

Chicopee Register

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

August 1, 2025 Vol 30 No.13 | FREE

www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

COMMUNITY



A shot of the audience in City Hall Auditorium for the July 29 Special City Council Meeting.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

CEA, UFCW reps speak out on rising health insurance plans

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On July 29, the CEA and UFCW representatives formed a sense of unity as rallies of both unions transpired outside of City Hall to raise and garner support as contract negotiations remain a strong point of friction among all parties involved.

Longing for answers, the rallyists sat and gathered from inside city hall to offer grievances about the rising concerns of health insurance plans across the city, as ongoing negotiations continue, and it should be clear that the public forum did allow all voices to be heard. In response to the outcry of worry and aggression, Mayor John Vieau called

a meeting to dispel and quell the mitigated frustration as the City Council was called forth and assembled along with representatives from Hub International to provide additional feedback and address all questions and misconceptions.

Public Input Response

Speaking on the frustration that continues to manifest was Crystal Bouchie, Executive Vice President of UFCW Local 1459, who felt the numbers aren't adding up, while addressing the biggest sentiments not being heard.

"The biggest fact is that insurance increases are outweighing their wage increases and affecting and diminishing their COLA (Cost of Life Adjustments) and the city is

aware of this problem, as we are in active negotiations, and mediation, but the attitude we've received from the city is that 'the insurance is what it is,'" Bouchie said.

In addition, one major revelation that came to light was that Bouchie passed along that the City is now moving away from section 19 and now utilizing sections 21-23 of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32B, which eliminates the ability to bargain.

"We used to be able to meet and discuss the rates, so now were told when we bring up different proposals, we are then told this needs to be bargained through this committee and then they already set the rates, we are left to ask what

message does this tell your employees, and the taxpayers who are funding these organizations and it feels the city doesn't care," she said.

In addition Bouchie's comments do offer a point of bubbling frustration that feels a breaking point is set to be released, as the union's reaction to the lack of urgency is 'disappointing,' and adding to the fact it was revealed during the July 1 meeting due to the wide assortment of open positions totaling near 70 vacancies, the City of Chicopee has saved and allocated more than \$8.1 million. Bouchie responded by passing along that job seekers who look at Chicopee for potential employment.

See **INSURANCE** page 5

COMMUNITY

Meet the City Collector Candidates: Raj Sanghvi

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE - As we get closer to the Sept. 16 primary for the role of city collector, the Chicopee Register will be highlighting the candidates.

The three candidates on the primary ballot are Raj Sanghvi, Sandra Peret and Frederick Krampits.

This week, let's meet Raj Sanghvi.

Sanghvi explained he was motivated to run to give back to the community for always supporting him and his family, having been a business owner for 20 years.

"So, let's give back to the city, the people of Chicopee. So I said, 'What can I do to help the people?'" Sanghvi said.

Meeting with many elderly residents at his business, Sanghvi then wondered what he could do to help them when they go to city hall to pay their taxes and give them more attention.

"Sometimes they're having problems with their health or some other issues, they aren't able to do that, so they're relying on other people to help them out. So, I said, if I run, I want to have more drop boxes around the city like Burnett Road and far off locations like Memorial Drive and see to it that it is the duty of the collector to go and collect the checks from the people and listen to their problems, what they're facing," Sanghvi said.

To do this, Sanghvi said he would want to hold meetings at the senior center once

a month to meet with residents and also help them manage their expenses, whether through talking about a payment plan, helping out with the tax classifications and clarifying any issues.

"Secondly, being a businessman, I deal with money all the time. I do the same thing a collector does in a smaller way. Collecting money, doing the taxes, doing withdrawals every day and see how efficiently I can run my business, so that same idea I



Raj Sanghvi

can apply to the collector's office," Sanghvi said. "And being in customer service, I listen to people's issues all the time and I love doing that, talking to people and listening to their problems and trying to solve them in whatever way I can help."

Another goal would be to bring more awareness to the city collector role and what it does.

"As a collector, I don't want to have a lien on anybody's house if they can't pay. We can work out a problem, they can try to solve it because taking anybody's house is not a good thing. Some businesses might be going through a rough time, so then I can sit down with the businesses and talk to them being in small business myself. I know what problems we face running a business. It's all about people management, people skills and the customer service," Sanghvi said. "I thought I'd be best suited for the job, so I put my hat in the race."

See **SANGHVI** page 5

COMMUNITY

CPL hosts puppet workshop

By Elise Lyons
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On July 23, the library hosted a puppet-making workshop in the Bazan Community Room.

This event was run by puppeteers Jonathan Keezing and Karen Schumer of Caravan Puppets. Their organization, while a part of many local performances, has also ventured to perform for Japan's Iida World Puppet Festival, Boston's Fourth of July Celebration, Toronto's "Askinaz!" Festival, the streets of Jerusalem and Greenfield's Balloon Festi-

val. "Right now, we call ourselves 'joy merchants,'" Schumer said, when asked about their careers. "We give puppet shows to kids and make puppets with kids, but I'm a former art teacher and we're both artists and musicians. Jonathan went to Berkeley, so he's an avant-garde guitarist."

"I started this about thirty years ago and, at that time, I was trying to make my way in the world as an avant-garde guitarist. My partner and I were having a baby, and I realized it was time to get a serious job because you

can't really make a living as an avant-garde guitarist," Keezing said. "So, I became a puppeteer, because I'm a sensible guy. It's taken a while, but yeah, it's what we do. And with that, we travel mostly in Massachusetts, but we've gone all over New England and into New York, and we've done some touring. It's a very diverse job and, as you could see today, lots of fun."

In their 30 years of operation, Caravan Puppets has visited the library among other locations, on numerous occasions— something that wouldn't be possible without the assistance they've received.

"In terms of coming together, this is I think is our eighth or 9th performance with this library and we got a Cultural Consult Grant— this is through both the Chicopee Cultural Council and Massachusetts Cultural Council— which is a great thing all over the state. It's one of the big culture engines in local towns," the couple said.

Many families attended the workshop, including Paige Couture and her daughter, Lenox. When asked how they heard of the event, Couture explained that, "When you come to the library, you can sign up for the summer reading program and the calendar. I had the kids go through and pick which activities they wanted to do,



TURLEY PHOTO BY ELISE LYONS

Karen Schumer presents one of many puppets of hers which Caravan Puppets use for their performances.

See **PUPPETS** page 6

COMMUNITY

A look at Barry School Designs Schematics A1 to A4

Design Alternative A4 Summary (Barry Site):	
Barry Elementary School New Construction	
• Total Gross Building Area:	96,402 GSF
• Total Net Program Area:	66,968 NSF
• Grossing Factor:	1.44
• Total Project Cost:	\$104,284,033

PROJECT GOALS	
• Fully Supported	88%
• Partially Supported	12%
• Not Supported	0%

Cost Breakdown:	
• Estimated Construction Costs:	\$78,057,270
• Soft Costs:	\$23,617,883
• Subtotal:	\$101,675,153
• Miscellaneous:	\$1,000,000
• Tariffs:	\$0
• Modular Classrooms:	\$1,079,580
• Beneficial Land Acquisition:	\$230,000
• Relocated Park Amenities:	\$2,809,580
• Total Project Costs:	\$104,284,033

A summary of the A4 Design.

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — As shared in last week's edition, the Chicopee Register will be breaking down the 12 different designs schematics shared by the Anna Barry School Building Commission during their July 17 meeting.

This week, we will be examining the first section, which includes A1 through A4.

A1 - A4 details and highlights the estimated cost and practical breakdown of each pro and con for the Garrity Grove location, where Barry currently resides and remains under Article 97 regulations.

A1 is a standard base repair option as per the requirement from the MSBA to serve as a baseline model.

Bert Gardner, an architect attached to the project from Caolo & Bieniek Architects, elaborated on the designs schematics.

"The MSBA requires that for the base project, we have to do an existing conditions of code repair, which is to bring the building up to code, and stabilize the building; however, it structurally doesn't offer any new educational improvements," Gardner said, when offering a deeper dive into the A1 schematic. Other cons involved only 12% of key improvements would be sup-

ported. In total, the projected cost would be in the ballpark of \$46, 634, 960 dollars after construction and other miscellaneous figures such as tariffs and classroom renovations.

Gardner added that this option isn't the intent of the project, as it falls more under the umbrella of comparing and contrasting other designs put forth, before noting that other options explored the possibility of what a two or three-story Barry could look like, which fall under the umbrella of options A2-A4.

