll get six different interpretations.

"I definitely saw our guy being physical with their defenseman outside the paint," Tuzzolino said. "There was a fight for ice. That's bound to happen...I think you can call goalie interference on almost every goal, but it is what it is."

The game marked the Railers debut of former Holy Cross goaltender Thomas Gale, who played two ECHL games for Wheeling last year. Worcester's goaltending has been inconsistent thus far. Gale seemed to play well enough to earn another start.

"He was good," Tuzzolino said. "I think maybe the first two he might like back. Then in the second period he stops maybe two or three Grade As, at the end of the first he stops a breakaway. Great energy, great attitude, really fought down to the wire."

"He was a fire starter,

a spark. Not a knock on our other goalies but they've had a lot of mental battles and needed a mental break."

The Railers goals were scored by Drew Callin and Kolby Johnson, playing in just his third game of the season. Lynden McCallum had two for Maine, giving him five for the two games here this weekend. Jacob Perreault and Sebastian Vidmar had the other Maine goals, Vidmar into an empty net.

Luke Cavallin made 22 saves for Maine to improve his career record versus Worcester to 11-5-0.

Maine scored early and late in the first period.

Perrault notched a power play goal at 1:58, blasting a shot home from the left circle on the first shot Gale faced in a Worcester uniform. Maine's man advantage came about after Railers forward Jesse Nurmi was called for an obvious slashing penalty at 1:50.

McCallum scored his fourth goal of the weekend at 17:17. He snapped a shot under the crossbar from the right circle; the Mariners have been very good so far this season against Worcester at putting the puck on the top shelf.

The home team closed the gap on a power play goal of its own just 1:48 into the second period. Callin beat Cavallin from between the dots with a quick wrist shot after taking a pass from Ryan Miotto. It was a one-goal game for about six minutes.

McCallum went top shelf at 7:46 to re-establish the Mariners' two-goal lead. It could have been worse for the Railers, though. Maine had a 17-7 edge in shots and Gale made several excellent saves.

Johnson scored at 9:35 of the third period, right off a draw in the left circle. The puck found him alone about 15 feet away from Cavallin and he beat him with an instant release.

## T-Birds suffer tough loss to Bridgeport

BRIDGEPORT, CT – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-8-1-1) fell victim to a second-period surge by the Bridgeport Islanders (5-6-1-0) in a 6-1 loss on Saturday at Total Mortgage Arena.

Starting his first game of the season, Will Cranley was busy in the opening period in the Springfield crease, but the 23-year-old answered the bell with 14 first-period saves, which included a handful of beauties as the T-Birds survived nearly 90 seconds of a two-man disadvantage at the end

of the period.

At the other end, Marcus Hogberg was equally sturdy in the Bridgeport crease, keeping Springfield off the board through nine shots in the first 20 minutes.

Bridgeport finally broke through on Cranley at 1:26 of the second when Alex Jefferies picked the corner over Cranley's blocker to give the Isles a 1-0 lead. Eetu Liukas added to the lead during a Bridgeport penalty kill just 2:10 later, driving to the front of the net and tipping a Daylan Kuefler pass over Cranley's

shoulder.

The Islanders only added to the T-Birds' tough stretch at 9:02 when Adam Beckman crashed the paint and deflected a Matt Maggio cross-ice pass in behind Cranley to make it a 3-0 game.

The T-Birds finally answered the Bridgeport run with a power play tally from Juraj Pekarcik at 15:32, as the rookie fired a shot from the left-wing circle off a defender's legs and past Hogberg, cutting the margin to 3-1 entering the third. Marc-Andre Gaudet picked

up his first AHL point on the primary assist.

Springfield had two more opportunities to cut into the lead in the third on the power play, but again Hogberg and the Bridgeport penalty kill stood tall. Joey Larson, who scored three times in the first two meetings between the clubs, added to his red-hot start when he fired a wrister past Cranley at 13:39, and Chris Terry and Marc Gatcomb followed that up with goals 23 seconds apart to round out the scoring in the back half of the third.

## Travis Odiorne selected as Region #1 Director

CHICOP-EE - CPD would like to Congratulate our very own Public Information Officer, Travis Odiorne for being selected by the N.I.O.A.- National Information Officers Association, as the Region #1 Director.

