Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

National Night Out is nationally recognized

Chicopee is only city in state to earn National Night Out Award

> By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Chicopee has earned national recognition as the only Massachusetts city to receive the National Night Out Award, given to communities throughout the country for outstanding participation in the National Night Out program.

The award commemorates the festivities at Sarah Jane Park on Aug. 14, when the city held its 29th edition of National Night Out, a free event designed to bring the community together with first responders.

"We are immensely proud of our city for achieving this national recognition," Mayor John Vieau said. "This award recognizes our collective efforts and the spirit of cooperation that defines Chicopee.'

The National Night Out Award is typically given to cities with populations ranging from 50,000 to 100,000 people.

This year's event was organized by Police Capt.





On the left, Owen LeHouillier tests a radio in a patrol car at National Night Out, and on the right, Reynaldo Caraballo sits aboard a DPW vehicle.

Holly Cote, Fire Capt. Katie Kalbaugh and Chloe Soto and Monica Torres from the Mayor's Office. It was made special by the contributions of community members, local businesses, civic groups and public safety personnel.

The criteria of the award included the level of community participation, the partnership between police and the community, neighborhood and community involvement and the overall organizational and planning efforts.

Soto, Vieau's communications & special projects manager, joked that she and her team did backflips when they heard about the award. She said Chicopee placed 22nd on the national list, which is an amazing accomplishment that was unanticipated.

"National Night Out is really about community. It's about creating these stronger bonds between our police, our fire and all our public servants," Soto said. "We're just so proud to be able to bring everyone together to have a good time in a safe environment where they don't have to dig in their pocket to pay for anything... It's great to see all the smiling faces and see people genuinely enjoying themselves.'

Beyond police and fire, a variety of city departments participate each year. The 2023 event was also attended by personnel from Westover Air Reserve Base, the State Police and the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

Soto said the annual event

helps dispel false narratives about law enforcement and public safety and humanizes Chicopee's police officers and firefighters.

"To have events like this where we can actually see our first responders as people as opposed to just a badge and a gun, it's extremely important," she

Cote noted that this year was the 40th anniversary of the

See NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

page 5

COMMUNITY

Keeping pace to keep the city safe



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENN JOSLYN

The Chicopee Pace Car has slowed down traffic, particularly in the areas of Chicopee Street and Meadow Street.

Pace car adds new component to Chicopee streets

By Dalton Zbierski Editor

dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE - After multiple people were struck and

killed by vehicles in Chicopee, the city deployed a pace car in vulnerable areas to slow down

The concept of the pace car was established by Emergency Management Glenn Joslyn after several pedestrians were struck on Chicopee Street and Meadow Street in the city's Willimansett neighborhood. Knowing it takes time to install lights or islands, Joslyn sought

a quick solution to reduce speeding and reckless driving.

"I came up with the idea of what if I just drive around in my car. You're driving at the speed limit and forcing everybody else to do the same thing," he said. "Now, they're a little more aware. People aren't going by flashing school bus signs. It's kind of just curbed everything a little bit and seems to work pretty well."

The pace car is a retired police cruiser with altered colors and frequents Chicopee Street and Meadow Street, two main roads in Willimansett that run parallel to each other. While both streets are in a residential area, Joslyn said it is

See PACE CAR page 12

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Mia the cat gazes lovingly up at Santa during their Pet Photos with Santa picture at Chicopee Comprehensive High School.



Chicopee Comprehensive High School students Tea Labonte, Jasmine Gignilliat and Kate Gauthier smile for a festive group photo during Pet Photos.

National Honor Society welcomes furry friends to Comp community. Community needs to

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Chicopee Comprehensive High School's National Honor Society welcomed families and their pets to the high school on Dec. 9 for Pet Photos with Santa.

During the event, furry friends both large and small joined their owners for photos with Santa Claus, with some

decked out in festive attire.

the Thomas J O'Connor Animal Control & Adoption Center, dedicated to helping animals in need in Chicopee, Holyoke and Springfield.

English Teachers Alison Allegresso and Paula Goudreault. who also serve as co-advisors for NHS, explained it's the first time they've held an event like this for the community.

Goudreault said doing community events like this "is part of our mission statement."

"We've always felt it was The proceeds supported critical to have close ties with the be important. Community is for everybody," she said.

Goudreault added that the events are possible because of community support.

"I think you really feel that when you see all the people come and support the cause. We put it on but without the people of Chicopee we wouldn't be able to do it," Goudreault said.

Allegresso explained Comp has worked closely with the

See FURRY FRIENDS page 6

Chicopee declares Dec. 7 'Carter Janik Day'

Chicopee Comp student honored for SkillsUSA National Championship

> By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Mayor John Vieau declared Dec. 7 "Carter Janik Day" in Chicopee for Janik's achievements at the 2023 SkillsUSA National Championship in Advertising Design.

Janik, a student at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, represented the city at the National Championship this summer, walking away with a gold medal for developing a design and advertising campaign for an imaginary complex product with limited resources.

Janik has won three gold medals total in the district, state and national championships.

At the recognition ceremony at City Hall, Vieau was joined by Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware, Design & Visual Communication Teachers Scott Brubach and Trish Kemp, Informational Support Services and Networking teachers and SkillsUSA co-advisors Todd Demers and James Wozniak, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) to provide remarks and congratulate Janik.

Arriaga and Velis also presented Janik with certificates of recognition, while Vieau presented a proclamation and his own pin with the city seal.

Ware said he was in awe and admiration of Janik's hard work, being reminded of his own vocational days.

"So, from your friends, from your family who are here today, from the Chicopee Public Schools staff and administration who worked alongside you, we're very proud of you, so congratulations," Ware said.

Brubach explained he and Kemp had



TURI FY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVFR

Carter Janik, student at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, reflects on his achievements during the recognition honoring him for his achievements at the SkillsUSA National Championship in Advertising Design. Janik has won three medals in total at the district, state and national levels.

very few students who competed in advertising design, let alone a sophomore, and Janik's "level of enthusiasm, creativity and attention to detail is what makes Carter a successful designer."

You made history at Comp and for the city of Chicopee with strong creative instincts, active imagination and dedication to design serves as motivation for us design teachers, inspiration for your peers at Chicopee Comp and a key indicator of success in the creative industry," Brubach said."

Arriaga said, "It goes to show that when we invest our time and energy toward our youth and we allow them to believe in themselves and have dreams, there's nothing they can't accomplish."

She continued, "We strive for community and being understanding, patient and loving, and I'm hopeful that that's what Chicopee stands for and what we'll con-



Mayor John Vieau presents Carter Janik his own personal pin with the city seal as his token of appreciation for Janik's achievements at the SkillsUSA National Championship.



Chicopee Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware provides remarks as Carter Janik, a student at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, and Mayor John Vieau listen during the recognition ceremony honoring Janik's achievements at the SkillsUSA National Championship in Advertising Design.

tinue to do."

Janik, now a junior at Comp, reflected on his accomplishments, including how he was reluctant to compete and later was shocked when he won gold at the district competition and went to state.

"What SkillsUSA helped me realize was that my skills and my knowledge and everything can really be put to good use and mean so much to other people, like all over the world maybe and all across the United States," Janik said.

Janik said winning the State Championship was an ah-ha moment and going to Nationals was "such a big opportunity for me."

"It's such a great opportunity to enhance your skills and your work abilities and anything like that, like if you're serious about getting into the workforce and you have a passion for what you want to do. Even if you don't know right now, you can always explore your options and get better at them through SkillsUSA, and it's an option I would highly recommend to

anyone," Janik said.

With winning Nationals, Janik "was super stoked" and "just soaked in the moment."

"This is a symbol that whatever you want to pursue in the future, it can be done, and you can start right now," Janik said. "This shows that you can achieve great things."

In reading the proclamation, Vieau declared Dec. 7 as Carter Janik Day, with Janik reacting in shock and tears of joy.