A2 would be a two-story Addition/Renovation at the Barry Elementary School

See **BARRY SCHOOL** page 8

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EVAN GARBER

IN THE CITY

Councilors, Vieau address rising health insurance concerns

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE – The City Council and Mayor John Vieau addressed rising health insurance costs in the city during a special meeting on July 29.

As stated in this week's edition, this item was unanimously motioned to be placed on file with President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme explaining the councilors can continue referring theirs and residents thoughts and questions to the mayor's office.

Three representatives from HUB International, Kathy Breton, Assistant V.P. of Employee Benefits, Marc Criscitelli Senior V.P., and Russell Denver, Chief Compliance Officer for New England, also provided a presentation, which started off by highlighting and noting that contributing reasons for the rising inflation of insurance costs and utilization of healthcare are due factors such as aging population, upward frequency of chronic diseases, rising prescription prices, and the "Covid Hangover".

Criscitelli explained that the City, seven years ago, moved to what is called a partially self-insurance process. As part of a path forward to curb the high cost of insurance rates as the city has worked hard to keep its total health plans' rates lower than the majority of municipalities and the GIC's rates over the years.

It was then revealed that plans such as GIC due to underbudgeting and not anticipating higher-than-normal healthcare expense, due to the uncertain factors listed revealing that during FY25 GIC was underfunded by \$240 million, along with many other municipalities' health plans such as Blue Cross Blue Shield declaring a loss of \$400 million



Crystal Bouchie, Executive Vice President of UFCW Local 1459, speaks during public input.

and Harvard Pilgrim suffering a \$382 million loss, as well. Reinforcing the nature that if these insurance giants continue not only will premiums skyrocket, but the companies will potentially fold.

Criscitelli then revealed that the city of Chicopee is now moving towards a new insurance called DGB - a Reference-Based Pricing program (RBP) which does not rely on the traditional health insurance carriers' contracts with provider networks, which was the subject of hot debate during the public input hearing. However, it was noted that this health plan, DGB/ClaimDoc, is meant to remedy the curve of the ever-increasing rise in healthcare costs.

Criscitelli offered that "approximately 90% of the City's health plan costs are claims that get paid to healthcare providers and pharmacies, and approximately 10% of our health plans' costs are for plan administration paid to Blue Cross Blue Shield, Health New England, and DGB/ClaimDoc, as well as stop-loss insurance, payable to Sun Life, to reimburse the City for all claims above \$250,000."

Laflamme later clarified the meeting was to, also, in-

form the council on the process.

"We do not get involved in the process itself. It's done by the mayor's office and the team. The City Council has no process in part of that process," Laflamme said.

Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier presented ideas, including an audit to look over the use of plans such as the most expensive drugs being used and the most costly procedures in a plan.

Also, breakdowns of the top 10 prescribed drugs "to take a look at that to see if we can get something that's comparable but not as expensive, i.e. it would be less cost."

Also, the implementation of wellness programs, noting Chicopee Public Schools Food Services Director Melanie Wilk and Health Director Lisa Sanders for resources.

"Again, I don't know if we have these programs, but again, this is some of the thought process, and we also, if need be, we could also get some consultants to talk about health literacy, nutrition literacy and financial literacy, so these are all interconnected," Balakier said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello noted the public



Ward 9 City Councilor Mary Beth Costello asks about the bid process.

input comments regarding not going out to bid for a while for health insurance.

"When was the last time you went out to bid and how long has HUB been servicing the community without going out to bid?" Costello said.

Criscitelli explained they've been working with the city for eight to 10 years and they have looked at carriers throughout all those years.

"So every year, we discuss looking at different carriers. Of course, moving to a self-insurance arrangement, 90% of your costs are your claims. So, typically, your claims to some degree are going to be your claims, whether you're with Health New England or Blue Cross Blue Shield or Aetna or Cigna or United Healthcare or Harvard Pilgrim," Criscitelli said. "So, the difference in cost would be that the 3% you pay--your health plan pays for administrative costs. All those carriers charge very comparable amounts, so there's not much difference between them. So, the question would be what providers have the deepest discounts, and I can tell you they're all very comparable."

Criscitelli added HUB

looks at different administrators every year and 20 different stop-loss insurance carriers, also noting an option called DGB--or Diversified Group Brokerage Plan.

"The reason why the charge for that plan's a lot less is because the claims are much more controlled in that plan," Criscitelli said.

On Costello's earlier question, it was clarified that the bid process for brokers is every three years, but for HUB, they go out to bid every single year.

Due to the city not being self-insured before, the bid process was those every three years. But now that the city is self-insured as of one year and 29 days, they would now have to go out to bid.

"It can be good for up to three years with two, one-year renewals," Criscitelli said.

Costello then said, "I think it's good we get on track in regards to the concern of the employees for bidding."

"I'll tell you, I do think it's a long time for no bidding from eight to 10 years. That's just my opinion," Costello said. "And then that way, it's going to be extremely transparent because now you're having public input, everybody's going to

know and update all the insurance, and I'm sure that we're right on the track."

Vieau also addressed why the city hasn't joined GIC, with the reason being how "the total premium is actually higher" and having spoken with HUB International about no rate increases for city employees when he first got elected as mayor.

"As we go away from being fully-insured to self-insured, we kept the deductibles the same. So, we went to that \$2,000 deductible, the city still kept the employees; deductibles at \$500 and \$1,000 for a family," Vieau said.

As the deductible went up from \$3,000 to, later, \$5,000, he added, the employee deductible stayed at that \$500 and \$1,000 "where the city paid the difference before the insurance company kicked in till it reached the point with these increases where something has to give."

"Once you hit the \$5,000, you can't go to eight, 10, \$12,000. It's now either going fully-insured with stop-loss insurance which we chose to do and that found a plan that was comparable apples to apples that actually met and allowed you to use Boston doctors. It allowed you to use national doctors if you needed to, and that was the DGB. A plan that was very comparable and had a zero increase and that was just added as an option, still keeping the other plans," Vieau said.

Vieau ended his remarks saying he thought "this was one of the creative ways that we could actually try to keep a little bit more money in people's paychecks."

"Just because it was a way to reduce that total premium for not just the employee but the city as well, and that was the goal," Vieau said.

Meet Clark Wojtowicz Candidate for Chicopee Councilor At-Large

My name is Clark Wojtowicz, and I am proud to be a lifelong Chicopee resident. I grew up in this city, attended Valentine School, Bowe, and graduated from Chicopee High. My roots run deep here, my parents, the late Clarence "Clarky" Wojtowicz and Diane Wojtowicz, were well-known for running Market Square, Clarky's, and the Kendall Hotel for many years.

I am running for Councilor At-Large because I believe our city needs new leadership that supports local business, public safety, and education. Right

now, the Planning Board and current administration have taken an anti-business stance that is hurting Chicopee's future. As a business owner since 1982, I've seen firsthand roadblocks being created and if we stay on this path, we risk financial collapse. Projects like Bemis Pond, the old library, and the Uniroyal site have been mismanaged, and decisions like approving a drug rehab facility in the former Willimansett nursing home and low-income housing at WACE will only increase the burden on taxpayers.

I am pro-business, pro-police, and pro-teacher. I believe our police should be allowed to do their jobs without interference, and our teachers should be empowered to teach, not bogged down by bureaucracy. A strong police department and quality education system are the backbone of a healthy, thriving community.

I am not running for personal gain; I'm running to work for the people. I'll fight for smart planning, lower taxes, and decisions that truly benefit the residents of Chicopee.

Chicopee Public Library hosts summer events for kids, 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 August 2025, including information about the annual Summer Reading Challenge!

Many of our programs are planned to happen outside in our beautiful back yard. However, if it's raining or too hot, we will move all programming to our community room or children's room.

Outside Playgroup will be held on Fridays, Aug. 8 and 15 at 10:30 a.m. Play outside at the library! Families are invited to hang out under our new shade structure. Library staff will bring toys and sidewalk chalk. In the event

of bad weather, this program will move into the Children's Room Playspace.

Toddler Time will be held on Mondays Aug. 4 and 11 at 10:30 a.m. An open ended playtime for Toddlers to socialize and play! For ages 0-2, no registration required. In the event of bad weather, this program will move into the Children's Room.

Musical Storytime will be held on Tuesdays, Aug. 5 and 12 at 10:30 a.m. A little bit of storytime, a little bit of a dance party. Join us outside on the back patio or in the community room for stories and movement. Geared towards kids ages two through five, older kids welcome.