This opportunity will allow Officer Odiorne to



represent P.I.O.'s from the Northeast. He will help guide training, strategies for best practices, community engagement, and regional collaborations.

We thank Officer Odiorne for his continued work at C.P.D., and wish him well as the Region 1 Director!

## EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of November 24-28, 2025.

**Thursday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue**

- Agawam Advertiser News • Country Journal
- The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times

**Friday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue**

- Sentinel • Quaboag Current

**Monday, November 24 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue**

- The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette

**Tuesday, November 25 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue**

- Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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## IN THE CITY

# Events & announcements schedule

## Upcoming November events at the Chicopee Public Library

CHICOPEE - Here are some of our upcoming library programs.

Mondays at 3 p.m. during November, Tech Hub will be offering classes at the Chicopee Library. Participation is free, however registration is required. Go to [chicopeepubliclibrary.org/computer-help](http://chicopeepubliclibrary.org/computer-help)

All classes are Mondays at 3 to 5 p.m. The second hour will be tech questions and help.11/10:

### Goal Setting at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host a Goal Setting Series beginning Monday, Sept. 15 at Noon at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Do you set goals and they fall through? Do you want to be held more accountable for things you need to get done and want to accomplish?

Join this five-part goal setting series, led by River Val-

ley Counseling. The dates that this series will meet are Nov. 17, and Dec. 8 at Noon.

During this series, you will learn about goal setting, putting those goals on paper, how to execute your goals. You will also follow up with the group on your progress and set-backs, and to start to think about future goals for the new year.

You must register in advance by stopping by RiverMills or by calling 534-3698.

### Polish Center of Discovery & Learning curates a display at the Chicopee Public Library honoring Major General Chester E. Gorski

CHICOPEE - In recognition of Polish Heritage Month, the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, located at 33 South Street in Chicopee would like to recognize one of the city's well known, long-time resident who had an exemplary military career, Major General Chester E. Gorski. This display is on loan from

its permanent display at The Polish Center of Discovery & Learning.

Chester, known to many as "Chet", was born in Chicopee and graduated from local schools. He also pursued higher education, obtaining a Bachelor's degree from Anna Maria College. A dedicated athlete, he excelled in both basketball and baseball in the local semi-pro leagues.

Chet embarked on a distinguished career with the Massachusetts Army National Guard, ultimately rising to the rank of Major General. He served as the Commander of the 26th "Yankee" Infantry Division and retired with full honors in 1991. Throughout his 42-year career, he earned numerous military decorations and commendations including the Distinguished Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal, reflecting his steadfast dedication and leadership. In 1993, Chet was inducted into the Massachu-

setts Military Academy Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. His service and sacrifice are remembered as a testament to his character and patriotism.

A proud member of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning in Chicopee, Chet served on its board and was a long-time supporter. In his honor, a display commemorating his long and meritorious service as Commander with the Massachusetts Army National Guard's 26th "Yankee" Infantry Division stands in the Armed Forces gallery at the Center, a testament to his dedication to both country and community.

The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning would like to thank the Chicopee Veteran's Services Department for making this display possible.

Visitors are welcomed and encouraged to tour the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

### Volunteer Drivers Needed

CHICOPEE - RiverMills Center is looking for volunteer drivers at the senior center. Volunteer drivers transport older adults to doctor's appointments, the bank, shopping to the senior center and back to their homes.

Those interested in becoming a volunteer driver must have a good driving record and fill out a volunteer application, which includes a CORI check. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Rivermills Volunteer and Activities Coordinator Brandon Dumas at 534-3698, ext. 130.

### First Central Bible Church of Chicopee launches Awana Program

CHICOPEE - First Central Bible Church today announced the kickoff of Awana, a global, Bible-based discipleship program that helps churches and families raise children and youth to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

The program is open to the community and will be held at the church located at 50 Broadway Street, Chicopee.

Weekly sessions run on Wednesdays from September 10, 2025 to May 20, 2026 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm and are for children ages two through fifth grade. Registration is required on the church website at [www.firstcentral.church](http://www.firstcentral.church). There is no charge. All families looking for a positive activity for their kids are welcome.