"Carter exemplifies the qualities of a hard-working, dedicated, creative, imaginative student embodying the passion that our community holds for exceptional, education programs and students," Vieau said.

Janik expressed how much the community's support means to him, sharing he plans to do more with SkillsUSA in the future.

"I just don't know what lies ahead of me. All I really know is that I'm just going to continue being me through all of it," Janik said.



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Bowe School recognizes top sellers



COURTESY OF P.E. BOWE SCHOOL

CHICOPEE -- Congratulations to Aliana, Olivia and Penelope for being the TOP SELLERS for the Bowe PTO Cookie Dough, Butter Braids, Cakes and Sweet Treats Fundraiser! Their efforts along with many other students help the PTO support events like the upcoming Craft Fair on Dec. 9, the Winter Carnival on Dec. 14 and many more.

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Holiday Craft Fair supports Bowe Elementary School



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Fran Oppedisano of Fran's Jewelry & Crafts shows off her unique Christmas angel and shell Christmas ornaments during the Holiday Craft Fair at Bowe Elementary School.



Peggy Bowe of Pillows by Peggy shows off one of her pillows during the Holiday Craft Fair.



Tina Colucci of Tina's Crafty Treasures at her festive Christmas-themed crafts table during the Holiday Craft Fair.

By Kristin Rivers

Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Residents visited Bowe Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 9 for their Holiday Craft Fair.

The event, held in the gymnasium, cafeteria and library, had attendees checking out vendors and concessions, including People Dogs 413, Wreaths & Crafty Creations, KB Designs, Simply Delicious, Blush Lily, How Charming!, Epicure, SE Crafts and many more.

Additionally, vendors donated an item for the raffle and the school's Book Fair was open to the public for the very first time.

The proceeds go towards the school. Bowe PTO President and Fifth Grade Teacher Adam Malmborg said this is the second craft fair held at the school, with the idea originally coming from a suggestion by a grandmother during one of the

PTO meetings.

Malmborg said the event, and many others, help provide funding for school activities including field trips, the Winter Carnival, Field Day and catering and luncheon for faculty and staff.

"We do a lot, so what we do is we try to raise as much money as we can throughout the year so we can continue to do these fun events for our students and our staff," Malmborg said.

Malmborg added events like this also get the community involved, including parents.

"That's the biggest thing is we want the community involved. We want to get the community to realize that we're here. We want the kids to enjoy coming to school," Malmborg said. "It's all about community effort, parent involvement and just letting the community know that Bowe is here, and we are welcome for all."

Chicopee resident Tina Colucci of Tina's Crafty Treasures showcased repurposed and nature-made Christmas-themed crafts, explaining it was her first time doing the school's craft fair.

"It's nice to be able to do craft fairs where you know that it's going to be benefiting the community that you live in," Colucci said.

Colucci shared she lives near the woods and takes her inspiration from there, using rocks, pinecones, stones, a tree branch and more for her creations.

"It's a way for me to use my imagination, if you will, to create something out of virtually nothing," Colucci said.

Peggy Bowe of Pillows by Peggy

makes novelty pillows, t-shirt pillows, memory pillows and sports pillows, getting her start when a teacher asked her to make some pillows for his mancave.

Three weeks later, Bowe's boss at the time was curious and ordered his own.

"By the end of that day, I had taken 11 orders and I thought, 'Hm I think I'm on to something,' and by the next fall, I started doing craft fairs and it literally fell into my lap," Bowe said.

Bowe enjoys the fairs for the people she meets, the comradery with fellow vendors and getting to support the schools.

"They put a smile on people's faces. I had a woman come up a few weeks ago and she bought an "I Love Lucy" pillow. She shared that it was for her brother-inlaw who's developmentally disabled but he loves to sit and watch "I Love Lucy" reruns," Bowe said. "There's nothing better than that. I made someone happy."

Susan Balboni and Liz Kincaid appreciate the fair supporting local from the school to crafters and artisans. The first-time crafters were selling t-shirts for all ages, paintings and mandalas.

The duo encouraged the community to support the craft fairs at local schools.

"I feel all the schools in Chicopee should have a craft fair," Balboni said. "It's supporting the schools. It's support-

A festive penguin art piece created by Bowe Elementary School PTO President and Fifth Grade Teacher Adam Malmborg on display during the Holiday Craft Fair at Bowe Elementary School.

ing the kids."

"And it makes it so the kids can do more too," Kincaid said. "It's a great way to help with kids being able to do more and stuff with the schools."

Balboni summed it up best.

"Please support your local vendors, your local craftsmen, your local artisans. People put a lot of time and heart into this. Support them, we're here," Balboni said. "And support the schools."

City Council denies 61 Everett St. as city street

By Kristin Rivers Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council unanimously voted on Dec. 5 to deny the acceptance of 61 Everett St. as a city street.

Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits explained the decision came after some discussion, looking at maps and research from the Engineering Department and the Department of Public Works.

"Essentially, it's a private way that's not wide enough to be plowed or maintained, and two things really came out of the meeting," Krampits said. "One of them was that they could do trash pickup by an agreement with the city to go down and pick up the trash and then the second one I'll need to go back and look at the meeting minutes."

Krampits added there was a conversation about doing a one-time driveway repair by the trash trucks.

"But again, this order is the denial of it being accepted as a city street," Krampits said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello shared the area's history, explaining the owner had contacted DPW earlier this year requesting the ruts be repaired.

From there, it led to this discovery.

"The Engineering Department did some research and found a big surprise to the property owner that this particular area that has been plowed for 40 years and the sanitation has been picked up for 40 years was, in fact, not a city street and was, in fact, a private way," Costello said.

Costello said, "There was an agreement going back, from what I was told, into July of 2023 that the city for one-time only would repair the ruts on a private way."

"After research, the city has indicated clearly that this street is not going to be accepted as a city street. Even though, again, for 40 years, this street was plowed and the sanitation was picked up. But that stops because this street has now been ruled a private way," Costello said.

Costello added the ruts do have to be repaired and the homeowner has come to the council about this issue. Costello said she understands the homeowner.

"Because if we start doing things on private ways, we could be liable for damages. So, we have to be cautious," Costello said.

Councilor-at-Large Gerry Roy expressed "This is a little disturbing to hear this kind of information to be honest with vol."

"My question is this, now, they received all these services for 40 years. Now they're stopping. Does that mean they don't have to pay city taxes anymore?" Roy said.

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme turned that question over to Attorney Tim Riley for his perspective.

"So, the solicitor went out with the superintendent and determined that this is a private way and not a public way," Riley said. "The fact that it was plowed for 40 years by the city in the law department's mind is not material to this. It's not a public way. It's not up to the specs of a city

street. The DPW was going to stop plowing it."

Riley added, from his understanding, DPW Superintendent Elizabette Batista decided she and the homeowner would enter into a contract to continue picking up her trash.

"I think that was a compromise. But it's a private way, so a city can't maintain or plow private ways," Riley said.

Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne

then provided additional context to Roy's question.

"State law prohibits the expenditure of public money on private property. Essentially as a driveway by the property boundaries. That's why we got to stop doing it now that we know we're doing it illegally all these other years," Courchesne said.

The motion to deny accepting 61 Everett St. by the city as a city street passed 11-0.

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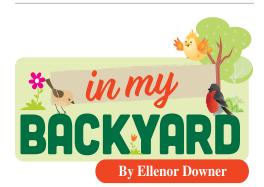
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EDITORIAL





Fox sparrow

I received an email last month from a Brimfield resident who reported an acquaintance from Hardwick had a fox sparrow and pine siskin in his yard recently.

The fox sparrow is a large sparrow, seven inches. It has rufous sneaking on a gray head and back, whitish underparts and boldly streaked with brown or rufous. It has an irregular central dot on its breast and a reddish brown rump and tail.

These sparrows feed on the ground with seeds, fruits and insects making up its diet. They often jump forward and back to remove debris from the ground to uncover food. They come to feeders eating the seeds scattered on the ground by other birds.