The library will host a Bingo for Books event on Wednesday, Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. Kids, teens and families are invited to play a few rounds of bingo for a chance to win a book.

Make some art at Cardboard Tube Painting on Thursday, Aug. 7 at 2:30 p.m. Experiment with colors and shapes using cardboard tubes to paint. We'll provide the supplies, you provide the imagination. For all ages.

Summer Anime Club for Teens will meet on Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 4 p.m. to make an upcycled zipper pouch project. Great for holding your writing implements or your Pokémon

cards. Registration is required, sign up online or contact the Children's Room.

The library will host an End of Summer Party featuring Ice Cream with the Mayor and Library Mini-Golf on Aug. 14. Mayor John Vieau and library staff will be scooping ice cream from 2 to 3 p.m. Mobile Mini-Golf will have 9 holes set up on the main floor of the library from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Come and celebrate your summer reading achievements!

There is still time to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge! "Chicopee, Did you read today?" is the question of the season. The Library is challenging everybody to read every day from June 23 - August 15. You can read books or comics, listen to audiobooks, read to someone, or listen to someone read to you. You can read as much or as little as you want. The goal is to spread the joy of reading and learning throughout the community. Sign up for our reading challenge online with Beanstack (look for the link on the library homepage) or visit the library to get started!

Visit the library website for more info about library events, including programs for adults and Thursday night Concerts. www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

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IN THE CITY

Random Acts of Kindness

By Barb Turcotte

I'm often asked where I find the people I write about and I have to say, I'm always amazed when these remarkable people cross my path.

That's exactly how it was, a chance meeting with Jaime Beebe, the Founder of 'Reborns With Reasons'. We met leaving a memory facility, her walking out with a carriage of dolls that were so realistic, I expected a reaction from my cooing to them.

First I'd like to tell you a little bit about this incredible woman, Jaime. She became a young mom with her high school sweetheart but unfortunately their parenting readiness were at different levels. Ten years later they reconnected and are now a beautiful family not only with their son, but with two more children as well.

As a young mom with three children, it was pointless to go to work as childcare was so expensive, so she started a daycare in her home. She did this for approximately six years, affording her to be with her children while earning an income.

Some people by nature are givers and that definitely describes Jaime. After turning her volunteering with 'Reborns' into a business she still wanted to give back. So for the past two years she's volunteered fostering kittens and for four and half years, she's been a volunteer for Hospice, often bringing her 'Babies' along for comfort care.

Jaime was intrigued when she saw her first 'Reborn' and bought it. She then randomly ventured into a memory care facility to see if they would be interested in her 'Baby'. The resident's immediate reactions were breathtaking as she watched

them cuddle, sing and talk with the 'Baby'. The staff was in awe of their reactions and encouraged Jaime to come again, so she did on volunteer basis for five and half years. The staff, their eyes filled with tears as one of the residents exclaimed, "This is like Christmas!", because this resident had been non-verbal until this happened.

Unfortunately, though it filled Jaime's soul by volunteering, it became necessary for her to go to work. When she told one of the facilities she volunteered at she was going to have to find a 'real job', they told her, "You have a real job! What you're doing is making such an incredible difference, you have to turn this into a business and keep doing this wonderful work!"

Jaime was very skeptical; she did this for the love of the reactions of the residents. She couldn't imagine doing it other than volunteering, but if she did this as a business, it would not only help with family expenses, but she would be able to continue to see what a difference it was making for people with memory problems.

One of the resident's family members told her their dad wouldn't be interested in any of this. Yet when dad saw the 'Baby' he immediately embraced it and started talking to it gently. Telling it how beautiful it was and how it was going to grow up to be such a wonderful person. The family was shocked. What a wonderful thing for those children to witness, seeing their dad as he must have nurtured them when they were babies, of course a memory they'd have been much too young to remember.

Jaime has invested many dollars into this venture with dolls starting from \$300 to \$1,200 each, ranging from

newborns to toddlers. As a business, she feels the quality of the 'Babies' is imperative and over time has invested in thirty-nine, so far. Though she charges now for her services, her real love is seeing the residents react. As she explained this, the way she glowed said it all, it's truly where her heart is and her calling.

She brought an auburn haired beauty, approximately the size of a two month old, with long eyelashes that rested on her cheeks as she slept. As I held her in the restaurant where we met, people began to "ooh", then when I told them it was a doll, they were in disbelief and had to touch her. One customer wanted to know more as his dad was dealing with Alzheimer's.

Jaime now has a regular routine encompassing ten facilities she brings her 'Babies' too. After each visit, the 'Babies' are washed thoroughly to make sure there are no germs left on them. They are all stripped, clothes washed and redressed which takes her about forty-five minutes to complete, depending on the amount of 'Babies' before they are ready for their next visits.

Jaime as I said, began this as a volunteer but has now created it into her business. If you would like more information, here's how to contact her: rebornswithreasons@gmail.com or 860-559-9406.

If you'd like to share a Random Act of Kindness story or if this one has touched you, please contact me at bdt514@aol.com or 413-575-9385. Who knows, you might see your story, 'Just 'Cause' you witnessed, you did or maybe received something nice being done for you. See you soon with another Random Act of Kindness! ~ Barb

Events & announcements schedule

The Friends of the Chicopee Public Library launches Shoe Drive Fundraiser to raise money to support the Chicopee Public Library

CHICOPEE - The Friends of the Chicopee Public Library is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser beginning July 7 and running through Sept. 8 to raise funds for the library.

The Friends will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit The Chicopee Public Library's special programs.

Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at the following collections sites:

- Chicopee Public Library 449 Front St Chicopee

- The Boys & Girls Club 580 Meadow St Chicopee

- The Council on Aging Riverfront Senior Center 5 W. Main St. Chicopee

- Goodworks Coffee House 46 Center St Chicopee

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Lisa Pasternak, President of the Friends of the Library. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for library special programs, and we have the

chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone."

By donating gently worn, used and new shoes to the Friends of the Chicopee Public Library, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in people's lives around the world.

About The Friends of the Chicopee Public Library

The Friends are a non-profit group that raises monies through donations and fundraisers (Concerts, Shoe Drive, Golf Tournament, Concession Sales, Raffles just to name a few) to help support the library's special programming and projects that would go unfunded.

Summer Kids' Church Program in Chicopee

CHICOPEE - Every Wednesday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. through Aug. 27, First Central Bible Church at 50 Broadway Street in Chicopee is offering a children's program for ages three to grade six.

There is no charge and no need to register. Bring a friend and join us!

Each evening includes thoughtful Bible lessons, high-energy games, creative crafts and a tasty snack. Children will learn about Jesus while meeting new friends and having plenty of fun.

To learn more about First Central, including worship times and all programs available to both children and adults, visit the church at www.firstcentral.church.

For more information on the program, contact Lisa Nawrocki, at lisanawrocki@firstcentral.church.

Holyoke Chicopee Head Start holding Raising A Reader Family Shared Reading Program

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Chicopee Family & Community Program is currently hosting a "Rais-

ing A Reader" Family Shared reading program.

The program is for families with children from infant to five years old.

Let's get together for fun activities that develop reading readiness and social emotional skills! Take home a red bag each week with books to borrow.

The program takes place on Wednesdays, 4 to 5 p.m. at HCS Head Start the first and third Wednesday of the month at 41 Commercial St., Holyoke.

Please call or email Shane at ShaneW@headstart.org or 413-310-1632.

This program is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant awarded to HCS Head Start by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Holyoke Rows announces Free Youth Kayaking

HOLYOKE - Holyoke Rows is pleased to announce another great lineup of free summer programming to help our community get out and explore on the Connecticut River.

From free all ages kayaking days to a free learn to row week for Holyoke, Chicopee and Springfield middle and high school students, there are endless options to enjoy the outdoors from our boathouse at Holyoke Rows, 25 Jones Ferry Rd, in Holyoke.

Holyoke Rows is pleased to announce Free Summer Nights for Youth and Families that will take place Mondays/ Wednesdays July 7 through Aug 20 5:30 to 8 p.m. Children, youth, and families are invited to come down to the boathouse for free kayaking, fishing, and more.

No registration needed, all equipment & instruction provided. Enjoy the outdoors from our boathouse at Holyoke Rows, 25 Jones Ferry Rd, in Holyoke.

This program is offered as part of the Massachusetts DCR Summer Nights grant program.

CPL Adult Programs for August

CHICOPEE - It's time for Summer Reading at the Library.

Here are some of things that will be happening at the library over the summer. All ages are welcome to join Summer Reading.