Awana combines Scripture memorization, Bible teaching, fun activities, and mentorship to help young people build a lasting foundation of faith. The program provides a safe, structured environment where kids can make new friends, build confidence, grow spiritually, and explore how God's Word applies to their everyday lives.

If you have questions, please call the church office at 413-592-5353.



Members of the Knights of Columbus Elder Council #69 serve lunch.



Scout Troop 1849 with State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) as proud recipients of the Patriotic Organization of the Year.

## VETERANS DAY from page 1

and sang each of their respective ballads.

However, before all of this, Emcee Dustin Ruby, Deputy Director of Veterans Services, offered insight into what the purpose of this luncheon was truly about, while shining a spotlight on the heroics the veterans of Chicopee continue to exemplify, even when out of uniform.

"We love to celebrate our Veterans here in Chicopee. They are outstanding members of the community, many of them continue to serve years after they get the uniform off, and they continue to do great things in various patriotic organizations here in the city," Ruby said. "And we always strive to find different ways to honor them and just want to remember this is their day to be celebrated, while ensuring we continue to make sure their presence and valor are felt."

The next to take the podium was State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), who delivered some words from the State House, highlighting the importance of Veterans



Ret. LTC U.S. Army John Moran is presented with the Charles H. Tracy Award.

Day in Chicopee and the role Massachusetts continues to create and provide in making the Commonwealth a place of comfort and security for all Veterans.

"Chicopee always does it right, they honor veterans 365 days a year," Oliveira said. "From understanding our armed services residing here, with the Westover Air Force Base right in our backyard, to recognizing the ever-increasing veteran presence that continues to retain a strong connection here in the city."

Oliveira then discussed the work being put forth by the Commonwealth to ensure and reinforce the sense of stability when it comes to veteran services.

"The work we put forth is predicated and built on making the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the best state to be a veteran in, and we try to put in place legislation, policies, and supports to make that possible for the veterans in the state," Oliveira said.

He shared that major developments have been in



The Earls perform.

transit, as last week the State Senate passed some new Veterans-related bills, which included one that will make it easier for military families and their children to stay in their respective school system if they get transferred.

Oliveira also touched upon another piece of legislation passed is centered around ensuring that the Massachusetts National Guard reports directly to Governor Maura Healey, and not a cabinet secretary. He concluded that all of these bills and continued efforts put forth were in service of allowing the Commonwealth to be

the best state for Veterans to reside in.

Next up was a keynote address by Major Kyle Bate, who is the current instructor for the Chicopee High School AFJROTC, who reflected on what it means to serve and the principles of instilling and passing along what he has learned throughout his time of service onto the next generation of cadets.

The final portion of the agenda was the presentation of three distinctive awards by Vieau, with the first being the Charles H. Tracy Award, which was bestowed upon Re-

tired LTC US Army Member John C. Moran. The award is in honor of the Chicopee native and Medal of Honor recipient for his service during the Civil War. The annual award is bestowed upon a Veteran for their volunteerism to the veteran community.

The final two were the Patriotic Business of the Year title, which was presented to the Knights of Columbus Elder Council #69, and lastly the Patriotic Organization of the Year, which was bestowed upon the Scouting America Troop 1849 out of Chicopee.

## SUPT. GOALS from page 1

those percentage increases that we actually know that what we're doing is working and making them feel valued and empowered," Ware said.

Goal 3: Academics that inspire

Ware began this conversation by noting, "This is a meaty one, so I'm going to take my time here."

By June 30, 2026, he hopes that the district will increase the percentage of students engaged in deeper-learning, student-choice, technology-rich experiences and raise student academic growth in ELA and Mathematics by 5% as measured by internal benchmarks.

The district will rely heavily on data, which could be recorded quarterly. A focus will be placed on students with disabilities and multilingual learners.

"We still have work to do in this arena," Ware said. "Our students with disabilities are not performing the way we'd like them to. I'm pushing the envelope a little bit more to say I'd like to see a bigger growth here with students with disabilities and multilingual learners."

Ware would also like to see the district do a better job of tackling chronic absenteeism, which has become a goal of schools across the state.