The female lays four to six light blue, green eggs with darker marks in a cupcake nest if grasses, lichens and leaves lined with grasses, fur and rootlets. It is placed on the ground under a small tree or shrub. Their song is a series of clear melodious whistles and is more melodic than most sparrows.

Loon life span

In the Loon Preservation Committee newsletter, they discussed the loon life span.

"How long do loons live?" is one of the most common questions that LPC biologists are asked.

The two oldest known loons in the world breed in Michigan, at the Seney Wildlife Refuge. They used to be a pair, however, in recent years they have gone their separate ways. The male's exact age is known because he was banded the year that he hatched. The female's exact age is unknown because she was banded as an adult, however, we know her minimum age. This summer, the female was at least 37 years old, while the male turned 36 years old.

New Hampshire has a male loon who was banded as an adult in 2000, making him at least 26 years old In addition to his advanced age, he has another claim to fame: he is the only loon, so far, in New Hampshire that has produced chicks after surviving lead

The oldest known loon in New Hamphire is a female, who occupies a territory on Lake Umbagog. She was originally banded as an adult in 1993. Because she was banded as an adult, we don't know her exact age. We only know for sure that she was at least three years old in 1993. However, loons don't hatch chicks, on average, until they are 6 years old, and this loon hatched chicks the year she was banded. That means she was likely 6 years old or older in 1993. She is at minimum 33 years old, but more likely 36 or older.

Decrease in bird activity

I received an email from a man who said this year he has a very noticeable decrease in bird population.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

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Chicopee Register

GUEST COLUMN



Experiment with American Holly seeds

I was taking a walk in my yard along the wood line and came across the tiniest holly plant I have ever seen.

I got so excited that I snapped a picture and sent it to my husband. When we bought this house, we inherited a twenty foot tall, pyramid shaped holly bush-tree.

It fruits almost every year. While this year's berry show is mediocre, the year prior was outstanding!

The birds must have dined on some of the red berries awhile back and planted them for me resulting in this photo opportunity. I got to thinking about what needed to happen for holly seeds to germinate in the first place.

Read on for a bit of a botany lesson on a beloved holiday plant.

American Holly (Ilex opaca) are native plants and dioecious, meaning there are male plants and female plants. In the home landscape you need one of each nearby for berry production; in natural conditions this typically happens on its own.

One of my neighbors must have a male so that I end up with berries. The tiny white flowers on my holly bush-tree usually come in such abundance that you hear the buzzing a good distance from the plant.

I get excited about that, too!

It is said that less than 5% of the world's plants are dioecious. Others well-known and ironically, also holiday plants, include a cousin of the American Holly, Winterberry (Ilex verticillata) and Bayberry (Myrica pennsylvanica).

If you would like to try and get some holly seeds to germinate, first you need to pick the berries and squish them to get the seeds out. This becomes a little easier after the seeds have sat awhile; mixing them with water also helps.

Once the seeds are separated from the skin, they need to go through a pretreatment. Not an actual sowing, but a time of waiting whereby the seed coat can break down.

Mix the seed with sand and compost and let it sit outside for the summer and through the following winter, totaling about eighteen months. It's a good idea to protect this mixture from mice who would find the seeds delectable.

As the seed coat breaks down, water can be absorbed, and the germination process be-

Take a look at the seeds and if you see a root emerging, it's time to plant them in pots. Young holly seedlings do not like to be disturbed, so for that reason the seeds are planted individually, one per 3-4-inch pot.

Keep the pots outside and water as need-

During the growing season the plants could put on up to seven inches of growth, and by fall, could use a new, bigger pot. Transplant carefully, allowing the plant to grow for another season before finally planting in its permanent location.

American Holly can thrive in varying exposures from sun to shade. It is tolerant of heat and cold, but prefers somewhat acid soil and most soils other than clay.

This is a fun experiment that may encourage you to try your hand at germinating the seeds of other native trees or shrubs. Similar instructions apply!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

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,

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Chicopee Register





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All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.



He reports he has a male and female bobcat and squirrels, rabbits and chipmunks have disappeared. He said "maybe that's part of it."

Bird club

A Brimfield resident emailed, "On Nov. 30 I took part in a project for the bird club and afterwards we went to Forest Park in Springfield and saw a black duck, a chilly looking great blue heron, a hermit thrush and several golden-crowned kinglets.

He said he started to leave one feeder out overnight testing to see if there are still bears about. Here's hoping they have all gone into hibernation.

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.

Letters to the Editor

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.

Send letters to: The Chicopee Register, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069or email chicopeeregister@turley.com.The

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Rotary Club presents \$1,000 to Chicopee Friends of the Library

The check was in memory of John Michon

> **By Kristin Rivers** Staff Writer krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The Rotary Club of Chicopee presented a \$1,000 check to the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library on Dec. 6 during its annual meeting with the

The check was in memory of John Michon, a member of the Rotary Club who also served as president of the Friends for 20 years until his retirement in 2022. Michon was also a founding member of the Friends and spearheaded the Friends "Raise the Roof Campaign" to fund the new library.

Michon passed away on Sept. 9.

Rotary Club Co-President John Arthur reflected on Michon's passion for helping people, including his willingness to support the club, volunteer, offer input, and lift spirits with humor.

'I also chaired the Scholarship Committee where we give out \$1,000 scholarships every year. John approached me, 'How can I help? What can I do?'" Arthur said. "John would go out of his way to stand up and say, 'I can do it. I'll help you."

Arthur said being able to donate \$1,000 to the Friends in Michon's honor "will go to good use."

"Give back is what we're all about. John would have given it to another person," Arthur said. "He probably would have said, 'No it's not for me, I don't deserve it.' Well, he did deserve it."

He added Michon's legacy will always leave a mark, including his work as a member and heading the Membership Committee.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Rotary Club of Chicopee Co-President John Arthur addresses the audience during the Rotary Club's check presentation during the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library's Annual Meeting on Dec. 6.

"His legacy would be a full page in the book of giving. He really put his foot down and got things done," Arthur said.

Friends President Lisa Pasternak explained Arthur reached out to see what they could do to recognize Michon within the library.

'Based on the donation amount, we would be able to do certain things. They said, 'Well, we'd like to donate \$1,000.' and we said, 'For \$1,000, you could have a wood book inscribed and it would go in our recognition wall outside the Friends office' and they said they would absolutely like to do that," Pasternak said.

Pasternak said with donations like this, 100% goes directly to the library.

"So, this \$1,000, even though it says Friends of Chicopee Public Library, that \$1,000 goes directly towards our donations to the library," Pasternak said.

Reflecting on Michon's legacy, Pasternak shared that the Friends will miss his leadership, friendship and passion for the community

"We miss him and now, as the current



(L to R) Friends of the Chicopee Public Library President Lisa Pasternak, Rotary Club Co-Preside John Arthur, Rotary Club Co-President/Entertainment Director Lou Arasate, Michael Michon, John Michon's son, and Nancy Michon, John Michon's wife, with the check in John Michon's memory during the Rotary Club check presentation during the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library's Annual Meeting on Dec. 6.

president, I certainly look to model some of the ways that I hope to lead the board after what he had taught me," Pasternak said.

Michon will be honored more in 2024, Pasternak said, including having a sign dedicated to him at the first tee for the Friends' Golf Tournament.

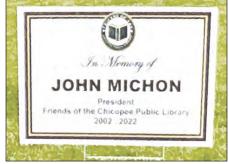
"No other signage will go on that hole. That will be his hole as long as we run the Golf Tournament," Pasternak said.

Additionally, more plans are in the

"We have some very big things planned which we're working on with the library which we can't discuss because we're still in the planning stages, but we're hoping that it will be coming to fruition sometime in the spring," Pasternak said.

Pasternak wants the community to know they can make donations to the Friends and other community organizations that could also use support, adding she and the Friends appreciate the Rotary Club's support in honoring Michon.