We will be having an English Language Conversation Circle for English Language Learners every Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. from July 2 - August 27. Emma, an ESOL teacher will lead the class. This is for all levels of learners to practice conversing.

Thursday Night Concerts: All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Concerts are outside, weather permitting unless otherwise indicated. Bring your own seating.

Snacks and water are encouraged. Our concerts are supported by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

8/7-Carrie Ferguson and the Grumpytime Club Band-Family Music

8/14-Sarah the Fiddler-a blend of Classical, Bluegrass and Celtic Music

8/5 at 6:30 p.m. Speed Puzzling Competition (10+) Register through the Chicopee Library Calendar or call 413-594-1800x3. Puzzlers will complete in teams of four.

8/12 at 6 p.m. Coloring for Adults: Van Gogh's Sunflowers with Marie Manley Tucker. Register

through the Chicopee Library calendar or call 413-594-1800x3.

As always, the computer lab is available to work on genealogy on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to Noon and 6 to 8 p.m. We are a FamilySearch Affiliate Library and have helpful databases such as Ancestry, American Ancestors and HeritageQuest to help you in your search.

If you need technology help, we offer one-on-one computer help on Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m. or by appointment.

For more information, email or call the Reference Desk at cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org or 413- 594-1800 x3.

RiverMills to hold Trunk Sale Aug. 8

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host a Trunk Sale on Friday, August 8 at 9 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

The FRIENDS of RiverMills are hosting a Trunk Sale

at RiverMills Center! The cost of a parking spot to sell your items is \$5.

One car per seller, but multiple spots can be purchased. Tables and chairs are the responsibility of the seller and no items can be left be-

hind.

You must be a member of the senior center to sell your items, but shopping the sale is open to the public.

You must register in advance to purchase a spot at RiverMills Center.

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.

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IN THE CITY

From hallways to Habitat: Students brew up big wins with Bean Boutique

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

WEST SPRINGFIELD - Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) marketing interns continue to prove age doesn't determine impact.

In December 2024, the three high school sophomores opened their in-school iced-coffee fundraising endeavor "Bean Boutique," which donates its proceeds to Habitat. As of June 1, their efforts brewed up \$1,200. Now, the boys are faced with a new challenge: raise a minimum of \$1,500 to qualify for a matching grant from State Farm and Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI).

"Watching three 15-year-old boys build something like Bean Boutique from the ground up is truly inspiring," said Jill Brewer, Springdale Education Center (SEC) director. "They didn't just create a coffee shop, they created a space that brings people together, teaches real-life skills, and makes a difference in the community. Their passion, drive, and heart have turned a simple idea into something powerful."

The grant, in collaboration with HFHI, encourages youth leaders to engage in community projects that support local affordable housing

efforts. The State Farm Youth Matching Grant program officially kicked off June 15, but funds submitted to Greater Springfield Habitat as early as June 1 can be counted toward the grant. By May 31, 2026, the students need to raise a minimum of \$1,500 to receive \$2,000 from State Farm. The students have already raised 26% of their minimum goal. All of their earnings will go toward supporting GSHFH's homeownership and home preservation programs.

The interns and SEC young adult teacher Trina Winans have discussed ways to raise more funds for Habitat, and the team ultimately decided to expand their menu. Bean Boutique now also offers lemonade, iced tea, and popsicles.

"Popsicles are a big hit. The staff had already been asking for them," said Trina. "Our school community strongly supports Bean Boutique and has really rallied behind it. They enjoy supporting the students through this opportunity."

To keep track of the progress and create excitement within the school, Chicopee's SEC and the neighboring Center for School Crisis Intervention and Assessment, the interns created a fundraising thermometer and will design and post social media messaging throughout the



Nate and Yandel: Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity marketing interns Nate Shlosser (left) and Yandel Alameda pose at Bean Boutique, their iced-coffee shop inside Chicopee's Springdale Education Center, which raises funds for the nonprofit organization.

year.

The idea of iced coffee shop came from Dakota Wirf in summer 2024. He and his peer, Nate Shlosser, had interned at Greater Springfield Habitat during their freshman year to promote a Hampden County-wide read-a-thon fundraiser. Following the read-a-thon, the boys planned and attended a wrap-up party. Dakota then presented the



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) marketing intern Dakota Wirf creates a fundraising thermometer to track the progress of donations coming into Bean Boutique, an iced coffee shop inside Chicopee's Springdale Education Center.

idea to Jill, who approved the concept.

"It was a hot summer day and I was outside at Habitat with Nate and just asked 'Why don't we sell iced coffee?'" said Dakota. "At school, we saw staff with coffee and they had to go to Dunkin' to get it. But, if they got coffee at work, they could step out for a minute and still help Habitat."

"I think this grant is wonderful," Dakota said. "I think it's great that Habitat will get more money to take care of more people."

Dakota, Nate, and new intern Yandel Alameda, returned to Habitat at the start of their sophomore year to flesh out their idea. They created the name "Bean Bou-

tique" and a marketing guide – including logo, branding colors and fonts – and a plan to get the word out. They designed flyers to be distributed in the school, drafted morning announcement messages to be read over the intercom, plus budgeted and shopped for supplies. Bean Boutique opened its doors to teachers and administrative staff at the Chicopee school just before Christmas.

"We loved the proposal and the enthusiasm the students had for the project," said GSHFH Executive Director Aimee Giroux.

To donate to Bean Boutique, text "COFFEE413" to 44-321 and follow the prompts, or go to bit.ly/45Q0Ecb

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Chicopee's loss of a long-time employee Dolores Asselin

On August 2, 2025 the city of Chicopee formally mourned the passing of Dolores Asselin who left us on July 19, 2025.

"Dolly" as we fondly call her is an inspiration to women to realize that everything is possible.

She left a great legacy in Chicopee for women with her service of 40 years as Assessor followed by the City Collector position before her retirement.

Dolly moved about Chicopee with a smile and kind words to those she encountered during her day. She was an inspiration, always encouraging to women like me to serve the city.

She did not hesitate to offer advice, support and willingly shared her political experience and knowledge. I am grateful to have personally known Dolly.

My first memory of Dolly is hearing her sing at her Ste. Rose de Lima Church. She had the most beautiful voice. It surprised me to learn Dolly had a career as an opera vocalist.

Yet she was active in our city government as well as in her church and various non-profit groups in Chicopee like the Elks Lodge, the Moose Lodge.

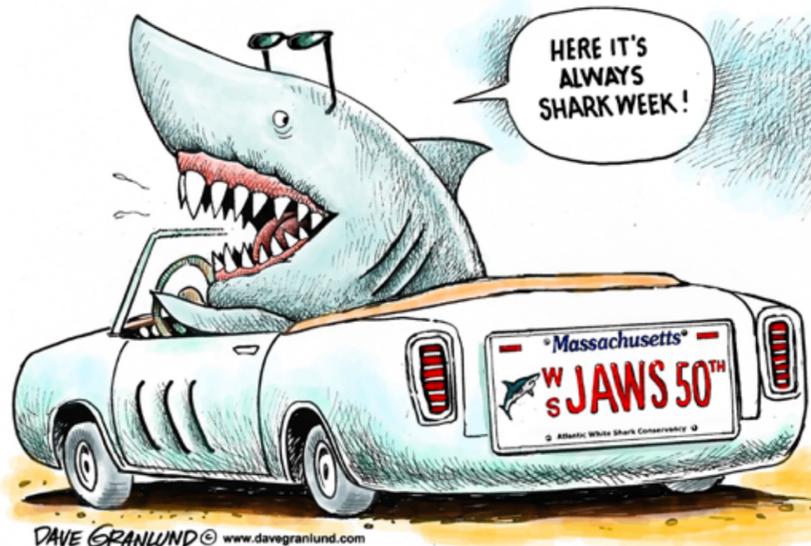
Dolly made the day seem longer than 24 hours with her work for the various groups. Dolly, with all of her accomplishments was humble.

As a lifelong resident of Chicopee, I will always remember Dolly with fondness and thanks for her life of service to us.

May she rest in Peace.

Sincerely,
Sandra Ann Peret,
Chicopee

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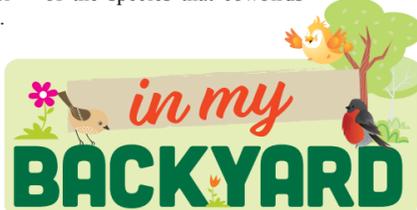
A Brimfield resident reported a common yellowthroat in his yard.