The goal is to decrease absenteeism this school

year by 1% compared to last school year.

### Goal 4: Family & Community Connections

By June 30, 2026, Ware endeavors to see the district increase family and community engagement by 20% from the previous academic year and establish at least two new sustainable community partners to support student learning and well-being.

"What's specific here is about really targeting local businesses and nonprofit enrichment programs and local colleges and universities to really beef up our efforts or continue the efforts where we can offer our students unique experiences," Ware said.

Surveys will be a major

resource, as the district looks to see where it stands and improve its engagement.

### Goal 5: Effective Operations and Equitable Resources

By the end of next June, Ware hopes that the district will have completed a comprehensive resource-equity audit and be ready to present a three-year resource allocation plan aligned with strategic priorities.

"I would like to look at where our resources are going with a more scrutinizing eye as well as when we say needs-based budget, we have specific needs going on in our schools due to facilities, due to staff, due to staffing needs, due to student needs, and they do range throughout our 15

schools," Ware said.

The superintendent noted that by the end of next spring, he hopes to address how needs are looked at in at least three school buildings if not more to "align resources with a level of specificity outside of just saying it's needs-based."

Ware described it as a "huge undertaking."

"I know [Mayor John Vieau] is nervous as I'm talking," Ware said. "However, I have faith in the department over there because it's a crucial next step as we are talking about fiscal uncertainty when it comes to the federal level as well as other things."

Ware also wants to build

the budget to look years ahead so that future surprises don't become major obstacles.

Most importantly, Ware is focused on creating a culture based on equity.

"The key word for me is equity, and it's not what we've practiced," Ware said. "For me, equity is really giving people what they need, and I understand that there's a conversation all the time about, 'Woah, that's not fair,' but we need to talk about equitable. That's what I'm trying to get to by doing this audit and coming up with a plan that we can try to stick to so that we're not always reactionary versus planned in really sustaining a budget that's healthy."

# IN THE CITY

## Schools receive support to embrace change

BOSTON - Chicopee Public Schools is one of five Massachusetts school districts leaning into doing school differently at a pivotal moment when Massachusetts is reimagining its high school graduation standards and federal funding continues to wane. Chicopee Public Schools along with Pittsfield Public Schools, Randolph Public Schools, Somerville Public Schools and Whitman-Hanson Regional School District, have been named the 2025 cohort of the Barr Foundation's "Strengthening School Leadership" initiative start-

ing in October. These districts, representing a range of geographic locations across the Commonwealth, each support at least six schools including a high school and serve between 2,500 and 8,000 students in their communities.

Building on the success and learnings of the inaugural cohort launched in 2019, the initiative seeks to ensure that every school is led by a strong principal supported by an aligned and coherent strategy for instructional improvement at both the school and system levels.

Chicopee Public

Schools and the other members of the cohort will engage in planning and pilot implementation of instructional leadership initiatives aimed at empowering school leaders and educators to create better outcomes for their students. To support this work, over the next two years, the grantees will each receive a \$200,000 grant along with consulting support from Attuned Education Partners and research partner MDRC.

"Part of Barr's focus is to invest in human potential," said John Travis, Barr Education Senior Program

Officer, "Education is a distinctly human endeavor at every level, so being able to invest in Chicopee Public Schools is incredibly exciting. We look forward to learning alongside each of the 2025 grantees as they rethink school leadership and system conditions to drive instructional improvement at scale."

The Barr Foundation, Attuned Education Partners, and MDRC look forward to the insights and progress that will emerge from this new cohort, contributing to the broader knowledge of the education sector.

## Fairview Cemetery fall cleanup reminder

CHICOPEE - The Fairview Cemetery Commission and Chicopee Parks Department would like to remind families of loved ones buried at the Fairview Cemetery that plantings in the ground are not allowed. The Fairview Cemetery Commission and Parks Department are requesting that all plantings (flowers, shrubs, etc.) on graves and all decorations be removed by October 19th. Cemetery staff will begin their fall cleanup that week and any remaining plants and decorations will be removed and discarded.