"A huge thank you. One for remembering John and two for their most gener-



SUBMITTED PHOTO LISA PASTERNAK

The sign for hole one to honor John Michon for the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library Annual Golf Tournament.

ous donation," Pasternak said.

Arthur thanked Pasternak and Friends' Office Assistant Liz Jones for the opportunity to present the check and meet Michon's family.

"It just made me feel a part of the community and I'm certain the Friends of the Library enjoyed our presence," Arthur said. "We're in this together."

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT from page 1

national event, making the award even more meaningful. She said it validated the hard work of the planning committee, which consists of more than 25 members, and explained how the city applied for the

"We had to submit all the ChicopeeTV videos, news articles and TV coverage; a comprehensive overview of planning and logistics as well as submissions from all departments and agencies involved," Cote said, thanking Police Sgt. Matthew Post and Tanya Ellis from COD for assisting her in the submission pro-

Cote said National Night Out is a key event that brings residents and law enforcement together each year and serves as a unique opportunity for police officers to interact with community members, especially the city's youth.

Residents have an opportunity to connect with public safety personnel in a fun and friendly setting, and the event fosters positive connections and builds relationships within the community. It also includes the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee's Youth Police Cadets, who assist in many facets of the event.

Cote praised the community for stepping up and delivering each August.

"In the past few years, we have built perfect place for National Night Out. such a strong community group, and it's a sincere heartfelt thank you to all those involved," Cote said. "Every call and text we sent out was met with a response of 'how can we help' and complete support of the committee. It exemplifies the importance of community and shows just how caring Chicopee really is."

She also thanked Vieau, the City Council, Police Chief Patrick Major and all the city departments for their contri-

Kalbaugh identified that in addition to food, entertainment, balloon making, rock climbing and obstacle courses, there are many resources available at National Night Out.

"We bring resources regarding do-



This is how we Chicopee, taken at the 2023 National Night Out at Sarah Jane Park.

der us so we're going to try our best to

earlier than we did this year just because we do want to make it spectacular and special for everyone," Soto said.



The Center for Martial Arts & Fitness put on a show at National Night Out.

outdo ourselves next year. We're really excited. We're going to start planning



mestic violence, substance use disorder, resources for people who are concerned about being unhoused. There's resources for all of that in additional to all the fun things," Kalbaugh said. Kalbaugh noted that National Night

Out was the city's first large scale event brought back after the COVID-19 pandemic. Since it's been reestablished, the event has gotten bigger and better each

Kalbaugh described the park as the

"It's a really large space. There's parking. It's part of our community that we really strive to serve so I think that it's a really great location for that event," she

Kalbaugh said the award was only possible because everyone came together. She is grateful for everyone's help.

Next year will mark the 30th edition of National Night Out in Chicopee. To ride the momentum, the committee will begin meeting next February, earlier than this year.

Soto expects that the 2024 event will be even more memorable than 2023's. and the award gives more fuel to the flames.

"This is literally lighting a fire un-

Chicopee Register



COURTESY CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police department assists 'The Bike Guy' with bike delivery



SPRINGFIELD - On Dec. 8, the Chicopee Police Department had the privilege to assist Bob "The Bike Guy" Charland with a large delivery of bikes. It is always a great experience working with Bob and this was no different. Bob donated over 100 bikes to students at Springfield's High School of Commerce. It was amazing to see the joy on the faces of all the children getting new bikes. Agencies from all over Western Massachusetts, the Hampden County Sheriff's Office and Connecticut came together to make this event a huge success.



FURRY FRIENDS from page 1

Knights of Columbus, with the NHS students volunteering for their monthly events.

"So, we're excited that we're able to work with other organizations in the community and then in a way be able to give back to the community," Allegresso said.

Allegresso added the school was excited to have an event for pets.

"We think the animals are just as important. They need a little love around the holidays too, so anything we can do to hit various areas in the community (for) people and animals," Allegresso

Santa Claus was excited to take photos with the pets, saying they "have been very good."

'I think just having an event like this and the cause, it brings people together. A lot of people can't adopt an animal, but they can support the areas that have them for adoption," he said. "So, I think it's great for the community.'

He said for the humans, he's been checking his list twice as Christmas

"The majority are very good this year, but there are some that need a little improvement," he said.

NHS President Aidan Coulombe and NHS Vice President Makayla Van Buren were thrilled to hold an event with



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The Nabors Family, consisting of Matthew Nabors, a student at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, Walter the dog and his parents Mary and Ken take a photo with Santa during the Pet Photos with Santa event at Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

Santa and animals.

Coulombe said it provided a unique experience for residents.

"It's something nice that you don't see a lot of communities doing, especially in areas surrounding and even in the city there's not a lot of events like this, so it's important to set up events like this so we get community feedback and community people coming out and doing this type of stuff to bring awareness to NHS and TJ O'Connor," Coulombe said.

Van Buren said it's also a chance to get students in the holiday spirit.

"I feel like everyone needs a second to just relax because we're so stressed, usually, that it's a good way to just be around some animals and get in the holiday spirit," Van Buren said.

Coulombe and Van Buren expressed appreciation to the community for coming out for the event, wishing everyone a happy holiday season.

Additionally, they encourage resi-



Maggie was eager to meet Santa during her picture during the Pet Photos with Santa event at Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

dents to continue supporting TJO.

"It's a great thing that we're supporting, and it's nice to see that the community cares about TJ O'Connor and they're coming out to help us support them," Coulombe said.

"I think it's a good way to bring the families together and donate to a good cause," Van Buren said. "We want to show the importance of getting together with your families and taking advantage of when events like this happen."





Pam Rhys, Piper the dog and Santa take a photo during Pet Photos with Santa at Chicopee Comprehensive High School.





Benson the dog, dressed in a festive Christmas outfit, Paula Goudreault, English teacher and girls' soccer assistant coach at Chicopee Comprehensive High School and Alison Allegresso, English teacher at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, smile for a group photo during Pet Photos with Santa at Chicopee Comprehensive High School. The teachers also serve as co-advisors of the high school's National Honor Society, who hosted the event.

Sports

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www.sports.turley.com

Colts start slow, but gain momentum in win over Tigers

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY— Even though things didn't start out very well for the Chicopee Comp girls' varsity basketball team in the season opening game at South Hadley, it was an enjoyable ride home for the Lady Colts.

After trailing by as many as 20 points in the first half, the Lady Colts outscored the Lady Tigers, 43-26 in the second half, enroute to an exciting 59-55 non-league victory before a large crowd at Thomas B. Landers Court, last Thursday night.

"We've scrimmaged South Hadley over the past couple of years and we've talked about playing them in the regular season," said Comp head coach Tony Couture. "I really didn't think it would start as bad as it did for us, but this was such a fun





Natalie Fournier gets a shot off.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Taryn Carriveau tries to keep the ball out of reach of her opponent



Alyssa Caney goes for the easy



Eliza Burger approaches the paint ready to shoot.

Comp gets big seasonopening win

CHICOPEE – Huge home opener win over a tough Pittsfield team for Chicopee Comp boys basketball.

The Colts took the game 72-64 on Monday evening. Clutch free throws from Kayden Miller to seal the deal, after Captain Tineus McCluster had fouled out. Another standout was freshman Xavier Kleps, who added 21 points in his opening game for the Colts.

T-Birds stuff Islanders on Teddy Bear Night

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (12-8-2-0) thoroughly controlled the game and came away with a defiant 5-1 win over the Bridgeport Islanders (6-15-1-0) on Saturday night before a sold-out crowd of 6,793 for the annual Teddy Bear

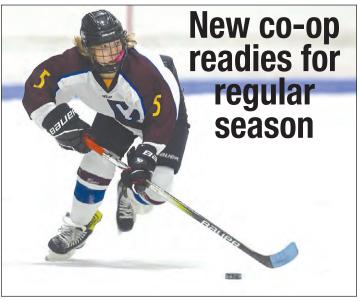
Fans did not have to wait long to chuck their stuffed animals onto the ice, as Mathias Laferriere cleaned up a loose puck rebound in front of Jakub Skarek and tucked it home on the backhand just 1:40 into the game, bringing about thousands of

bears raining onto the ice sheet.