The common yellowthroat as its name implies has a yellow throat. It also has a long tail and round belly. The males have a black mask with a whitish line above, olive upper parts, yellow throat and yellow under its tail. Females are brownish olive above with a yellow throat and breast. They lack the distinct, black mask of the male.

Yellowthroats are small songbirds about 4 to 5 inches long. The males sing a "wichey-wichey-wichey" song. Both sexes give a full sounding "chuck" note. During migration, the yellowthroat is the most common warbler found in fields and along their edges.

These warblers live in open areas with thick, low vegetation ranging from marsh to grassland to pine forests. The females select a nest location, near or on the ground supported by sedge, reeds, cattails, briars and other low plants. Nests in marshy areas are usually higher off the ground where they are safer from flooding. Sometimes the nest has a roof like the

ovenbird nests. They are one of the species that cowbirds



By Ellenor Downer

lay their eggs in their nests.

People may designate an area of dense or tangled low-growing grasses and other vegetation to attract common yellowthroats to their yards. Yellowthroats prefer larger yards of at least half an acre or more.

Phoebe nest

I received an email containing a photo of an Eastern phoebe nest filled with phoebe nestlings. Eastern phoebes nest near humans often selecting a spot over a door or in a shed.

Wild turkeys

My grandson and I had to stop and wait for several hen turkeys with their poults to move them along a backroad in Barre. The largest hen led

the way, walking down the middle of the road.

Three other hens took up the rear with the poults walking all over the place. Some even stopped to explore the edge of the road, but then ran to catch up. Finally, they headed into the grass and woods on the edge of the road.

More Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident said he has seen more birds in his yard since his last email. "Baltimore orioles

have been seen more often at the birdbath, probably because of the warm weather we have been having." On a recent day he had a robin, three orioles, cardinals, a titmouse, a chipping sparrow, blue jays, catbirds and a common yellowthroat all stopped by the birdbath and a black and white warbler was seen in the yard.

He said he took down the bird feeders because of bears. "We had a bear make a daytime visit. It was not seen, but we discovered that it had cleaned out the feeding

station. All the black oil sunflower seed, two suet cakes, a "log" of compressed seeds and fruit and suet pellets were all gone. Fortunately the bear didn't damage anything or steal any of the feeders which they often do."

His wife checks a town Facebook page and has seen many reports of bears in town and many of them are in the daytime so he figured it was time to take the feeders down. He still throws a seed mix around in several places like he always has and only put handfuls of black oil and whole peanuts in a small try hanging from a Shepard's crook.

He said, "I've started to see young of the year around the yard. Several days ago two juveniles were following an adult male red-bellied woodpecker around, two juvenile Baltimore orioles were seen at the bird bath and I also saw a juvenile chipping sparrow take a bath."

Bobolinks

He said, "A few years back I took part in a citizen science project monitoring bobolinks at Moore State Park in Paxton. Because the Mass Department of Con-

servation and Recreation has failed to maintain two large fields at the park for the benefit of grassland species the bobolink population at the park has declined. Milkweed, multi flora rose, bindweed, crown vetch and other non-grass type vegetation is slowing invading the once grass fields. The first year I monitored the park there were 149 bobolinks seen in the largest field in August but unfortunately the numbers declined every subsequent year."

Osprey

This Brimfield resident visits a pond in Warren often to check on an osprey nest. He said, "The osprey nest in Warren may have only produced one young this year. The nest has gotten bigger over the years so I hoping that there are more young in the nest that have been unseen because the nest is deeper now."

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.

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



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The deadline for
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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

Jazz Trio Sarah and the StarCats performs at CPL

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - On July 17, the library hosted Sarah and the StarCats, a jazz trio consisting of Sarah Clay on flute and vocals, Steven Bulmer on bass, and Draa Hobbs on guitar.

Before the performance began attendees gathered in the Bazan Community Room to take their seats and get refreshments.

Lisa Pasternak, president of the Friends of The Chicopee Public Library explained that they fundraise at every event to ensure the library can continue to be accessible and create a welcoming and fun environment for members of the community.

Beginning the performance, Clay introduced herself and the band. She then



Sarah and the StarCats, Draa Hobbs Sarah Clay and Steven Bulmer after their performance at CPL on July 17.

shared this year's theme which is "The Games We Play".

In between each iconic jazz piece, Clay explained the meaning of the songs to the audience and how each song related to the bands chosen theme. Each song the band

chose to play reflected the theme and the concepts that come along with it.

The concepts of each song a part of the show included heartache, love, longing, loneliness, anger and, finally, acceptance. The show was a



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Sarah Clay playing flute during their performance at CPL July 17.

journey that explored the ups and downs of romance and how the roller-coaster of human connection impacts the lives and souls of individuals.

After the band's performance, Clay shared how the trio chooses songs, why she

believes sharing music is important and what her favorite thing about performing is.

"We have a theme every year. And then we start by brainstorming 'What does that theme mean?' and 'What songs fit the theme?'" Clay said. "Like any brainstorming process, we throw a lot of mud on the wall and then see what sticks. The challenge is this program is usually only about 75 minutes long and we usually have four times as many songs as we have time to do."

She then shared what's going through her mind while performing.

"What is the count? Where are we in the song? Whose solo is next? What are the lyrics? That, and then also telling the story of the song. That's hard to do," Clay said.

Clay added how, "I call this musical evangelism."

"Jazz should be listened to more, I think. A lot of people think jazz is overly intellectual and unfriendly. And that couldn't be further from the truth. Jazz is fun. So, there's that, but a lot of people don't want to have to go to a bar or restaurant to hear jazz. I

mean, those are great places to hear music, but I want to bring the music to alternate places," Clay said. "I want to bring music to the people; that's part of the purpose of the Cultural Council program. The whole point of it is to bring music, arts, dance, theater, all kinds of different arts to every corner of the state."

Clay was excited the trio got to perform at the library.

"I think it's amazing. I think it's a wonderful program and I'm very grateful for their support. Working with these guys. That's the best thing. There's a synergy that happens in music, particularly in jazz, because we don't do the exact same thing every time," Clay said. "We play with the music, we improvise, we have moves. We're human beings, we're not always amazing all the time. And so, you know we support each other, we play off of each other. That is the most fun thing. It's like three people, four instruments, one brain. It's so much fun."

The band lit up the Bazan Community Room at the library by playing in perfect harmony, with each member bringing a lot of passion into their musical work.

The Sarah and the StarCats performance was supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council through the Chicopee Cultural Council. These programs make music accessible and enjoyable.

For more information about Sarah and The StarCats, visit clayjazz.com/starcats.

For more information about upcoming events at the library—including their next Thursday evening concerts—visit www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org/.



Steven Bulmer playing bass.



Draa Hobbs playing guitar during their performance.

INSURANCE from page 1

"These workers come in, fill out their benefit forms, look at what insurance is going to cost, then they leave and find work elsewhere because they know they will be making less than from where they came from," Bouchie said. "And it's a problem, that's all it comes down to, and it needs to be solved, as something has to give. Whether that means they (The City) find another company to do business with for insurance, or they move to some other plan, or they just pay people more money to account for the increases in insurance, and it's not the employees."

Offering similar sentiments and frustration was CEA President Ben Eisen, who touched upon the rising costs, and called to focus that it's been a frustrating and tedious road to arrive at the destination they have.

"This past year, there was an unprecedented increase, which has been illustrated before, 19% for one health care

provider and 23% for another, which is an albatross for our employees to be carrying," Eisen said.

Eisen then publicly revealed that the CEA and all other unions were invited to an IAC (Insurance Advisory Council Meeting) on April 10 where he noted having arrived early, the insurance rates were already discussed and decided, coining the gathering as the 'real meeting'. Eisen then added that the IAC was strictly informative, following suit with the main grievance addressed by Bouchie as well about the city's transition from Sec 19 to 21-23.

"Sure, we got to ask questions, and had good discussions, but there was no power," Eisen said. "There was no advising, which an advisory council should have."

Eisen also relayed to everyone in attendance that he did some digging and looked at the claims presented and touted by Vieau that DBG is accepted everywhere. Eisen alleges this wasn't true, causing a motion to dig deeper after

seeking the consensus among his union, and having spoken to more than 100 members, he found the answers many were afraid to admit. According to Eisen, the consensus brought forth was that all PCPs and doctors who were asked about DGB responded with 'no' along with a 'very interesting' quote, as Eisen stated, which was as follows.