In an effort to improve

safety of employees and those visiting the cemetery, the Fairview Cemetery Commission approved the revisions to the rules and regulations of Fairview Cemetery in January 2019. Artificial grave ornaments, artificial flowers, enclosures of any kind, and new plantings in the ground are not allowed as they are hazardous to both visitors and workers. Holiday pots and boxes will only be allowed during the Memorial Day and Holiday seasons. Notices are being sent to deed owners regarding the removal of plants and/or decorations on their lots.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

**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 28, 2025 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2009 Ford Fusion  
VIN: 3FAHP07Z79R144053  
Samira Kon  
85 Rogers St., Apt. 4A  
Lowell, MA 01852

2006 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCM55366A149681  
Delmar Mejia Soto  
22 Marshall St., Apt. 1  
Springfield, MA 01109  
11/14, 11/21, 11/28/2025

**SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES**  
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on November 14th, 2025 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

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

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

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

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

2014 Ford Fusion  
VIN: 3FA6P0HDXER267155

Theodis Caldwell  
40 Sylan St.  
Springfield, MA 01108

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

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

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

**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 21st 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.

2001 Chevrolet Tahoe 1500  
VIN: 1GNEL13T81J315658  
Marcus Snipes  
48 Hope Farms Dr., Apt. 4  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

2009 Volkswagen Routan  
VIN: 2V8HW341X9R604622  
Emanuel 777 Cleaning Llc  
212 Fanning St.  
Waterbury, CT 06704

2008 Bmw X5  
VIN: 5UXFE43548L027074  
John Demartino  
104 Blue Grass Ct.  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

2015 Moped  
VIN: L5YACBPA3F1129626  
Aiden Lopez  
63 Tyler St.  
Springfield, MA 01109

2015 Ford Escape  
VIN: 1FMCU9JX8FUC31131  
Carmen Torres Luciano  
28 Calhoun St.  
Springfield, MA 01107

2006 Audi A6  
VIN: WAUEH74F36N156693  
Frank Maiellano

PO Box 590308  
Newton Center, MA 02459

2014 Volkswagen Jetta  
VIN: 3VWV17AJ7EM233048  
Pablo Lantigua  
Po Box 1901  
Brattleboro, VT 05302

2003 Acura TL  
VIN: 19UUA56623A092705  
Luis Montes-Deoca  
75 Groton School Rd Apt A5  
Ayer, Ma, 01432

2011 BMW 328xi  
VIN: WBAPK5C55BF124517  
Antonio Ortiz-De Jesus  
50 Revere St.  
Springfield, MA 01108  
11/07, 11/14, 11/21/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD25P2313GD  
In the interests of Angelis Marie Maysonet 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 11/05/2025 by Angelica Lozano of Chicopee, MA will be held 12/05/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located: 50 State St., 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103.

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. 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. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. 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: November 5, 2025  
Rosemary A. Saccomani  
Register of Probate  
11/14/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
HAMPDEN, Div.  
Probate & Family Court Dept.  
HD25E0040PP

*To Redsock Properties, LLC, of Rockville, Maryland, Montgomery County, and to all other persons interested*

A petition has been presented to said Court by Gail Goodrow, of Ludlow, Hampden County, representing that they hold as joint tenants in an undivided part or share of land lying in Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Two Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred (\$256,700.00) Dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney, should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the sixteenth day of December 2025, the return day of this citation.

Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice

of said Court, this 16th day of October 2025.

Rosemary A. Saccomani,  
Register  
11/07, 11/14, 11/21/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD25P2290EA  
Estate of:  
Dorothy A Richter  
Also known as:  
Dorothy Richter  
Date of Death: 10/17/2025

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Lisa E Richter of Frenchtown, NJ requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Lisa E Richter of Frenchtown, NJ be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/08/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice

regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: November 03, 2025  
Rosemary A Saccomani,  
Register of Probate  
11/14/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
Docket No. HD25P2219EA  
Estate of:

Thomas William Saluk  
Date of Death: 08/06/2025  
**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Liam Pfeifer of Milford, MA.