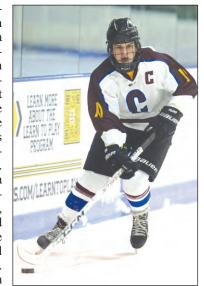
After a delay in picking up all the stuffed donations, the T-Birds picked right up where they left off, and just 6:10 after the Laferriere goal, the top line generated another marker. Adam Gaudette connected on a pass to the right side to Nathan Walker. Dylan Coghlan quickly raced up into the play as a trailer and perfectly placed a wrist shot over Skarek's blocker arm to make it a 2-0 game at 7:50.

Vadim Zherenko was most-

See T-BIRDS page 8



HOLYOKE - Last Thursday afternoon Belchertown and Chicopee hockey met in a scrimmage as both teams prepared for their regular season opener. Belchertown is coming off an appearance in last year's state tournament while Chicopee's team will feature several different players this season as the Pacers now coop with four other schools. This year's team will be a five-team co-op with Chicopee, Chicopee Comprehensive, South Hadley, Granby, and the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School (PVCIC) all participating. Chicopee faces Easthampton on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 5 p.m. at Fitzpatrick Rink.



Connor McDonnell digs the puck away from the wall.



Stephen Samson tries to get around a defender.



Chris Walczak looks to shoot on goal.



Caleb Lundgren heads up the ice with the puck.

Winter Showdown to feature SK Type Open Modified programs

has it, motorsports fans from coast to coast will soon be flocking to the Sunshine State, ready to elude the abrasive winter chill in exchange for a full month of racing at a variety of ovals across the peninsula. Auburndale Speedway in Winter Haven, Florida, centrally located between Tampa and Orlando, will join in on the winter action, ready to host its highly-anticipated Winter Showdown on February 6-10.

In total, seven different asphalt divisions will be taking to the Auburndale shorttrack, all of which anchored with the 602 Tour Type Modifieds, and the Tour/SK

WINTER HAVEN, FL – As tradition Type Open Modifieds, that will headline the week-long Winter Showdown agenda on Thursday through Saturday. The 602 Modifieds, battling for \$500-to-win in each of their respective programs, will compete on all three of the aforementioned evenings with the Tour/SK Type Open Modifieds competing for \$2,000-to-win paydays on Friday and Saturday, only.

A true must-see for any short track enthusiast, the Tour Type Modifieds have never competed at Auburndale Speedway giving fans the opportunity to witness a new piece of Florida history.

Competitors should note, Modifieds

will utilize the F45 Hoosier; additional rules will be posted in the coming days.

In addition to the aforementioned Modified divisions, Legends/Bandoleros (highlighted with double programs on Wednesday and Thursday), Mighty TQ Midgets (chasing a \$5,000 total purse), USAC Eastern Midgets, the National Compact Tour, and the infamous Crown Vics, will also join in on the Winter Showdown, activating officially with open practice and track rental sessions beginning Tuesday,

Registration for Auburndale Speedway's Winter Showdown is officially open. Competitors seeking to pre-register can do so by clicking the link below. Online registration will close on February 1 with additional registration opportunities available at-track during each day's respective

Speed Sport TV, home to the widest variety of motorsports events, award-winning shows and exclusive features with live and on-demand capabilities, is the official broadcast partner of the annual Winter Showdown and is set to broadcast each evening live. Race coverage packages and pricing will be available soon. Learn more at www.speedsport.tv.

COLTS from page 7

game tonight. I wish it was the last game of the season because I don't know if any game is going to live up to this.

The last regular season meeting between the two schools, which are separated by about five miles, took place in January of 2020. The Lady Colts celebrated a ten point victory in that contest.

The Lady Colts were led by junior guards Eliza Burger and Taryn Carriveau, who combined to score 47 points, in the season opening victory.

Burger finished with a game-high and career-high 24 points.

"Taryn has always been a big part of our offense and I was able to step up in tonight's game," said Burger, who made a total of six 3-pointers. "I know several of the South Hadley players and it feels very good to get a victory against them."

Carriveau, who entered the 2023-24 regular season with more than 500 career points, scored 19 of her 23 points after halftime. She scored a career-high 24 points in a one point non-league home win versus Tantasqua Regional a year

Comp senior forward Alyssa Caney chipped in with six points, while sophomore guard Ava DeBettencourt and senior guard Natalie Fournier finished the contest with three points apiece.

The South Hadley student section had a lot to cheer about as the Lady Tigers reeled off 17 unanswered points during a four-minute stretch in the opening quarter.

After receiving a bounce pass from senior guard Drew Alley, junior center Ava Asselin (4 points) scored the first points of the new season for the home team with an inside hoop. Then junior guard CC Gurek scored the Lady Tigers next ten points with the help of two 3-pointers and two lay-ups.

South Hadley, who was leading 12-1 at that point, continued its run with an inside hoop and a 3-pointer from the left corner from freshman forward Cara Dean (9 points).

Even with his squad leading by 16 points, longtime South Hadley head coach Paul Dubuc wasn't very comfortable standing on the sideline.

Even though we were leading by double digits in the first half, it only felt like we were ahead by six points," Dubuc said. "Comp is a well-coached team, and I knew that they were going to make a comeback against us.'

A 3-pointer and a lay-up by Burger closed the gap to 17-6 entering the second

With 5:20 remaining in the first half, South Hadley built a 27-7 lead following a lay-up by freshman forward Kate Phillips (7 points).

Less than a minute later Gurek, who scored all ten of her points in the first quarter, left the game with a left ankle in-

"CC is our starting point guard and captain," Dubuc said. "She carried us offensively during the first half. She's the real deal and we're hoping her injury isn't very serious."

Then Comp put together a 9-2 run and trailed 29-16 at halftime.

'We've been working on that fullcourt press and our goal was to wear them down," Couture said. "I think, maybe, that happened. We hung around in the first half long enough and came out great in the third quarter."

Carriveau scored 13 of her team's first 15 points in the third quarter, which sliced the deficit to 33-31.

Then Burger banked home a 3-point shot from the left side of the court with 2:50 remaining in the third quarter, which gave the Lady Colts their first lead since early in the first quarter.

Burger would make another shot from beyond the arc giving Comp a 39-

Burger had a great night shooting the ball," Couture said. "She got hot in the second half, and she is a great scorer and a great shooter."

The Lady Tigers responded with a put-back basket from junior guard Maddie Soderbaum, who led the way offensively for the home team with 12 points. Then back-to-back field goals by Phillips tied the score at 39 entering the fourth quarter.

Neither team was able to pull away over the final eight minutes of the contest.

Soderbaum scored eight points during the first five minutes of the fourth quarter, which gave the Lady Tigers a slim 51-49 advantage.

With 1:30 remaining in regulation,

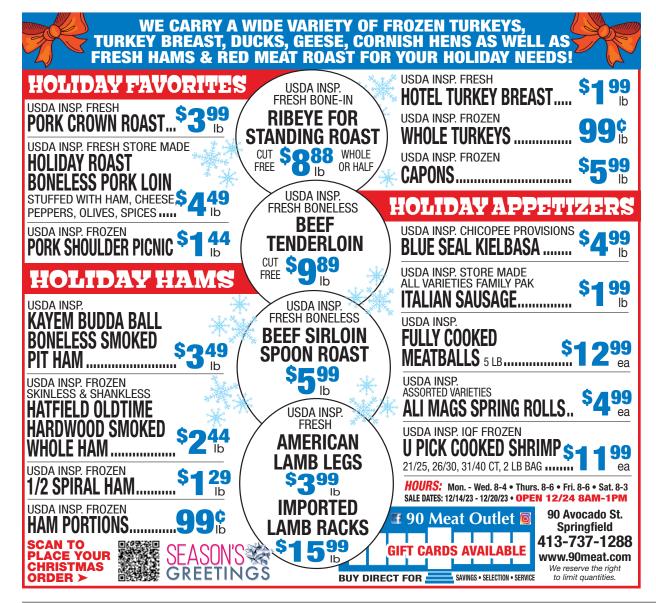


Eliza Burger makes her way down the

Burger made her final 3-pointer, which gave the Lady Colts the lead back at 55-

After a made free throw by DeBettencourt, Carriveau sealed the season opening victory for the Lady Colts by making three more shots from the line.