"DGB was a scam, and stay the heck away from this, and they used a different word, but this is public, and I want to keep it toned down." Eisen then explained, while speaking for his members, that the CEA feels stuck in a rock and hard place with 'terrible care and rising health insurance'. Citing these reasons that have led to the high turnover of staff, which totaled close to 200 at around 197, causing the departure from the Chicopee district.

When presented with the question of what DGB could mean, a possible solution and remedy was mentioned by the city, but Bouchie felt the addition of a new insurance could

dilute the selection process, touting a similar reaction to Eisen's discovery.

"I don't think it seems productive to introduce a third plan, and it doesn't seem like it's doing anyone favors," Bouchie admitted. "From what I've heard from employees, a plethora of problems are present, but I do confess I don't know enough about it to make a comparable reaction, aside from your comparing it to Health New England and Blue, which are huge companies."

Bouchie then cited the vast disparity in salary brackets not being comparable, as Mayor Vieau offered great confidence in being part of the newly proposed insurance, as the 9% increase would equate to about \$4 dollars causing a point of pushback and tension.

"Well, when the mayor makes over \$60 an hour, and well beyond into the six-figure range, that minuscule amount doesn't seem like a ton, but to the workers who struggle to make \$45,000 a year, and when your pay is going up

only 3% or .50 cents an hour, it's not a fair comparison," said Bouchie.

In addition to Bouchie and Eisen sharing initial fears and ample frustration throughout the evening, other thoughts and constructive criticism were revealed during public input, as well with several others stepping forward.

Dawn Fortin began working for the city in January 2020 and said while she understands the City Council "has no control over the wages paid to the employees", she knows they have "the ability to discuss issues with the person who has control over the wages of the employees."

"In the five and a half years I have been here, I have watched as the insurance rates for employees have gone up, and wages have not kept pace with that. Some groups have received increases that are keeping up or are very close to the cost-of-living increases set by the federal government. The contract that I am covered by has not received the same types of increases,"

Fortin said. "It's disheartening to work for a city that shows some employees they are worth a livable wage, but other employees are not."

She then noted the vacancy rates for first responders at 7.5%, the UFCW admin at 14.5% and 30% for the laborers within the UFCW.

"We can't keep this up as employees. We are losing more and more employees to other cities that pay more towards the insurance and have cheaper rates. Something has to give," Fortin said.

To learn more about the entire presentation from Hub International and their proposed plan to adopt DGB which is the city's new health plan also known as a Reference-Based Pricing program (RBP) that looks to rectify and fix a variety of the lingering concerns addressed above, check out our sister article highlighting the panel discussion and the comments provided as the City Council offered their reaction as well.

SANGHVI from page 1

When asked about how his experiences can contribute to the role, Sanghvi emphasized his business background, also noting his prior work overseeing a factory that had 70 employees and working with checks and credit card issues.

"So, I know how to work with the staff, the employees, everybody around me, so that really helps in administering an office," Sanghvi said. "Basically, it's about how we manage money and time and people."

Reflecting on Stanley Iwanicki, who will be retiring from his role as city collector this year, Sanghvi praised him for his service to the city.

He added Iwanicki also motivated him to run after learning more about the city collector's role and the rules it entails.

"Stanley has been a very

good collector and he's a good friend too. He also is a businessman by profession; he owns the Chicken Queen," Sanghvi said. "He's been a very successful collector, I feel, and he will be sorely missed when he retires. I feel he's been a very good man, very good collector for the city."

On improvements, besides adding more drop boxes as he shared earlier, Sanghvi noted making sure the same things that have always been done can continue, such as people being comfortable to pay by check and looking into bringing in more technology and expanding access.

"As a businessman, I apply for my license and I'm permitted and if the city agrees, we can absolve the \$5 fee, which is applied to the credit card when you try to pay online. So, that will motivate more people to go online and pay, it's easier for them,"

Sanghvi said. "Certainly, the younger generation is very well-versed with technology, but not a lot of the elderly population trusts technology because you have to put your information in. So, they'd rather pay the old way, which is fine."

He's also been asked about quarterly payments as opposed to twice a year, which he will also look into.

"I feel as an elected officer, it's my duty to go to people. They call me, 'Raj, I'm having an issue. Can you help me out?' So, it's my duty as a collector to go to them rather than they coming to me and talk things out with them face to face," Sanghvi said.

If Sanghvi makes it past the September primary vote, he said he will continue doing what he's been doing since day one of his campaign.

"Meeting people, going to all the events and meeting people. Going door to door,

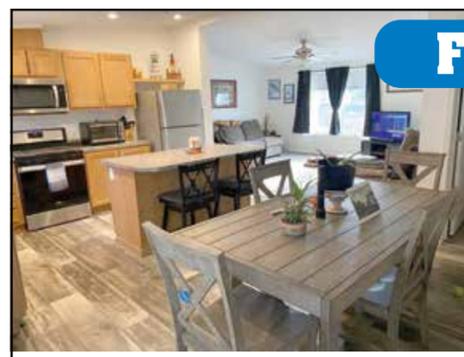
knocking and trying to ask questions about how we can improve the collector's office. That's the way you improve because you can't know everything, right? What people think. So, the best way is to talk one-on-one and get to know what the other person's

perspective is on the collector's office how we can improve," Sanghvi said. "I feel every time the person needs to improve himself and try to get more ideas from the people who voted him in and try to do the best for the people."

Asked if anything to add,

he said this.

"In one sentence, I can say that I'm a man who likes to give service with a smile and solutions from the heart," Sanghvi said. "That about summarizes my whole personality and try to work with people to the best of my ability."



FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine

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- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park



\$1200/week

207-607-9333

PUPPETS from page 1

and this was one of them.”

As the event came to an end, the duo had very different perspectives on what stuck out as their favorite part.

“Honestly, I liked making the brush for my puppet. It’s made out of a popsicle stick used for the hot glue guns and the bristles are made of pipe cleaners,” Lenox Couture said, showing off the aforementioned accessory.

“I thought it was cool to see all the different materials and how everyone had very different creations. And I liked the number one rule, which is that you can’t make something someone else has made. I liked the birds, I saw the water bird, and we made a princess and a fairy godmother,” Paige Couture said.

When inquired about what they hoped attendees would take away from the event, the puppeteers offered the following responses.

“I’d say a window into creativity and that they can do it. Confidence, creativity, and joy, because the world just gets so formulaic and closed— a sort of ‘paint by numbers’ world. Not that there’s anything wrong with that, but that’s why I don’t make any examples for these events,” Schumer replied.

Keezing added this. “And you might’ve noticed us encouraging adults, too. Not that we want lots of competition in the puppet world, but we want them to walk away feeling like, ‘I can do this’ and ‘this is a way I can do something fun with my kids and I can tell stories if I do more.’ We’ve had people who’ve made their own puppet troupes from doing this,” Keezing said.

As final comments for the community, Keezing, Schumer, and the Coutures had this to say:



Jonathan Keezing (left) and Karen Schumer (right) stand before the gathered participants as they give instructions on how to create their own puppets.

“This was a really fun event and I liked doing it with my mom,” Lenox Couture said.

“We thank the community for supporting us and we’re available for school programs,” Keezing said.

“Support the arts and

let’s all just take care of each other. These are hard times. So, as much as we can take care of each other, look at the world. We live in paradise, look at the world; it’s gorgeous. So I guess I’m like Gringo Star. Peace and love,” Schumer said.

For more information on Caravan Puppets, visit their website at caravanpuppets.com or contact them at (413)-256-1886.

To learn more about upcoming events, visit chicopeelibrary.org.



Young participants proudly show off the puppets they made during the event

TURLEY PHOTOS BY ELISE LYONS



Families gather around to pick out materials from bins of spare cloth, pipe cleaners, googly eyes, and more to construct their puppets.



Attendees Paige (left) and Lenox (right) pose with their fairy godmother and princess puppets.

Learn about a proposed natural gas system upgrade in your area.

The **Western Mass Reliability Project Informational & Listening Session (in-person and virtual)** will provide more information on efforts to improve system reliability to existing natural gas customers in the Greater Springfield area. This project includes constructing a new point-of-delivery (POD) station in Longmeadow and installing, upgrading, and operating a steel main between this new POD station and the company’s Bliss Street Regulator Station in Springfield.

Please join us in person or virtually at our Informational & Listening Session on Thursday, August 7th, where you’ll learn what this project will mean for the Greater Springfield area. Project team members will be available to provide information and answer your questions.