Liam Pfeifer of Milford, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
11/14/2025

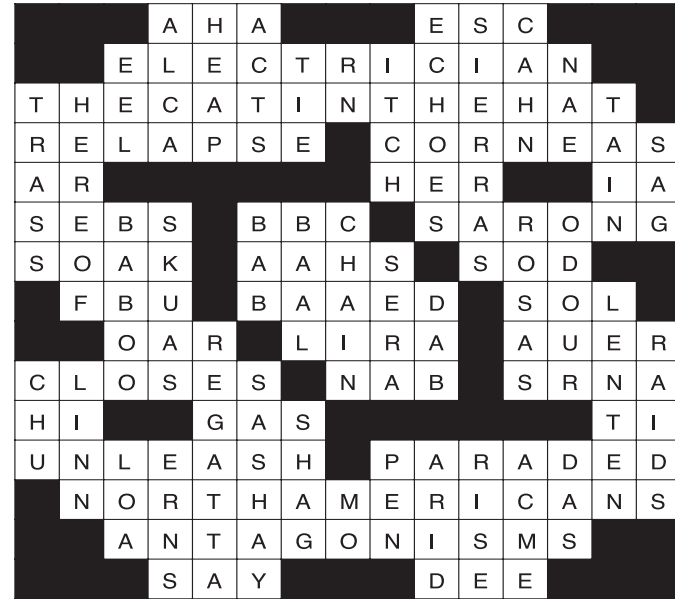


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Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

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## FOR RENT

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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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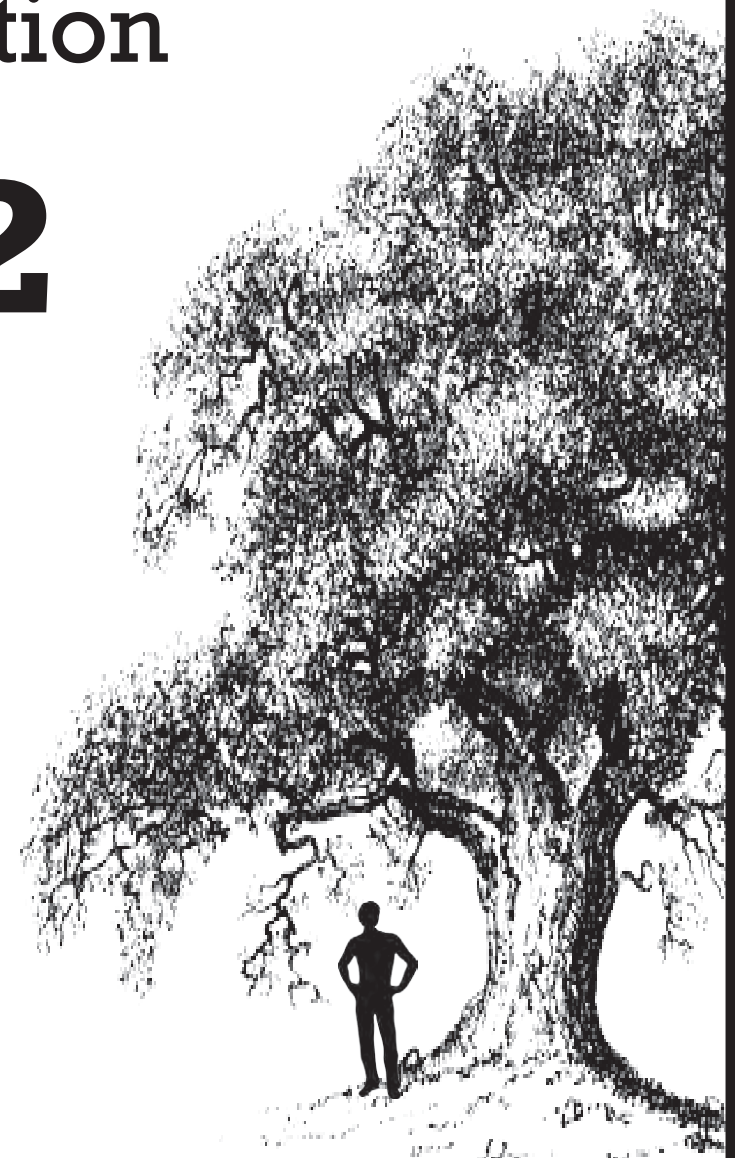
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