It was the only meeting of the regular season between the two squads.



T-BIRDS from page 7

ly untested in the T-Birds' net, as the offense for both teams went dry for well over the next 30 minutes of game

The game's temperature then rose at the 3:18 mark of the third as Sam Bitten and Travis Mitchell dropped the mitts in an old-school style scrap, bringing up the noise on both benches and inside the building. When the game moved to 4-on-4 following matching minors three minutes later, the T-Birds put the game out of reach with two goals in short order.

First, Calle Rosen drifted back toward his blue line and stunned the Islanders with a perfect diagonal pass to a streaking Walker, who beat Skarek with a backhander to make it 3-0 at 7:18 of the third. Just 22 seconds later, Walker was the distributor off the rush, setting up Wyatt Kalynuk for a snapper through Skarek's five-hole, and in a matter of a half minute, the lead had ballooned to 4-0 for the T-Birds.

Matt Maggio broke up Zherenko's shutout bid with a shot that caromed off a defender and through Zherenko's legs at 10:27 to make it a 4-1 game, but that would be all the Isles could muster on this night.

Coghlan would add his second of the night on Walker's fourth point of the evening, blasting a one-time power play slapper through Skarek's legs at 13:59, rounding out the scoring with his seventh goal of the year and his second multi-goal game.

For the first time this season, the T-Birds went the full 60 minutes without having to play shorthanded, and Springfield scored on their lone power play chance to make it a perfect night in special teams. Zherenko got his fourth straight win with 34 saves. In his last four outings, the second-year netminder has stopped 126 out of 132

www.turley.com

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 December 15, 2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1997 Jeep Wrangler Sport VIN: 1J4FY19S7VP490622 Jodi Carter 12 Jackielyn Circle Granby, MA 01033

2002 Ford Explorer VIN: 1FMZU73E32ZA23990 Micheal Suppe 16 Freemont Ave. Milford, CT 06460

2002 Honda Accord VIN:1HGCG668X2A036141 Mariela Rodriguez 177 Elm St Bldg. Apt. 3R Holyoke, MA 01040

2003 Buick rendezvous VIN: 3G5DB03EX3S509388 Brianne McCown 15011 White Ave. Grandview, MI 64030

2005 Lexus Es330 VIN: JTHBA30GX55135905 Jill Humann 18 Huron Ave. East Freetown, MA 02717

2006 Kawasaki Vn900B VIN: JKAVN2B116A004953 Rondy Penolo Pi 26 Cambridge St. Springfield, MA 01109

2010 Chevy Traverse VIN:1GNLVEED1AS132088 Hector Baez Rodriguez 116 Fort Pleasant Ave. Apt 1L Springfield, MA 01104

2007 Ford Expedition Ltd VIN: 1FMFU20567LA40898 Jason Blakely 270 Main St .Apt. 4L Holyoke, MA 01040

2012 Ford Fusion VIN: 3FAHP0HA9CR147620 Steven Nikiel 20 Wyben Rd. Unit A Southampton, MA 01073

2013 Nissan Altima VIN:1N4AL3AP5DN568350 Luis Rodriguez 43 Greene St. Springfield, MA 01109

2014 Toyota Rav4 VIN:2T3BFREV9EW205383 Dat Nguyen 4 Oliver St. Apt. 2 Worcester. MA 01603

2017 Honda Civic VIN: 19XFC2F7XHE067743 Mabelis Colon Roman 49 Jean Circle Chicopee, MA 01020

2002 Honda Accord VIN:1HGCG225X2A018999 Jean Jones 3056 39th St. Milwaukee, WI 53210

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

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

2001 Toyota Sequoia VIN: 5TDBT44AX1S027411 Creighton Wheeler 4448 Patton Rd. Maysville, MI 64469

2007 Chevrolet Malibu VIN: 1G1ZS57F97F284723 Jermone Michael Williams 15 Camp Ave. Greenfield, MA 01301

2008 Mercedes-Benz C300 VIN:WDDGF81X98F116433 Shenequa White 13 Oxford St. Lynn, MA 01902

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

2010 Acura TL VIN:19UUA8F28AA013355 Chyann Robinson 281 Dwight St. Ext. Apt. 4 Springfield, MA 01105

2014 Honda Civic VIN: 19XFB4F23EE201894 Rogelio Perez 83 Jackson St. Apt. L2 Holyoke, MA 01040

2015 Jeep Compass VIN: 1C4NJDEB6FD427267 Vennetia Prevost 2 Johnson Ave. Apt. 2 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

2016 Kia Forte VIN: KNAFK4A68G5471533 Capten Auto Sales & Repair LLC 2835 Louisville Rd. Bowling Green, KY 42101

2019 Kia Optima VIN:5XXGT4L30KG348370 American International College 1000 State St. Springfield, MA 01109

12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2023

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on 12/29/2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1999 Dodge Dakota VIN: 1B7GG22Y3XS187032 Steven Morales Vidal 212 Main St. Wilbraham, MA 01095

2002 TOYOTA CAMRY VIN: 4T1BF32K62U529631 Rodrigo Dos Santos 148 S Quinsigamond Ave. Shrewsbury, MA 01545

VIN: 5TBBT441X2S247948 D Buckingham 21 Westhill Rd. North Falmouth, MA 02556

2002 Tovota Tundra

2003 Toyota Highlander VIN: JTEHF21A230132052 Yolangeles Pabon Serrano 42 W Glen St. Holyoke, MA 01040

2004 Honda Pilot VIN: 2HKYF18564H585988 Melanie Rodriguez 16 Juniper Ct. Greenfield, MA 01301

2005 Chevrolet Venture VIN: 1GNDV03EX5D129784 Eduardo Hernandez 81 Division St. Waterbury, CT 06704

2005 Ford Explorer VIN: 1FMZU77K75UB46337 Tyves Rocco Rovito-Duprey 682 Enfield St. Enfield, CT 06082

2005 Freightliner X line

Motorhome VIN:4UZABFDC05CN82091 El Shaddi Dental Associates

Po Box 486 Randolph, MA 02368

2006 Yamaha Yzfr1 VIN: JYARN15E16A002292 Rafael Ortiz 97 Washburn St. Springfield, MA 01107

2009 Ford Taurus Sel VIN: 1FAHP27W49G109527 Omar Rivera PO Box 6482 Holyoke, MA 01040

2010 Ford Focus Se VIN:1FAHP3FN7AW214684 Mark Antonellis 28 Eddy St.

Waltham, MA 02453 2014 Toyota Camry

Yasandra Feliberty 6 Cycle St. Westfield, MA 01085 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2023

VIN:4T4BF1FKXER426902

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. HD23A0111AD
In the matter of:
Raymond Julio Matta
CITATION

Raymond Santos Matta, Jr. any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

G.L. c. 210, §6

A petition has been presented to said court by:

Omeiry Cruz of Springfield, MA Michael Angel Rivera of Springfield, MA

requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

Raymond Julio Rivera-Cruz

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3.10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT **Springfield** ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 12/22/2023.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 21, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 12/01, 12/08, 12/15

> Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD23C0353CA In the matter of: Dhyani Ife Rodriguez CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change
Name of Adult has been filed
by Dhyani Ife Rodriguez of
Chicopee, MA requesting
that the court enter a Decree
changing their name to:

Dhyani Ifé IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/09/2024.