Location:

UMass Center at Tower Square, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA

Event Date/Time: Thursday, August 7th

6:00 PM—Open

6:30 PM—8:00 PM—Informational & Listening Session

Guest Services to be Provided:

- Tower Square parking vouchers
- Childcare available
- Refreshments throughout the duration of the event
- Spanish and Russian translation available

Visit eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability to learn more about the proposed project and see details about the Informational & Listening Session, and to access the event virtually if you are unable to attend in person.

Questions?

For more information, please email Eversource at projectinfoma@eversource.com or call **833-836-0302**.

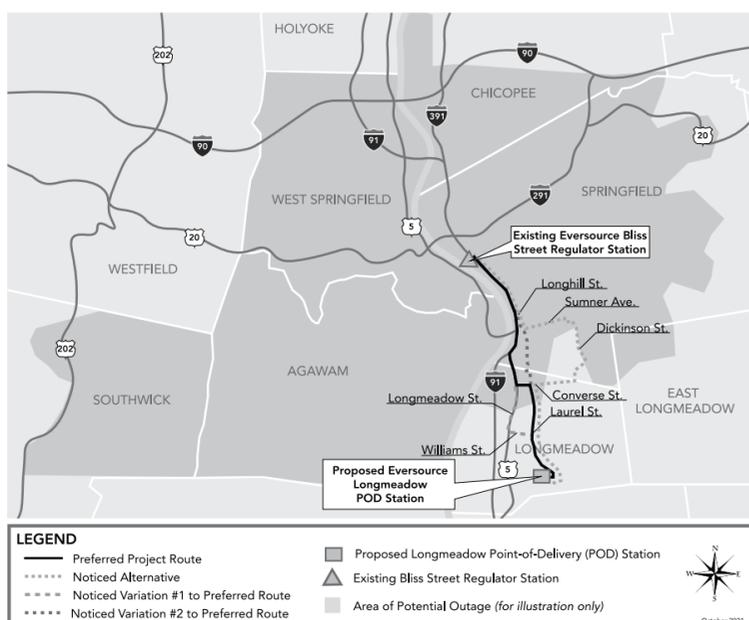
You can also keep up to date on the project by visiting our website at eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability, or by scanning the QR code below with your smart device.



EVERSOURCE

Si necesita que le traduzcan esta notificación, envíenos un correo electrónico a Projectinfoma@eversource.com y escriba “Gas Reliability Project” en el asunto.

Если вам нужен перевод данного уведомления, отправьте электронное письмо по адресу Projectinfoma@eversource.com, указав в строке темы «Проект по обеспечению надежности газа».



SPORTS

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Regular season ends with defeat for Comp boys



Camden Anderson cuts off the ball and heads up the field.



Aiden Devlin chases down the loose ball.



Jaezier Alvarado heads up the field with the ball.



Jaezier Alvarado heads up the field with the ball.

SOUTH HADLEY – In a regular season finale, South Hadley defeated Chicopee Comprehensive last Tuesday evening 5-1 on the turf of South Hadley High School. It was the final summer game for both teams. Both South Hadley and Chicopee Comp did not qualify for the PVSSL playoffs this year.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Chace Murphy looks for the open teammate.



St. Joseph's heads for Tri-County finals

PALMER – In a big Game 3 matchup last week, St. Joseph's defeated BankESB 11-3 to win the semifinal series 2-1 and advance to the Tri-County Baseball League finals. St. Joe's was scheduled to take on rival PeoplesBank in the championship series held earlier this week.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Jacob Petrin catches a throw down to second.



Jack Feltovic throws a pitch home for the Saints



Joe DeMichele catches an out at first.



Brandon Magni smotheres a grounder.



Dave Clark flips a throw to first.



Rey Rivera gets the out at first for PeoplesBank.

PeoplesBank advances to Tri-County finals

HOLYOKE – In a best-of-three games series, the PeoplesBank Tri-County baseball team swept Teddy Bear Pools in two games to advance to the league championship series. St. Joseph's won its series in three games, two games to one, to face PeoplesBank. That championship series was scheduled to begin earlier this week. PeoplesBank defeated Teddy Bear in both games by a final of 7-2.



Seth Allen steals second base.



Cam MacDonald sends the ball from third to first.



Mason Barcomb fields a grounder to short.



Alex Gochinski makes a throw to first for Teddy Bear Pools.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**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.
HD24C0279CA**
**In the matter of:
Jadaliz Calcano**
**CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Jadaliz Calcano of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Jadaliz Aponte
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 08/27/2025.**

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: July 30, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/01/2025

**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.
HD25P1551EA**
**Estate of:
Steven R Charpentier**
Date of Death: 05/10/2025
**CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

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

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

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

your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**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: July 28, 2025x
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/01/2025

**SALE OF
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 August 1st at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2007 Infiniti M35
VIN: JNKAY01FX7M462664
Lillian Claudio
497 E. Pleasant St., Apt. 96
Amherst, MA 01002

2008 Ford Explorer
VIN: 1FMFU73E28UA68827
Robert Taylor And Bethel Taylor
123 Hillcrest Dr.
Bernardston, MA 01337

2011 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL5H68BB050492
Brendaliz Cepeda
185 Kerry Dr.
Springfield, Ma 01118

2006 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG11826H566165
Thomas Painting Llc
71 Stuart Ave.
Norwalk, CT 06850
07/18, 07/25, 08/01/2025

**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 August 8th 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.

2008 Jeep Grand Cherokee
VIN: 1J8GR48K28C203623
Erick Manolo Saraccini Ramirez
6 Watch St.
Rochdale, MA 01542

2016 Jeep Compass
VIN: 1C4NJDEB1GD759196
Robert Alexander Staples
14 Chester St.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2009 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E69N547037
Gnopo Mik Gnobo
143 Royal St.
Chicopee, MA 01020

1982 Yamaha XJ750
Sultan Thahir
162 Sycamore St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2002 Subaru Legacy
VIN: 4S3BH635427307418
Ramon Aristy
935 Pontiac Ave. 46
Cranston, RI 02920
07/25, 08/01, 08/08/2025

**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.
HD25P1553EA**
**Estate of:
STANLEY JOHN
JASIEWICZ, Jr.**
Date of Death: 05/11/2025
**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 **DOROTHY MCGAFFIGAN of INDIAN ORCHARD 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: **DOROTHY MCGAFFIGAN of SPRINGFIELD, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this

proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**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: July 28, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/01/2025

**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.
HD25P1554EA**
**Estate of:
Robert Mark Lombardi, Sr.**
**Also known as:
Robert Mark Lombardi**
Date of Death: 06/16/2025
**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 **Robert Mark Lombardi, II of Baldwinville, 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: **Robert Mark Lombardi, II of Baldwinville, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**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: July 28, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
08/01/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD25P1474EA**
**Estate of:
Richard Steven Olejarz**
**Also Known As:
Richard S. Olejarz**
Date of Death: April 25, 2025
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **William A. Olejarz of East Longmeadow, MA.**

William A. Olejarz of East Longmeadow, 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 inter-

ested 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.
08/01/2025

**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 August 15th, 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.

2019 Ford E350 Super Duty
VIN: 1FDWE3F88KDC49613
Junita Sanchez
148 Canterbury St
Worcester, MA 01603

2003 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE32K13U174971
Elias Vasquez
147 73rd St.
Cincinnati, OH, 45216

2012 Nissan Rogue
VIN: JN8AS5MT4CW256096
Laurajean Anderson
9 Amherst Ave.
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

2008 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCS11348A014688
Joseph Blair
22 Easy St.
South Hadley, MA 01075

2005 Kia Amanti
VIN: KNALD124155079189
Jose Reyes
9 Broderick St., Apt. 2
Easthampton, MA 01027

2008 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGJE6678YH595912
Jorge Malo
41 Willard Ave.
Springfield, MA 01109

2003 BMW X5
VIN: 5UXFA53563LV95501
Shane Allen Spencer
49 Belmont Ave Apt 20
Springfield, MA 01109

2009 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCP26389A081490
Santiago Ortiz
11 Yoerg Cir.
Holyoke, MA 01040

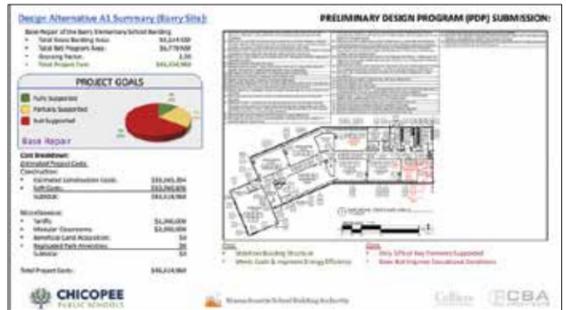
2007 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GD61687H514544
Expedito Delgado Medina
64 Grosvenor St., Apt. 4R
Springfield, MA 01107
08/01, 08/08, 08/15/2025



A summary of the A2 design.



A summary of the A3 design.



A summary of the A1 design.

**BARRY SCHOOL
from page 1**
Site, which is estimated to be \$99,953,506, and would have to abide by the land swap. However, Gardner noted that this variation wouldn't satisfy the education program, citing a variety of lingering issues in place such as the gymnasium which is smaller than the MSBA's guidelines.
However, he added, it was revealed the school district asked if chosen the gym could be increased to accommodate recreational sports such as basketball and other activities, but it was deemed not pliable and 'falls short,' as Gardner noted.

Gardner also explained that each of the presentation slides for the designs schematics came attached with a zoning diagram, which was a priority requested by the district to ensure the school could be used and shared by the community.
"So, we want to make sure that we get zones that are clearly open to the public and others zones that are locked and easily isolated so that the public can't access them," Gardner said. "So, in this option people would enter through the lobby downstairs they would then be able to get to the second floor, over to the gym, and at that same time were able to have secu-

rity locked doors into all of the classroom neighborhoods, and we also have a semi-private zone."
It's clear various locations and new modifications are part of the designs put forth, as the presence of security and safety for all students was a moment of equal focus acknowledged from everyone at the table.
Option A3 is a two-story New Construction at the Barry Elementary School Site, totaling \$104,987,435. Gardner discussed that this design was set up to stay in the higher section of Garrity Grove and the park, by noting that the wetland buffers in place was used as point of reference

to remember where location lines up before revealing that for the land swap to be accepted.
The estimated number for the city would have to return per Article 97, which is a range of 5.5 to six acres of land.
"We would envision taking along the wetland line, until you can get the park amenities replicated, and then we followed the access road around the school building and parking lot to signify and establish what land would be applicable for the land swap," Gardner said.
To also add in this schematic is a semi-private zone is not included, but a public

zone would be on the right side of the building, along with the cafeteria, gym, library and all other public usage areas and classrooms.
The second floor would be more classrooms as well.
One of the critical downsides of this path would be still looking a potential delay in the project along with four housing properties being acquired by the city, due to the wetlands pushing the location to the east side, limiting where the building can be placed.
"We're at the north and south ends of Peter Street, but coming in and off LaGuardia and off of Mercedes Street," Gardner said. "So that kind of

takes those corner lots away from, so we can have access to the school, and room for parking without bleeding too far into the parkland, as a way to try to preserve as much as we can."
A4 is a three-story new rebuild from the ground up, with costs estimated to be in a similar range of close to \$104,284,031. Pros are under the same umbrella Barry would stay in the same location, retains the tennis court, improves traffic and demo costs are covered by the MSBA reimbursement, and fully supports the 82% of education costs.
The cons are however requires involvement of Article 97, and potential city scope adjustments, but won't be covered under the grant.
Next time, we will take a look at the designs schematics for B1 through B4.

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AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

DL & G TREE SERVICE - Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212.

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Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
STUMP GRINDING
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STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

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CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

HELP WANTED

CUSTODIAN POSITION AVAILABLE cleaning with our team. Experience preferred but will train. Retirees welcome. Call **Pride Cleaning Contractors, 413-283-7087.**

HELP WANTED FOR A BUSY BREAKFAST LUNCH RESTAURANT.

Weekday Dishwasher, great hours, good pay for hardworking person. Please come by and fill out application. **Partners Restaurant, 485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.**

HOUSEKEEPER. Monday and Friday, 5 hours each day. Duties include cleaning, ironing, washing. Send resume to **PO Box 8, Hampden, MA 01036.**

LINE COOK. Fast order wanted for fun, busy family Breakfast and Lunch Restaurant. Good pay, weekends and weekdays. Fulltime. Please come by and fill out application. **Partners Restaurant 485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.**

NEIGHBORLY CLEANING & CARE is looking for mature, responsible adults with own transportation, experience and references for a housekeeping position. Hours 7:30- 2:30. Call Nancy today (413)267-4297 or (413) 544-0864.

SERVERS WANTED
Inquire at **Girly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069** or call 413-284-0005.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
FRIDAY AT NOON

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON IS SEEKING A **PART-TIME TREASURER.**

\$20,384 - \$23,110 annual salary based on experience. Approximately 16 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Position is open until filled. *Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest and resumes from qualified candidates for a **full-time Equipment Operator/General Laborer** position within the Highway Department.

Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

More in-depth 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 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to highway@worthington-ma.us and sboard@worthington-ma.us. This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled. *The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Peru Highway Department is now accepting applications for the position of **Truck Driver/Laborer.** Preferred applicants will have a valid Class B CDL, Class 2A Hoisting license, and a current DOT Physical card. Construction and mechanical experience preferred. Must be able to work in all weather conditions. Position is full time 40hrs/week with mandatory overtime during snowstorms. Excellent benefits.

Email resume to: townadmin@townofperu-ma.com or mail to **Town of Peru, Board of Selectmen, 3 East Main Rd, Suite 107, Peru MA 01235.** For additional information contact the Highway Superintendent at (413) 655-8224. *(The Town of Peru is an equal opportunity employer).*

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

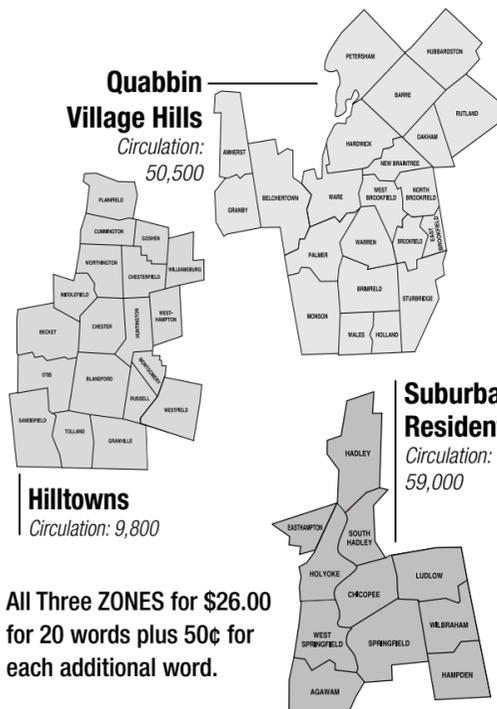
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MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
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Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
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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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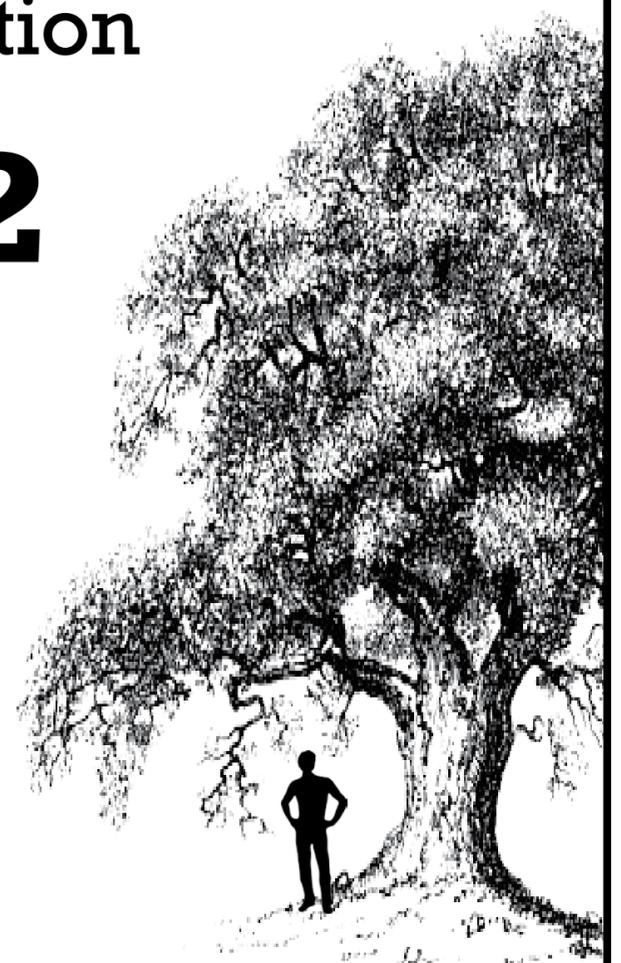
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