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

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

Date: December 05, 2023

Rosemary A Saccomani

Register of Probate
12/15/2023

NOTICE OF INITIAL
SITE INVESTIGATION
AND
TIER II
CLASSIFICATION
SZOT POOL
927 SARGEANT TRACY
DRIVE
CHICOPEE,
MASSACHUSETTS
RTN: 1-0021616

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500.

On December 4, 2023, The City of Chicopee (the Owner) filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact:

Mr. Alan Hanscom, LSP, Pare Corporation 10 Lincoln Road, Suite 210 Foxborough, MA 02035 508.543.1755 Email:

ahanscom@parecorp.com
The Tier Classification
and an associated Phase
I Initial Site Investigation
Report documenting the site
history and extent of contamination was submitted
electronically, and may be
viewed by searching for RTN
1-0021616 at the following
website:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Reportable Releases Look Up https://eeaonline.eea.state. ma.us/portal/#!/search/waste

Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404. 12/15/2023

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD23C0354CA
In the matter of:
Briya Emily Farber
CITATION ON PETITION

TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Briya Emily Farber of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Briya Emily Ifé IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/09/2024.

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

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

Date: December 05, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 12/15/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD23P2470GD In the matter of: Patricia McMaster Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person **CITATION GIVING** NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR** INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO

G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Greater **Springfield Senior Services** of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Patricia McMaster is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Nancy Godbout of Granby, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without **Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 01/05/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on

behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon.

Barbara M. Hyland, First

Justice of this Court.

Date: December 08, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
12/15/2023
Commonwealth of

Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD23P2471PM In the matter of: Patricia McMaster Of: Chicopee, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor) CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B,

§5-304 & §5-405 To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Greater Springfield Senior Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Patricia McMaster is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM. on the return date of 01/05/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 08, 2023

Rosemary A. SaccomaniRegister of Probate 12/15/2023

More Legals on page x

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT LEGAL NOTICE

Chicopee Electric Light is updating its rate tariffs effective January 1, 2024 as detailed below. The changes in the rates will more accurately represent CEL's costs to provide distribution, transmission and generation services to its customers while ensuring the necessary resources to provide reliable, high quality service. For updates, please refer to the rate section on Chicopee Electric Lights website at celd.com/ electric-service-rates. Tariffs being modified are listed with their updated M.D.P.U numbers as follows:

M.D.P.U. No. 128: Industrial Service

M.D.P.U. No. 129: Large General Service

M.D.P.U. No. 130: Large General Service – Off Peak Heating and Water Heating Service

M.D.P.U. No. 131: Small General Service

M.D.P.U. No. 132: Small General Service – Off Peak Heating and Water Heating Service

M.D.P.U. No. 133: Residential Service

M.D.P.U. No. 134: Residential Service – Off Peak Heating and Water Heating Service

Filed – December 14, 2023

City of Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant 725 Front Street Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020 (413) 598-8311 http://www.celd.com 12/15/2023

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD23P2527EA
Estate of:
Susan Sophie Scott
Date of Death: 09/13/2023

Susan Sophie Scott
Date of Death: 09/13/2023
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition

All Papers

Will Deadline

Thursday, Dec. 21

at Noon for

Publication

Dec. 25-29

Early Veadlines

for all LEGAL NOTICES...

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 01/11/2024.

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

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

this Court.
Date: December 12, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 12/15/2023

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE
TRIAL COURT
CITATION

Case No. 18 REG 43509 Plaintiff: Julian M. Bazalar

To: the Honorable Mayor for the City of Chicopee; Town Clerk for the City of Chicopee, a municipal corporation, located in the County of Hampden; Dorothy B. Swidrak, and Patrick A. Chamberlain, both of Chicopee; Joanne D. Musiak of Ludlow: Brian P. Pedersen of Westfield, all in the County of Hampden, all in said Commonwealth of Massachusetts; John P. Swidrak, Jr. of Millsboro, in the State of Delaware; Westfield Bank, a duly existing savings bank, having a usual place of business in Westfield, in the County of Hampden, and said Commonwealth of Massachusetts; John P. Swidrak, deceased, formerly of Chicopee, or his heirs, devisees and legal representatives; Joseph Steck, also known as Joseph L.

All Papers

Will Deadline

Thursday, Dec. 28

at Noon for

Publication

Jan. 1-5

Stec, deceased, formerly of Chicopee, or his heirs, devisees and legal representatives, and to all whom it may con-

Whereas, a complaint has been presented to said Court by Julian M. Bazalar, of Chicopee, County of Hampden, and said Commonwealth, to register and confirm title in the following described land:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situate in said Chicopee, bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHEASTERLY

by Marion Street, a total distance of Seventy-Nine and 55/100 (79.55) feet as shown on said plan;

SOUTHWESTERLY

by Highland Avenue, One Hundred Thirty-Seven and 07/100 (137.07) feet as shown on said plan;

NORTHWESTERLY

by Land as shown as land of The Maher Family Trust, a total distance of Ninety-Six and 99/100 (96.99) feet as shown on said plan;

NORTHEASTERLY

by Land as shown as land of Karen Langome, Susan Hambley and Alan Janulevicz, now owned by Patrick C. Chamberlain, a total distance of One Hundred Thirty-Three and 50/100 (133.50) feet as shown on said plan.

The above-described land is shown on a plan filed with said complaint and all boundary lines are claimed to be located on the ground as shown on said plan.

If you desire to make any objection or defense to said complaint you or your attorney must file a written appearance and an answer under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objections or defense to each part of said complaint, in the office of the Recorder of said Court in Boston (at 3 Pemberton Square, Room 507, Boston, MA 02108), or in the office of the Assistant Recorder of said Court at the Registry of Deeds at Springfield, in the County of Hampden, where a copy of the plan filed with said complaint is deposited, on or before the Twenty Ninth day of January next.

of **January** next.

Unless an appearance is so filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said complaint will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said complaint or any judgment entered thereon.

WITNESS, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court, this **Seventeenth** day of **November**, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

A True Copy Attest:
DEBORAH J. PATTERSON
RECORDER
From the office of:

Nyles L. Courchesne, Esq., 12 School Street, Agawam, MA 01001. 18 REG 43509

12/08, 1215, 12/22/2023

Happy New Year! NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

OBITUARIES

Carol A. Walker June 4, 1940 – Nov. 28, 2023

WILBRAHAM -- Carol Ann (Doyle) Walker, 83, died peacefully, after a battle with Alzheimer's, on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023, at home. Born in Hartford, Conn. to the late Parker and Beulah Doyle, she was raised in Middletown, Conn. through a young age, until they moved to Waterford, Conn. Carol's father, Parker, was an Executive with the Boy Scouts for Connecticut.

In her youth, Carol enjoyed assisting her father, due to his poor health, at his office and Boy Scout Camp. She attended school through her junior year in Waterford, Conn. After her father's death in Waterford, Conn, she and her mother Beulah moved to Sixteen Acres, a suburb of Springfield, and Carol graduated from Classical High School in Springfield.

A talented seamstress, Carol graduated from Tailor School and retired from Marshall's after 33 enjoyable years of service. On Jan. 12, 1985, Carol married Ken at First Congregational Church on Chicopee Street in Chicopee, and they resided in Wilbraham. Carol was a very caring and giving person and enjoyed

volunteering for many years at the USO at Westover Air Reserve Base.

In addition to her parents, Carol was also predeceased by her son Jonathon Everett. Carol will be sadly missed by her beloved husband of 38 years Kenneth Walker, her daughter Suzanne M. Croteau and her husband George, daughter in law Tammy L. Everett, grandchildren; Alyson Rose and Madyson Ann Everett and three stepchildren; Thomas K. Walker and his wife Cheryl, John A. Walker and his wife Denise and Brenda DeWilde and her husband

A private burial will take place in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Wilbraham Funeral Home, 2551 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095 has been entrusted with the arrangements. Anyone wishing to send a condolence to Ken may mail it, in care of, Wilbraham Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Holyoke VNA and Hospice Life Care, 575 Beech St., Holyoke, MA 01040, or call 413-534-5691 to make donations

PACE CAR from page 1

easy for people to drive fast because the roads are relatively straight.

"Those are the two I do, and I'll bump up and down the side streets next to the schools because there's Stefanik School over there, so I'll make a point of going up and down that street. I go up the Burnett Road area too for Litwin School and Sunshine Village up there," Joslyn said.

The pace car makes its presence known wherever Joslyn hears complaints about drivers ignoring school buses or creating other issues related to speed or distracted driving. Joslyn drives the vehicle about three days a week when school is beginning and ending.

He hopes that the pace car makes it safer for children and teens to walk to school and for parents to drop off their students. Depending on what time school starts, Joslyn can catch two schools in one shift because he said the older kids start class earlier than the younger ones.

When asked what inspired the idea, Joslyn said the city was looking for a rapid answer to a serious ongoing problem and it hit him as an easy answer.

"If you force the people's hands to do the speed limit because somebody's there watching you or making you, it's just going to work out that way," Joslyn said

Joslyn tested the idea last school year for several months, and the feedback was very positive.

"We gave it a shot, we were just going to test the waters for a little while, and it was a big success," he said.

Joslyn doesn't know of any other cities that deploy a pace car, but people from across the country have reached out to him to learn more about the concept. People on social media have also left positive comments, reaffirming that the idea is working.

While Joslyn created the idea of

the pace car, Mayor John Vieau and the City Council developed the thought that every city vehicle on the road should always drive the speed limit, serving as pace cars themselves.

"If everybody's just doing the speed limit during a working day, how many city vehicles are out there? If everybody's doing the speed limit, it's going to force people to slow down and stay off their cell phones, which is probably the biggest thing. These people have to pay attention," Joslyn said.

Joslyn reminds residents that the speed limit is a law, not a suggestion. If you're driving in neighborhoods or congested areas with a lot of people, he said you have to drive safe and stay off your phone.

"Besides you being on your phone, people that are walking are on their phone, and nobody's paying attention. Next thing you know, they're stepping out into the street, and bad things happen," Joslyn said.

In the Willimansett area, Joslyn said the police department has also deployed extra cruisers to monitor drivers and issue more citations. He said that the city adjusted to the problem to fix it, keep the neighborhood happy and most importantly ensure residents' safety.

Joslyn noted that before the "technical world," things were simpler, but "now everybody's preoccupied with a million different things."

He said when driving a vehicle that should be all you are concentrated on.

"The roads are much busier, and there's a lot of drivers out there now," he said. "You just have to really pay attention because you don't know what the people walking are going to do. And little kids, you have to think about them. You have no idea if they're just going to jump out in the road, so you just have to be on your game."



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Page 10 | December 15, 2023

Happy Holidays!

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The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates for the full-time position of **Equipment Operator/General** Laborer in the Town Highway Department. Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

Further information can be found on the Town's website: www.worthington-ma.us

Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830.

Send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: worthingtonhighway@gmail.com or to Worthington Highway Department, P. O. Box 643. Worthington, MA. This posting will remain pertinent until the position

The Town of Worthington is an Equal

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Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference,

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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.

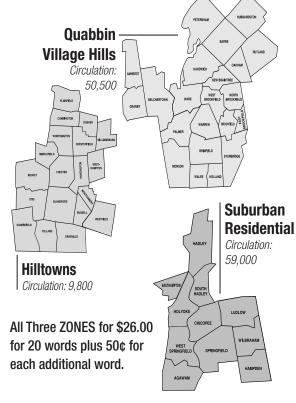
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29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
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School Committee discusses metal detectors, safety precautions

By Dalton Zbierski Editor dzbierski@turley.com

CHICOPEE - After a fight was reported at Chicopee High School on Dec. 5, and one of the participants potentially had a gun, the School Committee discussed safety precautions during its Dec. 6 meeting.

Vice Chair Susan Lopes requested the topic of metal detectors be placed on the agenda after speaking to a city employee named Sharon who works in the high schools.

'(Sharon) has been dismayed because she reasonably feels as though Chicopee High School is not well enough protected with the monitors and the metal detectors at the beginning of the school day," Lopes said.

Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware delved into the issue, noting he's been doing his homework since the committee last met in November. The new superintendent said evaluating safety procedures is part of his entry plan.

"I actually started to look at all the safety and security measures that we take in our district. As I came in July 1, as you can imagine, there were a lot of things given to me as to what was previously practiced," Ware said.

Ware said he learned that metal detectors were piloted in the district's secondary schools during the months of April and May. He went through the materials left for him by his predecessor, Alvin Morton, and has also



PHOTOS BY TEDY MAKUCH, A CHS STUDENT AND TURLEY CORRESPONDENT

After a fight at Chicopee High School on Dec. 5, the School Committee discussed school safety during its meeting the next day.

begun roundtable interviews with school principals, the Chicopee Education Association and staff at the district's Dulong Circle headquarters.

Thus far, during his listening tour, Ware has discovered that the previous administration had several conversations regarding school safety.

"The actual plan, the roll out, included school climate safety officers, which we just implemented within the past couple of months. Also, they would actually be used to help run these metal detectors," Ware said.

Ware said there hasn't been a moving forward of the plan since Morton was at the helm and informed Lopes that Sharon is "100% correct," as the district has metal detectors in its schools but hasn't been running them

Working with Director of Maintenance Scott Chapdelaine and Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services Carol Kruser, the former Chicopee High School principal, Ware has begun to do a security audit of the district.

"I know that one thing doesn't work in isolation when it comes to safety and security, and I thought it was of the utmost importance to understand how they all tie together," he said.

Ware did say that once the audit is completed, it will be presented to the School Committee for a conversation on how to move forward.

"So, I don't want to dismiss any concerns from any constituents as well as any members of our community. Especially given (the Dec. 5) events, I can understand it's on everyone's radar,"

Ware said that one of the major discussions that occurred when he arrived in the district was creating a budget that is transparent and makes sense. He



said some of the measures pertaining to security include cameras, the staff that is hired and metal detectors.

"I just saw it as one opportunity to do a rollout plan that made sense for the whole district. So, that's what I can tell you at this point," he said.

Lopes noted that a constituent informed her that doors could be left open in the elementary schools. She acknowledged that the issue was addressed by the previous administration but brought it up because she wants it to continue to be addressed.

Ware told her to let the constituent know they can contact him because "that's not okay at

"When it comes to any of

that, I know that one of the conversations I had with Mr. Chapdelaine before we go through this audit is that our doors are not propped open. Our doors shouldn't be propped open at all," Ware said.

Ware said he definitely wants to know if that's continuing because he needs the public to know that is not acceptable. He promised to follow up accordingly.

"What I also can tell you is that with our climate and safety personnel that we hired on, I know that is one thing I visually saw them do. As they walk across the building, they do check exterior doors, so I can speak to that in the secondary schools," Ware

health



Chicopee Chamber presents \$4,011 donation to Valley Opportunity Council



Pictured from left are Amanda Sarrasin, 5K Committee Member, Westfield Bank; Melissa White, Director of Programs, Valley Opportunity Council; Melissa Breor, Executive Director, Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce; Jeanne Almanzar, Assistant Director of Adult Education, Valley Opportunity Council; Hayley Nelson, Adult Education Coordinator, Valley Opportunity Council; Dr. Nadeem Sikandar, Director of Continuing Education & Career Center, Valley Opportunity Council.

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Chamber of Commerce presented a \$4,011 donation to Valley Opportunity Council's Continuing Education & Career Center at its Holiday Business After Hours event this month.

The donation is a result of the Chamber's annual Thriller 5K held at the end of October. The photo was taken on Dec. 6 at Masse's American Bistro on Memorial



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